

SOAPBOX •• by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.



THE MARCH-ON-ANNAPOLIS by the Negro people of Baltimore last week is a milestone along the highway of human progress. It is a deed, regardless of the outcome, which will bring fresh courage to every member of the oppressed of the earth. We do not expect that out of this march will come a complete change of heart on the part of the Maryland cracker. The very courage of the deed, however, is more important, for it indicates a change of philosophy on the part of the

Negro oppressed.

It is deeds such as this that will not only strike loose the fetters that bind us to the wheels of economic slavery but will save democracy itself. The way some intolerant bigoted whites are conducting themselves, more and more proves to me that it is up to the Negro group to save democracy. We who belong to the FIRST COLUMN OF DEMOCRACY are more and more awakening to this realization. In fact, one of the most thrilling things that comes out of this present holocaust is the emergence of a new Negro. Up and down the length and breadth of our land I find him—THE NEW NEGRO.

This new Negro is neither young nor old—he's just new. He had walked the earth too long with his feet on the ground, with his stomach empty, with his clothes in patches. He has been pushed back and back to the fringe of American life until his very back is against the wall and he can go no further.

He sees here and there ever-increasing evidences that American fascism is on the march. He can stand brutality and oppression no longer. He has made up his mind that he can indulge in the luxury of bickering and pettiness no more. The fell force of circumstances is forcing him to come together, and as he is coming together all over America, he is voicing one song—AMERICA, YOU CAN'T WHIP HITLER ABROAD WITHOUT WHIPPING HITLERISM AT HOME.

Let no one mistake this new Negro for one who has no patriotism. It is because of his very patriotism, his very love and loyalty to the real democracy that he is voicing these protests. He knows that unless his protests are heeded, that though America might win the war, democracy will of a surety be lost. The Negro insists, yea, more than that, he demands to be heard. He will not be silent, he will not sell out and will not be sold out. He is rapidly evolving his own leadership. He needs no longer leadership from outside sources. THE NEGRO HAS COME OF AGE. HE HAS REACHED THE FULL STATURE OF MANHOOD.

Carl Murphy, Juanita Jackson and all the united hosts of Baltimore—we salute you! May your March-on-Annapolis be a pattern for Negro people everywhere. Whenever the minority of un-Americans can oppress us no longer than we can endure, may we rise up in the God-given strength of a united mass and non-violently, democratically refuse to be silenced. May we speak and DEMAND a hearing.

Labor Board Orders Employes Rehired With Full Back Pay

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Despite stubborn defense, the embattled Winchester Repeating Arms Company lost last week in its duel with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America when a NLRB decision here ordered reinstatement of three employes—two Negroes, one white—discharged by Winchester for union activities.

Celebrated by Winchester workers, the order, by Trial Examiner C. W. Whittemore, specifically charged Winchester officials with falsifying workers' records, blacklisting, introducing unauthentic testimony at the trial; recommended that the company—

- rehire the men — Michael Amato, Charles Thompson, James Cruze—in their former capacities without loss of seniority or other rights and privileges;
- pay each in full for any loss suffered as a result of his discriminatory dismissal;
- cease and desist from all manner of interfering with, restraining or coercing employes on account of union activities;
- immediately post conspicuous notice to employes that the company will not engage in the unfair labor practices from which the NLRB orders it to cease and desist.

HONOR PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — More than 200 colored and white persons, most of them employes of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company, assembled at midnight, Saturday, April 18, at Hejar Grotto, 612 Howard avenue, to honor James L. Mitchell, director of Negro personnel, who is largely responsible for the large number of Negro workers at Winchester and the splendid relations existing between both races at the plant.

PRESENT TIMELY PLAY

"Voices for Victory," an interpretative play on the Negro yesterday and today, will be presented by the girl's department of the Ashland Place YMCA, Brooklyn, May 29, at Memorial Hall, 30 Third avenue.

MR. BARROW GIVES \$100

Private Joe Louis has mailed a \$100 check as his personal donation to the Harlem Children's Camp Fund, which wants to send a thousand underprivileged Harlem children to camp this summer.



Employee Boosted To Sales Force

Effective May 1, Wilbur Holland of 655 Macon street, Brooklyn, will be assigned to the Greater New York area in the sales division of the William Jameson & Company, Inc., distillers. Holland has been in the mail and shipping division of the company since its beginning seven years ago.

Holland, a native New Yorker, was formerly connected with National Distillers Products Corporation.

Well-known in fraternal and club circles, Holland attended Brooklyn College, is a member of Omega Psi Phi (Zeta Psi chapter); financial secretary of the New York chapter of the Guardsmen, and president of the Trojans Club (Brooklyn)—(Hansen foto).

Musicians Crack Navy Ban First



The first real navy pay and rank will go to a Negro musical unit being recruited and organized for the US Department of Navigation by Ralph Redmond, John Long and Albert Waters, executives of Musician's Union Local 802.

According to Redmond, a conference with Captain Pashley, commander of the training ship where the unit of 23 musicians will be assigned, revealed that the men will receive first class rating as rapidly as they prove efficient.

Each man will receive \$72 per month with \$14 additional for service at a training station. Married men are to receive \$34 more. All members of the unit will be issued an adequate supply of clothing.

NEGRO WARD CHAIRMAN

NEWARK.—Oliver "Butts" Brown, local newspaperman, was elected chairman of the third ward by the Vote No Committee at a meeting of Negro leaders of the ward last week, marking the first time in the history of a city election that a Negro has been chosen as a ward chairman.

Airplane Plant Taken by Navy Kept Negroes from Skilled Jobs

The Brewster Aeronautical Corporation, taken over by the navy April 20, for a slow-up in production, also refused to hire qualified Negroes for skilled jobs. It is reported that Brewster employed enemy aliens in key positions. The navy said that Brewster's production was so low that not one plane had been finished since last October. Last August 1, the NAACP publicly cited three affidavits made by Negroes who had applied at Brewster's Long Island City plant for jobs; one as a sheet metal worker, one as a riveter and one as an airplane and engine mechanic. They were refused, while whites were being hired for the same type of work.

August 13, the NAACP noted that after heavy pressure, "for the first time in its history Brewster took on a Negro employe in the regular course of hiring, without any special request." One of the men who was previously refused was called back and hired, not as a riveter, for which job he had applied, but as a sheet metal helper.

The NAACP learned on good authority that at about the same time Brewster made "token" employment of 25 colored workers in semi-skilled capacities, and has hired none since. The NAACP also has on good authority that there are eight or nine colored men who work as porters in addition to the 25 in the sheet metal department.

Los Angeles Next

Vacation travelers to California are welcome to make reservations on the NAACP special train going to Los Angeles in mid-July for the 33rd annual conference of the NAACP. The conference opens Tuesday night, July 14. The special train will leave St. Louis, Friday afternoon, July 10, arriving in Los Angeles Monday morning, July 13. The route will be through the magnificent Colorado Rockies to Salt Lake City and down to Los Angeles. Information on fares can be secured from the national office of the NAACP, 69 Fifth avenue.

Caribbean Meet Presents Demands

Climaxing several smaller meetings, the American-West Indian Commission on Caribbean Affairs held a well-attended mass meeting at the Renaissance Casino last Sunday.

Produced at the meeting were the following demands in its resolutions:

- One hundred per cent inclusion of Negro people thruout the world in the United Nations war effort.
 - Immediate cessation of jim-croism and brutality evidenced toward the members of the darker races in uniforms thruout the world.
 - Release of W. A. Domingo and all political prisoners belonging to the darker races.
 - Specific written guarantee of complete freedom (not dominion status) of the Caribbean area, Africa and Asia.
 - Extension of the Atlantic charter to the seven oceans.
 - Inclusion of the colonial and enslaved portions of the world in the four freedoms.
- Dr. Charles Augustin Petioni presided at the meeting, which more than 1000 attended.