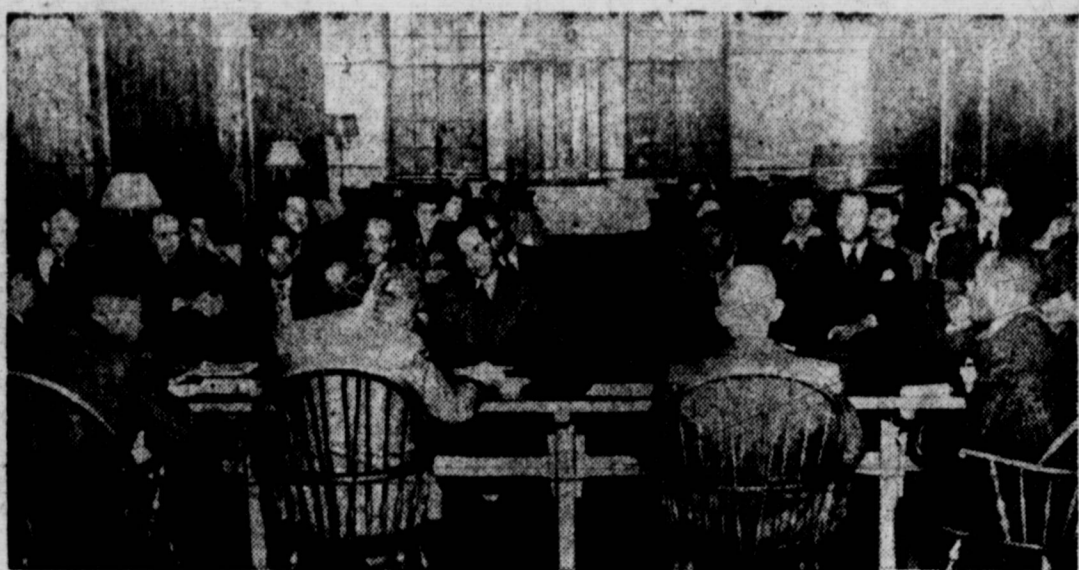


Negro Tank Destroyers Crack Nazi Line

NOTABLES ATTEND PUBLISHERS' CONFERENCE IN DETROIT



At the extreme left: Mrs. John Songstacke smiles while her husband (second from left), president of the National Negro Publishers' association, chats with Mrs. Robert L. Yann, treasurer of the Pittsburgh Courier, and Truman Gibson, civilian aide to



Secretary of War Stimson, at the second war-time Central Region conference held in Detroit last week. Center: Douglas Martin, managing editor, Detroit Free Press (second from left with back to picture), talking to the delegates at the Friday morning ses-



sion. At the extreme right, are: Nathaniel Sweet, St. Louis American; Ellis Corbett, Norfolk Journal and Guide; Joe La-Cour, Associated Publishers' Advertising agency; Roy Garvin, advertising manager, Pittsburgh Courier, and Dowdal Davis,

advertising manager, Kansas City Call. More than 40 delegates attended the two-day sessions held in the Lucy Thurman Branch Y.W.C.A. The Michigan Chronicle and Detroit Tribune were hosts to the delegates.

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2 BABIES BURN TO DEATH IN FIRE

Navy Knocks Out Barrier Against Negro Nurses

HINTS MILITARY MAY BAN JIM CROW IN CONSCRIPTION

FDR Answers Protest Of NAACP On Jim Crow

NEW YORK — In a letter to the NAACP, President Roosevelt has hinted that peacetime military conscription may not be on a jim crow segregated basis.

The Chief Executive does not make any promises, or any flat statements, but writes, "final plans have not been crystallized."

Mr. Roosevelt's letter was in response to one from Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP, setting forth the apprehension of colored people over the probable extension of the present segregated Army policy into peacetime conscription.

"The views you expressed," the President replied, "are predicated upon the assumption that all policies have been finally determined with regard to the composition of the Army during peacetime and that they will be discriminatory in their application to Negroes. This is contrary to the facts. Final plans have not been crystallized."

"Obviously those responsible for the development of War Department policies will utilize all of their experiences of the past four years," the letter said. "It would

Negro Publishers Plan

By CHARLES J. WARTMAN

The second Wartime Regional conference of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' association, meeting in Detroit last week, dedicated themselves to greater effort in winning the war and pressing the fight on the enemies of Democracy at home.

In a two-day session, January 26, 27, the representatives of 13 Negro newspapers and two national advertising agencies listened to addresses by nationally known newspaper authorities and compared notes in working panels of their own.

The Michigan Chronicle and Detroit Tribune, members of the

Mental Patient Flees; Comes Back

Mrs. Mamie Carter, 62, of 970 Wilkins street, escaped from Edith K. Thomas hospital, 556 Garfield avenue, early this week, but returned a short time later.

When questioned about the escape, Dr. Alf Thomas, Sr., owner of the hospital, said Mrs. Carter, a mental patient, was taken from the hospital during visiting hours by a relative.

"When her absence was discovered, Dr. Thomas said, 'I called the police and they returned her within an hour. She was not out of the hospital over an hour.'"

Permanent FEPC Bills Given Aid By Congressmen

WASHINGTON—House support for permanent Fair Employment Practice legislation made new gains this week with two additional congressmen joining the group of sponsors, bringing the total to 10.

Six of the eight new members of the House Labor committee pledged their support to the passage of the measure. The committee met for the first time last Tuesday.

Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (D-Cal.), has announced that she will throw her bill into the hopper this week.

Applications For Positions

Navy Official Declares No Policy Bars Negro Applicants

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS

WASHINGTON — The Navy has dropped its Jim Crow ban and will hereafter admit Negro nurses to the Navy Nurse Corps and the Navy Nurse Reserve Corps, Rear Admiral William J. C. Agnew, acting Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, said this week.

"There is no policy prohibiting the appointment of Negro women in the Navy Nurse Corps or the Navy Nurse Reserve Corps," Admiral Agnew said. "Every application reaching the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for appointment to either of the two branches is given full consideration provided the applicant meets the physical, professional, military fitness and other requirements."

The Navy's announcement comes

Home Builders To Build Projects

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—Private enterprise will begin work in March on a nation-wide Negro housing project through the National Association of Home Builders, according to Don Loftus, Washington builder and chairman of the organization's Committee on Homes for Negroes, this week.

Loftus said the National Housing Authority has pledged material for 30,000 houses, and commitments already have been made by builders to construct 15,000 homes. This is four times the number undertaken for Negroes last year by private enterprise, he pointed out.

The homes will be built in cities across the country, and in the main will comply with the standards of post-war white housing programs, with construction of community center buildings included.

Negro Tank Destroyers Crack Nazi Tank Line

The 827th Tank Destroyer battalion, fighting in support of the 315th Infantry of the Seventy-ninth Infantry division, held the full weight of Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's offensive against the Maginot Line villages of Hatten and Rittershoffen, Jan. 9, 10 and 12 as the result of their efforts.

Two crack Nazi divisions were forced to retreat after being severely mauled.

The loss of the 31st records the deeds of the Negro unit in staying off what appeared at first to be a hopeless battle.

"On January 10th when we started to clean up the town of Hatten, E company and four tank destroyers came in. Several of those colored boys really were wonderful, standing right there swapping punch for punch with Tiger Tanks. Their platoon leader, Lieut. Robert F. Jones of Casper, Wyo., deserves the Silver Star

Fifth Brother Joins Marines



Leroy Collins, 28, 2475 Hastings street, has been inducted into the U. S. Marine Corps. He is the fifth Collins' boy to serve with the Leathernecks. Shown left to right, are: Leroy Collins, S. Sgt. Dorothy Francis, U. S. MCWR, and T. Sgt. Irving Schlossberg, also of the Marines. Before his induction, Collins was a welder for Steroit Steel Casting company and other defense plants. He will be sent to Mont-

Negro Artillery Unit Cited In WD Dispatches

The 969th Field Artillery Battalion has been praised by the War Department for sterling work at Bastogne during the German counter-offensive.

The outfit held its positions despite heavy losses, and, despite their big guns to 1,200 yards instead of the usual 15,000, were able to remain until supplies were dropped to them from the air.

The men cited include Sgt. Harry Quintyne and Lloyd Wilkinson of Brooklyn; Donald Corzo of Haddenfield, N. J.; and Fred Colman of Miggins, Ga.

Cited along with the men from the artillery unit was a dog, Kaput No. 1 which appeared just as the battalion was making its last desperate stand at Senonchamps.

Negro Troops In China Territory

WANTING. Burma — Negro troops for the first time in history have crossed into China.

The troops used the newly opened Stilwell road from India upon which a number of Negro engineers had labored. The first convoy to pass into China contained Negro drivers at the wheels of the huge lumbering trucks.

INFANTS BURN BEFORE RESCUE PARTY ARRIVES

By CHARLES J. WARTMAN

Two children, sons of a defense worker, were burned to death and a third brother narrowly escaped being burned when their home at 3174 Hendricks was destroyed by fire last week.

Mrs. Carrie Ford, mother of the children, told police that she was on the way home from a neighborhood store when she saw James Gordon, 17, who lives next door, and his sister, Carrie, running toward her. She learned from them that her house was afire and that they had been unable to awaken two younger children, Kenneth, 3, and Walter, 2.

Head Two Intense

Mrs. Margaret Johnson, mother of James Gordon, later told the Chronicle that Mrs. Ford, in her terror and excitement, got out of her car and ran the remaining distance to her house. "She plead-

Georgia Senate Votes Poll Tax Repeal 31 To 19

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax expressed extreme pleasure at the action of the Georgia State Senate abolishing the poll tax in the state by a vote of 31 to 19 this week. The committee declared it will continue its efforts for federal legislation to abolish the tax until it has been removed in every state. There are eight states which have the tax as a prerequisite to voting.

The Georgia Senate approved a bill which would remove the tax entirely. The bill does not touch the state constitutional question of the tax as a prerequisite to voting, which would require action in a constitutional convention in the State.

According to reports from Georgia, there seems to be a feeling in Atlanta that the bill will also pass the Assembly, despite the earlier action this week of the Assembly defeating a bill to exempt war veterans from the tax by a vote of 108 to 60. Strong opposition in the Assembly, however, is expected.

UAW Moves To Defeat Plant Discrimination

NEW ORLEANS — The UAW-CIO last week further emphasized the union policy of no discrimination of any sort in automobile plants.

The executive board of the union adopted a model clause which negotiators will seek to have inserted in all contracts between the union and management, making it unlawful to discriminate in any way.

The clause reads as follows: "The company agrees that it will not discriminate in the hiring of employees, or in their training, upgrading, promotion, transfer, layoff, discipline, discharge or otherwise because of race, creed, color, national origin, political affiliation, sex and marital status."

In adopting the clause, the union acted on the report of its fair employment practices committee. George F. Addes, secretary-treasurer of the union, is chairman of the committee, and George Crockett is its director.

Charges Wallace Feud Is Significant Showdown

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—The feud which has been boiling in Washington since the President named former Vice President Henry A. Wallace to be Secretary of Commerce, replacing Texas' Jesse Jones, is viewed here as one far deeper than surface indications clearly show. While efforts are being made to make it appear the fight is one based on business qualifications, the real fight is between the liberal and reactionary forces. This is a showdown.

Charges that Henry Wallace lacks experience in the handling of lending agencies fail to take into consideration that he administered numerous lending agencies while he was Secretary of Agriculture in the early days of the Roosevelt administration.

But Wallace has made some powerful enemies—among whom are some of the world's largest corporate interests. He has not held his tongue in criticizing international cartels and their monopolies which many big businesses want continued.

Negroes, both Republican and Democrat, have a wholesome respect for Wallace. No incident brought such unanimous criticism as did the shelving of Wallace as Roosevelt's running-mate at the Chicago Democratic convention. Particularly was this true when the action came after one of the most courageous speeches a political candidate has ever made—his now famous "poll tax must go" speech.

Channing H. Tobias, member of the Joint Army and Navy Committee, stated that "the story of my death is greatly exaggerated. I'm still alive and kicking."

Coming ...

SHOULD JOE LOUIS RETIRE?

By RUSS J. COWANS
Joe's Former Secretary

Don't miss this sparkling series which begins in the February 10 issue of—

Michigan Chronicle