

SCHOOL LAW BECOMES FIGHT FOCUS

Fire Snuffs Out Lives Of Five

Enactment Spurs NAACP, Seawell Hodges Talks

North Carolina's laws governing assignment of pupils evoked statements from three key figures in the struggle over school desegregation in the state in the past five days.

NAACP Secretary Roy Wilkins, speaking before the state NAACP convention at Raleigh last Sunday, called upon North Carolinians to challenge the state's pupil assignment laws.

He inferred that they offered no compliance with the federal court rulings in the matter.

Sunday night, State Attorney General Malcolm Seawell. Wilkins' statements brought a quick reply from State Attorney General Malcolm Seawell who said the NAACP official's words indicated that the NAACP in the state is aiming at destroying the act "through federal means rather than abiding by state laws."

Earlier, Seawell had praised the state's machinery for controlling desegregation and said if schools in North Carolina were closed, it would be the fault of Negroes who pressed too hard.

However, in the process of praising North Carolina's plan for limited integration, Seawell criticized action of Virginia and Arkansas in closing public schools.

This brought Governor Luther Hodges into the act on Tuesday. The Governor ordered Seawell to shut up about what Virginia, Arkansas or any other southern states are doing, interfering that what the rest of the South did about desegregation was not Seawell's business.

Hodges added that he actively supports North Carolina's pupil assignment laws.

At mid-week, the statements of Wilkins, Seawell and Hodges all added up to remind North Carolinians that the Pearsall Plan and accompanying legislation dealing with assignment of school children, has really become the focal point around which the issue of school desegregation will be settled in this state.

Already, two federal court actions have been halted by the plan. Currently, a third one making a frontal assault on the plan is underway in Middle District Court. It was brought by mothers of two Durham girls seeking to transfer to a white school.

Wilkins' attack on the Tar Heel legislation which prompted Seawell's rejoinder, and, in turn, Governor Hodges' orders to his Attorney General, came at the closing session of the three day state NAACP convention in Raleigh last week-end.

He accused North Carolina in his speech of "standing still See SCHOOL, page 8



JOHN McDANIEL sits in front of charred ruins of his home in which his wife and four children perished. — Photo Courtesy Charlotte Observer.

Mother And Four Children Perish In Blaze Which Destroys Home For Family Of Eight In Charlotte

On the charred ruins remains of a Charlotte home in which four small children and their mother burned to death in an early morning blaze in Charlotte on Sunday. Dead are Mrs. Lucille McDaniel, 40; James, 8; Mabel, 11; Sandra, 7; and Ann, 8.

The five were burnt to death in a fire, reported at 6:45 a.m. Sunday which completely destroyed the four-room frame house on Sharon-Amity Road occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John McDaniels and their eight children.

The bodies were found huddled next to the body of their mother, on the floor alongside the twisted remains of a bed in one small room.

During the fire two of the children awoke in time to run to their mothers side for protection but not in time to get outside the burning house.

Volunteer firemen, on the scene shortly after the blaze broke out, said that there was nothing they could do to save the victims.

Three older children dashed to safety—one carrying the baby of the family. Outside, John McDaniels the father, tried unsuccessfully to get back into the house through doorways which belched flames.

As the fire raged two of the McDaniels older girls ran screaming from the house. Greta, 20 raced across a railroad to a nearby home crying "The house is on fire and mama and them are burning up".

Meanwhile Johnnie Mae, 18 dashed across the Highway to the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Stroupe and begged Mrs. Stroupe to call firemen. Mrs. Stroupe immediately alerted the county police who called the

Oakhurst Volunteer Fire Department.

There was nothing we could do. The roof had already fallen in. The walls were starting to cave in, even though we arrived some 10 or 15 minutes after the smoke was sighted said Oakhurst Chief George McManus.

The frantic father, John McDaniels poked through the remains of the little house. Mr. McDaniels reported that he was chopping kindling on a nearby hill to make a fire to warm water to go to church. When he noticed the flames he said "I dropped my ax and ran in the back door". On arriving two of the children ran to me as I went in. My wife was in the next

room. I couldn't get to her. There was fire all over inside. The wallpaper was burning.

"I ran back out and around to the window in my bedroom. That's where my wife was sleeping. I broke the window out and tried to get in. There was too See FIRE, page 8

Consolidation Finding Few Heavy Backers

Few outspoken supporters for merging Durham city and county schools have been uncovered as the date for a final decision on the issue nears. In the meantime, at least one organization has gone on record against the proposal.

The matter will be decided by voters at the polls on November 4.

Most Durhamites have been conspicuously neutral on the issue. Many of them say they haven't made up their minds yet.

The reason most often given for the lack of an opinion on the subject is insufficient information. Many frankly admit they don't know enough to make a decision.

One resident confided that he does not have enough information now to form an opinion and that he would probably not make up his mind until he is inside the voting booth.

The Durham City Classroom Teachers Association, an organization of white teachers, did, however, vote overwhelmingly against the proposal at a meeting on Tuesday.

Their vote came after hearing a talk against the merger by city superintendent Lew Hanner. Hanner had earlier told a Hillside PTA that the county should be urbanized before consolidation is attempted.

Indecision of individual citizens mirror the attitude of Durham officialdom. With the exception of the school teachers, no city officials nor agencies have taken a stand on the issue.

R. N. Harris, city school board member, expressed the belief this week that the board would not take a position on the matter.

The board did, however, decide to consider the matter and appointed a fact-finding committee.

The fact-finding group, composed of Watts Carr, Jr., Mrs. John Tate Lanning and John See CONSOLIDATION, p. 8



Dr. Allen Knight Chalmers, professor at Boston University's Divinity school, was guest at an informal assembly of men of St. Joseph AME Church last Saturday prior to his two addresses at the church on Sunday. Pictured here at the informal meeting with Dr. Chalmers are, left to right, H. M. Michaux, E. J. James, Attorney W. G. Pearson, II, G. S. Frasier, Maurice Glenn, R. T. Lewis, the Rev. Douglas Moore, pastor of Asbury Temple Methodist, Dr. Chalmers, Dr. E. F. Norris, the Rev. M. C. Swann, St. Joseph's pastor, L. W. Smith, Dr. W. E. Farrison. Former treasurer and currently NAACP board member, Dr. Chalmers' two addresses at St. Joseph's were heard by large audiences. —Photo by Rivera

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Criticized Pearsall Plan

Maggs Will Speak At Covenant Sun.



MAGGS

Dr. Douglas B. Maggs, professor of Law at Duke University, will address a Men's Day program at Covenant Presbyterian Church Sunday evening at six o'clock.

Details of the program were disclosed by Dr. C. E. Boulware, chairman of a committee in charge of the event.

Boulware said the Men's Council of the church is sponsoring the program.

Maggs created a mild sensation in this area when during the 1956 special summer legislative hearings on the Pearsall Plan he testified against the proposal. "Dr. Maggs represents a voice of sanity in civil rights in our section of the country where prejudice and passion threaten to destroy our way of life," Boulware said in announcing the program.

Maggs will entertain questions from the audience following his address. Boulware revealed. Refreshments will be served after the program, he added.

The Duke teacher possesses a distinguished record as a teacher and advisor to the Roosevelt and Truman cabinets. He began his career as a teacher in 1927 and came to Duke in 1930. But between the years of 1938 and 1947, he served steadily in various capacities for the U. S. Government, holding at one time the position of special assistant to the U.S. Attorney General.

Maggs was trained at the University of California (A.B. and J.D., 1922 and 1924, respectively) and Harvard University (S.J.D., 1926). He became an assistant professor of law at the University of California in 1926.

See MAGGS, page 8



Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Clement, prominent Durham couple, are the fourth husband-wife Trade Week committee heads to be appointed for the event. The Clements are co-chairmen of the committee on arrangements for the banquet, one of the ten events to be held during Trade Week. —Rivera Photo

Pretty Girls, Hula Hoop Platoon Figure In Trade Week Planning

Some of the city's prettiest girls and hula hoop parade platoons figured prominently in advanced plans disclosed this week for Durham's 16th Trade Week.

Trade Week is an annual program sponsored by the Durham Business and Professional Chain. Its observance is scheduled during October 26 through Nov. 1. "These are really pretty girls," Mr. and Mrs. James Byrd, co-chairmen of the Miss Trade Week contest agreed as they prepared to send their contestants through a second week of training for the contest.

An innovation was made in the Miss Trade Week contest this year. Selection of the winner will be made on the basis of poise, charm and talent rather than according to number of tickets sold for a Trade Week program as has been the custom in the past.

The contest will be held during the talent night show for Trade Week. Its date will be announced later, the Byrds said. Some 27 girls are already in

the contest. They are being given nightly instruction in the feminine graces by ex-professional models Mrs. Byrd and Mrs. Mamie Weaver.

Information on other events scheduled during Trade Week along with the announcement of the remainder of the Trade Week sub-committee chairmen, were released this week.

The matter of hula hoop platoons belongs to the Trade Week parade. According to the parade committee, two platoons of youngsters whirling hula hoops will be stationed in the parade's line of march.

Some 35 units from the Chain are expected in the parade, the committee reported. As usual, it will be held in conjunction with See TRADE WEEK, page 8

Meharry Specialist One Speaker At Lincoln Clinic For Physicians

Mrs. Birdie L. Rolfe will deliver a paper on "Physiology of the Kidney and Kidney Function Tests" during Lincoln Hospital's 13th Annual Post Graduate Clinic on October 22, 1958.

Mrs. Rolfe, the former Birdie Lucille Scott of Atlanta, is associate professor of physiology at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee.

She received the B.A. degree from Spelman College and the M.S. degree from Atlanta University.

She formerly taught biology at Spelman College and Virginia Union University. Among Mrs. Rolfe's scientific publications are "Androgenic Effects From Percutaneous Administration in Castrate Rats" and "Transfer of Sodium and Phosphorus across the Mucosa of the Urinary Bladders."

Mrs. Rolfe holds membership in Sigma Delta Epsilon Graduate Women's Honorary Scientific Fraternity, American Association for the Advancement of Science, R. F. Boyd Medical Society Auxiliary, Auxiliary to the National Medical Association, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



ROLFE

Her paper will be one of six talks to be conducted by leading medical authorities during the day long clinic. The session is sponsored jointly by Lincoln Hospital and the Old North State Medical Society.

Scholarship Fund Talks To Occupy Hampton Alumni

The North Carolina Region of the National Hampton Alumni Association will hold an Executive Committee meeting at the YMCA on Bloodworth Street in Raleigh, on Sunday, October 19, at 11:30 A.M.

H. V. Brown, National president of the Hampton Alumni Association will address the group.

Other national officers expected to be present are: N. B. White, first vice-president; Mrs. Fannie T. Newsome, state chairman of the Alumni Scholarship Fund; J. J. Henderson, member of Hampton Board of Trustees; C. H. Williams, chairman of the See HAMPTON, page 8

North Carolina Baptists Open Convention In Gastonia Oct. 28

GASTONIA

The annual convention of the North Carolina General State Baptist Convention will open at St. Paul Baptist Church here on October 28. The convention will last for three days.

John W. Fleming, spokesman for the Baptist, made public the convention details this week.

"Touchstones of Christianity: Stewardship and Evangelism," is the theme of this year's convention. A three day program featuring addresses, sermons, workshops, and forums will be built around the theme, Fleming said.

The convention's key address will be delivered by the Rev. Elliott Mason of Toledo, Ohio, Pastor of Third Baptist in Toledo, the Rev. Mason holds degrees from Dillard and Oberlin and has pursued advanced study at the University of Edinburgh.

Another Edinburgh scholar will address this year's convention, also. He is Dr. Robert Seymour, pastor of the Mars Hill Baptist Church at Mars Hill.

Regular conventions features the president's address, Shaw



MASON

University' president's address, and an address by the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention president—are also on tap for the convention.

The State Baptist convention is presided over by the Reverend P. A. Bishop of Rich Square.

AMVETS Officers To Be Installed

Installation services for new officers of the Robinson-Brown Amvet Post 510 are scheduled for Mt. Zion Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at five.

City Councilman J. S. Stewart will deliver the main address.

The post's top officers, who will be inducted at Sunday's ceremony, are Commander, W. E. Ricks, first vice commander, Herbert Williams, second vice commander, Ollie Garrett, third vice commander, Raphael Clark, Adjutant, Richard Pippin, Finance Officer; F. B. McKissick, Judge Advocate; E. S. Strayhorn, Public Relations officer; R. L. Kearney, Chaplain; Ellis Jones, Jr., Provost Marshall; Lee Lassiter, Surgeon-General; Lee Gamble, and Historian, Daniel Sampson.

The public is invited to attend the service.