

# JUSTICE'S DEATH CREATES STIR

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## Small Band Bringing Religion To Huntersville Prison Inmates

**CHARLOTTE**  
A chance Wednesday night visitor to the state prison at Huntersville might be mildly dumbfounded to hear the harmonic strains of a hymn or the rousing melody of a "spiritual" wafting through the small cell-lined corridors of this camp for Negroes near Charlotte.

On closer inspection, he would discover that the music comes from the direction of the camp's dining hall. And a slight investigation would quickly reveal to him that on this night, inmates of the camp gather to take part in what many of us take part in on Sunday mornings. Instead of congregating in a splendid, beltried edifice of

stone with ornately stained glass windows and a lofty vaulted ceiling, they huddle together amidst the bleak confines of steel bars, harsh lights and the forbidding sight of armed guards in the camp's small dining room to take part in their weekly Wednesday night worship services.

Chiefly responsible for bringing to the State's "forgotten men" this slice of spiritual activity is a small band of ministers and laymen of Charlotte. And two of the most unselfish and tireless workers with the prisoners in this project are Rev. G. R. Blakely, pastor of the Clinton Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion church, and Ned Davis, officer

of the church. Rev. Blakely delivered his 15th sermon in his series last week and numbered 45 of the prisoners as converts during his service. Davis, who is superintendent of Clinton A.M.E. Zion's Sunday school, directs the singing activities at each of the Wednesday night services.

Davis' concern for the prisoners' spiritual well-being does not stop there, however. For he has issued a standing invitation to the inmates to spend their first Sunday of freedom in his church and to be his dinner guest.

Davis has developed the singing services into an event which is looked forward to each week by the inmates. In addition to

directing the song service, Davis has organized a prisoners' vocal ensemble, composed of five voices, which is often heard at the Wednesday night services.

He has also arranged for outside musical groups to participate in the services from week to week, and some of the singers who have come to Huntersville include the Charlotte Sons, the Songs of David, the Morning Gate Jubilee, the Clinton A.M.E. Zion church Spiritual choir, the Gospel Harmonizers and the Gospel Knights.

Rev. Blakely's weekly exhortations have not been in vain. In addition to his 45 converts, three of them, upon returning to freedom, have joined his church and are among its most ardent wor-

kers. Prison officials are much in accord with this project for they recognize in it a much needed supplement to the camp's rehabilitation program. Camp superintendent L. W. Connell has heaped unstinted praise on the work of these men. One of the prison guards leads a Sunday school lesson each Sunday.

Other members of this small band who have lent their support to this Wednesday night project are Rev. Rayford Thompson, pastor of the Walls Memorial A.M.E. Zion church; Rev. James K. Booker, superintendent of the Charlotte Rescue Mission, and Rev. J. J. Stratling, assistant pastor at the Rescue Mission.



SERGEANT PRESTEE DAVIS, formerly held as a prisoner of war by the Communists in Korea, is shown in Durham after his recent return with members of a committee mapping plans for a celebration to honor the city's ex-POWs. Sergeant Davis, who makes his home in Durham with his father, Julius Davis on Walton Avenue, was returned in the early stages of the operation "Big Switch."

## NAACP Asks Horne Be Kept In Housing Post

**NEW YORK**  
President Dwight D. Eisenhower has been asked by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to retain Frank S. Horne in his post as assistant to the Administrator in race relations in the Housing and Home Finance Administration.

The NAACP telegram, signed by Roy Wilkins, Administrator, urged Mr. Horne "be retained on the basis of his expert knowledge of the field in which he operates and the superlative service he has given government housing irrespective of politics, race, color, or religion."

The telegram was prompted, the NAACP said, by word that "under purely political pressure" Horne's resignation was being requested.



A small band of ministers and laymen of Charlotte have combined their services to bring weekly religious worship services to inmates of the State Prison Camp at Huntersville. In the above picture, a group of the prisoners are shown during one of the regular Wednesday night services held at the camp. Shown standing, left to right, are Rev. Rayford Thompson, pastor of the Walls Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church of Charlotte; Rev. J. J. Stratling, assistant pastor at the Charlotte Rescue Mission; Rev. James K. Booker, Superintendent of the Charlotte Rescue Mission; Rev. F. R. Blakely, pastor of the Clinton Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church; Ned Davis, officer of the Clinton A. M. E. Zion Church, and two unidentified inmates. Rev. Blakely has just completed a series of 15 weekly meetings with the prisoners during which 45 were converted. Davis organized the prisoners' singing groups and the first five inmates shown seated at the right comprise a quintet organized by Davis.

## Director Named For Nursing School At A & T

**GREENSBORO**  
The director of the new school of nurse training to open at A. and T. College on September 14 was named last Saturday by Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of the college.

Mrs. Willetta S. Jones, Deep River, Conn., instructor in nursing at Skidmore College of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and New York City, will head the brand new program which was approved by last State Legislature. She arrived in Greensboro last week-end to go over plans with Dr. Bluford to inaugurate the new instructional program.

A graduate of Hunter College in New York City with the bachelor of science degree in nursing education, she holds the master of science degree in the same field from Columbia University. She is pursuing the Ph. D. degree, also at Columbia. Mrs. Jones was called to Skidmore College during the past year to assist in the development of a new program of interesting courses in mental hygiene with the basic nursing curriculum at that college.

She received her basic nurse training at Lincoln Hospital in New York City and served as instructor on the staff of the Harlem Hospital of Nursing, also of New York, from 1949 through 1952. Active in nurse professional organizations in New York she holds memberships in the National League For Nursing and the American Nurses Association.

Officials at the college reported that already 70 applications have been received from prospective students, far above the minimum of 20 suggested by a special committee appointed by Gov. William B. Umstead as a basis for opening the new school at A. and T. College.

Dr. Bluford told reporters this week that on the basis of present progress, the nurse training program will be ready for applicants with the registration of freshmen students on Monday, September 14.

## Court Replacement May Hold Key To Bias Cases

**SPECIAL TO THE TIMES WASHINGTON**

The sudden death of Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson of the Supreme Court early this week threw the nation into a round of speculations over who will be appointed to replace the 63-year-old Kentuckian and the possible effect his replacement will have on some weighty issues involving social and economic issues now before the court.

Vinson died early Tuesday morning in his suite at the Park Sheraton Hotel of a heart attack.

Aside from the usual

amount of speculation which is aroused over the replacement for a Chief Justice of the nation's highest tribunal is the added significance given it by the forthcoming hearing of cases involving segregation in public schools in the South. The rearguments are scheduled for October, less than one month away.

It is the general consensus of most of the prognosticators that the new replacement will be a Republican. It was noted that that all of the members of the present court were appointed during the Roosevelt-Truman administrations.

Defenders of segregation are openly hoping for the appointment of a southerner. And the men most often named as "southern hopes" are Judge John J. Parker, Charlotte, of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, and South Carolina's Gov. James F. Byrnes.

Parker is easily labeled as a Republican, but Byrnes' party affiliations are not so easily discernible. The South Carolina chief executive spearheaded the formation of the Dixiecrat Party in 1948, but in the last election became a "Democrat for Eisenhower."

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MRS. WILLETTA S. JONES, left, Deep River, Conn., recently appointed director of the new School of Nursing to open at A. and T. this Fall, discusses the new program with Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of the college. She will officially assume the new post with the opening of the Fall quarter at the college on September 14.

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

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## N. C.'s Rev. P. A. Bishop New Lott-Carey Head

**BALTIMORE**  
Dr. P. A. Bishop, of Rich Square, North Carolina, was elected president of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention here Thursday afternoon, September 3, at the regular session here at Enon Baptist Church.

The convention opened on Monday, August 31, and closed on Friday night September 4 with the honorable Clarence L. Simpton, Liberian Ambassador to the United States bringing the closing message to the more than 2,000 messengers and visitors from twenty-four States, four foreign countries and the District of Columbia.

In a most challenging address here on Wednesday night at a combined meeting of the convention in Douglas high school auditorium, Ambassador Jacques Leger, Haitian ambassador to the United States, denied that Haiti is opposed to "the designation of a colored American ambassador" to Haiti.

Leger told the assembled delegates who have missionaries assigned to this country that the government of my country was "very surprised" to be charged with having opposed the appointment of a Negro. Speaking further he said, "The Secretary of State for the presidency of Haiti and myself have firmly denied these rumors."

\$114,000 Collected  
According to the annual report  
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Executive board members of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention which met in Baltimore August 31-September 4 at Enon Baptist Church are shown here. Seated on first row, left to right, are Drs. C. T. Murray, Washington, D. C.; A. W. Brown, Richmond, Va.; W. C. Somerville, Washington, D. C.; U. G. Wilson, Portsmouth, Va.; W. L. Ransome, Richmond, Va.; and A. J. Edwards, Washington, D. C.

Second row, same order, are Mrs. W. L. Ransome, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. C. E. Griffen, Norfolk, Va.; Mrs. R. L. Hobbs, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. R. H. Thornton, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. E. M. Pitts, Winston-Salem, N. C. On third row, left to right, are Attorney Walter Washington, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Ellen Alston, Raleigh, N. C.; Dr. G. O. Bullock, Washington, D. C.; Dr. J. H. Randolph, Washington, D. C., and Dr. A. L. James, Roanoke, Virginia.

Shown standing are, left to right, Rev. W. B. Ball, Richmond, Va.; Dr. Thomas Kilgore, New York; R. L. Holman, Norfolk, Va.; and Rev. W. E. Parham, Columbus, Ohio.

## N. C. REALTISTS TO HOLD MEET IN DURHAM

**DURHAM**  
A special meeting of the North Carolina real estate builders association has been scheduled for Friday night, September 11 here.

H. M. Michaux, president of the state association and Durham real estate executive, and Clarence M. Winchester, Greensboro, secretary of the group, made the announcement of the meeting in a joint statement here early this week.

The meeting is scheduled for 7:30 o'clock p.m. at the Donut Shop.

According to the announcement, W. H. Aiken, Atlanta president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, and F. Henry Williams, general  
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## A & T Grad Gets DSC

**GREENSBORO**  
Lt. James O. Beckett, New York City, an A. and T. College ROTC graduate, was recently decorated with the Army's Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in action.

An officer of the 31st (Polar Bear) Infantry Regiment, Beckett was presented the medal by Maj. Gen. Arthur G. Trudeau, 7th Division commander at an impressive formal ceremony held at division headquarters in Korea.

The citation stated that Beckett, while engaging the enemy last January, sighted a distress signal flare in the area of a contact patrol which had been dispatched earlier, and immediately organized a squad of 12 men to move to the rescue.

Through the lieutenant's lead-

ership the squad was successful in penetrating an enemy encirclement and reaching the ambushed patrol. While leading the wounded men back through hos-

tile lines, Beckett was informed that there were still four men on the position and that one man was taken prisoner by the

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## CIO GIVES \$2,500 TO NAACP FOR SCHOOL SEGREGATION CASES

The CIO has contributed \$2,500 to help finance legal preparations for the forthcoming re-hearing by the U.S. Supreme Court of the school segregation cases, it was announced today by Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

Carey, who also heads the CIO Committee on Civil Rights, presented the check for \$2,500 to Thurgood Marshall of the Na-

tional Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Marshall is counsel for the NAACP and has taken a leading role in the lengthy court process on school segregation. Carey has also advised the NAACP that the "fullest cooperation and assistance" of the CIO Legal Department headed by Arthur J. Goldberg, will be available.