

For Release

Wed. June 5, 1935

Banner

Miss Zora Neale Hurston, author of "Johah's Gourd Vine", will speak at Bennington College on "The Negro in American Life", with emphasis on music and dance phases. The meeting will be held in the College Theatre on Thursday, June 6, at 7.30 p.m. Those interested in attending are cordially invited to do so.

Miss Hurston, who is a Negress, was born at Eatonville, Florida, the first incorporated Negro town in America. After attending the grammar school there, she studied at the High School at Morgan Academy in Baltimore. She then spent two years at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and then went to Barnard College, Columbia University, from which institution she received her B. A. degree in 1928. On graduation she received a fellowship in anthropology and spent three yeaes doing research in the south. She has contributed articles to several scientific journals, including the American Folk-Lore Journal and the Ethnological Journal, and she belongs to several scientific societies.

Miss Hurston's first book, "Johah's Gourd Vine", was published in 1933 $\frac{1}{2}$. Her second, "Mules and Men", will be off the press in September of this year. She is now engaged in writing a third book called "The Delegate to Life" which will be published by Lippincott in Philadelphia. Last fall she received a Rosenwald fellowship to study for her doctor's degree at Columbia University, ~~but, feeling that her spirit is cramped, she plans to resign from it in June.~~

In addition to her writing Miss Hurston has done concert work in Negro folk-music in New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Florida. Her visit to Bennington is anticipated with much interest.