PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300 TONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION Conference
Jour 12th, 13th 4 14th 1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW. WASHINGTON, D. C. OFFICIAL BUSINESS

January 19, 1939

Wise Galena French Wational Youth Administration 801 Harrison Street Topaka, Kansas

My dear Miss French:

We want to sepress to you our appreciation for your presence and destribution to the Second National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth here in Washington, January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

We hope that some good results will come from the Conference and that the findings and recommendations may receive a good reception from all people interested in maintaining a united democracy.

Very sincerely yours,

Aubrey Williams Administrator

mmb/lre

LAW OFFICES

JAMES A.COBB PERRY W: HOWARD GEORGE E. C. HAYES

JAMES G. EATON

COBB, HOWARD & HAYES 613 F STREET, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C.

CABLE ADDRESS "COHOHA"

O 364

NATIONAL

2702

2703

December 22, 1 9 3 8

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, Northwest Washington, District of Columbia

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I have your good letter of December 19, 1938, in which you call my attention to the conference had some two (2) years ago and the purpose of that conference.

You further state that the time has arrived to evaluate the status of the Negro, as far as federal relations are concerned, since the last conference and for that purpose a conference will be held on January 12, 13, and 14, to which I am invited.

In answer thereto, I beg to advise that I shall be present at that conference and I greatly thank you for calling my attention to the same and extending me an invitation.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

James A. Cobb

JAC:NO

Nov 10,1938 Ms May Me Level Bethune Dir Div of Myn affair Wall youth adm. 1194 MM ANK ANK MM Dam acknowledging The receipt of your letter Hear Madan Bertunk. Accember of and advaing you that it will be a of the Myso and Myso fronth, January 12 But you did not med this acknowledgement because you know that I am with you lot to New truly your Hope run multial friend Edgar will be There

MRS: ROBERT GRAYSON McGUIRE + 1822 NINTH STREET, N. W. + WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 15, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director Division of Negro Affairs Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Your letter inviting me to attend a conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth to be held January 12, 13 and 14, 1939 was received.

I greatly appreciate the invitation and shall consider it a privilege to attend.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. Robert G. McGuire)

HOWARD UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, D. C.

12 December 1938

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
OFFICE OF THE DRAN

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, Northwest Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Upon my return to the office, I am just in receipt of your letter of December 7 in which you are kind enough to invite me to attend a conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, to be held in Conference Rooms A and B of the Auditorium adjacent to the Department of Labor on Constitution Avenue, between 13th and 14th Streets, on January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

I am writing to state that I shall be very happy to attend this conference.

Sincerely yours,

Chas. H. Thompson

Dean

CHT: S

The Federation of Civic Associations

PRESIDENTS

of the

MEETS IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the

DISTRICT BUILDING

Every Fourth Friday

21 AFFILIATED

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Mrs. Ruby M. Kendrick, Recording Secretary 751-A Fairmont Street, R. W.

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1348 Fort Drive, N. W.
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2700 Georgia Ave., N. W.
Dr. George H. Richardson, Public Interest
309 11th Street, N. E.
Dr. C. Herbert Marshall, Rock Creek
2712 P Street, N. W.
Benjamin T. Montgomery, Southeast
401 13th Street, S. E.
John T. Rhines, Southwest

Thy dear Mrs. Bathrene,

for may sekedule me for your very timely fouth conference, Jan. 12, 13+14.

Being krees-deep in toxas for the D.C., I have not given thought to The possible directions of the problem, but shall do so very soon.

12/12/38

Dericary yours Charles M. Thomas

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

916 Gaines Street Little Rock, Arkansas December 10, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director Division Negro Affairs 1734 New York Avenue NW Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Following my communication to you under date of October 24, (which was as per your request) I am taking the liberty of suggesting Prof. T. J. Jordan, State Director Agricultural Extension Work, Southern University, Scotlandville, Louisiana, to attend and participate in your meeting there January 12-14.

There is no other person, white or colored, in Louisiana in my opinion who is as familiar with racial conditions as Prof. Jordan. He is sound in his judgement, seasoned in experience and conservative in his every action. I do not know that it is possible that he would be able to accept, however, if you decide to consider him and he does accept, he will be a distinct asset to you in the very fine work which you have done and are doing for our people. This letter is written without the knowledge or consent of Prof. Jordan.

I had instruction from the office of Secretary Wallace to be with you January 12-13-14.

With all good wishes, I am

Yours truly.

Jas. P. Davis

Head Field Officer

JPD:h

LAW OFFICES

COBB, HOWARD & HAYES 613 F STREET, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C.

(0364 NATIONAL 2702

JAMES G. EATON FRANK W. ADAMS

PERRY W. HOWARD

GEORGE E.C. HAYES

December 9 1 9 3 8

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs 1734 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 7th instant in re Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth for January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

I accept your invitation, and, while I have a very heavy Court calendar for that month, I shall attend as often as my calendar will permit me.

With best wishes and respect, I am

PWH

TH

Whole letter

SOUTHERN EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

1867—George Peabody Fund

1882-John F. Slater Fund

1907-Anna T. Jeanes Fund

1938-Virginia Randolph Fund

Office of the President 726 Jackson Place, N.W. Washington, D. C.

November 9, 1938

President
ARTHUR D. WRIGHT

Chairman of the Board ARTHUR W. PAGE

Secretary of the Board EMMETT J. SCOTT

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, National Youth Administration, 1734 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

The young woman working in our office whom I would like very much to have you include in your conference this year is Miss Shellie T. Northcutt. Her address is the same as mine.

Sincerely yours,

athur N. Whight

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR CHILDREN'S BUREAU WASHINGTON

December 6, 1938.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director, Division of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration, 1734 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

In answer to your request for suggestions and names of any persons who might be invited to the National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, may I suggest two persons who have been rather helpful to me in securing community action on child welfare problems. They are:

Mr. R. B. Atwood,
President, Kentucky State College
for Negroes,
Frankfort, Kentucky.

Mr. George Fisher, Rector of St. Ambrose Church, Corner of Cabarrus & Wilmington Sts., Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. Bousfield has already written to me regarding the activities of the Committee on Improved Health and Housing Conditions, and I am complying with his request for recommendations regarding the subject mentioned.

With very best wishes for your continued success and service to Negro youth, I am

Very respectfully yours,

Vinita V. Lewis,

Special Consultant in Child Welfare.

VVL:cm

AC/ep UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON

December 5, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 916 G Street, N. W. Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Your letter of recent date requesting information concerning the activities of our office in connection with the education of Negroes is received.

We shall be pleased to send you a brief statement at our earliest convenience concerning these
activities during the past seven or eight years for
the information of the members of the conference which
will be sponsored by your division in January. It is
hoped that such a statement may be helpful in indicating what the Federal Government is doing for Negroes
in general and for their education in particular.

Very cordially yours,

AMBROSE CALIVER

Senior Specialist in the Education of Negroes

SOUTHERN EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

1867—George Peabody Fund

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Special Jeanes Teacher
Miss Shellie T. Northcutt
726 Jackson Place, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

President
ARTHUR D. WRIGHT
Chairman of the Board
ARTHUR W. PAGE
Secretary of the Board
EMMETT I. SCOTT

December 20, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, National Youth Administration, Washington Building, Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I was very pleased to renew your acquaintance at the Farmers' Conference in November and to have the privilege of hearing your address, which was most inspiring.

Unfortunately, when I left Virginia I had to meet with the several Jeanes Teachers of North Carolina in their district meetings and have just returned. It was encouraging to hear the many programs of success and progress made by these workers. I wish at some time you could witness some of these meetings.

I shall be pleased to be with you and the others invited to the conference on January 12, 13 and 14, 1939. I will not be able to attend on January 12th, because of the meeting of the Board of the Southern Education Foundation in New York City on that day. However, I shall look forward to being with you on the 13th and 14th.

I wish for you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,
Shelle Mortheutt

JOURNAL OF NEGRO EDUCATION

A QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE PROBLEMS INCIDENT TO THE EDUCATION OF NEGROES

BURBAU OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH HOWARD UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 2 0 3 8

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs Mational Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, M.W., Washington D.C

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I thank you for your letters of December 7 and 17th relative to the forth-coming Conference on the Problems of the Megro and Negro Youth. I should be pleased to serve as a member of the Evaluation Committee and participate in any other way I can toward making the conference a success.

Very truly yours,

D.A. Wilkerson Associate Professor of

Education

DAW: wab

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FRANKLIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

THIRTEENTH AND K STREETS, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

GARNET C. WILKINSON
FIRST ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

December 15 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I accept with pleasure your cordial invitation to attend the conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, to be held in Conference Rooms A and B of the Auditorium on January 12, 13, and 14, 1939.

Sincerely yours Wiking au

First Assistant Superintendent of Schools

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE
GYMNASIUM BUILDING

December 22, 1938.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks your letter of the 19th inviting me to attend a conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, to be held January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

I consider this an honor and pleasure and I shall be very happy to participate in this important conference.

Please accept my appreciation for your kind invitation.

Very truly yours

Paul B. Cornely, M. D. Acting Director.

PBC:G

NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 460 C Street NW. WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRANCOISE BLACK
Director

December 23, 1938

Mr. David R. Williams
Acting Deputy Executive Director
National Youth Administration
Washington Building
Fifteenth St. & New York Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: MRS. MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I will be happy to attend the conference on the problems of the Negro and Negro Youth on January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

Thank you for the opportunity of attend-

ing.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. S. G. Mays

Administrative Assistant in Charge of Negro Activities

415 You Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. December 26, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

I received your letter of December 20, 1938 in regard to the conference to be held on January 12, 13, and 14, 1939. I thank you for your invitation to attend and I am certain that it will be convenient for me to be present at that time.

Very sincerely yours,

Stanley Jackson

President, Student

Council

Miner Teachers College

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON

December 30, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration Washington Building Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

In accordance with our promise, we are sending you herewith a brief statement concerning the services of the Office of Education to Negroes during the past eight years. Assuming that the matter is for your conference participants and not for general distribution, we are pleased to cooperate with you by furnishing this information, which it is hoped will be enlightening and beneficial to the members of your conference.

It is to be understood that the activities outlined are for a limited period and constitute only part of the total services rendered by the Office of Education to Negroes.

Very cordially yours,

AMBROSE CALIVER

Senior Specialist in the

Education of Negroes

Sent to each person on Programme January 19, 1939

Mrs. Florence Kerr Assistant Administrator Works Progress Administration 1734 New York Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Kerr:

Please may I express our deep appreciation for your presence at our conference and the fine contribution you made. I am sure our conference was greatly benefited by the information you gave to it.

Gratefully yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs

MMB/hw

January 18, 1939

Dr. Werren F. Draper Executive Officer U. S. Public Health Service Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Draper:

Please may I express our deep appreciation for your presence at our conference and the fine contribution you made to it.

It has been called to my attention that at the close of your address, because of an error in seating space on the platform, you had to retire to the main floor for a seat. Please pardon such an error on our part and know that it was an unintentional one. I know that a man of your experience can know how badly I feel over such an incident. It simply dawned upon me that you were returning to sit with the two ladies who accompanied you to the meeting, not thinking for once that there was not a seat for you on the platform. I regret this exceedingly and deeply apologize.

Our conference was greatly benefited by the information you gave to it.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs

MKB/PM

January 19, 1939

Mr. T. Arnold Hill Consultant on Negro Affairs Works Progress Administration 1734 New York Avenue, Northwest Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hill:

Through you, we wish to express our deep appreciation to your entire staff for the fine and efficient cooperation they gave us in the conduct of our conference.

My gratitude is inexpressible.

Very sincerely yours.

Mary McLeod Bethume Director, Division of Megro Affairs

EXB/hw

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January 19, 1939

Mr. J. C. Wright Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Education Office of Education Department of The Interior Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wright:

Please may I express our deep appreciation for your presence at our conference and the fine contribution you made. I am sure our conference was greatly benefited by the information you gave to it.

Gratefully yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs

MMD/bw

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January 10, 1939.

Mr. R. O'Hara Lanier, Assistant to the Director, Division of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration, 1734 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Dear "Soc":

I am sure that you are responsible for an invitation which I received to attend the Conference to be held in Washington on the 12, 13, and 14. Because of previous commitments, I cannot be present on the 12th but I am planning to spend all day Friday there, listening in on what the "big shots" have to say about our problems.

We certainly hated to miss you, but regretted that you had stayed in and waited for us, and especially so when we learned that your wife had planned dinner for us. I know what this Conference will mean for you so please do not plan anything for me. Will try to see you in between the acts for a little confab.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Edward S. Lewis,

Executive Secretary.

ESI/hmo P. S. It looks as if I may be able to make the opening session Thursday. Not so sure after all MAL.

Bek

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

December 22, 1938

Mr. Orren H. Lull,

Deputy Executive Officer,
National Youth Administration,
1734 New York Avenue, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lull:

As requested in letters dated December 9 and 17 and in telephonic conversation with Thelma McKelvey, Director, Division of Reports and Records of your Administration, permission is granted the National Youth Administration to use the Departmental Auditorium and Conference Rooms A, B and C, adjacent thereto, from 8:00 a.m. to midnight on January 12 and 13, 1939, and from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 1939.

The services of a motion picture operator will be furnished by this Service on the evening of January 13, 1939. It will be appreciated if you will contact Mr. A. W. Clime, Superintendent of the Commerce-ICC-Labor Group, Room 1040, Commerce Building (Telephone District 2200, Branch 586 or 587), on or before January 9, 1939, and inform him as to the time it is desired to have motion pictures shown, and furnish him with any other information he may require regarding the showing of motion pictures.

In your letter of December 17 it is stated that the placing and dismantling of certain exhibits to be on display in the Auditorium during the conference conducted by your Administration will be handled by personnel furnished by the Works Progress Administration. However, before any such exhibits are placed in the Auditorium, you are requested to contact Mr. Clime regarding this matter, and to cause the exhibits to be placed strictly in accordance with his directions (which will be, as much as possible, in accordance with the desires of your Administration). In addition, the exhibits are to be removed from the Auditorium as soon as practicable, after the conclusion of the conference.

The Service would appreciate being informed promptly of any change in the plans of your Administration regarding this assignment.

Sincerely yours,

philandur B. C. Gardner,

Acting Executive Officer, Branch of Buildings Management.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON

January 4, 1939.

Miss Mary McLeod Bethune, Director, Division of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration, 1734 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Bethune:

In reply to your letter of December 29, inviting me to attend a conference on Education and Recreation on Friday, January 13, at 10:30 A.M., and make a statement to the delegates, I will be very glad to be present at that time.

Very truly yours,

JC: Wright,

Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Education.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December Twenty-Eighth

9 3

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

Please allow me to acknowledge and to thank you for your letter of December Twenty-Second nominating me as a member of the Evaluating Committee for the Conference to be held in the Department of Labor on January Twelfth.

In compliance with your request, I shall be present at your office Wednesday,

January Eleventh at Ten O'clock A. M., prepared to make a terse statement as you suggest in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

J. M. Nabrit, Jr., Executive Secretary

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director, Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue, Northwest Washington, D. C.

November 22, 1938

Miss Thyra Edwards Abrahem Lincoln Center 700 Oakwood Boulevard Chicago, Illinois

My dear Miss Edwards:

Two years ago we held a very important and interesting National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth. A special report of the Conference was prepared and presented to the President of the United States.

The chief consideration in our deliberation was to think together on those problems which the government could adjust, or aid in adjustment. We feel that the time has arrived to evaluate the status of the Negro, as far as federal relations are concerned, since the last conference and to consider the possible effect of more recent legislation.

We should like very much to have you attend this conference. Will you, therefore, let us know by return mail if it will be convenient for you to be with us on January 12, 13 and 14, 1959. It is absolutely necessary that we have your reply not later than December 5, 1938, in order that we might facilitate arrangements for your transportation and per diem.

If you have any suggestions to offer as to the problems of importance which should occupy the attention of those connected with the Federal Government, we should appreciate your sending them to us.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary McLecd Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs

MMB/hw



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CHEYNEY TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE CHEYNEY, PENNSYLVANIA

December 16, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue NW Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Your proposed conference for January 12, 13 and 14, 1939, on problems of the Negro and Negro Youth seems to be important in giving us an opportunity that may not be often repeated under the same auspices. I am going to try to be with you.

In these conferences it seems to me that we often try to cover too much ground in too short a time. I should hope that one or two outstanding problems like housing, or health, or continuing and broadening educational opportunity might delimit the talks. I know you are thinking about all these things.

With very best wishes for the season and always, I am

Cordially yours,

Leslie Pinckney Hill President

Leslie Tinckney Hill

LPH:LCC

J. LEONARD LEWIS

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
103 E. UNION STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
Dec. 13, 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director Division Negro Affairs National Youth Administration 1734 New York Avenue Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

In your letter of the 5th instant, you asked that suggestions be made, which would expedite the many problems confronting the youths of Colored Americans.

If I may have your indulgence, may I suggest that since the problems in each State are similar to a certain extent, in nature and numerous, it may help this conference to request that each person attending, brief or make a case problem of one situation, which, in his or her opinion, may be assisted through Federal aid. In this way, I feel, that a more technical analysis of the various problems may be had and, thereby, eliminate general discussions which inevitable retard effective conclusions and solutions.

Most humbly submitted,

LEONARD LEWIS.

JLL:EE

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HENRY WILSON SCHOOL BUILDING
SEVENTEENTH STREET BETWEEN EUCLID STREET AND KALORAMA ROAD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HOWARD HALE LONG
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
IN CHARGE OF RESEARCH
DIVISIONS 10-13

December 13th 1938

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director Division of Negro Affairs National Youth Administration Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Bethune:

This acknowledges your letter of December 7, 1938, inviting me to attend a conference on Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth to be held at the Department of Labor on January 12, 13, and 14, 1939. I shall be happy to attend that conference.

I do not think of any problem of importance which, I, am sure, you There are, of course, have not already included in your agenda. the problems of relief and employment, suffrage, education, housing, high rate of delinquency and crime, Negro leadership or representation in all government and other planning, equal accommodations and opportunities in segregated communities, promotion of Negro small business and enterprises, union affiliations, opportunities for vocational competence so as to compete with reasonable assurance of success, the role of the church in social adjustment, politics, and finally the more important question of the method of approach of the Negro to his problems as a minority group. You see now that I have added nothing that you have not already thought of, and that I have succeeded in leaving out perhaps a number of items that you have thought of.

With many thanks for your courtesy, I am

Sincerely yours,

Homassling

Howard H. Long Assistant Superintendent of Schools.



HOME OFFICE: 1416 N. BOULEVARD BOX 1092 TELEPHONE H 3035

November 28, 1938.

Dr. M. M. Bethune 1734 New York Avenue, N. W. Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Bethune:

I am very happy to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 23rd among other things and announcing your intention of calling a conference there in Washington on the 12, 13 and 14th of January 1939, at which time you suggest that I notify you if it will be possible for me to attend under certain conditions.

It is my belief that the conference referred to in the first paragraph of your letter was of such grave importance and the results therefrom having been so significant, I am of the belief that a similar conference that will seek to evaluate the status of the Negro since the last conference as well as to consider the possible effect, of recent legislation and if possible arrive at some suggestions and proposals to the next Congress, will be a great step in the right direction.

I will gladly accept at your hands the opportunity to be a part of your proposed conference from Florida and pledge my whole hearted support in making the conference what you desire it to be, as the dates are very convenient for my leaving.

Beginning January 31st to February 1.8, inclusive there will be held in the city of Tampa in connection with the Florida Fair and Gasparilla Carnival, the Desota Exposition commemorating the four-hundredth anniversary of the landing of Desota in the waters of the Tampa Bay. This exposition proposes to be an international affair and the Federal Government is taking a great hand in it. I note by the Tampa Morning Tribune of this date that the Federal Government will be represented through the various set ups in Washington and I am wondering if it would be possible that the National Youth Administration through you would have a special exhibit of the National Youth Administration as it effects our group. I am sure if such a plan would be decided upon it is important that something be started immediately in that direction. I am enclosing herewith a clipping from the paper that you may get a better idea of what I am trying to say.

Dr. M. M. Bethune-2 Washington, D. C.

I stayed through the entire session of the Southern Conference on Human Welfare at Birmingham and no doubt Mr, J. P. Davis has told you what happened or atleast what took place during the election. We saweto it that you were placed on the National Counsel and Dr. J. R. E. Lee, one of the representatives of the state on the general Counsel.

From time to time, $^{\rm I}$ shall write you what ever suggestions that $^{\rm I}$ think will be of benefit.

I trust that you are meeting with much success and that your health is gbod.

Sincerely yours

D. Rogers

GDR-a Enc-

The Survey Market

Bebruary 8, 1937

Miss Virginia Rishel Associate Editor "The Democratic Digest" National Press Building Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Rishel:

Thank you so much for your letter of February first with the enclosure of the "Democratic Digest". I think you have given the story exceedingly well, showing the transition from the earliest days to the present time, and also giving the atmosphere of the camp life.

There are two inaccuracies to which I might call your attention. One is that the ages of the girls are not 16-25 but 18-25. We are not endeavoring to serve the younger group in this type of undertaking. In the paragraph towards the bottom of the first column there is the impression that subsistence costs \$39 a month. Actually, the subsistence costs much less than that. Thirty-nine dollars is supposed to cover salaries for teachers and the entire supervisory staff. Recently we have increased this to a maximum of \$45 a month, and that includes a \$5 cash payment to each girl.

Thanking you again for your interest in our program, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dorothes de Schweinitz Director, Division of Educational Camps

December 29, 1938

The Honorable The Postmaster General

My dear Mr. Postmaster General:

A most important conference of Negroes representing a cross section of the country will be held in Conference Rooms A, B and C in the departmental auditorium adjacent to the Department of Labor, January 12, 13 and 14, 1939.

The problems of the Negro youth are so vitally important and the necessity for the participation of the Negro in the general program of the government is so essential, that this small group is called together to evaluate the work that is being done for our youth and to make such recommendations for their advancement as will come within the scope of the Federal Government.

Representing as it does the leadership of twelve million Negroes, this conference is of such deep significance that your presence at one of the sessions is vital to its success.

On Friday, January 13, we are holding a session on Civil Liberties and Political Suffrage. We would like very much to have you appear in person at 12 noon, to make a statement to the delegates and to bring to them any suggestions you may have to offer along this line of legislation.

We should be very glad to get your reply as speedily as possible so that our program may be prepared.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeed Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs

MMB/hw

NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

For Immediate Release Thursday, December 29, 1938.

ADMINISTRATOR AUBREY WILLIAMS ISSUES CALL FOR SECOND NYA CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF NEGRO YOUTH

Administrator Aubrey Williams of the National Youth Administration has issued a call for the second conference on problems of the Negro and Negro youth under the auspices of the National Youth Administration, to be held in Washington January 12-14, 1939.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of the Division of Negro Affairs of the NYA, will officiate as director of the conference. Mrs. Bethune today issued the following statement regarding the meeting:

"Two years ago under the auspices of the National Youth Administration a cross section of Negroes from every walk of life and representing various type: of Negro organizations and thought was called together in Washington to study and think together on the status of Negroes in the United States with regard to their participation and integration into the program of the Federal Government and to formulate suggestions and resolutions from their own point of view as to what the Federal Government could do to guarantee more liberal action on the part of the government. These recommendations were presented to the chief Federal officer, the President of the United States, members of his cabinet and other Federal officials.

"A similar conference at Washington is being called for January 12,

13, 14, 1939 to evaluate the progress or lack of progress which we have made and to think together on the next steps to be taken.

"This conference is definitely non-partisan. The problems of the Negro and Negro youth, regardless of political or religious affiliation are the concern of this conference. Those of you who are on the outside looking in will be prayerful and thoughtful of us on the inside attempting to work out constructive plans for a more full participation of the Negro in the program of the American government."

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO AND NEGRO YOUTH

PROGRAM

Dates: January 12, 13 and 14, 1939

Place: Conference Rooms A, B and C and Departmental Auditorium adjacent to Department of Labor

Registration Review of Exhibits 8 to 9 A.M. 9 to 9:55 A.M.

THURSDAY, January 12, 1939

Morning Session 10 to 1 P.M.

Statement of Purpose and Procedure: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Director, Division of Negro Affairs, NYA and Chairman of the Conference 10:00 A. M.

Opening: Mr. Aubrey Williams, Administrator, NYA

10:05 A. M.

Greetings: Colonel F. C. Harrington, Administrator, WPA

Miss Katherine F. Lenroot, Chief, Children's Bureau, Department of Labor

10:35 A. M.

10:25 A. M.

Evaluation Reports

11 A. M. to 1 P. M.

Health and Housing Civil Liberties Employment and EconDr. M. O. Bousfield Mr. Walter White

Employment and Economic Security
Education

Mr. Lester Granger Mr. John W. Davis

Luncheon, Cafeteria, Department of Labor

1:30 to 2:30 P.M.

Afternoon Session

2:30 to 5:30 P. M.

Problem #1: Youth and Its Problems

Mr. Aubrey Williams, Administrator, NYA

2:30 P. M.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Robert Fechner, Director CCC

2:45 P. M.

Youth Panel Discussion led by Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Chairman; Mr. Edward Strong; Miss Pauline Redmond; Stanley Jackson and John Doggett

3 to 4:00

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P. M.

Mrs, Franklin Delano Roosevelt

4:00 P.M.

Dinner and Recreation

5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Organization of Committees

7:00 to 8:00 P.M.

| Evenine | Session | 8 to | 10 | P.M. |
|---------|---------|------|----|------|
| | | | | |

| Problem #2: Hea | lth and Housing | | |
|---------------------|--|--------|------|
| Guest Speakers: | Mr. Wathem Straus, Administrator United States Housing Authority | 8:05 | P.M. |
| | Dr. Warren F. Draper, Executive Officer United States Public Health Service | 8:30 | P.M. |
| Presentations: | Dr. John B. West, Director Central Harlem Health Center, New York City, on Health | 8:50 | P.M. |
| ş | Mr. Robert R. Taylor, Manager, Michigan Boulevard Garden Apts., Chicago, on Housing | 9:10 | P.M. |
| Discussion: | Dr. Carl G. Roberts, Health - Chicago | 9:30 | P.M. |
| • | Mrs. Leila T. Alexander, Director Pearl Street Community House, Waterbury, Connec- ticut - Housing | 9:50 | P.M. |
| FRIDAY, January 13, | 1939 Morning Session 10 A.M | . to 1 | P.M. |
| Problem #3 Educ | ation and Recreation | | |
| Guest Speakers: | Mr. J. C. Wright, Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Education | 10:05 | Λ.Μ. |
| • / | Mr. Floyd Reeves, Chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Education | 10:40 | Λ.Μ. |
| Presentations: V | Education - Mr. Doxey Wilkerson, Howard University | 11:00 | A.M. |
| / | Recreation - Mr. Ernest T. Attwell, National Recreation Association | 11:15 | Λ.Μ. |
| Discussion: | Mr. H. Council Trenholm, President Alabama State Teachers College | 11:30 | Λ.M. |
| Problem #4: Civi | l Liberties and Political Suffrage | | |
| Guest Speakers: | The Honorable Ramsey Black, Third Assistant Postmaster General, representing the Honorable Postmaster General, James A. Farley | 11:45 | Λ.Μ. |
| | The Honorable Robert H. Jackson, The Solicitor General | 12:00 | Noon |

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Friday (continued)

Committee Meetings

| Presentations: Dr. James M. Nabrit, Jr. Howard University | 12:15 A.M. |
|---|------------|
| Discussion: Mr. Raymond Alexander, Attorney, Philadelphia | 12:30 P.M. |
| Luncheon, Cafeteria, Department of Labor 1:30 to 2:30 P.M. | |
| Afternoon Session 2:30 to 5:30 P.M. | |
| Problem #5: Social and Economic Security (Employment and Job Opportunities) | |
| Guest Speakers: Mr. Elmer Andrews, Administrator Wages and Hours Division | 2:30 P.M. |
| /Mr. W. Frank Persons, Director USES | 2:40 P.M. |
| Mr. Ewan Clague, Director, Bureau Research and Statistics, Social Security Board | 2:50 P.M. |
| Presentation: Mr. John P. Davis, Secretary National Negro Congress | 3:00 P.M. |
| Discussion: Mr. Forrester B. Washington, Director Atlanta School of Social Work | 3:15 P.M. |
| Problem #6: Farm Tenancy | |
| Guest Speakers: Dr. Will W. Alexander, Administrator Farm Security Administration | 3:45 P.M. |
| Presentation and Discussion: Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Member Farm Tenancy Commission | 4:00 P,M. |
| Problem #7: Public Employment (Civil and non-Civil Service) | |
| Guest Speaker: The Honorable Harry B. Mitchell, President Civil Service Commission | 4:30 P.M. |
| Presentation: Mr. Charles Houston, Attorney, NAACP | 4:45 P.M. |
| Discussion: Mr. Lafayette Ford, President National Alliance of Postal Employees | 5:00 P.M. |
| Dinner and Recreation 5:30 to 7 P.M. | |
| Committee Hearings 7 to 8:00 P.M. | |
| Evening Session 8 to 10:00 P.M. | |
| Moving Pictures in Departmental Auditorium - Open to Public | |

SATURDAY, January 14, 1939

10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Reports

1. Civil Liberties

2. Public Employment, Civil and non-Civil Service

3. Education and Recreation

4. Social and Economic Security

5. Health and Housing

. 6. Youth and Its Problems

7. Farm Tenancy

Recommendations

Walter White

Charles Houston

John W. Davis

Lester Granger

M. O. Bousfield

Juanita Mitchell

Charles S. Johnson

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FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

2145 C STREET NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C.

Findings of the Conference of State Advisers of Negro Affairs Cleveland, Ohio - April 28-29, 1941

The members of the conference representing the State, Regional, and National Administrative offices and assistants, interested specifically in securing full and complete integration of the Negro into the planning, execution of, and participation in the program of the National Youth Administration, recognize the responsibility which is theirs to work in closest cooperation with state administrators, regional directors, and National officials to the end that the policies enunciated and recommended by the Office of Negro Affairs and approved by appropriate administrative officials may be carried out at all levels of operation.

A need is recognized for personnel assigned specifically to deal with the integration and participation of Negro youth in the state and area administrative organizations.

The highly technical development of our work experience centers calls for specialized skills, qualifications, and experience in supervisory personnel. There is a joint responsibility on the part of the Personnel Office and the Adviser on Negro Affairs to recruit and select the best qualified Negroes that can be found for technical and supervisory positions. The needs of youth, however, should supersede racial identity of supervisors. In order to integrate as many Negroes as possible in technical and supervisory positions, a central file should be maintained in the Personnel Office at Washington and the information made available whenever consideration is given to the appointment of such persons.

The very nature of our work involves the closest relationship with the communities needing the services which the National Youth Administration provides. It is becoming increasingly necessary to give special emphasis to interpreting the objectives, policies, and program to lay citizens through the usual means of group and individual contacts and especially through the expansion and more effective functioning of our Advisory Committees and Community Councils.

In formulating a new job description for State Advisers on Negro Affairs, it is important that we have a clear understanding of the function of this office so that the policies of the National Office of Negro Affairs may be put into effect at all levels of operation.

In order that the Offices dealing with Negro Affairs may better evaluate the degree with which Negro youth are being integrated into the various phases of the NYA program, it is recommended that selected reports

be occasionally broken down according to race. These reports together with evaluations made by National, Regional, State and Area personnel should afford sufficient data for this purpose.

The selection of youth for project participation should be based upon a careful study of interests, aptitudes, and abilities. Every resource, including community agencies, and pertinent literature, should be made use of by NYA personnel in order that youth may be given work experience that will adjust their skills to the widest variety of occupations. This objective should be implemented by the employment of qualified Negroes in the divisions of youth personnel both on a National and state level.

We reaffirm our belief in the soundness of the open door policy of the National Youth Administration, that all youth should be encouraged to gain work experience in the field for which they have ability regardless of present day employment practices.

The bottlenecks created by the ultra-conservative attitude of agencies concerned with the training and employment of youth, call for an even greater cooperative effort on the part of all concerned to provide for the adequate training and employment of Negro youth.

Negro youth are being excluded from new avenues of employment which have opened up in connection with defense industries, armed forces, and national defense activities. It is recommended that the Regional and National Offices give particular attention to the inclusion of Negro youth on any program in which the National Youth Administration participates as a cooperating agency.

We face a difficulty in providing adequate work experience on a production basis for the girls on NYA. Additional study must be given to means of expanding the variety and extent of work experience for girls. The experience of various states in meeting this need should be pooled and made available to all persons concerned with this phase of the program.

The persons assembled at this conference are fully cognizant of the great responsibility placed upon their shoulders. Our program is growing and changing constantly. We too must grow to keep pace. Personal and social growth requires periodic self-evaluation. We must keep ourselves informed through reading and contact. Above all, we must know the problems of youth and the content of the literature of our own agency. Effective cooperation with administrators and co-workers will depend upon the amount of confidence and respect that our work merits.

Our stimulation for increased effectiveness is derived from those we serve. It is vitally necessary that we remain rooted in the plowed soil of the needs and aspirations of the Negro.

REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPRCIAL PROBLEMS
NATIONAL VOCATIONAL QUIDANCE ASSOCIATION

PINE ROOK

HOTHL COROHADO

1:00 P. N., Friday, February 23, 1940

***** *

The Committee on Special Problems of the Estional Vocational Guidance Association meeting was called to order by Dr. Ambrose Caliver, the chairman.

A preliminary report was made by Dr. Caliver on what had transpired since the lest meeting in Cleveland. He stated that Mrs. Billings (Miss Midred Lincoln), who had formerly served as chairman of this consistes, had been appointed to another committee and that he was asked to serve as chairman. Dr. Caliver reported on the states of the Manual and stated that Mr. Doxie Wilkerson had been unable to give much time to the Manual and that he had requested Mr. Marl Shamwell to do some work on it. He also stated that he had on hand the evaluation of preliminary materials. He further stated that he had put in a request for financial assistance from the General Education Board, the Mational Vocational Guidance Association and the Carnegie Corporation for the publication of the Manual, and read letters from them stating that they were unable to comply with this request. He was certain, however, that some way would be worked out for the publication.

One of the concrete results of the efforts of the consistes was that a Regro was placed on the general program. He spoke of a meeting with Outdance officers and the new service for guidance in the Office of Education, where he had a chance to express definite opinions concerning the work and the part which the Negro should play in the program of the NVGA.

He was very such encouraged by the cooperation of Hr. Hinderman, chairman of the Program Committee. He stated that the following committees tees were a part of this special committee's report:

- (1) The Committee on Premotion
- (2) The Committee on Research
- (3) The Committee on the Manual

Br. Calivor gave a short report on the work of promotion where an effort was made to etimulate colleges, and summer schools in particular, to arrange a way whereby some statement could be made concerning the program of vocational guidance in order to stimulate interest among teachers.

After the acceptance of the report of the chairman, it was decided to discuss what would be the future plans and the chairman presented the following suggestions for the approval of those persons present:

That the committee be reorganized into special groups:

- (1) Guidance for teachers
- (2) Guidance for youth
- (3) Guidance for the community
- (4) Development of employment and occupational opportunities
- (5) Guidance in literature and educational work
- (6) Committee to help integrate
 Negroes into the entire program

Mrs. Harris of Cincinnati stated that she felt the need for continued promotion among Negroes to see that we had a larger representation at the annual meeting. She also stated that this committee could do a really good job if we could interest enough people to make it vital.

The question of the time for the next meeting was also discussed but no definite decision was reached. It was agreed that the time should be so arranged as to make it possible for more people to attend, since it appeared that there was a conflict between this meeting and several other meetings, including the regular luncheon meeting which made it impossible for many people to attend. The persons present voted to accept the suggestions outlined by Dr. Caliver as part of the program for next year.

Several interesting comments were made by persons present, including one by Miss Sylvia V. Crosby of the Illinois State Employment Service, who spoke of a Southern Illinois State meeting in which Megro youth participated and how enthusiastic they were about information regarding occupations. Due to the fact that another meeting was scheduled for the Pine Room at two o'clock, it was necessary to cut the deliberation short.

Persons present were:

Dr. Ambrose Caliver, Senior Specialist in Negro Education, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. - Chairman

R. C'Hara Lanier, Assistant Director, Division of Negro Affairs, National Youth Administration, 1435 G Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. - Secretary

Charles M. Toms, Interviewer, Missouri State Employment Service, 3000 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri Results of a Survey

on the

Organization, Membership, and Activities

of

Local and State Advisory Committees

of the

National Youth Administration

October, 1940

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I. What the Survey Shows About State Advisory Committees

A. As compared to similar information gathered for the past two years

| | Total Members | Edu- cation | Busi- ness | Labor | Agri- culture | Youth | Negro | Other |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1938-39 | 733 | 180 | 96 | 65 | 64 | 85 | 65 | 178 |
| 1939-40* | 820 | 198 | 113 | 78 | 71 | 75 | 49 | 213 |
| Special Survey | 811 | 218 | 122 | 80 | 66 | 75 | 46 | 204 |

- 1. Comparison of the 1939-40 statistics with those of the Special Survey indicate that the total membership has decreased.**
- 2. Representation of the educational group has increased steadily over the last three years; education has had the largest group of representatives all three years. It is significant that, although the entire membership decreased, representation of the group already most prominent increased.
- 3. Increase in business representation is slight (9) in spite of the trend toward industrial work experience in the National Youth Administration.
- 4. Labor representation has increased, but very slightly (2).
- 5. Agricultural representation has fallen below the 1938-39 figures. It is not possible to tell from the survey whether this indicates a lack of cooperation on part of farm groups, a lack of available representatives of this group, or an emphasis away from agricultural and rural needs on the part of the National Youth Administration.
- 6. Youth representation has remained static during the past two surveys after a decrease, compared to 1938-39 figures. Here again it is impossible to tell from the survey whether this indicates the scarcity of suitable representatives, or a lack of effort on the part of the National Youth Administration to include this group.
- 7. Representation of the miscellaneous group has decreased most of all. This may indicate an effort to secure uniformity with the established categories.
- * New York State did not reply to the 1939-40 survey. Totals for its advisory committee were added to this 1939-40 survey from statistics gathered in the Special Survey, which was made later in the same year.
- ** Both the 1939-40 survey and the Special Survey were made in the same year with approximately six months intervening between the two. In the Special Survey, figures for three states which did not reply to the Special Survey were taken from the earlier 1939-40 survey; in the 1939-40 survey figures for New York State, which did not reply to that survey, were taken from the Special Survey. In both surveys, the total number added to each survey equaled 38 members. It was thought more advisable to complete each survey in this way, than to compare statistics of surveys in which different states were excluded.

B. As organized at present

- 1. The committees vary in size from 5 in Colorado to 45 in Maine. This variance has no particular relation to the size or population of the state.
- 2. Eighteen states (slightly over 38% of the number reporting) did not hold a single meeting of their advisory committee during the year. Eleven states met only once, while the remaining eighteen states met from two to twelve times. Although the reports indicate that State Administrators consulted with individual advisers frequently, in many cases these figures show that many of the committees did not function as active groups. Some reports attributed the lack of activity to the expense and difficulty of travel by committeemen to meetings and the resulting demands on their time. In other instances, personality conflicts made meetings undesirable while tactful reorganization of the committee secmed difficult; but most reports showed the greatest factor contributing to the inactivity was lack of projection of immediate needs, or a clear understanding of the far-reaching objectives of advisory committee work. In some instances, lack of time on the part of the NYA staff to prepare for these meetings or to keep members informed of new needs and policies accounted for the apathy.
- 3. When advisory committees were first set up, it was suggested that broad representative committees be organized to reflect a cross-section of community interests. It was recommended that members be chosen to stand for education, labor, business, agriculture, youth, racial groups, etc. All these groups are not to be found in every community, and certain departures were considered advisable because of individual circumstances. Then, too, the objectives set by and for the various committees made specific changes necessary. But, by and large, the concept of broad representative committees was accepted as the standard. The survey of the present state committees point up certain significant trends.
 - a. Education: There has been a tendency to increase representation of this group, in spite of the fact that in most cases, education was already most prominent. In view of the recent organization of the School Work Councils for secondary educational needs, and in view of the fact that similar councils are contemplated for college projects, it is apparent that this aspect of the NYA program is being well taken care of. In addition, changes in NYA policy involving more industrial training indicate that reorganization is necessary to include heavier representation of other groups. For the most part, state committees are already fairly large (the average size is fifteen members) and it would seem unwise to affect reorganization by adding members. If any group is to be decreased, education seems the most likely. However, it is necessary to have this group represented to some degree in order to avoid too widely separating the school-work program from the out-of-school program.
 - b. Although business representation is the second largest of all groups, it is much less than education. With the current emphasis on National Defense needs and National Defense training, it would seem wise to increase the role of this group in ad-

visory work. In particular, it is significant that of the group designated as "Business," comparatively few members are from industries primarily active in meeting National Defense needs.

- c. Labor representation, while it has remained fairly static, should be increased, for the same reasons that business representation should be increased. Although it is to be admitted that factional strife in the labor movement sometimes makes adequate labor representation difficult, it seems most important that this group (and the youth group) be represented only by bona-fide labor people. In some instances, the survey shows a lack of understanding of the term "labor." Unless labor representation is legitimate, it cannot be really effective.
- d. Agricultural representation is low. However, this does not seem as important as the deficiencies in labor and youth since in many highly industrialized sections, such as New England, the value of agricultural representation is questionable. However, the needs of rural youth and the value of agriculture in National Defense is apparent and pressing.
- e. Youth representation, which has declined steadily for the last three years, seems more necessary than ever in the light of present events. Reasons for the lessening of youth representation are not apparent in the answers to the questionnaire. It does show, however, that in many instances the youth representatives are among the inarticulate or inactive members of these committees. This is less true in places where youth representatives are drawn from large metropolitan areas. Adequate youth representation depends, with rare exception, upon young people who have a consciousness of their existence as part of a pressure group, and who have had experience in expressing the opinions of that group. For the most part, effective youth organizations exist only in large cities, or concentrate their activities in these areas. In some instances the survey showed members designated as "Youth" who were neither young nor connected with a youth organization, but adults from youth-serving agencies or individuals interested in youth welfare.
- f. Representation of the Negro group decreased according to the figures tabulated from the survey. However, to a degree, the accuracy of these figures may be questionable since not all reports clearly marked their Negro members. The areas in which representation of this group was slight were the far west and the south. In the west the scarcity may be due to the fact that Negroes are a very small portion of the population. This cannot be said of the south, however. It would seem advisable, both from the standpoint of the adequacy of the NYA program and of the improvement of racial relations to include this group where they form a large part of the population. The Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration is in a position to be of considerable help to advisory committees in securing adequate Negro representation.

- g. The group designated as "Others" forms the second largest of all groups. Good selections for representation in this group would include; l. persons from prominent women's organizations, which provide a valuable medium of public contact; 2. persons from youth serving agencies other than the NYA, so as to provide coordination of activities along these lines; 3. prominent members of the medical, dental, or health association, so as to provide a means of expanding health services to young people; 4. state agents of the General Education Board, who are particularly interested in the expansion of the new farm-shop program.
- 4. The inactivity of the committees as a whole shows that either the groups have no clear understanding of their functions or duties or the established objectives have been outgrown and discarded, leaving the committees with little to do. Almost every report indicated that frequently members were consulted individually, showing that there does still exist a need for advice and contact from lay sources. The fault seems to be in lack of a clear understanding of the function of the group as a whole, and a failure to employ proper techniques in stimulating activity. In places where they have been active, the committees have proven of great value.
- 5. All the committees indicated that they were willing and anxious to help in the National Defense program. For the most part, however, the reports showed that a great deal of confusion existed as to the National Defense program and as to ways in which the Advisory Committees could serve. Therefore, before any real cooperation in such a program is possible, it will be necessary to have a grasp of the needs of the National Defense program and of the ways in which they propose to function. From this, a set of specific objectives for NYA Advisory Committees can be drafted; then the task of developing adequate techniques is relatively simple. In a memorandum of August 2, 1940 from the National Defense Commission, their plans for state and local cooperation are outlined. They designate several functional areas around which their activities are grouped: (1) agricultural resources and production; (2) civil protection; (3) health, welfare and consumer interest; (4) housing, works, and facilities; (5) human resources and skills; and (6) industrial resources and production. Of these functions, NYA seems best able to help in (3), (4), and (5). The Advisory Committees could help in drafting projects and in coordinating plans for expanding health services, defense training, increased housing needs, and other similar activities. Several states have already begun activities along those lines. Massachusetts and Kansas have had advisory meetings devoted to a discussion of defense needs; Florida and New York State have established cross representation with State Defense Councils, which provides a good technique in coordinating the efforts of the two groups.

C. Suggestions and Comments from State Advisory Committees

1. Need for national recognition of committees and for information releases.

"A national release to advisory committee members on matters pertaining to youth, not only the National Youth Administration, but other youth serving agencies, would be desirable as background material for busy people." Michigan

". . . the circularizing of information regarding various contributions made by several State Advisory Committees would be of value--particularly, a description of activities performed as a group and not as individuals."

Mississippi

"... it would be helpful ... to prepare and distribute informational matter to members of the State Advisory Committees ... we recommend that special material ... be distributed at least once a month from the national office." Missouri

"The committee should receive recognition from the Washington office for their assistance in cooperating with the NYA. Literature emanating from the Washington office should carry recognition of their valuable service to the program." Pennsylvania

"... the National Administrator should write to each member of the State Advisory Board, briefly summarizing the accomplishments and progress on the national front during the past year, and, of course, thanking them for their contributions." Texas

2. Need for special funds for meetings.

"... more administrative funds should be allocated to promote at least four meetings a year." $\underline{\text{Maine}}$

"... sorry to report that we see little benefit in maintaining such a committee unless funds are provided for meeting every sixty days." Montana

"... the Washington NYA office should make available to the state office a limited amount of money to defray traveling expenses of State Advisory Committee members to travel in various sections of the state, in order to contact persons and agencies who can assist the NYA program and in order to make talks on NYA activities. Members of the State Advisory Committee have considerable influence in certain quarters that could prove of great benefit to NYA. This suggestion is made on the basis of the recent action permitting members of the state NYA School Work Council to travel at our expense, in order to represent NYA interests with school officials." North Carolina

3. Need for reorganization of committees.

". . . contemplate a reorganization to replace several members who are not taking an active interest in the program." New Mexico

". . . work of reorganizing the committee . . . needs to be completed as early as time and demands of present program will permit." New York State

". . . the committee is weak on the side of industrialists and we hope to strengthen the group in this respect during the coming year." N. Y. City

". . . decrease size of committee, and add a doctor or a dentist, and possibly an industrialist." Oregon

". . . a more active committee is anticipated. Representatives from all groups should be selected and at least six meetings a year should be held." South Dakota

"... strengthened by the elimination of inactive members. The committee needs representatives of vocational education and public health to round out its membership." Washington

4. Usefulness of individual consultation.

". . . best results are obtained when members are called upon for a specific assignment as individuals." District of Columbia

". . . individual contacts with members are most valuable." Nevada

"Personal consultation is possible without formal committee." New Hampshire

"Individual members of the committee have been very active. . . " Rhode Island

"Various individual members of the committee were consulted frequently. . ."

Virginia

". . . instead of frequent meetings of the whole group, we have sought to use the personnel in district and more localized meetings." California

5. Suggested use of sub-committees.

"Additional sub-committees to take more active part in the program next year." New Jersey

"We are breaking the general committee into smaller committees so they will be able to work at better advantage." North Dakota

6. Unusual projects undertaken.

"Plans are formulated for a year book to be sponsored by the committee."

New Jersey

"In order to take full advantage of the contribution of the committees,
... have appointed an executive secretary of committee work to provide
for the continuity and progress of committee planning and recommendations."

Illinois

II. What the Survey Shows about Local Advisory Committees

| | Total Committees | Speci- alized | General | Speci.& General | No. Members | No. Youth |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1938-39 | 3,013 | | | | 18,321 | 3,491 |
| 1939-40 | 3,356 | 1,026 | 2,310 | 20 | 19,610 | 2,270 |
| Special Survey | 1,864 | 90 | 1,772 | 2 | 12,839 | 334 |

- A. As compared to similar information gathered for the past two years:
 - 1. The total number of local committees has decreased drastically as compared to the two previous years. This decrease is probably due in part to the general decline in the use of committees which was noted in the report on the State Advisory Committees. However, the difference is so great that this explanation will not account for the total decrease. Vastly different methods were used in gathering the material for the surveys. The Special Survey required a single-sheet report for individual local committees with each member listed and certain additional data noted. The surveys of the two previous years merely called for a listing of local committees by the State Administrator. Since much greater accuracy and definiteness is provided by the Special Survey, it seems likely that the surveys of previous years may have been too generous. While the total number of committees decreased by almost 50%, the total number of members only decreased by approximately 30%, indicating an increase in the size of some committees.
 - 2. The radical change in the matter of youth representation points up, again, the difference in the way the material for the Special Survey and those of the two previous years was obtained. It is evident that those answering the questionnaire for the Special Survey had no clear conception of the meaning of the word "youth." Frequently, when designating the "Group Represented" after individual committeemen, the term "Youth" was used after persons whose "Vocation or Occupation" was listed as "retired banker, mayor, president of local D. A. R., " etc. Although such obvious mistakes were deleted in the Special Survey statistics, the accuracy may be questionable to some degree since no ages were given in the questionnaire. It seems reasonable, however, to suppose that the same misunderstanding existed the year before; but in the two former surveys it is impossible to correct the mistakes since the number of youth representatives were totaled by the State Administrators. All this only makes more apparent the infinitesimal part young people play in local advisory work.

B. As organized at present:

0090

- 1. In general, many of the observations concerning the degree of representation of State Advisory Committees may be made about Local Committees. Educators are most heavily represented; business, especially industry, is less prominent, and Labor extremely weak; youth, agriculture, and Negroes are small minorities, while the miscellaneous group is even larger than the educators. Most prominent among the latter is a new category - local public officials. In some cases, entire committees were made up of city councilmen. Since resources are more limited in the local community than at any other level, it is understandable that less variety and less broad representation is obtainable. Then, too, there has been a tendency to organize "functional" committees for specific projects, where broad representation is sometimes not only unnecessary but undesirable. All things considered, after certain pressing deficiencies are remedied, it would seem unwise to expect strict adherence to the established categories, since greater flexibility provides greater adaptability to changing policies and objectives. By far the most scrious lack in representation is that of the youth group. If NYA Advisory Committees are to serve young people adequately, young people must somehow be drawn into its administration and made to feel a partnership in its management. This is more important in small communities than anywhere else, since it is at this level that the somewhat vague "contact" with youth becomes a reality. Local Committees should be urged to uncover and to develop bona fide youth leadership, and to use it in enlisting the support and attention of other young people.
- 2. It is clear that, in dealing with local committees, the role of the NYA staff is more important than anywhere else. Unless there is an unusually gifted and interested citizen in the community, the entire responsibility for organizing and stimulating the committees rests upon the NYA supervisor; if he does not understand the work involved and its importance, and if he does not have the time to devote to it, the project can rarely succeed. Some kind of uniform training or "understanding" should be provided for local NYA employees, and an effort should be made to grange their schedules so as to allow time to be devoted to this aspect of the program.
- 3. The report shows that, out of 1,864 committees, only 143 are considered too inadequately informed on the social and economic status of youth to be useful in conjunction with the National Defense program. In some instances, this "inadequacy" merely indicates a committee long inactive; in other cases, the committees were willing to cooperate, but lacking in initiative and guidance—a condition which could be corrected. By and large, the entire group of committees were more than anxious to participate in and cooperate with the National Defense program. Some have already held meetings to discuss this question. The work of these committees is of an extremely practical character for the most part, however; it would seem that some over—all planning on the subject of National Defense cooperation is necessary to give these groups a perspective for their work.

C. Suggestions and Comments from Local Advisory Committees

Suggestions from the more than 1,800 local committees were far too numerous to list individually. It is possible, however, to summarize them under several general headings.

1. Need for definite procedures and programs of action

Committees in nine states asked for more definite information on the functions of local Advisory Committees and the duties of individual members. Requests for an outline of suggested procedures and more information from State Administrators on general policy and procedure, show their need for a more definite active program to organize around. One group suggested that the State Advisory Committee keep the local committees informed as to their duties. The general feeling was that definite programs are needed to work as a group.

2. Need for definite plan to cooperate in National Defense program

Great interest was shown in the possibilities for cooperation with the National Defense program, some groups submitting memoranda on the ways they felt they could work together. One group suggested that a survey be held to discover various methods of cooperation, such as cross-representation on local defense councils, etc. Most suggestions indicated that the groups felt the need of a tangible definite program before they could be helpful in National Defense.

3. Need for informational releases

Twelve states had committees asking for a general informational service for the education and use of local groups, and for interesting literature descriptive of advisory committee work in other localities and of NYA activities in general. Committee members' names should be placed on mailing lists, and one group suggested a state bulletin to which members would be asked to contribute articles.

4. Importance of NYA staff in stimulating committee work

Several reports indicated a need for strong stimulative leadership in developing advisory committees. NYA supervisors, it was felt, can educate local groups and should spend more time working with individuals and arranging for meetings. One state noted a proposed "new set-up" which would give area supervisors more time for this kind of work. Speakers and agenda from the state office and visits from state officials were suggested. Recognition of the work of these committees should be provided by letters of personal appreciation from the State Administrator. It was pointed out that a letter to each member outlining duties, to which the individual could acknowledge by letter his willingness to serve, would be of great value in establishing committees.

5. Value of regular, interesting meetings stressed

Great emphasis was placed on the importance of regular, well-organized meetings if the committee is to function as a group. The value of meeting around a friendly meal table was pointed out by several suggestions for luncheon or dinner meetings. Local color could be added to meetings by reports from former NYA youth which would also increase the sense of responsibility of the group, and by open meetings of committees, with an opportunity for consultation on individual youths problems. One group suggested that members of local committees be invited to attend district meetings. Other suggestions were for state-wide meetings of local committees at least once a year, and for annual conferences for committees in three or more counties.

6. Suggestions for structural reorganization and for developing individual responsibility in committee work

Many suggestions were made regarding structural changes in committee set-ups. Most frequently mentioned was the desire for smaller committees, or sub-committees organized for particular functions or projects. In cities where large committees are imperative to insure good representation of community interests, steering committees, or executive committees, were recommended which would relieve the pressure of frequent meetings. The need for developing individual responsibility and initiative among committee members was stressed. It was recommended that each member be assigned some definite unit of work, such as organizing surveys on particular subjects by individual members, or instituting a study program led by different committeemen. In order to save time, it was recommended that members be consulted by questionnaire occasionally, but it was further noted that participants should only be selected who can give a reasonable amount of time to the program.

7. Additional suggestions

Several additional suggestions were made. It was pointed out that if an accurate record of each local committee's activities was kept, it would be helpful not only in answering future questionnaires more completely, but in supplying material for informational bulletins, as well as a basis for evaluating committee work. In places where "areacommittees" are organized, it was felt that travel expense funds should be made available. One committee suggested that councils of local youth-serving agencies be set-up; another, that chairmen of local committees serve on a state-wide youth service council for NYA.

III. Recommendations

- A. A pamphlet should be prepared which outlines the history, functions, and sample activities of NYA Advisory Committees. This should cover both national, state and local groups and should be circulated to each person participating in advisory work.
- B. A program should be projected on ways in which the NYA Advisory Committees can participate in the National Defense program, together with an explanation of the program itself.
- C. Committees should be provided with a prospectus of definite jobs to be done in carrying out the functions of advisory committees. For example, a survey of local youth needs, patterned after plans drawn up by the American Youth Commission, would provide a basis upon which to project future plans as well as a self-educational picture of the community as a whole. This type of activity has already been tried in three Long Island towns, and their experience shows it to be a valuable undertaking.
- D. On the basis of the objectives set up in the proposed outline above, reorganization of the membership of the committees should be effected, particularly those on a state level. Educational representation should be decreased, while business, habor, and youth representation should be increased. If any health program is to be undertaken, the medical profession should be more widely represented. Other adjustments will become clear as the contemplated activities are outlined.
- E. A meeting of the National Advisory Committee should be called to draft the general policies for points A and B.
- F. Several committees in communities of various types should be asked to conduct trial programs on the basis of these findings and suggested activities. Important changes and improvements can be recommended from their experiences.
- G. A manual should be prepared for the use of state and local NYA personnel outlining techniques by which advisory work may be organized and stimulated.
- H. A monthly bulletin should be published by the National office which would provide information not only of current NYA activities, but those of other youth-serving and youth organizations. Special consideration should be given to descriptions of the activities of various Advisory Committees; this material could be supplemented by the state office, and members of advisory committees should be added to state and national mailing lists. In this way, valuable educational material can be distributed and committee members will become better informed exponents of the NYA program.

- I. Funds should be provided to take care of the travel expenses incident to state advisory meetings, and certain expenses connected with local advisory committee work. Since the work of these committees is non-remunerative and makes considerable demands on the time of the participants, it seems imperative that it shall make no financial demands of them. Group action is not possible without meetings of the committee as a whole, and travel expense can be a considerable handicap in arranging for them, especially in states covering large areas.
- J. Some definite understanding with regard to a uniform procedure of appointment, tenure, etc., should be arrived at in the National office.
- K. In order to effect reorganization of the committees, a certain amount of field work will be made necessary. Staff work will also be necessary in the preparation of the various manuals.
- L. Periodical surveys should be taken of advisory committee activity based on a questionnaire similar to the one used in collecting this material. This will supply both a summary of activities and suggestions for future study. In order to provide standardized information, future questionnaires should be extremely simple, explicit, and definite. A set of instructions should accompany each questionnaire which explains the purpose of the survey, analyzes each question, and defines all categories. Survey sheets should be uniform as to size and make-up so as to facilitate handling and to afford greater accuracy in tabulating results. Individual sheets should be supplied for each local committee which should be filled out by the local supervisors who work with these committees. Addresses of committee members should be included and ages indicated opposite those designated as "youth." Space should be provided for totaling the number of committees and number of members involved in each state, making a quick summary of the scope of committee work possible. Definite time limits should be set for the survey, and State Administrators should be urged to cooperate in order that results may be timely as well as inclusive.

Federal Security Agency NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

Local Advisory Committees

| State | No. Committees | No. Members | Youth Members | | Special | General | Spec-General | Inactive | Fairly Active | Active | Useful in Nat. Defense | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------|------------|--------------|------------|----------------|----------|---------------------------|---|
| Total 1 | .,864 | 12,839 | 334 | nang gapapa Tugʻil anin Tugʻil, iyod | 90 | 1,772 | 2 | 254 | 872 | 738 | 1,721 | - |
| Alabama | 25 | 124 | 0 | | 0 | 2 5 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 15 | 25 | |
| Arizona | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arkansas | 91 | 336 | 1 | | 3 | 88 | 0 | 1 | 50 | 40 | 83 | |
| California | 18 | 157 | 2 | | 1 | 17 | 0 | 5 | . 8 | 5 | 17 | |
| Colorado | 15 | 77 | - 6 | | 5 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 4 | 13 | |
| Connecticut | 2 | 21 | 0 | | 1 | ì | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| Delaware | | | | No | local | | | | | | | |
| Florida | 69 | 421 | 40 | | 2 | 67 | 0 | 3 | 41 | 25 | 67 | |
| Georgia | 133 | 666 | 47 | | 2 | 131 | 0 | 46 | 27 | 60 | 132 | |
| Idaho Illinois | 6 | 51 | 0 | | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6 | |
| Indiana | 84 | 460 | 22 | | 0 | 84 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 34 | ['] 84 | |
| Indiana Iowa | 97 | 629 | 3 | | 0 | 97 | 0 | 22 | 43 | 77 | MG | |
| Kansas | 2 | 18 | 0 | | 0 | 2 | 0 | 21 0 | 40 1 | 33 1 | 76 2 | |
| Kentucky | 60 | 375 | 11 | | 0 | 60 60 | Ö Ö | 3 | $\frac{1}{44}$ | 13 | 52 52 | |
| Louisiana | 26 | 103 | 0 | | Ö | 26 | 0 | 5 | 15 | 6 | 20 | |
| Maine | 20 | 136 | 3 | | 0 | 19 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 18 | |
| Maryland | . 8 | 77 | ĺ | | Ö | 8 | Ō | 1 | 0 | 7 | 8 | |
| Massachusetts | 43 | 260 | ī | | . 0 | 43 | Ö | 8 | 25 | 10 | 43 | |
| Michigan | 40 | 267 | 10 | | 2 | 38 | Ö | 2 | 18 | 20 | 39 | |
| Minnesota | 55 | 268 | 10 | | 0 | 54 | 1 | 9 | 31 | 15 | 45 | |
| Mississippi | 85 | 409 | 3 | | 15 | 70 | 0 | 5 | 27 | 53 | 72 | |
| Missouri | 24 | , 110 | 1 | | 1 | 23 | 0 | 7 | 8 | . 9 | 14 | |
| Montana | 32 | 203 | 17 | | 0 | 32 | 0 | 10 | 17 | 5 | 26 | |
| Nebraska | 31 | 169 | 10 | | 0 | 31 | 0 | 2 | 18 | 11 | 29 | |
| Nevada | 3 | 14 | 0 | | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | |
| New Hampshire | 8 | 76 | 0 | | 2 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 2 | . 5 | 8 | |
| New Jersey New Mexico | 6 | 6 3 | 1 | | 0 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | |
| New York City | 11 | 92 193 | 2 7 | | 0 | 11. | 0 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 9 | |
| New York State | | 1,428 | 16 | | 4 0 | 7 83 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 11 | |
| North Carolina | | 528 | 15 | | 1 | 80 | 0 | 1 4 | 42 36 | 40 41 | 72 80 | |
| North Dakota | 36 | 125 | 1 | | 0 | 36 | 0 | 3 | 23 | 10 | 33 | |
| Ohio | . 12 | 147 | 5 | | Ö | 12 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 11 | |
| Oklahoma | 72 | 463 | 28 | | Ö | 72 | Õ | 3 | 29 | 40 | 68 | |
| Oregon | 18 | 214 | 5 | | 3 | 15 | Ö | 2 | 8 | 8 | 18 | |
| Pennsylvania | 122 | 1,179 | 35 | | 7 | 115 | 0 | 10 | 55 | 57 | 118 | |
| Rhode Island | 5 | 27 | 0 | | 0 | 27 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 | |
| South Carolina | | 390 | 4 | | 5 | 58 | 0 | 23 | 17 | 23 | 58 | |
| South Dakota | 15 | 170 | 3 | | 0 | 1 5 | Ο. | 2 · | 9 | 4 | 13 | |
| Tennessee | | _ | | No | local | | | | | | | |
| Texas | 163 | 955 | 5 | | 37 | 126 | 0 | 18 | 85 | 60 | 160 | |
| Utah | _ | 4.0 | ^ | No | | commi | | _ | _ | _ | | |
| Vermont | 5 | 48 | 0 | | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5 . | |
| Virginia Washington | 72 5 | 628 60 | 4 3 | | 0 | 72 5 | 0 | 21 | 36 | 15 | 70 | |
| Washington West Virginia | 46 | 229 | ა 9 | | 0 | 5 45 | 0 | 2 13 | 1 22 | 2 11 | 3 46 | |
| Wisconsin | 41 | 288 | 2 | | 1. | 45 41 | 0 | 13 | 22 19 | 22 | 40 40 | |
| Wyoming | 20 | 185 | 2 | | 0 | S0 | 0 | 6 | 11 | 22 3 | 17 | |
| Dist, of Col. Hawaii | ~~ | 400 | ~ | No 11 | | commi | | Ŭ | | Ü | 4. (| |

Federal Security Agency NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

State Advisory Committees

| | - | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|---|
| State | Total | Education | Business | Labor | Agriculture | Youth | Negro | Others | Useful in Nat. Defense | Meetings Inactive | Fairly Active Active | , |
| Total | 811 | 218 | 122 | 80 | 66 | 75 | 46 | 204 | | | | |
| Alabama Arizona* Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Georgia Idaho Illinois Indiana* Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York City New York State North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma* Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming | 19 13 14 15 13 14 19 13 13 7 12 14 24 14 15 16 19 10 19 14 18 17 7 31 18 17 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 | 5425134506135598044464434324246453150332344226245 | 2322133241121510310231022242213311223211143223221 | 111211122111232221241112122221224122122111231111121 | 2102101241012310510111021322103241121110011111120 | 22100123411 113203122231111200321111221011211123 | 3011001220010031022012100001012302401110100010110 | 4212152353343564278274200366108321357412111206141 | x 1. x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x | 20130027 3100119420013313030211 12022012005000 | | |
| Dist. of Col. Hawaii | 100 25 | 3 7 | 1 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 5 | 3 0 | 1 8 | | 0 | x | |