Clayton Powell Has Answer for Brown

Replies to Ph.D. Author of Readers' Digest Article, "A Negro Warns the Negro Press"

(Continued from Page 1)

the depression under Communist auspices" really began in 1619 when we landed in Jamestown I is going to continue until we enjoy full and equal rights in this democracy.

Brown errs when he says the colored papers play up "the colored man at his worst." We are here forced to leave this for the enlightened white press which features every colored person's arrest on the front page and every subsequent acquittal on the back page.

Brown further states that the colored press "chooses to ignore the fact that under the Police Commissioner and courts of New York a fair trial would be assured."

The very day that the Readers' Digest hit the streets a Brooklyn magistrate, Abner Surpless, white, castigated a colored mother of three children and held her under five thousand dollar bail for supposedly slapping a school teacher who before hand had kicked her ten-year-old child.

That same week a colored boy coming out of a Harlem subway was shot by a detective who, witnesses said, was drunk. He then in turn arrested the youth supposedly for mugging him. This despite evidence to the contrary.

Mass vs. Mob Action

Brown also says that leaders that call for mass action really want mob action. He shows his Fascist mind when he believes that mass action can be confused with mob action, but who said he had a pimp?

Brown also gets mad because colored papers have headlines concerning crime. It is evident that he does not read the white press because they do the same. Even the staid New York Times headlined the other day, "Zoot Suit Killers Convicted."

Brown must think with his ——— instead of his brains because one sentence reads as follows:

"Meanwhile every colored person with pride of race has a moral obligation by protest and pressure to demand less hate and sensationalism, more fairness and honesty in his press." AND THAT IS JUST WHAT THE COLORED PRESS IS DOING. BY PROTEST AND PRESSURE WE ARE DEMANDING MORE FAIRNESS AND HONESTY IN YOUR PRESS—THE WHITE PRESS!

Fifth Columnists

The colored fifth columnists on trial in New York for sedition said that when they came into power they would behead Walter White and myself first. If Brown had a head on his shoulders he should be beheaded now, but there is a law against sprinkling sawdust in the streets.

The Council for Democracy should immediately fire Ph.D. Brown.

The Week

(Continued from Page 1)

killed was a black man who did not want freedom.

Crowding and overloading of buses and trolleys in Richmond, cause of the extreme necessity for reducing gasoline and rubber consumption make it difficult for the capital of the late Confederacy to enforce gas rationing laws.

The colored passenger who boards a trolley and proceeds to the rear during rush hours often has to knock the bark from plenty of white shins, particularly if the car is one of those Toonerville contraptions.

Girls in Slacks

Girls at Virginia State and other colleges are wearing extreme drape slacks with those tight cuffs and extra fullness in the hips.

Well, that's one way of keeping from admitting that you can't get pretty stockings these days.

Unskilled war workers who are earning $75 a week and up usually work sixty hours a week and up.

If you have no friends who are well established in the Tidewater Virginia area, you would do well to take your own bed with you if you happen to drop down that way.

Note of Agitation

Brig. Gen. Dear, commander of medical troops at Camp Pickett, Va., recently informed an AFRO writer that he felt that all of the influential newspapers published by colored people were doing a big job of stirring up trouble by agitating for a nation without racial segregation and discrimination.

The general was asked what he would do if he were colored and faced segregation and discrimination in education, jobs, pay, and a hundred one one other things.

He was reminded that white people claim credit for inventing democracy, and that trouble arises usually in race relations when they withhold that democracy from the colored minority.

One of the important things about colored workers' getting into more skilled jobs in more types of industry during the war period is that many of them will keep the jobs after the war, and that's one way of advancing as a race.

T. Shelton Coles, AFRO promotion manager, who recently entered the army, was traveling with fifteen white soldiers en route to Fort Eustis, Va., and was denied service at the Main Street station restaurant in Richmond when the men went in for meals at the expense of the Government.

He was forced to take a lunch box, and the white soldiers ate in the restaurant.

Later Federal agents were reported to have opened the restaurant to a group of colored soldiers travelling under orders.

If you were free in spending for Christmas, begin saying with all your might. Your income tax, due in March, may be ten or more times what you paid last year.

Money seems to be more plentiful for many people, but the lines in the stores' credit departments are not getting any shorter.

The man who buys war bonds will have the pleasure of paying taxes after the war so the Government can pay him back.

The man who doesn't will have the pleasure of paying taxes to pay someone else.

Operation of officer candidate schools without segregation shows that the whole army could be run the same way.

Explanation Ends Strike of U.S. Cafeteria Workers

WASHINGTON

Kitchen and counter employees of the Labor Department cafeteria who struck at noon Tuesday because promised pay raises had not been received, returned to work after a half hour when told that the adjustment would soon have War Labor Board approval.

The group of eighty-five, members of United Cafeteria Workers' Local 471, CIO, believed their increase had been disapproved when it did not become effective at the same time as that of their white supervisors.

Can't Have Jim Crow and Democracy---Pearl Buck

(Continued from Page 1)

India and China but we know too little about Maryland and Harlem," Miss Buck said.

"Unless we little people of all colors get together, we might have some kind of international fascism after the war.

"Today race relations are on too high a plane. Diplomats can fly from Chungking to Washington in a week. But that is relationships only at the top. We need a broader basis for relationships. We must learn to know each other as common people the world over."

Big, motherly Pearl Buck looked at me and said, "I have never talked like this to a newspaperman before, but believe me I mean every word of it."

His Six Children

Miss Buck, who is Mrs. Richard Walsh on her Pennsylvania farm, is in New York City one day a week. Her daily writing period at home is from 8:30 to noon. After that she looks after her six children, and "I act like a wife to my husband." Besides this she devotes time to the East and West Association, and other interracial groups.

Ordinarily AFRO interviews are conducted in absolute privacy. This time a dignified woman who was looking for a secretary, talk with Miss Buck, and Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, woman's page editor, New York Herald Tribune, were present.

It was agreed that AFRO exclusives would not appear in the Herald Tribune until after release in the AFRO.

Writer Real Humanitarian

Miss Buck is a humanitarian. She is not only acutely interested in the problems of the Chinese and Indians, but also in every segment of the American population.

One look at her and you are convinced of her personal honesty and sincerity. She was dressed in a simple brown garment, no nail polish and no discernible rouge.

She says that she smokes but did not smoke during the three hours I talked with her. I was surprised that she wore no Chinese ornaments on her simple dress. "That would be superficial," she said.

Lays Hate to Ignorance

Miss Buck apparently attributes much of American race hate to ignorance and misinformation.

"In America people learn by the radio, motion pictures, comic books and the lower levels of books and magazines," she said. "On the other hand we also have trade unions, churches, and women's clubs. But we have but little actual desire to learn about other peoples.

Home Problems Overlooked

"The white people of America are interested in India and China, because they are good stories. Harlem is a good story, too, but their attention has not yet been directed to our own minority problems.

"In America everybody reads books. In China only a few people read, but the Chinese people are philosophical and, there are no race prejudices in China."

Most of the above statements were directed to Miss Bromley, who is, incidentally, one of America's best paid women journalists.

Views on Lewis Jones

One of Miss Buck's first direct responses to an AFRO query concerned Lewis Jones. Lewis Jones is the colored man who preferred to serve time in jail rather than time in a jim-crow army. I asked her whether she thought that Lewis Jones had damaged colored America by his refusal to serve in our army.

"There are some people who will find their best contribution to the cause through one method, while others can give their best through different actions," she replied. "I shall not say that Jones is right, but I cannot say that he is wrong.

Opposes All Jim Crow

"I wholeheartedly support the war against fascism, but endorse a man's right to be a conscientious objector." Perhaps fearing that I had misconstrued her she added, "Understand now, I don't believe in jim crow anywhere.

"Jones may have damaged the cause in America. That remains to be seen. For that matter, every time you life a voice of protest you damage something. On the other hand, that is the way progress is made, it all depends . . . She did finish her sentence.

White People's Odor

Carl Murphy had told me that many Chinese found the body odor of white people unpleasant. I asked Miss Buck about this.

"Yes, there is an offensive body odor; I have noticed it myself," she stated. "When I lived among Chinese people for years and suddenly saw a white person I detected the peculiar odor. It is not racial, but dietary. You actually smell like what you eat."

I asked Miss Buck whether the people of China reminded her of the colored people of America.

Hits Color Prejudice

"All people who are struggling for democratic rights are basically similar," she said. "There is one significant difference — some of the colored people in America subdivide themselves on the basis of color. I think this is pure nonsense. I think, for example, that Paul Robeson is one of the handsomest men I ever met.

"I hate color prejudice whether it's in or outside the race. I feel the same away about anti-Semitism. We've simply got to learn more about each other and get over these silly prejudices."

In an address delivered early last week, Miss Buck had expressed fear that this was but the first of two wars. She stated at that time that unless we made sure that the course of this war was democratic we may have another war in the near future.

She explained this to the AFRO.

Must Fight for Same Things

"I believe that this is a war for democracy, but all of us must fight for the same things. For example, we cannot win this war until race prejudice is wiped out.

"Our leaders fighting alone for high ideals are not enough. We the people, must fight together. White people must learn that we can't have democracy and jim crow, too."

Miss Buck stared at the AFRO. She clenched her plump fists and smacked them together. I got the impression that she was socking a jim-crow artist with one hand and writing about China with the other.

I asked whether race hate is on the increase. Her answer was actually "Yes" and "No."

Race Freedom a War Aim

"There is a lessening and also an increase," she pointed out. "The people who were always against jim crow are now coming out against it. The people who were for it are doing the same thing.

"We are now having a crystallization of the battle. The issues are now sharp and clear. Race freedom is now part of our war aims.

Miss Buck thinks that the colored man in America has a tendency to become too subjective. She admitted, however, that it was natural for us to think of ourselves as the only oppressed minority.

Urges Minorities to Unite

"It is only because you have so grievously suffered. But you have got to pool your sufferings with other minorities. Remember that the poor white man who insults you is going to be poor as long as he keeps it up.

"To overcome subjectivity you must join in trade unions, interracial groups, and everything else that affords a chance for 'getting together.'

"We must fight the battle for equality from our own place in life.

If we are church people, then use the church, if you are a school teacher, then utilize the classroom. But the idea is to lift it from your own home grounds."

Some of the people interviewed in this series feel that we should postpone our struggles for democratic rights until after the war.

"Fight for Rights Now"

Miss Buck thinks our struggles rate an "S" card. "Freedom must begin now," she declared. "Our struggles for freedom will become part of our anti-fascist war aims. Keep up that fight."

When I told her that colored people in America considered her a real aid in their fight, she blushed and began to chat about China.

"Some Chinese people feel sorry for whites," the writer said. "A Chinese mother once told me that I must be worried. I asked her why, and she said, 'You can never tell whether your baby will be blond or brunette, or have light or dark eyes. We Chinese mothers always know.'

"My nurse, when I was a baby, fashioned a bonnet that covered my eyes and hair. She thought they were sinfully ugly." Miss Buck has gray eyes and fading yellow hair.

Second Emancipation IF —

Then Miss Buck said, "Sometimes I am ashamed of being white. I have seen white people do so many cruel things. Sometimes I want to hide my face in shame."

Discussing a second Emancipation Proclamation, Miss Buck's carefully phrased final analysis was:

"It would be a great help to our problem. It would be a vital contribution to the struggle. IF we had someone to make it. But it would take another Abraham Lincoln to create it."

Indefinite on March Movement

Miss Buck could not make up her mind on the March-on-Washington Movement.

"I followed the movement since its origin, but can't make up my mind," she said. "In my mind anything that helps the situation is probably right. I don't know whether the march is right or wrong. If I knew my own mind I'd speak, but my mind is not yet made up."

As I got up to go, Miss Buck said, "Nature will solve the race problem in America in 500 years. But I am impatient. I want to get out of it much sooner — now even."

Here's How to Win the War in Pearl Buck's Nutshell

All of us must fight for the same things.
Your struggles for freedom will become part of our war aims, keep up the fight.
The poor white man who insults you is going to be poor as long as he keeps it up.
I don't believe in jim crow anywhere.
I think those who refuse to serve in the army are making a mistake.

Motherly Pearl Buck

"I have never talked like this to a newspaper man before . . ." Her real name is Mrs. Richard Walsh. She won the Pulitzer Prize, 1931, with her book, "The Good Earth," and the Nobel Award in Literature, 1938.

Nobel Prize Winner with AFRO 3 Hours

Policewoman, Defective Cited

(Continued from Page 1)

ber of the police department to date on this commendation Wednesday.

Drop in Crime Noted

Police Commissioner Robert F. Stanton, following the awards made by Governor Herbert R. O'Conor, stated that the work of his department had been consistently good throughout the year and that during the last month, crime was 20 per cent below the level for the same month last year.

He stated, however, that there was a pressing need for more men in his department and that he would be highly pleased if Mayor Howard W. Jackson and Governo O'Conor (approval of both being necessary for such an appropriation) would grant him more men.

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Army's Segregation

(Continued from Page One)

recently made public by the NAACP. It is that the colored pilot must prove himself.

Only a directive from the Secretary of War or public pressure can compel the transfer of Colonel Kimble or a correction of the inequalities which are allegedly being practiced at Tuskegee.

No Reds in CIO Union—Board

(Continued from Page 1)

tion against colored and Jewish workers at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards.

The expelled men appealed to the general executive board after allegedly inciting a work stoppage of some 2,000 men at the yards and were reinstated by the board pending a hearing. No date for this hearing has yet been set.

The communism accusations were aired before the board during a meeting here on December 10 and 11. A clause in the IUMSWA's contract states that no Communist may hold an office in the organization.

Board Statement Quoted

A statement issued on the board's findings by Sam Fox, union publicity director, has this to say in part:

"For the past eleven months the officers of Local have distinguished themselves and their office union by outstanding contributions to the war effort. The primary function of our union in this war period has been to produce ships and more ships.

"We have done that job with honor. We shall continue to extend all our efforts in that direction at all times, even when under an attack which subsequently proved malicious and baseless.

"We have followed the policy of our national union in its entirety—a policy based on winning the war, in speeding up production and defending the interests of our membership and, at the same time, we have executed to the fullest extent our Commander-in-Chief's executive order in reference to hiring colored persons and ending discrimination of any kind in the war industries.

"That is our policy and, come what may, we will follow that until the Axis is crushed."

Beauticians Vote Not to Buy '43 Licenses

(Continued from Page 1)

itself.

During this time, they said, in spite of repeated letters, telegrams, petitions, and committees have been sent with requests to the State board and to Governor O'Conor, but only promises of consideration have resulted.

Representation for the beauticians was one of the planks in the platform of civil reforms presented to the Governor by the Citizens' Committee for Justice in its March on Annapolis last April. Although the Governor has named an interracial commission to study the problems aired at that time, no word about relief for the beauticians has been forthcoming.

Inspection Irregular

The beauticians contend that inspection of shops is irregular and that they are given little protection against bootleg operators, despite their heavy taxation. They further point out that since the technique of dressing the hair of white and colored patrons differs, white inspectors are not qualified to examine their applicants.

The association, headed by Mrs. Virgie Waters, was advised by Mr. Hughes to solicit the co-operation of the county beauticians and white operators throughout the State.

Other remarks promising support along this line were made by Mrs. Lillie Jackson, president, and Randall Tyus, executive secretary of the NAACP; Dr. John Campey and Mrs. Elvira Bond, one of the organizers of the association.

Sailors Riot in California

BULLETIN

PORT HUENEME, Calif. —Signs segregating colored and white sailors training here, believed by some to have been the basis of much animosity between the groups, were ordered taken down last Monday by Capt. R. N. Needham, base commander.

All colored naval personnel stationed here are members of the Seabees, naval construction unit, and number about 1200.

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arrived here a few days ago and friction between them and some white servicemen flared up Saturday night. Four white sailors are reported to have suffered slight knife wounds during this stage of the disturbance.

Colored Planned "Clean Up"

Trouble reached a peak again on Sunday night after MP's advised that some 200 colored servicemen had gathered in a down town night club and were planning to "clean up" the town, adjacent to the club.

The colored servicemen, some reportedly brandishing knives, are said to have charged the marine MP's and Leo Arthur Shaw, 18, and George Carpenter, 26, were shot when the MP's opened fire with their machine guns.

Shaw was struck in the left arm and another slug plowed through Carpenter's left leg.

400 Men Involved

Some 150 heavily armed members of shore patrols, military police and civilian police restored order after about an hour. Civilian police reported that about 400 servicemen were involved.

Police ordered all barrooms and cafes in the district closed and patrols were sent throughout the city to round up servicemen who were ordered to return immediately to their ships or stations. All leaves and liberties were cancelled.

Autos Stopped

Even automobiles were stopped in an effort to round up all military and naval personnel as quickly as possible.

This city is located on San Pablo Bay about twenty-five miles northeast of San Francisco.

Governor Will Probe Minute Man's Ouster

(Continued from Page 1)

stood at the outset that rifles could not likely be secured although we were favored by the War Department in its assignment for a period of a goodly number of these arms.

"I will check into the matter further and if there is any development which requires my attention, you may be sure that I will take action at once."

In the original article, Mr. Simpson said, in part.

Quotes Original Article

"Many of the colored men who joined the Maryland Minute Men last April and since that time, hoping to be able to serve their State and nation in the event of an emergency, are now seriously wondering whether by so doing they have become minute men or monkey men.

"Insofar as training in military science—that is the handling of weapons, the art of sniping, self-defense, target practice, etc.— is concerned, they know just about as much now as they knew before they became members of the organization.

"According to reliable information, the white minute men are so far ahead of the colored men that there is simply no comparison between the two organizations (although there are many who see no need for any two organizations of men organized for the same vital purpose).

Whites Offered Uniforms

"A member of the white minute minute men's organization admitted recently that the State offered his organization uniforms owned by the State, but required that he be left in the armory after the meetings. No such offer has been made to colored minute men.

"He also stated that the State had been instrumental in aiding the men in securing rifles, stating that this was done indirectly, but did not explain further as to how this indirect aid was given.

"White minute men, it is reported, have received intensive training in the manual of arms; they have been taught how to handle the weapons and to use them to advantage through target practice and would really be of some use to the city and State in case of an invasion attempt.

Get No Target Practice

"Colored minute men, on the other hand, have received training only in drilling and a smattering of the science of handling arms—mostly how to present arms. They know nothing of the art of firing or cleaning those arms nor of the important part of sniping—the most important part of a minute man's work.

"Then, too, while the men have been encouraged to purchase uniforms for both summer and winter wear, there has been on such encouragement in the purchase of arms —the most important article in the minute man's bag of tricks.

"A brief announcement was made some months ago to the effect that the men could purchase rifles from the State, the State and nation in the event of an emergency, are now seriously wondering whether by so doing they have become minute men or monkey men.