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IN REALM OF BUSINESS

Undaunted by recession rumblings, Negro businessmen expanded their holding and invested capital in new ventures last year. In Birmingham, mortician Arthur C. Gaston opened a \$300,000 luxury motel for Negroes, the first in the state. In New York, Rose Morgan, owner of Rose Meta House of Beauty, purchased a \$40,000 Harlem building to house a new unit of the chain. In Los Angeles, Roberts brothers became first Negroes to win dealership from major rubber company. Leroy Clayton, Cleveland, Ohio, sausage manufacturer, established a new plant during 1954 valued at \$100,000.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Appointments of Negroes to vit. foreign service jobs mounted in number in 1954. Clifford Reginald Wharton, of Baltimore, became Consul General of the U.S. Consulate at Marseilles, France; Marron Fort was named to the \$13,000 yearly post of business advisor to the Middle East, where he will counsel Arab leaders in the chemical industry. Dr. Welton I. Taylor of the University of Illinois medical school is first Negro research biologist employed by Swift and Co. Alvin Rucker, of Chicago, was appointed Labor Standards Advisor to Philippines by Foreign Operations Administration.

THE HOUSING SITUATION

Hate demonstrations continued through the year at Chicago's Trumbull Park housing project, but Negro families refused to give up their homes, and other Negroes were moved in. Housing projects in San Francisco and Baltimore opened to Negroes without incident. In New York City, administration passed a bill forbidding segregation in multi-family dwellings on which FHA or government loans are made in the future. Approximately 12,000 dwellings a year will be affected.

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