

The DEFENDER NEWS REEL



**A NEW START IN LIFE** for Isaac Woodard awaits at the end of his journey as he boards a train for Avon School for the Blind in Connecticut. The dramatic picture marks the final chapter in the disgraceful American saga begun in Batesburg, S.C., when a police officer gouged out the eyes of the veteran a few hours after he had disembarked from an army transport after two years of fighting for democracy in a South Pacific jungle. An American

jury debated less than half an hour before it acquitted the policeman. Through a campaign of the NAACP, a trust fund of \$10,000 has been established for Woodard who will receive at Avon training which will help him live a useful, if never again a normal life. Shown at the train are (left to right): Franklin Williams, NAACP attorney; Woodard, Cecil Forster, Veterans Administration official, and Mrs. Woodard.—NAACP Photo.



**LEGHORN, ITALY** was recently visited by a four-officer inspection team which came to look into matters at the 48th Port Battalion headquarters, a unit which provides guards for a German surrendered enemy personnel camp near Pisa. The team was composed of the following officers (left to right): First Sgt. Samuel De Vaughn, Columbus, Ga.; Lt. Col. James C. Gabriel, Crawfordsville, Ind.; First Lt. Joseph Conner, of New Orleans, and First Lt. Hardy B. Ruffin, of Chicago.

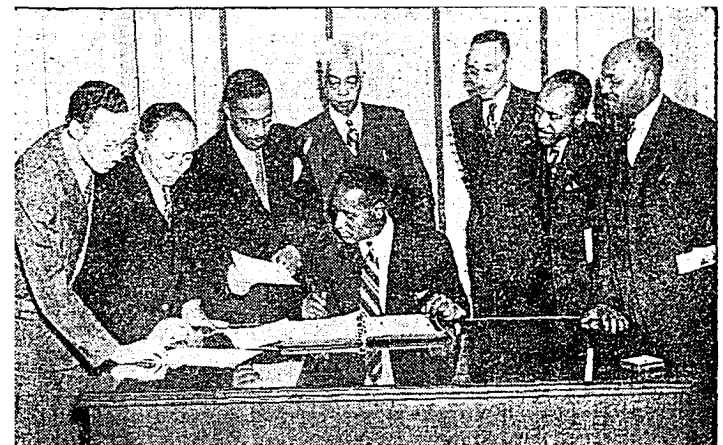


**A SPECIAL AME CHURCH TRIAL COMMITTEE** last week found Bishop Monroe R. Davis guilty of maladministration and misappropriation of church funds. The church jury was out an hour and 50 minutes before it brought in its verdict which cleared Davis on two other counts; laying heavy assessments for his personal gain and disobedience

to church discipline. The Trial Board was made up of the following members (left to right): Bishop John A. Gregg, Dr. W. D. Wilkins, St. Louis; Bishop R. C. Ranson, Wilberforce; Charles L. Hill, layman, Bethel church, Columbia, Ohio; Rev. A. Wayman Ward, Bethel church, Chicago, and J. H. Lewis, layman, Wilberforce university.



**EQUIPMENT FOR JUNIOR FIREMEN**—Bud Billiken and members of his Junior Fire Patrol now have extinguishers and gas masks to help battle blazes as a result of a gift from Charles H. Ford, former commander of Pekin district, Office of Civilian Defense, Chicago, during the war. Ford is shown with equipment.



**THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** of the National Alliance of Postal Employees met in Washington last week to map plans for a campaign aimed at improvement in conditions affecting Negroes in the postal service. Shown

left to right are Joseph A. Quander, Val Cobacha, Charles Braxton, Ashby Carter, national president; Volie D. Dixon, national secretary; Albert Norris, W. C. Jason, welfare director and John C. Lymas, legislative committee chairman.



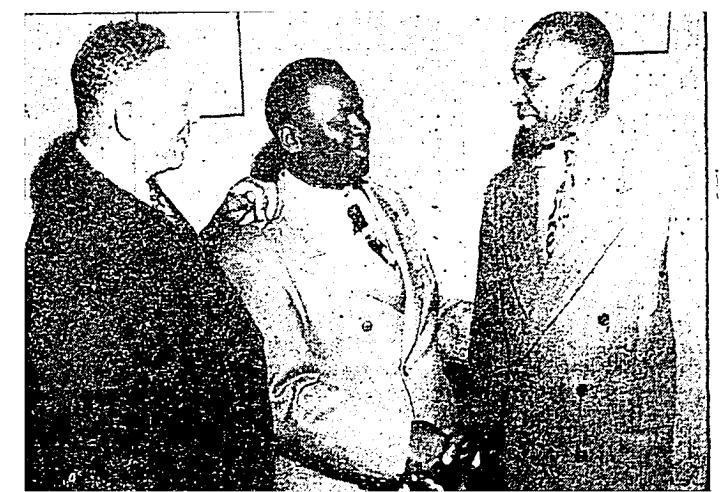
**CHARTER DAY** was observed in Chicago by local members of the Howard University Alumni Association at a dinner held Monday at Poro College dining room. Principal speaker was Dr. J. Newton Hill, dean of the college at Lincoln University, Pa., extreme right. With him are Atty. Will A. Robinson, president of the local group, and Atty. G. S. Barnes, center, toastmaster.



**ANSWERING CHARGES** of her divorced band leader husband, Noble Sissle, that she neglected her two children by going to California and leaving them sick in Florida, Mrs. Ethel Sissle this week began legal action to regain possession of the youngsters. Sissle carried the children to New York on what he claims to be a court order granting him that right.



**MISS CORA WALKER**, 22, youngest Negro to pass the bar in New York, and the only race member of her law school class, was sworn in the New York bar March 10. A canny thinker, the lovely "Porcia" admits that "Usually everything I do is well thought out. I don't jump into it."



**RECORDER OF DEEDS MARSHALL SHEPARD**, of Washington, D.C. (center) paying a visit to Los Angeles, congratulates H. A. Howard (right) on the growth of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association of which Howard is president and general manager.

The Negro-operated institution opened its doors two months ago and since then its growth has been phenomenal. M. Earl Grant, treasurer and director of the Association looks on. The Savings and Loan company is the only one of its kind west of Chicago.



**BREAKING CAPITOL HILL POLICE FORCE COLOR LINE.** Pvt. Finest L. Gilkey, of St. Louis, receives the congratulations of Claude I. Bakewell, Republican representative from Missouri, who sponsored Gilkey to serve as the first Negro on the United States police force at the D.C. Capitol. A graduate of Tennessee State College and of St. Louis university, Gilkey was appointed to guard duty at the Old House Office building.



**A THIRD CLAIMANT FOR GEORGIA GOVERNORSHIP.** D. Talmadge Bowers, independent candidate in the November election who announced March 2 that he would demand a recount in write-in votes and, if that failed, take his fight to court.



**MRS. MARY CHENEY RANDOLPH**, assistant to the director of public relations, Cincinnati and Hamilton County Chapter of the American Red Cross, greets Earl Howard of the National American Red Cross Speakers' Bureau. Howard, a Red Cross club director in the European theatre during World War II, made several speeches in Cincinnati, Feb. 23 and 24 to stimulate interest in the 1947 Red Cross Fund Drive, March 1 to 31.



**WATSON B. MILLER** (left) administrator of the Federal Security Agency, looks on as Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson (second from left) presents Dr. Dwight O. W. Holmes, president of Morgan State College, with a certificate and plaque in recognition of distinguished post-graduate achievement in the field of education.

At the university's annual Charter Day exercises, where Dr. Holmes was the principal speaker, two others were also recipients of annual Alumni awards. Shown at the right of Dr. Holmes, they are Atty. George E. C. Hayes, of Washington, D.C., and Atty. Z. Alexander Looby, of Nashville. — Scurlock Photo.