

# Jackie Robinson Speaks To Elks

BY J. B. HARREN  
WASHINGTON, D. C.—“We are at the crossroads in our fight for civil rights,” Jackie Robinson, former baseball star who is co-chairman of the NAACP life membership committee, told the more than 3,000 delegates to the 59th grand lodge convention of the IBPOW meeting here at Metropolitan Baptist Church on R Street.

Robinson said it was “quite a shock to hear President Eisenhower say we must educate the people into compliance of the mandates of the U. S. Supreme Court’s decision on segregation.”

“How in the world can we do that?” Jackie asked. “If we are going to continue to educate them separately in a Jim Crow school system?”

The popular baseball star said “We (Negroes) must take the bull by the horns and unite to fight our own battles to get civil rights. Colored people all over the world, Robinson noted, who have united in this struggle

for freedom, are watching eagerly what is happening in America and the extent to which colored Americans are participating in their own defense.

“We must take up our own fight,” Robinson emphasized.

Regarding colored children going to white schools, Jackie reminded that colored as well as white taxpayers’ money supported all the schools and had an equal right to share in the use of them.

Robinson pleaded with the Elks to continue to support the NAACP \$500 life membership drive by paying as little as \$50 per year on an individual or lodge basis. For others he urged the taking of smaller memberships, emphasizing that “We need the numerical as well as the financial strength to carry on our freedom fight.”

Hobson Reynolds, civil liberties commissioner for the Elks, responded to Jackie and eloquently pleaded the support of Elksdom to a stepped-up NAACP membership and registration-vote campaign.

# Many Of The 1 Million Korean Vets Who Stopped GI Training Will Soon Get Another Chance

Many of the 1,000,000 Korea veterans who dropped out of GI training will get a new chance to resume their education this fall under a Veterans Administration ruling announced by Sumner G. Whitner, Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

Whitner said that veterans who had interrupted their training for more than 12 consecutive months, and whose GI Bill cut-off dates had passed.

A veteran’s cut-off date for starting GI training course three years from his discharge from the armed forces. Once that date passes, a veteran in training under the Korean GI Bill is allowed by law to interrupt his studies for up to 12 months, without needing VA approval.

But if he interrupts longer than that, he may resume training only


if he can show VA that the interruption in excess of 12 months was due to reasons beyond his control. Mr. Whitner explained that VA’s new ruling amounts to a liberalization of what the VA will consider to be reasons beyond a veteran’s control.

Many of the 1,000,000 former GI trainees who weren’t eligible to resume training under VA’s old procedures now will become eligible under the new, he said.

The VA ruling will permit a veteran to get back into GI training if he shows that he interrupted his course for any of these reasons:

1. Family or financial obligations beyond his control that made it necessary for him to suspend training in order to get a job.
2. Unavoidable conditions in connection with his employment that forced him to suspend his training.

## Things You Should Know



# TARIK-BIN-ZIAD

A SLAVE-BORN LEADER, HE BECAME COMMANDER OF THE MOORISH ARMY IN THEIR INVASION OF SPAIN, IN ISLAM, THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR—CALLED “JEBEL-U-TARIK”—WAS NAMED AFTER HIM. HE IS GREATLY GLORIFIED BY TURKISH HISTORIANS!

CONTINENTAL FEATURES

# American Legion Bars Sepians From Teen-Age Beauty Contest

ATLANTA — (AP) — American Legion officials disclosed last week that Negroes will not be allowed to participate in a Legion-sponsored contest.

The fifth district of the American Legion, sponsor of a “Miss Teen Age American” beauty contest, said the contest “will be operated under the laws of the state of Georgia” and “there will be no Negroes entered in the contest.”

The controversy came to light when a white beauty queen, Miss Sarah Gordon, Troy, N. Y., chosen as Miss Teen Age, and her sponsor, Sam Nicholson, sent a telegram of withdrawal from the contest. They presented against racial segregation, Nicholson is general manager of a New York radio station.

However, Walter D. Gwin, contest secretary, said that if any state wished to submit a Negro entrant, she would be accepted. Gwin and other officials of the organization had no comment on the Legion’s statement.

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# Bill Thompson Elected Prexy Of Bar Ass'n

CHICAGO (AP) — William B. Thompson, Washington, D. C. attorney, was reelected by acclamation, president of the National Bar Association at its 33rd Annual Convention here in Chicago. The entire incumbent slate of officers was also reelected. The election came at the con-

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clusion of one of the most successful conventions in the history of the National Bar Association. Dedications were from most of the States in the Union. Awards for distinguished achievement were presented to Wiley T. Branton, Esquire.



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# Daughter Elks Name Officers

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Using a new voting system, 1,020 delegates to the annual convention of the Daughters of I. B. P. O. E. of W. elected officers for the coming year. Mrs. Esther R. Peterson of Tuckahoe, New York was elected Grand Vice, Dr. E. Ruler and Mrs. Rhoda P. Colton of Washington, D. C. was named Grand Assistant Daughter Ruler.

Mrs. Buena V. Kelly, Norfolk, Va., and Mrs. Pearl Brown of Baltimore were returned to the offices of Grand Daughter Secretary and Grand Daughter Treasurer respectively.

No election was held for the top post of Grand Daughter Ruler since Mrs. Nettie Carter Jackson of Staten Island, N. Y., was elected to a two-year term last year.

Mrs. Fender J. Brown of Philadelphia was unopposed for the office of Grand Recorder and returned to the post. Mrs. Rosa Coffee of Ohio was named Grand Assistant Recorder.

Trustees of the organization, elected to three, two and one year terms respectively were Mrs. Mary Coleman and Mrs. Mary Spriggs, Gladys Williams of New Jersey.

Other officers elected included both of Washington, D. C. and Mrs. Mrs. Nettie B. Smith, Grand Daughter Chaplain; Mrs. Lutherae Adams, Los Angeles, Grand Escort; Mrs. Rachel Corothers, New York, Grand Doorkeeper; Mrs. Willa T. Moss, Philadelphia, Grand Gatekeeper; Mrs. Annabele Reid, New York, Grand Directress of Education; and Mrs. Ann Rogers, Indiana, Grand Directress of Arts and Crafts.

The 1958 election marked the organization’s first use of the Australian Ballot. Voting by states, each delegation marched to the polling areas behind the standard of their state.

The six-day session closed after a full program which included a leadership training workshop, a pageant depicting the history of the organization, and achievement awards dinner, tours of embassies a Talent and Beauty Contest and numerous social events.

An allowable 12-month period of suspension that comes to an end during vacation, recess or some other time when it isn’t possible to re-enter school.

While it’s up to the veteran to prove that his suspension in excess of 12 months is a valid one, Mr. Whitner has ordered that all reasonable doubt be resolved in

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