Membership Drive Opens

NAACP Seeking 2,000 New Enrollees

“Freedom Is Not Free” is the theme of the 1951 membership drive of the Grand Rapids chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which the organization is seeking a total membership of 2,000, according to Floyd H. Skinner, president of the local branch.

Describing the organization’s increase in membership the last few years, Skinner declared the group consisted of only 220 members in 1948 and last year enrolled 1,500 members. Grand Rapids has the second largest NAACP branch in the state, topped only by Detroit which has 5,000 members, he said.

Detective Capt. Walter W. Coe, campaign director, reported four division commanders of the present campaign committee are Mrs. Martha Reynolds, Mrs. C. Colston Hill, Sullivan Hill and Frank LaMar. More than 400 individuals are working on the membership drive, he said.