EEOC Holds Hearings On Job Discrimination

NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 15 -- Chairman Clifford L. Alexander, Jr., of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, today urged the New York business community to take action now to change policies that "exclude Negroes and Puerto Ricans from employment in many firms and include them only in insignificant numbers in several others.'

Alexander spoke at the opening session of EEOC's four-day hearings on discrimination in white collar employment, held in the U.S. Court House, Foley Square, Jan. 15-18, beginning at 9:30 A.M.

Pointing out that figures submitted by com-panies in New York City show that two-thirds of the positions reported fall in the white collar

category, Alexander said:
'Of the 4,249 reporting units, 27 percent reported not a single Negro in any job. 43 percent had no Negro employees at the white collar level. 1,926 firms reporting did not employ a single Puerto Rican in a white collar position. The facts as reported to us revealed another very important finding; that is, that several firms in New York were utilizing Negroes, Puerto Ricans and women in significant numbers on every rung of the job ladder.'

Following are excerpts of Chairman Alex-

ander's remarks:

'One major New York City corporation with thousands of clerical employees reported to us that one-third of their positions were held by Negroes. Another significant company reported that 18 percent of its clerical work force are Puerto Rican.

These companies have obviously been successful in locating minority workers. Yet, in an examination of the reports of the 100 major corporations producing approximately 16 percent of the gross national product, our reports reveal the shocking and disillusioning fact that 48 percent of these 100 companies do not have a single Puerto Rican in approximately 9,000 official and managerial positions.

When we looked again at these 100 major corporations, it became regrettably clear that 56 of that number with more than 12,000 officials and managers in New York City had not a single Negro serving as an official or mana-

"As we talk with witnesses during the next four days, it will be our goal to determine what immediate steps must be taken by the business community and government to make equal employment not just a slogan but a reality.

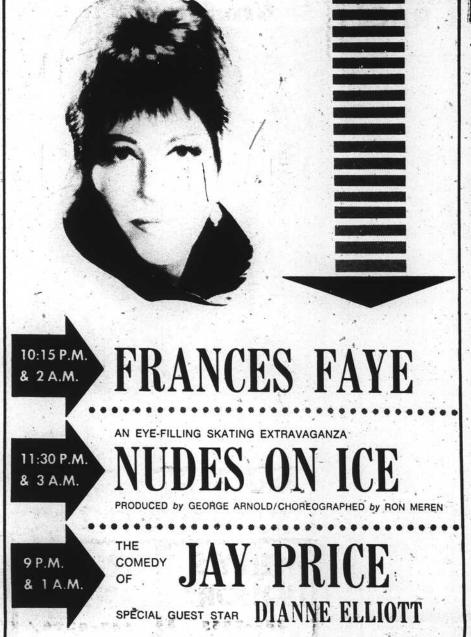
We are in the city of New York because it has the highest white collar concentration in the nation. It also serves as a central headquarters for many of the leading institutions around the country. It is our hope that the constructive results which flow from these hearings will be transmitted to corporate affiliates around the nation. It is our hope that the examples set by several major corporations in finance, communications and elsewhere in locating and employing minorities will be emulated by their colleagues in the business community. New York City also offers an abundant supply of well-qualified minorities. At the present time in the City University alone, more than 15,000 Puerto Ricans and Negroes are enrolled. Negroes and Puerto Ricans also constitute 25 percent of the enrollment in all the com-

munity colleges in the Metropolitan Area.
"In October 1966, there were 61,170 Negroes enrolled in academic and vocational high schools. In that same year, almost 40,000 Puerto Ricans were enrolled in vocational and educational high schools. These young people must have the total opportunity they were taught to expect in a democratic society. The foundation of their opportunity is the ability to get a job according to their skills and, as important, to move all the way to the top without being inhibited because of their national origin, color,

sex or religion.

"The time for action is now, and it is our hope that these hearings will do something to stimulate the kind of action that is obviously

Alexander presided at the four-day sessions with the full Commission attending, including Vice Chairman Luther Holcomb, and Commissioners Samuel C. Jackson and Vicente T.



Recommend Consolidation Of Louisiana Schools

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NEW ORLEANS - (NPI) -- State Sen. Frederick L. "Fritz" Eagan, chairman of the Senate Committee on Higher Education, last week recommended that Louisiana State University, Southern University, and Delgado Trades School be consolidated into a single university to make possible greater effective use of the state's education dollar for New Orleans.

LSUNO is a branch of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, and Delgado is a local state trades school. They have both been integrated in recent years. Southern, in New Orleans, is a branch of the school in Baton Rouge and was intended for attendance by Negroes

The senator also recommended that the consolidated schools be removed from the LSU system of Louisiana universities and become an operation directed by New Orleanians.

LSUNO was started and operated in New Orleans as a means of preventing in a quiet manner the attendance of Negroes at LSUNO. In this, it has failed to a great degree because of the inequality of facilities -- as is the case in practically all segregated institutions -- and hence many Negroes have applied for entrance and under the law have been received, studied and been graduated, some with honors.

One veteran Negro school man said that this might just be the end of segregated higher education in Louisiana. Negroes have complained

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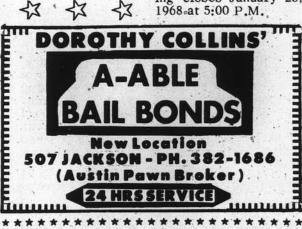
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about the separate school systems because of duplication, unnecessary expenditure of funds and a weakened educational system for both whites and Negroes.

Maybe, both the public and private schools of higher education are at their end in a segregated manner. The public schools will go first and then the private schools may follow.

Negroes teaching in these consolidated schools, however, will be the ones to feel the