Still More to Be Done

By TREZZVANT W. ANDERSON
(Courier Staff Writer)

Isaiah Nixon, 28-year-old Georgia farmer-veteran, gave his life on the altar of race prejudice that others might enjoy the privileges of citizenship, and from the four corners of America, citizens of this great Nation did not forget his heroic sacrifice. From an Alabama church in the hometown of Cudjoe Lewis, a slave who reached America aboard the last slave ship which docked, came the first contribution from any church in the Nation, quickly followed by others. From an humble tenement basement flat in Chicago, the touched hearts of a family brought a swift response in a donation of $30—which, in all probability that same family needed almost as much as the Nixon family. It was typical of the way America opened her heart to the Nixon family and responded to the call for aid published in The Courier several weeks ago. And it made for a far more cheerful Christmas for the Nixons than that unhappy family ever dared dream was possible.

From other parts of the Nation came contributions and expressions of sympathy and encouragement from both whites and Negroes. They constituted a cross-section of the population of this democracy in which the life of Isaiah Nixon was torn away without yet having exacted justice for his killers, who, in keeping with the most ignoble traditions of the South, walk the streets as free men—because they were white!

From Pasadena, Calif., came a $10 donation from another family which had felt tragedy in a shocking and brutal manner when their nephew, Robert Mallard, was shot to death by a masked mob of white ambushers on Nov. 20, 1948, on a lonely country road less than fifteen miles away from where Isaiah Nixon was murdered just weeks before.

FIRST HOLIDAY GIFT

Printer Irvin B. Reed of Huntington, W. Va., sent $10, as did Dr. J. Dwight Martin of Charlotte, N. C., a dentist. Henry E. W. Blount of Greensville, Va., sent $10 and it was his “first gift of the holiday season.”

Edward C. Franklin, a white citizen of Buffalo, N. Y., sent in a donation with the note that he wished “to do something toward the ultimate achievement of equal rights for our Negro brothers and sisters.” Philadelphia—no one bothered to sign his name—sent in a $10 contribution, and a Pacific Northwesterner, James J. Harris of North Richland, Wash., sent in his gift of money.

Just as typical was the fact that on Monday morning the postman walked into The Courier office in Pittsburgh with a huge parcel from a family at 500 Anderson Street in Franklin, Ohio, containing gifts for the Nixons.

America was answering The Courier’s call and our challenge now is to you, you and your: Much more is needed and our goal is “A Home for the Nixons.” Won’t you do your part to help this worthy cause? Send your gifts or donations to: The Nixons Fund, The Pittsburgh Courier, P. O. Box 1828, Pittsburgh 30, Pa., and you will be helping a family to really understand the brotherhood of man.