'Mother Of Year' In 1946 Dies

School Cases Emphasize The Injury Congress Has Inflicted In Segregation

No Act Makes Segregation Mandatory But Board Of Education In District Has Kept It Going

BY LOUIS LAUTIER (FOR NNPA)

WASHINGTON

In none of the acts relating to the public schools of the District of Columbia has Congress made segregation mandatory. Yet a rigid system of racial segregation has been imposed by the Board of Education in the Wasfington public schools.

Arguments in the District of Columbia school segregation case before the Supreme Court recently emphasized the injury which Congress inflicted upon colored people in, an effort to see that they were given a minimum of educational opportunity.

Prior to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, there were no public schools in Washington. While people sent their children to white private schools and free colored people sent their children to colored private schools. These schools were supported by private philanthropy.

Congress abolished slavery in the District of Columbia April 16, 1862, eight and a half months before President Lincoln issued his Emancipatory Proclamation declaring all slaves in the states then in rebellion to be free.

Slavery Is Abolished

Being concerned "about the support of schools for colored children in the District of Columbia, Congress provided that these schools should be supported by tax funds derived from taxes levied on the property of colored people.

When this proved inadequate, Congress provided for the support of these schools by funds derived from the general revenue.

Pass Organic Act

In 1864 Congress passed the organic act, providing, in substance, that suitable rooms and schools should be provided for the training of colored children and that a mandatory tax be levied on school funds between the white and colored schools in the ratio that colored children between the ages of 6 and 17 bore to the total number of children in that age group.

After adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment in 1868, Congress re-enacted, in substance the 1864 organic act. Since then, several of the annual appropriation bills carrying funds for the District of Columbia public schools have contained provisions relating to white and colored schools.

As late as last March, Dr. Hobart M. Corning, superintendent of schools, recommended an associate superintendent for the colored schools "to make the two sides of the school system equal with respect to administrative officers."

Whites Have More

The white schools have one more associate superintendent than do the colored schools. Corning wanted colored associate superintendent to be in charge of colored junior and vocational high schools, corresponding to a like position in the white schools.

In other words, Corning, with the acquiescence of the school board, three members of which are colored, moved to equalize the two sides of the dual school system by providing the same number of administrative officers for the colored schools as there are for the white schools, despite a shortage of teachers and overcrowded classrooms in the colored schools.

Sense Of Inferiority

Aside from physical conditions, experts are pretty generally agreed, as the Federal District Court found in the Kansas school segregation case, that—

"Segregation of white and colored children in public schools has a detrimental effect upon the colored children. The impact is greater when it has the sanction of law; for the policy of separating the races is usually interpreted as denoting the inferiority of the colored group. A sense of inferiority affects the motivation of a child to learn segregation with the sanction of law, therefore, has a tendency to retard the education f some of the benefits they receive in a racial integrated school system."

Since it appears that legislation based on racial distinctions runs afoul of the Fifth Amendment, the Board of Education should submit no more justifications for school appropriations on the basis of race, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Budget Bureau should not approve any such justifications, and Congress should authorize no additional appropriations or appropriate no more funds on the basis of race.

The only criterion which Congress should use in creating positions in the public schools and appropriating funds for their maintenance and operation is the needs of the entire system.

Mrs. Emma Clement Active Until End

Widow of Bishop Had Guided Seven Children To Prominence

(See Photo On Page 1)

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Mrs. Emma C. Clement, 78, named Mother of the Year" in 1946 by the American Mothers' Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation of New York City, died at her home here on Friday night.

She was the only person of her race ever to have won that distinct national honor.

Mrs. Clement, the widow of Bishop George C. Clement of the AME Zion Church, had remained active in the civic and religious affairs which brought her national fame, despite illness and the amputation of her right leg last year.

Livingstone Alumna

Born in Providence, R.I., Mrs. Clement, then Miss Emma C. Williams, attended Livingstone College, Salisbury, N.C., where she married the Rev. Mr. Clement on the day of their graduation in 1898.

She was the mother of seven children, all college graduates, one of whom is Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta University, and the others of whom all are prominent in education, church and mission fields.

Other Children

The other children, in addition to Mrs. Jackson and Dr. Rufus Clement, are:

Dr. Frederick A. Clement, professor of physics at West Virginia State College; James A. Clement, recently discharged from the Army Chaplain Corps as a major, who will resume teaching theology at Livingstone; George W. Clement, field director of the American Red Cross in Italy;

Mrs. Ruth Bond, who is the wife of the chief of staff of the International Educational Foundation in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, and Mrs. Sanders Walker, the youngest, professor of English at Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

In addition, there are seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren, along with 24 in-laws.

The selection of Mrs. Clement was announced by Mrs David de Sola Pool, chairman of the American Mothers Committee of the Foundation here, and Mrs. Harper Sibley of Rochester, N.Y., who held the honor in 1945.

Reasons for Selection

In announcing the selection, Mrs. Pool declared:

"The committee gives recognition not only to the great personal qualities of Mrs. Clement as a mother of children who are devotedly serving their country and their people, as a partner in her husband's ministry in his lifetime, as a social and community worker in her own right, but it gives recognition also and pays tribute to the great spirit of America.

"Our Republic has struggled through many phases of national development to achieve the freedom, equality and brotherhood which must remain our goals as they are our slogans."

"Rebel" Casts Vote

Among the votes cast for Mrs. Clement was one by Miss Mary E. Hughes of Louisville, who said:

"I never dreamed I would ever in my life vote for a colored person. But when I saw her record I couldn't be fair and serve on the committee without recognizing it, I'm a rebel of rebels—or I thought I was until this afternoon."

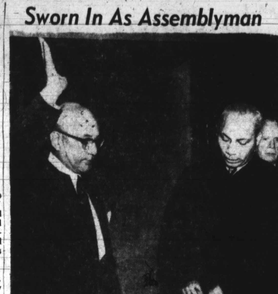
Among the 11 winners of the title "American Mother" have been Mrs. Elias Compton, mother of Nobel Prize winner, and Mrs. Edith Wyse, whose husband founded the Mayo Clinic.

Headed National Auxiliary

Mrs. Clement also was one of the 18 persons named to the 1946 honor roll of Race Relations for terms of real democracy."

She was a former national president of the Women's Society of the AME Zion Church and was a charter member of the Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation.

Sworn In As Assemblyman



James C. Thomas, left, was sworn in office of the 11th Assembly District by Judge Harold Stevens in New York last Friday.

Ex-Red Names 8 In Testimony

Budenz Connects DuBois And Others

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NNPA)—Louis Budenz, former Communist, last Tuesday named eight colored persons among a group of thirty who have been connected with educational foundations as known to him to be Communists.

The eight colored persons were included in a group of 25 who have received grants from tax exempt philanthropic foundations.

Testifying before a special House committee inquiring into Communist influence on the foundations, Mr. Budenz, former managing editor of "The Daily Worker," who broke with the Communist party in 1945 and became a professor at Fordham University said the following recipients of grants from the foundations named were Communists:

Names Richard Wright

Guggenheim Foundation — Langston Hughes, the poet, and Richard Wright, the novelist, who Budenz said has since left the Communist party.

Rosenwald Foundation — William E. B. DuBois, author and scholar; Claude McKay, author; Shirley Graham, author and wife of Dr. DuBois, and Pearl Primus, the dancer.

General Education Board — Dozie Wilkerson, former Howard University professor who became educational secretary of the Communist party, and Ira Dek. Reid, professor at Haverford College.

Acquitted On Charge

Dr. Du Bois was accompanied by a directed verdict in the District Court here, along with four other officers of the Peace Information Center, on a charge of failing to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The indictment, returned by a Federal grand jury as a publicity agent for the Committee of the Congress of the Defenders of Peace, "the international organization established by the Communists to publicize the so-called Stockholm Peace Appeal."

According to the records of the House Un-American Activities Committee, Dr. DuBois is listed among 40 persons who have been affiliated with from eleven to twenty Communist-front organizations, and Langston Hughes with from seventy-one to eighty such organizations.

Miss Graham and Dr. Reid are listed by the House Un-American Activities Committee as having been affiliated with from five to ten Communist-front organizations.

Backs Polio Drive

Dr. W. C. Atkinson, Coatesville, Pa., president of the National Medical Association, has endorsed the program of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and its campaign for the March of Dimes. The 1953 March of Dimes is being held January 2-31.

Bishop Relates Changing Attitudes Over Injustices

NEW YORK — The peaceful outlawing of segregation and racial injustice in schools and the South is being asserted, members of St. Mark's AME church, Corona, Queens, were told here last week.

There is an apparent shift in racial attitudes Bishop D. Ward Nichols, of the AME church, said in making his report on the recent session of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., at Denver, Colorado.

Bishop Nichols reported that at the assembly he found a prepondrance of sentiment against the system of segregation.

Compulsion Not Necessary

Most of the ministers and churchmen felt that segregation in public schools should not be compulsory, he said.

However, Bishop Nichols described the council as being united not only for the advancement of the Kingdom of God, but solidly against all forms of lawlessness, corruption and racial injustice.

The Bishop said there is "reassuring evidence of the elimination of segregation in the South's schools "will not cause violent social upheaval anywhere in the U.S."

4 Children Die As Home Burns

5 Escape; Parents At Work At Time

NORFOLK, Virginia — Four of nine children left alone in a home in the Lambsto section of Princess Anne County, Va., died Dec. 18 when a fire completely destroyed their five-room, clapboard dwelling.

Three of the children are from a family of five, and the fourth is one of four children of Mrs. Sarah Perebee. The other fire victims were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Plumber. Mrs. Ferebee and Mrs. Plumber are sisters.

Police of Princess Anne County identified the fire victims as Gladys Ferebee, 3; Wilford Ferebee, 4; Warren Ferebee, 3, and Caroline Plumber, 2.

5 Escape Blaze

The five children who escaped the blaze were Juanita Ferebee, Sarah Perebee, 2; Delbra Ferebee, 1; Michael E. Plumber, 9 months, and Wilbert Plumber, 5.

The nine children had been left alone while their parents were at work. Mrs. Ferebee is employed as a maid at Virginia Beach. Plumber works at the Norfolk Navy Yard and his wife, is employed at Hawkins Beach, Va.

The fire was discovered at about 9 a.m. when Shirley Williams, 10, a neighbor, went to the house to look after the children. She succeeded in rescuing one child and got her hair singed in doing so.

2 Others In Rescue

The other children were rescued by Claiborne Morris, of Landmark, who got her out, and William H. Tynes.

According to Juanita Ferebee, the fire started when one child stuck a stick into the damper of a wood-burning stove in the living room of the house. He threw the stick on to a chair which caught fire immediately.

Lincoln U Will Be 100 In '54

OXFORD, Pa.—Although Lincoln University will not celebrate her Centennial until 1954, the Pennsylvania School is already "preparing for this gala occasion," according to a Christmas letter from the school's president, Dr. Horace Mann Bond.

The first history of Lincoln and a new edition of the alumni directory are being planned for appearance during the Centennial Year. "Before that time we should have the new wing to our library and a new dormitory and the Ladies Auxiliary promises that they expected to be completed before the end of 1953," Dr. Bond says.

"Prominent men and women from many walks of life will join us in our celebration, and are inviting outstanding colleges and universities of the nation to help us observe the 'coming of age' of the oldest institution founded for the education of colored youth.

"We now take group pride, however, in our interracial faculty, trustee board, and student body, as one indication that we have come a long way in our almost 100 years of existence," Dr. Bond observed.

Broker Addresses Teachers On Stocks

WILBERFORCE, Ohio — Norman L. McGhee, head of the investment brokerage firm of McGhee and Company of Cleveland, addressed members of the faculty of Wilberforce University here recently on the value of investments in mutual funds and common stocks as a hedge against the inflationary trend in the American economy.

He pointed out that the decreasing purchasing power of the dollar particularly affects the living standards of salaried employees, and that this is especially true of the teaching profession which historically has' been a laggard in the matter of salary increases.

McGhee was invited to speak to the faculty group by George H. Valentine, secretary-treasurer of the university. In addition to enjoying an active law practice in Cleveland—McGhee is president of the Citizens Realty Management, Inc., a trustee of Wilberforce and a member of its executive committee.

30 Robbery Counts Send Man To Prison

DETROIT. — Roy Teal, 20, charged with 30 holdups, was sentenced to 10 to 20 years in prison last week. He was arrested Sept. 29, after robbing a cab driver of $20 and locking him in a trunk.

Gives Ike 4 Point Civil Rights Slate

NEW YORK — A four-point civil rights program was given program for advancing the President-Elect Dwight D. Eisenhower by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, Saturday at a dinner opening the organization's national executive and administrative committee meeting.

Urging Gen. Eisenhower to give to the problem of civil rights in the U.S. "the same intense study and consideration which he has been devoting to our foreign affairs," Dr. Goldstein outlined the following four points of "what we mean by civil rights:" both warned a gain complacency in this vital area and voiced a plea to the President-Elect "to look ahead with concern at the long road that must yet be travelled" before the American ideal of full equality for all people is reached.

Chicago Police's Shift In Role Held Great Amity Gain

Now Responding With Understanding In Potentially Troublesome Situations

CHICAGO — The most tangible gain made here in the last eight years against racial prejudice has been the police department's response at new levels of efficiency and understanding in potentially troublesome situations, according to the annual report of the local Commission on Human Relations.

The report, made last week at the seventh annual awards in human relations luncheon at the Congress Hotel by Maynard I. Wishner, acting director of the CHR, pointed out that Chicagoans can find—out that brotherhood is good citizenship.

It was pointed out that this city with its diverse national and racial strains etched clearly in the faces of those who walk its streets and live in its houses, has this year recorded many tangible gains in its long effort to eliminate prejudice.

CHR Deserves Credit

The Commission on Human Rights, which began its career in 1945 as the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights, does not claim all the credit for the decline of incidents of violence due to race prejudice, and other important advances, but it cannot escape recognition for its contributions to better human relations, Wishner said.

Terming the gain in better police relationships a real victory, in that it has meant that the work of meeting problems, difficulties and fears can go on in a framework instead of conflict, he cited as other gains:

Schools' Bars Lowered

Increased admission of colored students to Chicago medical school;

Increasing acceptance of colored patients in several Chicago hospitals, although such admission has always required the patient to give up his private colored physician;

Freer use of public recreation facilities by minority groups;

Employment of colored players by the Chicago Cardinals and the Chicago Bears football teams for the first time in recent years.

Cite Police Commissioner

Job gains by colored workers at higher skill and status levels, with the aid of the Illinois Fair Employment Service and the State Department of Labor; and

The increasing integration of minority residents in all areas of the city.

In the presence of more than 350 luncheon guests, the 1952 Awards in Human Relations were presented to Timothy J. O'Connor, Chicago commissioner of police; the Rev. Edward V. Cardinal and the Chicago Baseball Club, among others.

R. E. Westbrooks Dies In Chicago

CHICAGO (ANP)—Funeral services were held last week in the Metropolitan mortuary for Richard E. Westbrooks, 66, noted attorney and civic leader, who died at his home earlier in the week after a prolonged illness.

The Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., pastor of Quinn Chapel AME church, delivered the eulogy. Burial was in the family lot at Lincoln cemetery.

Born in Waco, Texas, Oct. 13, 1886, Westbrooks came to Chicago in 1909. He was graduated from the John Marshall Law school in 1911 and was secretary of the board of trustees of this institution from 1946 until his death. For some 29 years, he served as counsel at Chicago for the Republic of Liberia. This period was from 1922-1951.

Railroad Case Highlight

One of his most outstanding achievements as an attorney was his arguments in 1941 before the U.S. Supreme court which influenced the decision prohibiting segregation of interstate travelers on the American railroads.

Atty. Westbrooks is survived by his widow, Mrs. Essie Gaskill Westbrooks; a sister, Mrs. W. Hines Washum; a brother, Charles P. Westbrooks; a foster sister, Miss Georgia Joy a niece, Miss Jone Hines Stewart, and other relatives.

African Leaders Score Point For Unification

NEW YORK — Representatives from the rich and strategically located Togoland achieved another step toward independence and reunification last week when the UN empowered the Togoland Joint Council to work out plans for the educational, social, political and economic welfare and for unification of the West African territories.

Appearing at the UN a week ago were five Togolanders who had come here to plead their case before the Seventh General Assembly. These included S. G. Antoi, S. E. Olympio, H. Anku Morny and Joseph Eyenpoh Mbinadong.

More People Giving Money To Churches, Council Report Shows

NEW YORK—The cost of living may seem to have been rising at a dizzy speed—but for the last five years the average American's annual contributions to his church have been rising even faster.

This was one of the trends indicated in the annual report on church giving issued by the Joint Department of Stewardship and Benevolence of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in USA. The Joint Department, formerly the United Stewardship Council, has issued the yearly figures since 1921.

This year's figures show that 47 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox communions reported a total of $1,286,633,160, an increase of 10.3 per cent over the previous year's total of $1,166,445,648.

Lynch Suspects Seeks Judgeship In Detroit

Former Benedict College Dean Victim Of Crash

GREENSBORO, N.C.—Funeral services for Gurney E. Nelson who died as the result of a traffic accident, were held Dec. 23, at St. Matthew Methodist Church here.

Mr. Nelson was en route to Columbia, S.C., to spend the holidays when the automobile accident occurred. He was accompanied by his son, Gurney Jr. who survived the crash. Mr. Nelson was a former dean of Benedict College and a former principal of Washington Street School here.

Relatives Attend

At the time of his death he was connected with the Religious Training Institute of Columbus, Ohio.

Officiating at the funeral were the Rev. Charles H. Brown of Benedict College, and the Rev. J. L. Brower, pastor of St. Matthew. Interment was in Piedmont Memorial Park.

Active pallbearers were J. A. Tarpley, Dr. W. J. Hughes, A. H. Peeler, F. B. Morris, C. Winchester and W. L. Jones. Floral bearers were:

Floral Bearers

Mesdames and Misses Maude Windsor, Lena Weatherby, Louise Lassiter, Montrose Garrett, Lillian Harris, Sylvia Payne, Olivia Womack, Anna Moore, Alma Leach and Louise Fox.

Mr. Nelson is survived by his son, a daughter, Phyllis, a brother, George Oscar of Columbus, Ohio, and a sister, Mrs. Alice Jones of Bridgeport, Conn.

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Former Benedict Chairman Is Judge

Charles H. Jones looks at official papers after filing his candidacy for Recorder's Court judge last week. Standing at the side of Mr. Jones is City Clerk Thomas G. Ledbetter. Mr. Jones was the first colored judge to occupy the bench in Recorder's Court. He was appointed in 1950 by Gov. G. Mennen Williams to fill a vacancy, but was defeated in the election.

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