

Col. Spingarn had not endorsed a political figure before in his 22 years of public life.

In a speech at Toledo, the Colonel said:

"I have waited 22 years before I could point to a man in high political office whom I could trust and ask my Negro friends to trust. I salute Franklin D. Roosevelt as a true friend of the American Negro and I pray to God that he be elected.

"I am endorsing no party," he went on, "but it is of the utmost importance to you that Mr. Roosevelt be re-elected. I am speaking for him and for him only."

"The year 1908 was the last year until 1936 that the Republican Party had a plank in its platform in the interest of the American Negro. The Republicans felt that they didn't need you. They knew you were going to vote for them. They got you for nothing. Now they are not sure of you and I welcome the fact that there are now thousands of Negro Democrats to worry the Republicans.

"There is no man in America today who is more free of race prejudice than Mr. Roosevelt. In addition he has the courage of his convictions. The American Negro can trust Mr. Roosevelt. He has done a great deal for the race, but what he has done is not one-tenth of what he intends to do."

"He cited numerous benefits that have come to the Negro under the Roosevelt Administration through Relief Administration, the National Youth Administration, the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Federal Housing Administration.

"For the sake of social justice for the Negro I wish both presidential candidates were trustworthy," Colonel Spingarn said. "But Mr. Landon is not right. He comes to the presidential candidacy without one real Negro friend. He is not safe for the Negro people. His record in respect to the Negro people in Kansas is not good."

"He lauded the Roosevelt Administration for "treating the Negro with equality."

"President Roosevelt has made every effort to have each man treated according to his need and not according to his color," he declared.

* * * * *

CHARGES FIVE FIRED FOR BACKING LANDON

The Witchita Eagle carries the following story, apparently politically-inspired:

"W. G. Johnston, Republican state chairman, claimed that he termed "the