



BARITONE AUBREY PANKEY

gets listing among the vanguard of those actively engaged in the fight for a people's victory. He has employed his exceptional talent unstintingly as a lever with which to break down prejudice wherever he has found it in his travels. First American singer to tour Palestine, he has also had the horrid experience of having to have police protection against stones and epithets hurled by the Nazis as he sang the songs of free men in Salzburg, Austria, in '33. New Yorkers next get an opportunity to hear this superlative voiced singer when he appears in a concert sponsored by the National Negro Congress at Carnegie Hall Jan. 13 (plug). Don't miss it. He's too good.

Ban on Flight Officer Training Stalemates Tuskegee Boys:

Fliers Plead for Leaders To Fight Air Corps Jimcra

The issuance of a recent Army Air Corps order stopping the training of flight instructors because of a surplus of such officers, and the effect such an edict will have on Negro fliers, was revealed in a letter to PV this week from two aviation students at Tuskegee army flying school. The letter reads in part:

"We are writing for a group of 34 men who have been training in a government-sponsored aviation program which has suddenly terminated. We feel that the Negro public, the people of the United States, and the press is ignorant of the restrictions and limitations confronted by Negro youth in the United States Army Air Corps in this war against all oppressors.

"A recent Army Air Corp order was issued to the effect that all programs for the training of flight instructors be stopped because there was a surplus of flight instructors in the country. This order affects 34 Negro students at Tuskegee who have been training from one to two years to become flight instructors.

"The limitations of the Army Air Corps leaves us with no alternative other than becoming cadets. Some of the men are over the age

limit for cadet training. Their position in the skies is relegated to becoming gunners; it is ironical to think that a few of these men have over 200 hours of flying time to their credit, and have not been "washed out" in a government-sponsored course.

"There were two groups; one was in training at Tuskegee Flying School, the other trained at the Coffey School of Aeronautics, Oak Lawn, Illinois. Starting in July, individually, we received notices to report to induction centers and then be shipped to Kessler Field, Mississippi for classification and processing into the armed forces.

"Then the ball of destiny started rolling; in groups of nine we were to report to Tuskegee for training. The last group of men reported to Tuskegee January 18,

1944. The order to discontinue our training arrived on January 15, 1944!

"Our course has been discontinued on the grounds there is a sufficient supply of instructors, whereas, Tuskegee does not have one Negro Army flight instructor!

"Going further, our present situation offers a chance for Negroes to break into the Air Service Command. A few feeble efforts have been made by our group to "break" into this branch of the armed forces.

"Each time these efforts were frustrated by the remark, "we do not want any Negro pilots."

"The concessions that have been made to our group are negligible; our chances for advancement are hopeless unless the leaders of our race can champion our cause.

IDEA BRINGS LAUGHS

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Sen. "Pappy" O'Daniels of Texas tried unsuccessfully to pin an amendment onto the tax bill last week which would have obligated the government to pay the poll taxes of members of the armed forces from the eight poll-tax states. Sens. Tobey of New Hampshire, Gillette of Iowa and Murdock of Utah laughed him off the floor. In his proposed amendment Sen. O'Daniels stuck two conditions under which federal funds allowed in payment of those poll taxes would be returned to the government, one of which was that "such member of the armed force (for whom a tax might be paid) is held by the election officials of such state not to be eligible to vote."

LANGSTON HUGHES SPEAKS

LANGSTON, Okla., (ANP) — Students and teachers of Langston University flocked to Page Auditorium Friday afternoon to hear Langston Hughes, famous poet, dramatist, novelist, and lecturer, in the most delightful presentation of the current session. Declaring that he was happy to be guest of an institution named for his grand-uncle, the late Congressman John M. Langston, the visitor won the hearts of his audience from the very beginning.

DIES IN PLANE CRASH

BOSTON, (ANP) — Cadet Judson West, nephew of Atty. W. S. West of Boston, was killed in a plane crash at Tuskegee Army Flying School on Wednesday, according to communications which gave no details of the fatal crash. The 21-year-old cadet, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy West of Roxbury, Mass., had enrolled at Tuskegee flying school 10 months ago and was in advanced training.

LEADERS ATTEND CONFAB

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Committee on Labor and Industry of the New York National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was well and ably represented at the two-day conference, just concluded here at the YMCA. The conference was called by A. Philip Randolph, Chairman of the National Council for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee. The delegates were Mrs. Jennie Johnson of New Rochelle, Mrs. Lillian Jeter Willoughby and Assistant Corporation Counsel Eardlie John.

VET BILL WEAK

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — Representatives of three leading Negro organizations last week agreed to ask the legislative committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations to point out to Sen. Elmer Thomas of Utah that his bill (S-1509) which would give veterans of World War I an opportunity to secure further educational training, now contains weaknesses both from the point of view of labor and the Negro. The group, meeting in the office of George L. P. Weaver, director, National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, last Monday, had a spokesman from the NAACP, the Washington Urban League, the National Council of Negro Women, and the history department of Howard University.

COLOR BIAS REBUKED

BOSTON, (ANP) — During the past week the Massachusetts Civil Rights law was successfully invoked by the Boston branch of the NAACP in a case involving one of the famous Boston Pieroni restaurants and Mrs. Milton Snowden. On Mother's Day, May 9, 1943, Mrs. Snowden and her daughter went into Pieroni's sea grill for dinner, and were subjected to humiliation and embarrassment by the refusal of the management to serve them in their turn. The evidence presented confirmed the statements of Mrs. Snowden and her daughter, but the court reserved its decision until last week when it made the finding that the restaurant was guilty of discrimination and a penalty was assessed in the sum of \$200.

CHAPLAIN'S RELEASE ASKED

BOSTON — Five hundred persons at an interracial meeting Sunday at Chelsea, Mass., wired the War Department demanding reinstatement of Lt. Luther Marion Fuller, at present on inactive status, expecting to be dropped this month. The meeting heard protests of lawyers, doctors, editors, ministers and labor leaders.

TOLERANCE CONFAB HELD

BOSTON, (ANP) — The Greater Boston Teacher roundtable of the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Council Against Intolerance in America held a tolerance conference on Saturday at the Hotel Statler. The meeting, presided over by Dr. Kirtley Mather of Harvard University, was a regional conference on intercultural education, designed to combat racial and religious bigotry by means of the schools.

From Somewhere in Africa a Soldier Writes a Letter

Editor: All of the anti-Jew, anti-Negro propaganda shall not and will not prevail against the mighty force — the New Negro and the New White Man who are free men—fighting and dying on the far-flung fronts of the globe to maintain and enjoy those freedoms "which so proudly we hail." It is well to remember that the New Negro and the New White Man are marching, tramping, fighting and dying together in this war with this view as their chief aim, and this as their foremost objective.

We, the fighting men, will not call retreat until the foe has been completely vanquished. We are fighting and dying for a better and freer world. Hate for this fact is of featherweight significance.

The goal is in the distance and we are too close to our objective to wilt, to droop, to die in despair. The day may seem dark — defiled with cruelty, and peace may seem a vague promise, but we remember the words of an old King of the Jews: words that have for centuries steadied men when they were sore best as we are today. He could see through

the veil of tears and pass through the valley of Baca crying as we are today—the cry of liberation. "We will look unto the hills from which cometh the New America's help and we are not losing because our 'help cometh from the Lord.'"

We are marching on to ultimate Victory, for a true America looms in the distance—a devout America—a Democratic America. "The Lord is our Light and our Salvation. Whom shall we fear? The Lord is the strength of our life. Of whom shall we be afraid? When the wicked, even our enemies and our foes come upon us to eat up our flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though hosts have arisen against us, our heart has not feared. Though war has risen against us, we are still confident."

Our eyes have seen the glory of a New America that awaits the New Negro and the New White Man, and we hold firmly to the belief that the "Star Spangled Banner" will wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave. PRIVATE EARL BARNES, Co. D — 375th Engineer Bn., APO 759, c/o Postmaster, New York