

main speaker and guest of honor.

At a public meeting during the month of January, the Association in Orange County, California, concerned itself with the role of the NAACP in incorporating the general community in meeting the problem of juvenile delinquency.

The February issue of Pageant magazine honored the secretary-counsel as "one of the 10 Americans to watch in 1959." The article indicated that Franklin Williams was one of the 10 people who "would leave the mark of their creative energies and vital imagination on the world in the year that lay ahead."

SOUTHWEST REGION: Mr. Clarence Laws reports progress in reactivating branches in Texas. Twelve branches raised or surpassed 50 members. Non-activity of branches, according to Mr. Laws, could be traced directly to the leadership. He cites Austin County and Hearne as examples. Arriving at Belleville February 5th he was told by the branch president that meetings had not been held in a year because people were without money or afraid to join. However, the field secretary solicited memberships in Belleville and obtained 18 members within two hours. On Saturday and Sunday at church services he obtained five adult and ten youth memberships.

On February 9th in Hearne where the same problem exists, a meeting was held with six persons present. Despite the president's gloomy predictions, the next day with the assistance of a Mr. C.G. Jennings who volunteered, they solicited 36 members including the local high school principal, his wife and several teachers. The night before Mr. Laws had been assured that these and others were hostile toward the Association. At a report meeting in Hearne the following Tuesday, 74 memberships were reported. 9 were obtained by the president and the branch secretary and a number were solicited by telephone. Mr. Laws observed that "many of the present branch leaders contacted by the field secretary during January and February, have held office for many years. In some instances there has not been an election in two or three years."

Louisiana: The Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Conference met at Lake Charles, January 31st, for the purpose of discussing plans for increasing membership and funds. Goals of 10,000 members and \$10,000 Freedom Funds were adopted by the body. The Board also adopted as part of its immediate program the stimulating voter registration and the increasing of Youth Memberships. Mrs. D.A. Combre, Louisiana State Conference President, reported that citizens of Lake Charles have retained legal counsel for the purpose of filing suit against the Transit Company to strike down segregation in bus transportation. Similar action is being contemplated by citizens of Shreveport.

According to information received by the Field Secretary, on February 16th, teachers, bus drivers and other public employees of the Fourth Congressional District of Louisiana received a memorandum and two copies of a questionnaire seeking to ascertain the attitude of those persons on 1) racial segregation, 2) White Citizens' Council and 3) the NAACP. The memorandum was signed by J.D. Waggoner, Jr. of Plain Dealing, Louisiana. This man is said to be a member of the Bossier Parish School Board. His brother Willie Waggoner is reported to be high sheriff in the same parish. Some employees returned the questionnaires; others ignored it.