

his mule? The gentle Sylvester, a detrital molecule about to be taken out, by a sort of hocus-magical Roosevelt, the Great will not wait upon Uncle Sylvester off the hook and talk

President, I'm a poor man, I've gone bad. The got to help me, Cap'n the President's bouncers Sylvester could tackle Sylvester. "Yes, yes, Sylvester, and he did. Moral: Even directly to the President

reater was: propagandists, a too much credence to an telephone the President it is difficult, most of or three thousand ordered ear of the President, rred "insiders," relatives thined and obstructed by

ed and beset Negroes been trying to get two months now. of the National colored People and their homes and several weeks in through The Association President hasn't neither has heard en. By now, these ng what kind of ere's their story:

There is one of the state. It is by Negro families been growing

step into that soil for a hundred years. These Negroes write a well-contained community with good schools, good churches and good homes.

Some time ago, an official of the Farm Settlement Administration came along with a bright idea. It was to take these families, lock, stock and barrel, and move them 30 miles away to a selected location in Madison Parish. The new location is less desirable, less fertile and has no schools nor churches. This location is called Thomastown.

Transylvania covers 9,000 acres; Thomastown, 150. Practically all the population of Transylvania is black. Sixty-six per cent of the population of Thomastown is black. It is proposed to move the 250 black families at Transylvania to Thomastown and the 34 per cent of whites to Transylvania.

Thus, if the present plans are carried out, all the Negro families of Transylvania and the 66 per cent of Negroes of Thomastown will be forced on the smaller, less desirable location and the 34 per cent of whites of Thomastown will have handed over to them the well-developed and larger Transylvania. The "land of their fathers" is to be snatched away from the Negroes of Transylvania.

The white businessmen near Transylvania do not want "their Negroes" to be moved. The white natives of Thomastown don't want to move either. Each group is satisfied where it is. Yet the officials of the Farm Settlement Administration persist in carrying out the plan.

These Negroes have not been consulted. The government has not answered promptly their letters regarding the matter and, when it has answered, has refused from giving direct answers to their questions.

Recent investigations conducted by Louisiana Negroes have disclosed an angle in the situation which government representatives in the area have not mentioned. White businessmen in Madison parish where Thomastown is located, have told Negro representatives that the real influence behind the scheme is a white plantation owner named Yerger. This man, they say, has 30,000 acres in the parish already with several cotton gins and an oil mill. He proposes, they continue, to buy the parish with Negro tenant farmers under his control. Tenant farmers, Negroes, now under his control, are reported to be virtual slaves.

... that conferences have already been held in regard to this matter. Dr. Will W. Alexander, director of the Farm Settlement Administration and former executive secretary of the Commission on Interracial Relations, has had the problem brought to his attention and has talked about it. But he has done nothing. Letters have been written to the Great White Father, but he, too, has done nothing, done nothing.

In the meantime, the plans proceed apace to oust these 250 Negroes from Transylvania parish from the land where their fathers died, to the land where they have wrought and builded in the hope that they had and what they made would be sternly theirs.

It is to be feared that the President knows something about this which is being planned for these Negro families, that the letters to the fathers and mothers have written to him have reached him, and he, apparently, are not operating on the same line used by the Farm Settlement Administration, working one thousand miles away, to oust the Negroes with a white landowner to create a situation of wage slavery.

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