

“SEE NEW DEAL ONLY AS RAW DEAL FOR RACE”

[TRANSCRIPTION; EXCERPTS]

Sec. Haynes Addresses Baptist Church Youth

DAYTON, Ohio, June 28

The mammoth Memorial Hall was crowded here Wednesday at the sessions of the National Baptist Sunday School and Young People’s Congress with Dr. W.H. Jernagin of Washington, president Dr. A. M. Townsend, Nashville, director general: Dr. M.A. Talley, Indianapolis, dean of the Congress, as the guiding spirit.

Before and audience of 2,000 people at the night session Dr. George E. Hayes, executive secretary, department of race relations, Federal Council of Churches, declared in his address on “Negro Youth Facing the New Deal in America,” that Race workers had received little benefit from the NRA codes and that the abolition of the codes by the United States Supreme court brought little or no loss and probably some advantage to Race workers. He said in part:

Points Out Remedies

“With some description as fair sample of the experience of Negroes the past two years one cannot escape the conclusion that the New Deal has been a raw deal for Negroes. Negro workers in industry found the codes a great disadvantage. Negro farmers found that the cotton-acreage reduction program made their desperate plight as share-tenants and share-croppers worse. Negroes out of employment are the last to be re-employed. There have come some rays of hope out of relief given the masses of Negroes and the farm re-settlement experiments of the FERA and some changes in their treatment of Negro skilled and ‘white collar’ workers in some localities.

“What the Negro needs and wants from the New Deal is a SQUARE deal. The question which therefore confronts you and me is what can we do to help win that square deal for the exploited masses of Negroes in all parts of America.

“The New Deal should bring three things to the American Negro:

1. A remedy for the conditions of the share-croppers and Home Corporation bill, now pending in Congress, is a step in that direction.
2. The removal of discrimination in opportunities for industrial employment, especially for skilled and white collar workers.
3. Provision under the Economic Security Act, now passing through Congress, so that its entire benefits and services shall be given to all persons otherwise eligible irrespective of race or color.

Source: “See New Deal Only as Raw Deal for Race,” *The Chicago Defender*, June 29, 1935: 17.