

# PUBLISHERS CONFER WITH TRUMAN

## President's Support Of Vital Bills Sought By Race Publishers

Truman "Cordial and Interested," Group  
Reports; Newspapermen Seek Better Deal  
For Veterans, Support For FEPC

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — During a busy three-day session last week, members of the executive committee of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association conferred with President Harry S. Truman, Brig. Gen. Frank Hines of the Veterans' Administration, and House Minority Leader Joseph Martin, (R., Mass.) on major issues confronting Negroes.

In their conference with the President, the publishers urged that:

He make a Fair Employment Practices Bill, with enforcement powers, an administration measure;

that he direct the Attorney General to use all the powers of his office to carry out to its full force and effect the decision of the Supreme Court in the Texas primary case affecting the rights of American citizens to participate in all primary elections;

that he appoint a Negro as an assistant administrator in the Veterans' Administration to aid the administrator in seeing that all veterans, without regard to race or color, will benefit from provisions of the GI bill and other veterans' legislation without the losses

## Text Of Statement To Pres. Truman

WASHINGTON—Statement on behalf of The Negro Newspaper Publishers Association to the President of the United States:

Mr. President, we are aware of the many great problems, foreign and domestic, with which you are faced. We ourselves have no lag in our interest in the winning of ultimate and complete victory in this war, and in the establishment of a permanent peace.

We, like you, are concerned with and about the total problems of these United States. It is in that spirit of the total picture that we respectfully seek your active interest and support of four specific matters which are pressing at this time.

(1) We respectfully urge, Mr. President, that you make a Fair Employment Practices Bill, with enforcement powers, an administration measure.

(2) We urge, sir, that you direct the Attorney General to use all the powers of his office to carry out to its full force and effect the decision of the Supreme Court in the Texas primary case affecting the rights of American citizens to participate in all primary elections.

(3) We urge further, Mr. President, that you appoint a Negro as an assistant administrator in the Veterans Administration to aid the administrator in seeing that all veterans, regardless of their race or color, will benefit from the provisions of the GI Bill of Rights and other veterans' legislation without the losses that Negroes frequently suffer through administrative channels.

(4) And, finally, Mr. President, we respectfully call your attention to the fact that this administration is pledged to the enactment of a federal anti-poll tax law, and we urge that the bill seeking abolition of the tax as a prerequisite to voting be given full administration support.

that Negroes suffer frequently through administrative channels; and

to give full support of the administration to the federal anti-poll tax bill.

### PRESIDENT CORDIAL AND INTERESTED

The publishers reported that the President received their statement with interest and cordiality, but made no express commitments. A copy of the statement, covering the points above, was left with him.

In their conference with Gen. Hines, the group stressed the need for closer attention to the problems facing the Negro veteran in order to avoid the discriminations and denials he suffered after the last World War. They expressed their opposition to the establishment of additional Jimcrow veteran hospital facilities as that at Tuskegee.

The same policy of non-segregation as is now prevalent in Army hospitals should be followed in all veteran hospitals they declared. They recommended the appointment of a Negro to serve in an administrative and advisory capacity to the administrator, and who would devote his time to these problems.

### GIVEN ASSURANCE ON FEPC LEGISLATION

The conference with Rep. Martin concerned the pending legislation for a permanent FEPC and federal abolition of the poll tax. On both these measures, Rep. Martin assured (See TRUMAN, Page 2).

# President Truman

(Continued from page 1)

ured the group that they had his own support and that of a majority of the Republicans in the House of Representatives.

In its executive sessions, the NNPA discussed and acted on matters affecting the operation of its Washington news bureau, its military correspondents' pool, and other internal matters.

## ANNUAL CONVENTION IN N. Y. DURING JULY

The regular annual convention of the NNPA is scheduled to meet in New York City on July 26, 27, and 28.

Among those attending the executive committee sessions were John H. Sengstacke, president of NNPA, and Charles Browning, the Chicago Defender; Howard H. Murphy and Carl Murphy, Afro-American Newspapers; Alexander Barnes, Washington Tribune; Frank L. Stanley, Louisville Defender; Carter Wesley, Houston Informer; Mrs. Robert L. Vann, and Ira Lewis, Pittsburgh Courier; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis Argus; Cecil Newman, Minneapolis Spokesman; William O. Walker, Cleveland Call-Post; Louis E. Martin, Michigan Chronicle; Dowdal Davis, Kansas City Call; and Thomas W. Young, The Journal and Guide.