

NAACP CHARGES VA DISCRIMINATES

The NAACP today directed a strong protest to the American Red Cross over the case of a Negro veteran who lost his leg in the war and whose claim for vocational rehabilitation was denied by the Veterans Administration.

The veteran, Pete Brown, now at 369 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., presented his claim while he was living in Jackson, Miss., with the local Red Cross office holding his power of attorney. Brown applied for vocational rehabilitation and a disability pension. He was granted a 40 per cent disability rating, plus the statutory award for a single amputation, but his application for vocational rehabilitation was denied.

Franklin H. Williams of the legal staff of the NAACP, declared in his statement of protest to the Red Cross, "It is obvious to me that in this case there has been a gross and most disgraceful miscarriage of justice. I would go so far as to say that there appears to have been a clear violation of all the administrative practices and legislative ideals of the Veterans Administration as they have been explained to me many times.

"In view of the locale of this adjudication and considering the almost ludicrous grant given to this veteran, there is no doubt in my mind that the decision upon this claim was substantially affected by rank racial prejudice existing in the minds and hearts of the Veterans Administration's officers in Jackson, Miss. To hold that a veteran who has suffered the loss of a leg as the result of honorable service to his country is no qualified to receive vocational rehabilitation is almost unbelievable. In my judgment, it would appear that any individual who has had one of his major ex-

trémities amputated is qualified for such rehabilitation without concern for his prior training, profession or type of employment.

"Although it is true that your office may press this matter until it is ultimately rectified by granting the logical amount of disability and vocational rehabilitation rights, I believe that the original adjudication was such an obvious injustice and farce as to warrant your reporting this matter to higher authorities in the Veterans Administration, and if necessary, to General Omar Bradley himself.

SENATE RESTAURANT 'WHITES ONLY' POLICY UNDER FIRE

Washington, D.C., Mar. 12th — The Washington Bureau asked Edward F. McGinnis, Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, for a statement of policy regarding the use of the Senate restaurant by Negro employees of the Capitol.

The query came as a result of a story reported by Drew Pearson last week in his column, "The Washington Merry-Go-Round", charging that McGinnis had told Thomas S. Thornton, a Negro employee and war veteran, "Not to eat in the Senate Office Building Luncheonette or in similar places any more." It appears that Thornton had previously eaten a sandwich and coffee there over the objection of restaurant officials and had been reported to McGinnis.

In a letter to the Sergeant at Arms, Leslie Perry wrote: "Last year the Congress appropriated \$35,000 of the taxpayers' money to subsidize Senate restaurants. But that is only one of the reasons why Negro citizens should be free to use every public and semi-public facility in the Capitol without being discriminated against and subjected to humiliation and intimidation.



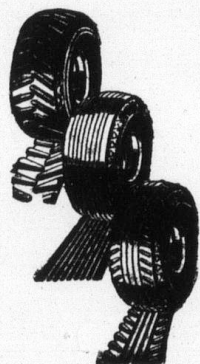
Hope Renewed Easter 1947

The Church, the dove, the Easter lilies—all symbols of Eternal Peace—are ours this new-dawning Easter. Our hopes and prayers have been answered once again, we become humble before our Lord and worship Him by our devotion and reverence this anniversary of Christ's resurrection into Heaven.

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