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# CIO WINS REYNOLDS ELECTION

## FEPC Chairman Blasts Railroads' Bias Attitude

### Railroads Short Of 850 Firemen; Refuse To Use Competent Negroes

Prompted by a letter sent by 16 railroads and terminal companies to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, Malcolm Ross, the committee chairman, today issued the following statement:

The question of preventing Negro railroad workers from being used by the carriers at their top skills is a war problem of the first order. Evidence at the FEPC hearing showed a shortage of 850 firemen on American railroads, this at a time when trained and experienced Negro firemen were unemployed and the carriers were preferring to take on green hands, simply because there has been for years a sometimes tacit and sometimes formal agreement between the railroads and the railroad unions to decrease the number of Negro firemen and give their jobs to white workers. This is no question of Negroes seeking to displace whites. Negro firemen were the accepted majority for 50 years on southern railroads, until automatic stokers and self-powered engines changed the dirty, heavy work into desirable jobs. Racial prejudice is not at issue here. White southern engineers have for decades had decent working relationships with Negro firemen. Sidney Alderman, counsel for the railroads at the FEPC hearings, stated: "I certainly do not mean to contend that anything in the south would interfere with the employment of Negroes as firemen on locomotives."

The Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement, which the Committee found in violation of Executive Order 9346, was concerned with the hiring and use of Negroes as firemen and not with their promotion from firemen to engineers. The railroads now advance obligations under the Railway Labor Act as barriers to changing the discriminatory Southeastern Carriers' Conference Agreement. There is no conflict of jurisdiction here. The Agreement was reached with the Brotherhoods in 1941, and by mutual agreement it can be altered or discarded. In asking both parties to make this move, the

### Jim Crow Law And Journalism School Lincoln University Close After Both Are Found To Be Too Expensive

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 23.—(ANP)—That a Jim Crow school system is expensive was substantiated last Saturday when the board of curators of Lincoln University decided to close the schools of law and journalism after the current semester, ending Feb. 1, 1944.

Both schools represent the state's determination to prolong the practice of a dual jim crow educational system after youthful Lloyd Gaines was refused admittance to the law school at the University of Missouri. The supreme court heard Gaines' story of being barred from the tax supported state university and ruled that Missouri must provide equal educational opportunities and facilities for colored students.

Gaines' victory was hailed as one of the race's outstanding gains in 1937 and is said to have caused considerable antagonism among enemies of colored people. Both schools are closed and in a manner not closed, because of an existing technicality which demands that a certain number of students must be enrolled before the schools are classified as of an "active status," it was learned.

Such a technicality prevents colored students who desire to enroll as students of law and journalism from enrolling at the University of

### Popular Smart And Pretty



Miss Louise Penn, popular A and T College senior and treasurer of the Alpha Mu Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, dramatic club member, serving fourth year as member of the college band, and past chairman of the college War Bond Rally.

### Asks FDR To Act In Three FEPC Cases; Fight Against Agency Spreads

Washington, Dec. 23.—(ANP)—Upon his return to the capital last week, President Roosevelt found himself confronted with requests to settle three cases arising out of the efforts of the Fair Employment Practice committee to combat discrimination.

These involve the disputes with the railroads, the boiler-makers' union on the west coast, and the Capital Transit company situation. In all of these cases there has been sufficient evidence to conclude that impass have been reached.

These cases her has no unsettled question in the minds of many observers, however, is whether or not FEPC will show the "courage and directness" exemplified by the National War Labor board in its handling of the Point Breeze, Md., case centering around the demand by Western Electric company employes for separate toilet facilities for Negroes.

While the railroads cited in the September hearings have until Dec. 23 officially to comply with the committee's directives, they filed

### Tobacco Workers Of Giant RJR Factory Cast 6,822 Votes For CIO

#### Negro Soldiers Being Trained Paratroopers

Chicago, Dec. 23.—(ANP)—Negro soldiers are being formed into paratroop units. Those in position to know but who preferred not to be quoted, said they expected the unit to be activated about Jan. 1. It is further reported that the unit will be the 501st Parachute battalion and that it will be stationed at Camp Mackall, N. C., with all Negro personnel.

#### Acclaimed



Dr. A. Heninburg, former faculty member of N. C. College whose work with the Urban League in the placing of Negroes in new defense jobs in various defense plants throughout the nation is being acclaimed short of phenomenal.

Winston - Salem, Dec. 22.—Climaxing a two year organizing campaign, CIO won bargaining rights by a vote of more than two to one in a final election covering the 12,000 workers at the R. J. Reynolds plants. The Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee of UCAPAWA-CIO polled 6,822 votes. The R. J. Reynolds Employees Association (company union) polled 3,175 votes. No union vote was 301 with 224 ballots challenged and 56 void.

#### Courts Reject Injunctions

The election followed a series of court actions by the Company Union who succeeded in getting two injunctions restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding the election on two previous occasions. Attorneys for the Company Union received their final setback on the day before the election when "trust busters" Thurman Arnold and two other judges of the District Court of Columbia's Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously rejected the petition of the Company Union for still another injunction on Thursday, December 16 and after Judge Bailey of the Federal District Court of the District Court of Columbia had also turned down a request for an injunction.

#### Negroes In Virginia Seek Repeal Of Segregation Law

Richmond, Va., Dec. 22.—(ANP)—Since much favorable comment has been made since the advocacy of the repeal of segregated street cars and buses by the local daily, Richmond Times-Dispatch of which Virginius Dabney is editor, 80 Negro representatives of about 20 communities met in the Richmond Beneficial Insurance auditorium Sunday to push this plan.

#### Mordecai Johnson And Benjamin Mays At N. C. C. In Jan.

Speakers and artists appearing at North Carolina College during January were announced here last week by Dr. James E. Shepard, president of the college, as follows:

Sunday, January 9, President Benjamin Mays, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga.; Monday-Tuesday, January 10-11, Carl Weinrich, organist; Sunday, January 16, Acting President R. O'Hara Lanier, Hampton Institute, Va.; Sunday, January 23, President Mordecai Johnson, Howard

### Big Planes Used In Navigation



READY TO TAKE OFF—Checking into plane, a C-60 used on student navigation missions at Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Texas, are Aviation Cadets Francis B. Collier, Berkeley, California; Everett E. Richardson, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Celestino S. Monclova, Brooklyn, New York; William F. Burrell, Pocatello, Idaho, and Edward Pressly, Chicago, Illinois. (Photo by Army Air Forces)