

NEGRO ACTOR-PILOT VIRGIL RICHARDSON SPREADS WINGS

NEW YORK—(ANP)—On late Sunday afternoons, when Harlem's American Negro Theatre actors put on plays over New York's radio station KNEW, listeners have been sitting up to take notice of an impressive, Orson Wellesian voice that dominates the show.

The man who owns it is the program's actor-narrator: Virgil Richardson, 28, actor, law student, 15th Air Force pilot, now on terminal leave from the air forces and back once more in his civilian profession of acting.

A serious-minded six-footer, Virgil recalls with pride the part he and his fellow Negro pilots played in the war. He is equally proud of the rapid advance and achievements of the American Negro theatre group that he helped to start five years ago.

When he was 2, in 1937, he first came to New York from his native Texarkana, Tex., after graduating from Wiley college, where he majored in science and biology and acted in school plays.

"Of course I took a two-foot room at the Y," he recalls with a laugh, "and was pretty broke and lonely at first. But once I'd landed a job as shipping clerk in a hosiery mill, I was able to get my bearings and look New York square in the face."

Evenings he studied law at City college, then was persuaded by friends to try out his good looks, full-bodied voice and likeable personality in theatrical work. He entered into amateur stage activities at the Y, and drew so much favorable notice that soon he had a part as Canada Lee's understudy in "Big White Fog." The play was running at Harlem's old Lincoln theatre, and during its last few weeks Virgil took over the lead.

10th Anniversary Surprise Given Patterson

TUSKEGEE—(ANP)—In a surprise sponsored by a committee of faculty and students, President F. D. Patterson was appropriately reminded Sunday of the 10th anniversary of his election as President of Tuskegee institute.

By pre-arrangement with Assistant Chaplain Raymond F. Harvey who presided, the evening vesper service was interrupted and Capt. Alvin J. Neely with two trustees: J. R. Wingfield of Mt. Meigs, Ala., and Henry Neill Segrest of Tuskegee, came to the platform as President Patterson, awaiting his turn to deliver his Sunday evening talk, looked on with genuine surprise at the unexpected appearance of trustees.

After briefly reviewing Tuskegee's progress during the 10-year period of Dr. Patterson's administration, Capt. Neely presented \$775 in victory bonds representing total gifts from trustees, faculty and students.

Other features of the surprise included messages from the two trustees who were acting as emissaries of good will from the board of trustees; presentation of flowers to Mrs. Patterson by "Miss Tuskegee" and reading of letters of greetings by A. L. Holsey.

Letters came from Presidents of colleges participating in the United Negro College fund, trustees of the institute and many others including President Harry S. Truman, Henry A. Wallace, Gov. Chaucey Sparks of Alabama, C. C. Spaulding, Walter Hoving, 1944 chairman of the College Fund drive, Dr. J. W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education and Dr. Ambrose Caliver, specialist in Negro education.

President Patterson was deeply moved by the demonstration of appreciation and devotion which voluntarily came from friends and the Tuskegee family. In his acceptance of the gift, he re-stated the tributes to Dr. Washington and Dr. Moton so beautifully expressed in his inaugural address 10 years ago and with becoming modesty renewed his pledge to carry on in the spirit of his distinguished predecessors.

He and his plane came through the war unscathed, although they had many brushes with Nazi craft and pilots. But they did experience a few mishaps of an unusual nature. Once when Virgil was bringing his plane in for a landing behind the flight leader, a flock of sheep suddenly invaded the runway. He was too far in his approach to go around. Sheep and plane collided. The belly tank exploded, but Virgil came through with only a minor injury. He says actors aren't tough guys!

MR. HARDFAX. REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO RENTS AFTER THE LAST WAR. DON'T KEEP YOUR POCKET-BOOK & D KEEP A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD THIS TIME BY KNOWING THE FACTS ABOUT RENT CONTROL.

SULTAN ENTERTAINS MEDICS IN ARABIAN NIGHT SPLENDOR

ZAMBOANGA, Mindanao, P. I.—(ANP)—Two brown American army medics, members of the 318th Medical battalion that had fought its way to the Philippines from Guadalcanal, Bougainville, New Guinea and the Netherlands East India; where honored recently by the powerful Mohammedan sultan for their relentless efforts to save the lives of the Moros people.

The two army doctors honored by Sultan Janinal Abirin were Capt. Robert McDaniel and Dunbar Gibson, both graduates of Howard university's school of medicine. The splendor of the banquet, held in the throne room of the Mohammedan monarch's new temporary Spanish-style palace, equaled the scenes of "Kismet" or the colorful tales of the "Arabian Nights," the guests revealed.

They had to pass long lines of Moro guerrillas before they entered the lavishly decorated throne room that had been converted temporarily into a huge banquet hall where they first met Sen. Hadji Buto Basal, a member of the Philippine congress and personal attache to the general, 70-year-old white-haired ruler of the Jap-hating Moros, his imperial highness Sultan Janinal Abirin.

After formal greetings, the sultan ordered that his guests be served immediately. Moros waiters entered laden with food that consisted of a 20-course dinner. Two hours later, the sultan arose. He said: "My friends, both of you know that for four long years, the Japanese have driven us like criminals into the hills to let us find either death or such salvation as there was. They left us without homes, food or medical supplies. Our arms were those which our forebears used and which we use even today.

But thanks to America, and in this instance, to the medical supply branch of this huge army, Jole's people are getting well. Our wounds are healing; disease is not now rampant among our peoples. So to our two brown American brothers, who have done such remarkable work among us, today we do honor."

"I have as much personal interest in the man any one, for did they not save the life of my two-week old baby?" (The sultan, although 70, has five beautiful young wives.) So, captain Drs. McDaniel and Gibson, we bear you the seal and the freedom of the Moro empire."

RENT CONTROL HAS PROTECTED SERVICE MEN AND WORKERS' FAMILIES FROM UNWARRANTED EVICTIONS. RENTS HAVE BEEN STABILIZED SINCE 1942. AFTER THE LAST WAR (FROM ARBITRARY IN 1928 TO 1921) RENTS SERVED TO INCREASE TOTALING \$2,000,000,000.00.

Interracial Choir First Appearance

Under the sponsorship of the Portland Christian Youth Council, the Fellowship Choir made its first public appearance Sunday, November 25th at Centenary-Wilybur Methodist Church, 215 S. E. 9th Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

This choir has young boys and girls of all races on its roster. All those who braved the rain to hear them last Sunday had a real musical treat. The director of the choir is Mr. Joseph Edminton. Miss Isabelle Gates and Mr. George Thomas are advisors.

groes of the United States contribute largely to the economic welfare. Of the 30,000,000 acres of farm land in the United States, 3,300,000 acres are operated by Negroes. In Delaware and Maryland, for example, hundreds have gone in for large poultry raising.

Market for Durable Goods. "While usually not emphasized in statements of this kind, the Negro market for durable goods in this country is considerable and could be increased many times. At the end of 1941, approximately 1,500,000 automobiles in the United States were owned by Negroes. Farm implements on the 8,255,000 acres of farm land owned by Negroes in 17 southern states had, in 1940, a value greater than \$40,000,000. This, of course is relatively small. The possibilities for expansion in this market are suggested by the fact that 25 per cent of the farms operated by Negroes in the United States are owned by them. These farms have a value of approximately \$85,000,000 and represent 700,000 farm owners.

Negroes and Farm Production. "As farm producers, the Negroes of the United States contribute largely to the economic welfare. Of the 30,000,000 acres of farm land in the United States, 3,300,000 acres are operated by Negroes. In Delaware and Maryland, for example, hundreds have gone in for large poultry raising.

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Leader Portrayed In Art Exhibit

BROOKLYN—(ANP)—Paintings of Negro leaders are on display in a traveling Harmon foundation exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum along with an art show of work by contemporary Negro artists.

The paintings, the work of Betsy Graves Reyneau, a white artist, and Laura Wheeler Waring, present the following public notables as art subjects: Henry Thacker Durligh, singer and composer; Jessie Redman Fauset, teacher and author; Mary McLeod Bethune, director of the NYA; Channing H. Tobias, National YMCA secretary; Charles Hamilton Houston, lawyer; Dr. Alain LeRoy Locke, educator; Pvt. Edward Lee; Dr. George Washington Carver, scientist; Paul Robeson (costumed as "Othello"); Mrs. Helen H. Whiting, Georgia's rural education supervisor; Eugene Kinckle Jones, national secretary of the Urban League; Dr. William Edward B. DuBois, educator and writer; Dr. Charles Richard Drew, Professor of surgery, Howard university.

Others portrayed are Marian Anderson, singer; Dr. John Andrew Kenny, director, John A. Drew Hospital at Tuskegee institute; Monroe Nathan Work, editor of the Negro Year Book; Dr. Moredecai W. Johnson, Howard university president; James Welton Johnson, arthur and poet; Walter White, NAACP executive secretary; Judge Jane O'Blin, domestic relations court of New York; Judge William Henry Hastie, dean of law, Howard university; Anna Arnold Hedgeman, executive secretary, National Council for a Permanent FEPC; George Edmund Haynes, sociologist; Asa Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Capt. William Campbell, who completed missions over Sicily, Salerno and Anzio as a member of the famous 99th Pursuit Squadron.

In an adjacent gallery, the work of contemporary Negro artists is on display under the title, "The Negro Artist Comes of Age." The first of these exhibitions was assembled by the Albany Institute of History and Art and is being circulated throughout the country by the American Federation of Arts.

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Jew, Negro Fight Nazism in Youth

MANNHEIM, GERMANY—(ANP)—For some time I have planned to write something about an officer and a company of soldiers who are doing something about the mental reconversion of German youth. I am not going to put off any longer a report on their good work.

Out of Sandhofen, a suburb of Mannheim, 1st Lt. Louis A. Singer and his men run a truck unit. This itself is much to do, but he and his men are determined to do even more in helping to carry out the second mission of the American overseas soldier. They know that our first mission was to help win the war, and our second to help keep it won.

Singer is a tall, friendly-looking chap out of New York's Manhattan who believes that honor and credit to the United States army is reflected by the mirror of good deeds.

As a result he and his men have established the German youth playground for the kids of Sandhofen, with the aim of driving from their minds the Nazi creed of hat and bigotry planted by the Hitler jugend.

Louis, himself a Jew, is the first person to tell you that his effort is not to reconvert the old Nazi heads—for he has no great love for them—but rather an expression of genuine interest in making the kids understand the importance of being good sports in the game of life.

As sponsors of the youth project, Singer and his colored troops take a true interest in the kids. At the playground, it's a common thing to see a ring of youngsters around a soldier—their faces lit up by the happiness and joy of knowing that somebody is taking an interest in them.

League Plans Macon Meet. ATLANTA—(ANP)—Under sponsorship of the Atlanta Civic and Political League and headed by John Wesley Dobbs, a non-partisan call has been issued to Negro citizens of the state to meet in Macon Thursday, Nov. 29, at high noon for the purpose of organizing a state-wide Non-Partisan Citizens committee to help Negroes of Georgia "economically and politically."

Minister Jailed In Coach Row

MEMPHIS—(ANP)—Rev. A. L. Turner, prominent minister and business man of Memphis, after being forced off his train at Shreveport, La., while enroute to Dallas to attend a CME conference, finally reached his destination short of both money and valuable time as the result of a pernickious jim crow practice, it was learned this week.

The conductor on a Texas and Pacific passenger train had Rev. Turner arrested when the minister, observing that there was only standing room in the "colored coach, asked him to move to a rear coach assigned to white passengers. Apparently resenting this request, the conductor called a police officer and had the minister taken from the train.

Rev. Turner remained in jail at Shreveport for two nights and a day, and was released only after a stern rebuke from the police court judge that "you must be trying to stir up some race trouble." The minister was fined \$17.50, and had to pay a lawyer \$15 as counsel fee.

In a statement, Rev. Turner, who for the past several years has pastored Grady's Chapel CME church here in Memphis, and also owner of the Afro-American studio on Beale street, asserted that he was traveling from Jackson, Miss., to Dallas by way of Shreveport when the incident occurred.

"After reaching Shreveport from Jackson, I was transferred to the Texas & Pacific on a transfer bus, and immediately boarded my train, Rev. Turner said. "The train was scheduled to leave at 11:55 P. M. and when I entered my car there was only one section of seats, and I sat down in one of the double seats. Shortly the conductor came through, and ordered me to move as those seats were for his use.

"I refused to move, stating that I had been traveling a long ways, and was tired. This seat is in a colored coach anyway, and I don't see any reasons why I should not remain."

Rev. Turner added that it was then the conductor stated that he would have him ejected from the train. "That's your privilege, but I'll have you reported upon reaching Dallas," the minister told the conductor.

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Churches Observe Registration Day. ATLANTA—(ANP)—Churches of Atlanta set aside a part of the Sunday, Nov. 11 services to the encouragement of registration and voting among the members.

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