

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was VOTED to approve the above two recommendations of the Committee on Administration.

NEW BUSINESS: Texas Injunction: The Special Counsel explained the injunction handed down in the 7th Judicial District Court of Smith County, Texas, in the case entitled State of Texas vs. NAACP. (Copy of injunction attached.)

He said an appeal had been noted to protect our rights. There is no question that there are many errors in the record on admission of evidence.

The Special Counsel recommended that the Board not appeal from this injunction for the reason that at a new trial if they put in the type of evidence they can get in legally, we would get at least as bad a judgment as we have here.

There was discussion participated in by Messrs. Lehman, Delany, Weinberger, Hastie, Cobb, Johnson, Miller, Dobbs, Black, Tinsley, Flemmings, Berry, Alexander, Spaulding, Gallagher, Weaver, Lewis, Christopher.

Upon motion by Judge Delany, seconded by Dr. Cobb, it was VOTED to instruct our counsel to appeal from the order of injunction issued in the 7th Judicial District Court of Smith County, Texas, in the case entitled State of Texas vs. the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Paul Williams Honored: Dr. Hudson reported that Mr. Paul Williams of Los Angeles has been made a Fellow in the American Academy of Architects, the first Negro to be so honored.

Church Secretary: The Secretary reported that two members of the committee to advise with him on employment of a Church Secretary had joined in interviewing Dean Edward Odom, Jr., of Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Ga; and recommended selection of Dean Odom for the position. A formal offer is being made to Dean Odom.

COMMITTEE ON BRANCHES AND YOUTH WORK: The Committee on Branches and Youth Work met on Friday, May 10, and voted the following recommendations for consideration by the Board:

New York Branch Election Dispute: The Committee considered the complaint submitted by several members of the New York Branch requesting that the election held December 19, 1956, be declared invalidated because of irregularities in the tallying of the ballots, including refusal of the tellers to count write-in votes.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.  
LONGacre 3-6890

May 7, 1957

MEMORANDUM TO: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FROM: THE SECRETARY

Attached is a draft of a suggested order to be issued in the case of the State of Texas vs. the NAACP, et al. We are asked to consent to the issuance of this order.

The matter is so serious and has so many implications and ramifications that only the Board of Directors can act upon it. Involved in this order or in one which will be issued if the case proceeds to its conclusion is the whole question of the future operation of the NAACP in the Southern states.


The attached draft is very confidential. It must not be shown to or discussed with anyone except a fellow Board member. It must not be lost or misplaced. The Court will hold our lawyers responsible for any leak and will punish them if such occurs. Usually these agreements are held by the lawyers and discussed with the client without any extra copies being made or distributed. Please treat this as absolutely confidential and bring your copy to the meeting with you.

Board members are urged to study the attached document, to be prepared with their comments and their questions so that thorough discussion can be had at the regular meeting Monday and a decision reached.

This will be the principal item of business, all other matters except the few demanding decision being postponed.

Please make every effort to be present. Travel allowances for eligible out-of-town members will be paid for the May 13 meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Roy Wilkins  
Secretary

RW:mdj  
Enclosure

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.  
LOngacre 3-6890

May 9, 1957

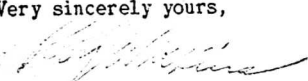
MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY  
TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The decision in the Texas case, announced today, does not change the importance of the Board meeting May 13.

The problem now is not whether we agree to certain items. That has been settled. The court has issued an order.

The problem now is what we shall do in the light of the order. This goes far beyond the specific Texas situation and brings up the whole question of our method of operation in hostile Southern states, now and in the future.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Roy Wilkins,  
Executive Secretary.

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National Inter-Racial Hospital Association, Inc.: The Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Rev. Amos H. Carnegie of Chicago, Ill. requesting that the Board endorse a plan for a National Inter-Racial Hospital Association.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was VOTED to advise Rev. Carnegie that individual members of the Board are free to endorse the plan if they wish, but that this does not come within the scope of the Association as an organization.

Attacks on NAACP - Resolution by Jewish Labor Committee: The Secretary read to the Board a copy of a resolution passed by the Jewish Labor Committee expressing its concern over the recent attacks on the NAACP by Southern legislatures.

\* See page 6 for insert

North Carolina Anti-NAACP Laws: The Secretary reported that the anti-NAACP laws in the North Carolina Legislature had definitely been defeated. At the request of Mr. Kelly Alexander, certain information was prepared for him and he appeared in opposition to the bills. The Secretary pointed out that this is the first state in which such pending bills have been defeated. In Arkansas, Texas and Tennessee they were passed with split votes, but in North Carolina we had a complete victory.

ADA Statement re Budget: It was reported that/request had been received that the Association join in a statement to all congressmen urging them to reject attempts to cut the budget for 1958.

It was the feeling of the Board that this did not come within the scope of the Association's activities.

Texas Case: The Secretary reported that since the May meeting of the Board, Mr. Durham, attorney for the Association in the Texas case, had withdrawn from the case on being advised of the decision of the Board to appeal the decision of the Court.

The Secretary read his letter of May 31 to Mr. Durham in which he raised certain questions, and Mr. Durham's reply of June 10 setting forth his position in the case.

The Secretary also reported receipt of Findings of Fact by the judge in the case.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was VOTED to refer Mr. Durham's letter and the Judge's Findings to the Chief Counsel with instructions to examine them and report to the next meeting of the Board.