

URBAN LEAGUE GAINS HAILED IN LITTLE ROCK

Mixed Rally Of 1000 Hears Pastor Hail Growth Of New Negro

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The Negro soldier, who returns home "with a global experience," will be a different Negro from one with only a farm hand's experience in Arkansas, Alabama and Mississippi, the Rev. G. Wayman Blakely, pastor of the Bethel A.M.E. church, told more than 1,000 colored and white persons attending the sixth annual meeting of the Little Rock Urban League at the Wesley Chapel Methodist church this week.

Rev. Blakely warned against "the danger of minorities assuming that all majorities are indifferent to their well-being." He said Negroes returning from the war have a right to expect a greater equality of opportunity than exists at present.

"There will face us the problem of disfranchisement in state and municipal affairs that continues to breed ill-will and dissipate the energy that could be utilized in constructive activities," he said. "We shall face a new Negro with a new outlook and world vision."

Cite Gains

"We want no part of Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito. The Negro is no less patriotic today than he was when Crispus Attucks became the first offering on the altar of democracy. This meeting is proof of the soundness of our belief, for meetings such as this where both races are gathered together to discuss their problems are inconceivable in countries dominated by the Axis powers."

Rev. Blakely was introduced by Atty. J. R. Booker, vice president of the League.

Clifford E. Minton, executive secretary, pointed out among other achievements of the league during the year that:

1. Seven Negro policemen had been appointed in Little Rock in line with league recommendations and that the league was requested to submit names of candidates.

2. A Negro public health nurse had been appointed by the city health department.

Win War Jobs

3. Employment of Negro skilled production line operators by the Arkansas Ordnance plant, after a ten-months series of conferences. The League was called upon to select and refer the first group of 125 workers, including line leaders, inspectors, supervisors and a stenographer.

4. Establishment of the Amelia B. Ives Memorial Scholarship for Social Work; the selection of Miss Paulleatha V. Petty as recipient, who is enrolled at the Atlanta University School of Social Work.

Charles M. Measel, president of the league, and regional labor relations specialist for the Farm Security administration, presided.

Mrs. Hugh W. Wicker, treasurer of the league, presented honor certificates from the league for outstanding voluntary community service to the following: Rev. N. Nichols, Mrs. Jesse Rutledge, Mrs. L. S. Dubisson, Charles M. Measel, Ed McCuiston, Rev. F. T. Guy and R. C. Childress.