

A. K. A. OBSERVES FOUNDERS' DAY

Task of the "New Negro" Is to Build Economic Structures, Says Randolph

Editor and Organizer Addresses Founders Day Exercises of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in St. James' Church

"The new task of the new Negro is to build economic structures, to master the conclusions of modern sciences and put them at the disposal of the Negro masses," said A. Philip Randolph, editor of *The Messenger*, in an address at the Founder's Day commemoration exercises of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority on Sunday afternoon at the St. James' Presbyterian Church.

"His art must be related to the life of the race, his philosophy must be a philosophy of realism which will enable him to penetrate the shame and hypocrisy of prostitute propagandists, white and black, and the machinations of modern imperialists to enslave the darker peoples, in particular, and the world proletariat of all races, creeds, color and nationality."

In telling what the Negro would do at this critical stage of change and revolution, this day of economic, political and social disorder, he said the Negro must not rely wholly upon the efficacy of the old emotional religious method, reactionary political thinking or white philanthropy, old classical education or private capitalist business. He stated that the technique of the future must be the technique of power, since the modern world considers or respects nothing but power, regardless of its ethnic origin.

"The road to power is organization, and the kind of organization that is shaping and determining the affairs of the world is economic organization," said the speaker, in telling of the need of organization at the point of production, in the form of labor unions, and at the point of consumption, in the form of co-operative societies.

"It is possible with co-operative commerce organizations for Negroes to build up gigantic business establishments that will make the race a factor in the economic field. With a powerful trade union movement the Negro workers may build up a strategic position in the industrial life, and win an adequate return for labor."

"That these new forms of organization may be properly guided, the group must fortify and reinforce its position with scientific education—not only the education of physical sciences, but with the education of social sciences; education in history, economics and sociology, which inform the mind of the nature and function of the social forces."

Other features of the program included the following: piano selection by Miss Sonoma Talley; brief history of the sorority, by Miss Ida Gittens, president of Tau Omega Chapter of the sorority; vocal solo, by Miss Minnie Brown, accompanied by A. Granville Dill. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Louise Jackson-Johnson.

According to Miss Gittens, the two vocal chapters, Lambda and Tau Omega, will award a scholarship within two or three weeks to a girl graduate of the February, 1927, term. She spoke also of the sorority's willingness to give vocational guidance to high school girls at any time.