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"KEEP 'EM FLYING"

Detroit Housing Project Occupied

Guards And Troops Give Protection To Negroes In Detroit Housing Units

—VV—
Detroit. —(By Robert A. Crump for ANP)— Surrounded by 1,000 state troopers with rifles and fixed bayonets, augmented by 1,000 city police with still more state police held in readiness, Negro families moved into the much discussed Sojourner Truth defense homes project here Wednesday. It was a fairly orderly crowd who assembled to watch the caravan of families with van after van load of furniture escorted by a convoy of scout cars approach the project.

Needless to say there was no attempted violence. The state troops pitched their camp around the project Tuesday night ready for any emergency and it is said they will remain on the scene until the entire 200 families have moved in. Police Commissioner Frank E. Mans, who resigned a few days ago but stated that he would stay with the police department until the Truth problem, which had caused such a long drawn out controversy and fight over Negro occupancy, was settled, was in direct charge of the local police. This, however, marked a decided change in the attitude of the former commissioner who failed to properly instruct the police in their duties when Negroes attempted to move into the project last Feb. 24, which resulted in a riot and the arrest of several, some of whom are still in custody.

Leaders in the fight for Negro occupancy, among them the Rev.

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Navy Recruiting Officers "Haven't Heard" of New Policy Accepting Negroes

New York, (Special) — Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox told the press on April 7 that Negroes will be enlisted in the Navy, but he evidently hasn't yet told the Navy.

This week, Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, inquired of the Navy as to when the enlistment of Negroes as seamen in the Navy will begin. Mr. White said: "Numerous reports have been made to this office that Negroes seeking to enlist have been told by recruiting stations they have no official knowledge of any change in policy."

The New York HERALD TRIBUNE, on May 1, reported that Commander B. B. Ralston, in charge of recruiting in the New York area, said, "no instructions have been received as yet on Negro enlistments." The Herald Tribune said Ralston stated no word had come from Washington as to the prospective date when such enlistments will commence, and that he added that "he presumed that plans for training centers were being set up."

Witnesses Admit Only Rule For Voting In Texas Primary Is To Be White

Houston, Texas, (Special to the TIMES) — All anyone has to do to become a member of the Democratic party in Texas is to be white and think he is a Democrat. And even if a person is not a member of the Democratic party, he can vote in the Democratic primary, if he is white.

These admissions were made by the top officers of the state Democratic Executive committee, E. B. Germany, chairman, and C. A. Butcher, secretary, on the witness stand at the trial of the famed Texas "white primary" case Saturday, April 25. These admissions and other testimony at the trial, along with the statutes of Texas, led to predictions among authorities in constitutional law that Negroes in Texas will soon have the right to vote.

One of the election judges being sued by Dr. Lonnie E. Smith, of this city, for refusing him a ballot in the Democratic primary, July, 1940, admitted a white prospective voter was never questioned about what party he belonged to. As a matter of fact, he revealed, white Democrats, Socialists, Communists and Independents could vote in Democratic primary so long as they were white. No Negroes, regardless of their qualifications, were allowed to vote.

Dr. Smith's suit against E. S. Allwright and James J. Luizza, election judges, was filed here November 15, 1941. The defendants have claimed that Democratic primary elections in Texas were party elections and therefore not subject to federal or state control.

Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, who has just returned to New York from Houston, said that testimony brought out that the Democratic party here has but few characteristics of a closed organization. It has no constitution, no by laws, no rules, save statutes of Texas, no membership rolls, and no method for becoming a member, except by considering oneself one. Butcher and Germany also stated that Democratic party elections were run in accordance with the statutes of Texas.

Mr. Marshall, counsel for Dr. Smith, pointed out in his argument before the court that under the facts and law, this case is almost identical with that of U. S. vs. Classic, in which the U. S. Supreme Court held that the primary election in Louisiana was an integral part of the election machinery of the state and therefore subject to federal control. Mr. Marshall was assisted by Attorney

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Basileus



—VV—
J. S. Stewart, Basileus of the Durham Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and treasurer of the Mutual Building and Loan Association, who will preside over the opening program of the Sixth Regional District Conference of the Omegas which will open a two-day session here Friday, May 8.

Dist. Representative



Attorney E. Kermit Hightower, of Greensboro, District Representative of the Omega Fraternity who will preside over all business sessions of the District Conference of the Omegas when it meets here Friday and Saturday.

NAACP Wants Negroes On Local Rationing Boards

New York — Negroes should be placed on local rationing boards, and should be considered for employment as paid executive secretaries of the boards, the NAACP suggested to Leon Henderson, administrator of the Office of Price Administration in a letter May 1.

The NAACP said that it understands the rationing system will provide for local boards of three or five persons from each 25,000 population, members of which will serve without pay. To these the NAACP urged the appointment of Negroes, "perhaps in proportion to population ratio in various communities."

The NAACP also said that it has learned that the plan is for each board to have a paid executive secretary. It urged that Negroes be considered for these positions and mentioned the precedent set by the Selective Service Act.

Henderson was also told that freezing prices at March levels in certain sections of communities where prices are very high would work hardships on colored Americans and other disadvantaged groups by forcing them to carry a heavier burden due to lower average income, discrimination in employment and the necessity of paying the same tax as others more advantaged.

Shaw University Graduates To Hear Dr. Ryland Knight

Raleigh, (Special to the TIMES) — Dr. Ryland Knight, pastor of the Ponce de Leon Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and chairman of

the Joint Committee of the four conventions on Negro Ministerial (Continued on Page four)

White Attorney In South Carolina Pleads For Race Voters In That State

Rule That Negro Must Be 87 To Vote May Be Changed In South Carolina

Columbia, S. C. — After all the names of Negroes who had registered to vote in the Democratic primary here were purged from the lists because of the rule that they must have voted the Democratic ticket continuously for 66 years, a large delegation of aroused citizens, led by the local NAACP, succeeded in getting the city board of elections to ask the convention of the state Democratic committee to consider changing the rule.

The state committee will meet this month. Should it change the rule, it will be a major victory in colored citizens' fight for full democracy, the NAACP said.

Negroes were allowed to register for the primary election here, but according to James M. Hinton, chairman of the NAACP executive committee, it was an empty gesture, since under the ruling of the Democratic party, a Negro must be at least 87 years old

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ASA SPAULDING DELIVERS INTERESTING RADIO ADDRESS TO OPEN NEGRO INSURANCE WEEK

Durham. —(ANP)— In a spirited speech, delivered Sunday, May 3, on the "Wings Over Jordan" program, a CBS feature, A. T. Spaulding, president National Negro Insurance association, officially opened the association's 8th annual National Negro Insurance week.

President Spaulding's message, heard from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico, was as follows:

"Tomorrow the 41 member companies and 11 associations of the National Negro Insurance association begin the observance of the eighth Annual National Negro Insurance week in the 28 states in which they operate.

In a time like this, when our American way of life as well as our security hang in the balance, as we seek our way in a world darkened with the vast tragedy of war, and shaken to its very center by momentous social, economic, and political changes, I believe you would be more interested in knowing what the attitude of

our insurance companies is toward helping attain and perpetuate the ideals for which true democracy stands, than in certain statistics or other facts and figures which I might present.

History reveals that life and life insurance have thrived best under democratic forms of government. The institution of life insurance is so closely identified with the growth, and the development of the resources of this country, that today our 7 per cent of the world's population holds over 70 per cent of the world's life insurance, and our standard of living is higher than is to be found anywhere else in the world. It is fitting, therefore, that we hold on to that which time and experience have proved to be good, and endeavor to make it more widespread and more firmly established.

As the representatives of our companies go forth in the morning to contact the homes of the major portion of our 13 million American Negroes before the week ends,

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Durham Visitor



Mrs. Margaret Kennedy-Goodwin, since her marriage last June, has been residing in Washington, D. C. (Continued on Page four)

Omegas To Hold District Confab Friday, Saturday

Detroit Citizens Are Praised In Sojourner Truth Victory

—VV—
New York — Although many forces were at work to secure Negro occupancy of the Sojourner Truth Housing project in Detroit, which began April 29, chief congratulations should go to the Sojourner Truth Citizens' Committee, it was asserted today by the NAACP.

In a telegram of congratulations to Reverend Charles Hill, chairman of the Citizens' Committee, the NAACP said:

"National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sends heartiest congratulations to you and every member and supporter of the Citizens' Committee on the final victory in the long battle for the occupancy of the Sojourner Truth project. Many forces were at work, but without the United and persistent efforts of the citizens of Detroit through your committee, we doubt that we would have won."

J. S. Stewart, Basileus of the local chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, announced this week that plans have been completed for the entertainment of the Sixth Regional District Conference of the organization which will convene for a two-day session, Friday and Saturday, May 8-9.

The theme of the conference will be "Organization for Real Democracy" which is in keeping with the Double V program already launched by Negroes all over the country.

On Friday evening at eight o'clock at the White Rock Baptist Church a public program will be held at which time the principal address of the conference will be delivered by Attorney J. Bryon Hopkins, Jr., of the NAACP staff in Richmond, Va.

Social activities for the entertainment of the visiting Omegas and friends will be held both Friday and Saturday nights. All business sessions will be held at the North Carolina College for Negroes.

Committee on arrangements are: M. Hugh Thompson, chairman; W. D. Hill, John Bailey, and R. N. Harris.

Two Talladega Students Badly Beaten On Train

Nashville. —(ANP)— Two Talladega students, part of a group of a dozen riding on the L. and N. railroad between Birmingham and Nashville, early Wednesday morning were severely beaten by two trainmen, one the conductor of the train. The students, returning to their homes after the commencement at Talladega college, interrupted their trip here after two of the party, Reginald Brown of Cincinnati and Claude Shafer of Chicago were injured. Investigation of the incident is under way by both railroad and college officials.

The students, leaving Talladega campus after commencement which was held early this year, changed trains at Birmingham, to come north over the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. About 2:20 in the morning and some 56 miles from Nashville, after the students had requested the conductor several times to dim the lights so they could sleep and been refused, an altercation arose over the matter. The students claim that the half of the train coach occupied by whites had the lights dimmed but

that the jim crow section in which they rode did not.

The conductor when forward and one of the boys went to the control box, it is said, and dimmed the lights. Returning, the conductor irately demanded to know who had lowered the lights. A white trainman, off duty but whose clothes bore L. and N. buttons, pointed to Reginald Brown whose home is in Cincinnati. Brown had not stirred from his seat but the conductor assaulted him with his ticket punch, inflicting several minor contusions of the scalp. At Meharry college here where Brown was brought for examination after the arrival of the train, the student was detained for observations while the other young people were sent on to their various homes.

Claude Shafer of Morgan Park, Chicago, who was sitting with Brown, became involved in the fight also, the second railroad man hitting in to help the conductor. Shafer received a black eye and his face was swollen from the blows he received.