



Dies After Illness of Two

CHICAGO—Former Congressman Oscar DePriest—first Negro Congressman to win office since Reconstruction Days—died Saturday at Provident Hospital. He was 80. Mr. DePriest was admitted to the hospital last Thursday after suffering a sudden attack of illness. He had been recuperating from injuries sustained recently in a bus accident near his home.

Behind him Mr. DePriest left a colorful career, which began in March, 1871, when he was born on a backwoods farm near Florence, Ala. He became the leader of a parade of Alabama-born Negroes who rocketed into worldwide fame over the years, including former Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell and former Heavy weight Champion Joe Louis.

Early in his career, young DePriest moved to Salina, Kan., with his family and received his early education there. Nearing adulthood, he came to Chicago, where he began work as a plasterer and interior decorator. His restless urge for leadership, however, forced him into more active fields and he entered politics. Then he really went places.

In a rise marked by many exciting and sensational events, he became the first Negro Alderman in Chicago in 1916, later becoming the first Negro member of the Illinois Commerce Commission, and finally—in 1928—reached his peak, when he was elected as U.S. Congressman from the powerful First Illinois District on the Republican ticket.

Coming to Washington in 1928 as the first Negro in the halls of Congress since Reconstruction days, Mr. DePriest was an impressive—though lonely—figure, until 1935 when he returned to private life. In Chicago he operated a real estate business with his only son, Oscar DePriest, Jr., who, with Mrs. DePriest and two grandsons, survive him.

He survived many political battle and in 1918 was indicted on charges brought by opponents who sought to unseat him as Alderman. Brilliant legal work by the late Clarence Darrow and Ed Morris saved him. He lived at 4536 South Parkway, a street on which he held extensive holdings.

By coincidence, Chicagoans only two weeks ago mourned for the man who tried to unseat Mr. DePriest in Congress, Roscoe Conkling Simmons, also a Republican.

Defense Testimony Refutes State in Trial of Trenton Six

TRENTON, N. J.—(ANP)—More defense testimony refuting statements previously given by the prosecution in the case of the Trenton Six was given last week as the trial dragged through its 11th week.

The Trenton Six are six Negro men on trial for the alleged murder of a white second hand dealer in January, 1948. This is their second trial following a rebuke of death sentences to the men in their first trial. The state Supreme court ordered it back for review.

Collis English, the first member of the Six arrested, denied testimony that he was treated kindly by Frank Naples, chief of detectives, the man who arrested him.



Sgt. Roosevelt Ruggs

While eyes were on Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, who was greeted with a 15-gun salute on his arrival in Lincoln for an Armed Forces Day speech, Sgt. Roosevelt Ruggs, a member of his staff, did not go unnoticed.

Sgt. Ruggs has spent two of his seven years of army life with the general. He is impressed with his attitude relative to the integration program in the Sixth Army, with headquarters in San Francisco. Sgt. Ruggs would recommend that a program of human relations be taught in the army to assist the program of integration.

He did not comment on the MacArthur controversy but he did say that he believed that a drastic change in policy would be necessary to gain the victory which we could not afford to lose in Korea. He added that Formosa was a vital point for the security of this country.

Sgt. Ruggs has quarters on the post for his wife, Carrie Ethel, and two children, Roosevelt, jr., 2½ and Peggy Ann, 18 months.

Mrs. Bethune to Address Dillard Graduating Class

NEW ORLEANS—(ANP)—Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, great educator, woman and civic leader, will address the graduation class of Dillard university, Wednesday, May 30, on Kearny Terrace.

Other graduation week activities will include the national alumni meeting, the 16th annual baccalaureate sermon, and the honoring of Dr. Albert D. Dent for his 10 years as president of the university.

Dr. John Owen Gross, a trustee of Dillard, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon, May 27 on Kearny Terrace. Dr. Gross is the executive secretary of the division of educational institutions of the Methodist board of education.

A special university convocation will be held for Dr. Dent in Henson hall to honor him for his work at the school.

Mrs. Bethune, the graduation speaker, is one of the most honored women in America. She is the founder-president emeritus of Bethune-Cookman college and recently appointed to the national civilian defense board in Washington, D. C., by President Truman. She has won nine honorary degrees, the Spingarn medal, the Haitian medal of honor, the Frances Drexel award, the Thomas Jefferson award, and others.

The Dillard university National Alumni association will meet May 29 in Kearny hall. The association's breakfast will be held May 27 at 9 a.m. in Portia grill and restaurant.

Report Declares Complete Integration in Seven Camps

Student Becomes Pres. of Campus Group at N.W.

CHICAGO. (ANP).—Davis S. Minor, law student at Northwestern and DePaul universities, last week was elected president of the Northwestern University forum.

He is believed to be the first Negro ever elected to head a major campus organization at Northwestern, although the school is 100 years old.

While a member of this organization. Minor has accomplished a number of achievements—regular member on NU Forum's radio broadcasts; moderator of these air shows; winner of oratorical contests two years in succession, and last year winner in the citywide contest sponsored by the Lake Shore Drive Speakers club.

In other student activities, Minor also has been honored by membership in the national law fraternity. In this group, he will be an active delegate at the national convention to be held in Chicago, June 29, at the swank Sharon hotel.

Minor also belongs to the National Junior Bar association, a subsidiary of the American Bar association, a subsidiary of the American Bar association and the junior division of the Illinois Bar association.

Whenever he passes the bar Minor will automatically become eligible for membership in both senior organizations.

With the NU Forum, Minor also has held the positions of vice president, sergeant at arms, and chairman of the awards committee.

WASHINGTON. (ANP). Schools and training divisions for soldiers are now being operated on an integrated basis at Fort Jackson, S. C., Camp Breckinridge, Ky., Fort Riley, Kans., Fort Ord, Calif., Camp Chaffee, Ark., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Camp Roberts, Calif. reported Cong. Jacob K. Javits last week.

Nebraska Electoral Holds Meet

The Electoral College of the Nebraska Conference of the A.M.E. Church met at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Omaha, Nebraska, May 17th, at high noon. Mr. W. H. Brady, of Elwood, Kansas, was elected chairman and Mrs. S. Scott, Secretary. The four delegates elected to the General conference to be held in Chicago in May, 1952, were Messrs. P. G. Porter, Olathe, Kansas; Clayton P. Lewis, Lincoln, Nebraska; Chester Gaskin, Kansas City, Kansas and I. S. McPherson, Omaha, Nebraska. Alternates: George Jones, Oskaloosa, Kansas; Clarence Brown, Atchison, Kansas; Mrs. Edna Bell, Fairview and Mrs. Winifred Newton, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Makes Educational Tour

ELWOOD, Kan.—About 60 patrons, teachers and pupils, in a two-bus caravan from Elwood motored to Boys Town Friday on an educational tour. Among persons making the trip were Prof. W. H. Brady, Mrs. E. Cochrane, Mrs. A. White, Mrs. M. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Massey and family and Mrs. Ruth Roberby. Wilberta Brady, Marian Chambers, Melvin Gorman and Willie May Hayes were graduated from Elwood High School on Wednesday.



DR. AND MRS. JONES OBSERVE 25 YEARS AT BENNETT President and Mrs. David D. Jones, who complete 25 years of service at Bennett college in Greensboro, N. C., during the commencement season, are shown standing on the veranda of the school's new Student Union building. In the quarter of a century, the president and his wife have seen the college grow from an enrollment of 10 students to 458. There have been 1,119 graduates and more than \$3,000,000 have been added to the capital funds of the college. Dr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of four children and three grandchildren.—(ANP)

The New York Republican who has spearheaded an almost continuous battle for the integration of Negro soldiers in the armed forces, inserted in the Congressional Record, last Wednesday, a summary of the advances which the army has made toward the utilization of Negro manpower within the last few years.

The report pointed out that Negro soldiers stationed in the camps mentioned above work, eat and are quartered together with white personnel. In 1949, the report continued, Negro enlistees were assigned to segregated units at Fort Dix, N. J., and at Fort Knox, Ky. Eut in little more than a year the army had completely changed this picture so that today the training divisions located in Fort Dix and Fort Knox are in the process of change-over from partial segregation to non segregation.

The army has adopted policies which now assures the full use of any club, any mess or all recreational facilities located in public buildings to all eligible military personnel without regard to race, stated Rep. Javits.

Exchanges and branch exchanges may no longer be designated for the exclusive use of any particular race. Any theater on the post may be used by Negro personnel. Busses, trucks or other transportation owned and operated by the government or by a government instrumentality are available to all military personnel regardless of race.

The army has gradually opened up every segment of its military schooling system to Negroes, and racial quotas have been abolished for schools selection and prescribed selection of qualified personnel without regard to race or color.

The selection of regular and non-regular army officers for promotion has operated without racial consideration, claims this report. It points out that prior to June of last year there was only one Negro colonel in the army, but today there are four. Almost two percent of Negro enlisted personnel were master sergeants at the close of last year; three percent were sergeants, first class; little more than eight percent were sergeants and more than 19 percent were corporals.

The facts as laid down in this report, according to Javits, prove that since the close of World War II, the army has "endeavored conscientiously to carry forward the principles laid down by the President of the United States and the secretary of defense for the efficient utilization of all military manpower."

General Raps Police Tactics

SAVANNAH, Ga. — (ANP) — Law enforcement officers are disrupting the combat training program at Camp Stewart by their "unwarranted" mistreatment of Negro soldiers, according to a statement made here last week by Brig. Gen. Clare H. Armstrong, commanding general of the army post.