



NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES

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NEW YORK CITY

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July
Eighth
1943

My dear Mr. MacRae:-

I am enclosing a copy of a Memorandum sent to the heads of Councils of Social Agencies and Community Chests in a number of war industry communities where the National Urban League is without local affiliates. Although your own Council is able to turn to a local Urban League for assistance, it may be that the National Office can still give additional help in a critically important field of service. If this should be true, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

In any case, it would be helpful to know what particular problems your community is facing in existing relationships between whites and Negroes, and how agency programs are being adapted to solve those problems.

Sincerely yours,

Lester B. Granger
Lester B. Granger,
Executive Secretary.

Mr. Robert H. MacRae
51 Warren Avenue
Detroit, Michigan

MOBILIZING NEGRO CITIZENS FOR VICTORY AND PEACE

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE
For Social Service Among Negroes
1133 Broadway
New York City

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M E M O R A N D U M

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To: Mr. Robert H MacRae
From: Lester B. Granger,
Executive Secretary.

The unhappy events of Detroit, Michigan; Beaumont, Texas; and Mobile, Alabama, together with less dramatic but almost equally serious racial outbreaks in several other cities emphasize the importance of a service which the National Urban League has been developing for the benefit of war industry cities faced with racial problems. Through its departments of Research and Industrial Relations, the League has assisted Councils of Social Agencies to plan for larger and more effective war-time service to Negro populations.

It is unnecessary to point out the enormously increased populations in many war industry centers have placed terrific burdens upon existing welfare facilities. As these facilities are strained, the Negro population is apt to suffer from the standpoint of housing, child care, recreation, health education, police protection and social planning in general. Frequently what is needed is a readjustment of existing services so as to include the Negro more fully in their benefits. Sometimes there is a need for new services which can be administered without unreasonable financial costs but in which the problem of direction is of extreme importance.

The Urban League movement is small, in that our organization has formal local affiliates in only forty-seven cities throughout the country. Our movement is important, however, in that we are the only national social work agency with a primary concern for the general welfare of the Negro population and with a professional experience of thirty-three years. To extend our services and influences beyond the number of cities where we now have affiliates, we propose to be "on call", so far as our staff facilities permit, for those cities where local Chest and Council of Social Agencies' heads desire our advice and co-operation.

Dr. Warren M. Banner, our Director of Research, has this year carried on studies in several League cities, including Columbus, Ohio; Newark, N.J., and Seattle, Washington. In each case, the study has been made under authorization of the local Community Chest or Council of Social Agencies.

This Memorandum is to inform you of this service, and of our efforts to equip ourselves to place us more widely at the disposal of communities in which our help may be valuable. I shall appreciate it very much if you will let me know whether there is any likelihood of your own community having need of our services and what general problems your organization faces in serving your Negro constituency.

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