

ESQUIRE RAPS PREJUDICE



The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

MAILING EDITION

Reaches The Mass Of Readers

COLUMN 17 No. 31 WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1937 PRICE 6c

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED



MRS. JOHN PRESTON THORPE, above, who before her marriage was Miss Naoma Walker, daughter of Rev. T. V. Walker of 407 Umstead St. Miss Walker was secretly married to John Preston Thorpe of this city on October 17, 1936, in Halifax, Va. The marriage was announced last week when Mr. Thorpe came from Atlantic City, N. J. The couple will spend the remainder of the summer in Atlantic City, and will return to the city in the fall. Mrs. Thorpe is a teacher in the W. G. Pearsons Elementary school. Mr. Thorpe is employed in Raleigh, N. C.

DEFENSE TEARS DOWN GIRL'S STORY IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

'I'll Appeal Sentence To Hell And Back' Says Samuel Leibowitz

DECATUR, Ala., July 21.—(ANP)—I will appeal the sentence to hell and back. That was the grim statement of Chief Defense Council Samuel Leibowitz of New York as Clarence Norris, first of the eight Negroes, to go on trial in the new chapter of the Scottsboro cases, was sentenced to death Thursday afternoon by an all white jury in the court of Judge W. W. (Speed) Callahan. Dispute holes torn by the defense in the testimony of Mrs. Victoria Price, chief complaining witness, had Callahan all but asked the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty in his charge to them Thursday afternoon. He said, "the law would authorize testimony alone. Conviction on Victoria Price's However, he added, "This suit is not Victoria versus Clarence Norris, but the State of Alabama versus Clarence Norris. Victoria Price has no more to do with this case than any other woman. She was called and brought here by the State to testify for the State. "Remember She's White" "I also want you to remember that where the woman is white, there is strong presumption under the law that she did not yield to the advances of a Negro." This is the third time in the more than six years of the case that Norris has heard himself condemned to die in the electric chair. Twice he has been saved by the U. S. supreme court. He hopes that again the nation's highest tribunal will intervene, if need be. Due to the illness of Clarence Watts, Alabama lawyer who played a leading role in the trials because of the belief here that a harmonious settlement of the case could be brought about with local attorney added to the defense, the trial of Charlie Weems, scheduled to begin Thursday, was postponed until July 22. Three Negroes were included in the venire of 100 prospective jurors sworn in Monday when the case began. As Callahan administered the oath, one asked to be excused because he had a "fixed opinion" of the case. The names of the other two were struck by the state. Prosecutor Thomas F. Lawson said that the mere drawing of their names fulfilled constitutional requirements and contended the state had a right to strike anybody it chose, regardless of race, in the selection of the jury. Opening witness for the state was Victoria Price, who again told a story of how she and Ruby Bates were assaulted by the nine youths aboard a freight train in March, 1931. She said the Negroes came up yelling to their white companions, "All you whiteboys usay yo' dat exoms ouz 'n' poyun had guns and the others had knives, and that Norris threatened to kill her if she did not yield. Victoria asserted that she was ravished by Norris and five of the others and that she and Ruby were hobnobbing aboard the freight to their home in Huntsville, Ala., after an unsuccessful attempt to find work in Chattanooga, Tenn. Direct examination was brief. In cross examination, Leibowitz asked her how much money she had at the time of the alleged attack. When she replied fifty cents, Leibowitz asked her to produce the transcript given at the original trial in 1931 at Scottsboro which quoted her as saying she had "a dollar and a half." Callahan reprimanded Leibowitz for his method of cross examination, saying, "If you keep up this argument, you won't have anything to tell the jury. I'm goin' to excuse you this time because I realize you are young and inexperienced." Leibowitz, who at the time was asking Victoria about testimony she gave at Scottsboro concerning the two guns, apologized. But he continued to hammer away at her assertion she "believed" Norris was one of the two youths armed with pistols. He read from a transcript of the original trial where she declared Norris was unarmed. To refute the woman's story that she was so brutally treated the defense read into the record the testimony of Dr. R. R. Bridges of Scottsboro, now deceased, given at the last trial of Norris in Nov. 1933. The physician was called by the state in the original trial but because his testimony did not show either woman attacked, he was not heard. Bridges testified that he examined the women immediately after they taken from the train, had declared in open court that he found only small scratches on her forearms and a bruise "the size of a pecan nut in the small of her back." Her pulse and respiration were quite normal, a condition most unusual for a woman who had undergone the abuse she swore she had. To further refute Victoria's story, Leibowitz brought in a surprise witness. Mrs. Emma Bates, mother of Ruby, who later repudiated the attack yarn and said the whole thing was a frame-up. The Price woman was red and angry as Mrs. Bates was brought forward for identification. The mother testified as to Victoria's bad reputation and how she and Ruby even "entertained" the two boys in their cell after the arrest and they were removed only after complaining to authorities. The defense also introduced evidence purporting to show that Victoria, a fully grown woman, induced Ruby, then a girl of 17, to go into Alabama for immoral purposes. Wouldn't Believe Her Leibowitz also put R. S. Warrison, former Huntsville deputy, forward for identification. The

RETURNS FROM C. E. CONVENTION



The 36th International Christian Endeavor Convention which closed its 1937 session July 18th was attended by more than 10,000 delegates, according to Dr. J. A. Valentine, whose photo appears above. Dr. Valentine is pastor of the St. Joseph A.M.E. church. The convention, stated Dr. Valentine, was minus any evidence of racial discrimination, Negro delegates, numbering about 100 participating on equal basis with other races represented. The mammoth parade took more than two hours to pass any given point and was reported to have been the longest seen in the city of Grand Rapids in many years.

Blasts Her Story

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VICE-COMMANDER



J. W. Smith, Department Commander of the North Carolina Division of the American Legion who predicts that the state convention which meets here July 25, 26 will be the largest in the history of the organization.

POST COMMANDER



RIGHT—N. A. Brewington, Post Commander of the Weaver McLean Post No. 175.

N. Y. Stores Protest WPA Firing; Close

NEW YORK, July 22.—(CNA) In recognition that the recent WPA mass dismissals will seriously affect the economic situation in the community, hundreds of Harlem business concerns observed a fifteen-minute stoppage on Saturday in support of the campaign of the community's three major project workers' organizations against the WPA firings. The business stoppage took place in the midst of the stores' week-end rush hour, beginning at 12 o'clock noon. It virtually tired out the Harlem business section, which stretches from 110th Street to 145th Street, on Lenox Seventh, Eighth and Fifth Aves. Simultaneously, parades, open-air meetings and other activities protesting the thousands of dismissals of Negro workers were held throughout the stoppage area. Sponsoring the dramatics demonstration were the City Projects Councils and Local 543 of the WPA Teachers' Union, with joint offices at 326 Lenox Avenue, and the Harlem Council of the workers' Alliance, 103 West 133rd St. A special "death watch" led by the Artists' Union and the Harlem Artists' Guild, called attention to the death of Louis Vaughn, 27-year-old artist, who committed suicide following the receipt of a WPA pink slip last month. Beryl Banfield, Negro organizer of the Harlem City Councils Projects, said that the stores agreed to cooperate in the protest.

Divine Sends Air Mail Letter To John W. Hunt



MRS. NELL HUNTER, wife of Dr. A. S. Hunter, who is attending the National Recreational Institution in Washington, D. C. Mrs. Hunter is Assistant Director of Music for the WPA.

New York — (C) — In an air mail, special delivery letter to John Wuest Hunt, at Los Angeles County Jail, Father Divine wrote his former disciple, who was convicted of violating the Mann act, in part as follows: "I am writing to say it is a consolation to know the Court's sentence was not as severe as it might have been, and that it was lenient by MY SPIRIT with mercy and compassion under the violation of the law of both God and man. "By an open confession, compassion and mercy were considered, and God in compassion extended clemency to a certain degree. Therefore, as I have instructed, I am instructing, an open confession is good for the soul. "It is understood, by others as well as yourself, that even the act of any person participating to my teaching, is a violation to my teaching, as the Life of Christ in the Virtue of Mary and the Holiness of Jesus must be enacted in all of your dealings. To walk in the light I have so freely given, one must abstain from all appearances of evil and the very God of Peace will sanctify him holy. Sanctification means separation — to separate you from human affection and self-indulgence. Therefore when you fully abide by MY teaching, you also abide by the Federal Law of our great country. That is why I wrote you and Delight the letter to Palm Springs as soon as I heard by your telegram, that there was any sense or appearance of human affection or personal correspondence, of which was in violation to MY Life and MY Teaching. "However, as you have made the open confession to both God and man, if you have forsaken all of those tendencies, fancies and pleasures, your sins are forgiven. All you must needs do is to continue to live it and express it in prison, as well as when you receive your freedom, continue to live Evangelically, the same in freedom as in prison, without accusation, resentment or condemnation, and you will be blessed continually; for the open and the forsaking of your sins in every way of expression, especially in the way of self-indulgence or human affection will give you your real emancipation, and no doubt will give you your freedom before the time expires. For it is written: 'If you continue in My words, you shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free. By refraining from your former tendencies and your sins of self-indulgence to appease the mortal self, you will be abundantly blessed, and when you are completely forgiven in reality, there may be

action because the "WPA dismissals will sharply reduce the purchasing power of the Negro people in Harlem." Among the larger stores that closed their doors for the fifteen minute period were Blumstein's Department store, on West 125th Street, Herbert's Jewelry store, largest of its kind in Harlem, Ludwig Bauman, Dave's sport store, Busch's credit store, Adams hat store and Vim's radio and sports shop.

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Popular Men's Magazine Blasts Segregation

Chicago, July 23.—(ANP)—E. Simms Campbell, the talented artist, and his wife, Connie, are the subject of the leading editorial in the August issue of "Esquire," the magazine for men, in which American race prejudice comes in for a genuine blasting. The editorial was caused by the recent vacation trip of the Campbells which took them to the Caribbean islands and the Panama Canal Zone. At the latter, which is U. S. soil and almost as prejudiced as Texas, the travelers had difficulty in getting decent accommodations for their short stay, and obtained passage back to New York in a part of the steamer not ordinarily used by colored because their names were confused with that of a white official. When the Campbells presented themselves and their race was seen, attempts were made by officials to get their staterooms changed, this the Campbells would not permit. As a result, they were virtually ostracized on their first couple of days at sea. But when word got around that this was the same Campbell whose drawings are one of Esquire's biggest feature, passengers almost swamped the artist with requests for his

TIRE SALESMAN



Eley B. Copeland, the first Negro of Durham to be employed as a full time tire salesman. Mr. Copeland was recently promoted to the position by the Tire Division of the Alexander Motor Company of this city. Seven years ago he started working for the organization as a regular filling station employee, but his honesty, ability and character so impressed his employers that he was soon regarded as one of their best men.

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Cleveland Preps For Great Elks Convention

CLEVELAND, Ohio — (ANP) The greatest entertainment ever offered by the Elks convention is being planned here in the city of great conventions for the 8th Grand Lodge sessions of the Elks. It was announced recently by Councilman Lawrence (Larry) D. Payne, general chairman of the local committee on arrangements.

Assisting in the elaborate work of Henri Stueker, advertising agent of New York who arrived in the city a few weeks ago as advance man. Governor Martin L. Davey and Mayor Harold H. Burton are scheduled to meet a reception group here on August 22 and officially turn over the keys to Grand Exalted Ruler J. Flinty Wilson of Washington, D. C. and Grand Daughter Ruler Abbie E. Johnson of Phila. Councilman L. Payne will be proclaimed Mayor for the week.

Elks' Day will be held August 25 at the Great Lakes Exposition situated on the beautiful shores of Lake Erie, exhibiting the world's most outstanding attractions. The Grand Ball is to be held in the magnificent municipal auditorium. It is also hoped that annual East-West baseball classic will be held here during the convention.

Local units of the organization participating will be the Spirit of Ohio Lodge No. 52; ping Tut Lodge No. 389; Glenora Temple No. 21; Mary B. Talbert Temple No. 247; and Myty Majestic Lodge No. 94.

SENDS MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Virginia Y. Cunningham of Baltimore, Md. has sent announcements of the marriage of her daughter Grace Cleola to Alexander Brawn Massey, Jr., on Friday June 18, in Baltimore. Mrs. Massey is a teacher at Hill side Park School, while Mr. Massey is a government employee. The couple will be at home after September 1, at 811 Fayetteville St., this city.

Outstanding Race Woman To Work Here



MISS MARY LA VERTA HUFF, above, who is now working in this city, is one of the outstanding women of the race. She received her B. A. in Sociology and Social work from the University of Minnesota in 1932 with Magna Cum Laude, and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa, National Scholastic Fraternity. From 1932-33, she worked in the sociology department of Fisk University, and also made a study of the extent and treatment of Juvenile Delinquency among Negroes in Nashville, Tenn. This work was published

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