State NAACP Delegates Go to Work on Congressmen, See Some Good Done

Reports Before Mobilization Group Show Civil Rights Bills Can Be Enacted Now

WASHINGTON (NNPA) —After various State delegations had reported on the results of interviews with Senators and Representatives from their respective States, three members of Congress last Tuesday afternoon explained to the National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization problems facing civil rights legislation.

A. Philip Randolph, co-chairman of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, presided at the session in the Interdepartmental Auditorium at which Reps. Jacob Javits, of New York, Republican, and Ray J. Madden of Indiana, and Adam C. Powell of New York, both Democrats, were the speakers.

A total of 3,526 delegates were reported to have registered by Tuesday afternoon, with 600 more expected before the three-day conference closed.

The Interdepartmental Auditorium was filled to capacity with persons standing in the aisles and the back of the building.

Grumbling Over Screening

As the session went on, considerable grumbling was heard over the screening of delegates. A delegation was to meet with Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP and chairman of the mobilization, to protest the screening.

Mr. Javits told the audience that fair employment practice legislation is now "an essential element" in United States foreign policy.

Advocating a coalition of liberal Democrats and progressive Republicans to insure passage of FEPC legislation, Mr. Javits said such a coalition would have "superior voting power" over the coalition of Southern Democrats and conservative Republicans.

A Two-Party Affair

Mr. Randoph described the mobilization as "wholly non-partisan or bi-partisan." He said that both the delegates and the speakers were of both parties, and that the strategy of the mobilization was "to unite Republicans and Democrats back of FEPC."

"If all Repubicans and Democrats in the North support FEPC legislation," he declared, "we can pass it despite the opposition of Southern Congressmen."

Mr. Madden, a member of the House Rules Committee, explained the resolution offered by Eugene Cox (Dem., Ga.), which would repeal the rule giving the chairmen of House legislative committee the right to bring up legislation on the floor if the Rules Committee failed to act within 21 days after a committee has favorably reported a bill.

Sees Act in Short Time

The proposed change would give the Rules Committee power to determine what legislation the House would consider.

"I do not believe the Congress will take a step backward and accept Cox's resolution," Mr. Madden said.

The Indiana Congressman also predicted that "civil rights will be an actuality within a very short time."

Mr. Powell, sponsor in the House of the Administration's FEPC bill, said that neither anti-lynching nor anti-poll tax legislation was any longer a problem.

"The problem the enemies of progress do not want us to solve," he said, "is the problem of FEPC, which will guarantee equal economic rights for the minorities of the nation."

Will Replace Dixiecrats

Reporting earlier for the Georgia delegation, George W. Wanamaker, an observer for the American Quakers Society of Atlanta, predicted that Georgia voters will get rid of Senators Walter F. George and Richard B. Russell and replace them with more liberal-minded men.

Mr. Wanamaker was an observer at the mobilization because Emory University had not yet approved the NAACP Council, which had been set up only last week.

The Rev. Robert Johnson, president of the NAACP State Conference of Illinois, said the Illinois delegates did not feel that Sens. Scott Lucas, the Majority Leader, and Paul Douglas, the junior Senator from their State, had taken the kind of stand that morning that they should have taken.

"Some of us feel that there was just a little 'pussy-footing' on their part," the Rev. Mr. Johnson said.

Nearly Ends in Row

From other sources it was learned that the interview with Senators Lucas and Douglas virtually ended in a row when the two attempted to explain that it was well-night impossible to get cloture and break up a filibuster on FEPC.

Attempting to explain his vote on the Bricker amendment to the housing bill last year, which would have forbidden race discrimination and segregation in public housing, his position on the Langer civil rights amendments to the oleomargarine bill that is now pending, Senator Douglas is said to have asked the delegation what they would do if they were in his place.

"What would you do if you were a colored man in this country?" Cliff Johnson, of Chicago, was quoted as asking Senator Douglas. The interview ended abruptly, with Mrs. Irene McCoy, of Chicago, thanking the two for the consideration.

There were approximately 250 delegates in the Illinois delegation.

Mrs. Osma Scurlock, a representative of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Indianapolis, said the Indiana delegation was to see Sens. Homer E. Capehart and William E. Jenner, Republicans, the next morning. There were 78 persons in the Indiana delegation.

Iowans' Reaction Favorable

Reporting for the Iowa delegation, Luther T. Glanton Jr., of Des Moines, said Sen. Bourke B. Hickenlooper, Republican, had said he would support cloture and an FEPC bill providing for voluntary compliance.

He reported that Sen. Guy M. Gillette, Democrat, had said he would support the Administration's FEPC bill and the anti-lynching bill but would not vote for a bill to abolish poll taxes because he believed such a measure unconstitutional.

The Rev. Edward A. Freeman, president of the Kansas City, Kan., Branch of the NAACP, reported that Rep. Errett P. Scrivener, Republican, was non-committal but had promised to study the civil rights proposals, while Rep. Albert M. Cole, also Republican, had given a favorable response.

Some For, Others Against

Reporting for the Massachusetts delegation of 19, Mrs. Thelma Keitlen, of Springfield, said Rep. Foster Furcolo, Democrat, was for civil rights all the way, and that Rep. Donald W. Nicholson, Republican, said he would not vote for FEPC.

Mrs. Keitlen quoted Rep. Joseph W. Martin Jr., the Minority Leader, as saying that he will vote for FEPC in some form. She said Mr. Martin had said some Republicans did not feel kindly toward colored people because they had voted for the Democrats and thought they should go to their friends.

She also said Mr. Martin said the FEPC bill could be voted on early if the Majority Leader, John W. McCormack of Massachusetts wanted to bring it up.

Reporting for the Mississippi delegation, Percy Greene, editor of the Jackson Advocate, said his delegation recognized "the futility and impossibility of calling upon the gentlemen from Mississippi on a matter of this importance."

Smith Believed Converted

J. Mercer Burrell of Newark, N.J., said the Jersey delegation had called on Robert C. Hendrickson, Republican, and congratulated him on his forthright stand on civil rights "without any reservation or equivocation."

He said the group had to "convert" Sen. H. Alexander Smith, who had promised to re-examine his thinking and issue a statement in a few days clarifying his position.

The New York delegation was split. Charles L. Keller, president of the Brooklyn Branch of the NAACP, reported that both Sens. Irving M. Ives, Republican, and Herbert H. Lehman, Democrat, were lukewarm.

On the other hand, George Cranmore of the United Automobile Workers (CIO) reported that the stand of Senators Ives and Lehman was "definite and uncompromising" on FEPC.

Charles Lucas, of Cleveland, reported that Sen. Robert A. Taft, Republican, would take the leadership to invoke cloture on FEPC but had said some "amazing things" about the bill itself.

Mr. Lucas quoted Senator Taft as having said that the measure would force white workers off the job and replace them with colored workers, and that he was opposed to such legislation.

He also said the Ohio Senator had said he would support an FEPC bill providing for voluntary compliance but that he had no response to the fact that a voluntary FEPC has had no impact on the Cleveland labor market.

Douglass Band Slates Concert

The Douglass High School Band will appear in concert on Jan. 30 at Bates High School in Annapolis, playing at two assembly programs in the school auditorium.

Sponsor is the Bates School fine arts committee.

The band, directed by Stanley L. Williams, will present a program of marches, overtures, operatic selections and novelty numbers. Soloists will be Merrill Jiggetts, trumpet; Charles Kemp, baritone horn; and Charles Bagley, vocalist.

Lack of Voting Rights Blamed for Small D.C. Civic Delegation

WASHINGTON

Denial of local voting privileges was given as the reason for the lack of participation by District members of the NAACP in the recent civil rights mobilization.

Dr. Edwin B. Henderson, vice-president of the District Branch of NAACP, explained that the reason only 126 District delegates were registered for the mobilization was because they "did not have any Congressmen or Senators to contact."

4,017 From 33 States

There were 4,017 delegates istered from 33 States. The largest delegation came from Maryland numbering 1076. New York State was represented by 1015.

The breakdown by States read:

Alabama, 19; Arkansas, 1; California, 7; Connecticut, 27; Delaware, 16; District of Columbia, 126; Georgia, 7; Illinois, 115; Indiana, 70; Iowa, 5; Kansas, 10; Kentucky, 2; Louisiana, 2; Maryland, 1,076;

Massachusetts, 15; Michigan, 89; Minnesota, 3; Mississippi, 4; Missouri, 20; Nebraska, 1; New Jersey, 145; New York, 1,015; North Carolina, 52; Ohio, 44; Oklahoma, 3; Pennsylvania, 619; South Carolina, 4; Tennessee, 5; Texas, 8; Virginia, 189; West Virginia, 9; Wisconsin, 9.

Who's Right and Who's Wrong in Mobilization?

(Continued From Page 1)

ranks which will be a long time healing. Lindsay White, militant president of the Harlem branch of the NAACP, has served notice on the acting secretary of the organization, that he will demand a showdown on the whole nefarious procedure by which officials of other organizations were allowed to disqualify bonafide NAACP members from a meeting supposedly sponsored by that body.

Other leaders in Pennsylvania and Illinois have registered similar complaints.

Now that the smoke of battle has cleared away, the sponsors undoubtedly feel like men sobering up after a "lost week end."

Having allowed themselves to become drunk with power and charged with super-patriotism, they turned like headhunters upon their own membership and chopped them to pieces, while the real enemies looked on with unsuppressed glee.

Here we saw a group assembled for civil rights — which, boiled down, simply means the abolition of prejudice because of color—denying civil rights to others because of their opinions.

This was a classic travesty on reason and common sense.

When intelligence of the impending invasion first reached Capitol Hill, the Dixiecrats threw up breastworks and yelled frantically to the Republican allies for lend-lease votes to ward off the onslaught.

No Need for Worry

Imagine their surprise when they peeked over their ramparts and instead of seeing an army of determined and united liberals bearing down upon them, all they saw was a disorganized and disillusioned mass of self-seekers battling among themselves over who was "left" and who was "right" and who was in the "middle of the road."

The "frightened" legislators laid down their arms and returned to their cribbage, confident that the mock battle had nothing to do with civil rights.

Lindsay White is justified in condemning the national officers of the NAACP for failing to spare members of his own body embarrassment and humiliation.

Sympathize With Him

But Mr. White is wrong in laying all of the blame at the feet of acting secretary Roy Wilkins. Mr. Wilkins may not deserve, but he certainly needs, his sympathy. If ever a leader was innocently or otherwise tricked into being the dupe of cleverer men, Mr. Wilkins was certainly the one.

Although it was not apparent, even to the initiate, at first, Mr. Wilkins must realize by now that the so-called civil rights mobilization was in fact a mechanism to demobilize the NAACP, weaken its leftist support and remove it from its position as the only powerful spokesman for the colored people.

Mr. Wilkins fell right into the trap, baited no doubt by the promise that if he repudiated the leftists he would get fatter checks and more support from the conservatives.

Can't Prove It by History

History does not bear this out. For nearly 40 years the civil rights issues in one form or another have been batted around by political parties, and even when there were no Commies to use as whipping boys neither party passed any civil rights measures.

By what stretch of the imagination can any sane leader believe that simply by denouncing the Reds that civil rights will become any more palatable to the Dixie diehards?

The only thing that has been accomplished by this assinity is the weakening of liberal forces. Not one vote was picked up from the Republican alliance.

Just what were the sinister forces behind this movement? The answer is simple the CIO.

It is no secret that that once militant organization which was once the haven and great white hope of colored labor had been exposed for its desertion of the race.

They Compromised Once

It was common knowledge in informed circles that the CIO would soft-pedal civil rights legislation if the Dixiecrats would help repeal the Taft-Hartley Law.

In purging its left-wing unions, the CIO implemented this promise by expelling its most liberal and most vocal bodies.

But the expelled unions struck back by exposing the grand strategy. This aroused and infuriated the rank and file colored worker throughout the nation and the cries of double-cross and sell-out reverberated among the ranks.

The big shots put their heads together and came up with the mobilization scheme to accomplish two purposes.

One was to pacify their own members and keep up the elusion that the CIO was not hardening in the arteries. The second was to whip up more anti-red sentiment against its own recalcitrant unions.

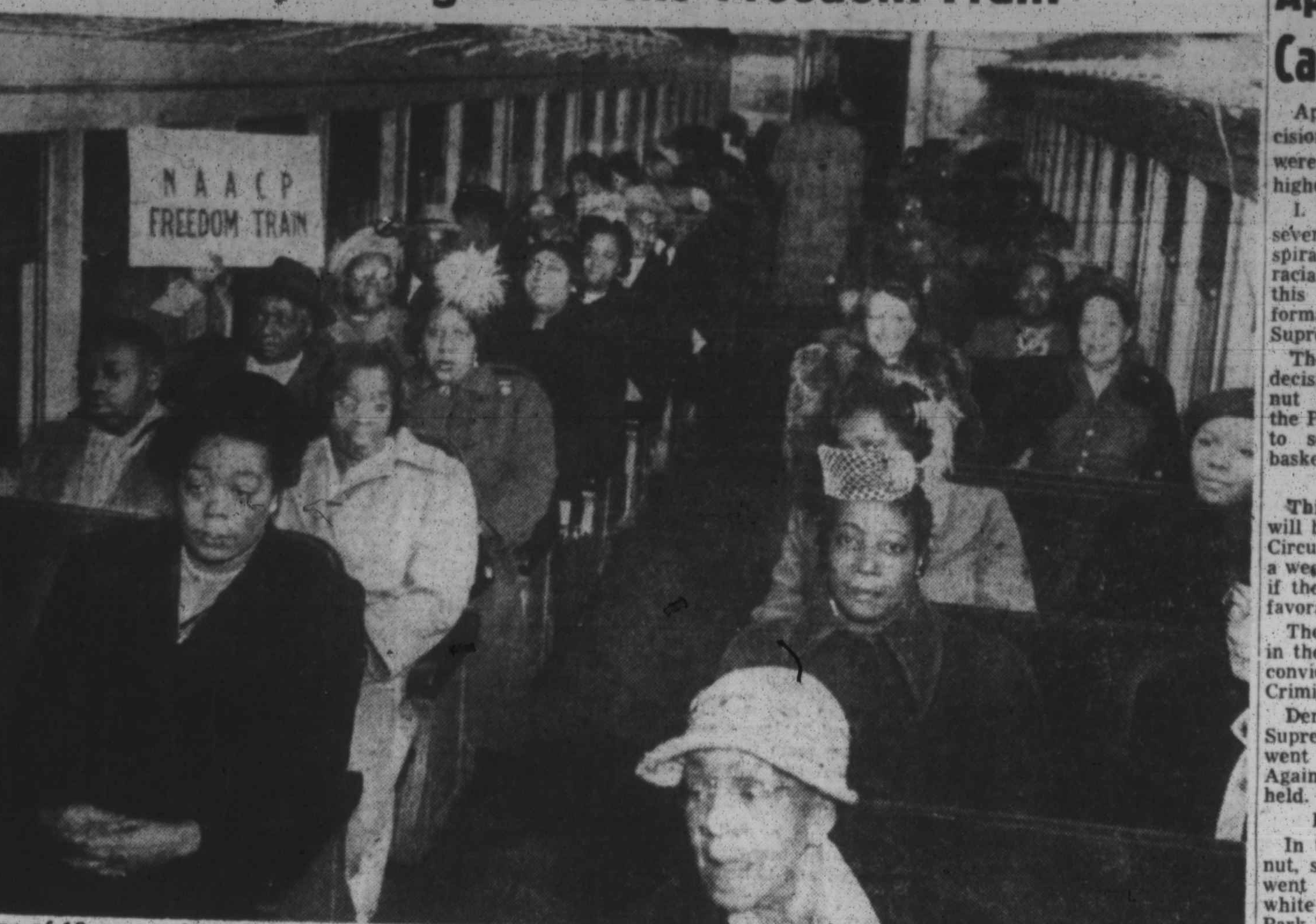
Poor Trusting Souls

For this purpose, they needed a national sounding board, and the NAACP to help pull their chestnuts out of the fire.

While the trusting souls of the NAACP were watching the front door to prevent infiltration from the Reds, the reactionary leaders of the CIO moved in and confiscated the mobilization.

By that move, they practically deactivated the NAACP as an accredited spokesman for the colored masses.

Baltimore Delegation Fills 'Freedom Train'



This is one of 13 reserved coaches which carried 1000 Baltimoreans to Washington on Monday to urge Congressional enactment of FEPC and Civil Rights legislation. Delegates, representing a cross-section of civic, church, labor, fraternal and veteran groups, had appointments to confer with Maryland congressmen. The Baltimore contingent, headed by the NAACP, was one of the largest.

(Photo by Paul Henderson)

Appeals in Rights Cases Prepared

Appeals from unfavorable decisions in two civil rights cases were being readied this week for higher courts.

I. Duke Avnet, counsel for seven persons convicted of conspiracy in connection with interracial tennis matches, said that this appeal soon will be noted formally with the United States Supreme Court.

The second case involves the decision of Judge W. Calvin Chesnut in the Federal Court that the Park Board has the legal right to segregate by race in golf, basketball and tennis.

To Act Within Week

This appeal, Mr. Avnet added, will be taken to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals within a week, and to the Supreme Court if the next court's decision is unfavorable.

The mass arrests of 21 persons in the tennis case ended with the conviction of the seven in Criminal Court.

Denied a new trial by the Supreme Bench, the defendants went to the Court of Appeals. Again the convictions were upheld.

Hold Segregation Illegal

In the case before Judge Chesnut, several of the tennis players went into court with colored and white persons affected by the Park Board's policy of segregation in golf and basketball.

They attacked the right of the board to segregate on the grounds that segregation itself is illegal, even if facilities were equal.

Judge Chesnut concluded, however, that segregation falls under the police power of the State.

Civil Rights Delegates Meet Their Congressmen

Arriving 1000 strong on their special Freedom Train, Maryland's delegates to the NAACP-sponsored national emergency Civil Rights Mobilization "let legislators know what was on their minds and were themselves inspired."

Thus Mrs. Lillie M Jackson, president of the Baltimore and State Conference of NAACP Branches, summed up Monday's trip to Washington.

The civil rights meeting was designed to urge FEPC support from Congressmen and Senators.

Incident Mars Trip

"Only one incident marred our trip," Mrs. Jackson asserted, Thursday. "Rep. George H. Fallon, (Dem., Fourth District), was both discourteous and evasive," Mrs. Jackson added:

"He refused to meet the entire delegation and said he hadn't read any of the civil rights measures.

"His whole attitude indicated he seemed to feel he didn't need the vote of colored or white citizens who support civil rights. But, don't worry, many of our delegates said they would meet him at the polls."

O'Conor Mum on FEPC

According to Mrs. Jackson, favorable promises were given the delegates by three Representatives and one Senator.

Democratic Sen. Herbert O'Conor met the Maryland representatives in the caucus room of the Senate Office Building and told the overflow group he would vote for poll tax and other civil rights bills.

He stated, Mrs. Jackson reported, that his past record would prove his interest in civil rights.

"I'm for all the people," he is quoted as saying, "when I was Governor I made the jim crow repeal bill an administrative measure and publicly called the statute immoral and wrong."

Stand on Records

Also promising support for civil rights measures were Reps. Edwards Garmatz, Lansdale Sasscer and Glenn Beall.

All cited their past records in support of civil rights measures; and Congressman Beall pointed to his vote against changing House rules when the measure was up last year.

Rep. William Bolton, said Mrs. Jackson, was courteous. However, he was evasive and also said he would have to study the bills.

Miller, Tydings Unavailable

Rep. Edward T. Miller was not available for a conference. However, he told the delgates on the Eastern Shore he "always looked out for the interest of colored people."

Sen. Millard E. Tydings, who was ill recently, said his schedule was too crowded to meet with the Maryland group, Monday.

However, he said he would be glad to have them come to his office and leave a statement of their views on FEPC.

J Leo Jones, Harford County, a member of the Harve de Grace branch stopped in the Senator's office and was received. However, Senator Tydings didn't make any pledges.

Halt Unfair Hiring Policy on Buildings, Board Asked

An NAACP delegation appeared before the Board of School Commissioners Thursday to ask its aid in getting colored carpenters and bricklayers employed on school construction jobs.

Roszel C. Thomsen, board chairman, told the group that action should be "mulled over" and the decision of the body made public at its next meeting.

The presentation to the board was made by Clarence Mitchell, labor secretary of the NAACP. He asked the board to:

(1) Officially arrange a meeting of school building contractors to urge the employment of colored skilled workers; or

Alternate Suggestion

(2) Take official cognizance of the delegation's request, and urge the Mayor and City Council to pass ordinances to stop racial discrimination on school constructions.

This brought up a discussion as to who was responsible for specifications in building contracts.

It was brought out that the specifications were drawn up on standard forms supplied by the Bureau of Buildings, and approved subsequently, by the City Solicitor's office and the school board.

Mr. Mitchell brought out the fact that colored bricklayers were barred by race from joining the union here, and forced to become members of the Washington local.

Even after complying with this formality and obtaining work permits from the local union, contractors refused to hire colored bricklayers.

Not a Union Problem

He pointed out that although carpenters have their own union, Local 544, AFL, they were denied employment on school buildings by the contractors.

"Isn't this a union problem?" asked Mr. Thomsen.

Mr. Mitchell said that it wasn't and pointed out that the power to hire rested with the contractor.

As an example, he cited the fact that the Campetelli Contracting Company had hired a colored bricklayer on the YMCA annex job after repeated requests from the NAACP.

He named his wife, Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, NAACP executive board member, as one who had pressed for the hiring of colored bricklayers by repeated phone calls and daily visits to the Druid Hill Ave. YMCA.

Neither Help Nor Hinder

"Do white unions try to help colored union members get jobs?" asked John R. Sherwood, board member.

Mr. Mitchell replied that it was his notion that they neither helped nor hindered them.

"In Baltimore, unions, churches and other groups, unfortunately, do not exercise the kind of courage they should on rasial matters," the labor secretary added.

Mr. Mitchell said that Federal construction contracts call for hiring of qualified workers on a non-discriminatory basis.

He stated that "on paper" the NAACP had been assured that qualified men would be hired on State construction jobs including those underway at Morgan State College.

Cites Attitudes

Here Mrs. Mitchell interrupted to emphasize the importance of the attitude of contractors toward hiring colored workers.

She cited the fact that one member of the delegation was a graduate of the Carver Vocational High School. "Trained with taxpayers' money, this man has no job to which he can be referred by the placement service which you (the school board) maintain. Your further responsibility is clear," she avowed.

Sympathetic, But —

Mr. Thomsen said that the board was sympathetic toward the request, "But policies and other fine points of the matter must be considered."

Other members of the delegation who told of refusals of contractors to hire colored skilled workers, were:

Vernon L. Johnson, bricklayer; Wilbur Smith, business agent of Carpenter's Union Local 544; and Clyde Bryant, placement officer of the Maryland School of Building Trades Bricklaying School.

200 From Illinois Appeal to Lucas

WASHINGTON

A 200-man civil rights delegation from Illinois and Edgar G. Brown director of the National Negro Council, representing more than a million signers to a petition supporting the President's Civil Rights Program, called upon Sen. Scott W. Lucas, Senate majority leader to get a vote now on the Langer Civil Rights Amendments to the Oleo bill.

The delegation pointed to Senator Lucas that any motion made by him to lay the amendments on the table and any subsequent votes by any Senators to kill off any further consideration of civil rights would be construed as an unfriendly act.

Bad 38 Year Record

This delegation further pointed out that in 20 years of Republican rule and 18 years of Democratic control of Congress, no single anti-lynch bill had ever reached the voting stage.

Edgar G. Brown, the spokesman, stated to Senator Lucas,

"There is the best chance in 40 years to get a vote now in the Senate by meeting this Senate Parliamentary situation and the Dixiecrat filibuster tactics head on and calling for a vote on the Langer, civil rights amendments which are pending before the Senate.

Aids NAACP Civil Rights Mobilization

A check for $450 to purchase tickets for 300 members of Evangelistic Temple, 1204 Eutaw Pl., was presented by the Rev. M. E. Holmes, pastor, to Dr. C. E. Watts, NAACP treasurer. They are shown in Pennsylvania Station, Monday, before the "Freedom Train" left for Washington where the National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization was in progress.

(Photo by Paul Henderson)

Council Delegates at UNCF Session

Mrs. Czerny Lindsey, president of the Inter Alumni Council, and Edgar C. Dawson, chairman of the Public Relations Committee, were delegates to the fourh annual conference of the National Council of the UNCF Alumni in New York last week.

The Council is composed of representatives from the General Alumni Associations of colleges participating in the United Negro College Fund and representatives from local Inter Alumni Councils in cities throughout the nation.

Theme of the Conference was "Building Among the Alumni a Permanent Interest in the Cause of Education."

Received Inspiration

Mrs. Lindsey reports that the stimulating and informative programs of the sessions gave her much material to be applied to the growth and strength of the Council in Washington.

Mr. Dawson discussed "Public Relations Programs for Inter-Alumni Councils" at the session.

Wine Purchase Cited in Forgery Charge

Miss Madeline Reed, 21, of 1504 Ashland Ave., was held in $500 bail for grand jury action, Sunday, when charged in Northeastern police court with forging a check.

She was accused of obtaining $21.88 in change after using the check to purchase a pint of wine, from a Chase St. business establishment.

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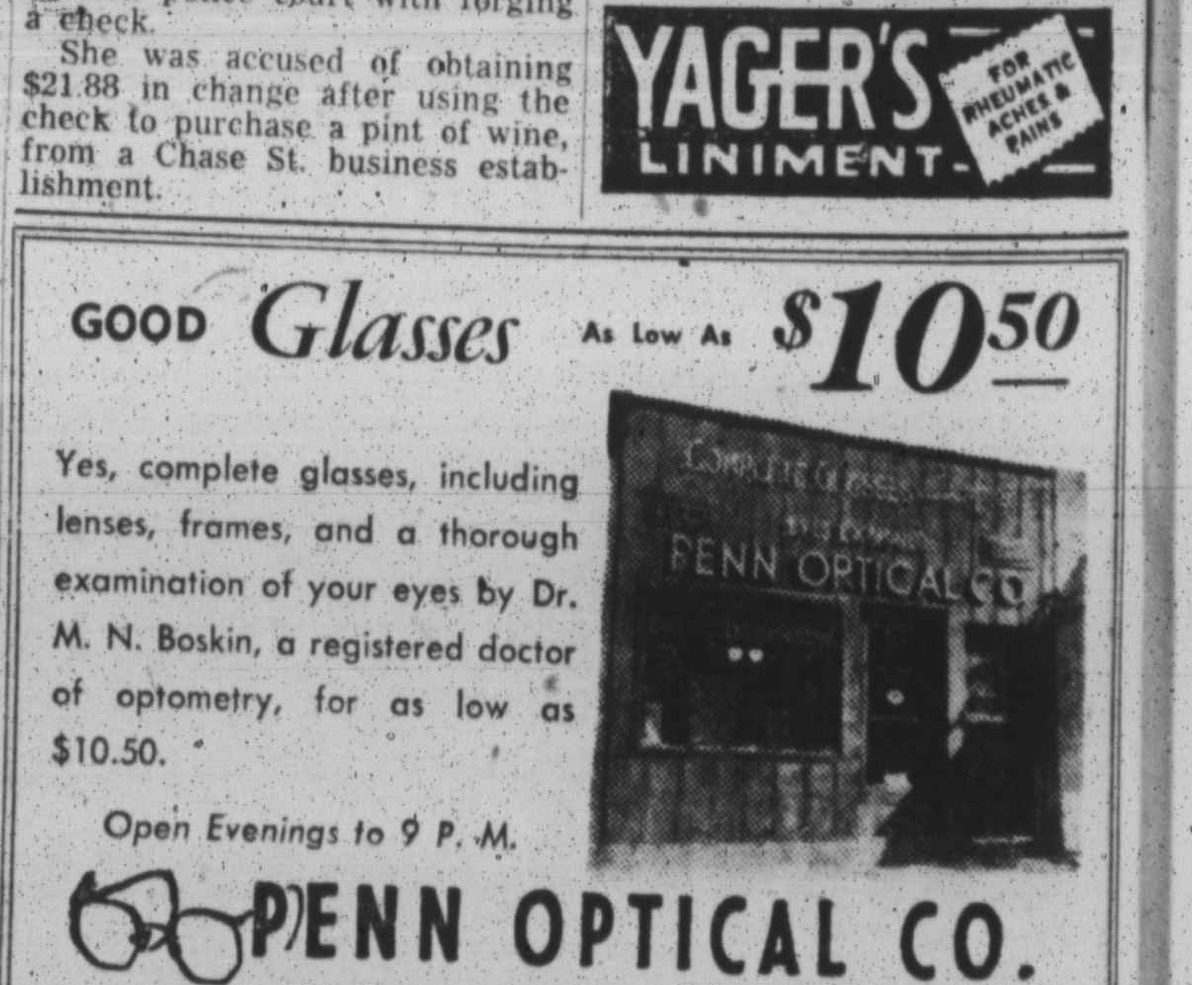
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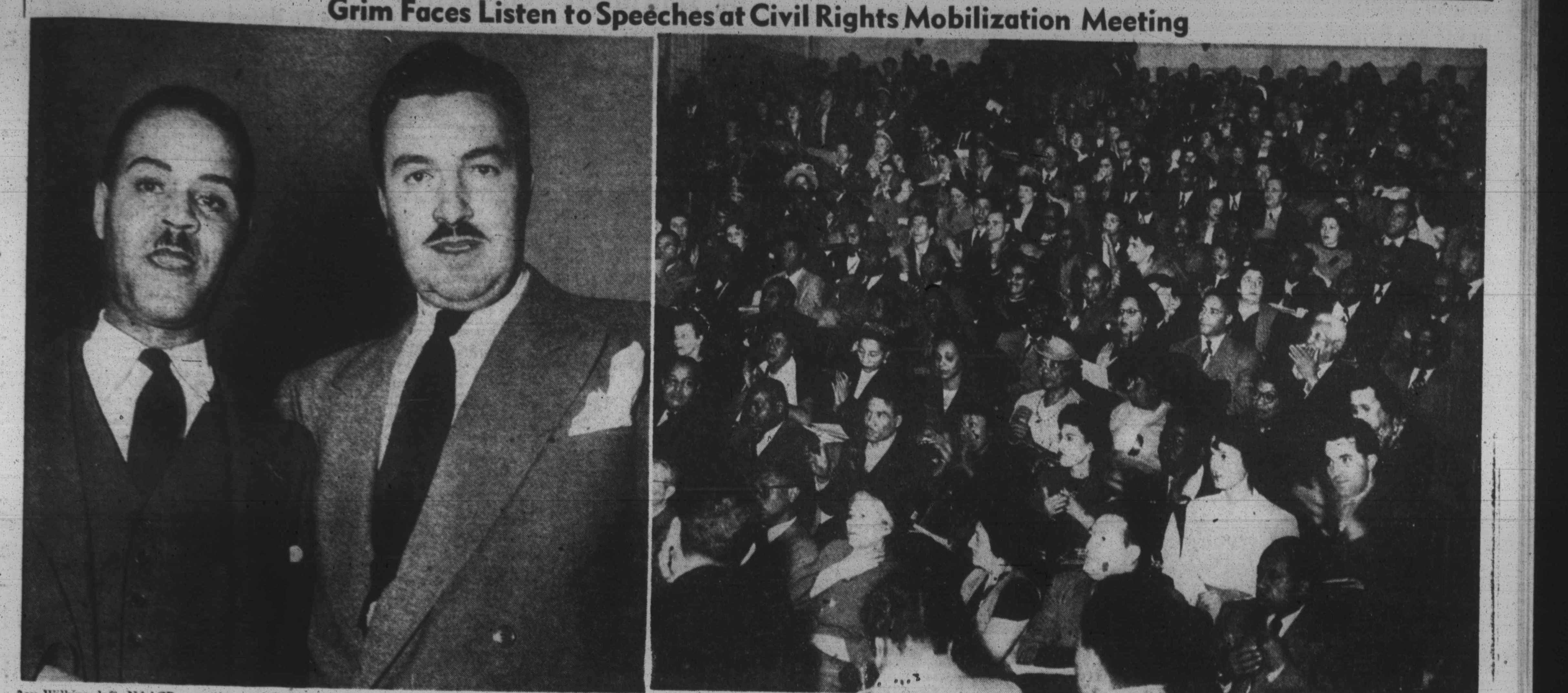
Grim Faces Listen to Speeches at Civil Rights Mobilization Meeting



Roy Wilkins, left, NAACP executive, and Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, as they appeared at the National Civil Rights Mobilization in Washington, Tuesday. At right is a close-up of the faces of the assemblage as they listened grimly to speeches at the Inter-Departmental Auditorium. (Kay-Dee Photo)

Administration to Battle Filibuster If It Takes All Summer, Says Truman

President Assures Civil Rights Delegation He Supports FEPC, Hits Rules Resolution

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Vice President Alben W. Barkley and Sen. Scott W. Lucas (Dem., Ill.), the Majority Leader, have assured President Truman that they will fight out a filibuster against fair employment practice legislation if it takes all summer.

President Truman gave this information to a delegation from the National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization, headed by Roy Wilkins, acting NAACP secretary, which called at the White House last Tuesday, asking him to call upon Senate Democratic leadership to force the fight for FEPC legislation until a vote is had on it.

The President described as "serious and backward-looking the resolution approved by the House Rules Committee to replace the year-old 21-day discharge rule and substitute wide powers to the Rules Committee to pigeonhole legislation, including civil rights, if they were opposed to it.

All-Out Opposition

He added that he was doing everything possible to have the resolution defeated when the House votes on it.

After Mr. Wilkins, spokesman for the delegation, had read to the President a prepared statement, Mr. Truman told him, "You don't need to make that speech to me. It needs to be made to Senators and Congressmen."

Later, the White House took the unusual action of making public a transcript of Mr. Truman's remarks to the delegation.

Presidential Statement

The President said:

"Every effort is being made by the Executive Branch of the Government to get action on these (civil rights) measures. I have been working at them ever since I went to Congress. I went there in 1935; and that is a long time ago.

"We have made some progress. We haven't made enough. We hope to make more.

"The passage of the resolution by the Rules Committee of the House the other day is a blow that is serious and backward-looking. I am doing everything possible to have that motion beaten when it comes up for consideration on the floor of the House.

Cites Leaders Assurances

"Every effort is being made to get a vote on these measures in the Senate. The Leader of the Majority and the Vice President have assured me that they will eventually get a vote if it takes all summer.

"I hope that when that vote is taken, we will be in a better position to understand who our friends are and who are not.

"This is a serious situation. This civil rights program, which I have sent to the Congress on every occasion that it has been possible to send it, is one that is necessary if we are going to maintain our leadership in the world.

"We can't go on not doing the things that we are asking other people to do in the United Nations.

"I hope all of you will continue your hard work on the subject, and that you will make it perfectly plain to the Congressmen who represent your States and districts that action is what we want, and I think that is possibly the only way we can get it.

"I thank you very much."

4,037 From 33 States

In his remarks, Mr. Wilkins told the President that 4,037 registered delegates had come from 33 States to evidence their support of his civil rights program and to urge their Senators and Representatives to enact it into law during the second session of the 81st Congress.

Mr. Wilkins said the methods used to block civil rights measures, if successful also will defeat the "Fair Deal" program. He pledged the support of the group to the Administration in its fight to retain the 21-day rule in the House.

"We are convinced that nothing will aid the entire Fair Deal programs as much as passage of the civil rights bills," Mr. Wilkins said.

"Nothing will do as much to strengthen our foreign policy, assist the cold war against totalitarianism, help our national economy, or bolster the morale of the masses of the American people as the enactment of this legislation," he added.

Wants Specific Measure

The NAACP secretary specifically asked the President to call upon Rep. John Lesinski (Dem., Mich.), chairman of the House Labor and Education Committee, to call up the FEPC bill in the House, Monday, and upon Speaker Sam Rayburn to recognize him for that purpose.

At a press conference, last Monday, Mr. Rayburn admitted that he has not made up his mind which bill to call up on Monday.

The second and fourth Mondays in the month are called "discharge" days and on those days chairmen of legislative committee, if recognized by the Speaker, may call upon reported bills for consideration.

Rayburn is regarded as hostile to FEPC legislation. There are four important bills ready for House action.

They are FEPC, authorization for United States participation in international organizations, Alaska and Hawaii Statehood, and a measure setting up a national scientific board.

Rules Committee Bottleneck

None of these bills has been approved by the House Rules Committee. It will be up to Rayburn to make his choice.

In the Senate, Mr. Wilkins told the President, the fundamental issue, as stated by him in his State of the Union message, is that civil rights bills be permitted to come to a vote.

"We know that every effort will be made to forestall such a vote, and we believe that nothing short of a direct appeal by you to the Administration leadership to keep the FEPC bill on the floor until a vote is had will accomplish this purpose," Mr. Wilkins said, adding:

"We realize this may take weeks, possibly even months, but the supporters of civil rights have been patriotic and patient in relating their desires to the needs of the nation as a whole.

"They feel they have earned the right to definitive action at this session."

Delegation Listed

In addition to Mr. Wilkins, the delegation which saw the President included:

Elmer Henderson, American Council on Human Rights; Joseph Keenan and Louise Hines, AFL; Felix Cohen, American Jewish Congress; Michael Straight, AVC; Charles LaFollette, Americans for Democratic Action; Benjamin R. Epstein, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith;

Willard Townsend, CIO executive board; Hobson Reynolds, Elks; Adolph Held, Jewish Labor Committee; David Solomon, Jewish War Veterans; Miss Alma Vessells, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses; the Rev. Sandy F. Ray, National Baptist Convention; Thurman Dodson, National Bar Association; Irving Kane, National Community Relations Advisory Council; A. Philip Randolph, National Council for a Permanent FEPC;

Mrs. I Lee Levy, National Council of Jewish Women; Dr. Dorothy Ferebee, National Council of Negro Women; Mrs. Robert L. Vann, MNPA; Jules Cohen, New York Council for Permanent FEPC; R. A. Hester, Knights of Pythias; Roy Reuther, UAW, CIO; Boyd Wilson, United Steelworkers of America, CIO; Thomas C. Allen, Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America; and Arnold Aronson, general secretary, National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization.

NYC Horde Crys for Marcantonio

By Woody L. Taylor

WASHINGTON

"We Want Marcantonio! We Want Marcantonio! What Happened to Marcantonio? We Want Marcantonio!

This is the chant that was started by Brooklynites during a caucus meeting of New York delegates to the Civil Rights Mobilization, Monday morning, in the Library of Congress Auditorium.

Charges of "Steamroller" tactics were being heard by many in the audience also.

In its determination to keep out persons and groups with so-called Communistic or "Red" tinges, the NAACP and other sponsoring groups of the mobilization did not invite Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.) to participate in the "big push" for Civil Rights or to the Caucus meeting.

Rights Crusader Not Named

No mention was made of him until the Brooklyn group asked for him.

Approximately 500 New York delegates, who had come in on Sunday, met a special tarin binging some 800 more at Union Station at 10:30 a.m., Monday.

The entire group of over 1300 assembled at Delaware Ave. and D St., S.W., and proceeded to the Congressional Library, where they were to confer with Rep. Adam Clayton Powell and other New York Congressmen.

The chant for Marcantonio was raised while delegations were being assembled to be sent to confer with other Congressmen after Representative Powell had spoken.

Ironically Ask "United Front"

It was soon squelched however when speakers called for a united front.

An undercurrent of dissension was in evidence over the methods used to accredit some and discredit other members of the delegation, leading to various statements being issued.

Congressman Powell discredited a previous plan, announced by the Rev. Charles Lever, that only five leaders of the various New York delegations would call on Congressmen in behalf of all.

Mr. Powell said he did not think it fair for several hundred people to be brought here and then only five selected to do an impossible job of calling on 90 Congressmen in one day.

The Rev. Mr. Lever announced then that nobody would be excluded.

Mr. Powell said he knew nothing of the original plans concerning the mobilization and when he was asked to see the New York group he informed them that practically none of the New York Congressmen would be in town.

Mr. Powell was scheduled to speak at a 3:30 p.m. mass meeting of the entire mobilizatioin at Interdepartmental Auditorium.

Vote for Specific Bills

He gave the caucus group a briefing on how to make their visitations effective and how to keep from wasting a lot of time. Said he:

"Don't ask any Congressman to vote or support FEPC bills. If they do this, it means that they will vote to substitute some weak measure and then claim that they have fulfilled the promise."

Powell told them to demand specifically a vote for HR 4453, the Administration's measure, introduced in the House by Mr. Powell and in the Senate by the then Senator J. Howard McGrath (Dem., R.I.).

Powell urged them also to demand a vote against all amendments to the Powell-McGrath measure, because many of these require substitutions and elimination of the punitive provisions of the Administration bill.

Outlines Procedure

Powell added.

"I specifically advise that a delegatioin of the top and most influential men of this mobilization go to see Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, hold him to his pledge that he would recognize Harold Lesinski (Dem., Mich.), chairman of of the Education and Labor Committee, when he attempts to introduce the FEPC Bill on the floor, next Monday.

"If Rayburn does not keep his pledge, FEPC and all other Civil Rights measures will be dead,

Rep. Eugene McKeal, Democratic New York Congressman from Brooklyn, pledged himself to continue to fight for civil rights.

Other New York Congressmen were either ill, out of town, or could not attend the mass meeting "because of previous engagements."

Mobilization Held Success by Head

(Continued From Page 1)

zation that the bill would be brought up and fought for.

One of the reporters asked whether any of the delegates had called on Rep. Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House.

Mum on Speaker's Stand

The mobilization chairman said that there was no plan to see Speaker Rayburn. Shortly afterwards, he retracted this and said, "Speaker Rayburn would not be spared; but nothing for public consumption was being divulged at this time—for certain strategic reasons."

Mr. Wilkins said that the mobilization was only the first step. The delegates were going to make a report to their sponsoring organizations and follow up with local action through the use of continuation committees.

He said that lobbying would be continued and future conferences would be held if action is not taken on the measures desired.

Snubs Ardent Rights Fighter

Mr. Wilkins, in answer to a query, said that Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.) was not invited to address the mobilization because it was felt that he was not "a person who was wanted at the mobilization."

He told the press that Rep. Joseph W. Martin (Rep., Mass.) made a remarkable statement to the members of the Massachusetts delegation, when he was confronted for support on the FEPC bill. Said Congressman Martin, according to Mr. Wilkins:

"Go to the Democratic Party. They are in control."

The mobilization chairman said that Senator Taft indicated that he would vote for cloture, although he expressed himself against "certain" FEPC bills.

Wherry Pledges 35 Votes

Mr. Wilkins said that Senator Wherry stated that when the compromise cloture bill was passed at the first session of the 81st Congress that he could account for 35 Republican votes.

"If Mr. Wherry can deliver 35 votes, he should put them on the table," said Mr. Wilkins, adding, "Mr. Wherry must have them up his sleeve."

The NAACP head admitted that Senator Lucas has not indicated how many Democratic votes he could deliver.

A comprehensive report of the mobilization would be issued when all group reports can be fully tabulated, he indicated to the press conference.

31 Pupils Watch Smelting Process

Some 31 fifth grade pupils of School No. 139 visited the Pemco Corporation recently where they saw the smelting of pottery glazes and the manufacturing of clays and colors which they use in their ceramic art class in school.

The children, who were accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Lillian B. Reid, were:

Geraldine Beale, Frances Bush, Cora Boykin, Bessie Brown, Frances Burnett, Rosa Chambers, Audrey Jackson, Elizabeth Nance, Eva Rollins, Shirley Tucker, Alethea Turner, Juanita Woodland, Martin Carrington, Robert Carter, Aubrey Chester, Dennery Epps;

William Gibson, Robert Hamlin, Harry Horton, Stoney Jones, Leo Johnson, Sameul Knight, James Leach, Leroy Nicholson, Robert Purdell, William Ross, Elton Ross, John Rhames, and Carrington Simms.

White House Pledges NAACP Group to Push for Passage of FEPC Bill

(Continued From Page 1)

expressed by Sen. Scott W. Lucas (Dem., Ill.), Majority Leader, on the chances for the passage of FEPC legislation by the 81st Congress, drew jeers from the crowd at the mobilization meeting at the Inter-Departmental Auditorium.

Senator Lucas was interrupted several times during his address by hecklers and at one time was razzed so much that Irving Kane, chairman of the meeting, had to step to the microphone to remind the delegates that the Senator was a guest of the meeting.

Senator Lucas said:

"I don't mind confusion. I am used to this sort of thing. I remember addressing an American Legion meeting once that was very noisy, so I asked the people if they could hear me above the noise.

"Some person shouted go on talking, we aren't missing anything. Well, I don't know what the party in the balcony is saying, but I imagine that I'm not missing anything."

Hard Fight Predicted

After declaring that he was going to move to have a FEPC bill brought up for consideration, enator Lucas declared, "I cannot predict at this time that we will win the battle in the Senate to enact the bill. It will be a very hard fight and there are many obstacles in the legislative path."

He contended that the Wherry cloture amendment, which requires 64 votes to invoke cloture, makes it "harder than ever for the advocates to push through Federal legislation desired by millions of Americans."

The meeting lost its non-partisan character as Senator Lucas charged the Republicans with killing off Democratic attempts to have civil rights issues passed last year. He contended that Republicans successfully involved the Senate in a hopeless legislative snarl during the filibuster of 1949 and came forth with the cloture rule as a compromise.

GOP Aide Retorts

Val Washington, assistant to the chairman of the Republican National Committee, threw away his prepared text to answer Senator Lucas's attack.

"I was under the impression that this meeting was not going to be political," Mr. Washington said, angrily, "but fortunately, I am prepared. Senator Lucas says that he is going to bring up the FEPC bill in a few weeks.

"Well, let's look at some comments by persons who are supposed to have the inside on the political situation."

Mr. Washington quoted passages from newsletters of Kiplinger, Babson and Ball, which predicted that FEPC would not be the next important piece of legislation to be brought up on the Senate floor in this session of Congress.

He went on to say that something must be wrong with the party in control, because there had been no such dilatory tactics since 1934 and in 16 years nothing has been passed on civil rights.

Committed to FEPC Fight

Rep. William Dawson (Dem., Ill.); representing the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, pledged his support of the FEPC bill and pointed out that his party was committed to it.

He said that he volunteered for the Army during World War I and as an officer he had to lead a number of soldiers into battles which cost their lives.

"I have dedicated my life that their fight for this land will not have been in vain," Congressman Dadson declared.

Sen. Irving Ives (Rep., N.Y.) said that he favored an FEPC bill with teeth in it.

Powell Takes Up Cudgels

During the Tuesday afternoon session, Rep. Adam C. Powell (Dem., N.Y.) in a fiery address to the delegates told them to see their Congressmen at once.

He contended that Jan. 23 is an important day in the civil rights fight, because it is on that day, the FEPC bill he sponsors is to be brought up on the floor of the House by Rep Harold Lesinski (Dem., Mich.), chairman of the House Labor and Education Committee.

If it is not brought up on this day, Mr. Powell said, it will be doomed in this session.

Rep. Jacob Javits (Rep., N.Y.), also appeared on the afternoon program and promised to support FEPC legislation. He advocated the idea of bi-partisan support for civil rights measures.

Separating 'Sheep From Goats' Headache to Hill

WASHINGTON

The much-publicized screening process of the civil rights mobilization seemed to be missing in the middle, Monday morning as the AFRO took time out from other news to see how the registration was coming on.

It was about 9:30 a.m.: and the lobby and great hall of the Interdepartmental Auditorium swarmed with people. All of them were not happy, however.

Probably the most harassed was Herbert Hill of the NAACP national office in New York. He sat like Saint Peter before the pearly gates, only instead of pearly gates there were the oak doors of the auditorium.

Mr. Hill had the job of "separating the sheep from the goats"; and it was no easy matter.

All of the delegates had to show that they were free from communist sin before they could get the cards and blue ribbon badges they needed to take part in the fight for FEPC.

Mr. Hill looked at their credentials. If they weren't entirely in order, he told the delegates to see the Review Committee. "It's not up to me. I am only following the rules," he explained.

The trouble was that the Review Committee wasn't there to be seen. It didn't begin to function until nearly two hours later.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hill led a frenzied existence as delegates went obediently in search of the Review Committee and then came back to ask where the Review Committee was.

Delegates Anxious

"They'll be here shortly," he advised at first, and the pesters went away. But they kept coming back.

Mr. Hill conferred with some representatives of the agencies sponsoring the mobilization.

"The Review Committee is not yet functioning," he then said to a dear little lady who had approached his desk for the third time.

Her misfortune was that, although she represented a Baptist Church in Broklyn, she carried a mimeographed letter from the Greater New York Council of the Permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee. She sat down on a bench and sighed.

"Is there any way my pastor could be paged, so he could explain?" she wanted to know. Her name was Mrs. Mary Harden, and she came from Brown Memorial Church; but there was no way to page her pastor, so she patiently waited some more.

Crisis Associate Detained

So did Mrs. Joyce Turner of the Jamaica branch of the NAACP in Long Island, who had a mimeographed letter. Her father-in-law was said to have been associated with the Crisis, NAACP organ, for 25 years.

Elsewhere in the lobby, Guy Brewer of the New York City delegation, noisily condemned what he called the "Hitler like" tactics of the registration. An NAACP official listened to him gravely, but said nothing—or if he did, it was drowned out by Mr. Brewer's complaints.

Mr. Hill got up and walked around his desk to confer with more members of the agencies sponsoring the mobilization and told them:

"You gotta get organized immediately. You gotta find Bill Townsend. I got about 60 people here, waiting to see the Review Committee, and the Review Committee isn't here. Get a sub-committee. Get something!"

Didn't Expect Crowd

Nothing was gotten immediately.

Inside the huge auditorium, Councilman Oliver Hill of Richmond was giving instructions to the Virginia delegation.

At the registration desk, a woman said that they'd used up 2,500 blue ribbon badges already. That was several hundred more than the number of delegates Roy Wilkins of the NAACP had estimated would appear. And more were still coming.

Mrs. Isabelle Hardy, New York soprano, was waiting for a chance to use the telephone in the corridor.

She had responded to an SOS to represent New York's Metropolitan Council of the National Council of Negro Women and wasn't too clear on why her credentials had been questioned. She was trying to reach NCNW headquarters and someone there who could vouch for her.

"Seems So Strange"

"It seems so strange," she said, "as if anyone would pay their own expenses and come all the way down her if they weren't interested in civil rights."

It was strange, also, to Linwood J. Overton, business agent of a CIO food employees union in New York City. He had neglected to bring his credentials, but he felt he was well enough known to be admitted.

"Boyd Wilson know me," he told Mr. Hill, adding, "I just saw him a minute ago and he recognized me."

Mr. Wilson, personal representative of CIO head Phillip Murray, was on the Review Committee.

"Get Boyd Wilson to sign your card and I'll okey it," said Mr. Hill.

Unionists Challenged

But that didn't help the three union members who accompanied Mr. Overton. One was John Matthews, who had credentials from an AFL bartenders union, also, as well as a mimeographed letter signed by Congressman A. Clayton Powell.

He gave a sigh of relief—and so did Mr. Hill—as Willard Townsend, international president of the United Transport Workers CIO, and chairman of the review committee, came into the lobby.

Boyd Wilson joined him and the Review Committee went to work at last.

Dr. Shepard Stirs Rally

'Mass Action' Best for Rights, He Warns

ATLANTIC CITY—Colored people here were urged at a Civil Rights Mobilization rally last Saturday to go to Washington "in large numbers, 'black up the place,' and let Congress know that they are demanding their full rights."

The speaker was Dr. Marshall L. Shepard, Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, whose address, sprinkled with humor and good common sense, won the applause of 400 persons in the audience.

The meeting was held at St. James AME Church and sponsored by the local NAACP Branch.

Mass Action Urged

Dr. Shepard re-emphasized that "mass action" for civil rights is the most effective way to achieve the goals sought.

He warned that "small select groups of intelligent representatives of the race," such as have been going to Washington to plead for equality and justice will get us nowhere.

"America must know," Dr. Shepard asserted, "that the colored man is ready and demanding the rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution which America created in her finest hour.

Other Speakers

"In fighting for these rights, we are the real friends of America and helping her to be her 'best self."

Other speakers were: William A. Fisher who introduced the speaker; the Rev. Matthew E. Neil who presided; James E. King, executive board chairman; Robert Griffin, promotion director; and Mrs. Margaret L. Caution, president, State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs.

Officers Installed

The senior choir and Gospel Chorus of the host church sang, and Dr. Shepard installed the local NAACP officers prior to the meeting.

The Branch sent a delegation to the Washington Mobilization Conference, Jan. 15-17.

Youth Accidentally Electrocutes Self While in Bathtub

STONINGTON, Conn.—George P. Jones, the 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones of Wilcox Curve, Stonington, was electrocuted here last week while standing in a bathtub at his home.

Police Chief Jay R. Travis said the youth received the shock when he plugged in an electric hair dryer, while standing in the tub. Dr. Roger N. Fowler, medical examiner, said death was due to accidental electrocution.

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