

Things You Should Know



LT. COLONEL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DAVIS, AS COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 99TH PURSUIT SQUADRON IN EUROPE, WAS ALSO ORGANIZER OF THE 332ND FIGHTER GROUP DURING WORLD WAR II. THEY FLEW MORE THAN 3000 MISSIONS OVER EUROPE, DESTROYING A TOTAL OF NEARLY 300 ENEMY PLANES. BY THE END OF THE WAR, COL. DAVIS AND EIGHTY-SEVEN OF HIS MEN, HAD EACH WON A DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS!

Funeral Directors Meet In St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 5

ST. LOUIS—The 26th Annual Convention of the National Negro Funeral Directors Association convenes August 5th through 8th, 1957, at the Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri, according to an announcement made today by Robert H. Miller, General Secretary.

This organization which is composed of Funeral Directors throughout the nation has set as its goal the full participation, representation and integration of its members in every phase of the funeral profession including local, state and national departments regulating the profession. Delegates will be arriving on Sunday, August 4th, from all over the United States.

Memorial Services will be on that night at the Union Memorial Methodist Church, Dr. J. J. Hicks, pastor, in memory of all deceased members. Coming to the convention also will be the Women's Auxiliary from all States.

About a half-million dollars worth of exhibits will be shown. Some of the highlights of this year's confab will be the Annual Awards Banquet, Tuesday, August 6th, at the Hotel Kingsway, with T. M. Alexander, nationally known orator and businessman of Atlanta, Georgia as the principal speaker. Achievement awards will be presented by the National Funeral Director & Embalmer, official journal of the Association, to Mrs. Fannie B. Stone of Tampa, Fla., 1956 "Woman of the Year".

Mrs. Stone is a licensed embalmer and funeral director, and a life time member of the Board of Directors of the National Association. She is also treasurer of the Central Life Insurance Company of Florida. Other awards will be presented by the St. Louis Undertakers Ass'n to John Kirkpatrick, editor and publisher of the East St. Louis Crusader; Nathaniel Sweets, editor of the St. Louis American, and Mrs. Nannie Mitchell Turner, president, St. Louis Argus Publishing Co.

The main highlight of the convention will be the change of the Association name, dropping the word "Negro". There will be many social events given by the local associations, who are the St. Louis Undertakers Association and the Missouri State Negro Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association, Inc.

Last year this Association gave the Montgomery Improvement Association \$2,000.00, Jack Delaney, chairman of the convention committee, along with Robert H. Miller were in St. Louis last week completing the final plans with the host associations. H. M. Ivey of Atlanta, Ga., is president and C. W. Lee of Montgomery, Alabama is chairman of the Board of Directors. Preceding this meeting is the Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Fraternity who hold their meeting for two days, F. H. Purnell of Houston, Texas is president.

AME Budget Committee Shows That Church Is In Sound Condition

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—The AME Church is in better financial condition than at any previous time in its history, members of the Budget Committee of the Church have just announced here. The committee was originally authorized at the Miami, Fla. General Conference, in 1956, and was directed to "put the AME Church on a sound business basis."

That this has been accomplished was agreed by the Committee following its recent meeting here. Among the announced accomplishments was that the AME Church-supported educational institutions have received over the past 12 months 20 percent more money than ever before.

The Committee announced that the \$4.90 annual General Conference assessment for all members of the AME Church passed in 1956, would adequately meet the operational needs of the Church at this time. The \$4.90 is for General and Connectional purposes.

Dr. R. W. Mance, treasurer of the AME Church, announced that the Church has over \$327,000 in savings accounts.

The Budget Committee is chaired by Bishop S. L. Greene and other members are the Revs. H. Ralph Jackson, E. M. Johnson, R. E. Lamb, and McCoy Ransom. Ex officio members are the Rev. Russell Brown, general secretary of the AME Church; H. Dudley and Dr. Mance, treasurer.

The committee has recently also been invested with interim executive authority to act on behalf of the AME Church between sessions of the General Board, Bishop Greene said.

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Honky Tonker' Bill Doggett Blasts Rock 'N Roll Critics

NEW YORK (AP)—"Rock and roll has been blamed as the cause of everything from race riots and automobile accidents to juvenile delinquency and forest fires," declared jazz organist Bill Doggett in a recent interview. The popular King recording star said that "it's about time for politicians, teachers, preachers and the police to let up and give the rock and rollers a break. The kids aren't nearly as bad as folks would have them be. I've traveled more than 100,000 miles a year for the past five years, appearing at dances, theatres and clubs, and I've found that the youngsters are in most cases better behaved than the adults we play for."

Rock and roll music, which has been steadily booming in popularity despite the reports that it is on the decline, was cited by the famous Hammond organ stylist as "the one type of music that can serve as an

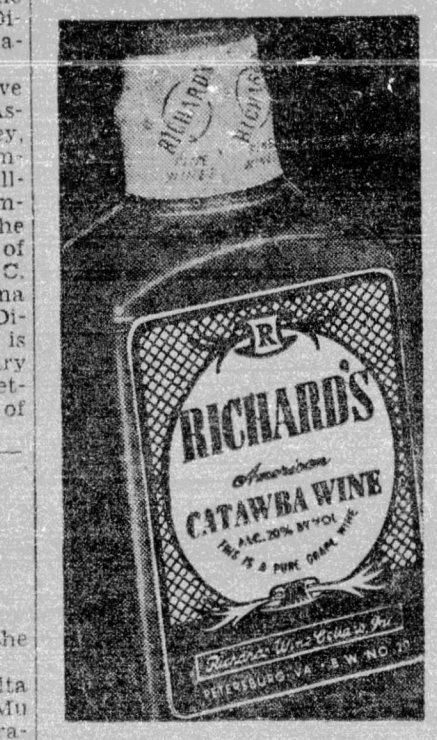
Virginia State Music Prof. Receives Ed. D. At Mich.

PETERSBURG, Va.—Thomas C. Bridge, associate professor of music at Virginia State College, recently received the Doctor of Education degree from the University of Michigan. The title of Doctor Bridge's dissertation was "A Study of Music and Non-Music Requirements in Music Education Curriculums."

A former music instructor at the Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, Bridge studied the violin under Gilbert Ross and Anthony Whitmore at the University of Michigan.

A native of Detroit, he is married and has two children.

He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Mu Alpha and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternities.



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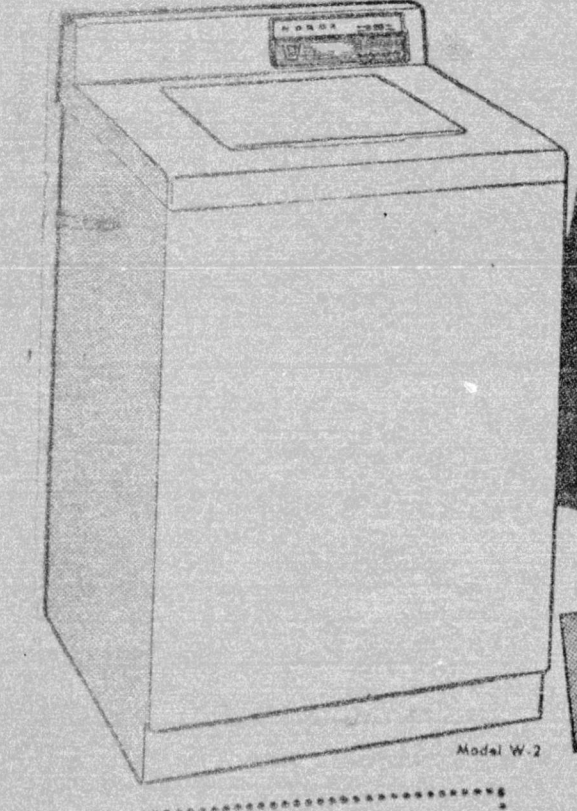
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At Bennett: Methodists' Centennial Plans Drafted

GREENSBORO — Members of the committee on conference statistics and history of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Church, met at Bennett College last week to draft preliminary plans for the Centennial Celebration of the conference to be held here in 1958.

Bennett representatives meeting with the ministers included President Willa B. Player, Dr. Hobart S. Jarrett, chairman of the division of humanities and W. I. Gibson, director of public relations.

The Rev. Robert McRae, chairman of Fayetteville, in calling attention to the fact that the 100th anniversary will be held on the Bennett campus, said that highlights of the observance will be a banquet and an historical pageant portraying the origin and development of the conference. In addition, there will be suitable exhibits of photographs, costumes and mementos and an illustrated brochure.

A committee on history, headed by the Rev. William R. Crawford, Winston-Salem conciliarman, was appointed, with the following members: Miss Isabel E. Jones, Asheville; the Rev. G. Haven Caldwell, Greensboro; the Rev. C. E. Strickland, Charlotte, and Dr. Jarrett.

The Rev. J. J. Patterson of High Point, was named chairman of the committee on brochure, and named to serve with him were E. L. Raiford, Raleigh; Clarence Gaines, Winston-Salem; Mrs. Mary Morrison, Statesville, and Mr. Gibson.

These committees will make their first reports at a meeting scheduled to be held on September 27 at the college.

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outlet for that tremendous hunch of tensions and anxieties that plague today's youngsters."

Doggett, who heads one of the most outstanding combos in the nation, insists that rock and roll music is far less sexy and stimulating than the dances and music that Americans enjoyed during those fast-moving "Roaring Twenties."

He points out that many of the parents of today's teenagers and young adults "would actually be ashamed to perform such dances as 'The Charleston,' 'The Black Bottom,' 'The Shimmy,' 'Boogie-Woogie' and others—but they still criticize the music and dance preferences of their children, which are really tame compared to what was considered the thing in the twenties and thirties."

Both farmers and ginners are required to keep accurate records of purchases and sales of cotton.

Beef cattle prices are expected to remain at present favorable levels throughout the remainder of 1957.