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M. J. MONROE, Secretary
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PAUL CUYLER, Treasurer
Mims, Fla.

National Officers

J. E. SPINGARN, President
WALTER WHITE, Secretary
MARY WHITE OVINGTON, Treas.

**National Association For The
Advancement of Colored People**

Brevard County, Fla., Branch

Executive Committee

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REV. PAUL SMITH
WM. SANCHIOUS
VAN WISHONANT
J. E. GILBERT
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RODERICK HARRIS
B. P. WARREN
P. D. L. WILLIAMS
HARRY MOORE
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M. J. MONROE
PAUL CUYLER

AUG 5 1937

Mims, Fla.

August 2, 1937

11307

Mr. Walter White

69 - 5th Ave.

New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. White:

We are about ready to file a suit against the educational inequalities in our county.

For several years we have investigated protests against these inequalities in the form of petitions to the Board of Education. Most of them, of course, have not been successful. However, the Board has been unwilling to take the school term out of the present session and have nine months.

Our fight now will center around the unequal salary scale for white and Negro teachers. Teachers

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Salaries are figured on a unit system based on professional experience, certificate, and number of years in college. The printed salary schedules sent out by the Board have these provisions:

White teachers - basic salary \$50, unit value \$3,
minimum salary \$100.

Negro teachers - basic salary \$20, unit value \$2,
minimum salary \$50.

Suppose, for example, a white and Negro teacher both have the same qualification, amounting to 20 units. The white teacher's salary would be $\$50 + (3 \times 20) = \110 . The Negro teacher's salary would be $\$20 + (2 \times 20) = \60 .

The fact that most of the money for teachers' salaries now comes from the State makes this system even more discriminatory. The State appropriates annually \$800 for each teacher unit. Counties are supposed to supplement the State appropriation in order to provide a decent wage for teachers. In our county, however, (and in

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most counties of Florida.) Negro teachers are not paid even the \$800 sent out by the State. Last term every negro teacher in the county, principals included, received less than \$100 per month for an eight-month term. All white teachers' salaries, of course, ranged from \$100 per month up.

We have had a personal conference with Attorney S. D. Mc-Sell of Jacksonville, and I think we have a good case. He has agreed to take the case for \$500. His original suggestion was to enter suit in either the State Supreme Court or Federal District Court. He is to give us more definite information within the next few days. If you have any suggestions or information that might help him with the case, we shall appreciate it if you will write him to 610 West Duval St. Jacksonville Fla.

We are also asking the National Office for a donation to help finance the suit. Any amount that you may be able to give will be highly appreciated.

A victory for this county in a high court will be a legal victory for the entire state.

Please let us hear from you as early as possible.
Sincerely,

Harry T. Moore, Pres.