

ASHEVILLE HOST TO AME MEET

NAACP Secretary Asks Investigation Till Case

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AMEZ Annual Conference Here

AME Conference In 63rd Annual Session In Mountain City

ASHEVILLE — The 63rd annual session of the Western North Carolina Conference, opened here Wednesday, when delegates representing the African Methodist Episcopal denomination from as far east as Raleigh, converged upon the city.

The Rt. Rev. Frank Madison Reid, who was appointed to preside over the Conference at the death of Bishop L. H. Hemmingsway, opened the confab and assured the delegates and visitors that it was a profound pleasure to preside over the historic Conference.

The first day session featured the Holy Communion and organization. The Conference is expected to not only be a successful one, but will be full of interest, due to the fact that it will be the last one before

the meeting of the general conference in May, at Miami. A (Please turn to Page Eight)



BISHOP F. M. REID

Integration Working At Florida Base; Whites Teach Voluntarily

Desegregation is working in 27 Army post schools located in 10 Southern and border states as white and Negro teachers engage in the joint effort of training the bi-racial groups of children committed to their care. The only exceptions are at army posts at Fort Meade, Md., and Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where the army has extended its deadline. In the "Deep South," the army runs the schools since local officials refuse to operate integrated schools.

According to Lee Nicholas United Press Staff Correspondent who visited four typical post schools, two in Florida and Texas were integrated this fall, one in Alabama last fall and the fourth in Georgia, in Sept. 1953.

Across the South, where schools have been racially segregated for generations and many spokesmen loudly oppose any change, Negro and white children are sitting together in

classrooms on military posts without fuss or fanfare.

White Teach Voluntarily — The percentage of Negro pupils involved is tiny compared with most nearby communities. Their parents usually rank well above the economic and education levels of surrounding Negro cottonfield hands and laborers. Many of the white military personnel involved are from northern states where school integration is an accepted fact. Moreover, military people are accustomed to obeying orders.

But Southern white civilian teachers are teaching voluntarily in the integrated post schools. Southern parents send their children off to school daily with Negro youngsters. And some Southern educators and observers are watching the military experiment closely as a pilot operation that may help point the way to eventual compliance with the U. S. Supreme (Please turn to Page Eight)

LAST RITES HELD FOR REV. R. W. UNDERWOOD, AGE 65, AT MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

GOLDSBORO — Last rites for the Rev. R. W. Underwood, age 65, who died at Memorial Hospital, Monday, November 14, were held at the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Wednesday, at 1 p.m.

The Doctor H. H. James, pastor of the Berean Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York was in charge of the ceremony.

Rev. Underwood's death came as the climax to two months illness. Appearing on the funeral ceremony were Dr. P. A. Bishop of Rich Square, president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; Dr. W. R. Strassner, president of Shaw University, Raleigh; Bishop H. V. Plummer, current president of the Hampton Minister's Interdenominational Conference, Hampton, Virginia; and Rev. J. A. Nimmo of Greenville, president of the North Eastern Minister's Alliance and B. J. Burnett, who represented the local churches.

Rev. Underwood was born in Sampson County, near Clifton, the son of Rev. Charles T.

Underwood and Mrs. Aeline Underwood. During his ministry, he pastored some of the leading Baptist churches of the state, in Goldsboro and Rocky Mount. He received his education at the Joseph K. Brick School and Shaw University. The later school conferred upon him several years ago an honorary Dr. of Divinity Degree.

At the time of his death, Dr. Underwood was pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the church had grown in spiritual and numerical strength, until it was considered one of the leading of eastern North Carolina churches.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Beatrice Everett Underwood; three sons, Rufus W. Underwood, Jr., Charles T., and Gerald Leonard Underwood; two grand children; three sisters, Mrs. Lenora Robinson, Mrs. Addie Faison and Mrs. Madessa Anderson, all of New York.

Interment was at Elmwood Cemetery in Goldsboro.



DR. B. F. SMITH

NCC Librarian Named Director State Association

Dr. Benjamin F. Smith, Librarian in the James E. Shepard Memorial Library at North Carolina College, has been named one of the directors of the College and University section of the Integrated North Carolina Library Association.

The North Carolina Library Association met here recently at the Sheraton Hotel. It was the first session in which Negroes and whites participated on an integrated basis.

The NCLA in 1954 began to admit qualified Negroes who formerly were affiliated with the North Carolina Negro Library Association.

The Negro unit was scheduled to hold what is believed to be its last session as a separate unit in Charlotte, North Carolina, on November 4 and 5.

CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE

C. C. DIGGS ASKS IKE TO CALL SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Michigan's Congressman C. C. Diggs, Jr., has appealed to President Eisenhower to call a Special Session of Congress to deal with the issue of Civil Rights.

The Democratic Representative in a letter to the President also asked that "positive specific strongly worded statement" on the Administration's stand on Civil Rights be included in the State of the Union message that the Chief Executive is now preparing.

Diggs expressed happiness for Mr. Eisenhower's recovery and disclosed that it had been his (Diggs) intention to request a Special Session after returning in September from the Emmett Till trial in Sumner, Miss. He withheld his appeal, however, until the President had recuperated.

Congressman Diggs pointed out four areas of Civil Rights that he deemed important enough to justify the immediate attention of the House and Senate. They are: (1) Restriction on voting privileges of Negroes in the South; (2) Need for legislation to strengthen the authority of the Justice Department to intervene where civil liberties are threatened; (3) segregation in interstate transportation and (4) the need for a national ruling to end discrimination in employment.

A copy of Congressman Diggs letter to the President follows: Hon. Dwight D. Eisenhower President of the United States White House

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President: I join all America and multitudes elsewhere in sincere gratitude for the progress of your recuperation and share their prayers for your quick and permanent return to normal health.

Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority To Admit Negroes By Order Of U. S. District Court

COLUMBUS, OHIO — The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority was ordered last week to put an end to its policy of refusing to lease to Negro applicants any public housing unit controlled and managed by the city Housing Authority.

The order was issued by Chief Judge Mel G. Underwood of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio at Columbus. It permanently enjoined the Columbus Housing Authority from "denying the plaintiff, and members of the class the plaintiff represents, the right to lease any unit of the housing controlled and managed by said defendants... solely because of the race and color of said plaintiff."

Three of Columbus' four public housing projects have hitherto been closed to Negro tenants. Judge Underwood's order will open all projects on a non-segregated basis.

The suit was filed by attorneys for the Columbus Branch of the NAACP in behalf of Owen Ward and several other Negro families who sought and were refused admission to the three all-white projects.

Attorneys for the Negro were William H. Brooks, John Francis and Mary E. Durham of Co-

lumbus, and Constance Baker Motley of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund staff in New York.

Rev. J. A. Delaine Fights Return To South Carolina

The Rev. J. A. Delaine, militant champion of racial rights, who was forced to flee South Carolina about six weeks ago to escape mobsters and terrorists, is now fighting attempts to return him to that state to face with probable conviction, trumped up charges and fabricated violations of law.

But he will not face the fight unaided as is evidenced in the raising of \$2,129 in his behalf at the Bridge Street A.M.E. Church last week. Both he and his wife spoke at the Brooklyn Mass Meeting.

Rev. Delaine, who has been referred to as South Carolina's "fugitive from injustice," declared that he had been hounded by persecution for six years since he started the fight for (Please turn to Page Eight)

Bishop Jones To Preside Over Central N. C. Meet; St. Mark Is Host Church

Governor Asks Federal Probe In Till Slaying

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Illinois' Governor Stratton, whose name is being mentioned as a possible republican presidential nominee in '56, sent a letter to Attorney General Brownell this week asking that the case of Emmett Till get a federal investigation.

Stratton cited that Emmett—a "citizen of Illinois was abducted and brutally murdered... It now appears that those responsible for this tragic crime are not being brought to justice."

Stratton made public his letter after the Leflore County grand jury in Miss. refused to (Please turn to Page Eight)

The 77th Annual Session of the Central North Carolina Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church will convene at the St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church, beginning on Wednesday, Nov. 23rd, and ending on Sunday Nov. 27th,



BISHOP R. L. JONES

with the reading of the pastors' and layworkers' appointments. Bishop R. L. Jones of Salisbury, presiding Bishop of the 7th Episcopal District, will be in charge and preside over the conference. The session will get underway at 11:00 on the morning of November 23. Rev. H. S. Gillespie will deliver the opening sermon, and the Lord's Supper will be administered.

The evening service will be featured with an Annual sermon by Rev. W. W. Carson. Music will be rendered by the five choirs of the St. Mark Church.

Greetings will be brought by the following persons: On behalf of the Church—Adolph Coward; On behalf of the City-Councilman R. N. Harris; On behalf of Education—Dr. A. E. Elmer; On behalf of Business and Labor—J. W. Goodloe; On behalf of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance—Rev. C. E. McLester.

Wilkins Sends Atty. General Message Urging Intervention In Murder Of 14-Year-Old Boy

ROSCOE DUNJEE TO BE HONORED AT BANQUET ON THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PAPER

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. — Roscoe Dunjee, editor of The Black Dispatch and member of the NAACP's board of directors, will be honored here at a banquet next week on the occasion of his fortieth anniversary of his well-known weekly newspaper.

Principal speaker at the banquet, scheduled for Nov. 18, will be Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel.

In addition to sponsoring the banquet, a Citizens' Testimonial Committee for Roscoe Dunjee is attempting to raise sufficient funds to enable the 73-year-old editor to travel abroad in Africa, long a desire of the militant civil rights defender.

The testimonial banquet will coincide with the closing of the Oklahoma Conference of NAACP Branches' Silver Anniversary meeting. The conference, first of its kind in the U. S. when it was organized 25 years ago by Mr. Dunjee, is expected to pay tribute to the editor.

The Rev. L. W. Reid, pastor of the New Bethel Baptist Church, West Durham, will be the guest speaker in the afternoon. His congregation and choir will accompany him.

Dinner will be served following the morning service. Rev. J. H. Jones, pastor, extends a cordial welcome to all.

NAACP Urges FBI Probe

NEW YORK — Attorney General Herbert Brownell has again been called upon to intervene in the kidnaping of 14-year-old Emmett Till in view of the acquittal of his accused killers and the refusal of the Leflore County grand jury to indict them on the kidnap charge.

In a telegram to Mr. Brownell, Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, today pointed out that the jurors in the murder trial based their verdict on the claim that the body was not that of Young Till, who had been missing since August 23.

If this is so, Wilkins told the Attorney General, "the clear presumption is that his (Till's) kidnapers have carried him across a state boundary bringing the case within the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the Lindbergh act." The text of the telegram follows:

Dinner For Blind Persons Set For Raleigh YMCA

RALEIGH — The annual Lions Club Pre-Thanksgiving Day Dinner to blind persons of Wake County will be given at the Bloodworth Street YMCA, Friday, Nov. 18 (Please turn to Page Eight)

A jury in Tallahatchie County, Miss., has acquitted two men charged with the murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till on the ground that the body recovered from the Tallahatchie River was not that of the missing youth. In neighboring Leflore County a grand jury yesterday refused to indict the men on a kidnap charge although they had previously admitted taking the boy from the home of his great uncle and were identified by witnesses. In view of the acquittal and the refusal to indict, NAACP again urges Department of Justice to enter (Please turn to Page Eight)



N. E. White, president of the Durham Business and Professional Club presents a check to Fred Sutton, winner of the New York trip in the Chain's "Trade Week Sales Promotion Contest."

Dr. S. E. Fulbright, contest chairman; I. O. Funderburg, cashier of Mechanics and Farmers Bank, where the winning ticket was drawn; Mr. Sutton; Mr. White and E. Kelly Bryant, Jr., secretary.

Shown above are: from left,