FDR Pledges Support To FEPC And Servicemen

By ERNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—Roosevelt conferred for 50 minutes with three colored leaders Friday and promised them he would support action in the present congress on permanent FEPC legislation, early adoption of a bill to protect Negroes in the armed forces against violence, and said that the war department would shortly announce a change in policy regarding the controversial redistribution centers.

Walter White, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. Channing H. Tobias were the individuals who called on the President and informed him of the current displeasures of colored people. As spokesman for the group, White described the con-

ference as "interesting and pleasant." He added that it was "strictly non-political" but left it to reporters to interpret its

(Continue on page 3, col. 3)

——A Colored Judge——
FDR Promises To Support New FEPC Bill

(Continued from page 1)

hearing upon the elections.

Regarding FEPC White said the President "pledged his support by saying 'I invented it.'" The group urged that the coalition bill now in committees of both chambers be made "must" legislation when congress reconvenes on Nov. 1.

The bill dealing with violence against Negroes in the armed forces has already passed the senate and is locked in the house judiciary. White said this bill is of "particular concern" to Negroes because there have been numerous assaults and killings of Negro soldiers, especially in the south. He cited the case in Durham where a bus driver killed a soldier, was tried and an acquittal was returned in 28 minutes.

White said the expected war department would announced "considerable abandonment of the segregation policy." and he added that "we are pleased with the change." No further hint of its contents was given.

A plea for an end to exploitation of colonial peoples was laid before the President also, especially those in the Pacific area. The NAACP secretary said he planned to visit India soon.

This is the first conference the President has had with Negro leaders since July, 1941, in which there has been a free exchange of views It was as a result of that conference that the present FEPC was born. Since then the President has met with a group of ministers who sought to send Bishop John A. Gregg on a tour of army camps, and again early this year he greeted a delegation of Negro publishers who handed him a prepared statement.

---A Colored Judge---