

# Negro Units Speed Supplies to Front in France

## Elks Convene in Chicago; Reelect Finley Wilson

### BALLOT IS YOUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPON.

(BY EARL BROWN)  
for Continental Features

The most powerful weapon, we, as Negro citizens, possess with which to fight for our rights are our ballots. That this is so clearly indicated by the extreme efforts both the Republican and Democratic parties are making to win a majority of them on election day, November 7. For the politicians know better than anyone else that our votes may be the deciding ones come November 7. It is, indeed, possible, that they will determine who will occupy the White House for the next four years—Roosevelt or Dewey.

To possess something, however, and not use it for your own and others' benefit is worse than not to possess it at all. And this is the situation with thousands of Negro voters—they can vote, if they want to, but they are too indifferent to register and later cast their ballots. These slackers not only harm themselves by failing to register and vote, but they also hurt their whole race. They are useless as a company of soldiers asleep at the front with their rifles full of bullets and the enemy shooting at them.

There are approximately two million Negro voters living above the Mason-Dixon line and thousands more below it. Yet, in no election up to now have more than about fifty percent of them voted. Usually the percentage is much less.

Though the Democrats, Republicans and other political organizations such as the CIO Political Action Committee, are active in getting both colored and white people to register so they can vote on election day, the responsibility of registering and voting rests primarily upon the voters themselves. No one should depend upon another person to remind him or assist him in exercising his sovereign power—to vote—if he knows how to go about doing it. This is particularly true of the Negro voters this year, because they have more at stake in this election than ever before.

As a matter of fact, our future depends upon the men elected to office this year more than in any election since 1860, when Lincoln's election sounded the end of slavery in America. And it must be remembered that there are men running for office this time on both the Republican and Democratic tickets who are as unalterably opposed to the things we stand for and the things we know we must have, if we are to become completely integrated into this nation, as the men who championed slavery in 1860.

Though we have made some gains during the war, we must protect them and fight for more and more. If we did otherwise, we would not be worthy of the things we demand and rightfully deserve as citizens of the U. S. For example, we must work and fight for the welfare, protection and security of the three-quarters of a million colored men and women in the armed services, especially when they return from battle. We must fight to keep the jobs we have gained in private industry; and we must fight to see that we get better and more housing, more educational opportunities, and better health provisions. In truth, we must fight for all the things that will make us and other American citizens economically secure and culturally better off in a thousand ways.

The most effective way for us to fight is backing the candidates for office—any and all offices—whom we believe will work to help put over the things we are fighting for. Fortunately, there are men and women running for office who will plump for the things we want and need.

We must help elect to Congress and to state offices the men and women who are our friends and who will sponsor and work for the kind of legislation—the kind of democracy—we are guaranteed by the Constitution but have never been able to enjoy. But the kind of men and women we want to see in office cannot win, unless we register and vote for them.

It is easy for anyone to find out how to register and vote, if he doesn't know how. Almost any school teacher, lawyer, preacher, Urban League secretary or NAACP president, if there is one in your city, will be glad to tell anybody how to go about it. All one has to do is to ask either one of them. Of course, you may

### 10,000 DELEGATES ATTEND ELKS' MEETING.....

by Ted Watson

Chicago, (CNS)—Approximately 10,000 delegates stormed Chicago last week to attend the 45th annual national convention of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, which opened Saturday afternoon, August 19th.

Rev. J. C. Austin, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist church, delivered the baccalaureate sermon and also preached the regular sermon Sunday at his own church. The Daughter Elk convened at Parkway Community house at 51st and South Parkway.

A gigantic bond rally running thru August 26th was a regular feature of the convention and educational congress. Grand exalted ruler J. Finley Wilson of Washington, D.C., presided over the massive meeting which saw many new ideas conceived pertaining to society and education along with bosting civic pride for the duration. The convention parade which was held Tuesday, was headed by Bill (Bojangles) Robinson, famous tap dancer, who has led every parade for the past twenty-five years. The parade started at 2 p.m. and moved northward on South Parkway to 35th street, then disbanded after passing the reviewing stand.

### NAACP SUES IN VOTE REGISTRAT'ON CASE.....

Birmingham, Ala.—Argument was heard August 21 on the motion to dismiss the complaint of W. L. Patterson, charging denial of vote registration by the Alabama Board of Registration. Special NAACP Defense Counsel, Thurgood Marshall and Arthur Shores, represented the plaintiff.

In the complaint which was filed almost two years ago, Mr. Patterson alleges registration was denied him solely on the basis of race or color, and that despite the fact he answered all questions correctly concerning his qualification and filled in the required application blank, the Board refused to register him. Pointed out also is the policy of the Board clerks in filling out applications for whites and denial of this service to Negroes.

In the complaint which was filed almost two years ago, Mr. Patterson alleges registration was denied him solely on the basis of race or color, and that despite the fact he answered all questions correctly concerning his qualification and filled in the required application blank, the Board refused to register him. Pointed out also is the policy of the Board clerks in filling out applications for whites and denial of this service to Negroes.

Mr. Marshall, pleaded that while the registrars were state officials, the nature of the complaint involved infringement specifically of the 14th amendment. "We do not attack the laws of Alabama," Marshall said, "only the administration of the law in this particular case." He quoted a Supreme Court justice who in an opinion on a case involving parallel charges considered administration of such a law "with an evil eye and unequal hand falls athwart the 14th amendment."

### MAUPIN'S COTTAGE LUNCH NOW IN NEW HOME.....

WITH BETTER ACCOMMODATIONS, FASTER SERVICE EFFICIENT HELP.....

Mrs. Maupin, one of our wide-awake and progressive business women, began a restaurant business Sept. 4, 1942 then operating at 1922 North 24th street. At this beginning she had no employees but at the end of six months' time, had one and at the first of the year had two—by the middle of 1943, had three and beginning in '44 had four. From this location she built up a worthwhile business and in time was able to buy the present property at 2015 North 24th Street which under the expert guidance, architectural and masonry workmanship of Mr. W. F. Center the property was made over into the delightful showplace that it now is.

Mrs. Maupin opened her new lunch room Saturday, August 26th and she is now able to serve more people with better accommodations, faster service, and with very efficient help. "We hope to start at the bottom and build up and we shall appreciate everyone's patronage," says Mrs. Maupin with her courteous and friendly smile.

also ask any Democratic or Republican party worker who wto go about registering and voting. He will, indeed, be glad to help you.

The important things, however, are to register now, or when the time comes, and vote on election day. For whom you vote is your business and yours alone. It's something you must decide for yourself. But if you can't vote on election day because you failed to register, or if you don't vote even though you did register, you will hurt yourself, your children, your race and your country.

You were given your ballot to use. Use it. It's your front line and most potent weapon.



Receives tremendous Hand

J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks received a tremendous hand as his car passed through a crowd of 200,000 during the Aug. 2 parade in Chicago. The reelection of the great Elk Leader by acclamation for his 23rd term, indicates the high esteem he holds in hearts of his constituency. PPNS.



### Bojangles Leads Huge Parade

Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, world-famous tap dancer leading the four-hour Elk's parade down beautiful South Parkway Boulevard in Chicago on Tuesday, August 22. The parade was witnessed by a throng of 200,000 and is said to have been the most colorful in years. PPNS.

### Elkdom's Twin Queens



After much confusion on the part of a surly audience, the Misses Dorothy M. Jones, 4518 Calumet Ave., left and Mary Jeanne Ballard, 4254 South Parkway were both crowned Queen of the Elks National Bathing Beauty Contest by the Grand Exalted Ruler, J. Finley Wilson. The coronation was the climax of the Elks

Grand Ball which was held at the Regiment Thursday, August 24 in Chicago. Miss Ballard is a "Fiskite" and was sponsored by Greater Chicago Lodge, No. 954, while Miss Jones, a university of Ill. student was backed by Greater Ft. Dearborn Lodge No. 444. (PPNS).

### TO CONTINUE DES MOINES WAC BAND

New York—In a letter to Walter White, NAACP Secretary, the War Department announced its decision to continue activation of the WAC band at Des Moines, Iowa.

Inquiry into the situation was made following a wire to Secretary Stimson urging reconsideration of the plan to disband the unit. Rescinding of the order was based on the evaluation of the Commanding Officer at the WAC Training Center who considers the band an excellent morale agency and has requested its continuation.

### ANNIVERSARY STARTS

We wish to announce that our anniversary starts Friday Sept. 1st at 8:30 p.m. and will continue nightly for 10 nights. Everyone is welcome to come and feast with us. Also on Saturday Sept. 2nd, we are celebrating our pastor's birthday. Come and join in with us and let us have a good time in the Lord. Prophet Hess, Pastor, 2734 Blondo street.

### MIXED-UP FIGHT

A four-way fight that ended with two friends as antagonists Monday night resulted in \$1 fines Tuesday

### GOOD CONDUCT FOR EVERY YEAR IN SERVICE.....

Guadacanal, South Pacific—Corporal Joshua Foster, of Omaha, Neb., has been in the South Pacific with an Engineer Organization since early January, this year. The husband of Mr. Willie Mae Foster, 2626 Caldwell St., Omaha, the corporal entered the army March 15, 1941 and received his basic training at Fort Riley, Kansas. In his present organization, Corporal Foster is a construction foreman. A brother, Corporal Louis Foster, is somewhere in the European theatre. Prior to entering the service, Corporal Foster was employed at the Fontenelle Hotel, Omaha. He played professional baseball, his last club being the Texas Black Spiders, and is at present a star member of an Island team. He has run across several friends from civilian life in this theatre.

Corporal Foster has a good conduct medal to show for each year of service and has been in the cavalry as well as the Engineers.

morning in police court for Stella Williams, 23 of 2608 Patrick avenue, and Mabel Pollard, 29, of 1513 1/2 N. 24th street. The two told Judge Dennis O'Brien they were attacked by two other women but got befuddled so that her police appeared they were fighting each other.

### JITTERBUGS ARE HERE TO STAY

New York (C) ranted that the jitterbugs are here to stay, the nation's teachers are trying to refine it none, theless. According to Dorothy Donelson, convention manager of the National Assn. of Dancing, a lot of the violent gymnastics have been taken out of the dance but many a teacher from the country is suffering from fallen arches trying to figure out mild substitute steps.

## THE OMAHA GUIDE

Largest Accredited Negro Newspaper West of Chicago and North of KC

Saturday, Sept. 2, 1944—OUR 17th YEAR, No. 30  
Entered as 2nd class matter at Post-office, Omaha, Nebr., Under Act of March 8, 1874. Publishing Offices at 2420 Grant Street, Omaha, Nebr.

## Only Vigorous Action Will Aid Fepc. Continuin'

### RIGHTS, BENEFITS PAMPHLETS TO BE ISSUED TO VETS

Veterans of the present war will be informed of their rights and benefits through a United States Government pamphlet, first of its kind prepared by the Retraining and Reemployment Administration of the Office of War Mobilization, the Office of War Information reported.

Scheduled for release August 22, 1944, some 2,500,000 copies of the first edition of the booklet, "Your Rights and Your Benefits, a Handy Guide for Veterans of the Armed Forces and their Dependents," will be distributed to veterans by the armed forces, and by the local offices of Federal agencies: After copies of the booklet are put into circulation this month, all veterans will receive copies at Army and Navy discharge centers when they are discharged.

Veterans who have already been discharged will be able to obtain copies of the guide book from draft boards, offices of the Veteran's administration, local offices of the United States Employment Service or community veterans' information centers.

Among the subjects discussed in the guide book are: mustering-out pay; government insurance; ways of obtaining new jobs; old jobs, government employment; apprentice or vocational training; unemployment benefits; home, farm or business loans; hospital care, medical attention; disability pension; care in national soldiers' home; legal protection; assistance with special problems; back pay claims; review of discharge or retirement rulings; wearing of lapel buttons, wearing of uniform after discharge.

The guide book advises veterans that within five days after discharge they must report in person or by letter to their draft boards: that if they desire to return to their old jobs they must apply for reinstatement within 40 days after discharge. They are told where to get the answers to their questions, and what records, including serial number, discharge papers, disability claim number and draft card, will be required if they apply for benefits.

The booklet tells veterans that: Depending on length of service and honorable conditions of discharge, they will automatically receive mustering-out-pay of from \$100 to \$300.

All veterans discharged under honorable conditions are entitled to from five to 10 points preference in U. S. Civil Service examinations.

To cover temporary periods of unemployment, financial help is available through State or Federal sources; the Federal program, for those not eligible under a State program, provides an allowance of \$20 a week for from four weeks to a total limit of 52 weeks, depending on length of service.

For those with service-connected disabilities that are occupational handicaps and who otherwise meet the legal requirements, the Veterans Administration will supply training, and a pension of \$80 a month for single veterans, \$90 for the married, with added allowances for each child and dependent parent.

Three types of loans, including loans for farm and business equipment, may be obtained through the Veterans Administration under certain conditions.

The Veterans Administration will provide for education of veterans whose education was interrupted, the term for study to be based on length of service. Expenses of tuition and fees up to \$500 per year in accordance with controlling legislation will be allowed.

Veterans discharged with disabilities due to service may be entitled to disability benefits, including pensions, which run from \$11.50 per month for a 10 percent disability up to \$115 per month for total disability.

The Veterans Administration will supply hospitalization, and free transportation to hospitals, for eligible veterans who require hospital care for disabilities incurred in the service; and for those whose illness is not due to service, if beds are available and eligible veterans are not able to pay hospital costs themselves.

Veterans may wear their uniforms from the place of discharge to their homes, under certain conditions. They may also wear uniforms on ceremonial occasions, when they wear the uniform of the highest rank or grade they held during the war.

## Cited for Clean Physical Condition

Colonel Clarence W. Richmond, (white) Their Commanding Officer, Served Under Gen. Benj. Davis in the 9th Cavalry.....

(BY LEWIS GANNETT)

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—Aug. 21 (Delayed)—If you go out onto the ships in Cherbourg Harbor you look down into the cavernous holds of Liberty ships and see the amazing miscellany of supplies that keeps an army going being unloaded by colored soldiers.

You see colored soldiers rigging the crates onto the swarms of 'ducks' that chug back and forth, and colored soldiers driving those weird amphibious craft—boats with a spare tire on deck—out of the water, up a ramp and away.

Colored soldiers man winches as the ungainly LST. maneuver their way up to the tracks across which flat cars are transferred directly to the French railway lines. And you see thousands of black faces behind the steering wheels of the endless convoys of trucks, tanks, trailers, gun carriages, and weapons carriers which make the front line advances possible. The official figure is that 9 percent of the American troops in France are colored, which is close to the proportion of the civilian population at home, but in Normandy it looks like more—a lot more.

Negro units handle the silvery barrage balloons that protect the landing beaches, and have been handling them since D Day. They are stringing telephone wires throughout liberated France. They drive the fire trucks armed with foam smothering chemicals which are sometimes the only indication to a layman that a gasoline or ammunition dump is just behind a hedgerow.

American Negroes are doing the odd-quick job of building base hospitals behind the front. They mount anti-aircraft batteries. Their field artillery units are at the front and they guard German prisoners. One sometimes suspects that an officer with an anthropological sense of humor selected the coal-black boys who, with rifles on their shoulders, march as guards beside the straggling lines of tired Hennevolk prisoners that you see everywhere on the French roads. Afro-American soldiers also mount guard over the gangs of Germans who have volunteered—for extra pay—to do pick and shovel work about the base hospitals and to clear the rubble covered roads of St. Lo and other heavily bombed towns.

I have just spent three days on a tour of inspection that covered some 500 miles in various sectors of France with Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, the only colored general in the American Army, and his aide, Major Homer B. Roberts, of Chicago. General Davis, incidentally, is the father of Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who graduated tenth in his class at West Point and is now in command of a fighter group of four squadrons on the Italian front.

General Davis entered the United States Army in 1896 and has been in it ever since. He has a long, strong memory, and in virtually every circumstance he recognizes officers—and occasionally non-coms—with whom he has served in China or the Philippines, on the Mexican border or in one of several dozen American

(Continued on Page 2)

## Subscribe Today! New Recorder of Deeds



Congressman William L. Dawson, last week by President Roosevelt to the office of Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. Dr. Shepard, who is shown on the right is pastor of the Mt. Olivet Tabernacle Baptist Church of Philadelphia and a nationally known Democratic leader. He succeeds the late Dr. William J. Tompkins in the \$8,000 post. Continental Photo.

**MEN 17...**  
be a **STEWARDS MATE** in the **U.S. COAST GUARD**

SEEV AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COAST GUARD INVADERS - EXCELLENT TRAINING FOR A POST-WAR JOB - FAST ADVANCEMENT - APPLY NEAREST COAST GUARD RECRUITING OFFICE.....