

First Negro Wacs Arrive In England

A WARD TO BRIG. GEN. B. O. DAVIS

ALABAMA GOVERNOR APPROVES OF NEGRO FRANCHISE RIGHTS

Montgomery, Ala. — Qualified Negroes must be permitted to vote, agreed Governor Chauncey Sparks of Alabama last Saturday when he discussed opinions expressed by Governor T. McCalister of Mobile, Chairman of the Alabama State Democratic Executive Committee.

Mr. McCalister's statement regarding permitting qualified Negroes to vote was made Friday, Feb. 9, before the Interim Legislative Committee on Constitution and Legislative Procedure. He explained, however, that he opposed the repeal of the Alabama \$1-50 annual poll tax.

Governor Sparks, who on various occasions has shouted for white supremacy and voiced disapproval of measures such as the FEPC, has nothing to say about the poll tax law. His approval of permitting Negroes to vote is contingent upon the attitude shown in regard to other racial questions.

White Va. College Co-ed Repudiates White Supremacy

Williamsburg, Va. Feb. 12 — An editorial advocating racial segregation, repudiating white supremacy, and recommending Negroes and whites attending the same colleges written by a white student and published in the current edition of "Flat Hat," a student publication at the scholarly, staid, and conservative college of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., was repudiated by the William and Mary Board of Visitors to recommend corrective and disciplinary action for those involved in the writing.

The editorial, which was published in the office of the editor, Miss Marilyn Kaemmerle, who is editor of Jackson, Michigan, states that "work must be done in educating ourselves away from the idea of white supremacy, for the Negro is a human being as well as a white man."

The article says further that Negroes should attend William and Mary, go to our classes, join the same clubs, be our roommates and be our friends.

It was stated, however, that these things cannot be done to day of tomorrow "but perhaps in the next day. Neither they nor we are ready for it yet."

President John E. Punter of William and Mary said that the editorial was written by a young undergraduate with little experience in the field of racial relations.

Indications are that the young man will be severely disciplined for expressing his so-called opinion.

Distinguished Service Medal Awarded Gen. B. O. Davis

The War Department announced today the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, United States Army, for exceptionally meritorious service to the Government. The citation accompanying the award follows:



BRIG-GEN. B. O. DAVIS

For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility. Promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, 1944, as an Inspector of troop units in the field, and as special War Department consultant on matters pertaining to Negro troops. The initiative, intelligence and high command understanding displayed by him in conducting countless investigations concerning individual soldiers, troop units and other components of the War Department brought about a fair and equitable solution to many important problems which have since become the basis of far-reaching War Department policy. His wise advice and counsel have made a direct contribution to the maintenance of morale and troop discipline and has been of material assistance to the War Department and to responsible commanders in the field in understanding personnel matters as they pertain to the individual soldier.

General Davis, whose home is 1721 S Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., is completing forty years of service in the United States Army. He was born in Washington, D. C., on July 1, 1887. He entered the military service on July 13, 1888, during the War with Spain, as a temporary first lieutenant of the Eighth United States Infantry. He was mustered out on March 6, 1899, and on June 14, 1899, he enlisted as a private in Troop I, Ninth Cavalry, of the Regular Army. He then served as company and section sergeant, major, and on February 2, 1901, he was commissioned a second lieutenant of Cavalry in the Regular Army.

He was promoted to first lieutenant on March 30, 1905; to captain on December 24, 1915; to major (temporary) on August 5, 1917; and to lieutenant colonel (temporary) on May 1, 1918. He reverted to his permanent rank of captain on October 14, 1919, and was promoted to lieutenant colonel on July 1, 1920; to colonel on February 18, 1930; to brigadier general (temporary) on October 25, 1940. He was retired on July 31, 1941, and recalled to active duty in the grade of brigadier general the following day.

He was given an assignment in the European Theater of Operations in September, 1942, and upon his return to the United States (Continued on back page)

6 NEGRO WOMEN ARRIVE IN INDIA

Washington, D. C. — Arrival in India of six Negro women to augment the staff already there on duty is announced this week by American Red Cross National Headquarters. All will serve as staff assistants. They are: Ola Mae Beavers, 525 W. Columbia Ave., College Park, Ga.; Katherine L. Hemmons, Tuskegee, Ala.; Inca DeVerne Lee, 1087 Shaw St., Memphis, Tenn.; Mary M. Robinson, 1940 Foster St., Youngstown, Ohio; Dorothy H. Westmoreland, 2325 Lydia Ave., Kansas City, Mo.; Revoida Mae Wright, 868 St. Anthony Smt., St. Paul, Minn.

Miss Beavers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Beavers, of College Park, Ga., was employed by the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., before her Red Cross appointment. She is a graduate of Atlanta University High School and West Virginia State College, and attended a Columbia University.

Miss Hemmons, daughter of Mrs. M. L. Hemmons, Tuskegee, Ala., was employed at Tuskegee Army Air Field before joining the Red Cross staff. She is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, B. S. 1936, and attended the University of Pittsburgh.

Before her Red Cross appointment, Miss Wright was employed (Continued on back page)

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(Courtesy THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL)

The two photographs of the Old Folk Home in Wilmington, N. C. show the need for the present campaign in that city to raise funds for the proposed Fannie Norwood Memorial Home which would adequately house and provide a modern and up-to-date facility for the aged and poor.

According to this week's issue of the WILMINGTON JOURNAL one of the inmates was found dead in this building. In its front page editorial the paper asks the question: "Is there little wonder?"

NNC COMMENDS GA. POLLTAX REPEAL

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 8 — Congratulating Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia for his leadership in the abolition of the polltax in his State, the National Negro Congress yesterday informed the Governor that the vote of the Georgia Legislature "represents an act of immeasurable value in extending greater democracy to the people."

The letter, signed by Thelma M. Dale, Acting Secretary of the Congress, also stated, "This step, taken at a time when our nation is engaged in a world-wide struggle to assure the right of all people to choose freely their governments and representatives, strengthens our nation's cause abroad as well as at home."

"We hope," Miss Dale added, "that the state of Georgia will follow up this move by outlawing 'white primary' in order that all its citizens, regardless of race or color, may participate fully in the entire voting process."

The Congress emphasized that it would continue to work for enactment of a federal anti-poll tax law, but is eager, it said, to see other states in the South follow Georgia's lead in themselves banning the old laws which have no place in America—1945."

Dr. Robert P. Daniel Appointed To Committee Of Relationships

RALEIGH — The National Scout Divisional Executive Committee announced this week the appointment of Dr. Robert P. Daniel, president of Shaw University, Raleigh, as a member of its recently established committee on relationship.

Dr. Daniel, a champion of the national scout movement among Negroes, has served as chairman of the local council and chairman of the divisional committee of the Oconeechee Council. He has received several awards in recognition of his outstanding services in the scouting movement, including the Silver Beaver Award presented on January 24, 1942.

According to a statement by Secretary Fretwell of the newly formed committee, the work assigned to the committee includes advisory assistance to rural, protestant, catholic, Jewish, civic and fraternal organizations.

President Daniel was the only Negro member attending the initial meeting of the committee, held at the National Headquarters in New York City, shortly after its establishment.

Florida County Ordered To Register Democrats

Pensacola, Fla. — The right of Negroes to register and vote as members of the Democratic Party in Escambia County, Florida, was upheld Saturday, Feb. 10, by Florida Circuit Court Judge L. L. Fabianski in a case involving two Negroes, R. A. Cromwell and Esau Chavis, residents of Escambia County, Fla.

In expressing his opinion Judge Fabianski issued a mandamus ordering H. L. Davis, Escambia County registrar, to register Messrs. Cromwell and Chavis as Democrats. His action was opposed by the State Democratic Executive Committee and Attorney General J. Lom Watson. The writ was the first issued in the State of Florida upholding the right of Negroes to register as Democrats.

According to an announcement of the State Democratic Executive Committee, Attorney A. Morley Darby, an appeal to change the decision will be made to the Supreme Court.

The Escambia County case came about as the result of the County registrar's action in refusing to register Mr. Cromwell and Mr. Chavis as Democrats. Mr. Cromwell had been a Republican and sought to change to the Democratic Party last December. Mr. Chavis had not registered for any party in Escambia County.

URBAN LEAGUE COMMENDS TEMPORARY COMMISSION

The National Urban League today commended the New York State Temporary Commission against Discrimination which recommended to the Legislature the establishment of a permanent commission, patterned after the State Labor Relations Board, to eliminate racial and religious discrimination in employment.

The Commission was headed by Irving M. Aves, Majority Leader of the Assembly, and was appointed in 1944 by Governor Dewey.

A statement by Lester B. Granger, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, declared that although some recommendations of the Commission's report were open to criticism, the overall proposals were so progressive and sound as to warrant the support of public-minded citizens of whatever race. "Of primary importance," declared Mr. Granger, "is the section of the bill which declares the right to employment without discrimination to be a citizen's right for the first time in the history of the country, thereby prospects that a state will recognize that physical safety, education, and health cannot be proper-

DR. ODUM GIVEN BOND AWARD FOR NEGRO-WHITE RELATIONS

NEW YORK — Dr. Howard Washington Odum of the University of North Carolina was presented the Edward L. Bernays Award for Outstanding Achievement in Negro-White Relations by Dr. G. Bromie Oxnam, Bishop of the New York Methodist area and president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, at a Lincoln's Birthday luncheon given by the Council in the Hotel Commodore.

"In making the presentation of a \$1,000 United States Savings Bond, Series E, Dr. Odum read from an engrossed scroll:

"The Race Relations Department of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America bestows upon Howard Washington Odum, Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina, the Edward L. Bernays Award for Outstanding Achievement in Negro-White Relations in the United States."

"Through research, in writings, and in his leadership in movements to improve Negro-White relations," Howard Washington

92nd Suffers Heavy Casualties In Italy

ROME — Contrary to previous reports which minimized the weekend attack on the 92nd Division in the Italian front, the troops suffered "relatively heavy" casualties, and tank losses, according to Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's headquarters.

This encounter took place last Thursday, and was the unit's first full attack as a group.

The boys had advanced as far as a mile on a five mile front to within two and a half miles of Mass when the Germans suddenly realized that they were being attacked. The troops were then pushed back after four days of fighting.

701 Wacs In First Overseas Service

Birmingham, England, Feb. 13 — A contingent of Negro Wacs—24 officers and 677 enlisted women—has arrived in England on the way to serve in the European theater. The first Negro Wacs to reach England, the contingent was given a rousing welcome. An army band played as Brig. Gen. Benjamin Davis, only Negro general in the United States Army, met the Wacs at the disembarkment port. They came to Birmingham by train. Maj. Charit Adams, of Columbia, S. C., daughter of the secretary of education of the African Episcopal Church, already was on hand. The contingent's commander, she flew over in advance to prepare for the women's stay in Britain.

This group is the first Army postal unit to be composed entirely of Wacs. They will be stationed somewhere on the continental, handling Army postal and directory service for the entire theater.

Capt. Abie Noel Campbell of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., is the battalion's executive officer.

The contingent's arrival boosted the total number of Wacs now on duty in the European theater to about 7,500.

Calls For "Periclean" Leadership Among Negroes

HAMPTON INST., Va. — Speaking in a public session of the seventh annual meeting of Alpha Kappa Mu, intercollegiate honorary scholastic society, at Hampton Institute last Thursday (Feb. 8) night, President Felton G. Clark called for a "Periclean" kind of leadership among Negroes and said of Southern University called for that that leadership must be grounded in the highest concepts of scholarship.

He described intellectual curiosity, reasoned objectivity, imagination, free discussion, idealism, and a high sense of social responsibility as the attributes of the scholar, and challenged the representatives of the honor society to seek a basis for status in what he termed true aristocracy, that of the mind, and the search for eternal values.

Clark paid tribute to past outstanding figures of the race, but declared that the present generation must sire a future through (Continued on back page)

TAFT BILL OPPOSED

NEW YORK, N. Y., Feb. 8 — Senator Taft's effort to substitute legislation for a strong permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee through introduction of a bill for a mere investigating committee, was blasted this week by Dorothy K. Funn, Labor Secretary of the Congress. Miss Funn stated that "Although Senator Taft should fool no one by his tactics, he has reminded us that national pressure for passage of the bill establishing a fair employment practices committee with powers of enforcement should be heightened in the coming weeks."

PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS

Raleigh, February 13 — A broad program for assisting veterans of this war to return to business or employment affected by OPA regulations and for veteran participation with other groups in the work of price control and rationing was announced today by District Director Theodore S. Johnson, of the Raleigh District Office of Price Administration.

Johnson, an active and active in American Legion affairs and now rationing attorney for the OPA, was named to serve as veterans relations advisor effective Jan. 1. He will be responsible for giving veterans assistance and advice concerning regulations and help in handling all problems connected with government wartime regulations.

Johnson said that OPA is working closely with George K. Snow, state commander of the American Legion.

"OPA has a deep sense of responsibility toward returned veterans," Johnson said. "The OPA program will affect the lives of veterans in a good many ways."

As a first important step, he will provide special advisory service to veterans in our National, Regional and District Offices. Here in the district office, we have designated a veterans relations advisor to help with (Continued on back page)

Council Of Churches Defends Negro Servicemen

NEW YORK (C) — Calling upon the churches to furnish leadership in eliminating racial discrimination, the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America declared that Negro servicemen who have fought along with their white comrades "will not accept in white that which in war they opposed

Principals In History Celebration

Dr. C. C. Spaulding, (right), President of the N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company, who will be the guest speaker at the Negro History Week Celebration, Sunday afternoon, 4.30 o'clock at the USO Club, Wilmington, N. C.

L. C. Berry, (right) assistant district manager of the N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company's Wilmington office, who will introduce Dr. Spaulding. Mr. Berry has made many improvements to the local office since he went there several years ago.

DR. R. P. DANIEL

Attorneys Block Removal Of Penna. Negro To Ala.

PITTSBURGH — Ralph Johnson, who fled here in December, 1943, to escape a mob in Talladega County, Alabama, will not have to go back to the southern state. In the midst of argument on his case here February 8 in the United States District Court, the Northern District of Alabama suddenly announced withdrawal of charges. Technically he entered nolle prosequi. The judge continued the (Continued on back page)



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