from Baltimore Branch N.A.A.C.P.

This Is The Baltimore N.A.A.C.P.

1935 Here Is Our Record . . . 1961

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF WHAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELPED DO—NAACP NEEDS YOUR CONTINUED SUPORT

Employment

1. Helped spearhead passage of Equal Employment Opportunity Ordinance (F.E.P.C.) in Baltimore City Council, 1957. Before passage, City Council eliminated penalty and enforcement provisions. Now seeking to put teeth in law.
2. Directed complainants and presented complaints to Equal Opportunity Commission against Municipal Recreation Bureau's refusal to appoint qualified colored recreation center personnel to white recreation centers, though they stood highest on list. Commission made its first finding of a violation of the law in this case. Municipal Recreation Bureau abolished this discriminatory practice, 1957-58.
3. NAACP suit against Enoch Pratt Public Library in U.S. District Court of Maryland opened employment to colored librarians
4. NAACP court action secured appointment of qualified colored citizens to the position of City Morgue Keeper.
5. Continuous efforts for fifteen years helped secure appointment of colored taxi drivers, Transit Company operators, firemen and policemen. Now working for the upgrading and promotion of firemen and policemen.
6. Secured appointment of eight telephone operators by C. and P. Telephone Company with help of Washington Bureau of NAACP through President's Committee on Government Contracts. Now working for fair proportion of colored operators among the 4,000 employed by the company.
7. Supporting organizing drive of Laundry Workers to unionize in Laundries and Dry Cleaning Establishments for better wages, hours and working conditions. Some workers receive as low as twenty nine cents an hour.

Public Accommodations

1. Drafted and had introduced in three successive sessions of State Legislature inclusive civil rights law which would prohibit racial discrimination in public places. Helping to spearhead efforts to secure passage of public accommodations ordinance in Baltimore City.
2. Sponsored picket line in front of nationally famous Ford's Theatre, Baltimore's only legitimate theater, for seven successive years until management stopped policy of racially segregated seating of patrons.

Recreation

1. Won five - year struggle to integrate Baltimore's municipal swimming pools, the municipal beach at Fort Smallwood and the state beach at Sandy Point with a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court on November 7, 1955.
2. Integrated municipal golf courses by successive cases in Federal District Court, Maryland.

Housing

1. Filed suit in Baltimore City Court in 1958 against unfair Urban Renewal procedures in the Harlem Park Urban Renewal Area. Watching plans of Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency to safeguard rights of colored citizens. They comprise bulk of residents who will be displaced by urban renewal.
2. Secured cooperation of Police Commissioner James M. Hepbron to protest colored home buyers moving into new residential areas. He has personally visited new families, made house to house visits to neighboring white residents with the warning: "Hoodlumism will not be tolerated in Baltimore City," and given round the clock police protection to the new family. Result: expansion of colored population from racial ghettos has been accompanied by a minimum of racial friction and Baltimore can report no "Trumbull Parks."
3. Won in April, 1959, in Circuit Court of Baltimore City two-year fight to invalidate municipal ordinance enacted by City Council in 1957 which would have rezoned property in a colored residential neighborhood to permit a mattress factory.

Again said Baltimore Sun, April 27, 1959:

"Fortunately, even the poorer sections of Baltimore do not always take the intrusion of bad zoning lying down. Neighbors of the encroaching mattress factory got the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to go to bat for them, and Judge Joseph L. Carter has just thrown out the offending ordinance as an invalid piece of legislation. The decision is important mainly as a reminder to city councilmen that zoning to be legal must be part of a comprehensive plan that supports the public interest. You can't use zoning merely to enhance the value of one man's property at the expense of other property values. Councilmen can't so use it, that is, as long as neighborhoods are alert enough to rise up and challenge them in the courts."

Support of National Program

The Baltimore Branch has secured 100 five hundred dollars paid up Life Membership and many partially paid, since its revival in 1935, and has an office operating daily.

The consecrated, unselfish, volunteer service of the president, Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, the Board Members and general membership is responsible for this report of progress toward full citizenship rights.

Registration and Voting

1. NAACP'S Non-Partisan Register and Vote Campaign, begun first in 1942, was intensified in 1957-59. Led by ministers in churches, supported by Afro-American Newspapers and women's groups, NAACP passed goal of 100,000 colored voters in Baltimore City, with 109,771 to date.

Said Baltimore Sun, April 12, 1959:

"In the last few years, leaders in the Negro community and Negro civic groups have been conducting a steady and widespread campaign to have members of their race register as voters. The campaign has been successful. Nothing could underscore the extent of the success better than a comparison between the voters' list for the coming mayoral election and the list for the mayoral election of 1955.

"In 1955, there were 207,000 registered voters. Of this total 134,200 were white and 72,800 were Negroes. The total is now increased to 430,006. But here the division is 225,400 whites and 104,600 Negroes. As will be noted, the white total has increased by only 1,200, the Negro total by 31,800. In other words, the whites did little more than hold their own while the Negroes were increasing their potential voting strength by 45 per cent."

2. Branch conducted periodic district wide rallies in the churches in the winter and public squares in the summer for new and old voters. Councilmanic, legislative and congressional representatives, brought in to meet their constituents and to explain the machinery of government, were questioned about their stand on civil rights.
3. Election of November 4, 1958 saw:
   a. Three colored citizens elected to State Legislature, one State Senator and two women to House of Delegates. First time colored women elected to public office in Maryland.
   b. Defeat of U.S. Congressman DeWitt Hyde of the Sixth District, who voted with the Dixiecrats for crippling amendments to the Civil Rights Bill in the 85th Congress.
   c. Re-election of U.S. Congressmen Edward Garmatz, George Fallon and Samuel Friedel of Baltimore City, who received citations from the Maryland State NAACP Conference for their leadership in helping to secure the Federal Civil Rights Law in August, 1957.

Education

1. Filed school integration suits against Board of School Commissioners in 1953 to compel admission of qualified colored students to Mergenthaler School of Printing and Western Female High School. In June, 1954, Baltimore became first southern city to integrate public schools after Supreme Court decision May 17, 1954.
2. Fifteen Maryland counties announced desegregation of public schools.
3. 700 colored teachers now teaching in previously all white schools in Baltimore City.
4. McDonogh School, private military school for boys, prodded by NAACP lawyers, announced policy of desegregation 1959.
5. Won in January, 1959, by decision of U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, the integration of junior and senior high schools in St. Marys County.
6. Won in Maryland Court of Appeals the integration of all departments of the University of Maryland after series of suits. Leading private colleges and universities now integrated.
7. Won in U.S. District Court of Maryland the equalization of teachers' salaries in counties of Maryland with annual increase of 1½ million dollars to colored teachers.

Some of the Ardent 1961 Membership Campaign Workers—And Founders

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, "1st Lady of America," speaking at the monthly membership meeting

Left to right, standing: Boyd L. Chriscoe, Mrs. Dolores Washington, Elder Wiley Barnes; seated: Mrs. Johnnienne Thompson, Mr. Joshua Brown.

Left to right, seated: Jesse Vance, Otis R. Hooper, Benson Harps; standing: Van C. Webb, Sr., Mrs. Mary White, James W. Byrd, Hayes Buchanan, Jr.

Standings: R. Monroe Jackson, Mrs. Jerolyn Stewart, Robert Hawkins; seated: Mrs. Mary Dudley, Mrs. Cecelia Crawford, Mrs. Mary Nicholson.

Seated, left to right: Mrs. Ida W. Williams, Mrs. Viola Jordan, Miss Sandra Jordan; standing: Miss Martha J. Wamble, Charles Coger.

REV. JOHN COLBERT

DR. CARL MURPHY

Left to right: Mrs. Mattie Gwathney, Mrs. Pernola Dunkley.

Seated: Mrs. Helen Newton, Julia Stevenson; standing: Mrs. Zelma H. Wallace, Miss Lena J. Fulmore, Mrs. Temple Allen.

Left to right: Mrs. Laurene Hardy, Norman Handy, Mrs. Melba Mitchell, Mrs. Lola White.

Seated, left to right: Miss Regina Smith, Mrs. Edith Booker, Mrs. Sarah Standifp; standing: Eddie Montgomery, Johnnie Montgomery, Ernest Taylor.

Left to right: Mrs. Florence Snowden, Thomas Bush, Miss Bessie Bonds.

FATHER G. BRAGG

George B. Murphy

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Executive Board of the Balto. Branch NAACP 1944

One of the meetings of workers under Mrs. Marion Bond Jordan, Director of Campaign

REV. GARNETT WALLER

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of the Gas & Electric and C. & P. Telephone Companies, Protesting Against Discrimination in Skilled Employment, such as Telephone Operators, Meter Readers, Clerks, Linesmen, Public Relations and Upgrading of Workers According to Seniority.

Remember the Baltimore Branch NAACP in Your Will
MEMBERSHIP $2 UP — BE A LIFE MEMBER
YOUNG CHILDREN $100 — ADULTS $500

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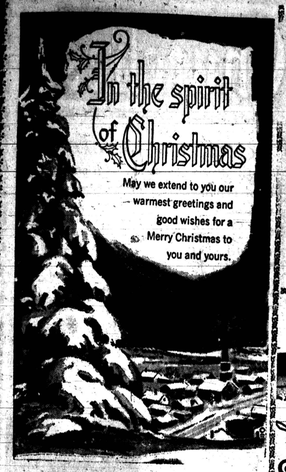
DR. LILLIE M. JACKSON, President; REV. H. O. GRAHAM, Branch Secretary; DR. CHARLES E. WATTS, Treasurer; DR. CARL MURPHY, Chairman, Legal Redress; DR. WILLIAM H. WATTS, Life Membership Chairman, REV. JENTRY McDONALD, Membership Chairman; DR. W. O. BRYSON, Auditor.

NAACP FOUNDED 1909 over 50 years

JOIN NAACP



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