

Haiti Agrees To State Dept. Color Edict

Diplomatic Staff Now All Light-Complexioned Or White Americans

WASHINGTON—Bowling to U. S. State Department prejudice, officials of the little black republic of Haiti have ordered home all dark-complexioned diplomats and are replacing them with mulattoes "who can pass" or with white Americans in some cases.

The Chicago Defender learned this week from highly confidential and authoritative sources that the discriminatory policy has been in effect for several months.

There is no written agreement—merely a verbal understanding which representatives of both countries have agreed to and which carefully defines the complexion of Haitians to be accredited to the United States.

This policy is being carried out under the pretext that dark Haitians create embarrassing social problems in this country.

It is charged that the American State Department officials most responsible for this discriminatory understanding are Lawrence Duggan, chief of the division of Latin American Affairs, and Willard Barber, assistant chief of the same division, who are directly in charge of United States relations with Haiti.

Hull Stand Not Known

Whether they are acting on instructions from Secretary of State Cordell Hull, or merely on their own authority, is not yet known. It is known, however, that Barber, who does most of the work of the division since Duggan is suffering from a malignant disease, is a personal friend of Jacques Antoine Under-Secretary of State for Haiti and member of the mulatto oligarchy.

A survey of the "color pattern" of the diplomatic and consular agents from Haiti on duty in this country tells its own story. Here is the Haitian diplomatic personnel and its complexion:

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Andre Liasens (Ambassador). Light complexion. His father was a white Frenchman who made his home in Haiti.
Roché La Roche (Military Attaché). Light complexion.
Ella Garcia (1st Sec. of Embassy). Light complexion.
Basel Thazard (2nd Sec. of Embassy). Light complexion.
Gaston Amant (Sec. to the Ambassador). Light complexion.
Louis Marquis (Secretary). White.

NEW YORK CITY
Dr. Raul Leon (Consul Gen.). Light complexion.
Yves Verne (Vice Consul). Light complexion.
Henri Rosemond (Attache). Black complexion.
Louis Ripke (Secretary). White.
PHILADELPHIA
Louis Elson (Consul). White.
MIAMI
Paul Curtis (Consul). White.
BOSTON
Herbert Clark (Consul). White.
NEW ORLEANS
Fernand Le Besse (Consul). White.
BALTIMORE
Felix Martin (Consul). Light complexion.

This survey shows that with the exception of Rosemond, attaché in New York, all the other representatives in this country are either light-complexioned, or as they are in the south, white Americans. It is rumored that Rosemond is soon to be recalled under the terms of the understanding.

Haiti Social Chasm

That the Haitian government has acquiesced in the State Department demands for a color bar in its diplomatic service is not surprising, for the history of the country is replete with incidents which indicate that there is a wide social chasm between mulattoes and blacks. The mulattoes, though outnumbered by a ratio of 10 to 1, have constituted the governing class since 1915, largely through the support of the American government.

The last black to head the country's government was President Velbrun Sam who was assassinated in 1915 as he sought asylum in the French legation at Port-au-Prince. Shortly afterward American marines occupied Haiti. The American government has dominated Haitian foreign policy ever since.

Informal observers claim that mulattoes could not now stay in power if it were not for State Department support. Dark-complexioned Haitians are reported to be highly incensed over this American "color bar" understanding, for while the mulattoes are getting the important government posts, practically all of the intellectuals with international reputation are in the darker group. They realize that there is little they can do to change the situation as long as President Lescot has the American government behind him.

CONGRATULATES NON-COM OFFICER



Returning from a ten-week itinerary of AAF camps and stations throughout the Eastern Flying Training Command is Cpl. Wendell Logan of the Tuskegee Army Air Field. Cpl. Logan's itinerant teacher training mission was heralded as a huge success by VD Control Officer of the Eastern Flying Training Command, Capt. Orin M. Stout (left). Captain Stout, commended the vigilant VD Control crusader on his splendid work and expressed great delight over his encouraging reports on the success of the VD Control programs of the Tuskegee Army Air Field.

The splendid cooperation between the medical officers and VD non-coms trained at the AAF VD Control school here was highly in evidence as Cpl. Logan contacted over 3,000 men and officers working to stymie VD at these various camps and fields. Logan, a native of Philadelphia, is the son of Rev. John R. Logan of that city. He is a graduate of Lincoln U. (Pa.), and has done graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania.—AAF Training Command photo.

NAACP OPPOSES PRESIDENT'S ACT TO DRAFT LABOR

NEW YORK—Opposition to a national service act, as suggested by President Roosevelt, and as embodied in the present Austin-Wadsworth bill, was voiced January 12 by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Last April 1, two representatives of the NAACP, Walter White and Charles H. Houston, testified before a Senate Committee on the Austin-Wadsworth bill, opposing it on the grounds that (a) thousands of Negroes were still excluded from employment on account of prejudice; (b) other thousands of Negroes were employed below their skills; and (c) the enactment of such a bill would result in freezing Negro workers in certain categories and areas of the country.

The situation has not changed materially between last April and today," said Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP. "Negro workers available in the Atlanta, Ga., area were by-passed, with few exceptions, and white workers imported when a Bell Aircraft factory was opened there in 1943. An assembly plant for four-engined bombers in Texas has refused so far to employ Negro skilled workers. There are thousands of examples of Negro skilled workers drawing

PRINCIPALS IN CONCERT



The Cultural Committee of Second Baptist church announced this week that Erma Morris Hayden, noted pianist, will give a lecture concert on "Music in the Church," at Second Baptist church, 446 Monroe street, Sunday, Jan. 23. The concert will be held in the auditorium and will start at 8 p.m. Mrs. Hayden, founder of the Jubal Award, is a graduate of Wayne university and Detroit Institute of Arts. She also studied at the Juilliard School of Music and at Columbia university, in New York. At the right is S. Luberta Chisholm, soprano, who will assist Mrs. Hayden in the concert.

the pay of 'helpers' as assistants to white men they have trained in the skill.

"This Association believes that voluntary manpower allocation can, not be said to be a failure as long as more than one-half million Negro workers, at a conservative estimate, are either refused jobs or are underemployed."

Urge Senators To Favor Bill

Request for the continuance of subsidies was voiced in a telegram to Michigan Senators Arthur H. Vandenberg and Homer S. Ferguson, from NAACP this week. "We are convinced," said the NAACP wire signed by Gloster B. Current, executive secretary, "that continuance of subsidies will result in immediate price sky-rocketing and uncontrollable inflation and therefore urged that you protect the economic and personal security of the people by voting to continue the anti-inflation subsidy program."

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Smith Charged With Trying To Kill FEPC

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Resistance to the attempt of the Smith Congressional Committee to break down the anti-discrimination principles of Executive Order 8802, through its attack upon the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, was urged today in a statement issued by the National Negro Congress.

The Smith Committee, ostensibly set up to investigate over-reaching of powers by government war agencies, this week opened hearings designed to develop evidence of unconstitutional exercise of powers by FEPC in its efforts to fill war manpower needs by ending discrimination against Negro workers in the railroad, rapid transit and machinists fields.

Leading figures in the Smith committee are Representatives Howard W. Smith of Virginia, Jerry Voorhis of California (former liberal front for the Dies committee) and Clare Hoffman of Michigan.

Three formal reports to congress by the Smith committee have been devoted to attacks upon the principles of Executive Order 8802 by government agencies.

"Seizure of the records of FEPC by the Smith committee last December foreshadowed an all-out attack upon the principles upon which the committee is founded. Its hearings this week can only be regarded as a further development of this attack," the Congress statement said.

"The Smith committee represents an important phase of the anti-win-the-war fight which is now being carried on in Congress by the enemies of the administration. If it can succeed in eliminating one-tenth of the manpower of the United States from the war effort, it will have accomplished much toward the victory of fascism at home and abroad."

"This assault against the victory of the United States and the United Nations must be defeated by the people of our country. We urge the Negro people, and all those who want to win the war, to help stop this scuttling of Negro rights and of the war effort, by writing to their congressmen demanding the dissolution of the Smith anti-war committee, and passage of H.R. 1732, the Marcantonio bill to give statutory powers to FEPC to enforce its orders."

U. S. Legation Was Opened In Addis Ababa

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Minister John K. Caldwell, American envoy to the Ethiopian government, tells of the reopening of the American legation at Addis Ababa and the presentation of his letters of credence to Emperor Haile Selassie in the January issue of the American Foreign Service Journal, an official publication of the state department.

He arrived in the capital on August 26 and was met at the airport by Blatta Ephraim Towoldo Modhoo, then vice-minister for foreign affairs and now his country's minister to the United States. The legation, Mr. Caldwell reports, was considered open to the public from September 1, 1943, "since the needs of all who have called have been given attention."

Clear Robeson In Union Row

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Paul Robeson, actor-singer, Thursday won a clear bill from the Actors' Equity association (AFL) on the question of his honorary membership in two unions of the rival CIO. In reply to complaints from some AFL sources against Robeson's CIO affiliations, the Equity council announced "there is no action that we can properly take."

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen association, had asked Equity to expel the actor or persuade him to drop his CIO connections.

Editor Named To Special Unit In Bond Campaign

WASHINGTON—Ted R. Gamble, director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, announced this week that Nat Williams, editor of the Memphis World, will be a member of a special news unit to provide the nation's newspapers, magazines and trade press with news concerning the Fourth War Loan campaign.

Mr. Gamble said the forthcoming drive, which began January 18, will stress the importance of individual bond sales, and this fact will lead to many human interest stories, spot news developments, and statements from the nation's leaders.

Chronicle League Goes Into Action

The Senior and Intermediate Division of the Michigan Chronicle league swung into action at Brewster Recreation Center on Sunday evening, and before the final whistle was blown the fans were hoarse from yelling for their favorite team.

Probably the game packed with the most thrills was that between Selfridge Field and Ford Local 600, the soldiers winning in overtime 38-36. Selfridge enjoyed a 22-8 lead at the halfway mark, but the Ford players spurred in the third period to hold their opponents to two points while they made 15. They knotted the count in the fourth period.

Briggs All-Stars trounced Outer Drive, 55-21, George Peaks piling up 23 points for the winners. Highland Park Aces won a 37-36 victory from the Heart of Detroit, and the U. S. Coast Guard defeated United Rubber, 39-16.

The Clowns defeated the All-Stars in the intermediate division, 22-16. National Insurance won from the Jokers, 20-17, and the Legionnaires lost to the Aces, 22-20.

Teacher's Suit Set For Jan. 24

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—The suit to equalize teacher salaries in South Carolina, filed in the U. S. district court in October by Miss Viola Duval, a teacher in the Burke Industrial school here, has been scheduled for hearing the week of January 24, the state's NAACP office announced this week.

Atty. Harold R. Boulware is expected to make final arrangements Monday and to confer with his associate, Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, who will arrive this week.

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