

August 15-55

N.A.A.C.P.

4104 OCT 3 '55

*Chm*

I have on number of ~~see~~ times been called a communist because I associate with jews and negroes But it did not hurt as I never been or to tell the ~~the~~ truth I do not fully know what communism is. and I do not believe I ever spoke to one.

However here in Beloit Wis I have been warned not to try to get the negroes to go skating with the white people. and that is why I am sending you this letter. I also know a ~~one~~ negro boy who have reported ~~this~~ to the N.A.A.C.P that he have been refused to go skating at the Armory skating rink here in Beloit. and the newspaper advertisement said it was public skating. The manager of the skating rink was even so brave as to announce over the loud speaker that certain nights was for negroes on other nights for white people.

[2]

The Naa of here in Beloit have not done anything about the complain from this Negro boy. This case was an open violation of the segregation and very easy to prove.

If the Negroes are going to sit by doing nothing while a white person is being persecuted for being an American and talking freely to help the Negroes. Then I will promise ~~to~~ not to give any helping hand to NAACP.

However I have lot of Negroes friends and I will refuse to believe the NAACP ~~with~~ are just a political club to profit maybe on more unfortunate and a poorer class of Negroes.

I do believe in The Naa c p. Unless the headquarter <sup>of NAACP</sup> ~~convene~~ ~~are~~ ~~other~~ ~~wise~~ otherwise. ~~more~~ to my references are open to any person and my background are solid.

turn

(3) 108  
A Negroe living at ~~208~~ S. McKinley  
Beloit Wisconsin know more  
about this case.

~~I believe his name is~~

His name is Ambrose Gordon  
108 SOUTH MCKINLEY  
BELOIT WIS

an early reply will be  
appreciated.

I am enclosing a copy of  
a letter I just sent to the  
District Attorney of Rock County  
Wis.

There is a lot more to this  
and would be glad to testify for  
a jury. things that I otherwise  
must keep to myself.

I believe Ambrose Gordon should  
be contacted first, because  
I know there is a leak somewhere  
in your own organization, and  
I feel ~~at~~ sure Gordon ~~is~~ is OK.

I thank you.

For your information I am a  
college graduate and do have a fine  
position as a Designing Engineer

Edmond Bahlsted  
807 Garfield at Beloit Wis

While I was in Detroit I was  
also active in work for the right of  
Negroes. And I joined a skating club  
(at the Arcadia skating rink) for white  
and ~~white~~ Negroes. one of the men  
in the club was TARNIS DAVIS  
I forgot ~~the~~ his address but his  
Phone number was TR-4-2624 and  
I believe he was living on Jay road  
in Detroit  
also Walter Richardson 586 Garfield  
Detroit. The owner of the shoe shine  
shop accross from Hilton Hotel  
can also testify to my activities from a

year back.

I am sorry that I can not  
get this typed. Trying to do too  
much and ~~o~~ you will understand  
this I hope

Ed Babita

October 10, 1955

Mr. Edward Balsted  
807 Garfield Street  
Beloit, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Balsted:

Your letter of recent date to the NAACP has been referred to this office for consideration and reply.

We would like very much to be of assistance in any case involving race discrimination in Wisconsin and, particularly, in any case which the local branch in Beloit desires our assistance.

I understand from the Director of Branches that the NAACP has a branch in Beloit, the President of which is Miss Sadie Bell, 1132 Broad Street, Beloit, Wisconsin. I am sure that if you will bring to the attention of Miss Bell the case involving the discrimination in the skating rink in Beloit that she will be happy to come to the assistance of the person discriminated against.

I feel confident that the branch in Beloit will secure a competent Wisconsin attorney to bring the necessary legal action and will call upon us for whatever legal advice and assistance may be necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Constance Baker Motley  
Assistant Counsel

CBM/gr

cc: Miss Sadie Bell  
Mrs. Wilbur Halyard, Pres., State Con.

**Beloit Branch**  
**National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People**

Beloit, Wisconsin

1388 Athletic Ave.  
October 14, 1955

N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense +  
Educational Fund  
107 West 43rd St.  
New York 36, N.Y.

43-2 OCT 17 '55

C.B.M.

Dear sir:

In regards to letter recently received, about the matter of Mr Edward Balstad; - I am writing you, to dis-regard any mail you receive about the problem written to you, unless the president of Beloit Branch, of N.A.A.C.P., Miss Sadie Bell, or Mrs Leon Taylor, have been contacted or written.

Thanking you in advance.

Miss Sadie Bell - pres.

Mrs Leon Taylor - sec.

N. A. A. C. P. LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

107 West 43rd Street, New York 36, N. Y.

JUDSON 6-8397

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JACK GREENBERG  
CONSTANCE B. MOTLEY  
*Assistant Counsel*

October 20, 1955

Miss Sadie Bell, President  
Mrs. Leone Taylor, Secretary  
Beloit Branch, NAACP  
1328 Athletic Avenue  
Beloit, Wisconsin

*Use  
recreational  
facilities  
Beloit, Wis  
(Skating Rink)*

Dear Miss Bell and Mrs. Taylor:

Thank you for your letter of October 14. I would appreciate very much your giving me a further explanation regarding the letter which we received from Mr. Balstad. You simply say that I should disregard any mail which I receive about the problem unless the President of the Beloit Branch or the Secretary had been contacted or written. We do not disregard letters which we receive requesting assistance in a case involving race discrimination. Therefore, it is not clear to me what is meant by your letter.

Our procedure is to refer such cases to the local branch in order that a member of its legal redress committee may investigate the facts to determine what the facts are and then determine whether it is a case in which the local branch can give assistance or whether it is a case in which assistance is required from this office.

I would appreciate it if you would have a member of your Legal Redress Committee investigate the facts alleged regarding discrimination at the skating rink in Beloit and let me know what they are in order that we may determine what assistance, if any, we can give. If your branch feels that no assistance should be given in this case, please let me have your reasons for this conclusion.

Sincerely yours,

Constance Baker Motley  
Assistant Counsel

CBM/gr

October 20, 1955

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Mrs. Leone Taylor, Secretary  
Beloit Branch, NAACP  
1328 Athletic Avenue  
Beloit, Wisconsin

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CBM/gr