FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES BONDS ★ STAMPS

The Trade Bindery
807 Main Street

The Palmetto Leader

For VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS STAMPS

VOL. XVIII—NO. 30. COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1943 PRICE: 5 CENTS PER COPY

N. Y Shipyard Owner Commended For Eliminating Racial Barriers

A New York shipyard owner was the possessor this week of letters from President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, commending him for eliminating racial barriers in his shipyard.

The shipbuilder is Wilson Edgar John, owner and general manager of the Milton Point Shipyards at Rye, N. Y. His plant, formerly a small yard for the construction of pleasure boats, recently celebrated its 20th launching of war vessels for the War and Navy Departments.

In the pleasure boat days, the Milton Point Shipyards had never hired a Negro worker. Soon after the firm received its first defense contract, however, a Negro applied for a job and was turned away. The rejected worker wrote President Roosevelt, and the Chief Executive, in turn, wrote Mr. John explaining the Government's policy of "full participation in the defense program by all persons, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin."

Mr. John had only 75 workers in his yard when he received the President's advice. Needing a crew of caulkers, he went to a Harlem River shipyard and signed up 25 Negro craftsmen. He regarded his experiment as a success when his yard, aided by the Negro caulkers, finished its first Navy contract 28 days ahead of schedule.

"I not only found out that they were good workers," Mr. John stated, "but that they are the most honest, square-shooting, loyal bunch of Americans you'd ever want to meet.

"Why, when we've had rush contracts, every one of my colored workers volunteered to work 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. They all gave three hours pay to the Red Cross. They all buy bonds. They're expert workers and gentlemen."

Mr. John was so pleased at the outcome that he continued to increase the number of Negro workers in his yard. Today, 88 Negroes, one-fifth of his total staff, are working in all skills in the Milton Point Shipyards. A few weeks ago, the owner decided to tell the President about it. And Mr. Roosevelt promptly replied:

"My dear Mr. John:

"At a time when I have been hearing so many tragic things about racial tensions and racial violence on the home front, your letter came as an evidence of what I know is the basic goodwill to work and democracy of the American people with regard to their fellow citizens of other races.

"I hope many Americans will read the story of your achievements in industrial democracy. It should be especially heartening to them at this time, when in too many cases hoodlums violence has interrupted our production for victory at home and given comfort to our enemies abroad."

Rev. L.H. Hemingway For the Bishopric

Reconnaisance of a man who has achieved greatness, his connection with Civic, Religious and Business Life of Washington, D. C.

By J. O. Hart

I love it to my state and church is a layman to point out a man whom I have known from a boy. A great writer said, "Some men are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them." Dr. Hemingway has achieved greatness. A man is recognized by his accomplishments. If he has accomplished nothing, the world rates him with the laggards. But when he has done a great work, he stands out above the average, which is true in the case of Dr. Hemingway. The business genius has made every person which he touches in the A. M. E. church great because he has been successful. His associates in South Carolina say, "Whatever he touches turns to gold." Nearly every church he pastored, very district over which he presided, remained revived plans. Dr. Hemingway has been called to many pastorates.

I finished my college work in Allen University, moved to Washington and organized a church. I felt my work would be more beneficial service to humanity. As president of the Allen University Club of Washington, D.C., it was my happy privilege to join Dr. Hemingway, who was touring his way to the front as he did in South Carolina. I have lived in Washington for several years, as an officer of Metropolitan A. M. E. church. I also operate a business that connects me with every phase of Washington's social and economic life. I have read of Dr. Hemingway in the magazines by other outstanding churchmen. Knowing what the A. M. E. church needs as a leader, from a layman's point of view, we have been concentrating on Dr. Hemingway. I think that when the laymen have had a chance to study and know the qualities and merits of Dr. Hemingway, there will be no hesitation in supporting him for the bishopric.

I do not hesitate to tell the church that we have but few men like Dr. Hemingway. There is no place in Washington where ability counts that he is not sought for advice and decisions. He thinks in terms of the great A. M. E. church. In fact, the church comes before his personal interest. If large sums of money is being raised for local purposes by rally or other methods, Dr. Hemingway is among the first to lean off with a most creditable contribution. This statement could be verified by all of the pastors of the A. M. E. churches throughout the city.

A very few men in the District of Columbia have arisen to so great a prominence as he has. His word at banks is as good as gold. Because of his business ability to make his plans meet, the A. M. E. Church Extension society has taken a place in the business life of Washington as it never had before. The Church Extension Department is among the best institutions in the city.

Home is the place to determine a man's worth or fitness. To my way of thinking, to make a mistakeon would not change the man out his position only. We think that this is no time to experiment, give us ripe men, men of experience, men of ability, above all, men whose hearts have been touched with sympathy. Give us men who have done big things, men who have proven their worth.

Dr. Hemingway would grace the bench of bishops and give us a leadership that is much needed. No man, whether layman or minister, would regret his elevation. He is a man of deep sympathy and piety. He is an inspiration in the pulpit and a model Christian brother.

Calls Off Dental Convention

DR. L. A. HOWELL

Tampa, Fla., July 26. (ANP) — The 30th annual convention of the National Dental association scheduled for Cleveland in August has been cancelled, according to a statement by Dr. L. A. Howell, Tampa, chairman, executive board.

Dr. Howell says that the board composed of Dr. M. L. Walton, Thomasville, Ga., secretary; Dr. S. B. Smith, Ardmer, Pa.; Dr. C. W. Dorsey, Philadelphia; Dr. C. L. Barnes, Houston; Dr. C. E. Williams, Chicago; Dr. A. S. Hunter, Durham, N. C.; Dr. P. W. Hill, Clarksdale, Miss; Dr. W. M. Springer, Cincinnati; Dr. R. Layne, St. Louis; Dr. W. O. Claytor, Washington; Dr. J. E. Watts, Vaux Hall N. J.; Dr. C. I. Thomas, Louisville; Dr M. R. Dean, Washington; Dr. J. E. Carter, Augusta, Ga.; Dr. W. S. Gibson, St. Louis; and Dr. Waldo Howard, Houston, voted to reconvene in Cleveland when the war emergency permits and all officers are to remain the same for the duration.

Association business and reports will be held in St. Louis, Aug. 9-10 for the committee chairman, regional and state vice presidents and the secretarytreasurer, along with the executive board.

Urges Better Negro Strategy

Hampton Institute, Va., July 26 Thoughtful Negroes were urged to shape a better master strategy in tackling the American race problem last Thursday by Miss Jessie Daniel Ames of the Atlanta Commission on International Cooperation, who spoke at the summer school of the college.

Questioning the technique of some Negroes, who, she conceded, may be "self-elected leaders" instead of really representing the opinion of colored Americans, Mrs. Ames declared that they are alienating a number of progressive white Southerners who are "paralyzed" by their advocacy of force, expressions of threats against the South, and criticism of white southerners known to be liberal.

"Their published pronouncements and writings are also playing directly into the hands of anti-democratic elements, she said.

White Primary an Insult

"It is difficult for us to understand why such leaders are willing to sacrifice the gains which have been made and which could continue to be made through the efforts of progressive whites," Mrs. Ames stated.

"We are both interested in eliminating flagrant discriminations. I think that the white primary is an insult to every Negro, and the effect of segregation are terrible.

"With the white south divided into three elements: the positive reactionaries, the neutral or indifferent people, and the progressive, the hope of the Negro lie in the growing number of progressives who can develop into a sufficiently large group of white liberals with the strength to outweigh the reactionary influence.

Says Progressives Are Maligned

"But the existing progressives have been so maligned by the Negro press that they are beginning to ask what is the use.

"We have already lost many of our most influential progressives who are weary of the attacks made upon them because they don't go the 'whole way' as dictated by these Negro leaders.

Blind or Uninformed

"What we cannot understand is how they can be so blind or so misinformed as to imply that the fault lies entirely in the white South, or that one fourth of the United States can control or dominate the other three-fourths in this country.

"A Some familiar with history and politics is aware of the alliance between the southern and northern industrialists in the period 1880-1896 and of the present political alliance between southern and northern reactionaries.

"The efforts of the industrialists to preserve a untapped energy of cheap labor, white and colored, in the South, and the political reactionaries are the accomplices responsible.

Must Create Understanding

"Moreover, when Negroes attack or blame the South directly, they are playing into the hands of both of these groups.

"We ought to have some sort of understanding between the white progressives and these leaders. Something has got to be done to create this understanding and produce a better strategy on the part of the Negro group."

Sammons Art College Offers Twenty-four Scholarships

Columbia, S. C., July 30 Sammons Art college at Ridgewood in Columbia, is offering twenty-four scholarships as follows: Twelve for Beauty Culture in The School of Beauty Culture; twelve for Community Organization in The School of Social Work.

The Collegiate Association of Southern States at its recent convention, and 19th Anniversary Program Series at The Covenant Baptist church of Columbia, July 14, 1943 approved Sammons Art college for scholarship aid to worthy students, making an allotment from the Hoff-Voir Krause Foundation, for said purpose.

Sammons Art college is a friendly year-round institution in a friendly community. Students in Beauty Culture and Social work may register now for the next session beginning Wednesday, September 1, 1943. Students seeking scholarship aid are required to visit Sammons Art college in person on, or before August 10, 1943 to complete arrangements for entering school for preliminary training period from Aug. 10th to September 1, 1943. A health card and I. Q. test are necessary.

Scholarship aid will be given only on teachers report of student's record of home, school and period at the seminary. Applicants should address communications to Sammons Art college, P. O. Box 1162, Columbia, S. C.

DESTROYER ESCORT HARMON LAUNCHED SUNDAY, JULY 25th

NAMED IN HONOR LATE LEONARD ROY HARMON

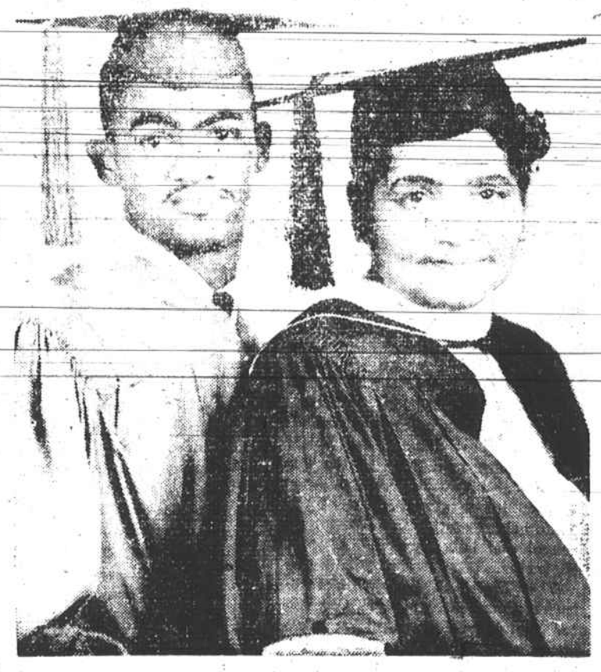
MESS ATTENDANT

Mrs. Naunita Harmon Chief Mother of Hero Sponsor Vessel

The first United States warship named in honor of a Negro Destroyer Escort HARMON was launched Sunday, July 25, at the Fore River yard of the Bethlehem Steel company in Quincy, Mass. The SS HARMON, a 306 foot vessel, was named for the late Leonard Roy Harmon, Mess Attendant, First Class, U. S. N., who was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for "extraordinary heroism" while aboard the USS SAN FRANCISCO during action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Guadalcanal, Nov. 12 and 13, 1942.

Mrs. Naunita Harmon Chief of Cuero, Texas, mother of the Negro hero, was sponsor for the new vessel. Mrs. Harmon had her attendants, her daughter Miss Pauline Harmon, Petty Officer, war worker in the Air Service Command at San Antonio, Texas, and Mrs. Constance Harmon Edwards of El Paso, Texas. Mrs. Carroll was also accompanied by her husband, William H. Carroll.

MOTHER AND SON GRADUATE



Mrs. Lucy Barth Smith of Covington, Ky., principal of Booker T. Washington school in that city, received her M. Ed. of Education degree from Cincinnati university about the same time her youngest son finished Dunbar high school at Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Smith is the wife of Paul V. Smith, a teacher at Dunbar. They have three other sons, all college graduates.

(ANP)

AF&L Representative Well Received Here

The program sponsored by Local No. 2260 and held at First Nazareth Baptist church, Monday night, July 26 was presented to an overflow meeting; speakers of local and national reputation attended the occasion. Various local unions had representatives, also the Rationing Board and citizens committee. However, the outstanding speaker was Mr. D. G. Garland, one of the 35 colored representatives employed by the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Garland is a Virginian of wide experience, having travelled in many foreign countries and is familiar with the labor movement throughout the world.

Mr. Garland brought out the fact that of the more than seven million members of the AFL, [illegible] more than one million are of the colored race. He styled the AFL as a democratic organization, referred to the Green Commission, July 1, and said that Wm. Green is back is a Baptist minister. He said also that "the hope of the Negroes is in identifying himself wholeheartedly with the labor struggle and that it is a class struggle not a race struggle. On all the most beneficial measures he presented was the great part labor is playing for victory in this gigantic war. He said it is like a baseball team with the army on first, the navy on second and the civilians on third, and all depending on each other for a victory and none at the game. Ben Davis, Jr., was introduced.

After the speaking many assembled at the AFL Hall, corner Gervais and Hoke streets, where a sumptuous repast was enjoyed, until the late hours of the night.

The enthusiasm of optimism is that America's colored citizens are on the march to economic and civic betterment and nothing will stop them. They love their country and feel they should enjoy the fruits of democracy with all other American citizens.

Notice to Delegates To The National Baptist Convention Which Meets in San Antonio, Texas

Rev. J. P. Booker, minister of the Richland Community [illegible] of the [illegible] Convention of [illegible] regrets to [illegible] not be attending the [illegible] National Baptist Convention convening in San Antonio, Texas, that no [illegible] will be provided [illegible] since restrictions.

Rev. Booker urges all [illegible] who are going from the [illegible] Columbia [illegible] to make application to [illegible] Columbia on or before Sunday, September [illegible] by way of the Southern through Greenville and New Orleans and arrange to [illegible] San Antonio Tuesday afternoon, following [illegible].

Others traveling out of the Columbia section and lower North Carolina may leave Spartanburg at 5:10 a.m. Monday and join the special from Columbia in Atlanta at 1:00 p.m. Monday.

The upper all-rail route is the best available method for those who [illegible] to reach San Antonio on time. Round trip fare from Columbia with Southern and Western class is $45.16, without sleeper, [illegible].

[illegible] the war work of her other son Cornelius White Harmon, employed at the Naval Base at Corpus Christi, Tex. She herself was formerly a public school teacher.

The text of the citation accompanying the posthumous award of the Navy Cross to Harmon is as follows:

"For extraordinary heroism while serving aboard the USS San Francisco during action against enemy Japanese forces in the Solomon Islands area on Nov. 12 and 13, 1942. With persistent disregard for his own personal safety, HARMON rendered invaluable assistance in caring for the wounded and evacuating them to a dressing station. In addition to displaying unusual loyalty in behalf of the injured Executive Officer, he deliberately exposed himself to hostile gunfire in order to protect a shipmate and as a result of this courageous deed, was killed in action. His heroic spirit of self-sacrifice, maintained above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave up his life in the defense of his country."

Harden St. USO News

On last Friday evening, the Junior Hostesses of the Harden St. USO were guests of the 701st Chem. Maintenance Co. of the Columbia Army Air Base. The men of this company have long been noted for their fine parties. The music was good, the food excellent and everyone had a gay time. Miss Myrtle Brown, the girls manager for women and won a most beautiful corsage. Chaperones for the evening were Mrs. Rebecca V. Beard, Mrs. Doris Greene, Miss Catherine Peters and Mrs. Hobson, wife of Sgt. Hobson.

On this Friday evening, July 30 at 8:30 p.m. a Birthday Dance will be given. The 701st Chem. Maintenance Co. orchestra will furnish the music and all the lovely hostesses will be present to see that every one has a good time. There will be a special birthday cake and gifts for all the July boys.

Reverend E. A. Davis will be the principal speaker on Vesper Hour, Sunday, August 1. The public is invited to this as well as the music appreciation and other programs of the day. The life and works of Franz Schubert will be the subject for discussion at 5:00 p.m.

It is gratifyme the way the war wives are coming to the USO and taking advantage of the many facilities offered for their convenience and enjoyment. They are planning breakfasts, suppers; using the machine to make their own clothes, and dropping in to borrow books and socialize. Saturday nights are becoming very popular with the husbands and wives dropping in for an evening's enjoyment. All soldiers' wives are invited to come to the USO any time they choose, but there are a number of things planned especially for them so that they may meet other couples and there by make new friends while they are away from home.

ANP News Shorts

RELEASE WED. JULY 28

Chicago The National Negro insurance association adjourned here Friday after one of the most enthusiastic and successful conventions during the 27 years of the existence. The four day session at the Parkway ballroom here attracted some 250 delegates including the top executives of the six companies operating with in the Negro group. New officers are president, Booker T. Bradshaw, and secretary, A. P. Bentley.

Washington Jimmy Bivins—the Cleveland heavyweight—was [illegible] last week in the quarterly meetings of the National Boxing association, as the logical contender for the world title held by Pvt. Joe Louis. Previously Louis himself has declared Bivins the leading contender.

Washington Soldiers were urged by their parents and friends this week to apply for the $10,000 army insurance only after it was announced to the men last general's office last week that up to and including August 1, 10,000 men could obtain the maximum policy without a physical examination.

The premium for the maximum policy varies with the age of the applicant but costs slightly less than 8¢ per month for the average age of 28.

Abuja, North Africa "I'm so proud and thrilled at the great advancement my race is making in this war," Josephine Baker, the Philadelphia girl who made such a sensation with her singing and dancing in Paris in the mid-the 20's and who is still wowing audiences in gratis appearance before soldiers and sailors in N. Africa, said in an interview here.

"That advancement is so evident and I see it so plainly in my appearances in Red Cross club theatres and in all my performances arranged by the army special services and the American Red Cross throughout North Africa."

Fort Devens, Mass. Silver bars will replace gold ones for two Women's Army corps officers, Ruth Ella Caldwell of Orangeburg, S. C., and Victoria Gloria Jones of New Orleans, who were promoted this week to 1st lieutenants.

Lt. Caldwell, who sang with Paul Robeson in "Ballads for Americans," has a B.S. degree in home economics from Hampton. She is serving as a supply officer and platoon commander in this WAC training center.

Atlanta. At least one Negro stream operates regularly on a Diesel engine on a main line in the south, it was disclosed Wednesday at the biennial national convention of the International Association of Railway Employes here.

He is B. W. Steele of Birmingham Employed on the L. and N. Steele, known as an engineers helper on the Diesel streamliner "Hummingbird" in 1934, became a fireman in 1940, and qualified for his present work last year.

Washington The common bond that American Negroes feel for Ethiopia is mutual, according to Yilma Deressa, chairman of the Ethiopian mission to this country, and he intends to leave behind him some message to this effect when the party returns home, expected shortly.

Mr. Deressa talked about the lack of communications between Ethiopia and the Negro people of America, but said that his government now has corrective measures in mind which, of course, will have to wait upon the end of hostilities.

He bemoaned the fact that so little is taught in the schools here about his country beyond the fact that Addis Ababa is the capital. The picture that travelers give back, he said, is invariably their observation made among the poorer people, and in the backwood villages. They overlook, entirely, he declared, that Ethiopian civilization is old, that it has electricity, modern buildings to a point, churches of real antiquity, and people of education and culture.

New York. In the Theatre of Sport. Heavyweight Boxing—Champion Joe Louis is a superior horseman. He has broken in and ridden wild mustangs at his own ranch. He is a better than average baseball player. Reports from the Tam O'Shanter golf tourney in Chicago, reveal he appears Joe as a golfer who shoots in the late 70's. A N. Y. Journal-American photog snapped Joe in a setting which found him surrounded by smiling, Americal youngsters seeking serious tiring Joe's autograph and following his every move on the links. A few years ago through the instance of this column we styled Louis as a good will ambassador without portfolio. One who by his comeback mannerisms in and out of the roped-arena, literally tore down racial barriers erected under the unholy banner of discrimination and intolerance. Few figures in the annals of sport history have captured the imagination of the rabble as has this unlettered youth from the backwoods of Alabama. One has to search for such immortal sport figures as Ty Cobb, John L. Sullivan, Bill Tilden, Bobby Jones, Honus Wagner, Paavo Nurmi, Jack Dempsey, et al, in order to make fair comparison with Louis' popularity. Possibly Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth alone enjoyed greater national esteem than "Wuddda you know-Joe."

Little Rock, Ark. An agreement was announced last week between the Interdenominational Ministerial alliance, the Negro undertakers, cemetery associations, cemetery sextons and florists, of Greater Little Rock barring future Sunday funeral services. The agreement will remain in effect for the duration.

The action was taken, it was explained, because of the drain on manpower by the draft and defense industry, the shortage of rubber, gasoline, and materials as a result of the war. Former service standards could not be maintained under the adverse conditions, said a spokesman for the groups.

White undertakers and burial associations took similar action several weeks ago.

Chance For Girls

Estelle Massey Riddle, consultant in Negro Nursing for the National Nursing Council for War Service urges colored girls to take advantage of the opportunities in the United States Cadet Nurse corps, created by the Bolton bill. Girls can now learn nursing with tuition, pay, uniforms, furnished (ANP)