



Nat. Negro Congress worked to bring Negroes into war production.

## Harlem-Riverside CIO War Conference Here

The Greater New York Industrial Union Council will sponsor a Harlem and Riverside CIO War Conference Saturday, March 27 at Abyssinia Baptist Church, 132 W 138 St. The meeting will start promptly at 1:30 pm. and all CIO members in the community, their families, representatives of community, civilian defense, religious and fraternal organizations are urged to attend.

The council feels that thru this and similar conferences thru-out the city's boroughs, the CIO offers the people of New York an opportunity to unite behind the President in a democratic effort to organize a speedy victory which will, in turn, assure a democratic peace without inflation, misery and unemployment.

Immediate action to be taken by the conference covers the following points:

- election of a CIO Committee in the community;
- establishment of joint CIO women's auxiliaries to campaign for price control, rationing and child care nurseries;
- initiating a community recruiting campaign for civilian defense block directors;
- establishment of a consumer's

price checking committee which will report price-ceiling violations and take appropriate action;

- issuance of a monthly community informational bulletin on the activities of local legislators, politicians and city, county and area war agencies and boards.

## National Negro Congress Grew Out of Chaos; Stayed On Job

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

In the early thirties when the glittering veneer of America's prosperity in the hands of a few, had fallen off, revealing the unhappy spectacle of the ill-housed, ill-clad and ill-fed millions; when the government was moved from Wall Street back to Washington, and the New Deal had begun to clear away the debris of a collapsed millenium, the American Negro faced a new outlook and a new technique in race relations.

### NATIONAL CONGRESS BORN

The National Negro Congress, speaking today for 3,000 affiliated organizations, representing millions of people, was born in this era of chaos. It was born in a period of social thinking and economic planning, when one talked about causes—even of race prejudice, discrimination and segregation, when everyone talked about planned social action for inevitable results. There was a new scientific approach, even to the race problems—they had stopped laughing at the professors in government, the "Brain Trust" was paying dividends.

The new outlook was toward organized labor and the old cliché that labor did not want him, did not stop the "new Negro." When the CIO began to extend the benefits of organized labor to unskilled millions the Negro worker was included. The National Negro Congress worked furiously to make the black worker conscious of his new-born opportunities.

### DIDN'T JUST TALK

Something new had happened. Since the days of Reconstruction, Negro and white workers had been pitted against each other. Now

Workers of both races suddenly became aware of their common bond. Negro and white workers pooling their organizational strength for mutual benefit was a new departure from the humiliation of the old paternalistic and charitable hand-me-downs from well-meaning rich, white folks.

The Congress did not content itself with preaching about labor's new role, it went after management and government for new job opportunities. Glenn L. Martin Aircraft gave way to pressure from pickets and delegations. Many other industries soon followed.

### NEW SPIRIT GROWS

This new trend permeated all phases of Negro life. Negro youth, North and South, began to organize on the basis of this new program for greater democracy. The Southern Negro Youth Congress added millions of dollars to the pay checks of several thousand Negro Virginia tobacco workers and bet-

tered their horrible working conditions through unionism.

In any section of the country, where there is a struggle to raise the social and economic level of the people or to protect and increase their rights, the Negro Congress is there. Whether in Los Angeles to secure the employment of Negroes in the aircraft factories, in the Detroit housing fight or in the anti-poll tax campaign, the Negro Congress is on the job.

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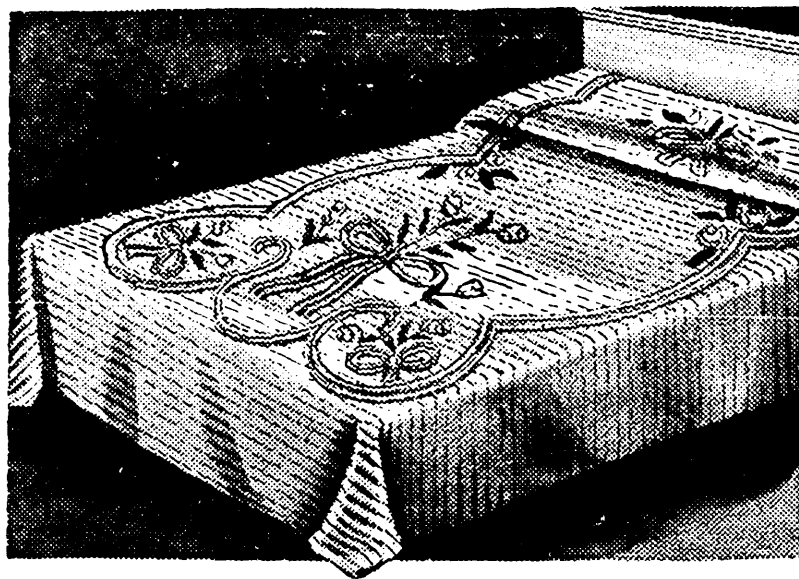
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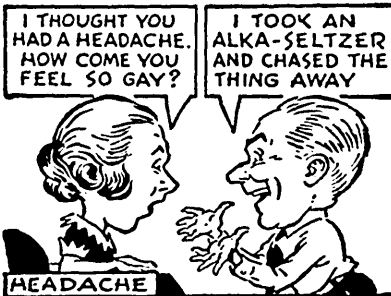
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