

Carver Center Is Dedicated

City Congratulated
By Leader

The postwar of tomorrow is going to require traveled leadership in the field of research both for juveniles and adults and the city of Peoria and its citizenry are to be congratulated on an early start to prepare for the world of tomorrow, Dr. J. L. Leach, Flint, Mich., told the audience gathered at Carver Community Center yesterday afternoon for the dedication and formal opening of the remodeled and enlarged Center.

The theme of Dr. Leach's address was "Keep On Keeping On," following the creed of George Washington Carver, great Negro educator, in that he permitted no difficulty to keep him from obtaining his objective. "As a result of his sacrifices and hard work and his Christian life he reached the top in his profession," said Dr. Leach.

"Racial discrimination will be destroyed in proportion that those who complain of discrimination lift themselves up and conduct their personal and private lives in such a manner as to command the respect of those with whom they come in contact," continued Dr. Leach.

"The investment in this project on the part of the citizenry and the associated charities is a worth while investment for it is well known that money spent to prevent crime is far better than an investment of millions of dollars to segregate criminals and maintain them at the public's expense.

Calls for Support

"It is hoped that the colored people of Peoria will prove their worth and justify the interest manifested by those supporting this project. So often we invite criticism and ill feeling by our own conduct," were the concluding remarks of Dr. Leach, who is a practicing physician in Flint, president of the Genesee county board of health, for the past 15 years a member of the board of supervisors and active in sociological and civic affairs of that community. Dr. Leach was introduced by Henry M. Harper.

A half hour musical program preceded the dedication program, which included an address of welcome by Mrs. Bettymaye Frye, who introduced the master of ceremonies, Dr. E. P. Bouldin; greetings from Mayor Woodruff; a history of the community center by Mrs. Lina Henry; greetings from J. M. Pletz, chairman of the Citizens committee of the George Washington Carver association; an introduction of the board of trustees and a response by Harry Sephus, president of the board.

Olson Presents Keys

The keys to the Center were formally presented to Mr. Harper, executive director, by Sylvan L. Olson.

The Rev. Barton Hunter delivered the invocation, and contributing to the musical interludes were Roxy La Rocca, harpist, and



CARVER CENTER IS DEDICATED

Principals in Sunday's dedication of the Carver Community Center are pictured (left to right), Dr. J. L. Leach of Flint, Mich., principal speaker; Harry Sephus, president, board of directors; Harry Harper, executive director. (Journal-Transcript Photo.)

the Community Center Men's Choir group.

Mrs. Henry Harper was chairman of the program committee. A tea followed the program.

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