to live. The Committee on Congestion of Population in New York city called the national congress with the idea of presenting to the American public this hygienic and social phase of city planning.

A CITY PLAN FOR NEW YORK

As a direct outgrowth of the City Planning Exhibition held under the auspices of the Committee on the Congestion of Population and the Municipal Art Society, an organization will shortly be effected to secure a city plan for New York. Two special conferences were held, the first attended by representatives of some thirty organizations interested in civic, social, economic, political and artistic improvement; and the latter by representatives of fifty-five such organizations, who voted unanimously in favor of a permanent committee. This will comprise a president and five vice-presidents, one from each borough, none of whom is yet chosen. Benjamin C. Marsh will be executive secretary and George B. Ford corresponding secretary. The other officers will be announced shortly.

The committee is to study ways and means of securing a city commission to be appointed by the mayor, which can study and advise and have power to act in all matters relative to a definite city plan for New York. This body differs from previous city improvement commissions in that it will pay special attention to the hygienic and social sides of the question. When the committee has decided on a plan of action, it is to report to the general conference.

In the formation of the committee, the city planning exhibit as held at the Twenty-second Regiment Armory, has definitely accomplished the object for which it was intended,—that is, to put the study of city planning on a definite and permanent basis.

CONFERENCE ON STATUS OF NEGRO

A significant National Conference on the Status of the American Negro will be held in New York on May 31 and June 1. The morning and evening sessions on the first day will be open to the public. The subject of the first meeting will be Race Prejudice Viewed from a Scientific Standpoint, with William H. Ward presiding, and papers by Prof. Livingston Farrand of Columbia and Prof. Burt G. Wilder of Cornell, and discussion opened by Prof. John Dewey: The second session will be a public meeting at Cooper Union, with Judge Wendell P. Stafford of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in the chair, and addresses by the Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Clarence Darrow, Prof. John Spencer Bassett, Rev. J. Milton Waldron and Prof. W. E. B. DuBois. The other sessions, which are not open to the public, have as their subjects, The Civil and Political Status of the Negro, Industrial and Educational Status, The Negro and the Nation. Among the speakers announced are Oswald Garrison Villard, Edwin D. Meade, the Rt. Rev. Alexander Walters, Mrs. Celia Parker Wooley, Leslie Pinckney Hill, Mrs. Ida Wells Barnett, William A. Sinclair, Dr. William Bulkeley, Joseph C. Manning and Ray Stannard Baker.

The conference, it is expected, will tackle its ticklish subject with the well-informed breadth of view exemplified by a timely article in the May World's Work by Professor DuBois on Georgia Negroes and Their Fifty Millions of Savings. In spite of bank failures and defalcations and every possible discouragement, the Georgia blacks have saved money and bought land. Emancipation, in 1863, "spelled poverty, complete and dire poverty, to the black man who for the first time was thrown on his own resources." The state helped a little at first, providing work and some cheap land, but soon gave it up, leaving the Negro to fight his way. In forty-four years he gained and held property assessed at twenty-five million dollars, probably worth twice as much at market rates. Negroes own one-twenty-fourth of the soil of the state, and one-twentieth of the cultivated land—a total of 1,420,888 acres, or 2,220 square miles—more than the whole state of Delaware. The number of landholders is
increasing, the value of their farms rising, more live stock and better tools are used—the Negro farmer is coming up in spite of everything. Other industrial classes are considered and out of it all Professor DuBois concludes that “these figures are absolute proof of nothing, but they are certainly hopeful. If they teach anything, they teach that the tendency to save, here manifest, should be encouraged. It is not being encouraged today. . . . What the Negro needs and what the South needs are postal savings banks.”

RESULTS OF A DRY YEAR

For a year now Worcester, Mass., has been without a saloon. It is the first city of more than 100,000 population to vote no-license twice in succession and the first to apply local option on such a scale. Cities larger than Worcester are “dry,” but under a state prohibition law. Other cities have been without saloons for a longer period, notably Cambridge with a record of twenty-two liquorless years, but conditions have been quite different. Worcester is in the very heart of a large local option territory; Cambridge conveniently near the saloons of Boston.

The Massachusetts No-License League has issued a summary of the past year in Worcester. Arrests have greatly declined—for drunkenness from 3,924 to 1,843; for assault and battery from 382 to 263; for larceny from 343 to 255; for neglect and non-support from 112 to 87; for disturbing the peace from 210 to 109. Patients in the alcoholic ward at the city hospital decreased from 274 to 144, and deaths from alcoholism from 30 to 6. The report points out that the city’s total deaths from all causes were 2,560 as against 2,120 the year before, “which may be a mere coincidence.”

A special squad of eight police has watched over illegal sale of intoxicants. 381 arrests were made, and 346 brought to trial. Of these, 51 were discharged, 241 convicted, and some cases are pending. 29 have served jail sentences. 2,625 search warrants were issued during the year and some places raided a dozen times to secure sufficient evidence.

THE NEW GEOGRAPHY.

BLACK, LICENSE; WHITE, NO-LICENSE.

A generation ago children were taught that “Massachusetts is bounded on the north by Vermont and New Hampshire, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by Connecticut, and on the west by New York. The capital is Boston on the Charles.” To-day they recite that “Massachusetts has 20 cities and 261 towns no-license to 13 cities and 60 towns license, a gain of 9 cities and 14 towns by a majority vote of 48,558 since May 1, 1908. Boston, the capital, has saloons, but Worcester is the largest dry city in the world.”