

# Senate Passes Civil Rights

## Portland Challenger

### 21 to 9 Vote Count Passes Equality Bill

Despite two attempts at referring, the civil rights bill passed the Oregon Senate by a vote count of 21 to 9 Monday. After 2 1/2 hours of debate the controversial bill was passed with the applause of a crowded gallery. The bill now goes to the House where it is expected to receive more opposition.

As originally introduced, the bill included a criminal clause

which made discrimination in any place of public accommodation a misdemeanor. However, this clause was removed in the Senate judiciary committee, and the bill now provides only that the aggrieved person can sue for civil damages up to \$500.

Speaking for the bill, Senator Phillip S. Hitchcock, Klamath Falls, said that discrimination is a breeding ground for communism and that the colored people of the world resented the discrimination being practiced in the United States.

#### Bill Hotly Contested

Senator S. Eugene Allen, Portland, contested the bill on the grounds that its definition of "public accommodations" was not inclusive enough. He introduced a motion to have the bill include "any public place offering to sell or provide for a consideration any goods or services."

Serious contention came also from Senator Gene L. Brown, Grants Pass, who introduced a measure to place the bill before the people at an election. Senator Warren Gill, Lebanon, debated the legality of the bill claiming that where it provided rights for the minority groups, it also took away the right of individuals to discriminate. Gill said that a person should not be forced to do business with an individual for whom he does not care, even if that individual is a member of a minority.

#### Women Support Equality Measure

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women adopted a resolution urging passage of civil rights legislation for the state of Oregon at their 29th annual convention in Portland Sunday, March 15.

The Catholic women asked for legislation which would entitle all persons to full and equal rights to accommodations and facilities.

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#### Late Bulletin!

Oregon's proposed civil rights bill is now in the hands of the State and Federal Affairs committee of the House. Members of this committee are: Mark Hatfield, chairman; Robert W. Root, vice chairman; Edward A. Geary, George Layman, Maurine Neuberger, Lee V. Ohmart and B. A. Stover.

#### Christian Need Noted by Pastor

Rev. J. Harold Jones, pastor of Hughes Memorial Methodist church, told his congregation Sunday that every practicing Christian has a responsibility in connection with human rights.

"The unique position in which God placed man demands of the Christian that he examine his faith and see if his actions square with it," Rev. Mr. Jones stated.

"There is currently a bill in the Oregon legislature called the civil rights bill, providing for equality of accommodations regardless of race, creed or color.

#### Bill Called Controversial

"The forces of evil call this bill controversial. Is it controversial when a man is denied a place to eat and sleep on the basis of color? The Voice of America has proclaimed that inalienable rights are guaranteed to all people in this nation. Is it controversial when a minority seeks to claim these rights?"

Rev. Mr. Jones held that both communism and lack of patriotism were un-Christian and charged that the greatest subversive influence in America is "spiritual inactivity."

#### NAACP to Meet In Vancouver

A panel of five will report to the people Sunday, March 22, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Vista Room of Vancouver Housing Authority during the monthly meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In celebrating the NAACP's 44th anniversary, the Vancouver branch will recount some of the accomplishments the national organization has made in the field of human relations during its 44-year span.

#### NAACP Tenets Noted

The Vancouver branch will point out some things that should be done to make democracy live in the community, the state, the nation and the world.

The different phases to be discussed at the public education meeting are: the founding of the NAACP and its purpose; what the NAACP really seeks to do; what it has accomplished nationally in the fields of employment, housing, education and public services. How the Vancouver branch is contributing to the national program and terms, such as discrimination and segregation, will be defined.

Everyone is invited to attend.

#### Dennis Lewis 1st In Baby Contest

Little Dennis Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Lewis, 11 NE Cook street, was top baby in a contest for small ones given by missionaries of Union Baptist church, 78 NE Ivy street, Sunday, March 15.

Other winners included: Regina Corbett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luvenia Corbett and Sandra Young, daughter of Mrs. Mae Young.

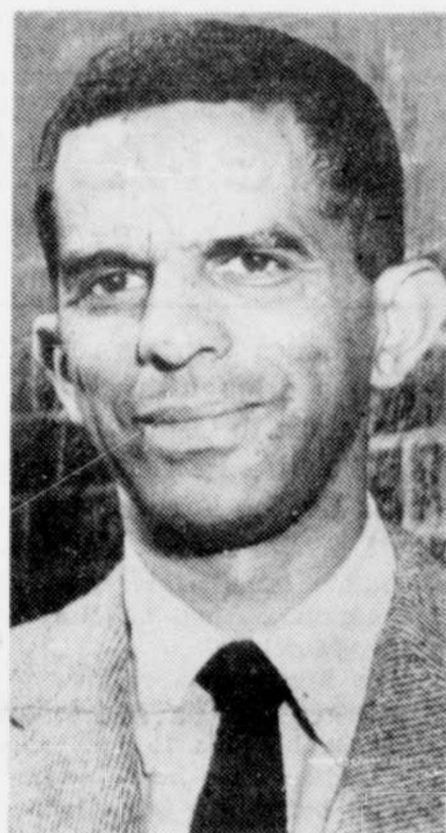
The evening's program was rendered by Mrs. E. D. Doss, 402 N. Knott street, president of the Missionary society. Rev. C. C. Thompson is pastor of the church.

#### Last Rites Held For S. A. Kaiser

Funeral services were held here recently for Samuel A. Kaiser, 61, who died March 3 at the Veterans' hospital.

Interment was at Willamette National cemetery with Rev. J. M. Roberts administering the services.

Kaiser was born in Lawrence, Kan., and had lived in Portland for 32 years. He worked at the old Kelly Foster pool room on 6th avenue in NW Portland, when Foster moved to his present Royal Palm hotel location on NW Flanders street, Kaiser went with him.



FRANKLIN H. WILLIAMS Praises Oregon's FEPC

#### NAACP Regional Director Raps Civil Rights Fuss

Franklin H. Williams, west coast regional director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, expressed surprise to a large crowd of listeners at the Williams Avenue YWCA Sunday, March 8, at the fuss being raised in Salem over Oregon's proposed civil rights legislation.

The young California attorney pointed to civil rights legislation in most of the big eastern states—New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and several others—and said that such legislation was pretty much taken for granted.

#### Praises FEP Bill

Williams praised Oregon for having Fair Employment Practice legislation. Although California has had a civil rights statute for a number of years, Williams said that attempts at passing FEP legislation has failed.

Attorney Williams thought the article in a national weekly mag-

The March 6 issue of the Portland Challenger carried a picture with the caption Franklin H. Williams which brought frowns to many of our readers. The picture was not one of the California attorney. A mistake in the print shop caused the mix-up.

The identity of the picture used is unknown to our staff. He remains the "Challenger Mystery Man." The Editors.

azine on how San Francisco solved its race problem—a farce. Williams said that San Francisco is still full of race prejudice, especially in housing.

The noted Williams spoke at the Union Services later that day at the Vancouver Avenue Baptist church and called for support of organizations like the NAACP and security measures that will bring a better life to the youth of America.

#### Dr. J. Merriman 1st Negro Doctor

A story in the March 6 issue of the Portland Challenger referred to Dr. DeNorval Unthank as the first Negro doctor in Portland. Dr. Unthank was the third Negro to practice medicine in Portland.

Old timers in the city will remember Dr. J. A. Merriman. He received his medical training at Rush Medical college in Chicago, Ill. and came to Portland in July of 1903.

Dr. Merriman had offices in the McClay building and resided on Prescott street at the top of 15th avenue hill.

Another Negro doctor, known to the Challenger only as a Dr. Lucas at this time, came to Portland around 1908.

#### Washington Stiffens Civil Rights Statue

BY BERTHA C. BAUGH

Challenger Correspondent

VANCOUVER, Wn., March 19 (Special)—The recent denial of members of the Vancouver Youth Group by a public skating rink caused the Vancouver branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to arouse the community in support of the civil rights legislation.

Although the bill was supported by all Washington branches, the Civic Unity league, Seattle and Vancouver Branches worked extremely close with sponsors of the bill.

HB 128, recently introduced by Representative Stokes, Republican of Seattle, and Reilly, Democrat of Spokane, passed both houses without a dissenting vote, 98-0 and 41-0, and was sent to the Governor's office.

#### Law Now Stiffer

The law now interprets denial "to include any act which directly or indirectly, or by subterfuge, by a person or his agent or employee, results or is intended or calculated to result in whole or in part in any discrimination, distinction, restriction, or unequal treatment or the requiring of any person to pay a larger sum than the uniform rates charged other persons, or withholding from any person the admission, patronage, custom, presence, frequenting, dwelling, staying, or lodging in any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement except for conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons, regardless of race, creed or color.

#### NAACP Selects Fashion Models

The annual National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's fashion show is scheduled for April 4th at the Sunken Ballroom of the Masonic Temple.

Mrs. Vikki Jackson, chairman of the models, announces the following corrected list of models:

The models are RoseMarie Brock, Marie Brooks, Willa Cash, Marceline Casey, Hazel Davis, William Harrison, Addie Jean and Karen Haynes, Delores Harris, Mozelle Foreman, Sylvia Thompson, Artie Williams, Harriet Johnson, Clara Jackson, Joan Johnson, Marjorie Marshall, Ozzie Mott, Adalene Olden, Ernestine Palmer, Arie Randle, Juanita Thomas and Tracy Winslow.

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