

# FEPCC FILES DISCRIMINATION CHARGES AGAINST CAPITAL TRANSIT COMPANY OF WASHINGTON

## THE CAROLINIAN

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### FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala. — A decline in lynchings during 1944 was reported recently by F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute.

Basing his statement on information compiled by the Department of Records and Research, Dr. Patterson said in his annual report on the subject that two persons were lynched during the past year.

The report added:

"This is one less than the number for the year 1943; three less than the number five for the year 1942; two less than the number four for the year 1941; and three less than the number five for the year 1940."

"One of the persons lynched was a 65-year-old minister-farmer who was taken about five miles from his home and shot to death by a mob; the other, a 17-year-old youth at the Tennessee State Training and Agricultural School (a reformatory) was taken from jail and shot to death by a mob."

"Both persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: inflicting a lawyer to safeguard his title to a debt-free farm through a suit; and inflicting a murdering wife and daughter of the superintendent of the reformatory."

"The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each are as follows: Mississippi, 1; Tennessee, 1."

### Cites Company For Refusing To Hire Colored Applicants

#### HEARING TO BE HELD JANUARY 15 AND 16

BY J. FRANCIS PRICE

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has requested the Capital Transit Company of Washington, D. C., to be present on January 15 and 16, at public hearings at which the CTC will be called upon to present testimony in regard to the FEPC's charge that the Capital Transit Company has violated the President's order forbidding discrimination in war industries because of race, creed, or color.

The FEPC's complaint charging restrictive racial hiring on transit workers was served on the Company Tuesday, January 2, according to an official statement released by the Office of War Information. It stated that the Company had refused to hire Negroes as "bus operators, motormen, conductors, and checkers."

Fourteen Negro men and women applicants have been refused employment in the capacities referred to according to the FEPC.

The FEPC statement as issued reviewed the hiring policies of the CTC over the past two years saying that an original order for "white only" placed with United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission was later modified by an expressed company willingness to accept referrals with out regard to race. While this brought 105 applications from Negroes for positions as bus operators, motormen, conductors, and checkers, the Capital Transit Company said that the company refused to hire the applicants.

In a prepared statement the Capital Transit Company said that the Company would appear at the hearing and will present all available facts pertaining to its employment policies at that time.

The company claims to have approximately 540 colored persons on its payroll and insists that at the present time it is finding it difficult to get colored applicants for positions.

Negroes in Washington express special interest in the fact that there are no Negro bus operators, conductors, etc. representing the Capital Transit Company for the Nation's Capital, while in other large cities such as New York, Los Angeles, California; Philadelphia, and others, Negroes are serving in similar capacities without abnormal mishap. It is regarded by many as a break of good faith with other nations of the world to have this discrimination exist in the city which claims destined to become the center of international relations for peoples throughout the world.

### THREE PERSONS PAY WITH LIVES IN GAS CHAMBER

According to schedule, three persons were asphyxiated on Friday in the gas chamber at Central Prison here—two for the murder of a white taxi-cab driver in Charlotte, and a third for the rape of a 12-year-old girl in Scotland County.

Those sent to their death included Bessie Mae Williams, 19, and Ralph Thompson, 18, of Charlotte, and Melvin Wade, 24, of Lenoir.

Miss Williams and Thompson admitted their part in the murder of Mack Minyard, the driver, while Wade denied to the end that he was guilty of rape.

Witnessing the three executions were five ministers. Twenty-eight persons witnessed the young woman's death, 25 for Thompson, and 12 remained for Wade's.

Bessie Mae, who kept during the procedure in the death room as the first woman to be executed in this state in two years.

Thompson went apparently calmly to his death. Both believed that they had been saved through prayers.

Wade, the only one to talk after entering the chamber, asked if it were necessary to place the helmet on his head. When told that not probable, he was found in a case charging the man with making improper advances to his daughters, aged 15 and 2-1/2 years.

Testimony was offered by Mrs. Sara Browner, prison officer for juvenile court, who said that she was asked recently by the man's 15-year-old daughter, Adeline, to draw a warrant ordering her father to provide fuel for the home. She found the children attempting to warm their hands inside the stove. Also, the only food found in the house consisted of a small amount of meat and flour.

At the time, Mrs. White was confined in St. Agnes Hospital with a newborn child.

### National Y Head Appeals For Race Relations Fund

#### DURHAM MAN TO MEDICAL DCS

Ft. Benning Ga.—Cpl. William J. Kennedy, III, of Durham, was one of 12 soldiers recently transferred from the Ft. Benning Reception Center to the Medical Administrative Corps Officer Candidate School at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. It was announced this week Kennedy is, vice president and secretary of the N. C. Mutual Life Ins. Co. of Durham.

The men will be commissioned second lieutenants upon satisfactory completion of the course.

#### NAVY BOARD PROBES OUSTER OF 15 SEABEES

The campaign to win justice for 15 discharged Negro Seabees, in which the National CIO War Relief Committee has worked with other organizations, produced results December 11 with the opening of Washington hearings on the case before the Navy Board of Review for Discharges.

The men were summarily discharged in October, 1943, after they had protested against segregation. Two of the men, Harvey Steele, 26, former shipfitter, second class, and Isaac G. Me Natt, 27, former storekeeper, third class, were discharged on October 1943, after they had protested against segregation. Two of the men, Harvey Steele, 26, former shipfitter, second class, and Isaac G. Me Natt, 27, former storekeeper, third class, were discharged on October 1943, after they had protested against segregation.

Also acting on behalf of the men are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Civil Liberties Union and the Lynn Committee to Abolish Segregation in the Armed Forces. Serving as special counsel is Arthur Garfield Hays, Jr., who has filed a memorandum with the board as "amicus curiae"—friend of the court—pointing out that "it would be most regrettable if a precedent were established for such summary discharges that places the burden of an inherently unjust situation upon those innocent of any actual infraction of regulations."

The aim of the CIO and the other organizations is to gain honorable discharges for the men, since the manner of their dismissal precludes their enjoying benefits under the GI Bill of Rights.

The fifteen were discharged immediately after discussing the segregation and other racial problems at their Caribbean base with their white commanding officer, who had invited them to a meeting to "get things off your chest." The "sell-out" discharges they were handed denies them benefits granted honorably discharged men, such as mastering-out pay and post-service education.

The CIO's memorandum to the board said the Committee "has given

### MEMORIAL SERVICES HELD FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

Among the five persons memorialized on Saturday at the sixtieth annual memorial service for deceased city employees who died in 1944 were David Augustus and John W. Warren, employed in the Public Works Department for many years. The service was held at the First Baptist Church (white) at 3 o'clock.

Dr. E. Broadue Jones, pastor of the church, spoke on "Angels of the Night," pointing out how angels are our benefactors in freedom as well as from prisons of darkness which envelope the soul.

The speaker explained that our sorrows are lost when we share the sorrows of others, and while we are busy trying to win for ourselves that coveted life of beauty and happiness.

Vases of flowers to be placed on the graves of the deceased were furnished by the present city employees.

### FREED OF INCEST CHARGE; DRAWS TERM FOR NON-SUPPORT

Cap White, 48, of 312 Maple St. was sentenced in City Court last week to 12 months on the road for charged with non-support of his wife and seven minor children.

Not probable was found in a case charging the man with making improper advances to his daughters, aged 15 and 2-1/2 years.

Testimony was offered by Mrs. Sara Browner, prison officer for juvenile court, who said that she was asked recently by the man's 15-year-old daughter, Adeline, to draw a warrant ordering her father to provide fuel for the home. She found the children attempting to warm their hands inside the stove. Also, the only food found in the house consisted of a small amount of meat and flour.

At the time, Mrs. White was confined in St. Agnes Hospital with a newborn child.

### ELDERLY MAN DIES AS HOME BURNS

Rockingham — Seventy-five-year old Walt Hines, was fatally burned on last Wednesday morning when his two-room house went up in flames. Because of his feeble condition, he, apparently, was unable to make his way out of the dwelling in time.

### Franklin County Celebrates Emancipation Day

Louisburg—For the 79th time the Franklin County Emancipation Association has held a large community gathering to observe the Emancipation Proclamation, which brought freedom to the colored people of this great nation.

### ASK ABOLITION OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, MO. 92nd DIVISION ESCAPES WITH CLOSE CALL

Kansas City, Mo. — Because the Missouri NAACP believes facilities at Lincoln University, Mo., are inferior to those at the University of Missouri, which does not admit Negro students, the State NAACP is suggesting the abolition of Lincoln University.

David H. Grant, St. Louis attorney, offered the suggestion and proposed that a bill be submitted to the Missouri State Legislature embodying the points of in his proposal.

Grant's bill would abolish the Negro institution and admit Negroes to the State University.

### Retiring Gov. Assists In Bronze Star Awards

Fort Bragg, N. C., Dec. 29—Making his last public appearance before retiring from office next week, Governor J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina today assisted Brigadier General John T. Kennedy, Commanding General of Fort Bragg, in presenting Bronze Star awards to the father of a Negro enlisted man killed in action and to a chaplain who distinguished here after service overseas.

A tour of this vast military reservation gave the outgoing Governor a glimpse of the scope and magnitude of the work being done by the Army. Visited shops, warehouses and other facilities of the post. He observed the tremendous tasks being accomplished daily by the Army Center, where Negro men are inducted and received into the Army, given special educational training, processed upon return from overseas for furloughs and reassigned, and processed through the Separation Center.

Governor and Mrs. Broughton, who were escorted through the tour by General Kennedy, showed particular interest in the Army Supply Division. He was surprised to learn that vast amounts of clothing and equipment are salvaged and repaired at Fort Bragg weekly, thus saving to the government thousands of dollars annually.

The size of Fort Bragg's laundry, considered one of the largest in the nation, astounded the Governor.

The Governor expressed pleasure at what he observed in a tour of one of Fort Bragg's hospitals. He visited a number of wards, where he talked with soldier patients. Surgical rooms, laboratories and other facilities of the hospital also were visited.

Soldiers in various stages of training for combat duty were observed. Men taking basic and advanced Artillery training were among the troops seen by the Governor.

Governor Broughton described his visit here today as his last official appearance as Governor of North Carolina. He expressed his hope to raise the harmonious relations that have existed between Fort Bragg officials and North Carolina officials during his term of office.

E. Ray of Route 2, St. Paul, N. C., received the Bronze Star awarded posthumously to his son, Pvt. Deorny Ray, for "heroic achievement" in connection with military operations against the enemy in the Solomon Islands.

Chaplain (Captain) Alvin E. Clark, son of W. A. Clark of Rte 2, Bentonville, Arkansas, was

presented the Bronze Star awarded for meritorious achievement while serving at New Georgia, Solomon Islands.

Personnel of Fort Bragg's Station Complement took part in the ceremonies during which the awards were presented. Music for the event was furnished by the 34th Army Service Forces Band, a unit composed of Negro personnel and directed by WO Rutherford Strider of Lexington, Ky.

In speaking during the presentation ceremonies, Governor Broughton paid special tribute to members of the military who have made the supreme sacrifice in the war. He said that these men not only have "reflected great credit upon the military service but also have added an outstanding chapter to the history of the Negro in this nation." He expressed pride in the "close harmony that has been manifested between the races in North Carolina" during his term of office.

### Gov. CHERRY ADVOCATES PROGRESS IN ADDRESS

RALEIGH — In a 14,000 word address delivered before a capacity audience in the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium here Thursday, His Excellency, R. Gregg Cherry outlined a program for North Carolina that will assure a progressive administration if carried out.

Governor Cherry recommended: 1. Maintenance of State policies preparatory to declaring North Carolina's position respecting Federal, Foreign, and Domestic matters. 2. Retirement of the State's bonded indebtedness. 3. Re-enactment of the State Employment Bonus. 4. \$125.00 per month for beginning teachers with "A" certificates. 5. Machinery for proper control of public school funds. 6. All weather roads for every section of the State.

### MAN FOUND DEAD BY SCHOOL CHILDREN

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. — Samuel Burns of the Swan Creek Community was found dead on a side road in the Swan Creek Community on Friday, December 29th. The body was discovered by some school children and news was dispatched to the family of Mr. Burns, who had been searching for him during the day. He left home on Thursday and failed to return.

Corners' inquest reported that indications were that he came to his death as a result of a stroke of the brain.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 31st at Swan Creek Baptist Church of which Rev. Bobbitt is pastor.

He is survived by a wife, Mrs. Lula Burns; one sister, Miss Coanna Burns; six children: four sons, Raymond, Willie, Nathan; two daughters, Pauline and Essie Mae. The former is now Mrs. Pauline Sutton, and the latter, Mrs. Essie Mae Burns.

### Bishop King's Resignation Deferred By Fraternal Council of Negro Churches

CINCINNATI, O. — The executive committee of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America met today in Allen Temple, 6th & Broadway this city. Dr. E. W. Perry, President of the Oklahoma Baptist Convention, who is vice president-at-large of the Fraternal Council, presided. Dr. W. M.razier, President of the Mississippi Industrial College, acted as secretary.

Leading Churchmen from various parts of the country were present, including bishops A. H. Rouse of Kansas City, W. A. Fountain of Atlanta, Ga.; R. C. Ransom and R. H. Wright, Jr. of Wilberforce, O.; J. H. Clayborn of Little Rock, Ark; Rev. W. M. Townsend of Arkansas; B. Julian Smith of Chicago; W. K. Wilkes of Georgia; B. M. Hughes of Kentucky; P. R. Washington of Ohio; A. W. Womack, A. F. Davis and F. D. Coleman of Tennessee; Bishop D. H. Sims and Bishop J. A. Grigg, Jr. of Austin and Dr. C. T. Murray and others were represented by proxies.

The meeting decided not to accept the resignation of President, Bishop L. H. King, hoping that he will sufficiently recover from his illness

### HEROIC N.C. SOLDIERS HONORED IN FRANCE

Somewhere in France—Dedication of the Darval Bridge, the largest in France, to Pte. I. D. Dickerson of Pikesville, N. C., and Pte. Albert Amos of Cave City, Ky., honored two of the war's heroic Negro engineers in ceremonies near Rouen recently. Both were members of the 392nd Engineer Regiment General Services, Dickerson, who was killed at Carenton by an anti-personnel mine while clearing a mine field and Amos was killed by a anti-personnel bomb while on duty in Brittany.

The Rouen ceremony, aside from dedicating the bridge to the two heroic engineers, also signalized the remarkable engineering feats accomplished by American Negro troops in this sector.

Fleeing Nazis placed 40 tons of TNT under the columns of the Rouen Viaduct, blowing away the arches of the bridge. Eight days were required to remove the debris, even with Americans utilizing the most modern equipment.

The men had to dig nine feet under the ground in order to get a solid foundation. There were no timber available consequently the men had to go into the forest and fell huge trees to get their timber required for the massive structure of the bridge. Special bolts were made in the French machine

### Labor Conditions In Wilmington Improving

RALEIGH — Wilmington has been moved from a Group II labor shortage area, to a Group III area, with slight labor surplus, in the January 1 classification of labor

### Enfield Soldier Commanded By Commanding Officer

WITH THE ARMY AIR FORCE ENGINEER COMMAND IN CORISICA — Fred S. Wilkins, of Enfield, N. C., was recently commended by his Battalion Commander, Lt. Colonel James O. Johnson of Huntsville, Ala. The commendation reads:

"(Continued on back page)"

### FEPCC BILL LABOR'S BIGGEST 1944 FIGHT

Senate and House Committee approval of the LaFollette-Dawson Bill for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission constituted the major laborer's rights gain of 1944. Morris Milgram, Workers Defense League National secretary, declared in a New Year's day statement.

"The impetus gained by the FEPC bill in recent months must not be lost by permitting Congressional committees to stall progress of the bills," Milgram said. "Every community organization which believes in equal job rights for minorities—Negroes, Jews, Catholics, foreign born, bapaneese-American, Mexicans—should seek to get definite commitment from their Congressmen for immediate passage of the LaFollette-Dawson Permanent FEPC bill without amendment as to coverage or enforcement powers. But far employment without fair employment will not eliminate discrimination, as long as we have employment, or the fear of unemployment, tormenting a majority group."

(Continued on back page)