

Doctor Melville Jacobs Speech Blasts "Superior Race" Myth

Large Audience Attending Membership Meeting of Urban League Hears Noted Lecturer

By ANNE MCCRISON

As part of the program to educate the general public along the lines of racial tolerance, the Portland Chapter of the Urban League brought to Portland last Tuesday evening a noted speaker in the person of Dr. Melville Jacobs, a well known professor of Anthropology. The occasion was the membership meeting of the local branch of the Urban League held in Library hall at the Central Public Library, 10th and Taylor streets.

Dr. Jacobs is a nationally known author, teacher, lecturer and authority on race. His statement that America will have to stop preaching something that she does not practice—Democracy—unless she begins to give the Negro fairer treatment, stamps him as a fearless, frank and outspoken champion of the rights of the minority groups. His subject was "Racial Myths".

Dr. Melville Jacobs lecture Tuesday evening at Library Hall on Race Ideas was attended by a large number of people interested in the race problems of today.

His lecture blasted the mythical idea that the Caucasian Race was a superior race, as he stated there is no such thing as a pure race; all races have been mixing for over thousands of years.

ter conditions. One question concerned the fact that colored soldiers were segregated in camps, but not in the hospitals and on battle fields. Another question asked was, why do the medical schools teach there is no difference in human beings, yet do not accept colored students in the classes.

A large audience attended the meeting and heard this all enlightening lecturer, but only about one fourth of the audience was Negroes. Dr. Jacobs commended the Urban League on the great strides it had made in membership in such a short time. The present membership

is about 600 and continually growing under the leadership of a very efficient executive secretary, Mr. Edwin C. Berry.

There are many people who still cling to a "Mastery Race" theory. Dr. Jacobs gave the evidence that is necessary to intelligently explode this myth. The true facts about race and racial characteristics as they apply to Negroes are known to too few Portlanders. The opportunity to hear this speech on "Racial Myths" should be given Portlanders again and again so that the true import of these facts will become stamped indelibly on their minds.

Mrs. Jackson Does Pioneering Job in Portland



Mrs. Marjorie Humber Jackson, program director for group work and community relations of the Portland YWCA, joined the Association's staff last summer. She came to Portland from Wilmington, Del., where she served as executive director for the YW in a building jointly operated by the YWCA and YMCA.

In Portland, as she did in Wilmington, Mrs. Jackson is doing a pioneering job. She serves as a resource person on interracial matters for the entire Association and carries some of the responsibility for administration, program and assistance in developing an integrated, interracial employed girls' club. She also is concerned with interpreting the philosophy and purpose of the YWCA to the community.

In the short period she has been in Portland, Mrs. Jackson has cooperated with the Vanport and Albina Neighborhood Councils and spoken before many church and community women's groups. She is endeavoring to organize a recreational and educational program for employed girls in Vanport. The group meets Monday evenings at 8 o'clock in community building No. 1.

At the central YWCA building, S. W. Broadway at Taylor, the employed girls have a special program on Thursday evenings. The dinner meeting at 6:30 p. m. is followed by a varied program of activities. Workshops in drama, music, dancing and swimming begin at 8 p. m. The Thursday night activities are open to all employed girls in the 17 to 35 age group.

The program for the next several weeks includes: December 13, dinner and business meeting in preparation for the Christmas party; December 20, Christmas party with arrangements in charge of Miss Gladys Remont, Miss Norma Jarlsburg, Miss Betty Boulette and Miss Hilda Ullam; January 3, a "looking ahead" dinner to begin the New Year.

Randolph to Participate in Job and Peace Meet

NEW YORK—(ANP)—A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, was one of the prominent speakers on a symposium held here Wednesday evening at the Rand School of Social Science. Other speakers on the program, "Sixty Million Jobs—A Factor in World Peace," were M. J. Caldwell, a member of the Canadian parliament; Irving Fisher, professor of economics at Queens college.

White Officer Calls Army Jim Crow Protest Nonsense

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Despite the humiliation of service in segregated army units, Negro soldiers have no official right to resist or protest according to apt. Leroy T. Snyder, white, former commanding officer of the deactivated 674th Ordnance Ammunition company.

Rebellion in the face of United States army jim crow asserted Snyder, an ex-New York City cop, is "G-d-n nonsense."

That is the charge leveled against the officer by George Colman Moore, ANP feature writer, formerly assigned to the unit. Before the company disbanded Nov. 8, Moore, who is now discharged, said 1st Lt. Marvin Great, white, Eden Rapids, Mich., personnel officer, asked him to write the history of the organization for war department records but when the story was completed Snyder objected to criticism of army segregation policies.

It was then the commander shouted in angry rage "what's all this 'G-d-d-n nonsense' and told Great he was striking the passages attacking army racial bias.

According to Moore, fourth army headquarters at Houston, sent a directive to the 674th at Camp Gruber, Okla., where it had reassigned after redeployment furloughs, requiring the history prior to deactivation. The statement specified the account would be "non-statistical since such information already existed elsewhere but must be 'analytical and interpretive' with emphasis on mistakes in the field and suggestions for correction.

Moore said he examined among other things the army jim crow pattern and found it unsound, a moral and psychological mistake. Complete integration in all branches of the services could possibly be the solution, he wrote.

Pointing out the effect army segregation has on "the military proficiency, spiritual development and mental attitudes of Negro troops" Moore said such discrimination is "in conflict with our ideals of human justice, the widely heralded four freedoms and specific provisions of the Atlantic charter. In a word, they defeat our concept of governance and abort our pledge in a world war to plant the democratic virus in the soil of peoples' minds everywhere.

"Commanders and enlisted men who have given the matter some thought acknowledge that the philosophy of segregation in the use of Negro troops has proved a miserable failure. This has been true because the arrangement has been recognized as psychologically bad for the men affected and on a larger plane un-American and indeed un-moral.

"The answer to the myriad unhappy problems thus created is a simple obvious one: complete integration in all branches of the services without regard for race, color or creed."

Neither the discovery nor the solution, added Moore, was original or new and should have been familiar to Snyder as a commander of Negro troops yet he violently opposed the slap at army jim crow and ordered its censorship. Moore further contended his position was in order inasmuch as the directive specifically asked for a critical estimate.

Full text of the section which drew Snyder's ire follows: "The purpose of what follows is not to call names, nor is it an effort at preaching a sermon, but it is designed as a plea for realism toward solution of a pressing military problem.

"No one will claim that the United States army is a democratic army. Most of us will agree that it is autocratic and are willing to concede that in the interest of military efficiency there may be need for it.

"Nevertheless few will deny this greatest of all fighting machines is a people's army, made up of all the citizens of our lustrous, heterogeneous populace. Some

Victory Loan Interracial Dinner



At the conclusion of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's speech at the Victory Loan Interracial dinner which was held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, recently, little Patricia Cecchini and Lawrence Kenner, both victims of infantile paralysis, presented to her a beautiful bouquet of roses in appreciation of the great contribution of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the infantile Paralysis foundation.

Brutality Brings Suit Against Seaboard Railway

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Attorneys acting at the request of the International Labor Defense have filed suit for \$25,000 damages against the receivers for the Seaboard Air Line railway for complicity in beating up of a Negro woman passenger and her infant son, it was announced Tuesday.

Mrs. Nina Beltran of New York and her five-year-old child were the victims of the assault, which occurred near Hamlet, N. C., on August 7.

Mrs. Beltran was travelling to Columbia, S. C., with her child. Because the jim crow car was full, she and a number of other Negro passengers sat in the next car. The conductor repeatedly ordered her and the others to move into the jim crow car. Because there were no seats for her or her child, Mrs. Beltran returned to the other car.

At Hamlet, N. C., the conductor called a local policeman, who, at the conductor's request, struck Mrs. Beltran and tried to force the five-year-old boy to carry a heavy suitcase into the jim crow car. When the child could not lift the bag, the policeman, encouraged by the conductor, struck him and knocked him to the floor.

Mother and son were finally physically pushed into the jim crow coach, where they stood the rest of the way to Columbia, S. C.

At Columbia, Mrs. Beltran was so ill she went to the station agent, who, realizing the responsibility of the railroad for her serious condition, arranged for her hospitalization for nearly two weeks at railroad expense. Mrs. Beltran, who lives in the Bronx, is still under medical care because of the injuries she received at that time.

Samuel Shapiro, of Neuberger, Shapiro and Rabinowitz, filed the suit on behalf of Mrs. Beltran.

"The facts in this case are not unusual," Louis Colman, I.L.D. secretary, said in announcing filing of the suit. "If they were, it would not be so important. These cases of brutal brutality against Negro people in the enforcement of the barbaric segregation laws of our southern states are all too common. Unfortunately, in most cases the victims fail to keep the necessary data and obtain the names of essential witnesses, or else they simply do not know their rights, and consequently take no legal action.

"In Mrs. Beltran's case the railroad is clearly responsible and the evidence is unimpeachable. We have them dead to rights and the suit will be vigorously prosecuted. We hope this action will help pin courage on all enemies of jim crow to battle it out until the vicious system is abolished."

Howard U. Plans April Confab

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The postwar outlook for Negroes in small businesses, technical vocations and the engineering professions will be thoroughly discussed in a three-day conference to be held at Howard university in April. The ninth annual conference of the Howard division of the social sciences with the cooperation of the school of engineering and architecture, together with a special community advisory committee, will devote its entire sessions to the problems affecting Negroes.

A meeting preparatory to the conference will name the speakers and assign topics. Many prominent Washington business and professional people are interested in the conference which will hear a special message by a representative from the senate small business committee and a paper from a representative of the American Society of Civil Engineers, also papers from a representative of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and an address "Pertinent Points in the Program of the U. S. Department of Commerce."

GEORGIA VETERANS PLEDGE TO SEEK DEMOCRACY AT HOME

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Several hundred veterans held a spirited mass meeting last week at Morehouse college and pledged themselves to follow a program of action designed to bring a "full share of the democracy" they fought for in the war.

Sponsored by the Georgia Veterans League, Inc., speakers from the platform and floor called for political equality, fair treatment under the G. I. Bill of Rights, equal health, educational and school facilities, equal salaries and Negro police and firemen.

Acting chairman of the meeting, John Turner, a lieutenant and fighter pilot, declared: "We are determined to bring full democracy in every way into every crack and corner of the state that we love.

"Fourteen points of action" outlined by the group included:

1. A fair application of the G. I. Bill of Rights for all veterans.
- a. On the job training for Negro veterans in technical and industrial establishments.
- b. Vocational and technical school training.
- c. Loans to Negro veterans

commanders and enlisted men have, however, frequently failed to remember that Negroes are Americans too, soldiers who likewise have spilled their blood for God and country.

"There have been numerous instances of discrimination against colored troops storming from official war department policy of segregating Negro soldiers into jim crow units. The whole ramifications of problems this situation presents, both for the individual colored serviceman and army commanders, cannot escape notice because it has a direct bearing on the military proficiency, spiritual development, and mental attitudes of Negro troops.

"Such discrimination is of course in conflict with our ideals of human justice, the widely heralded four freedoms and specific provisions of the Atlantic charter. In a word, they defeat our concept of governance and abort our pledge in a world war to plant the democratic virus in the soil of peoples' minds everywhere.

"Commanders and enlisted men who have given the matter some thought acknowledge that the philosophy of segregation in the use of Negro troops has proved a miserable failure. This has been true because the arrangement has been recognized as psychologically bad for the men affected, and on a larger plane un-American and indeed un-moral.

"The answer to the myriad unhappy problems thus created is a simple obvious one: complete integration in all branches of the services without regard for race, color or creed.

"Integration can work. It has worked successfully on a small scale in reassembly areas, redistribution centers and on a larger one in the various officer candidate schools in all sections of the country."



Proposed New Federal Agency Will Be Boon to Negroes and Colleges

When President Roosevelt presented his four questions to Dr. Vannevar Bush concerning the maintenance of a high level of scientific research—the finding out of new things—medical research and provision for the training of young Americans, Dr. Bush established committees which recommended that the government spend about 20 million dollars yearly to support research by universities and research institutes in the national sciences; chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics and allied fields; spend 20 million yearly for research in medicine; establish federal science scholarships and fellowships; seek out in the army and navy personnel with scientific training or aptitude and assign them to school to complete their scientific education, and the President appoint a national research foundation to guide U. S. science and to administer the program.

On Sept. 6, President Truman submitted his message to congress strongly urging the adoption of legislation establishing such a federal research agency with adequate funds. He added: "Our economic and industrial strength, the physical well-being of our people, the achievement of full employment and production, the future of our security and the preservation of our principles will be determined by the extent to which we give full and sincere support to the works of science. It is with these works that we can build the high roads to the future."

The Bush report and President Truman's message were responsible, at least in part, for four bills introduced in the senate and one in the house. The sponsors agreed to consider these bills together at joint hearings with the hope that a single bill acceptable to all would result. The hearings began Oct. 24 and continued through Nov. In general, the visiting scientists and others expressed agreement with the basic principles. Most disagreement resulted from a fear that government aid would imply government control with the consequent stifling of free scientific inquiry.

The structure of the agency is of primary concern for the Negro colleges and medical schools will deal with one or the other divisions in the set-up. Bush proposed that the national research foundation be guided by a group of nine members to serve without compensation for a period of four years. Members would be entitled to their expenses while on

The only outstanding reason the Caucasian Race has such a foothold over the dark races is because of educational advantages which they used to benefit themselves, and keep other races down.

Members of the minority groups are subject to hard work and very little pay so they cannot advance themselves any further than the majority race allows. Poor living conditions is one of the strongest holdbacks to any race. Also the lack of educational advantages which leaves them unable to prepare for better paying jobs.

Although the races differ only in skin color, hair and features, the brains are the same in all races.

The best way to keep down the race superiority is to educate the people away from the mythical ideas of race supremacy, by teaching in the schools that there is no difference in people, also by talking to the older groups and by practicing too much of the nazism which was the cause of Germany being down today. He urged a program of race harmony and understanding be supported by all people. He also stated—there are over a million people of the dark race and unless conditions are bettered, trouble will come and destroy and bring disastrous effects.

The part the Urban League is playing by informing the people in America is a grand contribution toward doing away with race prejudice.

Dr. M. Jacobs was introduced by Mr. William Brewster, President of our local Urban League, which sponsored the lecture. Mr. E. Berry, Ex-Secretary of the League was also on the program.

Dr. Jacobs is of the University of Washington department of Anthropology. He also was a student of Columbia University of New York. While in the city, he addressed the student bodies of Grant High and Washington High Schools.

At the close of his lecture questions were asked concerning the way the darker races were treated, and what would be the best way to put over a more democratic program for the bet-