

Signatur *656 gra Polen*
Datum **12. Jan. 1935**

The African World (London)

Nr. **1679**

Polish Envoy to Liberia

Mr. R. Rathaus, who is now due to reach Monrovia to establish a Polish Consulate at that port with a view of developing trade between Liberia and Poland, has represented his country in several important European cities and in America.

Hamburgisches
Welt - Wirtschafts - Archiv.

monaco
Signatur *b56*

Datum 31. Okt. 1925 192

The African World (London)

Nr. 1199.

Liberia and Monaco.

Baron Rudolph Lehmann, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Liberia at Paris, has been appointed as delegate to enter into negotiations with a representative of Monaco for the purpose of concluding a treaty of extradition between Liberia and that Principality.

Zentralstelle des
Hamburgischen Kolonialinstituts.

Kreuz. Haas.
Signatur: *656*
Datum: *12 Nov.* 1921

The African World (London)
~~The Singapore Free Press~~ (Singapore)

Nr. *992* vom 191

Liberia.

MINISTER TO LIBERIA.

**U.S.A. Senate Appoint the Rev.
Dr. S. P. Hood.**

The "Afro-American" states that the Rev. Dr. S. P. Hood has been appointed by President Harding Minister to Liberia, thereby distributing "one of the best political plums at Mr. Harding's disposal, and one for which there were any number of applicants. The position pays \$5,000, just half of the salary of a Minister to Haiti. It is known that sometime ago, the State Department asked President King of Liberia, whether Dr. Hood would be acceptable to the Liberian Government as American Minister. The Liberian Government returned a favorable reply and the President sent the name to Senate on Monday, October 24.

The post has been vacant since the death of the Honorable Jos. I. Johnson, last year, and the work has fallen upon Richard C. Bundy, secretary of the legation since 1910.

The African World (London)

No. 1307.



The New American Minister to Liberia

(Special to "The African World.")



One of London's distinguished visitors recently was the Hon. William T. Francis, the newly appointed U.S. Minister and Consul-General to Liberia. Mr. Francis is a graduate of the St. Paul College of Law, and for nineteen years was employed in the Law Department of the Northern Pacific Railway Company at St. Paul. During the administration of President Taft, he was mentioned for appointment as U.S. Minister to Hayti. He was Presidential Elector from the State of Minnesota for the election of President Harding, and was for years a member of the Republican State Central Committee from that date. During the Presidential campaign of Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Davis he was

appointed director of campaign for the Western States from Ohio to the Pacific Coasts. On July 11 President Coolidge honoured him by making him Minister and Consul-General to Liberia. He has been Grand Master of Masons for the State of Minnesota, and because of his legal training, his knowledge of political affairs and experience in public life, he is considered well qualified to discharge the duties of his new important position. For years he has been interested in the affairs of Liberia, and watched with keen appreciation the administration of President King, whose rare judgment and wise direction have opened the doors of hope and opportunity to the Republic of Liberia. It is his hope and desire that the cordial relations which have always existed between the United States and Liberia may always exist, and his energies shall ever be devoted to that end. Mr. Francis was well pleased with his

reception and the courtesies received in London, and impressed with the grandeur of its architecture. He came to London after two weeks' visit to Paris, but says there is no place like London. He and Mrs. Francis were the guests of the Hon. R. Roy Wilson, M.P., at the House of Commons on Thursday, and entertained at luncheon by the Hon. C. W. Dresselhuys, Minister for Liberia, and Mme. Dresselhuys at their home in Gloucester Square on Friday. The Hon. Mr. Francis sailed from Southampton on the s.s. "Wadai" on November 7 for Monrovia. He will be accompanied by his charming and talented wife, who also has been identified in public affairs and is a leader in clubwork among the women of Minnesota, and they are certain to have a very cordial reception at Monrovia on their arrival.

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30. Nov. 1929₉₂

The African World (London)

No. 1412.

LIBERIA AND U.S.A.

The recent announcement by Mr. Henry Stimson, Secretary of State of the Government of Washington, that Mr. Henry Carter, of the Western European Section of his office, had been appointed as United States Chargé d'Affaires at Monrovia definitely breaks the custom hitherto observed—that a coloured citizen should represent the United States in the diplomatic relations with the negro republic. Up to the recent and lamented demise of Mr. Wm. F. Francis, who was American Minister-Resident and Consul-General in Liberia, this status was maintained. It will now be noticed that Mr. Carter proceeds to Monrovia as Chargé d'Affaires and not as Minister, a rather significant fact. The appointment has been delayed evidently through the international investigation of enforced labour conditions being arranged, and it is evident that Washington did not wish to be represented by a Minister at Monrovia during that period. American interests in Liberia are extensive, covering as they do a large missionary organisation with over 100 Americans engaged, both white and coloured, and representing an amount of half a million dollars as investment with a yearly budget of 300,000 dollars. In addition to this, there are the important Firestone Rubber Companies interests, and last, but not least, a State loan of 5,000,000 dollars—all of them items which after recent experiences justify the closest of friendly watching on what is happening and has occurred at Monrovia during the past eighteen months.

31. Aug. 1935

The African World (London)

Nr. 1712

NEW U.S. MINISTER TO LIBERIA.

NEW YORK.

President Roosevelt's action in appointing a coloured man as United States Minister to Liberia was applauded in New York by Mr. Justice Watson, himself a coloured man, during the swearing-in ceremony of the new Minister in the Municipal Court.

Mr. Justice Watson performed the ceremony, which was attended by a number of coloured friends of Mr. Lester A. Walton, believed to be the first man of colour to hold such a position in the United States diplomatic service.

Before administering the oath, the Judge said: "Every American negro is interested in the future of Liberia, and we may take a just pride and satisfaction that a man of our own race has been appointed to serve as Minister to the little republic."

"It is a tribute to the ability of President Roosevelt that he is able to recognise the ability of others, regardless of their race, colour or creed."

"The President has appointed to Liberia the only man truly capable of holding that office, a man who will, we know, accomplish much towards the improvement of conditions there."

An active journalist for many years, the new Minister has long been an authority on negro affairs, especially those of Liberia.—
Reuter.

[NOTE.—Reuter's Agency are in error in stating that Mr. Walton is the first negro to be appointed to the United States diplomatic service, as both the last U.S. Minister to Liberia, Mr. Charles E. Mitchell, and his predecessor, Mr. William T. Francis, who died in 1929, were coloured gentlemen.—Editor, AFRICAN WORLD.]

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16. Sep. 1935

The Manchester Guardian
Nr. 27771

COLOURED JOURNALIST AS
AMERICAN DIPLOMAT

The new United States Minister in Monrovia, Liberia, Mr. Lester A. Walton, is in London with his wife and two daughters. He sails for Liberia on Wednesday. He is a coloured man and the first accredited American Minister to Liberia since diplomatic relations with Liberia were broken off five years ago. It is his first diplomatic post.

Until this appointment to Liberia he was a journalist. For some years he was managing editor of the "New York Age," an important negro weekly. It was as a newspaper man that he visited Liberia two years ago to study conditions there. He went on to Geneva and saw the five-year plan formulated by the International Committee on Liberia submitted to the League Council and accepted. This plan, it will be remembered, was later rejected by Liberia.

"Now," Mr. Walton told a press correspondent yesterday, "President Barclay has drawn up a three-year plan like the International Committee's plan but providing that the chief adviser and other officials should be appointed by the Liberian Government instead of being named by the League. The new plan has actually been launched with the moral support of the American Government. A financial adviser, an American, has been appointed. The plan provides for economic rehabilitation, improvement of health and hygiene, development of the educational system, and improvement in the condition of the aboriginal natives."

One of Mr. Walton's daughters, who has been working under the Kindergarten Association of New York, hopes to start a kindergarten, which will be the first in Liberia. The other daughter plans to teach Americo-Liberians interpretive dancing.

Signatur

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Datum Okt. 1935

Afrika
Rundschau (Hamburg)

Nr. 6 . . .

Liberia

Der neuernannte amerikanische Gesandte für Liberia, Lester A. Walton, erklärte vor seiner Ausreise von London nach Monrovia, daß Präsident Barclay nach der Ablehnung des von dem internationalen Komitee ausgearbeiteten Fünfjahresplanes einen eigenen Dreijahresplan zur Durchführung bringen will. Daraus erwartet er eine starke Belebung des wirtschaftlichen Lebens.

The African World (London)

Nr. 1876

U.S.-LIBERIA CONSULAR CONVENTION.

("African World" Correspondent.)

MONROVIA, October 8.

The Republic of Liberia concluded with the United States of America a Consular Convention on October 7. This Consular Convention is the first to have been negotiated and concluded in the Republic. The Plenipotentiaries, His Excellency C. L. Simpson, the Liberian Secretary of State, and His Excellency Lester A. Walton, the American Minister, attached their signatures to the said instrument after nearly a year's negotiation.

The Consular Convention, among other things, defines the rights, prerogatives and immunities of Consular officers of each country in the territory of the other country. Only Consular officers not engaged in private occupations for profit and gain are accorded certain exemptions.

The United States of America and the Republic of Liberia, with the American diplomatic representative and the Liberian Secretary of State officiating as Plenipotentiaries, have negotiated and concluded during the year a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, an Extradition Treaty, and a Consular Convention. * * *

The Hon. Charles I. McCaskey, Financial Adviser to the Government of Liberia, left on furlough for America by the "Maaskerk" on October 6.

Mr. Henry Grimes, Assistant Radio Engineer of the Liberian Government Radio Station, was also a passenger for America by the "Maaskerk," where he will spend a year at the Radio Corporation of America.

Press Releases (Washington)

Nr. 475 -

LIBERIA: DEDICATION OF SITE FOR AMERICAN LEGATION

[Released October 31]

It has been reported to the Department in a telegram from Monrovia, that yesterday took place the dedication of the site of the new American Legation building which the United States Government plans to erect at the capital of the Republic of Liberia. The report states that the ceremony was attended by the Vice President of Liberia, by members of the Cabinet and of the Diplomatic Corps, as well as by the captain, officers, and men of the U. S. S. *Boise* present on a visit to the port of Monrovia. A large gathering, representing the local community and foreign residents, was also in attendance.

The Department is informed that after invocation by the Right Reverend Leopold Kroll, Episcopal Bishop of Liberia, a dedicatory address was delivered by the Honorable Lester Walton, American Minister to Liberia, which was followed by a benediction pronounced by the Reverend R. L. Embree. The American flag was then raised over the site of the new Legation building by Mrs. Walton, wife of the American Minister, while the band of the Liberian Frontier Force played the national anthem of the United States.

The report states further that in the course of his address Mr. Walton pointed out that the dedication of the site for a permanent Legation building coincided with the seventy-fifth anniversary of the initiation of treaty relations between Liberia and the United States, and declared that "by negotiating and concluding in 1938 three separate treaties, the two

democracies have attested their faith in treaties as an insulation against international misunderstanding and strife." The Minister added that the erection of a permanent Legation building by the United States Government was indicative of that Government's confidence in and regard for the stability of the Liberian Government. He referred also to the spontaneous warmth and the sincerity of the welcome given to the officers and crew of the U. S. S. *Boise*, the first American naval vessel to visit Monrovia in ten years.

[Released November 5]

It has been reported to the Department of State from Monrovia that on the evening of October 31 a reception was given by President Edwin Barclay and Mrs. Barclay in honor of Mr. Henry Villard, the Department's special representative, at the dedication of the site for the new American Legation building in Monrovia. Mr. Villard took that occasion to present to the Government of Liberia the flag which he had brought as a gift from the Phelps-Stokes Fund and which had been made from remnants of the bunting used in making the first Liberian flag more than two generations ago. In his speech of presentation Mr. Villard dwelt on the strong traditional ties of friendship between Liberia and the United States, and spoke in high praise of President Barclay's leadership, which, he said, had won respect and admiration in the United States and had given rise to confidence on the part of all Americans in the future of Liberia.

The report states also that President Barclay tendered a luncheon to Captain McCandlish and the officers of the U. S. S. *Boise*, now visiting in the port of Monrovia, and that at the conclusion of the luncheon Mr. Lester Walton, American Minister to Liberia, presented to President Barclay a gold pen as a gift from President Roosevelt.

In concluding the visit of the *Boise* to Monrovia the captain and officers held a reception on board attended by approximately five hundred Liberians and members of the American and foreign colony. The captain and Mr.

Henry Villard, the State Department's special representative, gave a farewell luncheon on board the ship.

The visit of the *Boise* has been described to the Department of State as an unqualified success. The vessel was enthusiastically welcomed by all Liberians as well as resident Americans. The hospitality of the Liberian Government and the hearty cooperation of the American colony contributed greatly to making this visit a memorable event in the history of American and Liberian relations.

The *Boise* sailed for Capetown on November 3.