

EXTRA!

FOR A MOST WORTHY CAUSE

Don't forget your tickets for the Children's Memorial Hospital Fund Dance given by the Elks at their hall, 2420 Lake street, Monday, March 20th.

BOMBERS TO HEAR SPECIAL SERMON SUN.

St. John A.M.E. Church will be the scene for employees of the Martin bomber plant to hear a special sermon preached for them. Rev. Ridley, pastor of the church will address them as will also Mr. G. T. Wiley of the Martin plant. Public invited.

"GIVE TO THE RED CROSS" CAMPAIGN,

"Miss February"



The U. S. Army Engineers Unit who recently played a great part in the constructing of the Great Alcan Highway has sent in the highest number of votes for Miss Laura Christmas to be titled "Miss February" Queen of the pin-uppers. Miss Christmas resides at 427 Tremont street, Chicago and is a government worker. Various units are asked to vote weekly on Front Cover Girls and other photos appearing in a National Weekly Magazine as their monthly choice. Press Photo Service conducts this Campaign. (Press Photo Service.)

Red Cross Campaign To Start Monday

Encouraged by early responses, Douglas County Chapter, American Red Cross, next Monday will launch its 1944 War Fund campaign for \$505,000, with solicitations of help from 60,000 workers in Omaha industrial plants and business firms, from farm and towns people throughout the county. House-to-house canvass in Omaha by the women's division will start until Monday, March 20th.

All workers and the general public are invited to the official launching rally Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in Central High School auditorium. The program will include numbers by the Union Pacific band, A Red Cross tableau and remarks by Major General C. A. Danielson, commanding general of the Seventh Service Command.

This Friday, March 10, the thousands of Junior Red Cross members will carry home from every school house in Douglas County a copy of a special edition to their own newspaper which will tell their parents and neighbors about the Red Cross. Speakers emphasize that 90 percent of the funds go directly to helping service men and their families.

To meet the huge increase in its war task, the Red Cross must depend on its friends to increase the size of their gifts this year. General Chairman H. M. Corning pointed out this week to his associates. Encouragement along this line came from Chairman R. T. Burns of the initial gifts committee when he reported the following unsolicited increases: Omaha Clearing House associated, from \$7,000 last year to 10,000; World-Herald, \$4000 to \$5,000; Woolworth Stores, \$500 to \$835; International Harvester Co., \$400 to \$600; Omaha Horse and Mule Commission Co., \$30 to \$177; Trimble Bros., \$25 to \$100.

Subscribe Today!

HOPE TO AMASS GREAT POOL OF CAPITAL



Largest Accredited Negro Newspaper West of Chicago, North of K.C.

Saturday, March 11, 1944 OUR 17th YEAR—No. 5 Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Post Office, Omaha, Nebraska, Under Act of March 3, 1874—Business Phone: HA-0800, HA-0802.

Last Rites Held for Estella Ratliff

BETHUNE TO BE ASST TO WEAVER Successor?

Washington, March 8 (ANP)—Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commission chairman, is going to pay off a political debt to a fellow Indian by naming him to fill the post of chief of the minority group section, formerly held by Dr. Robert C. Weaver. And unless his plans miscarry, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune will be named his "assistant" as a sop to Negroes who feel that a Negro ought to fill the top job.

McNutt admitted to the Associated Negro Press last Tuesday that while he has been checking "several people" the officer of "the second spot" had been made to Mrs. Bethune and that "she indicated she would accept." Asked about the possible appointment of a man from his own state McNutt said "it might be," and added, "stranger things have happened."

The manpower chairman acknowledged that Mrs. Bethune had told him once before that she was thru with government. He commented that "apparently she has changed her mind."

Mrs. Bethune insists that she gave no such indication of acceptance to McNutt. She confirmed the offer of a job but said that McNutt was unable to tell her the name of the person under whom she would work, or the specific nature of the work to be done. All she says she was told is that the work had to do with race relations. From reliable sources it is learned that considerable pressure is being put upon the president of the National Council of Negro Women who only two months ago terminated her government work when the National Youth Administration folded. Since then she has been devoting her full time to the development of the council. In addition, she has not been well lately.

SECOND SHIF BOMBARDIERS PRESENT \$50 GIFT TO THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FUND

A \$50 contribution to the Children's Memorial hospital was presented last Tuesday by the Baughman Recreation committee, second shift, composed of Negro workers at the Martin Nebraska company. The sum was raised by various recreational activities of the group. In addition, the committee has made a contribution to the Red Cross. Members of the group, who made the presenting were I. C. Knight, treasurer; Miss Louise Decker, chairman of the entertainment committee and Mrs. Rhiva Brown, chairman of clubs.

DANCE HALL PERMIT DENIED

The city council last Tuesday denied a dance hall permit to William H. Davis for the Dreamland dance hall. Attorney H. J. Pinkett said a new applicant would come before the council soon.

TO RENEW YOUR 1944 SUBSCRIPTION CALL HA-0800

RELATIVES, FRIENDS, PAY TRIBUTE TO POPULAR GIRL'S MEMORY....

(BY LUCY MAE BRITT)

Estella Troy Robertson Ratliff, popular and well known citizen of Omaha for a number of years, died suddenly February 29, 1944, in Los Angeles, California, from carbon monoxide.

Mrs. Ratliff will long be remembered for her charming personality and many outstanding abilities. She was born in Dallas, Texas in 1908 where she attended the Booker T. Washington Grade and High school. She was an honor graduate of Bishop College in Marshall, Texas, graduating at a very early age. She taught High school in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She moved to Omaha with her mother, where she attended the School of Business Administration at Omaha University, and later worked towards a Master's Degree at Creighton University.

She was the first Negro girl to be employed by Mr. Robert Smith, Clerk of the District Court, where she made a very creditable record, and the position has remained open for a Negro girl ever since. She worked as a teacher in the Adult Education Department for a number of years.

She was married to Mr. Valder J. Ratliff in February, 1937. They later moved to New York and made their home for several years.

Mrs. Ratliff will be long remembered for her successful directing of the many Operettas sponsored by the Quack Club. She was president of the Quack Club for a term and the members and friends who knew her and worked with her regarded her as a dynamic leader. The Zion Imperial Choir with her as director, reached its zenith in musical accomplishments.

Her last position in Omaha was with the V. D. Health Department, where she was loved by all who came in contact with her.

She went to Los Angeles, California in December, 1943 where she and her husband planned to make their home. Mr. Ratliff planned to join her in May. Mrs. Ratliff and her cousin, Mrs. Christine Sudduth were in Los Angeles together when she suddenly passed. Mrs. Sudduth accompanied the body home.

Surviving relatives are Mr. Valder J. Ratliff, husband of Omaha; Mrs. Belzora Collins, mother of Omaha; Mrs. Lucille Hamilton, sister of Great Falls, Montana; Cousins: John Hamilton, nephew, U. S. Army; Mrs. Christine Sudduth and Mrs. Jewell Moten, Los Angeles, California and other relatives and friends. Her most intimate and close friend of long standing, Lucy Mae Stamps Britt, was very often regarded as a member of the family. She was the Godmother of Adrienne Britt, the daughter of Mrs. Britt.

The funeral was held at Zion Baptist Church on Tuesday, March 7th at 1 p.m. with Rev. F. C. Williams, officiating, assisted by Rev. David St. Clair, of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. The Thomas Funeral Home was in charge.

The members of the Quack and Memo Club served as flower girls. Honorary Pall bearers were J. Dollard Crawford, Orlo South, Milton E. Johnson, C. C. Galloway, H. J. Pinkett and Ed. Killingsworth and active were J. L. Taylor, Leroy Gude, Richard Reynolds, C. P. Williams, Rudolph Watson and Roscoe Knight.

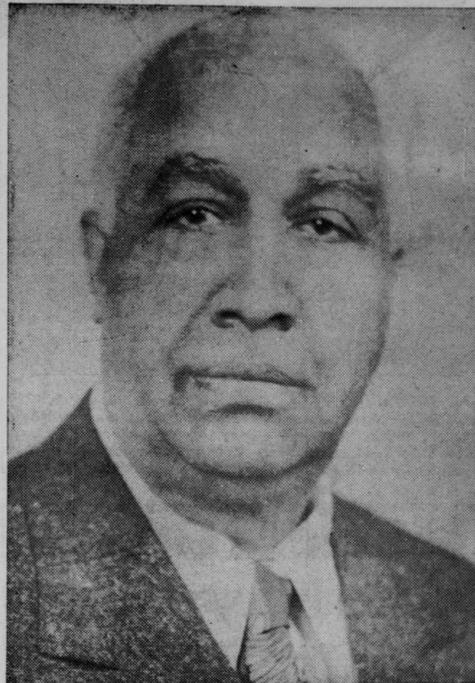
ROSCOE SMITH CHILLED IN SIXTH ROUND

Los Angeles.—Freddie Dixon, rugged little welterweight from Phoenix, scored a sixth-round knockout over Roscoe Smith of Omaha. In a featured bout here last Tuesday night.

Vote for---

C. C. Galloway for State Senator

(PRIMARIES, APRIL 11, 1944)



C. C. Galloway

"Your Legislature Representative of the Fifth District." He will take the 'Red Tape' out of the Old Age Pension, without any increase in real estate taxes.

A. P. Randolph Wins Clendenin Labor Award

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and outstanding Negro leader, has won the Clendenin Award of the Workers Defense League for distinguished service to labor's rights, Rev. Aaron S. Gilmartin, newly elected chairman of the League announced this week.

New York's noted Town Hall will be the scene of a testimonial concert and meeting Sunday evening, April 2nd, at which the award will be presented.

A committee of 300 noted Americans, headed by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of Bethune Cookman College, and David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, is sponsoring the testimonial, at which civic and labor leaders, and leading artists of radio, stage and screen will appear.

SENATOR LAFOLLETTE A PREVIOUS AWARD WINNER

Previous winners of the award, which is in the form of a plaque, were Senator Robert M. LaFollette Jr., of Wisconsin and John P. Finerty, noted attorney who handled the defense of Odell Waller and was active in the Sacramento Vazetti and Mooney cases. The award was voted by the national executive board of the Workers Defense League, which has nation headquarters at 112 East 15th Street, New York. Tickets for the Town Hall testimonial are available at the League at \$2.20 \$1.65 \$1.10 and 55 cents.

The award to Mr. Randolph, voted for his "lifetime of distinguished service to labor's rights," recalls Morris Milgram, WLD national secretary declared, "his dramatic move in June 1941 when the March on Washington Movement under his leadership won from President Roosevelt Executive Order 8802 establishing the Fair Employment Practice Committee."

"Mr. Randolph is rendering the same distinguished service to all the people through his leadership now of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, which is pressing for passage of H.R. 3986, the bill by Representatives Scanlon, Dawson, LaFollette and Bender to establish in law the principle of freedom from discrimination as a privilege of all citizens, which shall be safeguarded by a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission," Mr. Milgram continued.

"How much Mr. Randolph is feared by those who would keep all labor in subjection was indicated by the recent action of the Crump machine in Memphis which barred Mr. Randolph from speaking at a (Continued on page 2)

5c WORTH GOOD READING

NEGROES Into LABOR BAT'LIONS

RADIO TECHNIC- ASSIGNED LABOR DUTIES; SAYS PRISONERS ARE BETTER FED AND HOUSED

New York, N. Y.—In line with Secretary Stimson's admission that the Army has a policy of converting Negro combat troops and technicians into service troops, is the revelation that a group of Negro radio operators and technicians was recently changed over into labor battalions.

The information came to the N.A.A.C.P. in a letter from a Negro sergeant.

The irony of the situation was heightened by the fact that German war prisoners stationed near these Negro troops are said by the sergeant to be receiving better treatment than United States Negro soldiers.

The letter declares:

"When the division was shipped to... we were left in Fort... later we learned that we were coming to this camp to form a battalion. Since our troops was composed mostly of radio operators and radio technicians, we were reasonably certain that it would be an operations battalion because a construction battalion hasn't any place for communications men. Upon our arrival we find that we were going to be formed into a construction battalion after being merged with the... F. A. All the training that the men in this battalion must learn something about climbing poles and digging holes. In other words, we are in a labor battalion with a glorified title. We are not kicking because we have to climb poles and do some hard work, but we figure if we are qualified for a certain type of job we should get it if possible and I know the Army needs radiomen.

"A lot of us have asked for transfers, but all we run into is red tape and that is when an enlisted man loses his case.

"There is a trend in the Army, at the present, to transfer all the Negro soldiers from the Army Ground Forces and put them into the Army Service Forces no matter if they are qualified for other types of work.

"In this camp we are also forced to live in an area that should be condemned. All our sanitary facilities are outside and across the street in a poorly heated building. The barracks we live in are heated by two stoves, one at each end of the barrack.

"The reason the boys are so hot under the collar is due to the fact that there are German prisoners (here) and live better and are getting better treatment than we are getting at the present.

"We would appreciate it if you are able to look into the matter."

THEIR "BOSS" CALLED THEM "Inefficient"



Despite the fact that Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, recently said that Negroes were inefficient in manning combat guns and other such artillery as shown above, the War Department issued this photo only last week showing "our Boys" on guard at one of the fighting fronts. They are: Left seat, Pfc. Hartzell Casey, Right seat, Cpl. James Moore, loading; Sgt. Chas. E. Glover, Handling Clip; Pvt. John Harris and Cpl. Robt. Church (Press Photo Service)