

Detroit. Commission on Community Relations

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**SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT**

1945

CITY OF DETROIT

Mayor's **INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE**

*Second Annual Report **

CITY OF DETROIT
INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

December 31, 1945

* When the FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF DETROIT INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE was issued, it was submitted to the Mayor and Common Council only, and no attempt at general circulation was made. Since only a limited number of copies of the first report was produced, there are no longer any available for circulation.

CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN

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Edward J. Jeffries, Jr.

COMMON COUNCIL

George Edwards, President

Fred C. Castator
Frank Cody
William A. Comstock
Charles G. Dorais

John C. Lodge
Charles G. Oakman ¹
William G. Rogell
Eugene I. Van Antwerp

CITY OF DETROIT INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

305 West Fort Street

Detroit 26, Michigan

James K. Watkins, Chairman

John F. Ballenger
John J. Considine
Arthur Dondineau ²
Bruce H. Douglas, M.D.
Charles F. Edgecomb

Walter T. Hardin
John J. O'Brien
Cecil L. Rowlette
Daniel J. Ryan
Edward A. Simmons

STAFF

George Schermer, Director

Beulah T. Whitby
Melvin M. Tumin
Joseph C. Coles

Thomas H. Kleene
Dorothea L. McCue
Helen S. Service

- ¹ Successor to Henry S. Sweeny, as of January 1, 1946.
² Successor to Warren E. Bow, who died on May 17, 1945, as of October 10, 1945.

F O R E W O R D

When a public agency so new as the Interracial Committee prepares an annual report concerning problems so controversial as interracial relations, it is possible that the report may fall short of the expectations of some people, particularly of those who are best informed concerning the real effects of racial prejudice and discrimination upon our community. In writing the report, there was a strong temptation to enter into pronouncements of policy regarding certain unsolved problems. There was a suggestion, too, that the report should not only give credit to positive forces but should lay the finger of direct criticism upon those which are negative. There were feelings, at times, that the report appeared to gloss over rough spots.

The Committee believes, however, that the public knows what is wrong, even though it attempts, many times, to seek justification for things as they are. It is not the function of the Committee to sit as a judge or to preach against evil. The Committee has sought to function as a technical, operating agency, to take a problem at a time and try to work out a solution. It makes no attempt to exalt its own virtue by condemning others. The job is to build, not to tear down.

The policy and program of the Committee is to be found in what it has done and in what it sets out to do and not in its ability to view with alarm.

Pronouncements concerning such specific problems as housing, employment and civil rights will be forthcoming in due time. For the present, here is the record as it stands.

City of Detroit

INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

305 WEST FORT STREET
DETROIT 26, MICHIGAN

CADILLAC 9674

EDWARD J. JEFFRIES, JR.
Mayor

GEORGE SCHERMER
Director

February 15, 1946

Honorable Edward J. Jeffries, Jr.
Mayor
City of Detroit

Dear Mr. Mayor:

We are transmitting, herewith, a report of the second year of operation of the City of Detroit Interracial Committee. The report indicates, we believe, that Detroit is making progress in the intelligent handling of majority-minority problems, but that the solution of these problems is still in the future.

The Committee hereby expresses its gratitude for your assistance in the past year. It is highly significant, we think, that city administrations in many parts of the country are trying to improve the relationships among the varied groups in our population through the establishment of official agencies technically equipped for the work. In Detroit, we can take pride in your administration, which has so forcefully supported the efforts of such an agency.

We wish, too, to express our appreciation for the manner in which the Common Council and the City Controller have met our requests for funds, and the courtesy and cooperation extended by every branch of the City government.

Respectfully submitted

James K. Watkins
James K. Watkins
Chairman

JKW:McC

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I. ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND PROSPECTS

Race Relations Balance Sheet, December 31, 1945

Looking Ahead

I. ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND PROSPECTS

Race Relations Balance Sheet, December 31, 1945

As 1945 drew to a close, there was cause for both optimism and concern over race relations in Detroit. On the optimistic side of the ledger were these items:

1. Tension between the races as registered by the Community Barometer maintained by the Committee was at its lowest point since 1943. This Barometer registers tension only in terms of overt incidents, not in terms of attitudes or living conditions.
2. Perhaps the brightest item is the fact that there has evolved an informal type of mobilization of community organizations and agencies to promote better understanding and to meet incidents of interracial conflict. To a large extent, this mobilization has occurred as a result of natural growth and mutual interest. To a lesser degree, the Interracial Committee can take credit for bringing it about. In this mobilization, the agencies and groups do not think of themselves as a formal part of any program. However, every one of them has demonstrated a willingness to cooperate whenever a problem arises. The result is that the City need no longer think of the police as its first line of defense against racial trouble. The force still is available, but it can now be considered as the last reserve.
3. Both the metropolitan press and the Negro press have contributed to building better relations through improved handling of news pertaining to race relations.
4. The Department of Police, the Public Schools, many social agencies and church organizations and some labor unions have set up specific training programs, committees or codes designed to assure fair interracial practices.

5. Detroiters in increasing numbers are learning to discuss the question of race relations with greater freedom of thought and less rancor. The subject has been a topic of discussion in hundreds of churches, schools, clubs, civic organizations and youth groups. There are still too few discussing the question. Many times the information is erroneous or the subject is approached from a questionable point of view, but there is a serious searching for truth that must eventually result in better understanding.

These were the reasons for concern:

1. Many of the wartime gains made in the elimination of discrimination in employment were lost in the early stages of reconversion when most governmental controls were relaxed. Until the present wave of strikes halted all hiring in manufacturing industries, discrimination in employment was at a high point, and there are indications that this will continue to some extent after production is restored. In non-manufacturing employment, there has been a steady decline in the number of Negroes employed since the end of the war, but the total number of persons working in this field has increased. There can be no permanent interracial peace until there is greater equality of economic opportunity.
2. The ultimate outcome of the current industrial strife gives cause for apprehension. If the outcome leaves the people generally with a sense of justice and hope for the future, there will be an atmosphere favorable to the cultivation of good intergroup relations. If, however, the people as a whole, or any important part of the people, are left with a sense of disillusionment and frustration, they will again seek for scapegoats upon whom to blame their troubles and misfortunes. At such times, the minority groups become targets of prejudice, discrimination and violence, and the minorities themselves become bitter and resentful.
3. The housing situation remains unsolved. Increasing tensions can be anticipated as soon as the housing market begins to loosen up. At present, the situation is quiet, not because there is less need, but because the overall shortage is so great that a kind of paralysis has settled upon those who need the houses. White and colored alike have doubled up with others in already overcrowded quarters and are waiting for the market to open up. The problem for the colored people is more acute in that the crowding is greater, the need more pressing and the social costs more severe. The future is darker for the Negroes because there is no prospect of solution. Resistance against the movement of Negroes into new areas to establish homes seems as strong as ever.
4. The appeals to racial bias and bigotry made in the recent election campaign for the purpose of influencing the vote demonstrated that there are still forces in the community which are willing to stir up racial discord as a means to an end. Although such appeals cannot be readily measured as incidents by the Community Barometer, it can in a sense be said that the leaflets and newspapers in which such appeals to racial or religious prejudice were made constituted acts of aggression. The distribution of these items by the hundreds of thousands constituted an activity on the debit side much greater in scope than any comparable activity on the credit side.

In summary, in contrast to the positive gains is the fact that most of the job is still to be done and little progress has been made with the toughest of the problems. There are a number

of forces which, wittingly or unwittingly, are causing disruption and bitterness. Much depends upon factors which are larger than Detroit, factors which are national and world-wide in scope.

The situation at the end of 1945 indicates that there is little cause to fear a repetition of the rioting of 1943. There is widespread interest and cooperation with the program for better intergroup understanding. The constructive forces in the community are clearer in their thinking and closer together. Techniques have been worked out to meet quickly situations of conflict.

Looking Ahead

There are grounds for optimism but no grounds for complacency. The gains made to date must be consolidated or they will quickly fall apart.

These activities, which are now under way, must be continued and stepped up:

1. The process of measuring the pulse of the community and doing the fact-finding necessary for program building.
2. The popular education program for intergroup, intercultural understanding.
3. The mobilization of community forces for constructive activity and for meeting specific problems.
4. Investigation and correction of practices and activities in the community which interfere with human rights and welfare or which lead to disruption.
5. A broad program, including in-service training for City employees, aimed at making the City government of Detroit an outstanding example of thoroughly sound integration of staff at all levels without regard for color or creed, and of the most objective, unprejudiced governmental service to the citizens, again without regard for color or creed.

These new tasks must be begun:

1. A concerted program for removing discrimination in employment and in opening up economic opportunities for the minority groups.
2. A sound program of opening new areas for living space without restrictions against anyone because of race, creed or national origin.
3. A community program for guaranteeing civil rights.

These three new tasks cannot be accomplished by the Interracial Committee. They must be done by the community at large. The Committee can only cooperate with others, or initiate the first steps, acting as stimulator and as technical advisor.

II. HISTORY, GROWTH AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Chronology of Committee's Development

Personnel of Committee

Meetings of Committee

Staff

Subcommittees

II. HISTORY, GROWTH AND STRUCTURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Interracial committees or differently named organizations with like functions as units of city government are a decidedly new development in municipal operations, not only in Detroit but in the nation as well. Special study commissions have been set up before in many cities, including Detroit. It is only in the last few years, however, that city governments have been financing continuing committees with full-time staffs. Because such committees or boards are so new, and because there is still need for evaluation of form, structure, function and method, a brief review of the history and growth of this Committee may be of interest to the public.

A proper history should reach back into the early days of Detroit to trace the threads of Negro-white relations and the gradual emergence of the critically tense years of World War II and the riots of 1943. For this report, it will be necessary to limit the story to a brief outline of the history of the Committee without background data.

Chronology of Committee's Development

June 25, 1943. Several days after the riots, Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., appointed a group of 12 citizens to form an Interracial Peace Committee, the forerunner of the present Interracial Committee, for the purpose of reviewing the causes of the riot and to make recommendations for the prevention of further violence.

October 13, 1943. The Interracial Peace Committee met for the last time, after having submitted numerous recommendations to the Mayor for action.

January 13, 1944. Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., submitted to the Common Council of the City of Detroit a letter proposing an Interracial Committee of 11 members, six of them City department heads, and recommending an appropriation of \$15,000 for one year's operation.

January 18, 1944. The Common Council approved the Mayor's proposal and authorized the appropriation of \$15,000.

February 3, 1944. The Committee held its first meeting. The Mayor attended and outlined for the Committee the basic objectives and purposes of the Committee.

February 25, 1944. The Committee appointed Harold Thompson as its Director.

March 3, 1944. The Committee voted a budget of \$13,428, providing for the positions of Director, Assistant Director and Stenographer and other expenses. Beulah T. Whitby was appointed Assistant Director.

February 18, 1944 through March 21, 1944. The Committee held a series of hearings with key City department heads regarding the relationship of their services, policies and practices to racial attitudes and tensions in the community.

April 19, 1944. A meeting of consultants called under the auspices of the Committee proposed and prepared detailed recommendations for a Community Barometer to measure intergroup tensions and attitudes.

May 17, 1944. The Community Barometer Group was formed.

May 23, 1944. The Committee submitted its first report to the Mayor regarding the status of race relations in the community.

June 9, 1944. The Committee formally approved its first official statement on policy and program.

June 14, 1944. The Committee issued its first public report, which dealt with the status of race relations in the community and policy and program.

June 16, 1944. The Committee received the first report of the Community Barometer.

June 16, 1944. The Committee voted to set up two subcommittees to implement the work of the Committee, namely a Subcommittee on Health and a Subcommittee on Popular Education.

July 21, 1944. William J. Norton, Chairman of the Committee, announced his resignation because of ill health and the pressure of other duties.

August 18, 1944. The Committee voted to set up a special Case Subcommittee to analyze specific problems and incidents and to make recommendations for action.

September 1, 1944 through October 18, 1944. The personnel of the Popular Education Subcommittee was carefully recruited with Donald C. Marsh, of the Wayne University faculty, as Chairman. The subcommittee held its first meeting on October 18.

September 15, 1944. The personnel of the Case Subcommittee was appointed with Herman Pekarsky, of the Council of Social Agencies, as Chairman.

September 17, 1944. Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., announced the appointment of James K. Watkins as Chairman of the Interracial Committee to succeed William J. Norton.

October 6, 1944. The Committee appointed a Subcommittee on Health with Dr. Bernard W. Carey, of the Michigan Children's Fund, as Chairman.

November 9, 1944. The Committee submitted its second report of activities, including an analysis of the status of race relations in the community.

January 3, 1945. The Case Subcommittee submitted a report, making four recommendations for specific action by the Committee.

January 17, 1945. The Popular Education Subcommittee submitted its first comprehensive report, recommending a large-scale popular education program.

February 27, 1945. Harold Thompson, Director, submitted his resignation, stating that he wished to return to private business. The resignation was accepted.

March 6, 1945. The Common Council approved funds for continuation of the Interracial Committee for the balance of the fiscal year (through June 30, 1945). (Provisions for continuation of the Committee through the fiscal year of 1945-46 were included in the regular City appropriations.) The appropriations included provisions for two additional staff positions, namely, a stenographer and a field representative.

March 28, 1945. The Committee appointed George Schermer as Director to succeed Harold Thompson, the position to remain vacant until Schermer could assume the duties on June 1.

May 12, 1945. Dr. Warren E. Bow, Superintendent of Schools, died, leaving a vacancy on the Committee.

June 1, 1945. The Committee conducted a one-day Workshop Conference on interracial relations with nearly 1,000 community leaders in attendance.

June 27, 1945. The Committee approved a STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES, PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATION, which had been prepared and submitted by the Director.

July 10, 1945. The Committee received and approved a Quarterly Report on the status of race relations in the community and of the activities of the Committee for the period ending June 30, 1945. Included with the report was the STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES, PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATION approved at the meeting on June 27.

July 22, 1945. The report approved by the Committee on July 10 was submitted to the Common Council and released to the press.

July 24, 1945. The Common Council appropriated additional funds to provide for the employment of a second Field Representative.

July 25, 1945. The Subcommittee on Health submitted a progress report on proposals for a new interracial hospital.

July 25, 1945. The first of two Field Representatives was appointed.

August 28, 1945. A monthly supplementary report to the Quarterly Report issued on July 10 was submitted to the Mayor and the Common Council.

September 19, 1945. The Committee approved a proposal from the Director that a part-time Research and Information Assistant be employed on a contractual basis.

October 5, 1945. The first class training volunteers to conduct group discussions on interracial relations started.

October 10, 1945. Arthur Dondineau, newly-appointed Superintendent of Schools, was named to the Committee by the Mayor to succeed Dr. Warren E. Bow.

October 10, 1945. The appointment of a second Field Representative was announced.

November 11, 1945. A Research and Information Assistant was appointed to serve on a part-time, contractual basis.

November 11, 1945. The Director submitted an Organizational and Functional Chart demonstrating the staff organization and the delegation of duties and responsibilities, indicating that, except for the eventual need for a full-time Research and Information Assistant, the

formation and organization of the staff, as presently conceived, was approximately complete.

November 11, 1945. The Committee tentatively approved a budget for the fiscal year of 1946-47, providing, among other things, for the addition of the staff position of a full-time Research and Information Assistant.

December 5, 1945. The relationship and functions of the three active subcommittees -- Popular Education, Barometer and Health -- were evaluated, and a closer connection between the subcommittees and the Interracial Committee was provided for, including the attendance of subcommittee chairmen at Committee meetings. It was decided that the Case Subcommittee should be allowed to lapse.

Personnel of Committee

There have been two changes in the personnel of the Committee of 11 members in the two years of its history. William J. Norton, the first Chairman, resigned in August, 1944, and was succeeded by James K. Watkins in October, 1944. Arthur Dondineau, Superintendent of Schools, succeeded Dr. Warren E. Bow, deceased.

Meetings of Committee

Meetings have been held consistently with only a few postponements or cancellations. In the first few months of the first year, meetings were held weekly. It was later decided to meet twice each month, and there has been at least one meeting in each month since the inception of the Committee.

Attendance at meetings has been consistently good. It is an accepted practice that, when City department heads cannot leave their other duties, they may be represented by a proxy. However, the number of proxy representatives at any one meeting is usually only one or two and has never exceeded three.

A total of 31 meetings was held in the 11 months of the Committee's activity in the calendar year of 1944, with an average total attendance of 8.4 members per meeting. (Of this, the average of members themselves was 7.3 and of proxies 1.1.) A total of 22 meetings was held in the calendar year of 1945, with an average attendance of 7.3 members per meeting. (Of this, the average of members themselves was 6 and of proxies 1.3.)

Staff

The staff of the Committee is composed of six full-time, salaried persons, namely, the Director, Assistant Director, two Field Representatives and two Secretaries. There is also a temporary arrangement for a part-time Research and Information Assistant on a non-salaried, contractual basis.

In the budget estimates for 1946-47, a request is made for a full-time Research and Information Assistant. It also appears likely that as the work of the Committee broadens out there will be need for additional clerical assistance.

There have been many suggestions from interested citizens that the Committee should eventually employ a large staff of field workers to carry on a huge educational and community organization program. As the Committee views its work at the present time, such a plan seems inadvisable. The Committee is rather uniquely organized in the sense that, with six City department heads as members, it enjoys a highly integrated relationship with these key City departments. It is possible, therefore, to draw upon the resources of the City as a whole in developing the program, so that a large and expensive organization is not likely to be required.

Subcommittees

Some of the most effective work being done by the Committee is performed by the several subcommittees. The order in which the subcommittees were organized is indicated in the chronology, and a list of these groups and their personnel appears in the addendum. Three of the subcommittees are active. The fourth, the Case Subcommittee, has been permitted to lapse because it was found that what cases were being handled by the subcommittee could be properly processed by the staff and cleared by the Interracial Committee. Should the case work phase of the Committee's activities be stepped up, it may become necessary to reactivate this subcommittee.

Little need be said at this point about the work of the Subcommittee on Popular Education, since it is described in detail in another chapter of this report. Attention should be devoted, however, to the other two active groups.

The Barometer Subcommittee is a group of volunteers in which 192 persons have been active, although not all have been participating at any one time. Control was established by appointing an Executive Committee of five persons with the same person serving as Chairman of both the Executive Committee and the General Subcommittee. The Barometer Subcommittee was established

for the purpose of obtaining volunteer assistance from many parts of the community in collecting reports of incidents of an interracial character. These reports, combined with reports from the Department of Police and the Department of Street Railways, served as a basis for the Community Barometer, which is described in another chapter.

The volunteer group did an outstanding job of reporting in 1944 and part of 1945, which were the most crucial months after the riot. As the curve of incidents went downward and the tensions became less critical, it was inevitable that the group should tire somewhat of the passive role of reporting only. During the summer and fall months of 1945, there was a steady falling away of active membership and simultaneous discussion of changing the role of the group to something more active. The most plausible suggestions, which are being considered by the Interracial Committee at the present time, were (1) that the group should be held together by occasional meetings to discuss broad community aspects of race relations and to evaluate the program of the Interracial Committee from a layman's point of view, and (2) that the group should be considered as a panel of volunteers to take on any type of assignments that could be handled on such a basis.

The Health Subcommittee has worked rather independently of the Interracial Committee. The entire membership of the subcommittee had been organized originally as the Committee on Hospitalization and Medical Care for Negroes for the Health Council of Metropolitan Detroit. Knowing that this group was already active, the Interracial Committee arranged to have the same group appointed as the Health Subcommittee. This subcommittee has developed a proposal for an interracial hospital, which has been endorsed by the Committee. The subcommittee is now surveying the possibilities for financing such a project.

III. WORK OF THE INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

Research and Information

Education

Community Action

III. WORK OF THE INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

Since the field of government operations in race relations is so new, no precise definition of functions has been found as yet, which has proven satisfactory. The Committee has no legislative grant of authority. To date, it has operated generally within the scope of the original charge by the Mayor, as follows:

1. To make recommendations designed to improve those services which affect racial relationships that flow from the several departments of government to the community.
2. To work for an improvement in the attitudes of white and Negro citizens towards each other.

It has been necessary for the Committee gradually to test out the field to determine the areas in which it could work effectively. Thus far, its limitations have been primarily those of experience, time and the size of staff.

The Committee has taken a cue from the preamble of the City Charter. Just as it is the function of the City to promote the health, safety and welfare of all the people of the community, so it is the function of each City agency to do the same within its particular sphere of operation. The primary function of the Committee, therefore, is to see that factors of race, racial feeling and attitude do not interfere with the proper conduct of municipal affairs, with the performance of City services and with the maintenance of peace and order. Secondly, it is the function of the Committee to stimulate, initiate and cooperate with community programs designed to abolish discrimination because of race, to open new fields of opportunity for minority groups and to cultivate intercultural and intergroup understanding.

The work of the Committee falls into three general phases, namely, research and information, education and community action, and a description of each of these phases is set forth below.

Research and Information

The research and information service is a fundamental part of the Committee's task. Sound, factual information, properly documented and periodically disseminated, serves as the most effective foundation for comprehensive community action. Prompt and intelligent action and planning can be more easily effectuated by the City and by many community and civic agencies if the proper information is available. However, the demands from the community for counseling, for educational programs and for even the most general type of information have been so heavy that the staff, as presently organized, has had little opportunity to do an intensive job of fact-finding, analysis and issuing of reports.

A part-time Research and Information Assistant has been working during the past two months at the rate of 30 to 40 hours per month. His first task was to bring up to date the Barometer data which had been accumulating since the volunteer analyst completed her assignment in August. He has also made an evaluation of the Barometer and has formulated new procedures for its improvement. He has outlined a detailed plan of research and fact-finding aimed at the systematic collection and analysis of data vitally necessary to future action and planning. The activation of this plan depends on securing the full-time services of a Research and Information Assistant. If such a staff member is employed, it is planned that the Committee shall issue quarterly or monthly reports on tensions, attitudes, economic factors, population changes and positive and negative influences as related to race relations in the community. Special studies will be made on housing, employment, civil rights and other pertinent subjects.

The following statement on Barometer Trends is taken from a recent report submitted by the Research and Information Assistant:

In the work of the Interracial Committee, the Community Barometer serves principally as a gauge of the extent to which tensions in the community become translated into acts of overt aggression. In serving as a measure of conflict, it provides the Committee with the most reliable available source of data with which to verify or refute prevailing rumors concerning the state of conflict and gives the Committee a basis on which to plan immediate and future action.

It is not contended that the Barometer, as presently constituted, is more than a rough appraisal of the public situation. Nevertheless, it is the most reliable and accurate instrument presently available to any private or public agency in the City of Detroit. As such, it has served and can continue to serve a most important function. With the lessons gained from two years' experience in dealing with the Barometer, it is hoped that the present shortcomings will be in large part eliminated, and that the Committee may look forward in the very near future to the perfection of a system of reporting and measuring tensions which will provide more accurate data and broader and more comprehensive insights into trends.

Reports on which the Barometer is now based are gathered from the Department of Police, the Department of Street Railways and volunteer reporters scattered throughout the City. All re-

ports received are recorded on a master sheet, which is broken down into the following categories: (1) time and place where incident occurred; (2) participants in incidents, by sex and race; (3) aggressors in incidents, by sex and race; (4) number of juveniles and inebriates involved; (5) intensity of incident, as reflected in extent of words, blows, missiles and weapons involved; (6) source of report; and (7) brief description of the nature of the incident. All original report data are preserved for further analysis.

An examination of the reports of incidents received in 1945 as compared with 1944 reveals that there has been a general downward trend on almost all counts. The total number of incidents for 1945 is less than that for 1944; the average number of participants per incident is less; and the percentage of physical violence is somewhat less on two out of three counts. A brief resume of the comparative picture is as follows:

Year	Total No. of Incidents	Total No. of Participants	Average No. of Participants per Incident
1944	451	1,160	2.57
1945	354	851	2.40

Year	Words	Per Cent of Total	Blows	Per Cent of Total	Missiles	Per Cent of Total	Weapons	Per Cent of Total
1944	258	49	191	36.3	36	7	40	7.6
1945	239	54	134	30.0	14	3.2	53	12.0

(NOTE: All of the above figures are corrected for the fact that after July, 1945 there was no further volunteer reporting, and that reporting for December, 1945 includes only through December 15. It is also to be noted that the total of the number of incidents involving words, blows, missiles and weapons in either 1944 or 1945 is greater than the total number of incidents for that year as reflected in the other table. This is accounted for by the fact that each act of violence was recorded separately, that is, incidents involving both words and blows were tabulated in both of the appropriate classifications.)

These charts reveal that, with the exception of the increase in the percentage of incidents in which weapons were used, all other indices of overt hostility and the intensity of such hostility decreased in 1945.

The data for the two years have been plotted on graphs and reveal rather interesting and significant trends. While there are fluctuations within each of the two years, as plotted by months within the years, it is to be noted that, beginning with the months of June, 1944 and 1945, there is a marked decline in each of the months June-December, 1945, as compared with each of the months June-December, 1944. This is true not only of the number of incidents, but of the average number of participants and the intensity of the incidents as well. The first five months of 1945 show each a comparative increase on almost all counts as against the measurements for the first five months of 1944.

Again, comparing 1945 with 1944, it is difficult to establish any generalizations about the regularity of fluctuations by months within any one year. The pattern of fluctuation for 1944 does not follow that of 1945. It does not appear, therefore, that the climate is statistically significant in relation to the number of incidents. This point is reinforced by an examination of the trends within 1945, which show a marked decline for the hot months as compared with the late winter and spring months.

A more detailed analysis of the Barometer, as presently constituted, has been prepared and is available for examination. It reveals in what areas the data are most lacking and indicates what additions and revisions are needed. Generally speaking, the analysis points out the need for a much wider system of reporting and for a change-over from reporting only overt incidents to the combined reporting of incidents and public attitudes. Information as to the state of attitudes will make it possible to predict with considerable accuracy whether tensions in the community will rise dangerously in the event of actual incidents of conflict. On the

basis of such reporting, the Committee could plan in a more detailed and accurate way.

Considering the novelty of the Barometer and the amount of spade-work necessary for its operation, it has proven itself of great value, and is, to a significant degree, a testimonial to the earnestness and the ability of the volunteer workers on the Barometer Subcommittee.

Education

The education service of the Interracial Committee is performed under the direction and guidance of the Subcommittee on Popular Education, which was established by the Committee on October 18, 1944. The subcommittee was created for the purpose of fulfilling the second part of the original charge to the Committee by the Mayor, that is, to work for an improvement in the attitudes of white and Negro citizens towards each other. At its first meeting, the subcommittee defined its aim as "to reach all segments of community life and to spread among them information and understanding about conditions that create tensions and conflicts among the people of Detroit."

The Popular Education Subcommittee first made a brief survey of what was already being done in the Detroit community in interracial education. This study showed that, out of a list of 50 organizations promoting some kind of interracial activity, 18 were engaged in some form of educational work. The various kinds of educational efforts included the academic approach, in-service training, the use of drama and pageantry, personal contacts sponsored by clubs and church groups, forums, speeches, lecture series, institutes and other indirect methods.

The following community needs in interracial education were defined as a result of the subcommittee's survey:

1. A consistent, continuing program on a long-range basis, which would coordinate the sporadic efforts of the various groups working with the same basic objectives.
2. A propaganda and publicity program, which would promote mass education and reach those people in the community who are not accessible through organizations.
3. In-service training for the staffs of all City departments which deal directly with the public.

With these community needs for education in interracial relations in mind, the Popular Education Subcommittee began the task of drafting recommendations for a program to be sponsored by the Interracial Committee. Material and approaches to be used were collected, examined and analyzed, and consultation held with specialists. The proposed program was presented to the Interracial Committee on January 17, 1945. It embodied three approaches, each of which was designed to fulfill one of the existing community needs described above.

The approach proposed to satisfy the need for a long-range program to coordinate the efforts of various other groups was an educational program within these groups. This phase of the program proposed that as many organized groups as possible in the community be enlisted to engage in the study and discussion of some of the basic problems that cause tensions and conflicts. The following method was outlined for this approach to the program:

1. That it be initiated by a conference, called by the Mayor and the Interracial Committee, of leaders of organizations active in the field of race relations and of other organizations representing as complete a cross-section of community life as possible.
2. That, at the conference, a program be presented in the nature of a workshop, where consideration would be given to factual information and the general community outlook as to housing, health, transportation, recreation, work conditions, police activity and other related subjects.
3. That the leaders of organizations represented be given a definite assignment asking them to encourage their organizations to promote a series of discussions or special programs on race relations among their membership, or in a specific community.
4. That the Department of Parks and Recreation be requested to place emphasis on interracial mass education at parks and playgrounds during the summer in an effort to influence public attitudes on a neighborhood level. This program should be executed in cooperation with other community organizations operating within the area.
5. That materials be provided for educational programs sponsored by other groups, such as pamphlets, reprints, posters and other display materials, films and recordings.

The second of the three proposed approaches to popular education, which was found to be needed for purposes of mass education and to reach those people who are not accessible through organizations, was a propaganda and publicity project. The methods planned for the execution of this phase of the program were as follows:

1. That the established channels of publicity and advertising be used, such as radio, press, movies, outdoor advertising and distribution of circulars.
2. That the project be carried out by a professional advertising agency, employed by the Interracial Committee. The principles and themes, which would serve as the basic content of the advertising, would be drafted by the Popular Education Subcommittee.
3. That this be regarded as a long-range program to continue over a period of several years.

Relative to the third community need in the field of popular education, that is, for in-service training for the staffs of all City departments, the subcommittee proposed "that all City departments dealing directly with the public institute in-service training, and include in that training material drawn from the actual experience of the department to emphasize best practices in race relations." The method which was to be used for this phase of the program was outlined as follows:

The Popular Education Subcommittee will work with the administrators of City departments in establishing in-service training programs and in developing the content of them, with the definite understanding that complete jurisdiction will be left with the department and its administrator.

When this report was presented to the Interracial Committee, it was accepted and appreciation was expressed for the work done by the Popular Education Subcommittee. It was agreed that an early meeting would be arranged with the Mayor and the Budget Bureau for a presentation of this program. This was to be followed by a hearing on the proposed program before the Common Council. These plans have not been executed, but the Committee has hopes that the entire popular education program will be launched at some future date. Subsequently, the Popular Education Subcommittee was authorized to proceed with the execution of the first part of the program -- promoting educational programs with existing organizations.

After sanction had been received for the promotion of educational programs with existing organizations, immediate steps were undertaken to activate this program, and it will be apparent from the ensuing report that this phase of the plans for popular education is well under way. Furthermore, although the subcommittee has not as yet received authorization for the propaganda and publicity project for mass education and also the in-service training in City departments project, some preliminary steps, which are necessary to obtain sanction for these efforts have been taken, and these are likewise set forth below.

By way of initiating the educational program with existing organizations, the Workshop Conference was held on June 1, 1945. It was called by Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., and the Interracial Committee. The purpose of this conference was to present an accurate picture of race relations in Detroit, consider practical problems faced in improving conditions and plan for continuing study and effort on the part of many organized groups in the community. Invitations were issued to about 3,000 representatives of business and industry, labor organizations, churches, schools, social agencies and community and civic groups.

After drafting the basic statement of purpose, program and overall organization of the conference, the Popular Education Subcommittee organized six committees to work on the conference, namely, the arrangements committee, the program committee, the publicity and promotion committee, the invitations committee, the recording and conference findings committee and the exhibits committee. The latter group had subcommittees on the following subjects: (1) radio, music, art and drama, (2) visual display and (3) books, pamphlets and publications. The members of the Popular Education Subcommittee functioned as chairmen and co-chairmen of the conference committees with the exception of the recording and conference findings committee. A total of 125 persons, representing business and industry, labor organizations, churches, schools, social agencies and community and civic groups, participated in the basic planning and work to set up the Workshop Conference.

The Workshop Conference program committee planned the first session as a general introduction to the particular problems to be discussed in later sessions. Four leaders, representing the fields of business and industry, community planning, youth and education and religion and civic responsibility, presented "THE PICTURE TODAY". Methods used in race relations programs were dealt with by two speakers who are specialists in national programs in race relations. At a luncheon, Robert C. Weaver, of the American Council on Race Relations, discussed "COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FOR RACE RELATIONS". George L-P Weaver, Director of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, presented the subject of "HOW ORGANIZED LABOR PROMOTES GOOD RACE RELATIONS" at an afternoon general session. Later, nine functional groups discussed "WHAT CAN WE DO TO PROMOTE GOOD RACE RELATIONS". The final session was a meeting of all conference participants, and the speaker, Malcolm W. Bingay, of the Detroit Free Press, who had recently returned from a survey of prison camps in Europe, talked on the subject "DETROIT'S STAKE IN RACE RELATIONS".

An extensive exhibit giving specific data about Detroit and its resources was combined with materials which can be used in building race relations programs. The splendid cooperation of

City departments, organized labor, civic groups and many national organizations contributed toward making the conference exhibit complete.

Although the largest number of participants in the conference was from those agencies traditionally interested in race relations, namely, the schools, churches and social workers, there was a significant indication of new interest on the part of other sources, as reflected in the following table, which gives an estimate of conference attendance by group representation:

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Sponsoring committee members and participants	125
Schools	231
Libraries	40
Women's Clubs	49
Men's Clubs	6
Youth	27
Veterans	3
Interracial Organizations	31
Real Estate	4
Social Work	123
Churches and Religious	100
Engineering and Technical	3
Recreation	12
Unions	30
Government Departments	50
Health	32
Police and Military	16
Industry	18
Business, Commerce and Banking	11
Nationality Societies	29
Miscellaneous	139
TOTAL	1,079

Evaluating the Workshop Conference, it may be said that its accomplishments were as follows:

1. It provided a medium through which a large number of organizations and individuals in the City could define what they considered to be the racial problem and to make recommendations for action.
2. It served as a medium for dispensing information, which could be carried back by the participants to their neighborhoods and organizations.
3. It continues to serve as a basis for action in the respect that many people and groups have requested that similar conferences or programs be conducted in various neighborhoods throughout the City, so that the information can be disseminated at the neighborhood level.

As a follow-up to the Conference, the Committee set up an extensive organization file, including 750 organizations, which have memberships numbering in the hundreds of thousands. In the weeks immediately after the conference, many of these organizations were contacted personally for the purpose of furthering their interest and obtaining their cooperation in a broad program of interracial education. The response from the groups contacted was very gratifying. The demands for information and service have taxed the Committee's capacity to produce. Contacts have been made with certain speakers' clubs and educational organizations for the purpose of obtaining their assistance in supplying personnel for a Bureau of Speakers and Discussion Leaders.

The Workshop Conference provided the impetus to a popular education program with existing organizations which has developed along some unanticipated lines. In order to supply personnel to satisfy the numerous requests for speakers and discussion leaders, it has been found necessary for the Interracial Committee to undertake three different training programs on the subject of race relations, as described below.

1. In cooperation with the Adult Education Program of the Detroit Public Schools and Wayne University, a training program for discussion leaders was conducted from October 5 to November 9, 1945. As a result of this effort, 20 persons were certified by the State Board of Education to function under and be paid by the Adult Education Program. These discussion leaders felt the need for additional training, and they have volunteered to meet for six more sessions under the leadership of one of their group. They will be ready to respond to calls from the community made through the Interracial Committee. Since it now has a group of leaders available, the Popular Education Subcommittee plans to recruit more special interest groups to engage in study and discussion of the problems of intergroup relations.

2. Since many of the requests which come to the Interracial Committee are for speakers

on race relations topics, a speakers' panel has been organized, and is now in the process of taking training with the cooperation of the Adult Education Program of the Special Studies Division of Wayne University. A total of 25 persons is taking this training and will be ready to answer some of the many calls which the Committee receives for speakers. A system of recording requests for speakers, and a confidential evaluation of the speech by the chairman of the group has been developed. During 1945, the Committee filled more than 100 requests for speakers on interracial subjects.

3. A group of 10 organizations has been invited by the Interracial Committee to sponsor jointly a lecture series by nationally-recognized authorities on methods and techniques in race relations programs. A meeting has been held of these organizations, and plans for the series are being developed and executed.

Before leaving the subject of popular education programs with existing organizations, attention should be given to the work of collecting and distributing literature on the subject of race relations. The Committee has been developing a library of books, publications, pamphlets, posters, exhibit materials, listings of films, recordings and sources of educational materials. A constant examination is being made of new materials published in the field of race relations, and those believed to be useful in the program of the Interracial Committee are being added to the library.

A total of 24,894 pamphlets has been purchased, of which 12,027 have been distributed to organizations, classes and conferences. For the Workshop Conference, 300 kits of pamphlets and other materials on race relations were assembled and distributed. Many other requests have been filled for material to be used in programs promoted by clubs and other organizations or in papers and presentations by individuals.

As indicated earlier in this chapter of the report, some preliminary steps have been accomplished toward the propaganda and publicity project for mass education and also the in-service training in City departments project. In connection with the former, efforts have been made to obtain scripts for radio use. A meeting was held of representatives of the local radio stations, who were called together to act as an advisory group in developing appropriate radio material. If satisfactory scripts are obtained, efforts will be made to secure contributions of radio time. In connection with in-service training, the Popular Education Subcommittee has been planning the general content of in-service training courses for City departments. It is proposed that an executive from each City department be assigned to develop a training program for his department. The Popular Education Subcommittee will be available to offer consultation and assistance in planning and executing the in-service program.

(A compilation of statistical data reflecting the Committee's activities in the field of popular education is to be found in the addendum.)

Community Action

Community action is the process which the Committee has found most effective for the handling of incidents and complaints. It has been developed over the two-year period of this agency's existence by a gradual process of evolution and trial and error. The process of community action is predicated on the belief that situations causing intergroup tensions or which may be potential sources of conflict are frequently neighborhood or community problems which may be worked out best by the persons and agencies already in the neighborhood or community involved. The function of the Interracial Committee in this activity is that of a coordinating agency at the metropolitan level, which also performs an informational and fact-finding service.

Community action represents an extension of the original processes of the Committee. In its first months, the Committee operated what amounted to a consultant service on race relations. Its first meetings were held in the offices of the City departments in closest contact with the general public and were devoted to hearings on the relationships of the departments' services, policies and practices to racial attitudes and tensions in the community. A thorough study was made of the information developed at these hearings, which was used as the basis for a series of recommendations for the improvement of public services affecting race relations.

The general broadening of the Committee's activities and the increase in the size of the staff has led from this so-called consultant service technique to the community action approach, the application of which can be explained best by a positive example of its use. A series of incidents involving colored and white children which seemed to indicate the presence of racial tension in the community occurred in an area on the near east side of the City last November. Various reports as to what had happened, some of them obviously exaggerated, began to circulate in the Negro and white neighborhoods, and considerable responsibility was being placed on the officials of the intermediate school in the neighborhood. As a basis for action, the field representatives of this office first undertook a thorough investigation of the incidents, which involved some 20 interviews. It was immediately apparent that what had seemed to be a problem centering about the school was, in reality, a community problem. So-called neighborhood gangs composed largely of youths having no connection with the school were active in the disturbances. An immediate effort was made to combat the erroneous reports which had been

November 15, 1944. Acting on a complaint from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Committee inquired into the conditions prevailing at the Department of Public Works shelter at 2238 Rivard Street, and was then able to assure the NAACP that steps were being taken to relieve the situation at this shelter.

December 20, 1944. A resolution to the Victory Council and the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council was passed, which urged that recommendations for sites suitable for housing thousands of Negroes be forwarded as soon as possible to the Detroit Housing Commission. The Committee subsequently supported a proposal to build this housing in the southwestern part of Detroit.

January 3, 1945. In response to a request from this Committee, the War Chest allocated funds for the erection of a fence around the recreational lot adjacent to the Lucy Thurman Branch of the YWCA.

March 28, 1945. In connection with an incident of alleged discrimination against a Negro by a privately operated school leasing property at a City facility, the Committee passed a recommendation to the effect that there should be a clause in the contracts between this facility and its lessees prohibiting the practice of discrimination against anyone.

June 6, 1945. The Committee inquired into a report that Negro girls employed as government inspectors at a Detroit war plant were being refused service in a company cafeteria, and it was determined that the matter had been settled to the satisfaction of the complainants.

July 11, 1945. The Committee was active in a case of discrimination involving refusal of service by a Detroit company to a Negro girl, but was later relieved of immediate jurisdiction by the issuance of a warrant, which led to the trial and conviction of the company.

September 1 to December 31, 1945. Various reports were received by the Committee to the effect that demonstrations involving differing degrees of violence were occurring on the near west side and one other area in protest against the occupancy of homes in those areas by Negroes. The Committee has been working in close cooperation with the Department of Police in this connection. Although little has been possible thus far towards correcting this situation, the dissemination of the true facts about these incidents has had a salutary effect in areas where wild reports have been circulated.

September 19, 1945. In response to a complaint received from the NAACP that discrimination and segregation are being practiced in a certain facility operated by the City, the Committee began an investigation which is still under way. Some of the causes of complaint have been corrected, others have been found to be without foundation and some are still under investigation.

October 10, 1945. Acting on the complaint of a Negro City employee that he had been discharged in a discriminatory fashion, the Committee investigated the charge, determined that there had been no discrimination and explained the true facts to the satisfaction of the complainant.

October 10, 1945. A Negro club formed for a particular activity filed a complaint that it had been denied the use of a recreation center, and the presumption of this organization was that an attempt was being made to prevent Negroes from participating in the activity for which the club was organized. Investigation by this office disclosed, however, that the Department of Parks and Recreation had ceased the sponsorship of the activity referred to in all its centers, and that there was therefore no discrimination against Negroes involved.

October 10, 1945. Acting on a complaint against a downtown hotel that the management had refused to permit a mixed group to use one of its parlors for a meeting, the Committee met with the manager and received partial assurances of cooperation. At least, there have been no further complaints received against this hotel.

October 30, 1945. As the result of the receipt of complaints that recreational facilities for young people in the vicinity of Northwestern High School and the Kronk Recreation Center are inadequate and that there is discrimination and segregation at the available City facilities, a meeting was held with a subcommittee of the West Side Human Relations Council, and it was arranged for community representatives to confer with officials of the Department of Parks and Recreation. Progress is being made toward a satisfactory arrangement, and the conferences are continuing.

November 2, 1945. Certain activities of boys in the vicinity of a west side high school, which appeared likely to result in disturbances of an interracial character, prompted the Committee to make an inquiry into the situation to gather the pertinent facts. A meeting was subsequently arranged with school, police and community officials, which resulted in the development of a program to discourage the objectionable activities and to provide more constructive outlets for the youths in question.

November 12, 1945. A complaint was received about a series of interracial incidents in-

volving children on the near east side. An immediate investigation was made by this office to determine the facts, and various city and community agencies were brought together to take combined corrective action on the situation. Still other remedial steps are being contemplated, and it appears that some progress has been made.

December 5, 1945. An increase in discrimination against Negroes in employment as a result of the relaxation of governmental controls prompted the Committee to urge the Mayor to send a telegram to Senator Homer Ferguson, of Michigan, endorsing legislation for the establishment of a permanent federal agency on fair employment practice. The requested telegram was subsequently sent.

December 10, 1945. After a series of fights between Negro and white youths, which occurred when students from a downtown high school went to a game at a north end high school to support their own team, the Committee collaborated with officials of the visiting team's school and the Board of Education in outlining a program which forestalled any acts of reprisal when the north end team played a return game at the downtown school.

(It is to be noted that the dates used above are not exact. For the most part, the record has been compiled from the Committee's minutes, and the dates used are, in most instances, the ones on which the matter referred to was discussed at a Committee meeting.)

From the above chronology and the foregoing report on education, it will be noted that there has been some change of emphasis in the character of the work of the Committee as time progressed. During the last year, there have been fewer specific incidents requiring Committee action and a larger volume of the work has been preventive and educational in character. This should not be interpreted as meaning that the Committee is giving less attention to action on specific problems. Rather, the Committee has been able to integrate its work with that of other City departments and community agencies to such a degree that many situations in the community which could develop into incidents requiring action are caught at an early stage and are satisfactorily cleared up in an informal fashion without requiring investigation, recording and specific action by the Committee.

IV. INTERDEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION

In reporting the progress of interracial relations in the City of Detroit, there is danger that too much emphasis may be placed upon the work of the Interracial Committee itself, leaving the implication that it is the Committee that is taking all the responsibility. Actually, the Committee will be most effective if the greater part of the work can be done through other City agencies and by community groups. As indicated in other portions of this report, the Committee feels that it should be the initiator, the stimulator and coordinator of activities in the community for the correction of discriminatory practices and for the cultivation of better intergroup understanding. In this portion of the report, the high level of inter-departmental cooperation with the Interracial Committee will be described, and the next chapter will be devoted to a description of the cooperation between the Committee and various community agencies.

In many respects, it is the City departments at large which have more to do with the success or failure of interracial relations work in the City than the Committee. The Committee enjoys a unique relationship with other City departments in that six members of the group are themselves the chief executives of departments which are in direct contact with the general public. Thus, much of the information and many of the conclusions of the Committee are directly communicated to the departments affected.

In the following list of City departments which have worked in close cooperation with the Interracial Committee, an indication is given as to the extent of the cooperation and the steps being taken by the departments towards the improvement of race relations:

1. Department of Police. There is an extremely close interrelationship between the Department of Police and the Committee with almost daily exchange of information, and this has been particularly true when special incidents have required the attention of the Committee. The liaison goes beyond the mere investigation of incidents. It also includes the use of Interracial Committee staff members in police training classes, exchange of information with the Crime Prevention Bureau and joint participation in community meetings. One of the most tangible indications of progress in interracial relations in the community is the improved relationship existing between the police and large sections of the Negro community.

2. Board of Education. The Committee feels that one of the brightest spots in interracial relations work in the City at the present time is the interpretive work being done by the public schools for school children. Further, when incidents have arisen in part in the schools and in part in the surrounding community, the Interracial Committee, school officials, the police and other agencies have been able to work out a cooperative plan of action. In addition, there has been frequent interchange of information, and there has also been participation by members of the Administrative Committee on Intercultural Education in the Public Schools in the activities of the Interracial Committee and vice versa.

3. Department of Parks and Recreation. This department has conducted its program during the past year with special emphasis on stepping up recreational activity in those areas where it seemed there might be greater danger of tension and conflict. It has been quite apparent throughout the year that members of all racial groups have been able to play side by side on the playgrounds and in the parks with a negligible degree of friction. In part, this is indicative of reduced tension in the overall picture, and, in part, it can be credited to improved and more impartial techniques of supervision and control in these public facilities.

4. Departments of Health and Welfare. There has been little occasion to work with these agencies, but it can be pointed out with considerable pride for the City of Detroit that these departments are widely recognized for their impartial and effective public service without discrimination of any kind.

5. Housing Commission. This Commission has consistently cooperated in providing information and has several times responded favorably to recommendations from the Committee. Although it must be admitted that the City's housing policy has been most frequently the subject of community criticism as far as race relations is concerned, this is not because of any lack of cooperation on the part of the Housing Commission, but rather because of overall City and community policy. The simple fact is that present City and community policy is not geared to the problem and offers no solution.

6. Department of Street Railways. Cooperation between the Committee and City departments is not limited to those departments with representation on the Committee, but also extends to other units of government having close contact with the public, such as the DSR. This department has been particularly cooperative in furnishing regular periodic reports of incidents and indications of the status of race relations as related to its work.

7. Civil Service Commission and other departments. Some complaints have been received and investigated concerning unfair employment practices within certain departments. Civil Service and the departments involved have been very cooperative in following these through. Many of the complaints were unfounded, others have been corrected and some are under consideration by the Committee at the present time.

V. COMMUNITY COOPERATION

V. COMMUNITY COOPERATION

In the preceding chapter of the report, attention was given to the work of the City departments in the field of race relations and with the Committee, and this chapter will deal with the excellent job being done in the community by many civic, social, religious, labor and business organizations, associations and agencies. Mention was made in the opening paragraphs of this report of the partial and informal mobilization of community forces which are, directly or indirectly, engaged in work of an interracial character. By informal mobilization, it is meant that the agencies and organizations are not bound together in any association or even by any system of intercommunication. Yet, literally hundreds of agencies and groups have demonstrated unity of purpose and a genuine desire to cooperate whenever necessity requires.

It is impossible for the Committee to give recognition to more than a fraction of the groups and individuals who are contributing to better race relations in the community. Much of what is being done has never come to its attention.

The following is a partial list of agencies with which the Committee has engaged in cooperative projects or from which considerable assistance has been received:

1. Council of Social Agencies. In connection with the Area Work program sponsored by the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Youth Problems and supervised by Miss Helen C. Thorburn, Field Representatives on the Interracial Committee staff participate in staff meetings of the Area Workers and frequently have been assigned to work with Area Workers to correct some interracial problem in a given area.

2. Detroit Urban League. There has been an interchange of committee memberships. The Administrative Assistant of the Urban League serves on the Popular Education Subcommittee, while the Director of the Interracial Committee serves as Chairman of the Urban League Industrial Committee. There is an interlinking of effort with this agency in almost every phase of the Committee's program.

3. Metropolitan Detroit Fair Employment Practice Council. There has been constant exchange of information, and a staff member serves on the Case and Clearance Committee of the MDFEPC.

4. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Again there is continuous exchange of information with referrals of problems in both directions. The staff participated in a two-day housing conference conducted by the NAACP. There have been several joint investigations of complaints of discrimination.

5. Federal agencies. There have been numerous occasions when there has been interchange of information and joint participation in educational, informational or policy-forming conferences or meetings with representatives of the USES, the FEPC, FPHA and FHA.

6. Detroit Council of Churches. The Council has an interracial committee and members of the staff are very active in promoting better racial understanding. There has been constant exchange of information and many joint efforts to promote programs of education and action.

7. Archdiocese of Detroit and Catholic lay committees. There has been regular clearance and exchange of information with Father J. Lawrence Cavanaugh, of the Archdiocese. In addition, there are the Catholic Interracial Council and the Catholic Women's Interracial Committee, both of which are doing a fine educational job and have demonstrated a serious desire to cooperate with the City program wherever possible.

8. Jewish Community Council. The Director and staff of this agency have devoted much time and energy in advising and counselling the Committee staff, in participating on committees and in providing information.

9. Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Jews and Protestants. This agency is performing a function very closely related to that of the Committee. There has been regular consultation and clearance of information between the two organizations. The Round Table is making an important contribution to intergroup understanding in the community, particularly among religious groups.

10. International United Automobile Workers-CIO Fair Practices Committee. The Executive Director of this unit in the UAW has been very interested in the work of the Committee, has cooperated when requested to do so and serves on the Popular Education Subcommittee.

11. Citizens' Housing and Planning Council. There has been a close interlinking of educational effort between this Committee and the Council. Both organizations hold many educational meetings and book speakers or panels for community groups. It has been found that at all such meetings questions arise which are of interest to both, and that as a result the other organization is left with an opening for follow-up work.

12. Wayne University. The Sociology Department of Wayne University has been used as a consultant service in almost every phase of the Committee's work. Members of the faculty have been unstinting in giving their time. Valuable assistance is given by the student volunteer workers assigned by the Sociology Department to work on various projects for the Committee. The School of Public Affairs and Social Work has been equally helpful.

13. University of Michigan Extension Service. This service has been helpful in assigning field work students, one of whom maintained the Barometer analysis for more than a year. Another did extensive field work for the Popular Education Subcommittee. Of particular help has been the free use of the Rackham Building facilities for meetings.

14. Newspapers. The contribution of the press goes far beyond the relationship with the Committee. It has been quite clear through most of the past year that all of the papers have made an effort to treat news items pertaining to intergroup relations in a thoughtful and constructive manner. Special feature articles, pictures, editorial comment and a marked decrease in race labelling in the reporting of crime news are all important contributing factors to the reduction of racial tension.

The above agencies and organizations are those with which the Committee has had a particularly close association in the past year. Each of them has not only cooperated with the Committee, but each is making a real contribution to better race relations in its own program. The Committee also has learned of hundreds of examples of positive action by other groups. Numerous churches have set up special programs for interracial education. A significant development has been the organization of the Church of All Peoples, an interracial venture of considerable success.

In addition to the community agencies which have contributed so much to better race relations in Detroit, special recognition is due two national agencies which have been very helpful in providing counsel and specialist services. These are the American Council on Race Relations in Chicago and the Bureau for Intercultural Education in New York, which has worked directly with the Board of Education.

Some of the most positive and constructive activity is conducted by organizations among the minority groups themselves. It is commonly stated by the more prejudiced members of the dominant groups that the primary responsibility for improved relationships rests with the minority groups, that the minority peoples must adjust themselves to and measure up to the standards and patterns of the majority. It is the observation and experience of the Committee that there is a very ready spirit of cooperation among the minority groups to join in any program which strives for the achievement of well accepted human objectives of benefit to all members of society.

Roster of the City of Detroit Interracial Committee and Staff

Personnel of Subcommittee on Popular Education

Personnel of Subcommittee on Health

Personnel of Executive Committee of Barometer Subcommittee

Statistical Tabulation of Activities of Popular Education Program

ROSTER OF THE CITY OF DETROIT INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE AND STAFF

COMMITTEE

JAMES K. WATKINS, Chairman	Attorney
JOHN F. BALLENGER	Commissioner, Department of Police
JOHN J. CONSIDINE	General Superintendent, Department of Parks and Recreation
ARTHUR DONDINEAU	Superintendent of Public Schools
BRUCE H. DOUGLAS, M. D.	Commissioner, Department of Health
CHARLES F. EDGECOMB	Director-Secretary, Housing Commission
WALTER T. HARDIN	
JOHN J. O'BRIEN	
CECIL L. ROWLETTE	Attorney
DANIEL J. RYAN	General Superintendent, Department of Public Welfare
EDWARD A. SIMMONS	Attorney

STAFF

GEORGE SCHERMER	Director
BEULAH T. WHITBY	Assistant Director
MELVIN M. TUMIN	Research and Information Assistant
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HELEN S. SERVICE	Secretary

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PERSONNEL OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON POPULAR EDUCATION *

DONALD C. MARSH, Chairman	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Wayne University
JOSEPH A. BEATTIE	Associate Director, Franklin Settlement
LAURENTINE B. COLLINS	Director of School-Community Relations, Board of Education
GEORGE W. CROCKETT, JR.	Executive Director, United Automobile Workers-CIO Fair Practices Committee
ISAAC FRANCK	Executive Director, Jewish Community Council of Detroit
W. T. OSOWSKI, D.D.S.	
DANIEL J. RYAN	General Superintendent, Department of Public Welfare
LEONARD N. SIMONS	Simons-Michelson Company
HELEN C. THORBURN	Secretary for District Councils, Council of Social Agencies
WILLIAM R. VALENTINE	Administrative Assistant, Detroit Urban League
ELEANOR P. WOLF	Special Instructor, Department of Sociology, Wayne University

* The following persons who resigned during 1945 served on the Subcommittee on Popular Education for part of the year:

JAMES J. MC CLENDON, M.D.
JAMES D. GAMBLE
RAYMOND O. HATCHER

PERSONNEL OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

BERNARD W. CAREY, M.D.
Chairman

NORMA G. SILVER
Secretary

J. C. GILLIAM, M.D.

WILLIAM F. GOINS, M.D.

J. A. GRAHAM, M.D.

ROBERT GREENIDGE, M.D.

RALPH A. JOHNSON, M.D.

JAMES J. MC CLENDON, M.D.

S. H. C. OWEN, M.D.

REMUS G. ROBINSON, M.D.

EMILIE G. SARGENT

ADELIA D. STARRETT

PERSONNEL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF BAROMETER SUBCOMMITTEE *

GEORGE W. HARRISON, Chairman

Area Worker, Council of Social Agencies

GLOSTER B. CURRENT

Executive Secretary, Detroit Branch,
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People

HELEN C. THORBURN

Secretary for District Councils,
Council of Social Agencies

* The following persons who resigned during 1945 served on the Executive Committee for part of the year:

GERSON B. CHERTOFF

HOWARD T. STUDD

STATISTICAL TABULATION OF ACTIVITIES OF POPULAR

EDUCATION PROGRAM

1. DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Number of pamphlets purchased	24,894
Number of pamphlets distributed	12,027
Number of subscriptions	26
Books purchased	46
*Books circulated	
*Films, recordings and exhibits loaned	
Organizations served through distribution of literature	200

2. SPEAKERS' PROGRAM

Number of speaking engagements filled	120
By staff members	92
By non-staff volunteers	28
Number of engagements declined by staff	30
Approximate number of persons reached through the speakers' program	8,500

3. *TYPES OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES RENDERED

Participation in panel discussions
Participation in group discussions
Participation in conferences
Presentation of speeches
Presentation of films combined with discussion
Consultation on program planning
Arranging interracial programs for organizations
Arranging for use of educational films, recordings and exhibits

4. *GROUPS REACHED

Religious groups	Social Agencies
Women's clubs	Staff meetings
Youth organizations	Board meetings
Business	Community groups
Real Estate	Mass meetings
YMCA and YWCA	Parent-Teachers Associations
University classes	
Faculty groups	Out of the City
Elementary, high school and university assemblies	Other Michigan communities
	Other states

* The system of recording was set up too recently to give the breakdown in numbers for these classifications for 1945.