

MAY LOSE RECORDER OF DEEDS OFFICE

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BUY WAR BONDS . .

Race Workers Of Local Firm Share In Army-Navy Award

GOVERNOR FREES DOOMED MAN

HIGH LIGHTS OF E AWARD CEREMONY



The two photos at the top were taken during the ceremony here last Saturday when the Wright Automatic Machinery Company was presented the Army-Navy "E" Award, the highest government recognition for a company engaged in war production. At the top is the flag being received by a representative of the large group of employes of the company. The photo in the middle is the Navy Pre-Flight band, as their director awaited the signal from the Master of Ceremonies to begin the opening number. At the bottom are representatives of the Negro workers of the company with their much beloved boss, L. L. McClintock, general manager of the company. All of these men are proudly wearing the coveted "E" pin as a token of their earnest and faithful endeavors in behalf of their company's effort to produce more and more for the nation's war program.

New Bill Before Congress May Abolish Office

WASHINGTON, (Special) — The office of Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, which has been headed by a Negro since 1869, will pass from Negro hands to the control of the District Commissioners, under provisions contained in the District Appropriation bill H. R. 2513, which has just been presented to Congress.

The bill, which Congress will pass next week, unless Negroes rally their opposition, slashes the personnel of the Recorder's office, and would transfer the handling of its accounts and the disbursing of its funds from the Recorder to the District Commissioners.

Present laws require the Recorder's accounts to be audited by the General Accounting Office, the Federal Bureau which audits all Governmental Accounts.

To transfer this function to the municipal authorities would rid the office of its national importance and reduce it to a lesser bureau under District supervision, which is what the District Commissioners have been urging for the past twenty years.

The obnoxious provisions of the bill were inserted at the insistence of the Commissioners who have tried year after year to gain control of various departments in the Recorder's office.

Negroes throughout the country have always prided themselves in the fact that the Recorder of Deeds was one Negro official with authority to hire his own personnel and to disburse his own funds. The Bill provides:

"That funds appropriated herein and hereafter for the Office of Recorder of Deeds shall be drawn from the Treasury of the United States only on requisitions approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and disbursed by the disbursing officer of the District of Columbia upon vouchers previously audited and approved by the auditor of the District of Columbia."

The appropriation for salaries is reduced by \$12,270, which would make compulsory the discharge of approximately ten employees who cannot obtain jobs in District Government because of the Commissioners' anti-racial policy.

The bill is causing grave concern among politicians and New Dealers have been warned that many votes will be lost among

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Army Continues Dodging Qualified Colored Flyers

BY LLEWELLYN RANSOM

As Senator Downey makes his demand for a separate investigation of discrimination in the armed forces, one of the most unbelievable cases of cold shouldering is brought to light. It is the case of James L. H. Peck, a hero to any American boy, who has been given the run-around by the Army Air Forces since before Pearl Harbor.

Young Peck, strong and healthy, has over a thousand hours of flying to his credit. In defense of Spain in 1937, when it was being made a proving ground for world slaughter, he brought down Nazi and Italian planes. As a lieutenant pursuit pilot Peck flew eight types of French, English, and Russian planes, engaged in seven combats, forty convoy missions, five strafing missions and eleven attacks on Fascist ships at sea. He bombed enemy bases many times. With this experience, were there no color bar, Peck would today be a colonel in our air force.

And still there is much more about our young ace that makes him worthy of better treatment. He is the author of innumerable newspaper and magazine articles on aviation both in the popular and professional vein. To the amateur he is a source of interest, entertainment and instruction. To the professional he is a skilled airman and an authority on military air strategy. His articles have been reprinted in "Readers' Digest," the "Science Digest," the "London Sunday Chronicle," and in "Panorama," and anthology, published in 1940. Peck writes for such magazines as "Harpers," "Look," "Popular Science" Monthly as well as many aviation and technical magazines. He is now flying editor of "Air News" on temporary leave to finish a new book. His articles have appeared in the New York Times and "P. M."

Peck, who is listed in Who's Who and written up in "Current Biography" with General James H. Doolittle is the author of two widely read books on aviation. Of his first book "Armies with Wings," written in 1940, the Boston Transcript said: "One of the better books on war-time flying. If you want

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Payroll Record Saves Man From Death In North Carolina Gas Chamber

ACCLAIMED

New York, N. Y.—An unconditional pardon has been granted William Maison Wellman, laborer, who was convicted on charges of rape and sentenced to death here by Governor J. M. Broughton of North Carolina. Representing Wellman was Hosea Van Buren Price, attorney for the Winston-Salem N. A. A. C. P. Branch.

On learning of the pardon, Walter White, executive secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. sent the following telegram to Governor Broughton:

"On behalf of National Association of Colored People whose membership is biracial with many members in the South, we express our deep appreciation to you for your courageous action in granting an unconditional pardon to William Wellman. This act will increase faith of thirteen million American Negroes and many white Americans in the Democratic process. We are proud to have worked with you in seeing that justice was done to a man who was innocent of the crime of rape with which he was charged."

Wellman was convicted of the rape of a 67-year old white

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A and T Inaugurates Army Specialized Training Program

The Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina officially inaugurated the Army Specialized Training Program when Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of the college and Lt. Col. Basil A. Wood, contracting officer of the fourth service command, signed the Letter of Intent on April 16.

A. and T. College is one of the eighteen schools in the nation, and the only Negro institution, to be selected by the War Department as a Specialized Training Assignment and Reclassification Unit. The agreement provides for the training, testing, classification, and assignment of Army Specialized Training Program trainees not to exceed five hundred at any one time. The first unit will arrive at the college on or about April 19.

Buy WAR BONDS . .

Local Company Has Over One Million In War Bonds

NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY DURHAM, N. C. APRIL 14, 1943 No. 92157

PAY TO THE ORDER OF — THE MECHANICS AND FARMERS BANK — \$ 200,000.00

THE MECHANICS & FARMERS BANK DURHAM, N. C.

Further evidencing the fact that North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company is going "all out" in support of the nation's war effort, we reproduce a facsimile of a check representing the purchase by the company of \$200,000 in War Bonds in the second National bond drive. This is the second large purchase of bonds by North Carolina Mutual, having purchased \$100,000 worth of bonds in the first drive.

In commenting on the purchase of these bonds, President Spaulding stated that the company feels it is an obligation as well as a privilege to support the Nation in every possible way in its efforts to preserve the democratic form of life; that Negroes throughout the Nation are supporting the effort to rid the world of ruthless aggression on the part of nations that find themselves helpless in the grip of misguided dictators who are bent upon destroying all that civilization has accomplished that their own selfish ambitions may be gratified.

North Carolina Mutual has well over one and three quarter million dollars invested in War Bonds and other Government securities. According to President Spaulding, the company will continue to aid and support the Government to the full extent of its ability and as long as the Nation finds itself in need of financial assistance.

While North Carolina Mutual has welcomed the opportunity to thus invest in National security, it by no means represents the full measure of support that Negroes or the company

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