

National GRAPEVINE

By CHARLEY CHEROKEE

Alpha To Omega

LITTLE THINGS matter—you can sit on a mountain tip but not on the tip of a tack. Let's look: Fred Patterson has been left off the Board of the Southern Conference on Human Welfare at insistence of another Negro member . . . Frankie Sinatra, bless his skinny soul, is needing MGM to make another racial tolerance short similar to his "House I Live In." Incidentally has your theatre shown Paramount's "Don't Be A Sucker"? . . . Howard and Tuskegee will be only Negro among 76 colleges assigned air ROTC programs by Army.

President Trujillo of Dominican Republic is listed with world's bloody dictators, but his name has been placed in The Book of Gold by Jews because he has opened the country to Jewish refugees. And U.S. citizens on pleasure trips don't need a passport to Dominica . . . Kappa and Omega frats after reading Ebony piece on Alpha say "comedy of errors" . . . Rufus Clement (Atlanta U.), Carl Murphy (Afro), Alain Locke (Howard U.), and Mary Bethune are listed among sponsors of American Association for United Nations' message to U.N. General Assembly.

Newsmen already sore with Marcus Ray because unlike Truman Gibson who had the job before him, or Lester Granger in Navy, he hasn't called an official press conference on his inspection tour, now learn he is opposing efforts to force army to open enlistments to Negroes. He was in Justice Dept. Friday speaking against it . . . Labor Secretary Schwollenbach kept his promise and ordered Washington local U.S. Employment Service to end Jim Crow set-up (Well Thomasina Johnson, you did it, gal). Although new set-up won't be perfect, point is Schwollenbach will catch hell from AFL and Southern Democrats.

Take-A-Bow Department

JASPER B. JEFFRIES, charter member of Atomic Scientists of Chicago lists colored scientists who really aided in perfecting the atomic bomb. It may be dull reading, but it's a real honor roll:

At U. of Chicago: Benjamin F. Scott, B.S.; J. E. Wilkins Jr., Ph.D., now with American Optical Co.; M. L. Taylor, Ph.D., now at Lincoln U. (Mo.); Edwin R. Russell, M.S.; Harold Delaney, M.S., now at A. and T.; Harold F. Carey, B.S., now with a Vitamins Co.; Harold B. Evans, M.S.; Wellbourne Mollison Jr., B.S.; Clyde R. Dillard, B.S.; Frederick D. Johnson, B.S., now

with Keto Labs; Ralph Gardner, B.S.; Wayman Burns, S.M., now at Clark U.; Miss Ella Tyree, B.S. and Albert George now with General Motors.

At Columbia U.: William J. Knox, Ph.D., now with Eastman Kodak; Sidney Thompson, M.A.; George W. Reed, M.S., now at U. of Chicago; Sherman Carter, A.B.; Robert J. Omohundro, B.S., now at Chi; Lloyd Quarterman, B.S.; Clarence Turner.

Army lists in addition, Cecil G. White and George S. Carter, and Jeffries adds that P. V. Jewell is reported to have served as a consultant at Oakridge.

Howard Oh Howard Oh Howard

TAGE U. H. ELLINGER is the white biologist we mentioned as having succeeded the late Ernest Just, famed Negro scientist, at Howard U. We also mentioned this character does not appear to think much of Negroes. In a letter in his own handwriting which came to our attention (see elsewhere in this paper) he spells Negro with a small "n" and refuses to ask for an increased budget for the Biology Department because: "there simply is no young generation of negro biologists competent to assist in research work."

Back in 1942, this bird wrote an article in Journal of Heredity (April) in which he accorded the Nazi "race science" and the anti-Semitism of the Nazi storm troopers the dignity of acceptance as scientific methods. Fellow scientists, particularly Dr. M. Ashley-Montagu in Psychiatry Reviews and Prof. Richard Goldschmidt in Heredity (June) gave him hell for his "Aryanism" article.

Now this is the fellow Howard U. has as head of its Biology Department, teaching young Negroes. And you still wonder, Jimmy Nabritt, why we won't lay off Howard.

Strictly-Confidential Department

JOHN LOCKE GREENE, a Republican and (curiously) treasurer of Arlington County, Va., is pushing his court fight hell bent for leather at his own expense to prove the poll tax unconstitutional. He'll do it too, starting in District Court Sept. 30 and winding up in Supreme Court. Meanwhile he has proved to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark that its Tom's bounden duty to come on in and help. Tom wants to, but President won't let him touch it for reasons you can guess. Also Greene went to Carroll Reece, Republican National Committee Chairman and said: "If you meant those things you said at the Negro Elks' convention about what the Republicans are going to do for Negroes, now is your chance to prove it." Reece is trying to think up a good excuse. (Not yet, John Henry, we'll tell you when).

Leak of the Wallace-to-Truman letter reminds us of the leak of the Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle letter to Roosevelt advising that Negro migration be stopped in July 1943. We still are afraid to reveal how it got in hands of colored newsmen. Ernie Johnson, then Washington Correspondent for ANP. Ernie knew he had a hot potato and wrote a restrained story which was front-paged by the Atlanta World and the Black Dispatch. Nobody paid much attention so a copy was slipped to Vic Reisel of the New York Post and that paper gave Biddle hell on Monday and Tuesday. The Negro Press of course picked it up and re-played it, and the Urban League cancelled Biddle's speech at its convention. The FBI grilled everybody on how it got out, but never found out.

I nAgain, Out Again, Mose Again

THE WAR hasn't been declared over officially. May come any day. If you enlist Oct. 5 for three years and war is declared over Oct. 6, you still have to serve out your three years and you get all your GI benefits. However, if you enlist on Oct. 6, the day after the deadline set by Army, and War is declared over on Oct. 7, you also serve out your term of enlistment BUT, since you served only one instead of the required 90 days during "war time," you get none of the GI benefits except the free one year education they give everybody. The joker is of course, there is a ban on Negro enlistments, and Oct. 5, the deadline, is almost here. (Not yet John Henry, Marcus' time will come.)

Veterans may be interested to know U.S. Justice Department is prosecuting the white cop who gouged out colored vet Isaac Woodward's eyes, and Vets Administration may stretch a point and give Isaac disability benefits for non-service injury. While we think of it, 10 million colored and whites are allowing their National Service Life Insurance to lapse needlessly. Your policy can be reinstated and converted into endowment payable at age 60 or 65 with all restrictions on beneficiaries removed. In D.C. public schools, 200 colored vets on waiting list will be able to start classes when and if city comes through with salaries for needed 17 extra teachers—good chance.

Just For The Record

USES, NOW PART of Labor employs several colored executives in integrated capacities. Among them Roy (Axe) Ellis doing a whale of a job supervising Field reports and such. Alvin Rucker doing an equally good job in Standards and Measurements, and ditto Harper Fortune an economist in Research and Analysis. Any impression that they have done nothing all these years to help the brother, we hasten to correct here and now. They do a lot.

Thomasina Johnson in the "Ne-

gro Adviser" or Minority Group spot is a swell gal and will appreciate us saying that one of the above three whom she accuses of "not speaking out," far from this, has gone out of his way to smooth the way for her and hold up for her when she made mistakes common to all newcomers. He won't let us call his name. And while we pause to pat Thomasina's immediate assistant Kenny Banks, we also say don't count out Lawrence Oxley. He's a smart guy who has been getting along a long time.

Here's Where We Came In

OUR BIRTHDAY was Sept. 14 and we plumb forgot it. We have been writing this mess since 1940 and are six years old. We still don't like fascism whether it be in Berlin, Moscow, London, Washington, or Mississippi. We still don't like little Hitlers, white, brown or black.

Dr. Metz Lochard, fighting editor of the Defender was part of the delegation to see Truman last week, but his train was late and they had gone in when he arrived. The guards and secretaries wanted to keep him out but his indignation so awed them and his French accent so fascinated them until they let him in just in time to see Truman get mad and shake his fists at Robeson et al.

Bob Weaver was back in D.C. and talked on Race for the Union for Democratic Action . . . Yep that was a picket line you saw around Jessie Mitchell's Industrial Bank Wednesday . . . Ida Fox has been named as full time executive secretary for the Committee for Racial Democracy in the Nation's Capital (Nice going Ida) . . . That was Tom Bomar, one of Postmaster Hannegan's Negro Advisers riding in the first flying Post Office plane . . . Kit Shryver is swinging through the Midwest for National Council of Negro Women (That's what we said, John Henry "Negro" Women) . . . Urban League, since we accused them of poor public relations is about to swamp us with releases and such.

BUY ANOTHER U.S. SAVINGS BOND, MISTER, but ask every Congressman who wants your vote—what did you ever do for FEPC, anti-poll tax and anti-lynch bill?—KEEP 'EM SQUIRMING!