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Stirring Plea Made By Rep. William Dawson

WASHINGTON. (ANP)—Rep. William L. Dawson of Illinois, giving his most dramatic address during this session of congress, last week inspired fellow congressmen to vote down a jim-crow provision in a proposed universal military training bill.

Rep. Dawson, one of only two Negroes in congress, posed these questions before his colleagues.

"How long, how long, my conferees and gentlemen from the South will you divide us Americans on account of color? Why, will this body go on record to brand this section of citizens second class?"

When Cong. Dawson finished his speech, even members from the south applauded. Later, the house voted 178 to 126 to throw out the segregation section to the proposal.

Introduced by Rep. Barden of North Carolina, this provision would have given while inductees the privilege of saying whether or not they preferred to join an all-white unit. It is an idea that has been proposed several times by southerners.

Here is what Rep. Dawson said in part:

"Give me the test that you would apply to make anyone a full-fledged American and by the living God, if it means death itself, I will pay it—

Pointing to a scar on his forehead, Dawson cited his own courage to volunteer for World War I although he was too old to be drafted. He exclaimed:

"This mark you see here on my forehead is the result of German mustard gas and this left shoulder of mine is today a slip joint."

"That would have been a good joint, if I had not been a good American Negro. I served in a segregated outfit as a citizen trying to save this country.

"I would give up this life of mine to preserve this country and every American in it, white or black.

"Deny to me, if you will, all that American citizenship stands for. I will still fight for you, hoping that under the constitution of the United States all these restrictions will be removed and that we will move before the world as one people, American people, joined in a democracy toward all the world.

"God didn't curse me when He made me black any more than He cursed you when He made you white.

"I say to you who claim to love America in this hour of its stress that the greatest argument the Soviet Union is using among the black peoples of the world to turn them against us is your treatment of me, me an American citizen.

"I believe that the south is big enough for all of us to live in together in peace and happiness if we can but have understanding.

"But we cannot have understanding if you raise one against the other because of color."

Dawson then took his seat with the house applauding. Applause is a rare sight in congress these days. This was one of Dawson's few oratorical dissertations before congress.

Bishop D. O. Walker



Rt. Rev. D. Ormonde Walker, presiding prelate of the Fifth Episcopal district of the African Methodist Episcopal church is scheduled to be in Lincoln, Sunday, May 27. A meeting will be held at Quinn Chapel, 9th and C streets. The Rev. J. B. Brooks is pastor. It will be the bishop's first official visit in the city.

MacArthur Pay \$18,761 for Life

WASHINGTON—Gen. Douglas MacArthur will draw his pay of \$18,761 a year for life, even though he is out of a job.

Unless he is given another military assignment — and President Truman strongly indicated that won't happen—General MacArthur is free to take any civilian employment he likes, run for public office or just take life easy.

As a five-star general of the army, he comes under a special act of Congress which states he never can be formally retired from the service.

NAACP in New Civil Rights Call

NEW YORK.—The nation's leading church, labor, fraternal, civic and minority group organizations will be asked by the NAACP to send representatives to a civil rights' conference in Washington next month to formulate a co-ordinated plan of action in the fight for civil rights.

Calendar of Events

- QUINN CHAPEL A.M.E. Church Bake Sale at Wells and Frost... April 28th
- Revival... May 14-25
- District Conference at Elwood, Kan. ... May 9th & 10th
- Bishop D. O. Walker to be guest... May 27th
- MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Church School Pew Rally... April 29th
- LINCOLN URBAN LEAGUE Y.M.C. club's benefit show... April 27th
- Membership Drive... May 15 to June 1
- Clean Up Campaign... May 14 to May 19
- Boy's Town Concert... May 18
- Annual Duke and Duchess Revue... May 25th
- Annual Memorial Day Picnic... May 30th

man if the house appropriations committee. In this post, he is the first Negro to head an important standing committee in congress.

In political circles he is one of the nation's most powerful democratic leaders.

Jo Baker Does Fine Job Of Race Relations In Chicago

BY CHARLECE HARBSTON

CHICAGO. (ANP). Fabulous Josephine Baker left Chicago Friday after completing two heavy weeks of entertainment and good race relations work. Behind her she left hundreds of astonished entertainment lovers and amazed business leaders.

Perhaps the most amazed persons are the business executives of Chicago whom Miss Baker paid a pop call on along with Sidney Williams, executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League. Miss Baker and Mr. Williams met when he visited Paris in 1936. During the war, the two met again in Casablanca where Mr. Williams was heading an American Red Cross entertainment unit. Miss Baker escaped to Casablanca from Paris when the Germans entered.

Boys Town Choir To Present Concert At Urban League

Mr. Lynnwood Parker, executive secretary of the Lincoln Urban League, announced that the Boys Town Choir will render a concert in the Urban League Auditorium, May 18th at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Urban League or Dietz Music Store. Father Frank Schmitt, director of the choir, has carried the boys all over the United States.

- Mrs. Evelyn Knowles
- Mrs. Margaret Hightower
- Miss Olivia Pound
- Mrs. Pearl Watkins, Omaha
- Mrs. L. B. Webster
- Mrs. T. M. Raysor
- Mrs. Kermit Johnson
- Mrs. Elsie Bates
- Mrs. J. M. Reinhardt

Our Honor Roll

The following is a list of those who are New Subscribers or have renewed their subscription to The Voice:

- Miss Estelle Kerns
- Mrs. R. H. Powell

Widow of Ensign Brown Helps Honor Man Who Tried To Save Her Husband

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mrs. Daisy Pearl Brown, of Hattiesburg, Miss., widow of Ensign Jesse Leroy Brown, last Friday watched President Truman present the Congressional Medal of Honor to Lieut. (junior grade) Thomas J. Hudner, Jr., for his daring effort to save her husband's life in Korea.

After the presentation, Mrs. Brown posed with Mr. Truman and Lieutenant Hudner for photographs and the newsreels.

Mr. Truman hung the blue ribbon star shaped emblem of heroism around Hudner's neck in recognition of the flyer's brave but futile attempt to save the life of Brown, a fellow pilot, behind the North Korean lines Dec. 5. It was the first Navy Medal of Honor of the Korean war.

The ceremony took place in the rose garden of the White House. Witnessing it were Hudner's parent, three brothers of the city, and Secretary of Navy Francis P. Matthews.

Mrs. Brown, who was presented earlier in the day to Secretary Matthews, carried a bouquet of red roses which the secretary had presented her. She was accompanied to the White House by Lieut. Dennis Nelson, a Navy public relations officer, and Seaman First Class Clara Carroll, who is stationed at the naval receiving station in Anacostia.

Coincident with the White House ceremonies, it was announced at Quonset, R. I., that shipmates of both Lieutenant Hudner and Ensign Brown had raised a \$2,700 scholarship fund for Pamela Brown, 2-year-old daughter of the dead flyer.

Brown crash-landed his plane which was hit by anti-aircraft fire five miles behind the enemy lines near Chosen reservoir in

North Korea. Hudner, seeing Brown's plane afire, crash-landed nearby, although "knowing his own chances of escape were negligible," and made a futile attempt to free Brown, trapped in the plane.

Unable to open the canopy of the burning aircraft, Hudner called for a rescue helicopter with fire fighting equipment. While awaiting the helicopter, Hudner packed the fuselage of the slowly burning plane with snow in an effort to keep the flames away from Ensign Brown.

Brown died from injuries before he could be extricated from the plane. He was the first colored naval officer to be killed in any United States war.

Mrs. Brown told the reporter that she has not yet made up her mind as to what she will do. Since receiving notice of the death of her husband, she said she has been under the care of physician.

She disclosed that she is anxious to continue her education, which was interrupted when she married Ensign Brown. She said she may enroll in Alcorn College, Alcorn, Miss., or may come to Washington and take a government job and attend evening classes in one of the schools here.

She and Brown were married in 1947 while he was a naval aviation cadet, but their marriage was kept a secret until he was commissioned an ensign and designated a naval aviator in 1948. Naval aviation cadets are forbidden to marry.

Brown and Hudner were squadron mates on the U.S.S. Leyte and were taking part in a close support mission in the rugged mountain country near the Chosen reservoir when Brown's plane was hit.

The two visited both business executives employing Negro help and those not employing them. The former they complimented, and the latter they hoped would respond to the star's discussion of employment on the basis of democracy. She unhesitatingly pointed out that the United States could not go forward with a program of moral content in it unless racial discrimination is eliminated completely.

Among the places Miss Baker and Mr. Williams visited was the famous State street store, Carson, Pirie Scott, where she congratulated Mr. Carson for his outstanding job of integrating Negro workers. She did likewise when visiting Fowler McCormick of International Harvester and Co.

Her visit with President Henry Livingstone of the First National bank, considered the most influential bank in the Midwest, was of a little different order. She discussed how Negroes might well fit into his program. Impressed, Mr. Livingstone asked her how she thought the Negro community would react to a Negro being put in the savings department of the bank. The star immediately answered: "Gloriously."

When Miss Baker and Mr. Williams went to congratulate J. H. Wright, vice president and general counsel of the Illinois Central railroad on the company's 100th anniversary, they brought to his attention the practice the railroad has of segregating Negro passengers going south from Chicago. Mr. Wright stated he had been in office only six months and such practice had not been called to his attention before. He promised to investigate and set in motion the necessary procedure to stop it at once.

When the fabulous star questioned Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters about the organization's employment of Negroes, he declared some ideas were being worked on. A friend of his, Carl Haverlin, president of a radio entertainer's organization in New York hurriedly stated he employed four on his staff of 110.

Miss Baker stopped him immediately: "That's not enough compared to the size of your staff."

After some discussion, he agreed.

The star and Mr. Williams closed off their visits with a call on Leverett Lyon, chief executive officer of the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, to ask the association to encourage its members to adopt and execute decent employment of Negroes.

Miss Baker said at the end of her tour. "I can't understand this discrimination. White and colored should get together. People

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Vote Tuesday, May 1st.