WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

Segregationists Split On 'Massive Resistance'

Predict showdown at federal trial

RICHMOND — As trial day neared for the first court challenge of Virginia's "massive resistance" program, it became apparent over the weekend that the battle lines would not be confined to those laid down in the courtroom.

Growing belief that a three-Judge Federal Court panel would rule against the Byrd-Almond plan for preservation of segregation in the state's schools became a pressing certainty on Thursday when the panel refused a plea by State Atty. Gen. Albertis Harrison for postponement of action until after a Nov. 24 hearing scheduled in the State Supreme Court of Appeals.

The Federal Court instead set Wednesday for the start of the trial in the Norfolk school case which challenges the right of Governor J. Lindsay Almond Jr., to close city schools which are under Federal orders to integrate.

That city, where seven schools have been closed since Sept. 29 with a resultant denial of schooling to 10,000 white pupils, has scheduled an "advisory" referendum on Tuesday on the question of whether or not to seek to regain local control of its schools.

• • •

GOVERNOR ALMOND, apparently aware of the likelihood that the court will strike down the "massive resistance" laws, said Thursday that he would set up a legislative commission to advise him — if the laws are stricken — and that he would also give them (the commission members) some or his own ideas.

Though Almond declined to state just what his views are, the Administration recently argued that the U.S. Supreme Court also killed Virginia's constitutional obligation to operate public schools when it knocked out the segregation section.

If this position is upheld, it was pointed out, the state could abandon public schools in some areas and pay private tuition grants. In others, where there is only a small colored population, integration could be chosen in preference to no public schools at all.

• • •

TWO RICHMOND newspapers which in the past have been staunch backers of the "massive resistance" plan, came out for a new course.

James J. Kilpatrick, editor of the News Leader, declared that unless the state kept its "war" flexible and risked "some degree of integration" its citizens could be "defeated by our own bull - headedness."

Virginius Dabney, Times Dispatch editor, called for "prompt reappraisal" by a legislative commission, arguing that continuation of the fight which has closed nine schools under present laws was "suicidal."

• • •

VIRGINIA'S SENATOR Harry F. Byrd, the top man in the state's ruling political machine, came out Thursday against any modification of the "massive resistance" program which he co-authored.

A die - hard segregationist, Byrd contended that desegregation would mean the end of Virginia's public school system, since 60 per cent of the white parents in the state would not accept mixed schools.

Senator Byrd's views were echoed by Rep. William N. Tuck (D., Va.), former state governor who delivered a speech in favor of continued massive resistance Wednesday in Chesterfield County.

"We cannot allow Arlington or Norfolk to Integrate," he declared, "If they won't stand with us, I say make them stand."

Spokesmen from both areas were quick to tell Tuck to mind his own business.

• • •

WILLIAM L. PRIEUR JR., clerk of the corporation court at Norfolk and usually one of the strongest Byrd backers in Tidewater, declared:

"Norfolk needs no assistance from Mr. Tuck in running its affairs. His statement is arrogant and presumptuous."

Delegate Harrison Mann of Arlington told Tuck: "When you speak of forcing Arlington and Norfolk, you sound as arrogant and as arbitrary as the Supreme Court."

He added that Mr. Tuck would be better off attempting to run his own district "for the vast majority of our people don't want to integrate any more than you do."

• • •

FOURTH DISTRICT REP. Watkins M. Abbitt declared that the "people of Virginia have just begun to fight," and urged the closing of colored schools as well when it became necessary to close a white school threatened with integration.

State Sen. Ted Dalton, leader of Republican sentiment in the legislature, hailed the Almond statement as one of several "signs of reason returning," adding that it meant the state must now edopt a locally administered pupil assignment plan "such is now working in North Carolina to contain and minimize integration."

A check of the three localities where schools have been closed under the state's massive resistance program indicated that the cost of "operating" the closed schools may run as high as $554,173 for September and October.

Under the state's segregation laws, the state "assumes the contractual obligations of the school board "for any school shut down."

• • •

THUS, IN NORFOLK where the normal aid for the period would be $138,000, last week The board voted to send its bill for $459,000 to the State Department of Education.

F. R. Ellis, superintendent of schools in Charlottesville, estimated that it has cost about $60,000 to run the closed Lane High and Venable Elementary Schools.

C. D. Gasque, superintendent of Warren County schools, said that the full cost of salaries for teachers at Warren County High School would run $35,000 for the two months, although many of the Warren teachers are no longer on the state payroll.

• • •

IN RICHMOND the school situation remained in a state of uneasy quiet.

Although six colored pupils have applied for admission to white schools, their applications have been referred to the State Pupil Placement Board.

The city contends that the massive resistance laws have taken the matter out of its hands.

• • •

IN LITTLE ROCK, Ark., five members of the school board resigned Wednesday night, leaving as the only member of the board Dr. Dale Alford, segregationist Congressman - elect.

New candidates will run in the Dec. 6 school election.

The board's final action was to authorize the paying off of the contract of School Superintendent Virgil T. Blossom who has been the constant target of segregationists since the start of the Little Rock school crisis 14 months ago.

This action was blocked, however, by Chancellor Murray O. Reed following the filing of a suit by John B. King, an employee of a fruit company owned by Theodore A. Dillaha Sr., vice president of the Capital Citizens Council.

The board's action was taken because it did not feel that its successor might act fairly in the termination of Mr. Blossom's contract, which would normally have 19 months to run.

In filing the suit to prevent paying off of the contract, King echoed the declaration of Amis Guthridge, lawyer and Capital Citizens Council member, that payment would be "an illegal misuse and diversion of public funds," and amounted to collusion between the board and Blossom.

• • •

IN ARLINGTON, Va., a majority of the members of the school board assured representatives of eight civic groups that it would do everything that it can do to prevent any lengthy closing of Stratford Junior High School, which has been ordered to admit 4 colored pupils by mid - term, Feb. 2, 1959.

Under state law, the school must be closed if it is integrated.

• • •

AT DALLAS, Texas District Judge W. L. Thornton threw out of court a Dallas independent school district request for clarification of conflict between state laws and federal court orders involving school integration.

The District is under federal court order to integrate. A state law forbids integration without a favorable integration referendum in the district.

• • •

IN ATLANTA, Ga., E. F. Tomlinson, president of the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co., said Thursday that industry's move to the South would be hampered little, if any, by the question of school segregation.

"We believe the good-thinking people of the South will work out the question eventually. After all, we have had plants in the South for years, and we have never experienced any racial troubles in our plants."

• • •

AT LITTLE ROCK Saturday, the legislature and Gov. Orval Faubus acted to punish the State Education Association by postponing action on its budget requests "indefinitely" because it "urged preservation of public education even with integration."

• • •

AT REISTERSTOWN, Md., Baltimore County police said that a series of fights between colored and white pupils were not agitated by outsiders.

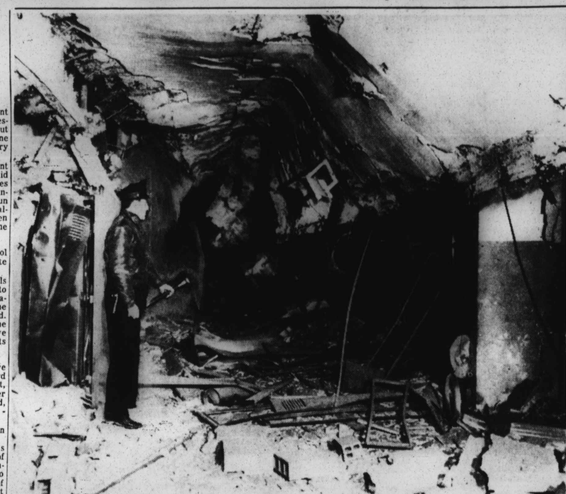
Det. Capt. E. F. Adams said the incidents involved members of one colored family living in the area and apparently had stemmed from a fight last September between a 9-year-old white boy and an 11-year-old colored boy.

In a search of lockers at Franklin High School a teacher found a .45 calibre automatic in the locker of a colored student who said he had found the gun and brought it to school to sell.

• • •

AT OSAGE, W. Va., an expertly fused and detonated case of dynamite wrecked the 17-room Osage Elementary-Junior High School which had been a model of peaceful integration for five years.

Both white and colored residents flatly termed the blast "the work of outsiders from the South."



WORK OF OUTSIDERS? — Residents of Osage, W. Va., are convinced dynamiters who wrecked their school, which had been integrated without incident four years ago, came from elsewhere to do their dirty work. Here Police Chief Clark Morris examines the shattered building which housed about 300 pupils, 93 of them colored

NY stores drop bars in hiring

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The New York State Commission Against Discrimination (SCAD) stated that it made a study which revealed that colored persons represent a significant percentage of department store employees in New York.

Charles Abrams, SCAD chairman, said colored sales persons, exceptions a decade ago, are commonplace now.

• • •

THE SCAD started its employment drive in 1945—at that time, 22 major department stores did not employ colored persons in other than maintenance positions. Since that time, 17 have adjusted their policies after conferences with the SCAD.

The report also revealed that colored employees were being placed in supervisory positions and in executive posts.

One store, employing over 10,000 persons, said that colored workers are in every department and numbered nearly 1,000.

Gov. Averell Harriman said that: "The record tends to confirm that the New York area has become one of the outstanding examples of progress toward equality in the world."

Okla. mixed school attendance up 1,000

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma school officials reported this week that there are 1,700 more colored pupils attending integrated schools this year than there were in 1957.

According to Dr. Oliver Hodge, state superintendent of public instruction, more than one-fifth of the state's colored pupils (8,352) are now attending mixed classes in 190 high schools, 101 junior high schools and 168 elementary schools.

Dr. Hodge said that integration is now in effect in 62 of the states 77 counties.

• • •

PRIOR TO issuance of the U.S. Supreme Court's Integration decree in 1954, all Oklahoma schools below college level were segregated. At that time there were 96 colored high schools, 15 junior high and 229 elementary schools.

Today there are only 35 segregated high schools, seven junior high and 135 elementary. According to Dr. Hodge 94 colored elementary, 8 junior high and 57 high schools have been closed since the start of integration.

This has resulted, he said in the loss of their jobs by 344 colored teachers, 46 of them in the past year.

NAACP petition gets fine support

SAN FRANCISCO — From the NAACP Regional Office comes word that signatures and donations are coming in from all over the West Coast. "But in order to have 100,000 signers by Thanksgiving we must come in much faster," says, Franklin H. Williams, West Coast NAACP Secretary-Counsel.

Mr. Williams has urged that those who now have petitions return them as soon as possible. Those without petitions should make immediate requests from their local NAACP branch office or from the regional office in San Francisco.

"The entire NAACP leadership on the West Coast — from Alaska to San Diego — has joined in urging all freedom-minded people and groups to sign the petition to the President of the United States," he said.

The petition calls upon the President to carry out his responsibility and give moral leadership to the country by strongly upholding the Constitution and the Supreme Court decisions. Responses have been much greater following the President's snub of the NAACP gathering recently in Washington in the name of "Equal Opportunity for all Citizens."

5,000 PEOPLE WANTED

MIAMI — To stimulate its year-end drive for 5,000 members, the Miami Branch of the NAACP will present the association's executive secretary, Roy Wilkins, at a mass meeting here on Nov. 23.

WILKINS SPEAKS IN PHILLY

PHILADELPHIA — Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, was the principal speaker at a meeting of the NAACP here Tuesday.

86TH CONGRESS SEEN AS AID TO HEALTH

WASHINGTON — "The forces of better health as an asset for world peace will be effectively mobilized by the 86th Congress," Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn.) predicted Wednesday.

Always smooth...never grainy...

the secret is Carnation in the Red and White can

This double-rich milk that whips gives pumpkin pie a wonderful smooth-as-cream texture you can't get with ordinary milk. For Carnation is *twice as rich*—looks, pours and even whips like cream. Try this milk that's so much like cream in your own pumpkin pie recipe or in the famous one here. And for a better cup of coffee, "cream" it with Carnation—world's leading brand of evaporated milk.

recipe

CARNATION'S FAMOUS PUMPKIN PIE

(Makes 9-inch pie)

1 cup granulated sugar	1½ cups canned pumpkin
½ teaspoon salt	1½ cups (large can) undiluted CARNATION EVAPORATED MILK
1½ teaspoons cinnamon	2 eggs
½ teaspoon nutmeg	9-inch single crust unbaked pie shell
½ teaspoon ginger	
½ teaspoon allspice	
½ teaspoon cloves	

Mix filling ingredients until smooth. Place in unbaked pie shell. Bake in hot oven (425°F.) 15 minutes. Lower temperature to moderate (350°F.) and continue baking about 35 minutes or until custard is firm.

We guarantee results when you use Carnation!

DEDICATION CEREMONIES of two buildings, the Charles L. Hill memorial gymnasium and the Clark T. McConnell health center, highlighted the annual fall convocation at Wilberforce Univ. recently. Taking part on the program were left to right, William J. Trent Jr., executive secretary of the United College Fund, who was speaker; Bishop R. C. Haicher, board chairman and Dr. Rembert E. Stokes, school president.

Catholic Bishops In Strongest Rights Statement

The AFRO-American

BALTIMORE, MD., NOVEMBER 22, 1958 9

$10,000 Given Thurgood For Civil Rights Fight

NEW YORK — More than $10,000 was raised by members of District 65, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, for civil rights causes was presented last week to Thurgood Marshall, director-counsel of the legal Defense and Education Fund of the NAACP, at the union's headquarters.

The money was part of a total fund of $40,000 contributed by the 20,000 members of the Union celebrating its 25th anniversary. Other contributions went to charities and $10,000 to aid Israel.

Mr. Marshall told the unionists, "It is not only the money you give us to carry on the fight for real democracy in America which we appreciate, but even more, the example of living democracy which you set every day in your own great organization.

"We wish that everyone could know District 65 as we do—as one of the very few places in our country where people practice the high principle of brotherhood."

• • •

OF THE $10,000 for civil rights, $500 goes to each of two Montgomery, Ala., churches, $1,000 to the Clinton, Tenn., school board and $1,000 to The Temple of the Reform Jewish congregation in Atlanta, all bombed institutions.

David Livingston, president of District 65, emphasized the gift to the Clinton High School.

"Our union is giving the Clinton School Board $1,000," he said, "in the hope that others will join in this demonstration of faith in the justice of school integration by helping to rebuild this school."

• • •

CLEVELAND ROBINSON secretary-treasurer of District 65, who heads the union's civil rights activities, told Mr. Marshall:

"We are proud that our members conributed so generously to the NAACP and the Urban League, both of which are in the forefront of the civil rights struggle. We are especially proud of your work on the NAACP legal defense."

The balance of the $10,000 was divided as follows:

$2,500 to the NAACP's Legal Defense and Education Fund, $500 to the NAACP Freedom Fund, $1,400 to NAACP for 500 new members, $1,000 to the United Negro College Fund and $1,500 to the National Urban League.

Some $200 was also contributed to the Youth March for Integration.

Red envoy silent on racial issue

WASHINGTON (ANP) — The Soviet efforts have done nothing to do with the internal problem of racial discrimination in this country implied the Russian Ambassador last week.

When asked what he thought of all the discussion involving race in this country, he hesitated a moment then said "that is a problem for your people."

The Ambassador, Mikhail Menshikov, was host to more than 500 people who attended the celebration of the 41st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution at the Soviet Embassy Friday evening.

Several top officials of the state department attended the Embassy Reception.

Libel law to curb bombs is hit

NEW YORK — Proposals to curb synagogue bombings by group libel legislation, postal censorship or congressional investigations were sharply criticized this week by Judge Justine W. Polier, chairman of the national executive committee of the American Jewish Congress.

In a major policy statement, Judge Polier said that such proposals fail to touch the basic problems which have given rise to increasing lawlessness in the South.

She warned that "diversionary moves that center attention on the symptoms rather than the cause of defamation, vandalism and terror are a threat to our basic civil liberties."

• • •

TO COMBAT violence touched off by lawlessness, the American Jewish Congress leader proposed a program of "positive action securely rooted in our determination to protect the freedom and equality of all Americans." She listed them as:

1. A Federal law to make the transportation of explosives across state lines with the intent to use them against communal ouildings, business places or dwellings a Federal offense. Judge Polier warned against limiting such legislation to houses of worship or public buildings. Private dwellings must also be included in such a bill, she emphasized.

2. Action by the Department of Justice to invoke present statutes making it a Federal offense to conspire to deprive persons of federally secured rights.

3. A probe by the Department of Justice and the Federal Commission on Civil Rights of the denial of voting rights in the South. "The toleration of lawlessness in this field invites lawlessness in all other areas," Judge Polier commented.

4. Acceptance of "full responsibility" by the executive and legislative branches "to implement the mandate of equality of education laid down by the Supreme Court."

Judge Polier declared that "neither the President nor the Congress can abdicate this responsibility without further inviting the violence they decry." She said all departments of the Federal government must share in the responsibility for the peaceful and effective implementation of the Supreme Court decision on integration.

Plot to kill Nkrumah is charged

ACCRA, Ghana — In the wake of an official announcement here that conspirators were plotting to kill Ghana Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah, 22 persons were jailed last week.

The plotters, said to have held secret meetings since last month, were charged with conspiracy to assassinate Premier Krobo Edusei and Education Minister Kofi Baako.

A government announcement said the objects of the conspirators, all Ghanaians, was to "overthrow by assassination and violence the lawfully constituted Government of Ghana."

• • •

THE DISPATCH also declared that there was no grave real unrest in the country and the Government "has no intention of limiting in any way the political activies of any political faction or party."

"Any attempt to assassinate the Prime Minister, a Cabinet Minister or a party leader would be the beginning of a dictatorship in this country," Interior Minister Edusei told a Convention People's Party rally.

His bid for legislation giving him the authority to exile such conspirators failed to get Cabinet approval.

Ghana, comprised of political parties based on religion, tribes and regions, gained its independence from Britain on March 7, 1957. There have been few political difficulties since then in the country.

Unemployment drops by 50,000 during October

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Unemployment — among colored workers continued downward between September and October, dropping by 50,000 to 738,000 in the week ending Oct. 18.

This was shown by the combined employment and unemployment figures released jointly Monday by Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks and Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell.

The drop in unemployment among colored workers compared favorably with the drop in unemployment in the total work force by 300,000 to 3,805,00.

• • •

AT THE same time, total colored civilian employment rose by 162,00 over the month to 6,970,000 in mid-October.

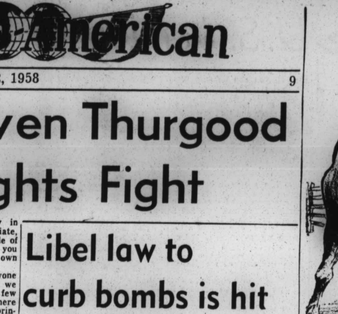
This increase was numerically larger than the drop in unemployment because many of the additional workers — especially the women — had previously been outside the labor force.

In addition to the pickup among industrial workers, jobgains were reported among those in seasonally expanding activities, including hired farm workers and school employees and among domestics and other household help.

The statistics collected by the Commerce and Labor Departments show a total colored civilian labor force of 7,728,000, representing 64.1 per cent of the colored civilian non-institutional population.

• • •

OF THAT number, 6,970,000 are employed — 1,174,000 in agriculture and 5,797,000 in non-agricultural industries. The 758,000 unemployed represents 9.8 per cent of the colored civilian labor force. There are 4,325,000 colored persons not in the labor force.



"THINK YOU' CAN HANDLE THIS ONE, SHORTY?"

50 cities to hail UL opportunity day

NEW YORK — More than 50 cities in 24 states across the nation will conduct special events in connection with the National Urban League's third annual Equal Opportunity Day, to be observed Wednesday, Nov. 19.

That day has been selected for this special observance because it is the anniversary of President Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address, delivered on Nov. 19, 1863; and because the President in his first message to the Congress, expressed the hope and concern that all citizens be afforded "an unfettered start and fair chance in the race of life."

Governors of 24 states and mayors of 52 cities have already proclaimed this day and plan special ceremonies in recognition of it.

• • •

FREDERICK W. RICHMOND, industrialist and financier, who is national chairman of Equal Opportunity Day, said:

"The purpose of EOD is to show the world the positive American efforts toward solving our race relations problems. It presents a chance to focus American public opinion effectively on this question. I consider equal opportunity to be one of the most important goals in American life today."

David J. McDonald, president of the United Steelworkers of America, and Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the American Iron and Steel Institute of New York, will be honored at an EOD kickoff dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, Nov. 18.

• • •

THE STATES that have already proclaimed EOD include Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Oregan, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Court bars 3 Masons from office

DALLAS, Texas — Three officials and a member of the St. John Grand Lodge of Scottish Rite Ancient and Accepted Masons of Texas have been ousted from office by a court order.

They were relieved of their duties after having been convicted in court of illegally taking $5,095.21 from the order's treasury.

The convicted men are Julius Grant, grand master; the Rev. R. L. Robertson, grand secretary; Elbert Ellison, grand treasurer; and Frank McClelland, a member.

A complaint was filed against the men by group of members headed by Mack Jordan. A similar case occured recently in New Orleans when members claimed $8,000 had been illegally taken from the treasury.

ETHIOPIA TO GET DAM FOR WAR REPARATION

ADDIS ABAB, Ethiopia — The 12.6 million Koka Dam near here is being built by the Italian Government as part of their war reparations. Its completion is expected by 1960.

'Nobody safe from haters'

ATLANTA (NNPA) — "Nobody is safe from fanatics... We share in common enemies of this type." a distinguished Jewish leader said here last week during a discussion of bombings and other acts of violence directed against minorities.

Arthur J. Levins, director of the Southeastern office of the Anti-Defamation League, declared that past general public indifference had served to make violence perpetrators more confident that their crimes of bombings would go unpunished.

Given "license," Levins said, these fanatics have jumped the color line and the full harvest of hate is being reaped by other people, noting that there have been more than 83 bombings in the South since 1954.

Because of public rage, newspapers are now showing the relationship between the bombing of either Jewish and white churches. "The silent South is beginning to understand what is involved," Levins asserted.

Choctaws again ask to elect own chief

NEW YORK — For the third time in six years the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has gone to Washington to battle for the privilege of electing their own Principal Chief, instead of having him appointed without their consent.

Harry W. Belvin of Durant, Okla., the present Principal Chief, said he was informed by Roger Ernst, assistant Secretary of the Interior, that the Department considers the balloting process too costly and impractical.

ASKED TO INTEGRATE

Charleston to sell city's golf course

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Faced with demands to let tan players also enjoy the Municipal Golf Course, Charleston's City Council unanimously voted to sell the 18-hole course Wednesday.

Council adopted a recommendation by Mayor William B. Morrison who said that disposing of the facility was the only solution.

Mr. Morrison disclosed that the Golf Course Commission chairman, Gerald M. Carter, had received a petition signed by 12 colored persons stating that they were seeking permission to use the Charleston course, since they had to travel to Wilmington, NC., a distance of close to 200 miles, in order to play on a city-operated golf course.)

• • •

LATER, MR. Morrison said, the petitioners wrote that they planned to play on the course on Nov. 23. (Charleston colored golfers have access to a six-hole private course on James Island, not far from the city's golf course).

"It is my considered judgment that the City of Charleston cannot operate the course on an integrated basis. I have been advised that there is no way that the city can continue to operate this facility on a segregated basis," the mayor told Council, citing recent federal court rulings on the issue in other cities.

A spokesman for the petitioners said "So far as I know we still plan to go out there Nov. 23. If the property is sold by then, then I don't know right now what our next step will be."

Dr. Leon Braswell, 54, succumbs in Lynchburg

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Funeral services for Dr. Leon M. Braswell, 54-year-old physician, were held last Saturday night at Eighth Street Baptist Church. The Rev. R. Lloyd Heck, pastor, officiated.

A native of Norfolk, he came here in 1937 and set up practice after serving as an interne at Provident Hospital in Baltimore.

Included in the service were the reading of the 23rd Psalm by Dr. F. P. Lewis and a prayer by Dr. H. M. Stevens. William Martin sang "The Lord's Prayer."

• • •

"THE DECEASED," said the Rev. Mr. Heck, "like the Psalmist preferred to depart in the manner and spirit of a dove — not in the spirit of this antagonistic age in which we live."

Continuing, the minister said that Dr. Braswell "flew away from us on the wings of gentleness, innocence, quietness and peacefulness," declaring:

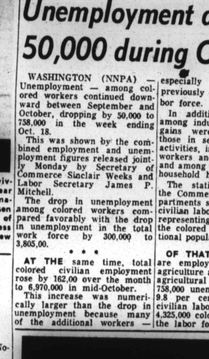
"His afflictions are ended; his soul is at rest."

DR. BRASWELL was educated in the public schools of Norfolk and received a bachelor's degree at Lincoln (Pa.) University.

After graduation at Lincoln, he taught at a Beckley, W.Va., high school for seven years, entering Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn., in 1932. He received his medical degree in 1936.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Hortense Tucker Braswell, a childhood sweetheart; a son, Leon M. Braswell Jr., a student at Morgan State College, Baltimore;

Two sisters, Mrs. Clara B. Rowland and Mrs. Medora E. Edwards, Harrisburg, Pa.; and four brothers, Curtis, Perry, Venable and Ira Braswell.



PRESS QUEEN—Pretty vivacious Vivian Jackson, 17 year old high school senior of Jamaica, New York, who was chosen "Miss Press Photographer of 1959" at the 12th annual Press Photographers Ball in New York recently.

A VAN DE GRAF generator, constructed by the ambitious Elmer S. Imes Physics club at Fisk University, is checked by three members of the club and physics instructor Ralph L. Barnett, faculty advisor. From left to right are Joseph A. Johnson III, of Nashville, president of the club; Ronald Hall, Jacksonville, Fla., Julia Moore, club secretary of Smithtona, Pa. and Mr. Barnett.

'We must act now before it is too late'

WASHINGTON

"We hope and earnestly pray that responsible and sober-minded Americans of all religious faiths ...will seize the mantle of leadership from the agitator and the racist.

"It is vital that we act now and act decisively ..before it is too late."

In one of the most direct, strongly-worded statements to issue from a church body, the Catholic Bishops of the United States went on record calling for the elimination of segregation in America.

Almost all of the 220 U.S. Catholic Bishops attended the annual meeting held here at Catholic University last Wednesday and Thursday and approved the anti-segregation statement.

The statement was signed by members of the administrative board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

• • •

IN THEIR 2500-word statement, the bishops enunciated the basic rights of mankind by saying:

"Every man has an equal right to life, to justice before the law, to marry and rear a family under human conditions and to an equitable opportunity to use the goods of this earth for his needs and those of his family."

After pointing out the advances made by colored citizens since being brought to America in slavery, and since 1943 when the bishops issued their last civil rights statement, the churchmen stated:

"Our nation now stands divided by the problem of compulsory segregation of the races and the opposing demand for racial justice.

"No region of our land is immune from strife and division resulting from this problem. "In one area, the key issue may concern the schools. In another it may be conflicts over housing.

"Job discrimination may be the focal point in still other sections. But all these issues have one main point in common:

• • •

"THEY REFLECT the determination of our Negro people, and we hope the overwhelming majority of our white citizens, to see that our colored citizens obtain their full rights as given to them by God, the Creator of all, and guaranteed by the democratic traditions of our nation."

Confessing that there were many facets, issues, questions and conflicts, the bishops said:

"The time has come... to cut through the maze of secondary and essential issues and come to the heart of the problem."

They continued: "The heart of the race question is moral and religious. It concerns the rights of man and our attitude toward our fellow man.

"If our hearts are not governed by Christian love and attitudes of fairness, or even by indifference toward the welfare and rights of our fellow men, then our nation faces a grave internal crisis."

• • •

THEN, directly attacking the race haters who infest American churches, the bishops stated:

"No one who bears the name of Christian can deny the universal love of God for all mankind ..." and,

"Our Christian faith is of its nature universal. It knows not the distinctions of race, color or nationhood.

"The love of Christ and the love of the Christian knows no bounds."

They cited the words of Pope Pius XII in an address to colored American publishers on May 27, 1946 when he said:

"All men are brothered in Jesus Christ; for He, though God, became also man, became a member of the human family, a brother of all."

• • •

IN APPREICATING the basic rights of human Individuals, the prelates said:

"First, we must repeat the principle — embodied in our Declaration of Independence— that all men are equal in the sight of God.

"Secondly, we are bound to love our fellow man. The Christian love we bespeak is not a matter of emotional likes or dislikes. It is a firm purpose to do good to all men, to the extent that ability and opportunity permit."

• • •

SAYING THAT "it is unreasonable and injurious to the rights of others that a factor such as race ..should be made a cause of discrimination and a basis for unequal treatment in our mutual relations," the bishops then posed the question:

"Can enforced segregation be reconciled with the Christian love of our fellow man?"

AND ANSWERED: "In our judgement it cannot, and this for two fundamental reasons:

"1) Legal segregation, or any form of compulsory segregation, in itself and by its very nature imposes a stigma of inferiority upon the segregated people.

"2) It is a matter of historical fact that segregation in our country has led to oppressive conditions and the denial of basic human rights for the Negro.

"This is evident in the fundamental fields of education, job opportunity, and housing. Flowing from these areas of neglect and discrimination are problems of health and the sordid trains of evils so often associated with the consequent slum conditions."

THEN WITH an insight that few churchmen have shown in the matter of segregation, the bishops declared:

"One of the tragedies of racial oppression is that the evils we have cited are being used as excuses to continue the very conditions that so strongly fostered such evils."

The bishops then affirmed: "Negro citizens seek these same opportunities (the opportunities extended to immigrants to America).

"They wish an education that does not carry with it any stigma of inferiority. They wish economic advancement based on merit and skill.

"They wish their civil rights as American citizens. They wish acceptance based upon proven ability and achievement.

"No one who truly loves God's children will deny them this opportunity."

Catholics honor 3 for service in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (ANP) — Three outstanding colored Catholics were given high papal honors this week.

Honored with the title "Knight of St. Gregory" was Henry J. Smith Jr., local insurance executive and announcer for radio station WNOE.

Also honored with the "Pro Ecclesia and Pontifice" award was Miss Iona E. E. Berteaux, principal of McDonough 6 Public School and Clarence Peter Thomas, local postal carrier.

Wilberforce convocation hears Trent

WILBERFORCE, Ohio — "Christianity is a composite of many diverse cultures. People from all over the globe have come to America and their contactions and achievements and philosophy have modified and enriched America.

"So it is with the colored man in America," declared Dr. Trent Jr., executive director of the United Negro College Fund in an address delivered this week at Wilberforce University's annual fall convocation.

Those present at the dedication of two buildings and the conferring of two honorary degrees.

In a speech bristling with challenge, Mr. Trent stated that "it is the genius of America that what each has to offer is gratefully received for what each does offer must be offered proudly and without apology."

The two buildings dedicated were a gymnasium which stands as a memorial to the late Dr. Charles L. Hill and a health center the gift of J. McConnell Clark, Cleveland Foundation.

Those who received honorary degrees were Mrs. R. Livingston Ireland, director of the Ohio Department of Public Welfare and a nationally recognized civic and church leader who received the doctor of laws degree and Clinton J. Young of Charleston, S.C., regional vice-president of the American Teachers Association, who was awarded the doctor of letters degree.

Bishop E. C. Hatcher, chairman of the Wilberforce University board of trustees, conducted the building dedication program.

Parley set on unwed mother aid

NEW YORK — "Promoting family life by facing the problem of the unmarried mother," will be discussed at a conference of social workers and community leaders Wednesday evening (Nov. 19) at the United Mutual Auditorium, 310 Lenox Ave.

The meeting, which will begin at 8 p.m., is the first of a series of forums on this problem sponsored by the Community Services Committee of the Urban League of Greater New York.

Keynote speakers will include Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the New York Urban League; Mrs. Gladys Randolph, social service director of Harlem Hospital; Miss Ruth Butcher, director of Inwood House; and Charles King, case supervisor, Community Services Society.

Panelists, who will discuss the role of the home, church, community, school, business, law and the citizen, include: James L. Hicks, editor; Dr. S. Clement Solomon, Mrs. Helen Owens, N.Y.C. Department of Health; Mrs. Hubert T. Delany, Miss Dorothy Headley, Mrs. Gladys Taller and Marion Jones, attorney.

Long Island church enrolls in NAACP

NEW YORK — The Brooks Memorial Methodist Church of Jamaica, L.I., has joined the growing list of churches enrolled as life members of the NAACP. The $500 for purchase of the membership was raised by Methodist Men, Cleo Green, president.

Attending ceremonies marking the event on Nov. 9, NAACP executive secretary Roy Wilkins expressed the association's appreciation of the role of the church in the support of civil rights. He thanked the pastor, the Rev. Charles Carrington, and the club.