

Dr. Lacy Kirk Williams Killed

SECOND SECTION

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SECOND SECTION

SUPREME COURT HEARS SEGREGATION CASE

Baptist Leader Loses Life In Airplane Crash

Chicago (A.N.P.) — Dr. Lacy Kirk Williams, president of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., pastor of Chicago's Olivet Baptist church, and one of America's most noted religious and political leaders, was instantly killed in an airplane crash at Olivet, Michigan shortly after six o'clock Tuesday evening while flying to a Republican rally scheduled for Flint, Michigan that night.

F. D. R. Regrets Army Policy Was "Misinterpreted"

New York — The White house expressed its regret that the statement of Army policy on Negroes, announced by it Oct. 9, has been "misinterpreted."

This was the substance of a letter from President Roosevelt to Walter White, NAACP Secretary; A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; and T. Arnold Hill. These men conferred with the President Sept. 27 and the White House issued a statement of policy on October 9.

In his letter, dated October 25, Mr. Roosevelt said: "I regret that your own position, as well as the attitude of both the White House and the War Department, has been misunderstood."

This sentence undoubtedly refers to the fact that some newspapers interpreted the October 9 statement of segregation as having been approved by the three colored conferees. The full text of the letter:

"I regret that there has been so much misinterpretation of the statement of War Department Policy issued from the White House on October ninth. I regret that your own position, as well as the attitude of both the White House and the War Department, has been misunderstood."

"The plan, as I understand it, on which we are all agreed, is that Negroes will be put into all branches of the service combat as well as supply. Arrangements are now being made to give, without delay, training in aviation to Negroes. Negro reserve officers will be called to active service and given appropriate commands. Negroes will be given the same opportunity to qualify for officers' commissions as will be given to others."

"These measures represent a very substantial advance over what has been the practice in past years. You may rest assured that Negroes are given fair treatment on a non-discriminatory basis."

"The Secretary of War has, with my approval, appointed Judge William H. Hastie as Civilian Aide to the Secretary and I have also asked Dr. Clarence Dykstra, the Director of Selective Service, to call to active duty Major Campbell Johnson, both of whom will be actively concerned with these further developments of policy."

N. C. Mutual Entertains Bishop And Mrs. Fisher



The officials of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company honored Bishop and Mrs. H. L. Fisher Tuesday, October 29 in the auditorium of the N. C. Mutual Building. The officials of the company, their wives, and the pastors of the churches together with their wives were present and participated in honoring the only Bishop in the City.

Bishop Fisher was lauded by Rev. S. P. Perry, pastor of the St. Marks A.M.E. Zion Church and president of the local Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, who represented the Ministers of Durham in paying tribute to Bishop Fisher in a most timely

talk. Mrs. Miles Mark Fisher was called on to represent the wives of the ministers and to extend greetings honoring the wife of Bishop. Remarks were also made by Revs. J. A. Valentine and T. C. Graham. President Spaulding of Durham, having devoted his life to the preaching of the Gospel, teaching his race how to live and to save a part of their earnings, and the importance of co-operating with business operated by Negroes.

Dean Wm. Hastie Gets Important Post

Washington — Dean Wm. H. Hastie of Howard Law school has accepted an appointment as special assistant to the secretary of war. The post, similar to that occupied by D.H. Emmett J. Scott during the last world war, serves as an information center and liaison officer between colored soldiers and the war department. Grievances and difficulties experienced by colored drafted men will have, it is predicted, a better opportunity for satisfactory adjustment with one of the group serving in an official capacity in the department.

Dean Hastie's appointment follows closely upon the heels of the announcement of Colonel Davis' elevation to a brigadier generalship and the visit to the White House of Dr. F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee institute, Dr. Rayford Logan and Dr. Howard Lang, representing the Committee on the Participation of Negroes in the National Defense program. Efforts to secure such an appointment are said to have been the prime purpose behind the visit paid to President Roosevelt three weeks ago by Walter White, A. Philip Randolph and T. Arnold Hill.

Dean Hastie has had no military experience it is pointed out, but he has had a distinguished government career having been U. S. Judge in the Virgin Islands and before that an attorney in the interior department. His elevation to the important post in the war department leaves Howard university again without a head for its law school.



Above—Johnson C. Smith, University homecoming queen; Miss Hattie Isabelle Houston, of Greensboro (center) and her attendants; Misses Sudie Gaston, Charlotte (left) and Mildred Mitchell, Charlotte (right).

Supreme Court Hears Prominent Minister Residential Segregation Case

Washington — For the first time since 1917, the question of residential segregation was argued in the supreme court of the United States, when on Friday, the famous Chicago case of Haysberry vs Lee was presented.

For the defendant, Mr. Haysberry, Atty. Earl B. Dickerson, Loring B. Moore, Truman Gibson, Irvin Mollison and C. Francis Stratford, appeared and with Atty. Dickerson presented the case, apparently scored heavily with the members of the court.

With the full court in session, Chief Justice Hughes presiding, Mr. Dickerson stood before the bar and masterfully pointed out the facts on which he brought the case before the supreme court on an appeal from the verdict of the supreme court of the state of Illinois.

Upholding the decision of the lower court, of the state, the case was before the United States supreme court to test the validity of restrictive covenants.

During Mr. Dickerson's argument, he was frequently interrupted by Associate Justices Felix Frankfurter, Hugo Black, McReynolds and even the chief justice himself, all of whom sought clarification of points in question. Mr. Dickerson acquitted himself most creditably on the stand in the consensus of opinion among the lawyers present, which included some of Washington's most brilliant legal minds.

Growing out of a case where a group of white owners had drawn up an agreement among themselves some years ago to not sell properties to Negro tenants, the ramifications of the case have been bitterly fought in the Chicago courts up through the highest courts on the state of Illinois.

Prominent Minister Laid To Rest

Durham — Rev. C. L. Williams of 917 Grant Street who had been ill for more than two years passed away on Monday, October 21 at four o'clock a. m. He was an elder in good standing of the North Carolina Christian Conference having pastored in both Durham and Sanford, (Johnson County) where he was reared. He was well liked by the people of his home town as well as of Durham. He was a fine character. The family and remains were accompanied to Clinon to the Mt. Vernon Christian church of which he was a member. Rev. N. E. Higgs, D. D. pastor of the Mt. Calvary Christian Church of this city officiated. Among the ministers and friends of his church who attended the funeral were Rev. W. J. Upchurch, Rev. J. A. Mangum, Rev. Alton Jones and friends from the various churches of the city who gave words of sympathy. He leaves to mourn their loss a wife, Mrs. Gately Williams, a son, Roy Williams, a daughter, Miss Swannee Williams and several grand children. The Dean-board of the Mt. Calvary Christian church, S. Bethea, J. Jones, Robert Lawson and Homer Bright served as pallbearers. Scarborough and Hargett Under-takers.

court, who seemed to have an especially comprehensive grasp of the situation, especially Justice Frankfurter, left little doubt in the minds of the crowded court room as to the outcome. Should the court render a decision favorable to Attorney Dickerson's client, the effect will be far-reaching. However, there is no indication just how far the court will go in this practice of tenant covenants. Jubilant over the handling of the case, the Chicago lawyers feel that this case, which the Illinois courts settled on a case known as the Burke-Kleinman case, involving a similar though disputed action, will bring about radical changes and more respect for the constitutional rights of Negroes to own live and in property which they are able to purchase.

Durham Church Closes It's 74th Anniversary Celebration

Durham — The 74th anniversary of the White Rock Baptist Church came to a close Monday night October 29, with the annual social. The anniversary was observed this year only at the regular Sunday worship services in October.

On the fourth Sunday morning, the pastor, Rev. Miles Mark Fisher, preached the anniversary sermon. The story of the White Rock Church almost runs parallel with the emancipation of the Negro race. Its pioneer preachers saved the souls of the people, built a racial unity and inspired the members to do big things.

The Sundry School library is now the Stanford I. Warren public library of Durham. The pastor's son, Dr. James Edward Shepard, began what is now N. C. College for Negroes.

Pastor Edward McKnight Brawley sat in a chair and taught the Durham congregation to support itself by free will offerings and tithes and never to sell anything in or for the church support. It is to the credit of subsequent pastors, (Dr. James E. Kirkland, Dr. S. L. McDowell and Dr. W. L. Ransome, that the organization has never deviated from the teachings of Dr. Brawley.

Among the outstanding persons who appeared on the program is the Honorable Robert H. McNeill, Republican candidate for the Governor of North Carolina who spoke at the opening good-will service on "A Greater State through Christian Citizenship" Distinguished visitors, including Attorney Houston of the Terrell Law School, Washington attended the meeting. Dr. Robert Prentiss Daniel, President of

Shaw University, preached from the subject, "The Hands of Jesus," at the anniversary Shaw Day on the second Sunday.

Members of the church who spoke on the program were Dean James T. Taylor, N. C. College for Negroes, Mrs. Tempie Whitford, Prof. J. M. Taylor, Ph.D., N. C. College for Negro, E. W. Green, Mrs. Ellen Smith, oldest living member of the church, Prof. William McElrath, Principal of Hillside High school, W. C. Lester, Vice-Chairman, Board of Deacons, Dr. C. C. Spaulding, President of N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company and Miss Thelma Johnson.

Beside the singing of the four church choirs, the Senior, Mrs. S. V. Norfleet, director, the Gospel Chorus, Miss Leanna Roberson, Junior, No. 1, Prof. Russell F. Houston and Junior No. 2, Miss Lavinia Wilson. There were music selections by S. M. Smedley, Mrs. Mable H. Roberson, Miss Datie Mae Bridgeforth, Miss Margaret Kennedy, Miss Gladys Faucette, the Pearl Gate Quartette, Miss

Vera Bynum, Mrs. Naomi Price and Mrs. Ellen Lann. The annual organ recital of Prof. Russell F. Houston was a feature of the last Sunday night. Mr. Houston is one of the few trained organists employed in a Negro church. He formerly was head of the music department of St. Augustine College and of Shaw University. He is a music bachelor of the University of Redlands in California. He gives his full time to the White Rock Church where he conducts a music studio.

Refreshments were served free to the members and friends of the church at the annual social. Mrs. Effie Cotton was a chairman of the social committee and Prof. N. A. Cheek of the anniversary committee. J. R. Evans is chairman of the Board of Deacons; Dr. C. C. Spaulding is chairman of the Board of Trustees. W. J. Kennedy, Jr., is business manager of the church; C. C. Spaulding, Jr., is anniversary treasurer.

Detroit Holder Of 158, First On List, Plans Suit on Draft

Washington, Oct. 31.—As a result of the misplacement of six numbers out of 9,000 prepared for the drawing, a legal test of the draft lottery was reported officially today to be under consideration in Detroit.

Clarence A. Dykstra, Selective Service Director, said he had been apprised that suit might be undertaken by a potential Detroit draftee who was unidentified to Dykstra except that he held serial Number "158" which the lottery turned into "Order No. 1."

If the man finally decides to raise a legal issue, Dykstra said, he will have to go through the drafting process and allow the courts to determine the issue. It was assumed, although not definitely known, that he lacked any obvious ground for deferment.