ATLANTA UNIV. CASTING ABOUT FOR PRESIDENT: TRUSTEE BOARD HAS WIDE ... METZ T P LOCHARD

The Chicago Defender (National edition) (1921-1967); Apr 17, 1937; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Defender

pg. 1

Educational World Looks On Interestedly As Atlanta University Casts About For New President



















AMBROSE CALIVER



Qualifications of likely candidates will be found on page 16

ATLANTA UNIV. **CASTING ABOUT** FOR PRESIDENT

Trustee Board Has Wide Selection From Which To Choose New Head

Other Pictures on Page 3 Stories On Page 16

By METZ T. P. LOCHARD

By METZ T. P. LOCHARD

The progress of Race education has been considerably retarded by a conspicuous absence of educational statesmen among us. Some progress has been made, to be sure. But it is a progress not at all commensurate with the physical and financial growths of our academic institutions. Federal and state governments in recent years have been comparatively generous in the matter of appropriations. At last our colleges no longer have to beg with a tin cup on the back porch of some northern financiers whose paternalistic enthusiasm had to be aruosed by the singing of spirituals by college quartets.

by the singing of spirituals by college quartets.

Having passed the stage of mendicancy we should by now be well on the way to an academic growth consonant with our means. A growth that should be measured qualitatively. Unfortunately, our educational leaders, lacking in prevision and insight, are confused as to the nature of guidance that should be sponsored by them.

It appears that our institutions for higher learning have developed beyond the conception and in spite of the ignorance of our so-called

of the ignorance of our so-called educators. It is doubtful, out of the

(Continued on page 3, col., 3)

ATLANTA U. BOARD REMINDED OF MERITS OF RACE SCHOLARS

(Continued From Page 1)

great army of college presidents that any of them could make an adequate defense of the educational policy of their institutions.

In 1930, 75 presidents of white colleges and 25 of Race colleges were asked to define what they thought to be the best educational policy that should be followed in the train-

colleges and 25 of Race colleges were asked to define what they thought to be the best educational policy that should be followed in the training of our students. Promptly, all the whites gave their answers. Of the 25 Race presidents, after a considerable delay, only two replied by saying that as soon as time would permit, they would give consideration to the matter. That was seven years ago. Since then one of those men has died, carrying with him into the grave whatever notion he had of Race education. The other, though still alive, has not found time yet to define his policy.

With the presidency of Atlanta University coming to the fore by virtue of the death of John Hope, many of those interested in the issue are wondering if the trustees of this institution plan to perpetuate Hope's conception of a modern Race university by selecting to the presidency a YMCA secretary or a hard shell Baptist preacher. Out of respect for the dead, I shall not go into the matter of Mr. Hope's administration. I must say, however, by contrast, he was a successful administrator. And, that, I think, is the fairest judgment that any honest critic could pass on him.

In the days when our major colleges were stricken with poverty the selection of a president was by necessity restricted to candidates whose ability to raise money and preach was their sole qualification. The question of academic preparation and administrative experience was out of the equation. The justification for such a procedure, then, not to be uncharitable, rested on the appalling scarcity of properly equipped men.

Today, thank God, with the emergence of admirably trained and competent scholars and guaranteed, sustained financial provisions there is no reason under the sun why the tradition of succession should not be broken. With such men as A. A. Taylor of Fisk university, Alain Locke, Dwight Holmes, Charles Wesley, E. P. Davis, Charles Thompson, Abram Harris of Howard; Ambrose Caliver, Carter, G. Woodson of Washington, D. C.; W. E. B.

DuBois and Rayford Logan of Atlanta university the race is studded with educational statesmen who would administer creditably the affairs of any academic institution.

fairs of any academic institution.

Atlanta university needs a man of broad sympathies and deep convictions. It would be unwise for the board of trustees of this institution to overlook the ripe scholarship attainments of these men. We trust and pray that Atlanta will not be converted into a theological incubator. cubator.

Former Atlanta University Heads: Who'll Be Next?



EDMUND A. WARE



H. BUMSTEAD



EDWARD T. WARE



MYRON W. ADAMS

