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Engineers division of the Gurdon, Arkansas incident, who were placed in the guardhouse awaiting trial. are being made the scapegoats for the entire incident. A committee from the local branch of the NAACP, sent telegrams last week to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Michigan Senators Prentiss M. Brown and Arthur H. Vandenberg, urging their support in securing fair and impartial treatment for the men.

The NAACP committee, composed of Dr. James J. McClendon, branch president; Father Malcolm Dade, chairman of the legal redress committee, and Gloster B. Current, executive secretary, visited the camp on October 18 and found the six men held without charges. The branch had received urgent requests for action from parents and friends of the soldiers. The men, jailed week before last were told that the order came from Battalion headquarters. The committee's report states: "Although no one in command at Custer would state what the charges were, it is reliably reported that the boys are being held on the order of General (Ben) Lear of the Second Army, under whose command the 94th was serving at the time of the (Gurdon) incident."

The report continues: "The NAACP committee talked with the post commander, with Major Brown and with Major Saks. Under whose command the 94th has recently been placed since its return from maneuvers. None of these officers would divulge the charges lodged against the boys. "Talking with some of the soldiers of the 94th, it was learned that these boys are said to be the ones who started the trouble in Gurdon, Arkansas."

AFL UNIONS BRANDED AS ANT-NEGRO AT O P M HEARING

Los Angeles, October 27 (ANP) — "We don't discriminate. We have never discriminated. We are complying with the president's executive order."

Those statements, repeated over and over again before the Fair Employment Practices committee, appointed by President Roosevelt and holding hearings Monday and Tuesday at Embassy hall, were the stock in trade answers of local industrialists to charges that they had barred or were barring Negroes from employment in their plants.

They were made by Vultee, which does not have a single Negro worker at its Downey plant and with just as much emphasis as by Douglas, another aircraft concern, which does have 10 Negroes working in various capacities. They were made with no less assurance and aplomb by Consolidated Aircraft of San Diego which has employed a large number of janitors within the past few months.

Not overly impressed with the part answers were Committee members Mark Etheridge, publisher of the Louisville Courier Journal; At-

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USO COLORED CLUB PROGRAM IN FULL SWING



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Colored soldiers stationed in and around Savannah, Ga., always find a ready welcome while on leave at the USO club there operated by the National Catholic Community Service. Shown above are a group of soldiers and club hostesses enjoying the dance facilities at the club at Savannah of which George Harrison is Director. Five USO-NCCS clubs for colored men in uniform are now in operation and five more will open shortly.

torney Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago, David Sarnoff, head of RCA, M. E. Webster, Pullman Porter official; John Brophy of the CIO and John Fenton, representing the AFL.

In fact Mr. Dickerson, who did a brilliant job of cross examination for the committee, forced some of the self whitewashed industrialists' representatives to spend uncomfortable moments on the witness stand as he probed sharply, and sometimes with a touch of sarcasm, for the reasons why they now have a few Negro employees in the light of their self professed policies of fair play.

The International Association of Machinists, and AFL affiliates, didn't even desire to send a representative to the hearing to explain why, by barring Negroes from membership in the union, it was preventing Negroes from working at a Francisco shipyard and airplane factories at Seattle. Convinced by direct testimony of Daniel Sullivan of San Francisco that he had been prevented from working because of his inability to get a machinist's card from the union and nettled at the non-appearance of the union to defend itself the committee ordered Harvey Brown, international head of the machinists' union, to appear at its next session in Washington.

While evidence presented at the hearings indicated that AFL unions and employers were engaging in sharp practices to prevent Negroes from working at jobs for which they are qualified, the CIO, by statements of its officers, has a hard and fast rule against discrimination by its affiliated unions and told the committee that refusal to work with Negro members would lead to suspension or expulsion.

The committee held executive sessions late Tuesday to inquire into practices of governmental agencies and schools receiving government money which were charged with discriminating against members of minority groups. After sifting such charges and after studying the testimony the committee is expected to make the results of its findings known to President Roosevelt and to suggest action against firms which either openly evade the order or give it mere lip service.

Presentation of the evidence was in the hands of Eugene Davison, Washington attorney, who has been here two weeks preparing for the hearing. Early Monday sessions were given over to representatives of minority groups to make complaints and many were voiced by persons representing Jews, Negroes, Mexicans, Indians and Orientals. In all cases the complaints were similar stories of the run-around or downright refusal based on race.

Among local spokesmen who presented complaints, either orally or by filing complaints for the record were: George A. Beavers, Allied Organization Against Discrimination chairman, the Rev. J. A. Cantan, Assemblyman Augustus F. Hawkins, C. L. Kellums, Leon H. Washington, Sentinel publisher; CIO head Walter Connolly; Manuel Ruiz, Mexican attorney; David Coleman, representing the Jewish B'nai B'rith; Atty. Thomas L. Griffith, NAACP head; Attorney Hugh MacBeth, YWCA. Secretary Dorothy Guinn; YMCA. Secretary Baxter S. Struggs, Urban League Secretary Floyd C. Covington and others.

Firms which appear in answer to committee citations included Douglas, Lockheed-Vega, Vultee; North American and Consolidated aircraft concerns; Bethlehem Ship-

AT NCNW MEETING



Mrs. Francis Bolton, left, congresswoman from Ohio, and Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, NYA official, at the annual banquet of the National Council of Negro Women last week in Washington. Mrs. Bolton, who prefers being called "congressman" instead of "congresswoman" was guest of honor and principal speaker at the event attended by 700 women from all parts of the nation. Mrs. Bethune is president and founder of the national council. (ANP)

building company and other industries engaged in national defense. Made plain to the industries and unions which appeared at the hearings was the insistence of the committee that mere token compliance with the President's order would not be enough. It was also indicated that a representative would be named on the Pacific coast to conduct periodic checkups to force compliance with committee findings.

SECY PERKINS SNUBS JOB REQUEST OF AKA LEAGUE
Washington, October 26 (ANP) Sec Frances Perkins of the department of labor, in answer to a plea, for jobs for Negro Women in the Bureau from the National Non-Partisan League of the AKA shows either a disregard for their present situation or an ignorance of the subject, according to a letter received by the league discussing the matter.

In September Miss Jeanette Welch, Dr. Dorothy Ferebee and Miss Norma Boyd, representing the AKA Non Partisan league, had an appointment made to talk with Madame Perkins. As a result, a letter was sent following their talk with the secretary pointing out there were two women qualified to hold down positions as junior investigators and two qualified as stenographers, all four of them being on the civil service list. Madame Perkins had asked about these positions and expressed herself as being hopeful that they could be placed. But to the amazement of the non partisan group, they received a letter from the secretary stating:

"We have no vacancies in the woman's bureau at the present time. If we should by any chance receive additional money for defense work and if there should be a qualified Negro woman on the civil service lists, it is likely to be possible then to make such an appointment."

Miss Welch of the non-partisan league had already pointed out to Mrs. Perkins the fact that these four women were qualified under the civil service and already were on the lists. What adds to a situation which grows ridiculous is the fact that the bureau is advertising its needs along these lines and qualified Negro workers are being overlooked in the shuffle. However, the nonPartisan league is determined to push the cause and will again call Mrs. Perkins' attention to the fact that there are qualified workers available and awaiting call.

WILBERFORCE TO PLAY ON LINCOLN'S (MO.) NEW HOME-COMING DATE
Jefferson City, Mo., October 31 Special—The Lincoln University Athletic Committee announced after a special meeting, that the date for Lincoln's Homecoming celebration had been moved closer by a week, and that the Tiger's will play Wilberforce University in the

Homecoming football game, Saturday, November 1. The celebration was originally set for the following week but the withdrawal of Tennessee State, because of losses to its team through the draft and the operation other negative factors made the change necessary. Faculty and student groups at Lincoln already hard at work on plans to make the 1941 Homecoming celebration the best in the history of the school, are redoubling their efforts so that everything may be in readiness for the new deadline. The selection of the Homecoming Queen and her attendants, the parade, bonfire, shows and pep meetings have already been mapped out. In addition, several new features are being cooked up for the entertainment of the alumni, visitors and football fans who are expected to be present in record numbers at this year's Homecoming Week.

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