

Here's
My Story
By PAUL ROBESON

"SO WHAT'S this stuff about China wanting to conquer the world, Paul?" asked a friend of mine on the Avenue. "You've been all over. Tell me, is MacArthur handing out a line?"

My friend was a railroad man I have known for years. Came up from Texas about fifteen years ago. Married, settled down, trying now to keep his family of four together on \$3,000 a year, which is a whole lot better than most of my folks are doing. But I figured for that very reason he had a big stake in peace. So I told him what I thought and how I came to think of it.

"Jack," I said, "I want you to go back in your mind to Texas. Think about the way you lived before you came up to Harlem. Think about the way our folks live down there, and not only in Texas but in Mississippi and Alabama and Georgia and the Carolinas, too.

"I'm not talking about the handful of doctors and lawyers and businessmen out in some exclusive Sugar Hill section of the ghetto. But what about the majority of the people? You know how it is—hunger always in the house, debts piling up, not a mumbling word on how they are going to be governed or who's going to be the government, and the police or the hoodlum always stalking them. That's right, isn't it?"

"WELL, there are 500 million Chinese, and for centuries about 499 million of them have been living just like our folks in the South. Every year millions of them used to starve to death. And right in the biggest cities of China where the big powers had concessions, there were hotels and restaurants and clubs that a Chinese couldn't go in unless he was a servant. Yessir, that big country of China was a jimcrow country, just like our country.

"Then comes along a man named Sun Yat-sen and after him a man named Mao Tse-tung, and the first thing Mao did was put an end to the big plantation system that was starving the Chinese to death. That was the first thing, and I want to tell you, brother, it's a pretty big thing when you fix it so that 499 million people will be free from hunger for the rest of their lives and their children's lives.

"The second thing Mao did was put an end to Jim Crow. And when I say 'an end,' Jack, I mean 'an end.' Never again in China will any Englishman or Frenchman or American kick around a Chinese rickshaw driver, or put up a sign on a building to keep Chinese out. That's gone, brother.

"Well, now, I want to ask you a question. Just suppose our folks in the South got the land they've been tilling all these centuries for the big

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Freedom

"Where one is enslaved, all are in chains!"

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McGEE PROTESTS GROW AS DEATH DATE NEARS



WILLIE McGEE was being led to electrocution when this picture was taken in June, 1949. A last-minute stay of execution saved his life and his fight for freedom went on. Wide World photo

If Willie McGee, innocent Laurel, Miss., victim of a frameup "rape" conviction, is rescued from the state's traveling electric chair on his scheduled execution date, May 8, his life will have been saved by an unprecedented flood of protests which has been gathering momentum in all parts of the world.

Recently the Union of Democratic Jurists of Germany and 42 members of the French National Assembly added their cables to those which have been sent to the White House by intellectuals, labor federations, youth and women's organizations in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Literally half the population of the world has voiced its protest to President Truman but the only response of the President has been to have the State Department distribute abroad the prosecution's version of the case.

The true story, which Mrs. Rosalee McGee, wife of the condemned father of four children, has been relating to audiences from one end of the country to another is that Mrs. Troy Hawkins, a white Laurel housewife forced McGee into a relationship, cried "rape" when he called it off, and convicted him with perjured testimony at a trial held Dec. 6, 1945, in a courthouse surrounded by a howling mob and 50 state guardsmen with drawn bayonets and machine guns. The all-white jury took three minutes to return a "guilty" verdict.

The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to review the evidence of McGee's innocence which was never permitted to be brought out in three hearings in the lower courts, but millions of Americans are acting on the conviction that McGee faces death, not because of due process of law, but because of the unwritten "white supremacist" law of the South.

Will Missouri Truman uphold that law? Millions are saying no in an avalanche of postcards and wires to the president, in mass meetings, parades, prayer vigils, and demonstrations in every state of the Union.

The Civil Rights Congress, which has led the fight for McGee's freedom called upon all unions, churches, civic, social and cultural organizations to join in huge 11th-hour demonstrative actions to force Truman to intervene to save Willie McGee.

Truman Can Save McGee!

"White is right," say the Mississippi lynchers. "Willie McGee must burn!"

"Not interested," says the U.S. Supreme Court about the new evidence proving him innocent.

White-robed Klan and black-robed Justice say Willie McGee must die.

NO!

WILLIE McGEE SHALL NOT DIE!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE.

WE CAN SAVE HIM.

One word from one man can spare his life.

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN IS THAT MAN.

The LYNCHER'S HAND on the

switch in the Mississippi death house, or the PRESIDENT'S HAND on a pen in the white House . . . which hand shall move?

THE ANSWER LIES IN YOUR HAND.

YOU, THE PEOPLE — EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD, YOU ARE THE HIGHEST COURT. Let the President hear from you.

Write a letter TODAY

Send a telegram TODAY

TO PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN, WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Let the President, and the Nation, and the world hear from YOU!

Freedom's Roundup

News Around the Nation

NO ESCAPING? Word comes from the 7th Army that between a quarter and a third of all American ground forces in Europe will be Negro. There is no indication that Army brass plans to use them except as shock troops and labor battalions in their projected World War III for the "American Way of Life." BUT—the proportion of Negro officers will be something else again. Officers will be mostly white—because of "inescapable social reasons."

JIM CROW JUSTICE: While Willie McGee faces the electric chair on an untrue charge of "raping" a white woman, a 58-year-old white man was given life imprisonment in Buffalo for the brutal sex-killing of a six-year-old Negro child. Little Barbara Faulkner was murdered last Jan. 15 by the sex maniac, Edwin C. Rost. For a false charge of "rape," you're killed; for killing, you're jailed.

And in Martinsville, Va., the same judge who sentenced seven Negro men to death on charges of raping a white woman, has dropped the case of a white man accused of raping a Negro mother of five children.

A GOOD HOME: "Isn't that ridiculous!" said Mrs. Beulah Babylon of Baltimore when charges were filed against her for keeping Miss Lillie Douglass in involuntary servitude for two years. Miss Douglass was threatened with prison and struck—but, said Mrs. Babylon, "Really, I can't see how the girl can do anything. She was colored and we are white, but I treated her like a daughter. . . ."

WHY I LOVE AMERICA: A high school student of Louisville, Ky. has reason to rewrite her prize-winning essay on "Why I Love America." Her prize was a segregated trip to the nation's capital. The white essay-winners made the tour by themselves.

CONFESSION: The Mississippi Supreme Court had to reverse the conviction of Charlie Holmes for murdering a white man when it got testimony of how the "confession" was obtained. "They punched me and held my head and hit me," he recounted, "and I near about lost my breath. That went on about an hour. One of the deputies put me on the horse (hanging victim from a pole by his tied hands and feet). When I got up, what I answered I don't know."

FASTING FOR INDIA: Students at Talladega College, Alabama, staged a mass fast for 24 hours to protest the government's refusal to grant the two million tons of grain requested by the starving Indian people.

THIS IS HARLEM: Disgust over high prices and low-paid jobs in Harlem led James Whitehead to tell the Amsterdam News he preferred the Army. "I can get away from all this for a while," he explained. "We are being exploited all the way down the line." Out of the frying pan—and into the fire.

CROSS-BURNING BY CONSENT: South Carolina's new anti-Klan law will enable a judge to fine or jail anyone wearing masks in public or burning crosses on private property without the consent of the owner. Nothing wrong with burning crosses, it seems, as long as you get permission.

WHAT'S SUBVERSIVE? Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, noted educator who found her name on the "subversive" list of the Un-American Activities Committee, had scathing words about red-baiting a Negro who "fearlessly" speaks out against bias. "No one but God can bridle my tongue from speaking out against injustices perpetrated against my people," she stated.

GLOBAL RACE WAR? The Norfolk Journal and Guide cites the case of a party of distinguished Filipinos who were refused service aboard a French merchant ship in Manila harbor. "Only whites served," a diplomatic representative and his party were told. "There is imminent danger," the paper editorialized, "that the next military outbreak, should it occur, will either degenerate into a racial war or be so rankled with racial antipathies as to threaten to bring complete destruction to civilization."

THEY GOT TOGETHER and collected enough money in their shop to finance a trip to Washington to help save the life of Willie McGee. Asking President Truman to pardon this victim of Mississippi lynch justice were (left to right): LeRoy Small, Dave Snitkin and Joe Creese, members of United Electrical Workers Local 475 in New York City.

A campaign for thousands of letters, telegrams and petitions to the President from Local 475 members was intensified to save the life of this man whose death sentence has become a world-wide symbol of unequal justice in America.



Terror Hits Dallas After Vet Killing

A reign of terror has been unleashed by policemen in the vicinity where a disabled Negro veteran was beaten, kicked, handcuffed and then shot and killed by a policeman in South Dallas. The reign of terror has been going on day and night, obviously to hush the numerous eye-witnesses.

Police have been talking to witnesses and have succeeded in intimidating a few, but the indignant citizens of South Dallas have formed a citizens' committee and have pledged to themselves that justice shall be done.

The police are worried. Even after the leading newspapers stated that the handcuffs on the victim "probably were not locked right" and the victim attacked the policeman on the way to jail, the killer-policemen have spread the word that they are looking for five more N— who are on their list and that some are to be shot on sight. These Negro men are eye-witnesses.

The aroused citizens are ready to see that justice—long overdue—is done.

**FREEDOM is for you—
Read it every month**

BURRS and BARBS



"Oh yes, Mrs. Du Pump, I shall be happy to serve on your 'Onward Democracy' committee if you'll only promise that we won't be expected to sit beside Negroes at the committee meetings."

Here's My Story

By Paul Robeson

(Continued from Page 1)

plantation owners. Suppose they got rid of Jim Crow and started governing themselves. I'm not asking you to imagine anything fantastic, because that's going to happen someday.

"And another question is this. Suppose that after they started enjoying this new life, a slaveholders' army should suddenly attack Cuba or Mexico, and should make it plain that they were not going to stay in Cuba or Mexico once they get it under their control, but would come on over to the South and restore the old ways of hunger and jimcrow. What do you think our folks would do then? Would they just sit still and wait till the slaveholders moved down on them, or wouldn't they go to help the Cubans and Mexicans stop the slaveholders there?"

"THAT'S the way I see it, Jack. So I don't have to answer your question about my opinion of what either MacArthur or Truman are saying. Neither one means the Chinese people any good. They're fussing about the best way to do the same thing, whether to attack the Chinese mainland now or later. And if you have any doubt about what their aims are, take a look at Japan since MacArthur's occupation. It's a Jim Crow country. And so is South Korea. Why they won't even let South Korean newspaper men have the same privileges as white American newspapermen.

"You know how I know all this? Reading and study, partly. I'm been studying Chinese for a long time now. To learn a people's language you have to learn their history and how they live.

"In Moscow some years ago I met three young Chinese, a fellow named Jack Chen and his two sisters. Jack was a newspaperman, one of his sisters was a motion picture technician and the other was a dancer. Their father was part Chinese and part Negro. He had lived in the West Indies and had served under Sun Yat-sen at the birth of the Chinese Republic.

"Jack was a slight chap, medium height and soft-spoken. He spoke beautiful English. He came to my concerts and we sat around many nights and talked of China and its future. This was in 1936 and '37. Later I met him in London, and we often appeared there for China Relief.

"It was an interesting experience to see and meet a Chinese who was part Negro and felt close to both his people. I believe he is now back in China—the new China—helping to build there a better life

for his countrymen.

"Also I remember appearing for a Korean group, some years ago, and singing an old Korean melody popular throughout that country.

"I FIND it ridiculous to even imagine these two peoples embarking on a predatory war to conquer other peoples. Just as I know no frameup of a Lieutenant Gilbert could ever happen in a Chinese people's army. No soldiers from one of the many minority peoples of China would be driven to mass courts-martial because their skin might be a little darker, or their language might be slightly different. No sections of either the Korean or the Chinese armies are set apart to do all the menial labor while others do the fighting, or whenever the going gets really rough, are sent up to be sacrificed while picked lighter-skinned units are allowed to withdraw.

"That's why I'm for a peace right now that will call all foreign troops out of Korea, certainly including our own boys who are not helping to tear down one single "Colored Only" sign by dying in Korea. As I have suggested, no American soldiers—white or colored—should be there. And furthermore, I'm for a peace of equality, which is the only kind of peace that will endure. I positively oppose this white supremacist trick of excluding China from the United Nations. And I'm for the five great powers sitting down to negotiate an immediate peace. You see, Jack, if we're going to get anywhere against Jim Crow in our own country, we can't do it by letting the man impose Jim Crow on other peoples.

"That's what I think about China, Jack, and about MacArthur and Truman, too. You see what I mean?"

History of May Day

Negro Labor Fought for 8-Hour Day

Negro working men played an important part in the events that established May Day as labor's holiday in 1886. The long fight for the eight-hour day reached a climax in May of that year when eight labor leaders were framed on a bomb-throwing charge at Haymarket in Chicago. Four were hanged—August Spies, Adolph Fischer, George Engel and Albert R. Parsons; Louis Lingg committed suicide. Three others, sent to prison, were pardoned seven years later by Gov. John P. Altgeld.

Leading up to this event were years of struggle in which the Negro working man played a militant role. The whole growth of the trade union movement after the Civil War was marked by the struggle of Negroes, in the south and north, to better their lot by organized action.

Wage Slavery

Abolition itself spurred labor organization all around the country. The agitation over slave labor led people to think about what the rights of so-called free labor should be.

After Emancipation, Negro and white workers began thrashing out the problem they had to face—their relationship to each other. Even in slavery days, the bosses had used the existence of the two groups to depress standards for both. The growth of the labor movement was marked by the grad-

ual realization that only by uniting against the employers could the working people, Negro and white, win their demands for a better life.

This was most brilliantly voiced by Isaac Myers of the Colored Caulkers Trade Union Society of Baltimore in a speech to the 1869 convention of the National Labor Union.

"Slavery, or slave labor, the main cause of the degradation of white labor, is no more," he said. "And it is the proud boast of my life that the slave himself had a share in striking off the one end of the fetters that bound him by the ankle, and the other that bound you by neck."

Groping for Unity

An "Address to the Working Men of the U.S." by the National Labor Union recognized the same idea. Unless the Negroes' offer of cooperation was accepted, it said, the bosses' "cherished idea of an antagonism between black and white labor would be realized, and... capitalists, north and south, would foment discord between the whites and blacks, and hurl the one against the other... to maintain their ascendancy and continue the reign of oppression."

The Knights of Labor, organized in 1869, spurred the organization of Negroes especially in the south. It accomplished what the craft unions could not do by organizing all



CHICAGO WORKERS parade on the first international May Day, 1890.

workers, skilled or unskilled. The local assembly, it was said, "gathers into one fold all branches of honorable toil, without regard to nationality, sex or color."

60,000 Knights

By 1886, when the Knights were at the height of their organization, there were an estimated 60,000 Negroes in their ranks, with assemblies in Richmond, Durham, Birmingham, Nashville, Wheeling, W. Va., and Harrisburg, Texas.

An item in the Associated Labor Press from Richmond in April, 1885, stated: "The Negroes are with us heart and soul, and have organized seven assemblies in this city and one in Manchester with a large membership."

The Central Trades and Labor Assembly formed in New Orleans did much to break the color line in southern labor. When the bosses refused to negotiate with a union of Negro draymen, a sympathetic strike of organized labor in the city forced recognition of the union.

In 1883 all the unions in the Central Trades and Labor Assembly held a parade in New Orleans. Ten thousand workers marched, Negro and white. It met with such success that it was repeated in the following years.

Douglass On Labor

Frederick Douglass took a leading part in the struggles of the Negro workers for union recognition, higher wages and the eight-hour day. Though angry over the refusal of many unions to admit Negroes to their ranks, he believed that the future gains made by the Negroes must be connected with the advance of the entire laboring class.

In an address to the Convention of Colored Men at Louisville, Ky., in 1883, he said: "Experience demonstrates that there may be a slavery of wages only a little less galling and crushing in its effects than chattel slavery, and that this slavery of wages must go down with the other."

Integration or Segregation? School Fight Rages in South

Diehard backers of segregation in education are giving their all to resist the steady pressure of a more sane point of view. Three southern governors are now on record with the threat to do away with the whole public school system in their states if the U.S. Supreme Court rules in favor of non-segregated schooling. But the students themselves in more instances are demonstrating their desire for an end to jim-crowed learning.

The bitter-end governors were Wright of Mississippi (he who refuses to spare the life of Willie McGee), Talmadge of Georgia and Byrnes of South Carolina.

"Lost Their Heads"

In an editorial entitled "Three Who Have Lost Their Heads," the Chicago Defender accused the governors of bluffing.

"Their threats would be taken seriously," it said, "if we believed that they were supported in their views by the majority of the citizens of their states. Already over a thousand Negro students are attending southern white, state-supported educational institutions and they have won acceptance from faculty and students alike. Although the three rebel governors do not know it, they are generals without armies and their cherished Jim Crow is already in the ash can."

The Houston Informer points to several instances to show that integration is quietly being put into effect. Several schools operated by religious bodies are following this policy, according to the Informer.

Straws in the Wind

It cites the fact that white students at the University of Oklahoma recently elected a Negro to the student body organization to demonstrate their opposition to bias. And stu-

dents at a small, conservative Georgia college raised a row over a gift from the George W. Armstrong Association that had segregation strings attached. A gift of several million dollars from the same outfit was turned down by a small Mississippi college recently.

"One begins to wonder seriously," the Informer concludes, "for whom the supremacists speak."

"Gentleman's Agreement"

On other fronts, the news is not so bright. It was revealed that Mississippi has a "gentleman's agreement" that no Negro shall be allowed to pass the bar examination. Citadel Military College students heaved a baseball through a window of the home of Federal Judge J. Waties Waring of South Carolina. (Judge Waring outlawed the "white primary" in the state in 1947 and will soon sit on the case of the NAACP law school suit.) And the University of North Carolina is desperately appealing to the Supreme Court against a decision that "qualified" colored students must be admitted to the graduate and professional schools where "equal" facilities are not provided.

So the battle goes on—but it gets harder all the time for the supremacists to maintain their irrational system.

Old Jim Crow In Washington

In their forthcoming book, "Jim Crow Guide to the U.S.," Stetson Kennedy and Elizabeth Gardner cite instances of Jim Crow in Washington: During World War II the Liberian Foreign Minister was denied the hotel room reserved for him by the State Dept. A top official had to be roused from bed to plead that it was "urgent war necessity" for the minister to have a place to lay his head.



Editorial

The List Grows

ADD the names of three distinguished Negro citizens to the growing list of those who have been warned to shut their mouths and meekly accept a second-class position in American life.

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder and president of Palmer Memorial Institute at Sedalia, N. C., finds her name in the most recent listing of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Two outspoken churchmen, Bishop W. J. Walls of the AME Zion Church, and the venerable Dr. William H. Jernagin, head of the Washington bureau of the Fraternal Council of Churches, share with Dr. Brown the honor of the Committee's displeasure.

It can be noted with a sense of pride that none of these leaders has chosen to crawl through the mud of self-abasement before the Committee, as have various Hollywood personalities.

Dr. Brown spoke the Gospel truth when she answered the witch-hunters with these words: "Any well-known Negro who dares to fearlessly speak out against the un-American practices heaped upon Negroes is likely to be listed. I have never held a job under the American government and don't want one. No one but God can bridle my tongue from speaking out against injustices perpetrated against my people."

And Bishop Walls declared: "I am for peace, against war. I support efforts for justice to colored persons and others whom I deem to be victims of prejudice or hysteria."

It is to be regretted that, while denouncing the Committee's charges, both these sterling fighters for freedom felt it necessary to make some slight concession to the basic premise of the real un-Americans: that somehow the United States is threatened by Communists or communism from within or without.

This is the BIG LIE of our time and anyone can refute it who will take the pains to look at the facts without bias. No Soviet troops are on our Mexican or Canadian borders, no Red submarines and gunboats patrol the water surrounding Seattle, San Francisco, Norfolk and New Orleans.

But American planes have been given the go-ahead signal to bomb Manchuria, American warships are in the China Sea, and American troops and airmen are scattered all over the world as a means of forcing our Jim Crow "way of life" on peoples who are forced to resort to arms to prove they want no part of it.

Thus is the fight for peace and freedom joined.

You can't conduct a no-holds-barred fight for equality and at the same time support in the slightest an "anti-Communist" foreign policy which leads to the subjugation of colored peoples in Asia and the humiliation of Negroes at home.

The demand for U.S.-Soviet friendship and for a real peace conference of the great powers therefore becomes part of any effective demand for the full citizenship of Negroes in the U.S. For the war-makers are also the Negro-haters, and they must be halted simultaneously in their efforts to thwart peace and impose prejudice on the world.

The next Negro leader who is cited by the un-American Committee (and there will be others so long as we permit this legislative monstrosity to continue in existence) ought to tell them in no uncertain terms: "I want peace because that's the road to freedom for my people. And I want friendship with the Communist lands because that's the road to peace."

Old Generals Never Die They Just Fly Away . . .



LETTER COLUMN

Get It Off Your Chest

North Star and Freedom

Please send me ten copies of the latest edition of FREEDOM. This paper is one of the greatest additions to the progressive movement that we have had in the last few years. Please send me also some subscription blanks.

When Frederick Douglass wanted to launch the North Star he could not find support among his white abolitionist friends. They considered him to be merely a flame of protest against slavery and could not imagine him in the role of editor. Fortunately for the anti-slavery movement, the English abolitionists recognized the importance of the North Star and found funds for him to begin with.

I hope that by this time the progressive movement has advanced beyond the abolitionists of the 19th century and can appreciate Paul Robeson for the great leader that he is and can appreciate the importance of his paper. We here in the south have a special responsibility to build the circulation of this paper.

Robert L. Brannan
Austin, Texas

We Will Never Give Up!

Today we received our first copy of FREEDOM. We must tell you that we enjoyed all of it very much and look forward to receiving our future copies.

By the way, we saw this film "Angelo" the other week. We have registered our protest with the president of Trans-Lux for daring to show such an atrocious and vicious racist film in this country. We urge you to join us in this protest.

We are continuing to struggle for the complete dismissal of the phony charges against Willie McGee. We will never give up this fight!

Mr. & Mrs. F. R. Petersen
New York City

Our Rich Heritage

"Friends of Freedom" is a group that has been organized here in Boston to lead the struggle of all people in their age-old struggle for emancipation.

We, the Negro people, can point to the fact that our forefathers did not believe it was ordained that they should remain in the bonds of human slavery throughout eternity. Two hundred thousand of them enlisted in the Union army at the time of the Civil War to fight for their freedom. They have passed down to us a great heritage.

What are we going to do with this rich heritage? Are we going to allow it to slip through our hands and accept a few favors placed in the hands of a few of our hungry leaders as our reward?

Do we consider that the contribution made by millions of Negro people, down through the ages, as well as the contribution of such real leaders as Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and others too numerous to mention, are to be paid for by placing a wreath upon the heads of a few so-called leaders?

Roy M. Atus
Boston, Mass.

Plea for Peace

I write these few words about freedom for us and our people. I look at this so-called white race, which is just 17 per cent of the world, trying to run over 83 per cent of the population. I listen to the boasts about the tanks, planes and atomic bombs and all this stuff, as if someone was after them. They have been robbing the colored people of the world of their God-given wealth and property, and they call themselves Christians.

Now they talk peace, but they are preparing to kill. I do pray my God to bring warfare to an end. God says, "Thou shalt not kill." But that is their object, to kill the colored people wherever they can. I am praying now for the Promised Day when we will have our freedom.

A Reader
Oklahoma

Freedom

"Where one is enslaved, all are in chains!"

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Housing Crisis Deepens As War Spending Rises

By CHARLOTTE DORSEY

A draft board in the bulging slums of Harlem recently enlisted a young volunteer who said he looked forward to Army life because he was "tired of sleeping on an ironing board." He lived with his mother and five other children in a single six-by-twelve foot room.

This youngster may soon be in Korea, forced to participate in the terrible slaughter of colored men, women and children who are fighting for their freedom. But just one of the battleships that are levelling defenseless Korean cities costs over \$100 million to build. That money could have built more than 10,000 new houses or apartments for this young soldier's family and for thousands of others living in the same desperate fashion in Harlem.

In Chicago, firemen carried the lifeless bodies of five Negro children out of a South Side death trap. Sixty-seven families had been crammed into space designed for six families. And a Negro baby's nose was eaten away by rats as he lay in his crib.

But the "codes of ethics" of the real estate boards prohibit the sale of land in "white" neighborhoods for Negro housing. So the 400,000 Negroes who have swelled Chicago's population over the past decade have had to sardine themselves into the narrow strip of fire-traps that make up the ghetto district.

Is It Fair?

What about the much-trumpeted "fair deal" housing program of President Truman? In 1949 Congress approved a plan calling for \$130 million to be spent the first year. This sum is less than the cost of a

new airplane carrier, which without its planes, guns or other equipment comes to around \$150 million. And even these small-scale housing and slum clearance plans have been shelved in favor of bigger war plans.

In Birmingham, the nearly-completed home of B. W. Henderson, Negro dentist, was heavily damaged by dynamite. The blast followed several others when Negroes began moving into the formerly all-white North Smithfield district, accompanied by an outburst of floggings and cross-burnings by hooded night riders.

Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas have the poorest housing in the country. The 1940 census showed that 70 per cent of all families had to carry their water from wells or springs, and three out of four families had to use outdoor privies or had no toilet facilities at all. Only one Negro family in ten in the South has a home that meets the low minimum requirements for decency of the U. S. Housing Authority.

In the face of a need such as this for new housing, Congress has appropriated more money for so-called civilian defense than for the entire housing program. This year \$150 million is being spent largely for propaganda of "inevitable war." People's minds are being prepared for the fact that if we start a war, this country will be bombed and the cities must be ready to handle the maimed and dead.

In Washington, D. C., a social worker from India was studying housing conditions. She saw row on row of Negro-occupied shacks without plumbing, light or heat crowding close to the Capitol. She saw 13 living in a single room, and fam-

ilies forced to cook in the alleys outside their miserable dwellings.

"In India," she said, "we have conditions as bad as these—but we don't boast of our way of life to the rest of the world."

In 1949 President Truman announced an immediate need for eight million more houses. But the program he proposed (since cut down by war spending) would build only 150,000 a year. Already this year, \$52 billion has been made available for military and related purposes. This money could wipe out most of the slums of the country—especially the worst of them, the high-priced Negro ghettos, and provide attractive, modern housing for millions of low-income families.

Houses Or Bombs?

Which is it to be—more houses, or more bombs? The people have the right to decide.

They have the right to know that the fantastic sum of \$150 billion dollars proposed for war expenditures over the next two years would transform the face of the country as far as housing is concerned. Taking \$10,000 as the cost per home, it would mean 15 million new homes for those who need them most.

That is what we can have, instead of a war, if we speak up and change the direction before it is too late.

Long Life

It did my heart good to read the first issue of Freedom. I wish it long life. It is certainly needed during these times when the commercial press has sold the people down the river. Will do my best to spread it and get new subscribers.

N. S. Hanoka
Buffalo, Missouri

In the Freedom Family

Last time around we promised a picture of our general manager, George B. Murphy, Jr.—so here it is. The other day George came into the office and stirred everybody up



MURPHY

with a description of a birthday celebration which the youth of Brooklyn had sponsored for Paul Robeson on April 16. We were so impressed that we asked George to repeat the description for all our readers. He did, as follows:

Here we were in Arlington Hall where some 600 people, mothers and fathers, Negro and white, and their families had gathered. Everybody was waiting anxiously for Paul and all the folks were thrilled when not only Paul, but also Mrs. Robeson, Paul, Jr. and his wife Marilyn, and Lawrence Brown, Paul's famous accompanist and dear friend, entered accompanied by members of the chorus.

When the ovation was over we all settled down to watch one of the most impressive musical presentations I have ever seen. It took me back to the WPA Living Newspaper Days of 1938. A young choral director took his place in front of a group of fifty singers and then the main characters in all of the stories of the March issue of FREEDOM came alive on stage and told their story of struggle in song and oratory.

Here was Velma Hopkins of Local 22, DPOWA, just standing in the audience and telling the thrilling story of the struggle of the Winston-Salem tobacco workers to the accompaniment of beautiful voices blending in a harmony that was out of this world. There was Mrs. Rosalee McGee, in all of her tiny majesty telling the whole cruel story of the evil done to her family, her children, her husband.

In another moment all of us were in church, with one of the leading women chorus members giving forth in a rich and poignant melody. And in another moment we were in Asia, transported on the wings of a song that for sweetness and warmth had few equals in my experience. Then to the West Indies, through a Calypso song that told the wonderful people's story of the fight for liberty. And then Africa loomed in the midst of the picture and we could almost "touch the hands" of millions of Africans as they prepared to strike against the infamous pass laws.

Well, like I told you, it was too much to describe all in one piece. The good part about it is that this group had written and produced the whole dramatic piece—so some of you from other sections of the country may want to write in (send some extra stamps) to get copies of it.

Paul said afterward that the Brooklyn young people have developed a musical-dramatic approach to the fight for equality that is something new and exciting and that should be utilized in many ways to bring FREEDOM'S message to the people.

Well, I don't know how

many of you have ever been to a country camp meeting or to one of those huge revival services, but I tell you I "felt" something after that performance and it was, as Father Divine says, "truly wonderful."

And to top it all off, the sponsors of the meeting presented Paul with 400 subs to FREEDOM.

KEEPING UP WITH PAUL:

By the time you read this Paul Robeson will have appeared in another of his people's concerts—at the Rising Sun Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Rev. A. C. Whittaker, pastor, April 27. On April 30 he speaks for peace and U.S.-Soviet friendship at the annual dinner of the publication, *New World Review*. Then to the coast to speak at the convention of the Marine Cooks and Stewards union in the Fillmore district of San Francisco on May 3. Paul is an honorary member of the union. He and George Murphy will spend a couple of weeks on the coast talking to people about FREEDOM and the growing Negro labor councils. Then, on June 1, a Harlem concert at the Golden Gate Ballroom, sponsored by the Harlem Trade Union Council. It promises to be a bang-up sell-out affair and folks in the New York area should get tickets early from the HTUC at 53 W. 125 St., N.Y. 27, Sacramento 2-0880.

Stay long until June—and don't forget those subs. Tell your friends: "FREEDOM is for You—read it!"

Demand Release Of Labor Leader In Philippines

The Manila City Council has passed a unanimous resolution requesting President Elpidio Quirino to free Amado V. Hernandez, national chairman of the Philippine Congress of Labor Organizations. Hernandez, who is a member of the City Council, is being held without trial or charges with 40 other progressives.

The Council's resolution demands freedom for the labor leader on the ground that his "detention is prejudicing the public interest and is an affront to the people who elected him councillor."

Hernandez was seized last Jan. 26 during large-scale raids in Manila by the Military Intelligence Service. The raids were part of a drive of the Philippine Government to remove all opposition to its policy of subservience to American domination. Opposition has become very strong over Philippine participation in the Korean war.

Following the Jan. 26 raids, the government denied the arrests, stating that the victims had been "merely invited" to go for questioning to an army camp.

Ten other labor leaders and three newspaper men are among those being held incommunicado. In February a much larger "roundup" was carried out, resulting in the arrest of another 5,000 citizens throughout the islands. Neither lawyers nor relatives have been able to communicate with those detained.



SIT-IN at the Housing Authority in New York. In foreground with her baby is Mrs. Mabel McLin, who led the militant mothers with their children in the 30-hour vigil backed by the Tenants Councils. The action won immediate housing for five of the most desperate families and processing of the rest of the cases.

Daily News photo

AFRICA • ASIA • CARIBBEANS • LATIN AMERICA

News of Colored Peoples in Other Lands

U.S. Dollar Rule Chokes Latin America

The conference of Foreign Ministers of the Western Hemisphere held last month in Washington put an end to all hopes of the dependent countries to the south of "bargaining" with northern imperialists.

The resolution signed by the delegates granted all major demands made by the United States: the supply of Latin American cannon fodder (in the form of "Latin American armed units of the United Nations"); U.S. control over Latin American raw materials and markets; and the intensification of repression against the Latin American peace and national liberation movements.

The history of relations between the U.S. and the countries of Latin America presents many examples of a similar contempt by American imperialism for the most elementary principles of the rights of small peoples.

Armed intervention in Cuba in 1899 established a U.S. occupation regime there that lasted until 1934. Then popular indignation reached such heights that the American "guardians of order" were obliged to leave the island—but not until it had become a virtual colonial dependency of the U.S.

In 1903, the U.S. appropriated by armed force a part of the Colombian Republic and proclaimed it the "independent" republic of Panama.

In 1914, U.S. troops invaded Mexico and occupied the port of Veracruz, with the aim of

breaking the peasant movement and getting rid of President Huerta. But the interventionists aroused an anti-American movement of such strength that they were threatened with total defeat and evacuated their troops. A second intervention in 1916 was similarly forced to retire.

Haiti was also occupied in 1914. President Zamora was unseated and a military dictatorship established. The heroic rising of the people of Haiti who fought for their liberty under the leadership of Charlemagne Peralta was drowned in blood. Thousands of Haitians were shot without trial and U.S. military forces remained in the country until 1934. Haiti still remains in a position of semi-colonial dependence on the U.S.

In 1915 U.S. forces occupied the Dominican Republic and remained until 1924. With the help of the agents they left, the dictator Trujillo rose to power in 1930 and has continued to oppress the Dominican people for more than 20 years.

The regime established by U.S. occupation of Nicaragua from 1916-1925 collapsed as soon as the interventionist army left and in 1926 the country was again invaded. The people rose in armed struggle under General August Cesar Sandino and fought heroically for seven years. Demonstrations of solidarity with the Nicaraguan people took place all over Latin America. But during peace negotiations, General Sandino and a number

Africans Brave Terror in Freedom Fete

Resolute plans for Freedom Day demonstrations throughout South Africa on May 7 are proceeding despite terroristic threats by the fascist Malan government. The day has been set aside for a general work stoppage and protest by the common people against government oppression.

Heading the Freedom Day preparations is Dr. J. S. Moroka, president-general of the African National Congress, long-established movement for the freedom of black people in South Africa. He and leaders of other organizations embracing Indians, other colored peoples and progressive white workers (a small but courageous minority) have joined forces in planning the Freedom Day demonstration.

On May Day, 1950, Africans and Indians declared their purpose of stopping work and demonstrating peacefully against the government's increasing oppression of the non-European peoples. The government ordered police and troops into action to smash the demonstration. Thirteen black men and women were killed and scores injured by guns and bayonets. Many were jailed.

But neither this nor the threat of further brutal repression this year have dampened the

of his associates were assassinated and Nicaragua joined the list of Latin American countries under northern domination.

Times have changed, however, and today it is more difficult for the U.S. to meddle directly in the affairs of the countries of the south. Evidence of this was the recent nationalist rising in Puerto Rico.

The forces of democracy, of peace and progress are growing stronger in Latin America. These forces are fighting valiantly for the national liberation of their countries, and they deserve the support of every decent-minded American.



DR. J. S. MOROKA, president-general of the African Natl. Congress, who will lead the Freedom Day demonstration in Johannesburg May 7.

people's determination to go ahead with their plans for Freedom Day. Special orders banning the demonstrations have been issued, but the undaunted working people will take to the streets May 7 to march for Freedom.

Global Briefs

SOUTH AFRICA

The last word in segregation has been reached in Johannesburg, South Africa, where separate networks for colored and white announcers are being installed in a new railway station. Up to now, the announcers who call the arrival and departure of trains have been segregated in separate broadcasting booths. Now their voices may not even travel over the same air waves. How far can you go with this thing?

AUSTRALIA

Big struggles lie ahead for the aboriginal people of Australia in which the support of white people will have to be enlisted, declared Fred Waters, leader of the large-scale strike of aborigines in Darwin, North Australia, on his recent release from exile. There have been frequent strikes of aborigines in the Darwin area recently demanding equal pay with white workers and full legal and social equality and freedom of movement. Aborigines employed on the same jobs for which white workers are paid seven pounds, receive only two pounds weekly. Native workers are sent about the country from their homes at will by the Native Affairs Department.

CUBA

Despite official efforts to suppress the news, word has broken into the Cuban press

about a widespread mutiny among troops due to leave soon for Korea. Several junior officers and rank-and-file soldiers have been arrested, dismissed from military service, and are threatened with imprisonment.

FRENCH AFRICA

Mamba Bakayoko, a 70-year-old African woman peace leader, has died in prison at Abidjan. She is the latest victim in the long list of racist crimes committed by the French colonial authorities of the Ivory Coast. Beloved by the entire population for her lifelong struggle against the colonial imperialists, Mamba Bakayoko was arrested and thrown into prison by the French authorities in February 1950, following a peace demonstration led by the Democratic Women's Organization, in which two women and a youth were killed by the colonial police. In the prison where she died, ten other women are still held for the same "offense"—defending peace.

INDOCHINA

Sixty per cent of French foreign legionaries now in Indochina are Germans, some only 18 years old, states a letter published in the German press from a young German member of the Legion now in Haiphong. The letter warns German youth against joining the Legion.



SOUTH AFRICAN gold mine workers lining up for meal tickets which entitle them to the one meal a day on which they subsist. They begin work at daybreak without breakfast, work all day, and eat one meal at the end of their day's labor.

PRAYER

"Grant us the will to fashion as we feel,
Grant us the power to labor as we know
Grant us the purpose, ribbed and edged with steel,
To strike a blow.
Knowledge we ask not, knowledge thou has lent,
But, Lord, the Will, there lies the bitter need.
Give us to build, above the deep intent,
The deed, the deed."

—From an African newspaper, Gold Coast, W. Africa

(TIME: Summer, 1941. PLACE: the Jim Crow cell-block of the County Jail in Iron City, a Northern steel-mill center. Harvey Owens, a draftee, is going out today; the inmates crowd around the likable youngster to say goodbye. He shakes their hands and says: "Goodby, Mr. Zachary and all you no-good jail-birds. The man says I got to go now. I'll write you-all first chance I get, I sure enough will if I live and nothing happens.")

Goodby, Harvey Owens. You'll have your old serial number back instead of D-seven because you're a selectee again and you're a pre-Pearl Harbor too though you don't know that yet. After a while they will give you a yellow breast-ribbon for that and you can tell all the 'cruits that you are an old soldier, Man, I was in the army while you were still wearing Jodie clothes and worrying about your draft board—and that's a fact! From Camp Custer you will go to Fort Huachuca way out in Arizona, infantry, you and a whole lot more; some will be dark chocolate brown like you and some will be almost black and some will be light brown and suntan and even white with blue eyes and blond hair, but they will all be Negroes just like you. All except from captain on up, that is.

In a year you'll have a candy-stripe Good Conduct ribbon and be pfc too and you'll find out for yourself why Nogales is such a fine place to head for on a week-end pass. And you'll meet up with your buddy and when you see the photo of his gorgeous chick thumb-tacked over his barracks bunk you're going to say mmmmmmmmm mmmmmmmmm! and he will say Watch that mmmmmmmmm mmmmmmmmm stuff Jack! cause that's my gal, a brownskin Georgia peach I met when they had me down at Benning and she's really all right and I'm going to marry her too. Yes, she has a sister and she's really all right too he says and you write and she answers and then you see her on your furlough and it's love sure enough and not kid stuff like with Hortense back in Iron City. Man!

*Lord if I ever get lucky
And get out of here free
It will take a mighty pretty woman
To make a fool out of me.*

That's what you scratched onto the wall of your jailhouse cell, but this is going to be different, the real thing, and you and your buddy go down there for your last furlough before shipping out and it's a double wedding and she's so sweet and you're so proud in your new corporal stripes and thinking about the extra pay you can send home with the allotment and then goodby, honey, goodby Georgia, goodby U.S.A.! The division pushes out to sea and you're gone to fight old Hitler and Benito too, and that's a good thing to do if you have to do it and to fight for the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms too and those are good words to hear.

You'll like the Italian people, Harvey, and you

GOODBY, HARVEY

From the novel, **IRON CITY**
by **LLOYD L. BROWN**

won't be thinking about how poor they are and how dirty they are and how can anybody live so many to a house and no decent plumbing neither; you'll be welcomed to their homes and see what a good time they can have with no money, just a little vino maybe and some songs and a mandolin, just like homefolks except for the language but hell, man, anybody can pick up on this Italiano jive, and you sure will and you do all right and—watch that stuff Jack, remember you're a married man!

And then you are going to get some more stripes on your arm and battle stars on your campaign ribbon and a purple ribbon to add to the row and even a Bronze Star medal for—well, not very much but they say some generals get the DSM for doing less and it all counts up to points and you got a mess of points, man, when that jive comes out after V-E Day.

So you and your buddy will be heading home, he's from Harlem and you're from Iron City but both you-all got Georgia on your mind, and its two ruptured ducks winging South and the war is over and you're free at last; you can't see the South for living and neither can your buddy but the gals got a house and that's something these days. You will latch onto 52-20 and that's something too and maybe you'll start back to school up in Atlanta on the GI Bill but now it's a honeymoon for real. It's another Spring, five years since the season caught you inside the Monongahela County Jail and man, if there ain't nothing else good about the South you got to admit that Spring really comes on like Gang-busters down here, it sure do Brother-in-Law!

It is nothing but a little old town and before you know it you can walk into the country and the road is springy and the stars are big and heavy and the night is warm and young like the way you feel and your buddy and his wife a few steps behind just giggling about some secret they got but you and your wife got your own secrets too and you don't have to study none about them. Then it will be four cars stopping when the headlights find you and the white men getting out and you saying you ain't done nothing wrong but they got shotguns and they'll line you up in the ditch and kill you.

Four shotguns with both barrels. You and your wife and her sister and your buddy—and the red clay will be redder where your bodies are found. They won't bother to tell you though it wouldn't take long, just one word but they don't even say it. Uppity. You carried yourself like a man the way Mr. Zachary said to do, though he wasn't the one who gave you the khaki clothes and your purple and yellow and candy-stripe red, the ribbons and stars, the stripes and the bars. Four carloads of men—their families will know, maybe hundreds of people in Morrow County will know all about it, but the Law won't learn. Nor the FBI's when they finally come down to look around and ask the sheriff what does he know about it anyway.

Your funeral, Harvey, is going to be bigger even than the double-wedding was; your brother Claude won't make it from Saipan but son, you could never imagine how many people you got; they will come from miles around, talking quiet, crying quiet—no sermon will be preached. Just the four gray coffins all in a row, you beside your gal and your buddy beside his, just like you walked, just like you fell; and the coffins will be closed because while the colored undertaker is a good man and learned his trade in the best school up in Cincinnati, he won't be able to do much with what the buck-shot left behind.

But people won't stare through the coffin lid and the flags so silken shiny that the colored Legion post will bring to cover you with because you and your buddy were veterans; the flag of your country, Harvey, with the red for the blood and the white is right and the blue that's you; and one of the stars, the whitest of all, is for the great State of Georgia where your people came from and where you will die, you and your wife and your buddy and his wife too—in the great State of Georgia and under her shield whereon is written: **Wisdom, Justice, Moderation.**

Goodbye, Harvey Owens. We were proud to know you, son.

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Stories for Children

Josiah Henson—Kept Right On Traveling to Freedom

By **LINDA LEWIS**

One hundred years ago—in 1851—the story, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" first appeared as a serial in a newspaper. Everybody knows about that famous book and its author, Harriet Beecher Stowe, who did so much to arouse the American people against slavery.

But not very many people know about Josiah Henson, who inspired Mrs. Stowe's novel.

Josiah was born a slave in Maryland. His master put him in charge of the other slaves and even sent him to travel through the South to take care of the owner's business. Though he was a favored slave, Josiah wanted to be free. So one day when his master sent him on a trip he kept right on traveling to Freedom in the North.

Now he was free—but his people were still in chains. Josiah did not forget them. "I won't feel free," he said, "until all Negroes are free." He joined the Abolitionists and made many secret trips back to the South and led other slaves to Freedom.

He became a public speaker and made many lecture trips across the free states to tell the people the truth about slavery. He took up collections—not for himself but to buy slaves from their masters. In this



way he freed 118 Negroes.

He told his story in a book, "The Life of Josiah Henson, as Narrated by Himself." When she heard his story and read his book Harriet Beecher Stowe got the idea for her novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Josiah Henson was the model for her hero, Uncle Tom.

Actually, of course, the Uncle Tom of the book was not at all like Josiah. As you can see from his real life, he was no Uncle Tom at all. He was not meek and humble. He had no love or loyalty for the slave masters.

Mrs. Stowe's book made such a stir that one day during the Civil War, when President Abraham Lincoln met the author, he said: "So you're the little lady who started this big war."

We don't know whether she told the President about Josiah Henson and how she got the idea for the book from him. But we do know that it is not fair that Harriet Beecher Stowe's name is in all the school books while they never write anything at all about Josiah.

Real-life heroes, like the brave Josiah Henson who fought for his people, are better models for us to follow than any old Uncle Toms.

Talkin' It Up

By HANK HILL

GOOD TO SEE the Philadelphia Athletics finally pulling down the walls a bit and signing some Negro prospects into the organization. Long overdue, too. Now if the Philly Nationals and boss Bob Carpenter over on the other side of town would do same, the Quaker City fans would really have something to crow about—and we don't mean Jim!

But the big thing to bear in mind is this: The big wheels who run and rule organized baseball with an iron fist would love to turn the clock back to the year 1945, when the big leagues were still lily-white with a half-century's scar covering the face of what was too loosely labelled "America's National Pastime." It didn't become—or begin to become—truly American or truly National until the October day in '45 when Brooklyn's Branch Rickey finally threw in the towel and signed Jackie Robinson and Johnny Wright.

Brother Rickey, please remember, didn't sign Negro ball-players out of the "goodness" of his heart, as Hollywood's hashed-up version of the "Jackie Robinson Story" would have one believe. Rickey and all the other big league moguls had been taking a mighty thumping from hundreds of thousands of democratic-minded sports fans for ten long years of an historic End-Jim Crow campaign. Rickey, unquestionably the shrewdest man in baseball, finally seeing the handwriting on the wall, simply decided to get a jump on his rivals and cash in with the best Negro talent around. The Brooklyn pennant and the record breaking boxoffice in '47, Robinson's first semester with the parent club, is what I mean.

But I only go into this bit of slightly dated history by way of pointing up what progressive sports fans, Negro and white, must not forget for a single second. It took a lot of mass campaigning before the first breach was made in the Jim Crow wall—and it'll take a continued and consistent diet of heavy punching to bring the other lilywhite clubowners to their knees.

There are still some 10 major league outfits that haven't hired a single Negro prospect—and what this means must be obvious. The MAJORITY of organized baseball's front offices are still dedicated to the fight AGAINST democracy in baseball—and until that dirty crowd is brought to its knees the great game of "Play Ball!" has got a long way to go.

In all the justifiable enthusiasm for our great Negro stars—the Newcombes and Dobys and Robinsons and Campanellas—let's not take our eyes off the ball. Let's not forget all the qualified Negro prospects who aren't getting a tumble from the scouts simply because there are more major league lilywhite outfits than mixed teams.

So we've still got to keep hitting that long ball against baseball Jim Crow... hitting it long, hard and often... until one of these overdue April openers comes along and we can look up and down the rosters of all 16 big league clubs and know that yes, baseball has finally and truly become America's National Pastime!

Isn't it high time the Republican controlled New York State Athletic Commission appointed a few more Negro ring refs? Jim Freeman is all that separates the arbiting profession from being lilywhite through and through.

And talking of Negro arbiters, the fight racket looks "good" by comparison to the filthy situation in organized baseball. You don't even have ONE Negro umpire on the baseball diamonds. There's an issue and a campaign that has to be tackled pronto. Let's get that pressure put where it'll do the most good—right on the shoulders of A.L. and N.L. prexies William Harridge and Ford Frick. Plenty of topnotch ump's in the Negro leagues (and plenty of plain fans who may want to enter the profession of baseball arbiting) who'd be rarin' and ready to don the blue serge of organized ball.

There's an awful lot of the "cracker" crowd holding down major league umpiring jobs... guys who are plenty sore about the advent of Negro stars onto the major league ballfields. You know the ones... those who are so much quicker to banish a Robinson or a Campanella from the game for "arguing too much" than they would with a white player exercising the baseball player's time honored right to question an ump's call. Robinson himself remarked two days after the new season opened, "I know there are plenty of umpires anxious to gang up on me."

That's what I mean, good people. Let's get some long overdue democracy behind the plate and on those baselines too!

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DuBois Defense Grows in South

Shock over the naming of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois as a "foreign agent" because of his activities for peace has led to mounting support for him from all walks of life. The revered scholar and Negro leader faces trial along with four other officers of the disbanded Peace Information Center who are charged with failing to consider themselves "foreign agents" and register as such with the Department of Justice.

More than 500 southern students have signed an appeal to President Truman to "help restore the honor and conscience of our country by halting the persecution of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois." So far the appeal has been signed by 166 students at Arkansas Baptist College, in Little Rock; by a third of the students at Talladega College in Alabama, a fourth of the student body at Dillard College in New Orleans, by many students in Negro women's colleges. The signers included a number of white students at Louisiana State University.

An affidavit filed with the U.S. District Court by attorneys for the five singled out Dr. DuBois for special tribute, as "a man of universal eminence who, despite discrimination and indignity suffered throughout 83 years of his life because he is a Negro, has by reason of his scholarship and dedication to the interests of this nation, brought honor to American letters, arts and science."



FREDERICK DOUGLASS: "Experience demonstrates that there may be a slavery of wages only a little less galling and crushing in its effects than chattel slavery, and that this slavery of wages must go down with the others."

White Supremacy On Trial In the Patterson Case

It is Rep. Henderson Lanham of Georgia who should be in the dock when the second trial of William L. Patterson, secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, gets under way June 18, according to the Oklahoma **Black Dispatch**. In an angry editorial, the paper charged the government with presenting the case "hind part before" and called on its readers to rush funds to the Patterson Defense Committee, 23 West 26 St., New York City.

Referring to the vicious attack on Patterson made by the Dixiecrat in the course of a Congressional committee hearing, the **Black Dispatch** said:

"As you write your check contemplate upon this question: 'What right has a Georgia "gentleman" to call a helpless Negro witness a liar that should not be granted to the black witness?'"

"What America needs is more William L. Pattersons who will speak in turn, and sometimes out of turn, when bullies step on their neck."

The attitude of editor Roscoe Dunje of the Oklahoma **Black Dispatch** is an example of the wide interest in the case displayed by the Negro press throughout the country.

The "contempt of Congress" charge against Patterson arose from his appearance before the Lobbying Committee of the House of Representatives in August, 1950. Denying that the Civil Rights Congress was a "lobbying" organization, Patterson charged it was being hounded because of its fight for civil rights for Negroes and for the rights of progressive political minorities.

It was then that Georgia supremacists hurled epithets at him and attempted to assault him physically.

The spectacle of Rep. Lanham sitting as a witness and repeating his vile slanders was obviously too much for most of the spectators at the trial, and for many of the jurors.

When attorney Vito Marcantonio asked Lanham directly, "Did you say goddamned black son of a bitch?" the Dixiecrat defended himself:

"No, I never use the Lord's name in vain."

A mistrial was declared when one of the jurors, a young Negro woman who is a government employee, told the judge she and others would never agree that Patterson had been given the chance for a fair hearing.

Also noted in the press reports was a significant incident involving defense lawyer Marcantonio. (The other lawyers are George W. Crockett of Detroit and Ralph Powe of Washington.)

Here is the Afro-American's account of the incident:

"Please don't pound on the furniture, Mr. Marcantonio," interrupted Judge Holtzoff.

"Merely glancing at the jurist, Mr. Marcantonio continued, with his voice rising with each word:

"The rights and dignity of human beings are more important than furniture of this court or any other court. . . . All men are created equal."

"Judge Holtzoff then reddened and warned the lawyer to 'stop making inflammatory remarks or I will have to make you stop.'"

Sam Sage Says . . .

Old Sis Goose was a-sailing on the lake, and Old Brer Fox was hid in the weeds. Bye and bye Old Sis Goose swam up close to the bank and Old Brer Fox lept out and caught her.

"Oh yes, Old Sis Goose, I got you now, you have been a-sailing on my lake a long time, and I got you now. I am going to break your neck and pick your bones."

"Hold on there, Brer Fox, hold on, I have got just as much right to swim on the lake as you have to lie in the weeds. It's as much my lake as it is yours, and we are going to take this matter to the courthouse and see if you have any right to break my neck and pick my bones."

And so they went to court, and when they got there, the sheriff, he was a fox; and the judge, he was a fox; and the turnkeys, they was foxes; and all the jury-men, they was foxes too, and they tried Old Sis Goose, and they convicted her and they executed her and they picked her bones.

Now, my children, listen to me, when all the folks in the courthouse are foxes, and you are just a common goose, there ain't going to be much justice for you.