

Non-Partisan League Plans 19-State Drive

NEW YORK. — The most ambitious attempt in political history to unify the total Negro vote, cutting across party lines and marshalling forces behind the Roosevelt ticket, was launched in New York City this week as thousands began signing up for membership in the National Non-Partisan League.

John H. Sengstacke, publisher of the Chicago Defender and chairman of the league, explained to reporters that the drive to bring out the vote for President Roosevelt will be concentrated in the larger metropolitan centers of nineteen states where migrants from the South have swollen the normal Negro population.

Appeals to potential voters will be made on a strictly racial basis, Sengstacke asserted. Campaign issues as they relate to the Negro will be clearly defined to the new voters, many of whom will also be

See NON-PARTISAN, Page 4

groes are for President Roosevelt."

The committee sponsors pointed to the strategic position held by Negroes in the coming elections in the twelve states having 223 electoral votes where close contests could be settled by the Negro electorate.

Non-Partisan

(Continued From Page 1)

given instructions on voting procedures.

Dr. Alain Locke, author, critic and Howard University professor, was the first of a large number of prominent scholars and national leaders to register with the league. The committee is being financed by voluntary contributions from Negroes and will work with church, labor and social work groups.

Sengstacke announced league plans at a press conference held here for metropolitan newspapers and pointed out that a poll conducted by the Defender during the past six weeks showed that "more than 70 per cent of the Ne-