

### Insurance Co. to Build Own Office

DETROIT—(ANP)—The Western Union Mutual Insurance company has purchased a site for the erection of a home office building in the downtown district here, according to an announcement last week by Wilson Lovett, company president.

The site is located within two blocks of the present location of the company, he said, where Gratiot, Bush and Clinton streets converge. The plans to occupy one floor while ground floor stores and offices will be available for renting.

Plans for the new building are being drawn by Samuel Plato, well known structural engineer and contractor.

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### Lescot, Deposed Hawaiian President, Long Interested in Negroes

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Revolutions and rumors of revolutions in Haiti have been prevalent for a number of years. In 1939, when Elie Lescot was Haitian minister to the United States, such rumors persisted and a representative of the Associated Negro Press was granted an interview with the minister to discuss the situation.

At that time, the now deposed president laughed off any mention of a planned revolt and said they occurred as the results of incidents, and his prophecy—if prophecy it was—was true in the events which resulted in his overthrow last week.

Mr. Lescot was the protege of the former president, Stenio Vincent, first president after the U. S. occupation, who had a very close working agreement with the United States.

But Mr. Lescot himself was more friendly toward Negro America than his predecessors in the embassy and was frequently seen on You street and in the colored theaters in that section.

Many Negroes attended affairs at the Haitian embassy during his regime as minister and he was a frequent speaker at Negro affairs. On one occasion, speaking at the annual banquet of the National Council of Negro Women, on the same platform with such notables as Mrs. Daisy Borden Harriman, U. S. minister to Norway at the time of the Nazi occupation, and the eminent liberal, the late Charles Edward Russell, Mr. Lescot pronounced decisively "First we are a race, then a nation." This settled once and for all any debate on the racial question which frequently burst open when Haitians were discussed. Their French language, customs and closeness to their former mother country, France, has led many to believe the Haitians aspired to be called Aryans.

In his interview, Mr. Lescot asked for a continued interest of American Negroes in Haitian affairs. He sought to cultivate a closer and more harmonious relationship between the American Negro and the Haitian. But his country was still in the grasp of certain American financial groups which had obtained control years ago. United States marines occupied the islands and administered the affairs of the Negro republic. Then came the withdrawal of the Marines and the substitution of other methods of controlling the finances of the nation.

Prior to the war, with the formation of Winthrop Rockefeller's Coordination of Inter-American Affairs group, a Negro was sent to Haiti to study conditions. Raymond Logan, a fluent speaker of French and a keen student of international history, professor at Howard university, made an extended trip to the island.

His report on conditions as he found them was never made public, but promptly buried and never discussed. Mr. Logan could not, with regard to the ethics of the situation, make an additional report what he found, but his intimations were that all was not well and that the nation was burdened under the control of the organization known as SHADA—a contraction of a lengthy impressive title — which ruled most of the Haitian financial life. And it was under the direction of Americans, practically a holdover from the old regime which the Haitians fought.

Professor Mercer Cook of Howard university, who spent a number of years in Haiti and also in Cuba, has also referred to the stranglehold which certain outside governments held on the island.

Recently, there has been much interest in the production of Haitian agricultural products, especially its adaptability to the production of rubber. American interests spent considerable time and money in developing certain of these areas in an effort to offset the world shortage of this important item.

Mr. Lescot was called from his post as minister to the United States and "elected" president in a most peculiar, according to

American political standards, election. He was practically chosen as the successor to the then president who had maintained himself in office for a number of years and then brought his successor in. Whatever the internal machinations forcing Lescot out of office, they are unknown to American Negroes on the whole. The Haitians alone could determine whether Lescot was a "despot" as they now claim.

It had been reported that hundreds of political opponents of the present regime had been imprisoned when Lescot came into power three years ago. They now, according to dispatches, have been freed.

Mr. Lescot's sons were educated at colored colleges and schools in the United States, attending Howard and St. Emma's Catholic school for boys down in Virginia.

During the occupation of Haiti by the United States, Louis Borno was president of the island republic. As Mr. Borno's boat sailed out of New York harbor, following a visit here, it is reported that a military band saluting him played "Bye Bye Blackbird" nearly precipitating an international incident.

### Current Thinking On Colored Soldiers in France

by JESSE O. THOMAS

PARIS—(ANP)—As I look back over the experiences I have had during my travels through the principal areas of France, Italy, Belgium and Germany, I am attempting to evaluate the program of the American government and the American Red Cross in regards to the manner in which they are supplying the soldiers and citizens on foreign soil with the necessities of life.

In the case of the American government, I think the thing which strikes one between the eyes is its efficiency. I doubt, for example, that there was an American soldier and few American citizens employed by the government or any of its subsidiaries situated anywhere on foreign soil who did not have the opportunity of having a turkey dinner on Thanksgiving. I have traveled a good deal on trains over the continent on military authority and I have eaten ham and eggs, bacon and eggs, or steak from American packing houses just as if I were riding between Chicago and Kansas City.

American soldiers are occupying positions as train masters on trains transporting soldiers from one location to another. Those who do not ride on trains which have dining cars are given K rations to supply their needs for the total journey, divided into as many luncheon, breakfast or dinner divisions as the trip contemplated justifies. In the post-exchanges all over Europe, one can buy American made goods of every character and kind from tooth paste up to an overcoat.

At every railroad station one finds the R.T.O. which signifies bureau of railroad transportation for the American travelling public. There is no question about it. Uncle Sam has reached his long arm around the world and has abundantly supplied the needs of all his citizens. Every morning at breakfast I am served prunes, grapefruit juice, fresh grape fruit, peaches, pears or pineapple, grown and canned in America and made available for American citizens wherever they are.

As to the American Red Cross, the thing which has impressed me most about that great organization is its university. There is a Red Cross chapter in every town or community where any sizeable number of American soldiers has been located or spent any time on furlough. At every railroad station, every airport and every boat landing, the "greatest mother of them all" has a local unit ready to serve the traveller

### Woman Is First Negro Medic on Hospital Staff

NEWARK, N. J.—(ANP)—Dr. E. Mae McCarroll became the first Negro member of the city's hospital medical staff here last week upon recommendation by the hospital's executive committee. She will serve on the pathological service staff under Dr. David R. Kraker, vice president of the executive committee.

Dr. McCarroll's appointment marks the end of a long civic fight to gain Negro representation on the City hospital's medical staff here and charge of racial prejudice and discrimination were made repeatedly to the city commission. A picket line was thrown around the city hall last July 3.

A native of Birmingham, Dr. McCarroll is unmarried and has been practicing here since 1929. She is a graduate of Talladega college, Fisk university and the Woman's Medical college in Philadelphia. She received a master of science degree from Columbia university in 1940.

Dr. McCarroll, who joined the health department's child Hygiene division staff in 1932 and was later named assistant physician in the venereal disease clinic, was promoted last March as assistant epidemiologist of that department. She has been praised for her work in health education in combating venereal disease.

"Naturally, I am delighted at this honor," she said when informed of her appointment. "I hope it may represent the beginning of greater opportunity for Negro physicians in our city."

with doughnuts and coffee.

The second thing that impresses one with the program of the Red Cross is the extent to which the natives, and that includes the British, French, Italian and German civilians, have prevented the Negro staffed club from becoming a jim crow or segregated unit. The Negro people, whether soldiers on foreign soil or citizens at home, should always feel grateful to these people. They owe a debt of gratitude for the total disregard these foreign whites have exercised toward any attempt on the part of certain anti-social elements in our military population to build up unsympathetic attitudes toward Negro soldiers.

The third is the manner in which the Negro soldiers, the majority of whom would appear to be below high school level, have conducted themselves in relation to the civilians so as to be preferred in many instances to the white soldiers. It will not be possible during the life of this generation of German, French, Italian or English people for anybody to justify enforcing differentials or imposing segregation upon Negroes because of their behavior, mental deficiency or lack of good manners.

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### Chicago Host to Fax-Jones Exhibit

CHICAGO—(ANP) — A dual exhibit of original illustrations by Elton C. Fax and small water colors by Frederick D. Jones opened with a tea Sunday at the South Side Community Art center. The exhibit will last through Feb.

Eight illustrations from the recent best seller, "George Washington Carver" by Shirley Graham and George Lipscomb, and five from "Molind's Medal" by Georgene Faulkner and John Becker, both published by Julian Messner, comprise the work shown by Fax. A Baltimorean by birth and now a resident of Brooklyn, Fax is a fine arts graduate from Syracuse university, served as art instructor at Claflin college, South Carolina, has exhibited widely and is well represented in Alain Lockes "The Negro in Art."

Frederick D. Jones is well represented in the exhibit with 30 small water colors and gouaches. Besides working in water colors, he is well known for his oils, litho-prints and wood block printing. A former instructor of children's classes at South Side Community Art center before entering the navy, Jones is a product of the Art institute, has exhibited widely, and won first prize in water color at the Atlanta university annual Negro art show in 1943.

### Lt. Daniel Smith Now Discharged

LEXINGTON, Ky. — (ANP) — First Lt. Daniel Earl Smith, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Vernon Smith of Lexington, has returned from the European theatre of war, after serving 19 months there, as special service officer for his company. He was one of the first graduates of the school for special service officers at Washington and Lee university in Virginia.

Lt. Smith is a graduate of Morehouse college, Atlanta, and attended the graduate school of the University of Michigan. At Morehouse college he was a three-letter man and received the Forbes award for high scholastic standing.

His brother, Pvt. Edwin M. Smith, a member of the Ft. Benning, Ga., football and basketball teams, has recently been selected a member of the All-Service team.


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