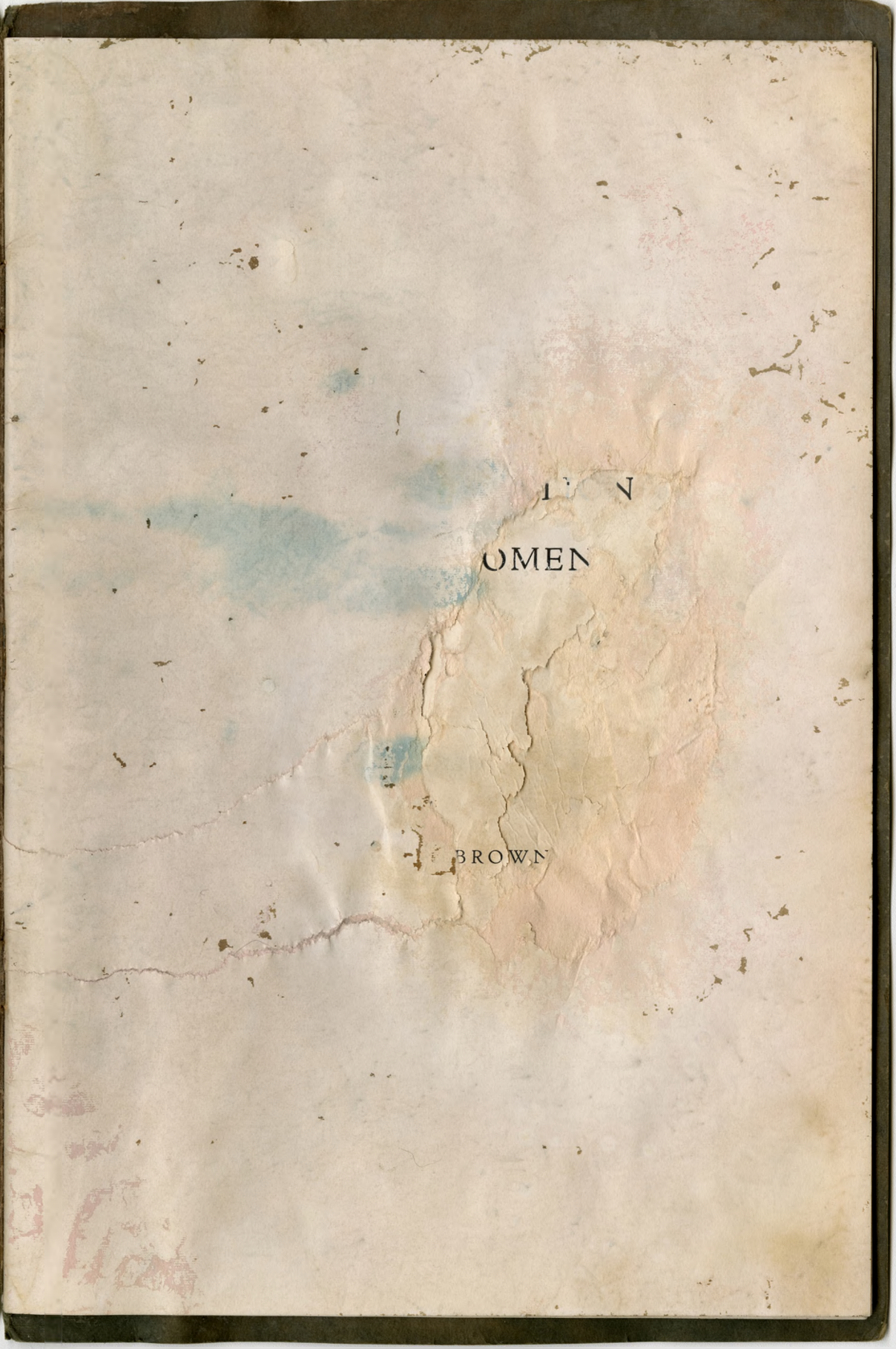


HISTORY OF  
*General*  
*Association of Colored*  
*Women*

NEW YORK: G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, 1875.



L' N  
OMEN

BROWN

HISTORY of  
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION  
COLORED WOMEN

by  
MRS S. JOE BROWN

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JOE BROWN  
Des Moines, Iowa

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MRS. S. JOE BROWN, *President*  
Central Association C.W.C.

## PREFACE

In the year 1902, I became affiliated with the Woman's Club Movement in Iowa and began to make a study of the achievements of the members of my race, especially those of our women, concerning whom very little had been published prior to this time.

It was then that I first learned of the organization known as the National Association of Colored Women, which had then been operating for only six years, having been organized in 1896, and having learned that they had a national organ called "National Notes", published by Mrs. Booker T. Washington, became a subscriber and continued to be one as long as it was published. Since that time there has been published a history of our National Association called "Lifting As They Climb", compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Lindsay Davis, to which very comprehensive document and to Mrs. Rebecca Stiles Taylor's column, "Activities of Women's National Organizations", in the Chicago Defender, I desire to give credit for some of the data found herein.

Notwithstanding this and various other means of getting information over to the public, I still feel that there is not enough being done along this line, hence, as president of the Central Association of Colored Women, one of the national bodies that make up the National, I am presenting under the title of "History of Central Association of Colored Women", this little volume, which gives a brief history of the Central Association together with some facts concerning the twelve state organizations which compose it. It will find that this section, operating as an agricultural center of our National body, for the progress of our National body, for the major projects maintained by the National Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association, Hallie Quinn Brown Scholarship Fund", and, the headquarters", the states of this section, according to s, have made unusual contributions.

You also will find that in assisting with the National Scholarship Fund, ten states operate scholarship funds of their own, and in addition to assisting in maintaining the other national institutions, one of them maintaining some sort of an institution of their own, among which are to be found Day Nurseries, Social Centers, Big Sister Homes, Juvenile Homes, Old Folks' Homes, and one Students' Home at a State University.

It is for this reason, therefore, that we are happy to dedicate this little volume to the memory of our pioneer women, many of whose likenesses are to be found herein, and to urge our club women to see to it that copies of it be distributed throughout club circles and also to others who should be better informed as to the contribution that is being made by the club women and especially by those of our Central Association.

MRS. S. JOE BROWN, *President*



Delegation at Organization of Old Northwestern Association, Before  
St. Mark's M. E. Church, Chicago, August 16, 1915

Front row reading from the left:—Miss Georgia Nugent, Ky., Mrs. Bessie C. Jones, Ind., Mrs. Hester Keyes, Minn., Mrs. Minnie M. Scott, Ohio Mrs. R. F. Noland, Mo., Mrs. Johanna Snowden Porter, Ill., Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa Mrs. Lucy M. Thurman, Mich., Mrs. Elizabeth Lindsay Davis, Ill., Mrs. Sarah A. Willis, Wyo., Mrs. T. W. Bell, Kans.

### HISTORY IS TRACED

A pamphlet called "A Bit of History of the Northwestern Association of Colored Women," says

"Organization of this section was however, due to Mrs. Johanna Snowden Porter, Mrs. Elizabeth Lindsay Davis, Mrs. Eva Monroe and Mrs. Theresa G. Macon, of Illinois, and Mrs. Baker of Wyoming, who were returning home from the biennial meeting held in Wilberforce, Ohio." \* \* \* \*

As a result of this discussion a resolution was introduced by Mrs. Porter and presented at the Illinois State Federation convention held in Moline, Ill., August, 1915, one day prior to the Illinois State meeting

In one day the women as delegates from 18 states, representing twelve federations and jurisdictions, discussed the value of the organized effort along any line and decided to combine the powers of the West and Central sections by organizing the Northwestern Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, the object being to encourage and foster the work of the women's clubs in the Northwest, recognizing the power of the unorganized West, and the knowledge of the organized Central with its unlimited strength.

The Northwestern section soon outgrew its bounds and, according to a statement in National Notes for January, 1925 the second step in the reorganization of the original Northwestern Federation, founded by Mrs. Porter in 1915 was taken through her and her co-workers promoting the growth of clubs in this section that the proposed triangular district at the national biennial convention in Chicago in 1924 was unanimously adopted by the Northwestern in its final meeting in Cheyenne, Wyo., July, 1925 \* \* \* \*

The Central Association was organized ten years after the Northwestern, in St. Mark's M. E. Church, Chicago, December 31, 1925

There were 52 delegates present who were from ten states, said to be a larger number than in N. A. C. W. at its organization.

### CHARTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—Mrs. Minnie M. Scott  
 VICE PRESIDENT—Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown  
 SECOND VICE PRESIDENT—Mrs. Beatrice Childs  
 CHAIR EXEC. BOARD—Mrs. Theresa G. Macon  
 SECRETARY—Mrs. Savonia L. Carson  
 ASST. SECRETARY—Mrs. Rebecca Van Hook  
 COR. SECRETARY—Miss Arsanía Williams  
 TREASURER—Mrs. T. L. Anderson  
 CHAPLAIN—Dr. Ida Mae Myller  
 HISTORIAN—Mrs. C. S. Smith  
 STATISTICIAN—Mrs. Clara Montgomery  
 PARLIAMENTARIAN—Mrs. Nannie B. Reed

Ohio  
 Indiana  
 Kansas  
 Illinois  
 Michigan  
 Minnesota  
 Missouri  
 Kentucky  
 Indiana  
 Michigan  
 Wisconsin  
 Illinois

## FIRST BIENNIAL

Indianapolis, Ind.—Large delegations of club women from Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin were present for the opening of the Central Association of Colored Women's First Biennial Convention when the Executive Board convened at the Indiana Women's Club House, Wednesday, December 28-31

At 7.30 p. m., the formal opening took place at the Second Christian Church. A program of special music, welcome greetings by Mrs. Carrie Crump, State President of Indiana Clubs, and a welcome address by Governor Jackson of Indiana were followed by addresses made by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, President of the National Association of Colored Women and Miss Hallie Quinn Brown, Honorary President of the N. A. C. W.

The following State Presidents were in attendance Mrs. Christine S. Smith of Detroit, Mich., Mrs. Beatrice Childs of Kansas City, Kan., Mrs. Carrie Crump of Indianapolis, Ind., Mrs. Della H. Fields of Ohio, Mrs. Anna Dorsey of Milwaukee, Wis., Mrs. Elizabeth Van Hook of Minneapolis, Minn., Mrs. Clara Montgomery of Lovejoy, Ill., Missouri's president was represented by Miss Arsanía M. Williams of St. Louis, Kentucky by Mrs. Lizzie B Fouse.

All of the delegates reaffirmed their allegiance to the total program of the National Association of Colored Women and pledged to support its latest project, National Headquarters, by response, with the minimum amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) from each State Federation and endorsed the continued support of the \$50,000.00 National Scholarship Loan Fund.

Mr F B Ransom of the Madam C. J Walker Co., spoke on "Women in Business", which was received with much applause. He extended an invitation to the entire Executive Committee to be his guests at the Walker Theatre at 6.30 p. m.

A beautiful reception was tendered the delegates and visitors at the Club House, Thursday from 4 p. m. to 6 p. m.

Officers elected Mrs. Minnie M Scott, Ohio, Pres., Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, Ind., 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Beatrice L. Childs, Kansas, 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. Theresa G. Macon, Ill., Chm. of Executive Board, Mrs. Savonia Carson, Mich., Rec. Sec., Mrs. Elizabeth Van Hook, Minn., Asst. Sec., Miss Arsanía Williams, Mo., Cor Sec., Mrs. Tabitha L. Anderson, Ky., Treas., Dr Ida Mae Myller, Ind., Chaplain, Mrs. Christine S. Smith, Mich., Historian, Mrs. Nannie Reed, Ill., Parliamentarian, and Mrs. Clara Montgomery, Wis., Statistician.

The following Resolution was presented and adopted  
To raise the status of the N. A. C. W., to deal with large issues and to support our three national projects—the Douglass Home, Scholarship Loan Fund, and National Headquarters.

Next place of meeting, Kansas City, Mo., August, 1929



### Past Presidents, Central Association

1 Mrs. Johanna Snowden Porter, Founder and President Emeritus,  
2 Mrs. Minnie M. Scott, 1925-1929, 3 Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown,  
1929-1934, 4 Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, 1934-1938, 5 Mrs. S. Joe  
Brown, 1938-1940

### SECOND BIENNIAL

The Second Biennial Session was held in Kansas City, Mo., the week of December 23, 1929. A splendid representation was present at the meeting which was held in the beautiful new Centenary M. E. Church and was presided over by Mrs. Minnie M. Scott.

The Kansas City women left no stone unturned in the line of entertainment, among which was a beautiful reception in the home of Mrs. Rosetta Douglass Sprague-Jones, granddaughter of Frederick Douglass.

Reports from the various officers showed that progress was being made along all lines and the following were elected officers for the ensuing biennium:

Pres., Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, Ind., 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Mo., 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. Maude E. Smith, Ill., Rec. Sec., Mrs. Essie D. Mack, Ky., Asst. Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lethia C. Fleming, Ohio, Cor. Sec., Mrs. Rebeque Foree, Minn., Treas., Mrs. Camelia Briggs, Kan., Chm. Executive Board, Miss Arsanias Williams, Mo., Sec. Ex. Board, Mrs. Kate Johnson, Mich., Chaplain, Mrs. Clara M. Whitman, Wis., Parliamentarian, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa, and Statistician, Mrs. Jeannette Smith, Ill.

### THIRD BIENNIAL

The Third Biennial Session was held in Minneapolis, Minn., the week of August 1, 1931, in the beautiful auditorium of the Phyllis Wheatley Home, with Mrs. Rebeque Foree as general chairwoman.

The Minneapolis women had looked forward to the coming of Central Association had arranged many entertaining features, among which was a sight-seeing tour not only of Minneapolis, but of her twin city, St. Paul, also conducted us through the Crispus Attucks Home for Aged Colored people which they are helping to maintain.

Another feature of this meeting was echoes from the eighth quinquennial session of the International Council of Women held in Vienna, Austria, in May, 1930, in which of the nine representatives from the N. A. C. W., five were members of our Central Association, in the persons of Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart of Indiana, Miss Hallie Q. Brown and Miss Jane Hunter of Ohio, Mrs. S. Joe Brown of Iowa and Miss Meta Pelham of Michigan.

This session was presided over by Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown who was re-elected for another term. Other officers elected were Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Mo., 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Essie D. Mack, Ky., Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lethia C. Fleming, Ohio, Asst. Sec., Mrs. Rebeque D. Foree, Minn., Cor. Sec.; Mrs. Camelia Briggs, Kan., Treas., Miss Arsanias Williams, Mo., Chm. Executive Board, Mrs. Clara M. Whitman, Wis., Chaplain, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa, Parliamentarian, Mrs. Annette H. Officer, Ill., Young Women's Dept., Mrs. Jeannette Smith, Ill., Statistician, and Mrs. Beatrice Childs, Kan., Junior Dept.



Delegation to International Council of Women, Before the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris, France

Reading from the left:—Mrs. L. C. Jefferson, Miss, Mrs. E. B. Miller, Miss, Miss Jane Hunter, Ohio, Mrs. Nellie W. Green, Okla., Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, Ind., Miss Cora M. Allen, La., Miss Hallie Q. Brown, Ohio, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa, Miss Meta Pelham, Mich.

## OFFICIAL CALL

By Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, President

Indianapolis, Ind.

To the Women of the Central Regional Association  
of the N. A. C. W.

Greetings

Three years have passed since we met at Minneapolis in a very unusual and profitable third biennial conference with the Minnesota State Federation of C. W. C.

A large group of earnest thinking women studied carefully the problems affecting the individual club work and many complexities of our national work as well.

We are sure that the results of that conference were easily recognized in the conduct of the women at the Chicago meeting in July, 1933.

At that meeting our national body underwent many changes both in its policies and in the personnel of its official roster. Our newly elected president, Dr. Mary F. Waring, rightly looks to the auxiliary bodies for loyal support along all lines.

For this purpose largely, we are calling a fourth biennial session of the Central Association, to be held with the Kentucky Federation of C. W. C. at Louisville, July 15-16 inclusive, 1934.

Economic distress and insecurity have continued the common lot of a vast number of our people.

The leaders of the National Government have attempted to readjust our social order so as to give a new mind, set not only to our individual interests, but also to the many international problems as they bear upon all civilization, hoping thereby to promote understanding with peace, justice and finer human relationship. A new challenge comes like a clarion call, to all and especially to Negro womanhood which has felt the distress and insecurity more keenly than any other group.

## FOURTH BIENNIAL

Our fourth session was not held until July, 1934, when we met in Zion Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., opening with a public mass meeting Sunday, July 15, consisting of short talks by our Regional President, Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, our National President, Dr. Mary F. Waring, Miss Georgia Nugent, Chairman of the local committee, and others.

On Monday morning, after the routine opening of our business session, we were treated to an all musical program under the direction of Mrs. Maude Roberts George, President of the National Women's Musical Association, and Miss R. Lillian Carpenter, supervisor of music of the Louisville Negro Schools,



### National Presidents Elected From Central Section

1. Mrs. Josephine Silome Yates, 1901-1906, 2. Mrs. Lucy B. Thurman, 1906-1908, 3. Miss Hallie Q. Brown, 1920-1924; 4. Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, 1924-1933, 5. Mrs. Mary F. Waring, 1933-1937

after which round table discussions were held, led by the various Department Heads, and on Monday evening at 8 o'clock we were formally welcomed by the club women and citizens of Louisville in general, and our President delivered her Biennial Message.

On Tuesday evening, Dr Waring brought us a formal address and the session closed on Wednesday after having elected the following officers Pres., Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Mo., 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Annette Officer, Ill., 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. Jane E. Spaulding, W Va., Chm. Executive Board, Mrs. Ora K. Glass, Ky, Sec. Executive Board, Mrs. Ella P Stewart, Ohio, Rec. Sec., Mrs. Essie D Mack, Ky, Asst. Rec. Sec., Mrs. Lethia C. Fleming, Ohio, Cor Sec., Mrs. Clara M Whitman, Wis., Treas., Mrs. Kathern Helms, Kan., Parliamentarian, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa, Statistician, Mrs. Nannie Reed, Ill., Auditor, Mrs. Estelle R. Davis, Ohio, Chaplain, Mrs. Nannie Waddy, Ind., Historian, Mrs. Cora M. Raney, Ind.; and Director of Junior Dept., Mrs. Mildred W Boone, Mo.

#### FIFTH BIENNIAL

The fifth biennial session was held at Charleston, W Va., opening with a public mass meeting in the State Capitol on Sunday afternoon, August 16, 1936, at which Mrs. Jane E. Spaulding, State President, presided, and addresses were delivered by Dr Mary McLeod Bethune, honorary president of the National Association of Colored Women, and by John P Davis, Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress, and greetings were brought by Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, President of Central.

Commencing Monday the 17th, the sessions were held in the spacious buildings of the West Virginia State College.

The Tuesday morning session was devoted to an Institute on Consumers' Co-Operatives, led by the President and Mr Wm. G Winemiller of Columbus, Ohio, and during the afternoon a style show was held on the College campus in charge of Mrs. Laura Williams of Topeka, Kan., for which prizes were awarded by Mrs. Susie V Bouldin of Kansas City, Kan.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr John P Davis led a round table discussion on "Present Economic Conditions affecting the Mother, Home, Child", participated in by Mesdames Lizzie Fouse of Lexington, Ky, Mary Taylor Gates of Cleveland, Ohio, Essie D Mack of Lexington, Ky, Rosetta Gibson of Kansas City, Mo., Nannie Reed of Chicago, S. Joe Brown of Des Moines, Ia., Frances Duncan of Minneapolis, and Siegel Bryant of Flint, Mich. During the noon luncheon Mrs. S. Joe Brown presided over the discussion of "Girls' Camps", led by Mesdames Margaret Barnes of Ohio and Carrie S. Horton of Illinois.



Central Association Delegation in Front of West Virginia State College, Institute, West Virginia, August 17, 1936

On Tuesday evening was held the formal banquet in Glasscock Hall, presided over by the President of Central, with Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, first president of National, and Dr. Mary F. Waring, the presiding president of National, the principal speakers.

At the evening session the ladies were formally welcomed by Dr. John W. Davis, President of the College, and by Mrs. Josephine Marshall Moore, representing the citizens of Charleston, to which response was made by Mrs. Essie D. Mack, Recording Secretary, after which Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, President, delivered her Biennial Message.

On Wednesday the Association adopted the constitution and by-laws prepared by Mrs. S. Joe Brown, the parliamentarian, and adjourned after having elected the following officers:

Pres., Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Mo., Vice Pres.-at-Large, Mrs. Jane Spaulding, W. Va., 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Mary Taylor Gates, Ohio, 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. Essie D. Mack, Ky., Chm. Executive Board, Mrs. Carrie S. Horton, Ill., Sec. Ex. Board, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa, Rec. Sec., Mrs. Estelle R. Davis, Ohio, Asst. Sec., Mrs. Karolyn Franklin, W. Va., Cor. Sec., Mrs. Siegel Bryant, Mich., Treas., Mrs. Kathryn Helm, Kan., Parliamentarian, Mrs. J. R. A. Crossland, Mo., Statistician, Mrs. Nannie Reed, Ill., Auditor, Mrs. Lulu O. McClure, Ohio, Chaplain, Mrs. Frances Duncan, Minn., Historian, Mrs. Ethel M. Cleaves, Ill., and Director of Girls, Mrs. Rosetta W. Gibson, Mo.

### SIXTH BIENNIAL

(From Woman's National Magazine, September, 1938)

Central's biennial meeting was held in Des Moines. Mrs. Sarah E. Jett, State President, and Mrs. S. Joe Brown, State Chairman, were perfect hostesses. Mrs. Brown was elected President for the next biennial.

Sunday afternoon mass meeting in Iowa's state capitol was thrilled by the keynote address, "Negro Youth Faces America", by Bernard E. Squires, Urban League executive of Omaha. The President, Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, responded to a cordial welcome with a timely tribute to three anniversaries of the year—Iowa's centenary of statehood, seventy-five years of Negro freedom, and a half century of the colored woman's co-operation in public affairs. A motor-car tour of the city and a get-acquainted reception on S. Joe Brown's lawn followed.

A three-day program, built on Youth Problems and Negro Economic Struggles, an expert demonstration by Merlin Miller of Kansas City, Mo., and Wilbur Leatherman, Des Moines, Mesdames Hattie L. Crossland, Missouri, Siegel Bryant, Michi-



Central Association Delegation on State House Steps,  
Des Moines, Iowa, July 24, 1938

gan, and Frances Duncan, Minnesota, led convincing discussions. Ella P Stewart, Ohio, Fannie M. Shanks, Minnesota, and Myrtle F Cook related fruitful experiences resulting in successful co-operative stores.

John T Clark, St. Louis Urban League executive, spoke on "Social Security Legislation, Its Import to the Race", assisted by Mesdames Carrie S. Horton and Irene M. Gaines, Chicago. Mr Clark and Mr Taylor directed the general discussion of "Youth Problems" and "Youth Guidance" in education, vocations, jobs and recreation. Mr Taylor demonstrated the setup of "Youth Forums", Mrs. Margaret Barnes, Ohio, "Girls' Camps", Mrs. Lizzie Fouse, Kentucky, "Scholarships", Mrs. A. A. Alexander Des Moines, "The Girls' Association" Mrs. Helen D. Beshears, Des Moines Juvenile Court, brilliantly summed up these able presentations.

Mr Geo. H. Edmunds, national labor organizer, versed in the history of guilds and crafts, gave the inside view of workers' unions and their attitudes toward Negroes.

President D. W. Morehouse gave a welcome at Drake University, to which our president gracefully responded, then we witnessed a lovely pageant, "The Progress of Negro Womanhood", under the direction of Miss Marjorie Smith of the Drake faculty, who had based its features upon her reading of our National Association's History, "Lifting as We Climb", which was followed by a beautiful garden party on the Esters lawn.

Ten states were represented by fifty-seven official delegates, and state presidents' reports showed the wide interests and intensiveness of club work.

Dr. Mary F. Waring, Past President of the N. A. C. W., and many other distinguished club women were in attendance. Messages were received from our Vice President-at-Large, Mrs. Jane Spaulding, West Virginia, Mrs. R. R. Moten, National President, and from Miss Hallie Q. Brown and Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, past presidents of N. A. C. W.

Mrs. Fannie R. Givens sent a message from Edinburgh, Scotland, where she was representing the N. A. C. W. at the International Peace Conference. Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, past president, gave a delightful lecture on "Charm of Body, Mind and Spirit".

On Iowa night, welcome addresses were given by Mrs. Sarah E. Jett for the Iowa Federation, Miss Geraldine Herndon for the Iowa Association of Colored Girls, Mrs. A. D. George, for the Des Moines International Missionary Council, Mrs. Horace Hollingsworth for the Des Moines Inter-Racial Commission and response was given by Mrs. Rebecca Stiles Taylor of Chicago.

The biennial address of Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, President, challenged to club women to move in new directions, to take the next step for youth welfare and the economic advances set forth in the convention program.

The banquet was a brilliant, happy scene, gorgeous with flowers, frocks and food. Dr. Mary F. Waring, past national president, and Mrs. Joan C. Snowden, president emerita of the Central Association, delivered inspiring and informative addresses on "The National", and "The History of the Central", respectively. Mrs. Cook was a most gracious mistress of ceremonies.

Mrs. Nannie Reed, Chicago, conducted a very helpful "School of Leadership Training".

The program held everybody's attention to the last moment, and the large number of citizens who attended agreed it was the most dignified, intelligent convention ever held in their city.

The next meeting will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

#### PRESENT OFFICERS—1938-1940

President, Mrs. S. Joe Brown 1058 Fifth Ave., Des Moines, Ia.	Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Siegel Bryant 2003 Blades Ave., Flint, Mich.
Vice President-at-Large Mrs. Clara M. Whitman 1930 N. 6th St., Milwaukee, Wis.	Treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Roberson 1301 Clark St., Parsons, Kan.
First Vice President Mrs. Mary Taylor Gates 2228 E. 80th St., Cleveland, Ohio	Parliamentarian Mrs. J. R. A. Crossland 720 S. 24th St., St. Joseph, Mo.
Second Vice President Mrs. Lizzie B. Fouse 219 N. Upper, Lexington, Ky.	Statistician, Mrs. Fannie Shanks 3712 4th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
Chairman Executive Board Mrs. Grace Wilson Evans 458 S. 16th St., Terre Haute, Ind.	Auditor, Mrs. Lillian Booker Liberty, Mo.
Secretary Executive Board Mrs. Nannie Reed 4811 Prairie Ave., Chicago, Ill.	Chaplain, Mrs. Frances Duncan 3313 25th Ave., S. Minneapolis, Minn.
Recording Secretary Mrs. Estelle R. Davis (deceased) 3049 Gilbert Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio	Historian, Mrs. Ethel M. Cleaves 3235 Vernon Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Assistant Recording Secretary Mrs. Cleo Haley 140 Clay St., Battle Creek, Mich.	Director of Girls Mrs. Mary A. Johnson Crispus Attucks High School, Indianapolis, Ind.

#### DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mother Home and Child— Mrs. Margaret Barnes 221 N. Main St., Oberlin, Ohio	Education and Schools— Mrs. Essie D. Mack 1642 W. Catherine St., Louisville
Women in Industry— Mrs. A. L. Spaulding 510 Morris St., Charleston, W. Va.	Legislation—Mrs. Carrie N. Horton 4634 St. Lawrence Ave., Chicago
Women in Business— Mrs. Rebecca Stiles Taylor 3435 Ind. Ave., Chicago	Dramatics—Mrs. Sarah E. Jett 1721 Pleasant St., Des Moines, Ia.
Social Service— Miss Jane E. Hunter 4450 Cedar Ave., Cleveland, Ohio	Arts and Crafts— Mrs. Susie V. Bouldin 611 Parallel Ave. Kansas City, Kan.
	Music—Mrs. Edythe Robinson 1506 Liberty Flint, Mich.

### A Few Facts About Our State Associations

The respective State Associations of our section maintain and operate institutions as follows

State	Institution	Location
Michigan	Francis Harper Inn (home for girls)	Detroit
Illinois	Phyllis Wheatley Home (for girls)	Chicago
Missouri	Big Sister Home	Kansas City
Kansas	Crittenden Home	Topeka
Ohio	Working Girls Home	Toledo
Iowa	University Girls' Student Home	Iowa City
Kentucky	Mary Harding Home	Owensboro
Indiana	Day Nursery	Evansville
Nebraska	Old Folks Home	Lincoln
Minnesota	Assists in maintaining Crispus Attucks Home	St. Paul

The above State Associations, except Nebraska, together with West Virginia, also operate Scholarship Loan Funds. Several also maintain official organs, among the oldest of which is the Queens' Gardens, established by Mrs. W. Carrie Clifford, in 1903, just three years after the founding of our National Organ.

Each of these twelve associations following the lead of our National body, operate a Junior Federation in which the young women are encouraged to develop their various talents by the holding of contests in oratory, voice and piano, and one of these Junior Federations, viz. that of Iowa, furnishes the Vice in the person of Miss Geraldine Herndon, of Council Bluffs; President at Large of our National Association of Colored Girls, and in keeping with the recommendation adopted at our first Biennial session, each of these state associations have given generous financial support to the Douglass Home, the National Scholarship Loan Fund and the National Headquarters.

#### Dates of Organization of Central States With First Presidents

MICHIGAN—1898	Mrs. Lucy Thurman
ILLINOIS—1899	Mrs. Mary Jane Jackson
MISSOURI—1900	Mrs. Susan Paul Vashon
KANSAS—1900	Mrs. W. H. Washington
OHIO—1902	Mrs. Carrie W. Clifford
IOWA—1902	Mrs. Helena Downey
KENTUCKY—1903	Miss Georgia A. Nugent
INDIANA—1904	Mrs. Lillian Thomas Fox
MINNESOTA—1905	Mrs. Ione E. Gibbs
NEBRASKA—1905	Mrs. Lorena Gray
WEST VIRGINIA—1907	Dr. Mattie V. Lee
WISCONSIN—1923	Mrs. Clara C. Montgomery



1. First Phyllis Wheatley Home, Chicago, Ill.
2. Francis Harper Inn, Home for Girls, Detroit, Mich.
3. Phyllis Wheatley, first poetess, inspiration for Phyllis Wheatley Homes
4. Day Nursery, Evansville, Ind.
5. Big Sister Home, Kansas City, Mo.

**STATE PRESIDENTS—1939-1940**

Mrs. Siegel Bryant 2003 Blades Ave., Flint, Mich.	Mrs. Lulu D. Robinson Midway, Ky
Mrs. Estella Roberts 2208 Cedar St., Quincy, Ill.	Mrs. Grace W. Evans 458 S. 16th, Terre Haute, Ind.
Mrs. Alice Mason 2521 Park Ave., Kansas City, Mo.	Mrs. Julia Douglass 750 Inglehart St., St. Paul, Minn.
Mrs. Elizabeth Roberson Parsons, Kan.	Mrs. Sara Walker 2203 Charles St., Omaha, Neb.
Mrs. Lulu O. McClure 6230 Chandler St., Cincinnati, Ohio	Mrs. Jane Spaulding 510 Morris St., Charleston, W. Va.
Mrs. A. A. McGinty 503 N. Mass. Ave., Mason City, Ia.	Mrs. Mammie Anderson 111 S. Brook St., Madison, Wis.

**REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS' FIRST PRESIDENTS**

Northeastern— Miss Elizabeth C. Carter, 1896 New Bedford, Mass.	Northwestern— Mrs. Johanna Snowden Porter 1915 Chicago, Ill.
Central—Mrs. Minnie M. Scott, 1925 Toledo, Ohio	
Southeastern— Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, 1920 Daytona Beach, Fla.	Southwestern— Mrs. Emily M. Overall, 1926 Salt Lake City, Utah

**REGIONAL PRESIDENTS IN 1940**

Northeastern— Miss Roberta J. Dunbar 77 Winter St., Providence, R. I.	Northwestern— Mrs. J. B. Samuels 2214 Wetmore St., Everett, Wash.
Central—Mrs. S. Joe Brown 1058 Fifth Ave., Des Moines, Ia.	
Southeastern— Mrs. Ora Brown Stokes, 1607 Brooks Road, Richmond, Va.	Southwestern— Miss Annie B. Gillam 1023 Arch St., Little Rock, Ark.

**MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION  
OF COLORED WOMEN**

Date	Place of Meetings	President	Address
1925	Chicago, Ill.	Mrs. Minnie M. Scott	Ohio
1927	Indianapolis, Ind.	Mrs. Minnie M. Scott	Ohio
1929	Kansas City, Mo.	Mrs. Minnie M. Scott	Ohio
1931	Minneapolis, Minn.	Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown	Indiana
1934	Louisville, Ky.	Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown	Indiana
1936	Charleston, W. Va.	Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook	Missouri
1938	Des Moines, Ia.	Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook	Missouri
1940	Cincinnati, Ohio	Mrs. S. Joe Brown	Iowa



1. Toledo Working Girls' Home, Toledo, Ohio
2. Mrs. Rebecca Stiles Taylor, Editor Club Women's Column, Chicago Defender
3. Second Phyllis Wheatley Home, Chicago
4. Mrs. Elizabeth Lindsay Davis, Founder First Phyllis Wheatley Home, Author "Lifting as They Climb"
5. Mary Harding Home, Owensboro, Ky.
6. Crittenden Home, Topeka, Kans.
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WOMEN

(y Hallelujah")

Women,  
You to do,  
How can we be so idle  
When the race is calling you?  
Calling now for noble women  
Who will ever dare and do  
As time goes marching on.

Join the Federation,  
You must take your station,  
The world's admiration  
As we go marching on.

Many evils now existing,  
Detrimental to our race,  
You can make conditions better  
If you'll only take your place.  
Make a fight with Christ, our captain,  
In the end the right will win,  
As time goes marching on.

We are ostracized on street cars,  
And we're ostracized on trains,  
We should ask for better treatment  
In the Federation's name.  
"First-class fare" is on our tickets,  
What it means we are in doubt,  
As the train goes moving on.

Let us now be up and doing,  
For we have no time to lose,  
The day is calling for you,  
You must answer, don't refuse,  
Let's unite our forces,  
Which we ne'er can fail,

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift ev'ry voice and  
Till earth and heave  
Ring with the harmo  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning  
Let it resound loud as the roll of sea  
Sing a song full of the faith  
That the dark past has taught  
Sing a song full of the hope  
That the present has brought us:  
Facing the rising sun of a new day begun,  
Let us march on 'til victo

Stony the road we tread,  
Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope was had and fled,  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed  
We have come over a way  
That with tears has been watered  
We have come, treading our path  
Thru the blood of the slaughtered  
Out of the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on our way,  
Thou who hast by Thy might,  
Led us into the Light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray,  
Lest our feet stray from the places,  
Our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine  
Of the world, we forget Thee,  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land

## THE BRIDGE BUILDER

Old man, on a lone foggy way,  
Came a even'g at a sea,  
To a chasm deep and wide,  
Old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
The sullen sea had no fears for him;  
And when a sea on the other side  
A white bride to span the tide.

Old man, said a fellow pilgrim near,  
"You're wasting your strength by building here,  
You never again will pass this way;  
For your journey will end at the close of day,  
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide,  
So why build a bridge to span the tide?"

"I'll build it on this old gray head—  
Crossed and, in the path I have come," he said,  
"There followeth after me today,  
A youth whose feet must pass this way,  
The chasm that has been naught to me  
He may for one may a downfall be,  
I'll cross in the twilight dim,  
I'm building this bridge for him."

## CENTRAL RALLYING SONG

By Miss Arsanía Williams  
(TUNE "Tannenbaum")

No creed but Christ, no law but love  
Rally Central, carry on,  
Thy chosen motto lift above,  
Rally Central, carry on,  
Thy goal to our Central dear,  
We'll lift and climb throughout the year  
No creed but Christ, no law but love,  
Rally Central, carry on!

