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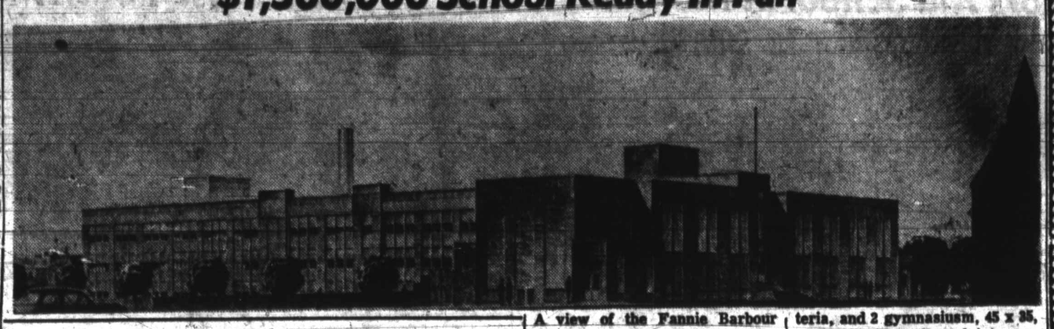
A. and T. to Offer Air Force Course

GREENSBORO, N.C.—The first U.S. Army Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps for youths—one of four programs throughout the country—will begin in the fall term at A. and T. College with about 400 students expected to enroll.

$1,500,000 School Ready in Fall



A view of the Fannie Barbour School, bounded by Saratoga, Carrollton, Lexington, and Arlington Sts., will be ready for use the beginning of the fall term. The new elementary school has 24 standard classrooms, and two kindergarten class rooms. The auditorium will seat 346 people, and there is also a community room, health suite, library, cafeteria, and 2 gymnasiums, 45 x 35, which can be enlarged into one gym, 45 x 70.

The school cost $1,500,000. Two playground areas are provided, one especially for tots, which will be walled in and surfaced with grass. The other playground, for older children, will be fenced in walls of the school are glazed tile, with latest type fuorescent lighting used. Windows of the imposing brick structure will have glare ppoof glass bricks at the top. Construction of the school began in 1February 1950.

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Basic Freedoms Cited at Meeting of Masons

Grand Master Willard W. Allen told the 104th Annual Communication of Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Masons meeting at Fairmount Heights, Md. that America has four basic freedoms—freedom of worship, freedom of speech and of the press, and freedom of assembly.

"It is the right of every citizen in the United States, under the rules of democracy, to take part in making the laws of our government and of our states.

"That is why I advise you to register and vote. That is your heavenly privilege. Take advantage of it.

"The word integration was in the dictionary for many years quite unmolested but today we find use for it repeatedly.

"My daughter called my attention to an article in the Christian Recorder which discussed the mixing of church organizations. It was so markedly pleasing that the event deserved mention.

"I would like to see the history of colored people integrated with the history of America in all our schools. White people need to know about Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, and Ralph Bunche just as we know about George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt."

Grand Master Allen said: "The AFRO-AMERICAN has performed wonders in bringing about our recognition in fields of endeavor and education."

The Grand Master asked the delegates to contribute $500 to the Provident Hospital Fund.

He referred to Fairmount Heights as a typical example of how our people can show interest in their own businesses by complete cooperation.

Dr. Allen noted the death of two outstanding Masons during the year, Josiah F. Henry Sr. of Cambridge and Eugene Langston of Salisbury.

"Communism," he said, "is vicious from beginning to end, a bedrock of evil and we are in the records as opposed to it in every way."

Leaves Red Cross

Jesse O. Thomas, public relations consultant for the American Red Cross, who is resigning this post on Aug. 28. That same day he will be sworn in a similar position with the Office of Price Stabilization in Room 2303 Tempo S Building, 4th and Jefferson Drive, S.W.

Jesse O. Thomas Quits Red Cross

By WOODY L. TAYLOR

WASHINGTON

When colored Americans think of the Red Cross, particularly in the matter of personnel as it relates to their race the first person who comes to mind is Jesse O. Thomas who has made himself a Red Cross by-word over a period of the past nine years.

But after Aug. 28 they will have to find a new contact for that Charitable institution. Jesse O. Thomas is leaving the Red Cross and is going to the Office of Price Administration on that date.

First Appointee

Mr. Thomas became the first member of his race to be appointed on a policy making level with the Red Cross. He gives an interesting account of his services there.

For over 60 years this agency, known all over the world, and which has been on the front lines through practically all of the Wars in which this country has engaged; through floods, fires, pestilence and wherever disaster strikes, never had colored personnel on its payroll in administrative and professional categories until Jesse O. Thomas was hired in 1942.

Tackled Four Operations

He tackled four phases of the Red Cross operations at the same time. He sought to secure employment for colored people on national and area staffs; to have them employed professionally on chapter staffs; to have them added to chapter committees and boards; and to have them appointed to membership on he board of governors of the national organization.

Thomas's Accomplishments

Here is what Mr. Thomas says has been accomplished:

Since 1942, colored workers have been employed by the national organization on domestic soil as secretaries and correspondents at national headquarters, and field directors at military installations.

More than 500 men and women were employed as members of the Red Cross recreational personnel on foreign soil.

On chapter level, they have been employed as secretaries, file clerks stenographers, case workers, and supervisors in chapters beginning as far south as Miami, Fla.

Other areas in which they have worked are:

Savannah and Atlanta, Ga; Birmingham, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Dallas, Tex; Denver, Col.; Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco, Calif.; Minneapolis and St. Paul Minn.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Chicago, Ill.; St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo.; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Dayton, O.;

Buffalo, New York City and Brooklyn, N.Y.; Boston, Mass.; Bayonne, N.J.; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Baltimore, Md.; District of Columbia; and Louisville, Kentucky.

Outstanding Soldier

Pvt. Wilson R. Dickerson Jr., nephew of Mrs. Susie H. Clark of 222 Presstman St., Baltimore, is serving with Company M, 516th Airborne Infantry at Camp Breckenridge, Ky. and was recently awarded the silver medal as the outstanding soldier in the Regmental Guard Mount. He was also cited for having achieved the highest score in firing the M-1 rifle.

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