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THE ATLANTA DAILY WORLD is an independent newspaper non-sectarian and non-partisan, printing news as accurately as possible and supporting those things it believes to be to the interest of its readers.

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Our Thanks to Mrs. Hamilton

During its 60-year existence, the Atlanta Urban League has contributed mightily to the welfare and growth of the total community. For the past seventeen and one-half years, this agency has been led by Mrs. Grace Towns Hamilton, who on September 1 leaves its directorship for a position with the National Women's Christian Association as Community Relations Consultant in the Southern Region. This period of service, longest in the chronology of the executive staff of the Atlanta League, saw some of its most notable accomplishments. It is therefore fitting that we pause to pay tribute to Mrs. Hamilton's fine qualities of leadership and her staff which helped make progressive Atlanta the much hailed metropolis it is today.

Following the Atlanta Urban League's report of Public School Facilities for Negroes in Atlanta, published in 1944, officials moved to improve inadequate facilities and services. Among other things, prior to this report, public schools attended by Negro children had neither kindergartens nor clerks employed for assistance in school routines.

The development of Hughes Spalding Pavilion of Grady Memorial Hospital followed the Atlanta Urban League's Report of Hospital Care for Negroes in Atlanta. Gaps in public health facilities and services for Negroes had been pointed out by the League, under Mrs. Hamilton's guidance, as early as 1948. The Pavilion has paved the way for a progressive graduate medical training program for Negro physicians utilizing the tax supported public hospital.

The Atlanta League's Report of Parks and Public Recreational Facilities for Negroes in Atlanta (1954), led to improvement of recreational facilities in the metropolitan area.

Another outstanding Urban League accomplishment is the development of a housing program, which has achieved national attention and recognition. It was developed under Robert A. Thompson, Jr., who succeeds Mrs. Hamilton as executive secretary of the Atlanta agency. There have been many other programs and services to Atlanta for which the community extends a hearty thanks to Mrs. Hamilton.

It is to be hoped that she will find many more years of useful and enjoyable service in her new position with the national Young Women's Christian Association.