

# NEGRO VOTE TO HOLD BALANCE

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# CIVIL SERVICE FOR AGENCY WORKERS

## Community Chest Drive Opens With 100 Workers

### Say Agencies Organized By New Deal May Be Perpetuated In Office

WASHINGTON—ANP—Passage of the Ramspeck bill, now being considered by house and senate conferees, indicates a perpetuation in office of the various employes now in the various alphabetical agencies organized under the New Deal. It is asserted here by opponents of the bill.

Taking some 200,000 persons and giving them civil service status in all agencies excepting the WPA which is regarded as a temporary agency, adds to the already heavy civil service roll of some 900,000 persons.

Contrary to general opinion, the majority of these workers are scattered throughout the country and are part and parcel of the various organizations affected by the New Deal.

Included in the lists of persons to be affected by this new blanket law are a number of well known Negroes who would qualify under the examination, including Mary McLeod Bethune; Dr. Frank Horne of the housing authority; Joseph H. B. Egan of the NYA, Emmer Lancaster of the department of commerce, W. A. Trent of the PWA and numerous COC executives who serve as educational advisors and such for that unit. In the Reconstruction Finance corporation, there are some 60 or more messengers who would be included in the general blanket in the scores of NYA persons who hold supervisory jobs throughout the country.

Not include in this bill would be the WPA workers and officials, inasmuch as the WPA is considered a temporary organization. The same would hold true of the National Defense commission, which deals with the national emergency, and also is considered temporary.

Under the provisions of the bill, a person would have to be on the job for six months before he or she would be eligible for the qualifying examination. This precludes the inclusion of T. Arnold Hill, recently named as Mrs. Bethune's assistant.

Discussions have been hot and heavy in the hearings on the matter and the conferees have had some 32 points to consider and adjust before the report was made ready. All of the points which were adopted were included in the report, the most important of which was the elimination of the photograph from the civil service applications and the substitution of fingerprints.

However, there seems to be a definite trend toward the adop-

### Negro Regiments Are Ordered To Camp For Year's Training

NEW YORK—Acting in conformity with President Roosevelt's new organization plan for our National Defense, Harlem's 369th Anti-aircraft regiment and Illinois' 184th Field Artillery, were ordered to camp this week for a period of one year's training. The two regiments were recently transferred from the infantry division to their present status as part of the anti-aircraft and artillery brigades.

The 369th regiment under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis will go into training at Osewego, N. Y., while the Illinois outfit headed by Col. William J. Warfield will be encamped at Camp Custer, near Battle Creek, Mich. In assigning the two Negro regiments, the war department is carrying out the President's orders to provide adequate opportunity for Negroes in the new regular army setup.

The 372 Infantry, National Guard Unit, of the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio and Massachusetts, have been reorganized and will be brought up to full war strength under the command of Col. W. A. Hamilton. Lieut. Col. H. Donovan Queen will be second in command.

With the enactment of the Selective Service Draft, the President announced that several new Colored Regiments would be organized and that existing regiments of the Ramspeck bill, which has had the attention of the entire "temporary" governmental employes finally for a number of months.

The passage of the bill will meet with the approval of those now in office and insure their retention through the years as part of the civil service. As one proponent of the bill said, it is far better that these people now in this service should be retained than to have a new group unfamiliar with governmental techniques come in with a change of administration and have to learn all over what should be done and how to do it at the expense of the people they are supposed to serve.

organizations of the regular army and the National Guard would be expanded. The expansion was to effect both combat and service organizations such as Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers and Quartermasters.

President Roosevelt's attitude in approving plans to integrate the Negro into all branches of our national defense under conscription, departs definitely from the system that was practiced in 1917, when Negro draftees were herded into labor battalions and assigned to other menial tasks.

The first step in the move to see that the Negro is treated squarely was shown when it was revealed that nine-percent of the men selected for military service under the draft would be drawn from the Negro population which constitutes nine percent of the total population of the country. The quota to be supplied by the Negroes was set at 36,000.

As soon as the first men are brought into the service, it is planned to expand all these units to full war strength. The creation of additional colored combat organizations is now under consideration.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority, in cooperation with the Army, is making a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service. Pilots, mechanics and other specialists must first be trained as a prerequisite for the formation of colored aviation units.

### CLAIM STATE DRAFT BOARD LABOR FOES

WASHINGTON—ANP—The American Peace Mobilization charged here last week that state draft boards are being "loaded" with businessmen at the expense of labor to facilitate a nationwide drive against America's social benefits and standards of living, and dedicated the entire month of October as national month for repeal month, to speed the repeal of conscription.



The annual session of the Committee on Negro Affairs which was held Sunday afternoon reflected R. N. Harris, (left) secretary and placed two new members on the Executive Committee, D. B. Martin, (right)



prominent young insurance executive and Dr. A. Henningburg, member of the N. C. College faculty.

ON NEGRO AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### Local Bank Reports Gains

Durham — In a recent statement issued by C. C. Spaulding, President, the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of Durham and Raleigh, North Carolina sets a high record for service to its customers.

During the period from January 1, 1940 to June 30, 1940, this bank made 1,492 new loans totaling \$240,408.05, the average amount of each loan being approximately \$160.00. During the same period, the same institution granted renewals of 1,761 other loans aggregating \$1,592,765.80.

The Bank's President pointed out that this record was not only indicative of the type of service rendered by this institution to the Negro citizens of North Caro-

lina, but that it also reflected the high type of clientele which patronizes the bank. He also pointed out that these figures were in refutation of current charges being made throughout this country that banks are not taking their share of the lending required to sustain our national economy and that the records of most other banks will show a similar amount of activity.

Climaxing his statement, Mr. Spaulding noted that the condition of most banks in the United States is excellent and that in this respect, his institution was no exception. He also stated that it was fully prepared to shoulder its share of the "defense program."

### Negro Division Of Local Chest To Canvass All Homes

Durham — J. J. Henderson, Chairman of the Negro Division of the 1940 Durham Community Chest Fund announces that the organization of this year's Campaign has been completed, and that all workers assembled in the Hillside High School Cafeteria Wednesday evening, October 9, 1940 at 7:30 o'clock for the "kick off" meeting to receive final instructions, and the drive will actually begin.

Geo. W. Mumford of the Home Security Insurance Company and Vice president of the Durham Community Fund Headquarters, attended the "kick off" meeting and made a very inspiring talk urging all workers to make this year's campaign the most successful yet.

More than one hundred women and men have been selected to canvass every home and business in the city during the drive, determined to make this year's

participation the greatest and most successful yet. Nineteen hundred dollars make up the goal for the Negro Division in this year's Community Chest Fund Campaign.

The complete personnel of the organization of the Division, headed by J. J. Henderson of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company staff; J. H. Wheeler, Cashier, Mechanics and Farmers Bank; Prof. J. S. Schooler, Principal of Lyon Park School, and Miss N. M. Cox, Executive Secretary of the Harriet Tubman Branch of the Y; along with Dr. J. E. Shepard, C. C. Spaulding, Rev. J. A. Valentin and Rev. M. M. Fisher, advisors as follows:

Initial Gifts Committee  
W. J. Kennedy, Jr., and W. H. Hill, Co-chairman; Rev. S. P. Perry, Dr. E. R. Randolph, Attorney C. O. Pearson, Messrs E. R. Merrick, R. L. McDougald,

### Three Million Negroes To Cast Ballots In Presidential Race

### Harlem Political Heads Predicts Reelection Of Roosevelt

New York — Mrs. Ruth Brown Price, co leader to Hubert I. Bruce in Harlem's 21st Assembly District, declared this week that "President Roosevelt will be re-elected for a third term," despite the weak argument to the contrary. Mrs. Price's prediction was made during a press conference at the Beaver-Ramapo Club Tuesday.

With her at the time was Mrs. Bertha Green, co-leader to Assemblyman Danny Burrows in the 19th Assembly District. Both Mrs. Green and Mrs. Price, are among this city's most active women political workers.

"I don't see how anyone," Mrs. Price said, "can have the slightest fear about Mr. Roosevelt becoming a dictator, nor why they should have any fear about the third term. It is the weakest possible argument yet, and it indicates that the Republicans have no other argument."

Willie because of his established virtues? No, they're only interested in defeating the ablest President this nation ever had. Will they risk the security, unity and progress, under Roosevelt, for the inexperience of Wilkie? Well, I hope not and I am sure that Harlem voters will back up what I am saying on election day."

Mrs. Green, just as staunch a supporter of President Roosevelt as Mrs. Price, said: "I am firmly convinced that most people are just as enthusiastic about the President being re-elected as I am. Look back to the Hoover regime, recalling how our people joined others in the soup lines, begging for employment, our children fainting at school for the lack of food, I can't imagine anyone thinking seriously about voting for Wilkie."

### Durham Singer Gets Prominent PWA Post

Mrs. Nell Hunter, Assistant Director of the PWA Music Project in North Carolina, after repeated requests from Washington made to the Headquarters, has been loaned to Washington headquarters of the NYA. Mrs. Hunter has been made Special Assistant Director of NYA National Music Project.

This is a rather peculiar distinction for Mrs. Hunter following an observation of her work in N. C. made by National Authorities. The work is of national scope, having to do with test studies of Negro choruses thru out the nation. Mrs. Hunter spent the past week in Washington and Philadelphia, spending Sunday evening at home on her way south to Birmingham, Ala. On completion of her work there she will return to Washington, to be routed through the Northwest thence to California.

NEW YORK—In the many presidential election polls conducted to date, while President Roosevelt holds a decided edge, it is believed that the Negro vote will be the decisive factor. In the Gallup survey of recent date, the poll showed that the election was to be decided in key states like New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, New Jersey, West Virginia and Va.

In most of the above named states, it is claimed that the decision will be reached by a very close margin, in which case, the Negro vote is certain to prove the decisive factor.

In New York for an instance, both Democratic and Republican leaders claim that the Negro vote will reach close to 200,000 if not more. Herbert L. Bruce, Democratic Leader of the 21st Assembly District, Manhattan, N. Y., expects a registration of more than 35,000 while Daniel Burrows, also a Democrat and leader of the 19th Assembly Districts the registration figures will total another 30,000 and with the Porto Rican vote, "two thirds colored" Harlem alone will send more than 10,000 Negro voters to the polls.

Brooklyn will be good for another 35,000, while the Bronx, Queens and the outlying communities will add at least 12,000 or 15,000 more. Ustate New York, will contribute another 25,000 and this vote with the votes of lower Manhattan, will bring the total to the 200,000 figure claimed by the Negro political leaders of the Empire State.

Pennsylvania also has a big Negro vote, estimated to be greater than 150,000 and may reach 200,000 rivaling that of New York. In Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania folk have two gigantic areas from which to draw. Illinois, Ohio, Va., and West Virginia have powerful Negro voting blocks that will play a vital role in the election.

While the Negro vote is not of any great size in New Jersey, nevertheless if the decision depends on 35,000 or even 50,000, the way the Negro vote goes in the main—will decide the issue in the Skeeter State.

Another factor that must be reckoned with, is the great number of Negro voters in the south who, for the first time, thanks to President Roosevelt—will vote in large numbers in many sections of the south and southwest. According to reliable statisticians the Negro vote this November will be around 3,000,000, exceeding that of 1936 by almost 2,000,000.