

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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SHORTAGE TO FORCE NEGRO HIRING

New York—Increasing shortages in manpower will force American transit lines to employ more Negroes and women in order to avert service break downs, it was declared here April 25 by Edward A. Roberts, ODT official, in a speech before the American Transit Association at the Hotel New Yorker.

Mr. Roberts, associate director of the Division of Local Transport of the ODT, asserted that in order to meet the problem posed in local transportation companies, "it has been necessary to employ classes of people who have hitherto been considered entirely ineligible for dealing at close quarters with masses of the public and for handling human life in wholesale quantities."

"In some section of the country," the speaker declared, "this has meant employing women, in other sections Negroes of both sexes, and in a really critical city like San Francisco the pressures of the war have resulted in the use of not only white women as motormen and conductors but also both Negro men and women as conductors; and when I was out there in December the Municipal Railway had just employed its first Eskimo."

"When the manpower shortage reaches a certain point, transit managements which now recite the usual objections to women or Negroes will suddenly discover that they offer the only alternative to a service breakdown. And arguments that it can't be done will fall on deaf ears if the hearer's eyes have seen what is already being done with such personnel on many properties throughout the country."

SUGGEST NAMING LIBERTY SHIP FOR E. E. JUST

New York—It has been suggested to the Ship Naming Committee of U.S. Maritime Commission by the NAACP that a liberty ship be named for the late Dr. Ernest Everett Just. Dr. Just was a world famous biologist and zoologist, professor of physiology at Howard University College of Medicine and the first recipient of the Spingarn Medal in 1915.



IN PUERTO RICO

Alvin M. Rucker, whose appointment as Acting Director of the United States Employment Service for Puerto Rico, has been announced by WMC Chairman Paul V. McNutt. The USES for Puerto Rico serves as a representative of continental employers, and its program includes pre-selecting workers, and arranging for their transportation to mainland employment. Mr. Rucker, a native of St. Louis, Mo., is the first Negro officer of the USES to be given an assignment as Director.

LAGUARIA GETS PROTEST ON BANNING OF JAPANESE

New York—Reports in the press of April 27 that Mayor F. H. LaGuardia had asked Washington not to permit Japanese-American citizens to come to New York City "or any of the states on the Eastern seaboard" drew a protest from the NAACP.

Pointing out that Japanese had been herded into concentration camps and all their rights as American citizens violated, the NAACP contrasted this treatment with that accorded "well-known Nazi and Italian fascists."

"No camps with barbed wire and guards were established for them," said the NAACP telegram, "but instead they were arrested and given full benefit of American courts and full protection of the American constitution. The treatment of Japanese-Americans has been cited by those who would interpret this terrible war as a war of color and race."

"Surely the Mayor of the City of New York has not used the cloak of military security to advocate differential treatment for loyal American citizens who happen not to be white."

N.A.A.C.P. DEPLORES LEGAL ACTION

New York—Legal action to restrain the showing of the War Department film "The Negro Soldier" which has been brought by Jack Goldberg, was deplored by the NAACP here in a letter to Mr. Goldberg who has produced a film called "We've Come A Long, Long Way."

The NAACP reiterated the sentiments in its letter of February 10, 1944 to Mr. Goldberg explaining to him that NAACP branches would not be permitted to cooperate in securing bookings for the Goldberg film. The NAACP characterized "We've Come A Long, Long Way" as insulting to Negro theatre-goers because it stresses Nazi atrocities and preaches to Negroes that they are much better off in America than they would be under Hitler.

"Negroes", said the NAACP letter, "being American citizens, compare their treatment to the American standard, not to Nazi theories."

"On the other hand, 'The Negro Soldier' is an excellent documentary film, a first-rate effort directed by Col. Frank Capra. It has enormous potentialities for good in stimulating the morale of American Negroes and in educating white Americans to the true place of their fellow citizens in our country."

The NAACP expressed regret that the Goldberg company should have seen fit to take legal action.

SOUTH PACIFIC SOLDIERS SEND NAACP \$552

New York—Receipt of \$552 from the men of a coast artillery regiment stationed somewhere in the Pacific was announced today by the NAACP. The letter of transmittal said "we congratulate you on your achievement and wish you success in all undertakings."

The committee sponsoring the contribution to the NAACP comprised S-Sgt. John Gibson, Jr.; S-Sgt. Wilford L. West; S-Sgt. Wesley F. Hudson; Sgt. Bertram Jones; Cpl. William L. White; Cpl. Whitney A. Jackson; Cpl. Nathaniel Randall; Cpl. Edward L. Harris; T-5 Adolphus Byrd; Pfc. Oscar L. Jackson; and Pvt. Oliver W. Holmes.

Put Victory First



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GOVERNOR EBOUE SENDS GREETINGS

New York—Greetings to the people of the United States of America from Governor General Felix Eboué of French Equatorial Africa were brought to this country personally by Walter White, NAACP secretary, who met and conferred with Governor Eboué in Cairo, Egypt, April 8. The message follows: "In Cairo I had the pleasure of meeting M. White, general secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and war correspondent. I have confided this message to him in witness of the sympathy and solidarity addressed to the brave people of the United States of America who are struggling so courageously for the liberty of the world and the betterment of the condition of humanity according to the principles of the Atlantic Charter."

(Signed) "Eboué, Caurio, 8 April, 1944"

Governor Eboué is probably one of the most important colored men in the entire world and occupies a key position in the whole question of Africa and France after the war.

After the downfall of France in 1940, Governor Eboué was the only French colonial official who refused to collaborate with Vichy. He declared unending opposition to the Nazis. His territory, French Equatorial Africa, became thus the only important spot in France or in the French empire which the Axis did not control directly or indirectly.