

# EMPLOYMENT CAMPAIGN GOES ON

## Hygrade Clothing Company Employs Two Young Women Stenographers

Employment Campaign Conducted by Urban League Producing Some Very Interesting Results—  
All Not Favorable

As a result of the campaign of the Joint Committee for the Employment of Negro Workers, the Hygrade Clothing Company, of 131 West 125th street, employed two colored typists in its mailing department. Mr. Goldin, the manager, stated that if a satisfactory supply of colored women could be furnished him, he would be glad to use them in connection with his work. Miss Dolores Coles, 141 West Ninety-eighth street, and Miss Florence Cooke, 27 Jewett avenue, Jersey City, were the two young ladies sent to these positions.

The Middle Piano Company, already employing three collectors, as need of varnishers experienced a piano work. The Singer Sewing Machine Company of 10 East 125th street, which has been using colored canvassers, has need for more men now. Both of these companies have asked that men apply.

A total of 258 concerns has been listed in the survey being conducted by the Committee. These include the larger stores having three or more employees. These stores employ a total of 163 colored workers. A summary of their reaction to the question of employing colored help is noted as follows:

Concerns needing no more employees (17); attitude favorable but employing no colored (12); attitude favorable with colored porter (14); attitude favorable with colored workers on other jobs (20); employers not interested (33); conditions unfavorable to any colored help (27); colored not desirable (29); may employ colored later (10); will employ colored if needed (17); will employ colored as porters only (21); no colored employees needed (24); concerns interested in further approaches (24).

A number of stores in Harlem are employing colored workers in jobs other than porters. Among them are the following:

The Singer Sewing Machine Company, 5 canvassers; the Manufacturing Chemist and Perfumes, 26 W. 125th street, a laboratory assistant and receiving clerk; the Dreyer Furniture Company, 860 Lenox avenue, a cabinet maker; Frank Meyer's Hardware Company, 468 Lenox avenue, clerk; the Gordon Grocery Store, 2444 7th avenue, a clerk; New Home Laundry, 15 East 137th street, stenographer and bookkeeper; the Wonder Store Incorporated, 2598 8th avenue, saleslady; Goldfarb's Ladies Shop, 2458 7th avenue, a clerk; the Hat Shop, 2352 7th avenue, a clerk; the Hygrade Meat Market, 551 Lenox avenue, clerk; the Harlem Market, 465 Lenox avenue, clerk; Walter Piano Store, 182 W. 125th street, collector; the Lenox Furn. Company of 635 Lenox avenue, and the Morris Music Shop of 657 Lenox avenue, employ a combination of porter and clerk; Wright's Library, 2296 7th avenue, a clerk.

Some very interesting reactions have been shown by the personnel representatives of many of the stores visited. In an interview with Mr. Kirschbaum of Koch's Department Store, he stated that here are five colored employees and six hundred white in their store. They have been in business in Harlem thirty-five years, but have never employed any colored persons in capacities other than waitresses and porters. Mr. Kirschbaum stated that he would be willing to give colored a chance in every department of their store if it felt that 50 per cent of their business was furnished by colored people. This was a very favorable interview, and may result in some

members of the Joint Committee as to the following concerns:

United Cigar Stores, 44 West 18th street; Charles Weisbecker, 268 West 125th street; L. M. Blumstein Department Store, 230 West 125th street; F. W. Woolworth & Company, Woolworth Bldg.; the A. & P. Grocery Stores Company.

The last mentioned company's Chicago office has recently reported its first colored clerk.

A very active campaign has been carried on by the Joint Committee with the assistance of the churches and the general public. The reaction from employers has not always been favorable. Many of them are opposed to employing colored in any capacity. One interested person writes that he doubts the wisdom of the Negro Workers' Campaign since it will urge the employment of Negroes where whites are employed. On the other hand, the Rev. Henry Howard, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, in answer to a letter to white ministers requesting that they make mention of this particular problem on Sunday, writes: "I can see the point you raise. I can also see the difficulties surrounding the question. I should like to think it over and see if there is any way out."

The high point of the campaign will be reached on Sunday, December 12, at 4 P. M., when at an industrial mass meeting will be held at Mother A. M. E. Zion Church, a complete report on the employment of Negroes in Harlem disclosing many facts will be made. Among the speakers at this meeting will be Channing H. Tobias of the National Y. M. C. A., Abram L. Harris, and the Rev. W. L. Imes.

Miss Revella Hughes will furnish one of the musical numbers. The general public has been invited to attend the meeting.

very definite understanding.

The Rose-Pearl Store at 2347 7th avenue has six white employees. The manager on being interviewed about colored employees said that colored people don't know the business of handling cloth, therefore he felt perfectly satisfied with the type of employee he now has.

The Ludwig Bauman Furniture Company, 146 W. 125th street, employs one colored porter. Though this concern has a large number of colored accounts, the representative interviewed said that colored people were not able to buy their high-priced furniture, hence they cater to white. Colored employees were not desired.

Approaches have been made by