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# IOWA THE BYSTANDER

PUBLISHED IN THE  
INTERESTS OF THE  
COLORED PEOPLE

VOL. XL, NO. 36

DES MOINES, IOWA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1934

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## Wife's Brother Quizzed In W. A. Scott Murder

### Southern States "Burn" Nine Negro Prisoners In Electric Chair This Week

### NAACP Urges Iowa Congressmen to Support Anti-Lynch Bill Family Offers Reward

## Five Alabama Convicts Pay Extreme Penalty

### THREE MEET FATE IN TEXAS ANOTHER ELECTROCUTED IN ARKANSAS

Montgomery, Ala.—Alabama executed five Negroes within a few minutes early Friday morning in the electric chair of Kilby prison whose death cells house two of the Scottboro boys awaiting the same fate. This was the largest number of persons to be executed at one time in Alabama's history. All of the condemned prisoners were convicted of first degree murder. Only one admitted guilt.

The prisoners spent their last 12 hours singing hymns, spirituals and praying. Just prior to making the march to the death chamber, they had eaten a fried chicken dinner. The prisoners were clad in white trousers and a white shirt.

#### Asserts Innocence

Bennie Foster, 21, of Ballas county was the first to die. He was convicted of killing Clarence McCain, white, in the holdup of a filling station. Asked what he had to say at his final words, Foster after he had been strapped to the chair, smiled and said, "Gentlemen, an innocent man is going to glory." The second to die was John Thompson, 38, convicted of the murder of Henry Bloom, white, Mobile merchant in a holdup. Third came Hardie White, 32, who killed Luther Williams, operator of a Mobile street car, in a holdup. His parting words were: "I want you all to know that I am not guilty; just send that news back to Mobile. That's all I ask." He gave a silent prayer before he died.

Ernest Waller, 21, who died next, was the only one to admit guilt. He confessed the killing of Daisy Montgomery, his sweetheart, at Orville. Although he admitted his guilt, he did not believe he should die. "I shouldn't be killed captain," he protested, "That woman ain't worth it."

#### Nine Scheduled to Die

The last to meet his fate was Solomon Roper, 24, of Dallas county, who killed his employer, Page Bruzier, white, with an ax. Asked whether he had anything to say, he replied, "Nah, suh. Goodbye, captain." Nine men originally had been scheduled to die but one death sentence was reprieved, two were commuted to life imprisonment and one prisoner died a natural death.

## National Guard Protects Negroes

### MOB THREATENS NEGROES CONVICTED OF ATTACK

Hernando, Miss.—An angry mob of some 350 people sought in vain to enter the court house here on Monday, as three Negroes who confessed to criminal assaults on a 17-year-old school girl were sentenced to die on the gallows March 16. National guard troops under command of Adj. Gen. Thomas J. Grayson had been called out by the Governor and they succeeded in getting the prisoners back to Jackson for safe keeping.

The Negroes who confessed having boarded an automobile in which the girl and an uncle, G. A. Collins of Myrtle, Miss., and an aunt were riding, and attacking the girl after robbing the two older people were: Ernest McGhee, 23; Johnny Jones, 23; and Isaac Howard, 25. The attack on the girl occurred in Mississippi just across the state line from Memphis.

### "LOVELORN" FILM AT STRAND TUESDAY

"Advice to the Lovelorn," begins on Tuesday, February 20th at the Strand Theatre, with Lee Tracy as Toby Prentiss, staff reporter and feature writer under a five-year contract, sleeping off a drunk during an earth quake, the biggest story of the year. The story is about a woman who had

## Negro Receives Fair Trial at Scene Of Lynch Party

### SAM JONES ACQUITTED IN EASTERN SHORE SLAYING

Princess Anne, Md.—(CNS)—Sam Jones, 55, colored, who had been indicted for the murder of Mrs. Margaret Brumley, at Marion Station on New Year's Eve, was acquitted by a jury here, Wednesday, Feb. 7, Jones, when informed that he was free appeared in a daze and had to be told twice before he would leave the court room. Jones' principal defense was his establishment of an alibi showing he was in another part of the county on the night Mrs. Brumley was found stabbed to death.

Warning by Judge Robert F. Duer that any person making a demonstration after the verdict was announced would be in contempt of court kept the courtroom silent. Previous to the trial Jones has been kept in the Baltimore city jail out of reach of possible lynchers.

## R. W. Colflesh Will Run For Governor

Robert W. Colflesh, United States attorney for the southern district of Iowa has announced his candidacy for governor. A gallant soldier of the World War, a good lawyer, a gentleman, a leader in the American Legion and a loyal Republican, he has won a host of friends who deem him qualified for the office.



ROBERT W. COLFLESH

In 1930 he was director of the census in this territory. For the first time to our knowledge, Negro enumerators were used. He stands square on the Negro question, not on the basis of sympathy which always gets Negroes the mop and bucket, but on the broad human policy that the Negro is entitled to and should receive consideration on the basis of merit.

He believes that our form of government should be preserved, that party platforms should be his guide after as well as before the election and while making no rash promises which too many candidates fall into, he believes Negroes should be given proper consideration. In fact, his career in public office has shown it. We can ask no more.

conducted the "Advice to the Lovelorn" column for many years, resigned to get married. The managing editor, incensed at a staff reporter's frequent lapses, assigns him a case, making him a fellow reporter. He is in the

## Iowa Republicans Hold State Rally

### By Everett Wadsworth (Staff writer)

2,000 Republicans were addressed Monday afternoon by Col. Frank Knox, publisher of the Chicago, Ill., Daily News, who was main speaker at a statewide political meeting held at the Shrine auditorium. Mustering their forces for the coming election to regain their lost causes of 1932, county chairmen and prominent leaders throughout the state attended this meeting.

Lincoln's birthday in 1934, they said, marks the beginning of the struggle for party supremacy in the Iowa administration. This day was observed among Republicans throughout the country as the ideal time to issue a call to arms to fight for the return of the G. O. P. to power.

Harrison E. Spangler of Cedar Rapids, national committeeman, president, Homer S. Stephens of Clarinda, chairman, state central committee, Martha McClure of Mt. Pleasant, committeewoman, Virginia Bedell of Spirit Lake, state vice chairman, were among the leaders in attendance.

The following representatives of the Negro Republican Voters League of Iowa attended the convention: J. L. Winston, J. L. Winston Jr., Mrs. H. Owens, Mrs. Rice Lintz, Mrs. Ella Bahannan, Mrs. Bessie Pertum-Miller all of Ottumwa, N. L. Black of Washington, Iowa, L. W. Straughter, of Colfax, Virgil Moore, of Mason City, J. G. Browne is president and Harry E. Wilson, secretary of the organization; both live in Des Moines.

## Mayor Orders Probe of Chiefs

### LAGUARDIA TO PROBE MORTON'S ACTIVITIES

New York.—(ANP)—Mayor LaGuardia exploded another bomb shell by the ranks of Tammany stalwarts Saturday when he ordered Commissioner of Accounts Blanshard to make a sweeping investigation into the political activities of two Tammany members of the civil Service Commission, naming in particular, Abraham Kaplan and Ferdinand Q. Morton.

Allegations that Morton and Kaplan were adding people to the payroll of the city only after those persons were forced to agree to a 10 per cent payment of their salary to "relief funds" is one of the charges brought in the complaint. However, it is charged that the money went instead into the pockets of politicians. Kaplan was manager of former Mayor O'Brien's campaign.

### BLUE TRIANGLE Y APPOINTS DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

The following department chairman appointments have been made by Mrs. J. G. Browne, chairman committee of management of the Blue Triangle Y. W. C. A.: Girl Reserve, Miss Anna Wilson; Religious Education, Mrs. Anna Simmons; Public Affairs, Mrs. Clyde Morris; Publicity, Mrs. Bonnie Herridon; Music, Mrs. Joburgess Kellogg; Home, Mrs. Sallie Gafar; Finances, Mrs. Hazel Dixon; Young Women, Mrs. Helen Beshears; Education, Mrs. John A. Alexander; Membership, Mrs. Judith Wilson and Mrs. Bernice Angles.

## Texas Primary Case Wins 3rd U.S. Court Tilt

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 16.—For the third time in the last seven years the efforts to bar Negroes from the Texas democratic primaries were defeated when Judge Boynton of the federal district court here handed down a decision Wednesday, February 7, awarding damages to Dr. L. A. Nixon for his having been denied the right to register and vote in the spring primary of 1933.

This is the first time such a victory has been won in a Texas case in a court lower than the United States supreme court. The first two cases, in which Dr. Nixon was also the plaintiff, were won in the highest court in 1927 and 1933. The N. A. A. C. P. has financed and handled all three cases. Fred C. Knollenberg was Dr. Nixon's El Paso attorney, and assisted and advised by Arthur D. Spingarn and James Marshall of the New York legal staff of the association.

## WOMEN PRESENT INTERRACIAL PROGRAM

The Des Moines Interracial Commission was entertained with a program Tuesday evening by the women members and guests. On account of the absence of Mrs. S. Joe Brown, chairman women's department who had arranged the program, Mrs. W. G. Jordan presided. The speakers were Mrs. W. W. Tuttle, president Iowa Negro-Baptist women; Mrs. A. D. George of the Interdenominational Missionary council; Mrs. Paul Carroll, president of the city P. T. A.; Mrs. Elbert R. Hall, president Ladies auxiliary Lincoln post of the American Legion; Mrs. Fred Hunter of the Des Moines League of Women Voters.

Mrs. J. G. Brown, chairman Blue Triangle Branch Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. George Harnage of the North High P. T. A.; Mrs. Agnes Lee Hermansen, county recorder and Miss Agnes Samuelsen, state superintendent of Education. The latter two have Negro deputies in their offices and each told briefly what her organization is doing by way of bringing about better race relations in the community and state. Among the visitors present were Mrs. C. D. Bland of Keokuk and B. O. Gammon, president Council of Churches of the Des Moines area.

A resolution of sympathy was voted to Mrs. S. Joe Brown, whose absence was occasioned by the passing of her father in Milwaukee. The commission also passed a resolution endorsing the Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill now pending before the U. S. Senate and instructed its chairman and secretary to forward communications to Senators Dickinson and Murphy urging them to support it. In the absence of the chairman, Dr. Stoddard E. Lane, Rev. Geo. W. Robinson, vice-chairman, was in charge of the meeting.

## WOODRUFF TO RUN FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

Fred P. Woodruff, of Knoxville, Chairman of the Iowa Railroad Commission, today announced his candidacy for the office of commissioner of public safety because he believes it is the most important office in the city council—responsible for the protection of life, health and property." Mr. Powell said.

His knowledge of real estate values and building codes qualifies him to give intelligent and fair opinions on tax valuation and replacement matters that may come before the city council. "With the cooperation and assistance of our various law enforcement bodies, I will do all in my power to give Des Moines a progressive and constructive law enforcement program," Mr. Powell announces. "I elected to serve, I will work for the best interests of Des Moines and its citizens, and promise an administration unaffected and untainted by bias, fear, favor or prejudice."

Iowa Railroad Commission more than eleven years, has long been active in transportation problems and is recognized as an authority on rate and valuation questions. Mr. Woodruff has served as president of the Vallegion Co. and as secretary of the Vallegion Association.

## Local Branch Raises \$51.00

The twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of the N. A. A. C. P. was observed by the local branch Monday evening with a public meeting at St. Paul A. M. E. church. An address on Lincoln was delivered by Irene Glass of Drake University; Jerome Southers was speaker on Frederick Douglass. The history of the N. A. A. C. P. and local branch was given by Atty. S. Joe Brown.

Judge Thos. J. Guthrie explained the provisions of the Wagner-Costigan anti-lynching bill; resolutions approving the bill presented by Atty. Jas. B. Morris, chairman legal redress committee, was unanimously adopted and telegrams were forwarded to Senators Dickinson and Murphy, Representative Dowell and other Iowa members of congress urging their support of the bill.

\$51.00 of Des Moines' quota of \$54.00, were collected for the silver anniversary fund and reported by the committee of young people headed by Mrs. S. Joe Brown. A. P. Trotter, president, was in charge of the meeting.

## OSCAR POWELL SEEKS PUBLIC SAFETY POST

Oscar L. Powell, president of big Des Moines realty firm, has announced his candidacy for the office of public safety commissioner in the March municipal election. "I am soliciting the support of the people of Des Moines on my record as a citizen, a business man and an executive. I am



OSCAR POWELL

seeking the office of commissioner of public safety because I believe it is the most important office in the city council—responsible for the protection of life, health and property." Mr. Powell said.

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## BURLINGTON, IOWA, NEWS

Mrs. Verlie Bidou is in the hospital. Mrs. Viola Woods is better. The Brotherhood club gave a play at the Union Baptist church sponsored by Bill Folks, M. Dunn and R. Thompson. The A. M. E. church had a play with Mrs. Alice Beckly and George Bradshaw. Mrs. Garrett is very ill. The Burlington Giants had a meeting. The Trojan club is meeting at the home of H. Stewart, 683 North Central avenue.

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## Iowa Pioneer Dies In Milwaukee

### JACOB WILSON'S RITES HELD HERE THURSDAY

Jacob Wilson, pioneer resident of Iowa who came to old Muchakinock, Mahaska county coal mine, from Virginia, more than fifty years ago, died Monday at the home of his youngest son, Robert Wilson, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He had lived there for five years. His eldest daughter, Mrs. S. Joe Brown, accompanied by two brothers, J. A. and Tug W. Wilson, all of



JACOB WILSON

Des Moines, arrived in Milwaukee by motor shortly before his death. Miss Myra Morgan, granddaughter, accompanied him.

The elder brother, John W. Wilson of this city was unable to make the trip because of ill health; others at his bedside were his widow and three other daughters, Mrs. Daisy E. Jones and Mrs. Lorna Mitchell of Chicago and Mrs. Ione Coleman of Kansas City; four other sons, Clark of Chicago and Joseph, Lawrence and Robert of Milwaukee.

A brief service was held in the Milwaukee home; the body was brought to Des Moines, where it lay in state at the funeral home operated by his son Tug W. Wilson at 811 Fourteenth Street. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at St. Paul A. M. E. church with the Rev. J. A. Alexander officiating, the Masonic services in charge of Doric Lodge No. 30 A. F. & A. M. by request of Cedar Grove Lodge No. 18 of Albia, of which Mr. Wilson was a member. Peter Abington of Pershing, member of the order of most Venerable Patriarchs brought greetings. Among the pall bearers were four of his former associates at old Muchakinock and Burlington: F. G. Goggin, W. H. London, James James and W. J. Shepherd. Interment was at Glendale cemetery.

Two thousand persons turned out Sunday at Wheat Street Baptist church to Scott's funeral. At the editorial offices of The Atlanta World, it was vigorously denied that the editorial policies of the paper were responsible for the murder. C. A. Scott, brother of the slain man, has succeeded to the management of the business.

## Sorority Dance Thursday, Feb. 22

### "CARIOCA" TO BE FEATURED AT BALLYHOO BALL

The new dance sensation, "The Carioca," the South American society twist, will be featured by six snappy peppers at the Ballyhoo Ball, Thursday evening, Feb. 22, at the Billiken Ballroom. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Society, Gamma Chapter, is sponsoring their second annual pre-spring event.

Music for dancing will be provided by Harold Wilkinson and his Congo Rhythm Band. "A Night In Spain" region will present a floor show. Entertainment and hilarity will reign from 9 p. m. to one a. m.

## SEARCH FOR SLAYER CONTINUE

Atlanta.—(ANP)—Just before W. A. Scott, owner of Scott Newspaper Syndicate died last Wednesday afternoon, eight persons claim that he confided the identity to them of the man who fired a bullet into his back the night of Tuesday, Jan. 30. He named George Pitts Maddox, his wife's brother, and son of George Maddox, head of one of the city's most well known families. Both father and son are dining car waiters.

Maddox held On the strength of the testimony of these eight persons, Atlanta police Friday arrested Maddox, taking him in custody on the train running from Birmingham to Atlanta, on which Maddox was dead-heading. The car waiter stoutly maintained his innocence of the crime and claimed that at the time of the shooting he was visiting in the home of Miss Frankie Miles on Cane street.

Saturday, the Scott family sought to accelerate the search for the slayer by offering a \$200 reward for arrest and conviction. The Birmingham World, one of the member papers of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate, also offered \$50.

## Was Scott's Fourth Marriage

Maddox, freed by the coroner's jury Saturday, is a brother of Scott's 4th wife, pretty 23-year-old Agnes Maddox Scott. Miss Maddox and Scott were married secretly last October, the announcement not being made until December. Just a short time before his death, Scott and his bride had returned from a honeymoon trip to Cuba.

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## Salem Tutt Whitney, Actor, Dies In Chicago Following Brief Illness

### "CARIOCA" TO BE FEATURED AT BALLYHOO BALL

Chicago.—Salem Tutt Whitney, formerly producer with his brother, Homer Tutt of the "Smart Set" revue and recently a featured player in "The Green Pastures," died in Chicago Monday. The late Mr. Whitney was about 65 years of age, a native of Indiana, and had been on the stage for forty years or more. He originally was a comedian and traveled throughout the country and abroad with minstrel shows and with his own company, "The Smart Set."

When the depression hit the show business, he accepted a character part in "The Green Pastures" and played the role of "Noah" for nearly three years. He was stricken in New Orleans about three months ago and was confined to the Flint-Goodrich Hospital for a time. But when he began to improve, he was moved to Chicago, where he died.

## Crawford Gets Life Sentence 2nd Time

Leeburg, Va.—George Crawford, who already was serving a life sentence for the murder of Mrs. Agnes Boeing Hisey, pleaded guilty to the murder of her maid here on Monday and was again sentenced to life imprisonment.

Judge J. R. H. Alexander said the life sentence was considered adequate because if Crawford were executed there would be no way of convicting Charles Johnson, accused by Crawford of actually killing the woman. Johnson has not been



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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, NEWS  
Miss Sophie Albright and James M. Reed were united in marriage on the evening of Feb. 3 by Rev. J. W. Collins in the home of Mr. Reed's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Reed, 711 Tenth Avenue, S. E. The bride wore a gorgeous white net gown, carried a beautiful bouquet of American beauty rose buds, and was escorted to the altar on the arm of Virgil Powell. She formerly resided in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Powell. The bride, a high school graduate, is a native of Kansas City, Mo. Several post nuptial affairs are planned by the younger social set for the following week. Out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Blake of Estherville, Iowa, and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Black of Milan, Mo.

FORT MADISON, IOWA, NEWS  
Bethel A. M. E. church services Sunday: Sunday school, 9:15 a. m. Morning service 11 a. m. Allen League 6:30 p. m. Trustees of the church served a chicken dinner Feb. 14. Pastor's Aid social at the home of Mrs. Lizzie Ewing in the 300 block avenue D, Saturday evening. Second Baptist church services church services 9:45. Morning service 11 a. m. B. Y. P. U. 6 p. m. and evening service at 7 p. m. There will be a Martha Washington tea party Thursday, Feb. 22 under the auspices of the Ladies Aid at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Lovely Wilkerson.

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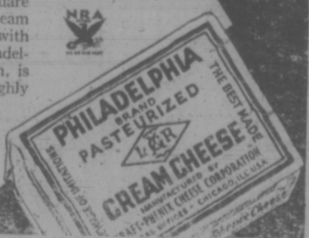


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**Sports** By Allen Ashby

Heywood Brewer and Geo. Robinson were both cited for outstanding work over the week end. George led North high's scoring against Marshalltown and Heywood of East hooked in a basket to defeat Grinnell by two points. St. Paul barely nosed out the I. D. K.'s in one of those battles of poor sportsmanship. The Trojans

played half of a game with the Spiders and led them 5 to 4 in another disgusting brawl. Corinthian dusted the Harlem A. C. in what was the only game of the evening where anything like playing for fun was done. Young Wilson's Famous Five with Leland Johnson knocking the opponents down and Bruce and Morehead shooting baskets really took over first place in the intermediate league. The Panthers won from the Ramblers in

the other game. The Spiders and Y-tars were victorious over the Van Cirkels and a team of North High reserves. The Big Five went to Beech last Tuesday and lambasted the home boys. The Five were still hot over the three point defeat they suffered last year down there and were out to get even. Earl Miller started his first game and rang up a gang of baskets. Bunny Wilson led Brown by two points for high scoring honors. When the

home boys got Miller and Bunny stopped Allen and Brown broke out and completed the route. The score being 47 to 21. Wednesday night Carlisle came down to get even for their two defeats of last year. The Carlisle boys are still trying to get even and now they have three defeats to avenge. Bill Miller, reserve center got into the fray early and coralled 17 points, as many as the entire Carlisle team scored. The score being 27-17. Allen was next high with 6 points.

WATERLOO, IOWA, NEWS

The junior choir of the A. M. E. church sang Sunday morning. Mrs. M. Parker sang a solo. Sunday morning Rev. Parker delivered a sermon dedicated to Bishop Allen, the founder of the A. M. E. church. Rev. and Mrs. Parker were dinner guests of Mrs. A. Lanzo. The Willing Workers club had a successful pew rally. Rev. M. Taylor of Mt. Carmel Baptist delivered a sermon and his choir sang. Rev. O. Taylor of the Union Baptist church was a visitor. The senior choir gave a program Sunday evening dedicated to Bishop Allen.

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