

# Shrine Nobles Set For Historic Chicago Meeting

The Shriners are in Chicago for what promises to be a historic and decision packed convention. For the next week the halls of the Conrad Hilton hotel and the Chicago Coliseum will echo with the sounds of men and women busily engaged in vital projects.

Originating in the ancient city of Mecca in 647 A. D., the Order of The Mystic Shrine was organized as a vigilante committee to punish criminals by dispensing justice and as a group to protect the weak and oppressed.

Today the Shrine is one of the most powerful and vocal fraternal organizations in America. One of the primary issues to be settled here by the more than 5,000 delegates is how to dispose of over \$300,000 earmarked for medical research.

The funds, collected in the past ten years by the organization's

Cancer and Tuberculosis Research Foundation, are available to institutions and individuals for research. To date the foundation has awarded \$123,000 in grants. Last year in their Philadelphia convention the Shriners voted to make grants for research purposes in all fields of medicine.

Monday's session will be highlighted by the appearance of two distinguished speakers, Thurgood Marshall, general counsel of the NAACP and J. Ernest Wilkins, assistant to the Secretary of Labor. Monday's key-note address will

be delivered by the Imperial Potentate, Booker T. Alexander, of Detroit, Mich. The delegates from the 150 temples across the nation will hear from Alexander the Shrine position on international affairs with special emphasis on the Near East situation. It is expected that Alexander will also spell out a program for solving some of the national economic and educational problems facing Negroes.

Recently the Shriner's have been active participants in a bold program of possible far-reaching importance to Negro business. Through regular depositing of their surplus funds, the Shriners presently have deposits exceeding \$100,000 in banks managed by Negroes. The latest developments in this program will be revealed in sharper detail during the conven-

tion.

The first public event of the week-long conclave will be the Annual Shrine Golf Tournament at Pipe 'O Peace Country Club on Sunday, Aug. 17.

Hosting the convention is Arabic Temple 44, headed by Illustrious Potentate Benjamin A. Gore, General chairman of the convention is Corneal Davis, member of the Illinois legislature.

Monday evening Chicagoans will witness a gigantic twilight parade along South Parkway featuring 26 beauty queens from Temples all over the U. S., who will be honored later that night as a group in a cabaret party at the Archway Lounge, 356 E. 61st st.

Another exciting event, scheduled the first time for Chicago will be the Second Annual Music Festival Competition, which will be held in the main hall of the Coliseum Tuesday, Aug. 19. The various musical units will be un-

der the direction of Chicago band-leader Walter Dyeit, a Noble and Imperial Director of Bands.

The reminder of scheduled events open to the public are: a competitive precision drill session at 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 29; a mammoth daylight parade on the South Side at 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 20 which will last approximately three hours with an estimated 5,000 marchers participating; the annual Talent and Beauty Pageant at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 20 at the Coliseum; and finally the Imperial Potentate's Ball at 9 p.m. on Aug. 21.

Joining the Shriners in convention will be their sister organization, The Daughters of Isis, headed by National Commandress Mrs. Ercelle Harper Moore of Buffalo, N. Y. Mrs. Eleanor Gibson, Illustrious Potentate, of Chicago is head of the local chapter of the Daughters, who will act as hostesses to the convention.



STROTHER CABULLE  
 Director Of Public Relations



JOHN R. WESTON  
 1st Ceremonial Master



THOMAS W. ROBINS  
 Capt. Of The Brutal Brothers



ESQUIRE BUCKNER  
 Recorder



JOHN MARSHALL  
 Chief Rabban



HENRY G. FORT  
 Promotional Director



ALBERT J. DORSEY  
 Outer Guard