Tickets available for Coppin affair

Tickets for the Coppin Alumni Association banquet are now available, according to Milton A. Dugger, chairman of the affair, set for June 10, 8 p.m.; at the Moulin Rouge Ballroom, 529 Gold St.

Persons handling the tickets are:

Mrs. Vivian Bundy, School 162, Barre and Warner Sts.; Mrs. Ethel J. Day, Coppin State Teachers College, 2500 W. North Ave.; Miss Louise Smith, Coppin Elementary School No. 132 Mount St. near Riggs;

Warren Lansey, Hurst School No. 111, Carrollton and Riggs Avenue; Earl Britt, School No. 11, Carrollton and Riggs Ave.; Mr. Dugger, School No. 143, Hoffman and Eden Sts.

The banquet will have the 1955 Coppin June graduates as guests. Dancing will follow.

Hague library head visits Pratt Library

Dr. Pieter J. Van Swigchem, chief librarian of The Hague Public Library, visited the Enoch Pratt Free Library Thursday and Friday, to observe local book-lending and reference practices.

Now touring the larger libraies in the United States, Dr. Van Swigchem has come to this country under the auspices of the State Department, the Ford Foundation and the American Library Association.

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Morgan men to get bars

Ceremonies set for Monday

The Military Science Department of Morgan State College, will hold its first annual reserve officers swearing in ceremony Monday, June 6, in the Edward P. Hurt gymnasium at 11 a.m.

The ceremony will include administering the oath of office and the awarding of the letters of appointments to 31 second lieutenants in the United States Army Reserve.

This ceremony will also include the pinning of gold bars on the new second lieutenants by the wives, mothers, sweethearts or whoever the student designates.

* * *

THE PRINCIPAL speaker will be Col John L. Keefe, chief, Maryland Military District.

Dr. Nathaniel K. Proctor, of the biology department, will give a brief history of ROTC at Morgan State College, and Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, president of the college, will present the letters of appointment to the students that are to be commissioned.

Major Willard C. Stewart, PMS and T, will administer the oath of office to the graduates.

Music for the ceremony will be furnished by the Morgan State College Symphonic Band under the direction of Rodney Macardo.

The general public is invited to attend.

* * *

STUDENTS TO BE commissioned are:

Joseph B. Berry, John H. Branch, James D. Brown, Vernon L. Brown, Charles W. Cethas, Issac W. Cole, Goodwin DeLilly, Donald B. Dixon, Gordon K. Dowery, Maceo R. Dumas, Ernest W. Garrett, Leslie A. Griffin, Selvin F. Gumbs, Richard C. Harris, Bruce E. Harvey, Talmadge J. Jacobs.

Charles E. Kelly, William Mercer Jr., Carl L. Minoti, Raymond Murphy, Edward L. Murray, Sylvester Reese, Robert F. Fingsield, Edward W. Smith, Randolph Thompson, Robert F. Trotman, Herman L. Wade, Gilbert Ware, Lester H. Wells, James A. Williams, William F. Womack.

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HOLLANDER WINNER—Cited for his contribution toward the achievement of equal rights and opportunities for Marylanders, Dr. John H. Fischer, left, superintendent of Public Schools is the recipient of the 1955 Sidney Hollander Award. During a recent program at School No. 298, John H. Schwatka, principal, Southern High School was given an honorable mention award. Presentations were made by award committee members: Senator Harry A. Cole and Dr. Jerome Frank.

New Carver will have pre-kindergarten classes

When the George Washington Carver Vocational-Technical High School No. 454 opens next fall in its new building at Pressman and Lexington Sts., it will include a class of pre-kindergarden children for three and four year olds.

The program for these children will begin at 8:45 a.m. and will be concluded at 3 p.m. daily. The children have an opportunity for a valuable educational program and for a lunch and rest period.

There is no charge to parents for the program, except for the cost of the food consumed by the children.

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Alumni return for their day

Morgan State host to group

Morgan State College graduates from widely scattered points throughout the country, will return to Baltimore this weekend to mark the school's 52nd Alumni Day on Saturday.

From Holly Springs, Miss., will come Mrs. Mary R. Jackson to join the class of 1925, and from Huntington, W.Va., will come Mrs. Junia B. Thomas, Class of '23, and Miss Nadine Wellman, Class o '27, who will also witness the graduation of their niece, Miss Winifred Scott.

Unable to attend the meeting, Theaphonis Parker, Class of 1898 will send greetings.

* * *

THE CLASS REUNIONS being held are for the classes of 1905, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50. The time for these reunion is 9 a.m. Saturday.

The annual business meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m., and the luncheon program will follow at 1:30 p.m. A scroll will be presented to Coach Talmadge L. Hill, Class of 1928, for completing his 25th year at Morgan.

Miss Fannie Offutt of the Washington Chapter, will make the presentation. Basil Frazier of the Newark Chapter, will make the response to the welcome address by Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, World War II president.

The ten classes meeting for reunions will be presented by Dr. Eugene Byrd, alumni president.

NEW COMMISSIONER?—Reliable reports have it that acting police commissioner Fred L. Ford will be named the new commissioner soon by Governor McKeldin.

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$250.00 IN PRIZES to be GIVEN AWAY!
1st PRIZE—$100 BOND 2nd PRIZE—$50.00
3rd PRIZE—$25.00 4th PRIZE—$10.00
10 PRIZES of $5.00 EACH
PLUS: The Principal and History Teacher of the Highest Student Prize Winner (Junior or Senior High School) Will Each Receive $10.00 in Cash.
The 1st & 2nd Prize Winners Will Select a Church of their Choice for $10.00 Awards Respectively.
READ THESE SIMPLE RULES — ANSWER THE EASY QUESTIONS — MAIL BEFORE THE DEADLINE DATE!

AFRO FAMOUS NAMES CONTEST RULES!
1. Seven questions regarding our history and achievement will be published in the AFRO-AMERICAN in each Tuesday and Friday Edition starting with the issue May 10, 1955, and continuing until July 16, 1955.
2. A total of 14 questions per week or 140 questions for the contest period will be printed.
3. Each group of questions and each question will be numbered and there will be 14 official answer blanks in the complete contest.
4. Contestants must use the Famous Names Contest answer blank or facsimile and give the correct answer to as many questions as possible.
5. Only one answer for each question is permitted on an answer blank.
6. A contestant may enter as many answer blanks as he wishes provided they are the official Famous Names Contest answer blanks or facsimile thereof.
7. Entries must be postmarked not later than the date carried on the answer blank.
8. All answers must be printed or typed legibly. Judges will take this into account in rendering their final decision.
9. Any person in the continental U.S.A. may enter the contest, except employees of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers and members of their immediate family.
10. The judges' decision will be based on the number of correct answers, neatness and legibility submitted by each contestant. Their decision will be final and all contestants taking part agree to accept their decision as a condition of entry.
11. The person submitting the highest number of correct answers in the opinion of the judges will be awarded the first prize. The person submitting the second highest number of correct answers will receive second prize. Other cash prizes will be awarded according to the standing of the contestants. In event of ties, contestants will be notified regarding a runoff to determine actual winners.
12. Prize winners will be announced through the AFRO at which time the correct answers to the entire group of 140 questions will be published.
13. All entries become the property of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper Company.
14. Mail all entries to AFRO FAMOUS NAMES CONTEST EDITOR, AFRO OFFICE.

FAMOUS NAMES CONTEST
ANSWER the following questions. USE OFFICIAL BLANK. Answers must be postmarked not later than midnight, June 11, 1955.
QUESTION SERIES NO. 8
50. Who was the publisher of the newspaper, "The North Star"?
51. What colored American is credited with achieving an armistice in the war between the Arab States and Israel?
52. When was the first colored cadet admitted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point?
53. A colored Louisianan invented a cotton-picking machine. What was his name?
54. A colored American volunteered to go to Liberia as a missionary in 1821 and later became Vice Agent of the whole colony. What is his name?
55. What colored heavyweight knocked out James J. Braddock to win the world's championship?
56. Who was the first colored man to serve a full term in the U.S. Senate?

OFFICIAL AFRO FAMOUS NAME CONTEST ANSWER BLANK
ANSWER—SERIES No. 8 (Type or Print)
50. .....
51. .....
52. .....
53. .....
54. .....
55. .....
56. .....
Print or Type Name Below:
Name .....
Address .....
If school student check here ☐
Paste on post card and mail before deadline date to
FAMOUS NAMES CONTEST EDITOR
Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN
628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore 1, Md.

U. of Ga. students distribute circulars urging integration

ATHENS, GA. (ANP) — A group of students at the University of Georgia last week distributed circulars over the campus calling for action in favor of racial integration.

The circular urged meetings and petitions aimed at ending segregation. The distribution of circulars was authorized.

Citizens of both races give comments on court decision

The Supreme Court's action Tuesday ordering southern states to end segregation in schools as soon as possible received a generally favorable reaction in the Baltimore area.

A survey conducted at random by the AFRO Thursday revealed that many feel that the end of segregation will come throughout the nation.

A number expressed satisfaction with the court's order, which gives individual states time to effect integration as "rapidly as practicable."

On the other hand, there were those who felt that the court was too lenient and evaded the issue by putting the problem of integration on a local basis. These persons favored immediate integration of all educational facilities.

Surprisingly enough, some persons said they had no comment, nor had given much thought to the order, which follows the May 17, 1954, decision which outlawed segregation in public schools.

IN ITS SURVEY, the AFRO asked the question: "What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision on how schools shall be integrated?" Typical reactions from the Baltimore area are as follows:

Mrs. John F. Davidson, 2718 E. Preston St.: "Whatever the court says is alright with me. I do feel that it is best to integrate the schools gradually, rather than plunge into it immediately."

Mrs. Lewis Hinton, 1127 N. Caroline St.: "They should go ahead and integrate immediately while it is in the people's mind. People are accustomed to the idea of integration now. To wait around and stall would only mean that it will take more time than is desirable."

Andrew J. Hobbs, 528 E. 35th St.: "Under the circumstances, I think the court's order is a very wise one. I do not believe in segregation; there should be equal rights for all people. However, I do feel that in some sections of the country, a little discretion should be used, taking into consideration the sectional problems."

Mrs. Russell C. Frisbie, 4037 Edgewood Rd.: "I am from the South. I spent most of my life in Houston, Texas, my home, and have been in Baltimore for about 10 years.

"I do feel, however, that since all people deserve equal rights, the Supreme Court's order is good and in keeping with this principle."

Mrs. Samuel Farley, 7820 Trappe Rd.: "I can not agree with the Supreme Court's order, because I am opposed to the mixing of colored and white people anywhere."

Mrs. Joseph L. Cesky, 52 Murdock Rd.: "I have not really given it very much thought. I do not think it was a wise decision. I think the integration of schools should be put off continually. However, I do feel that one group of people is as good as another."

Edgar Williams, 12 E. Mt. Vernon Pl.: "I only regret that the decision was not a little more positive, more specific as to exactly what should be done. There should have been a time limit set.

"On the other hand, you have to take into consideration the conditions of the South. Immediate integration may not have been practicable for both races. But I feel the court could have been more definite."

Mrs. Edward Meek, 3315 Lake Ave.: "The Supreme Court did the right thing. I was in favor of the first ruling which outlawed segregation in the public schools."

Mrs. Robert Taylor, 510 Laurel Ave.: "I have not given the matter much thought. I would rather not make any comment now."

J. Arnett Frisby, realtist: "I don't like it. Why should any group of citizens, once they've been told they have certain rights, be required to go into court for the next 20 years to get them. It doesn't seem right. We should have the right to attend schools nearest our homes now."

Mrs. Clinton L. Faunce, 2000 Edmondson Ave.: "The court actually gives certain areas a little time to work out problems of integration. I agree with this. I think integration should be gradual. This will lead to less confusion and less hard feelings on both sides."

Mrs. Robert E. Brookes, 2905 Dundalk Ave.: "God said all races should inhabit all the places of the earth. The problems of segregation are man-made problems and it is up to man to straighten them out the best way he can.

"The court's decision is a good one. However, we should give some consideration to the problems in different areas of the country and move toward integration accordingly."

Mrs. Marris N. O'Hara, 5424 Masefield Rd.: "It has to be done sooner or later. I see no reason why integration should not be started now. There is no point in fighting it."

James V. Farrell, Boyce Ave.: "I am not from here, but I think the court should have acted as it did. It works in the North. Everybody should work together to make this a better country."

Mrs. W. E. Hyman, 2013 Oakland Ave.: "I would not care to make any comment."

Mrs. Edward T. Hutson, 529 Franklin Ave.: **"I do not think they should integrate schools. There will always be little misunderstanding between the children. It might not work in the South as it has in the North."**

Mrs. Andrew J. Fava, 7001 Bristol Rd.: "It is right that all children should be educated together. I do not keep up with the papers too much, but I firmly believe in equality of education."

Mrs. Walter H. Leake Jr., 1700 Glen Keith Blvd.: "The Supreme Court made a very wise decision. Integration should be brought about as soon as possible, without creating any disturbances.

THURGOOD MARSHALL "Clear cut decision"

JAMES A. NABRIT JR. "Complete victory in D.C."

—School

(Continued From Page 1)

school pupils.

Moreover, Dr. Pullen told the county superintendents at Thursday's meeting that for the time being children should be allowed to attend the schools of their choice.

* * *

THE SUPREME COURT ruled on May 1, 1954, that segregation in public schools is constitutional. On Tuesday, the High Court issued a final decree ordering a prompt and reasonable start toward desegregation to be carried out by school authorities and the courts on a local level.

Dr. Pullen told the superintendents that the Supreme Court decision wiped out all local and state statues requiring segregation in public schools.

"Although the court did not set a specific date for desegregation," he said, "it is incumbent upon states and local communities to abolish segregation as soon as possible with regard for local problems."

* * *

DR. PULLEN continued:

"The Supreme Court did not turn the schools over to the courts. It did recognize that the problem is primarily local. The courts are merely to determine if the order to desegregate is carried out with reasonable speed."

The state superintendent said that the Supreme Court's final decree was similar to recommendations made previously by Maryland state superintendents.

Dr. Pullen said that the luncheon meeting had been opened to the public so that no one would think the educational officials were to keep a cloak of secrecy around such a serious matter.

To re-emphasize his own attitude and that of the State Board of Education to comply with the law, Dr. Pullen reread a statement issued by the board on May 26, 1954, nine days after the original Supreme Court public school ruling.

* * *

BEFORE DOING this, Dr. Pullen told the educators: "Now is the time to ask questions, if the statement is not understood, or forever hold your peace."

The statement is contained in contained in the first paragraph:

"The Supreme Court of the land has spoken. It is the duty and responsibility of the State Board of Education to do all within its power to work out the problem 'seemingly and in order,' and in such a manner that the rights and privileges of no individual are impaired by arbitrary or capricious methods."

Dr. Pullen passed out printed copies of the Supreme Court's final decree on public school desegregation and told the superintendent that it was their responsibility to see that "Maryland handles this thing decently and properly."

* * *

HE URGED the superintendents to go back and meet with their boards and hold a discussion on all legal and administrative problems that may arise in their respective counties.

These problems are then to be forwarded to Dr. Pullen, who said that he would ask the Attorney General of Maryland to clear up any legal entanglements and would work with the superintendents to smooth out administrative difficulties.

Dr. Pullen said that under the High Court ruling, the rights of the individual are now protected.

He warned that to act in bad faith in carrying out the court order would be detrimental to children of both races.

* * *

IN A QUESTION and answer period that followed, Dr. Pullen told the superintendents that for the time being, children should be allowed to attend the school of their choice even if it creates a county problem of transportation; any accusations of "bad faith" must be proven by the person who issues the challenge; the court' ruling outlawing discrimination because of race applies to school personnel as well as children.

Dr. Pullen said that interracial meetings held since the Supreme Court ruling of 1954 have greatly eased the implementation of the final decree.

Wendell Allen, president of the State Board of Education, said: "I was raised to respect the constitution of the United States. I gladly accept the interpretation of the document by the Supreme Court. It is up to you (the superintendents) to implement and carry out the court order."

Mr. Allen said that an official statement (similar to the one made last year) would be forthcoming following the next board meeting.

Among those who attended the meeting at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, was George Crawford, one of two colored members of the State Department of Education.

Mr. Crawford is supervisor of curriculum in the Division of Instruction. He has held the job seven years. James DeShields, is a rehabilitation counselor.

Following the Supreme Court decree of this week, Governor McKeldin issued this statement:

"Maryland has always been a law-abiding state, and I believe that school authorities in our various counties will proceed in an orderly manner to bring an end to racial segregation.

"The state government shall assist and encourage them in any proper manner. It must be realized that the problems of integration will be more pronounced in some areas than in others, and will therefore take longer in their solutions. In such cases, I urge patience, but no deliberate, delaying action.

"It would be unfortunate and unnecessarily costly to require hearings in our U.S. District courts when the decision of the Supreme Court is so clear and so definite."

—A wise statement

(An Editorial—Continued from Page 1)

now declared unconstitutional.

Segregation in public education in itself is therefore unlawful. Any jim crow schools that exists anywhere in the United States are unlawfully organized schools, and it is the obligation of the county commissioners, the city, county and state boards of education, without any further notice, to desegregate their schools and set them up under a lawful arrangement where there is no racial discrimination.

In its decision, the Supreme Court has told the States how to do this — with deliberation, speed, in good faith, as soon as practicable, and with a reasonable start.

The obligation is upon the segregated school authorities, without more ado, to take action because under the present circumstances they are in violation of the law.

Governor McKeldin recognizes this, like other state governors surely must also recognize. The governor urges that desegregation be done with "patience, but no delay, no deliberate delaying action." He further points out that "the decision of the Supreme Court is so clear and so definite."

Governor McKeldin has shown the way for Maryland. County officials and school officials can do no less than follow in the path of righteousness, lawfulness, and democracy. Other Southern states will be wise to follow Maryland.

ISSUE DECREE — These are the nine justices of the U. S. Supreme Court who, Tuesday, issued their decree implementing the May 17, 1954, ruling that segregation in the nation's public schools was unconstitutional. Left to right, seated: Associate Justices Felix Frankfurter, Hugo L. Black, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Stanley F. Reed and William O. Douglas. Standing row: Associate Justices Sherman Minton, Harold H. Burton, Tom C. Clark and John M. Harlan.

No Comfort Seen In Decision For South

NAACP board, Thurgood see it as victory for plaintiffs

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK—Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP board of directors, commenting on the decrees in the school segregation cases, said "we see nothing in the language of the opinion which sustains the view of some southern states that delay in compliance may be of indefinite length."

But, while expressing their gratification over the decision, Mr. Marshall and the board made it plain that the NAACP stands ready to immediately go back into the court with any state, county or town officials who seek to delay the orders of the court.

They made their positions clear in a hurried press conference called a few hours after the court announced its final decrees and as soon as Mr. Marshall could return to New York by plane.

A BATTERY OF REPORTERS faced Mr. Marshall and a group of board members which included Algernon D. Black, Andrew Weinberger, Judge Hubert Delaney, Roy Wilkins, George K. Hunton, Edward Dudley and Mr. Marshall's special assistants, Attorneys Robert Carter and Jack Greenberg.

Mr. Wilkins read to reporters a statement which he said had been approved by board chairman, Channing H. Tobias.

The statement said that the NAACP board was gratified that the court's opinion "makes a clearcut determination that colored children must be given their rights as soon as practicable on a nondiscriminatory basis."

"This is followed," the board statement added, "by language which limits delay to necessary administrative details of adjustment while, at the same time, making it clear that delay can not be sanctioned simply because cause of disagreement with the decision.

* * *

"TODAY'S DECISION," the board said, "directed lower federal courts to see to it that local school boards make a prompt and reasonable start toward full compliance with last year's historic decision.

"We see nothing in the language of the opinion which sustains the view of some southern states that delay in compliance may be of indefinite length."

The statement pointed out that other states in the South not directly involved in the litigation had been served clear notice that "all provisions of federal, state or local laws requiring or permitting such discrimination must yield to the principles of the May 17 decision."

"We are confident," the NAACP board concluded, "that the affected schools districts and others, including whole states which were awaiting this word, will proceed without delay on programs of desegregation."

* * *

AS SOON AS the statement had been read, reporters opened up with their questions which centered first on whether the NAACP felt it had won a clear-cut victory and how long it would take to bring complete integration under the final decrees?

Mr. Marshall stepped aside when the questions came up on discussing the actual decrees in the case, because, as he pointed out, he was one of the lawyers and therefore could not ethically discuss the court's opinion.

Mr. Wilkins, however, in his role as executive secretary, took on the reporters questions one by one. He scored the final decrees as a clearcut victory for the NAACP.

As to how long it might take to bring about complete integration, Mr. Wilkins said he would not attempt to answer such a question but he said the NAACP saw no cause for alarm that it would not be speedily brought about.

* * *

WIRE SERVICE reporters then brought up comments from southern opponents of desegregation who were claiming everything from complete victory to statements that integration in Georgia alone would take 100 years.

Ex-Governor Talmadge of Georgia was quoted by a reporter as having said that each one of Georgia's 159 counties would force the NAACP to file a separate suit before it would capitulate and that this would take over a hundred years.

Addressing himself to that statement, Mr. Marshall said: "If we find it necessary to go county by county in Georgia or anywhere else, we are prepared to do so."

As he said that, one of the board members seated behind him, said, "and we are prepared to do it promptly."

* * *

MR. MARSHALL then told reporters that it was the board which put up the money for such suits and that since the board had just added that they were ready to go to court 'promptly,' you can see that I have no problem."

Thurgood then revealed that the NAACP will move immediately on the states of Virginia and South Carlina as soon as the mandate of the court becomes effective. This will be after a lapse of 20 days.

Virginia and South Carolina are being selected because the other states involved in the litigation, Delaware, Kansas and the District of Columbia, already taken some steps toward integration.

* * *

THURGOOD SAID the NAACP will hold a policy meeting in Atlanta this coming Saturday at which time the decision will be studied and plans drawn for final battle if any is on the horizon.

Reporters asked NAACP officials if they had been disappointed that the court had not set a target date as they requested in their brief? Mr. Wilkins said he was not disappointed because the court had substituted positive language for a date.

Other board members agreed generally with him except Judge Delany, who said he was openly disappointed that the court did not set a date but that he still felt that the language of the decrees was plain that the court meant what it said on May 17.

* * *

MR. WILKINS was asked in what ways the NAACP expects the greatest opposition? He replied that it was difficult to answer that question because many times the places which yell the loudest are the first to give in.

The NAACP boards seems to feel generally that the part of the decision which made their victory most clear is where the court said:

"While giving weight to these public and private considerations, the courts will require that the defendants make a prompt and reasonable start toward full compliance with our May 17, 1954, ruling. Once such a start has been made, the courts may find that additional time is necessary to carry out the ruling in an effective manner.

"The burden rests upon the defendants to establish that such time is necessary in the public interest and is consistent with good faith compliance at the earliest practicable date.

* * *

"TO THAT END, the courts may consider problems related to administration, arising from the physical condition of the school transportation system, personnel, revision of school districts and attendance areas into compact units to achieve a system of determining admission to the public schools on a nonracial basis, and revision of local laws and regulations which may be necessary in solving the foregoing problems.

"They will also consider the adequacy of any plans the defendants may propose to meet these problems and to effectuate a transition to a racially nondiscriminatory school system. During this period of transition, the courts will retain jurisdiction of these cases.

"The judgments below, except that in the Delaware case, are accordingly reversed and remanded to the District Courts to take such proceedings and enter such orders and decrees consistent with this opinion as are necessary and proper to admit to public schools on a racially nondiscriminatory basis with all deliberate speed the parties to these cases.

"The judgment in the Delaware case—ordering the immediate admission of the plaintiffs to schools previously attended only by white children—is affirmed on the basis of the principles stated in our May 17, 1954 opinion, but the case is remanded to the Supreme Court of Delaware for such further proceedings as that court may deem necessary in light of this opinion.

"It is so ordered."

ROY WILKINS

ROBERT L. CARTER

Full text of decree

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Here is the complete text of the unanimous Supreme Court decision read Tuesday, May 31 by Chief Justice Earl Warren.

"These cases were decided on May 17, 1954. The opinions of that date, declaring the fundamental principle that racial discrimination in public education is unconstitutional, are incorporated herein by reference. All provisions of federal, state, or local law requiring or permitting such discrimination must yield to this principle. There remains for consideration the manner in which relief is to be accorded.

"Because these cases arose under different local conditions and their disposition will involve a variety of local problems, we requested further argument on the question of relief.

"In view of the nation-wide importance of the decision, we invited the Attorney General of the United States and the Attorneys General of all states requiring or permitting racial discrimination in public education to present their views on that question. The parties, the United States, and the participated in the oral argument.

* * *

"THESE PRESENTATIONS were informative and helpful to the Court in its consideration of the complexities arising from the transition to a system of public education freed of racial discrimination.

"The presentation also demonstrated that substantial steps to eliminate racial discrimination in public schools have already been taken, not only in some of the communities in which these cases arose, but in some of the states appearing as amici curiae, and in other states as well.

"Substantial progress has been made in the District of Columbia and in the communities in Kansas and Delaware involved in this litigation. The defendants in the cases coming to us from South Carolina and Virginia are awaiting the decision of this Court concerning relief.

"Full implementation of these constitutional principles may require solution of varied local school problems. School authorities have the primary responsibility for elucidating, assessing, and solving these problems; courts will have to consider whether the action of school authorities constitutes good faith implementation of the governing constitutional principles.

* * *

"BECAUSE of their proximity to local conditions and the possible need for further hearings, the courts which originally heard these cases can best perform this judicial appraisal. Accordingly, we believe it appropriate to remand the cases to those courts.

"In fashioning and effectuating the decrees, the courts will be guided by equitable principles. Traditionally, equity has been characterized by a practical flexibility in shaping its remedies and by a facility for adjusting and reconciling public and private needs.

"These cases call for the exercise of these traditional attributes of equity power. At stake is the personal interest of the plaintiffs in admission to public schools as soon as practicable on a nondiscriminatory basis.

"To effectuate this interest may call for elimination of a variety of obstacles in making the transition to school systems operated in accordance with the constitutional principles set forth in our May 17, 1954, decision.

* * *

"COURTS OF equity may properly take into account the public interest in the elimination of such obstacles in a systematic and effective manner. But it should go without saying that the vitality of these constitutional principles cannot be allowed to yield simply because of disagreement with them.

"While giving weight to these public and private considerations, the courts will require that the defendants make a prompt and reasonable start toward full compliance with our May 17, 1954, ruling. Once such a start has been made, the courts may find that additional time is necessary to carry out the ruling in an effective manner.

"The burden rests upon the defendants to establish that such time is necessary in the public interest and is consistent with good faith compliance at the earliest practicable date.

* * *

"TO THAT END, the courts may consider problems related to administration, arising from the physical condition of the school transportation system, personnel, revision of school districts and attendance areas into compact units to achieve a system of determining admission to the public schools on a nonracial basis, and revision of local laws and regulations which may be necessary in solving the foregoing problems.

"They will also consider the adequacy of any plans the defendants may propose to meet these problems and to effectuate a transition to a racially nondiscriminatory school system. During this period of transition, the courts will retain jurisdiction of these cases.

"The judgments below, except that in the Delaware case, are accordingly reversed and remanded to the District Courts to take such proceedings and enter such orders and decrees consistent with this opinion as are necessary and proper to admit to public schools on a racially nondiscriminatory basis with all deliberate speed the parties to these cases.

"The judgment in the Delaware case—ordering the immediate admission of the plaintiffs to schools previously attended only by white children—is affirmed on the basis of the principles stated in our May 17, 1954 opinion, but the case is remanded to the Supreme Court of Delaware for such further proceedings as that court may deem necessary in light of this opinion.

"It is so ordered."

Va. accepts decree with mixed feelings

RICHMOND

Virginians reacted to the Supreme Court decree outlining implementation of the May 17 anti-segregation ruling with mixed emotions, ranging from jubilance on the part of attorneys who favor segregation, to quiet skepticism from those responsible for the school case.

Prince Edward County school authorities were "pleased and happy" that no specific deadline was set by the court in directing the end of public school segregation.

THOMAS J. McILWAINE, superintendent of Prince Edward county schools, and B. O. Bass, school board chairman, said they were happy with the decree.

McIlwaine said:

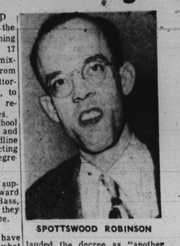
"Up to now, all of us have been in the dark as to what might have been required of us. I think now we can work something out."

On the other hand, the Rev. L. F. Griffin, president of the Farmville NAACP and county NAACP coordinator when the school suits were filed in 1951, told the AFRO:

"It's about what I expected it to be, but I am a little disappointed that no deadline was set. This leaves too much of a loop-hole for those not interested in complying with the ruling . . . **Too much room for evasion."**

* * *

SPOTSWOOD W. ROBINSON 3rd and Oliver W. Hill, NAACP attorneys who prepared and argued the Virginia school cases before the Supreme Court, issued a joint statement in which they lauded the decree as "another landmark in the development of constitutional protection of inherent human rights. Every American citizen and resident in Farmville, plaintiffs in the school case were unavailable for comment. One of them, Miss Carrie Stokes, is attending Morris College in Atlanta and is slated for graduation June 8.



SPOTTSWOOD ROBINSON

Another plaintiff, Miss Edwilla Allen will be graduated from Robert Moton High School in Farmville this month. Efforts to reach her by telephone Tuesday were unsuccessful.

Shortly after the long-awaited ruling came down, Gov. Thomas B. Stanley went into conference with Dowell J. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction; J. Lindsay Almond Jr., attorney general, and Henry T. Wickham, his special assistant.

Governor Stanley said he would "study" the opinion before making any comment.

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DR. J. RUPERT PICOTT, executive secretary of the Virginia teachers association, said: "While I have not had opportunity to read the full text of the court's directive . . . the opinion seems to be of the type which had been expected."

Dr. Picott said the VTA a week ago planned a statewide teachers and citizens conference Aug. 1 and 2 to "discuss and act on the present role of Virginians in the desegregation and integration process in the public schools and other phases of American life."

The Hill-Robinson statement said:

* * *

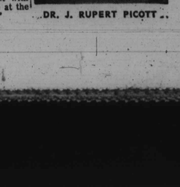
"THE U.S. SUPREME COURT'S decision of May 17, 1954, implemented by its decisions of today, have destroyed all vestiges of racial segregation in public schools.

"The court today clearly and succinctly restated the proposition that all school segregation laws must yield to the constitutional principles announced in the earlier decisions and that the vitality of these principles cannot be diminished simply because of disagreement with them.

"The court has afforded the South reasonable period within which to make an effective transition to nonsegregated education; but has made it clear that the process of desegregation must start promptly and move forward with all deliberate speed.

"We regard these decisions as another landmark in the development of constitutional protection of inherent human rights."

W. Lester Banks, Virginia NAACP executive secretary, said "no comment" when asked for his reaction to Tuesday's decree.



DR. J. RUPERT PICOTT