

# RIOT TRIAL OF COLUMBIA NEGROES SHIFTED TO SOUTH TENN.

## Irrated Group Oppose Transfer of Trial to Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

Lawrenceburg, Tenn. — Judge Joe Ingram, District Attorney Paul Bumpus and the Klan irated group of many Cranny, scene of the infamous riot of the past few weeks, received an unexpected setback from white business and professional led by the late mayor of Lawrenceburg who opposed transfer of the trial of 25 Columbia Negroes to this town.

Mayor R. O. Downy backed by the town's leading figures Negroes and whites.

Judge Ingram's headachec seemed destined to increase hourly as he considered the petition. "We want

being called upon to launder it, moving the trial here.

"We conscientiously believe it would be impossible for the Negroes to receive fair and impartial treatment before a Lawrence County Grand Jury," the petition of the Negroes declared.

The Negro petitioners stated that three local Negroes who signed state affidavits stating the Columbia defendants could receive a fair trial in Lawrenceburg had been threatened by the Klan for their part in the future of the group or themselves. One Negro who signed the state sponsored affidavit retracted his earlier position and signed the Lawrenceburg petition. The mayor himself is quoted as saying, "The purpose of the change of venue is to aid the defendants but that purpose has been betrayed in Maury County Court action." He then accused Bumpus of "fixing" the record in order to send the case to Lawrenceburg (39 miles from the Alabama border). "We supported Bumpus when he ran here but we are going to have justice. If we have in fact Paul Bumpus to get it," continued the mayor.

Recent legal developments in the case reported by Maurice Weaver and Z. Alexander Looby, NAACP defense counselors revealed the continuance or postponement of the William Pillow, Lovel Kennedy case to the November term in Maury County Circuit Court. This action was granted by beleaguered Judge Ingram and his prosecution when NAACP defense counsel asked for postponement following news of illness of Thurgood J. Marshall, chief defense counsel. Marshall was learned had continued his defense during the last three days of the trial in Columbia despite his illness.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in her syndicated column of July 9th stated, "I was discouraged on receiving word the other day that the trial of the Columbia, Tenn. Negroes was to be moved to a place where the tension and anti-Negro feeling is, if anything, stronger than it was in Columbia."

"Throughout this whole case I have been wondering why we could not understand that, among the men in this country there were numbers of Negro veterans. They often felt, during their war service, that there was discrimination against them. And to come home and face the difficulties of readjustment and of finding a job is as difficult for them as for white men."

Concerning the death of goods on the American market, it was the Washington official's opinion that source items will become more plentiful if congress passes a law for control and big business is convinced the people demand and want such legislation and safeguards. Considerable high-powered lobbying preceded the senate filibuster against passage of the bill finally submitted to the president, Thomas stated.

It is similar to Tuskegee and Hampton, except that its work is not yet on the college level. It was

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**ATTENDS FOLKLORE INSTITUTE** — J. Mason Brewer, above, nation's foremost authority on North American Negro folklore, is attending the Folklore Institute of America at the University of Indiana this summer. Director of research at Sam Houston College, Brewer is author of many studies in the field and is completing A Guide Book of American Negro Folklore under a grant in aid from the American Philosophical Society.

**TWO GIFTS MADE TO GAMMON** — ATLANTA (ANP) — President J. W. Haywood of Gammon Theological Seminary, last week announced two gifts recently received by the seminary.

**S. C. SCHOOL PROTESTS** — COLUMBIA, S. C. (ANP) — Vigorous protests against a demolition of the Booker Washington Institute school here were filed this week with Dr. A. C. Flara, city superintendent of education and Dr. J. Heyward Gibbs, chairman of the board of trustees for the city district.

**PREACHER SHOTS MAN** — NASHVILLE (ANP) — The first casualty in this community, resulting from dropping of price controls, is thought to have occurred last week when a self-styled preacher, Albert T. Pitts, shot his landlord, Green Estmond, during an altercation allegedly over payment of rent.

**CLARK TEACHER RECEIVES PH.D.** — ATLANTA (ANP) — A Ph. D. degree in English was awarded M. Stella Brewer Brookes, chairman of the English department at Clark College here, on June 23. Her field of emphasis was American folk literature.

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**DELTA MAKE PRESENTATION** — WASHINGTON (ANP) — As an initial gift to the "women's museum," planned by the National Council of Negro Women, Delta Sigma Theta sorority recently presented the organization with a collection of books by Negro women writers.

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## NATIVE URGED FOR ISLE POST

BY ADOLPH GEREACU  
ST. THOMAS, V. I. (ANP) — The experiment in self-government within the Caribbean area matched on terror that George Simmons, a native clerk in the local department of finance, be appointed administrator of the island of St. John.

In his new post Mr. Simmons who started his career 25 years ago as a messenger in the finance department, will be the direct representative of the governor on St. John, one of the Virgin Islands, located about three miles east of St. Thomas, and having a population of some 400 persons. The governor further let it be known that in making appointments to key positions in the Government he will follow the wishes of the people to be served.

At the same time Gov. Hastie announced that he will appoint Edward R. Dudley of New York as administrative assistant. Mr. Dudley who came here from the N. A. A. C. P. as legal counsel to the governor, has had his position confirmed.

primary — Congressman John J. Sparkman of Huntsville, State Senator Jim Simpson of Birmingham, Congressman Frank Boykin and Thomas L. Hulley of Mobile, Ted Allen of Union Springs and Homer H. Maxwell of Tuscaloosa.

Save Your Waste Fats!!!

**EDITOR CITES MINORITIES TO FOLLOW LABOR** — BIRMINGHAM (ANP) — "The way organized labor goes in an election is usually the way minorities should go," declared Emory O. Jackson, secretary of the Birmingham NAACP in his prepared report to the monthly meeting of the branch July 10.

gave you common sense — use it, band together for strength and power. We didn't come here to job you, we came to help you see the light of day. We give you not a union on paper but a union in reality."

The speaker in blasting segregation said: "The way to fight segregation is not to sit on buses where you don't belong but to obey the laws, band together in unions and wage legal and economic fights. We can't fight individually but we can fight together. United we stand, divided we fall."

"The CIO protects its members when they are in the right. We invite anyone to challenge our statements. We are not Uncle Tom. Go into your plants with dignity, give an honest day's work and demand a decent wage, the speaker concluded.

**ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.** — Mrs. Reddick of Suffolk, Va., vice-president of the National Negro Congress and International vice-president of the FTA (Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America) addressed a large group of people interested in the C. I. O. at Rocky Mount here Tuesday night.

"I am not a Judas" said Mrs. Reddick. "I will not betray my people. I bring you the best union for the Negro."

"We are open and above board. We invite any A. F. of L. representative to ask questions."

**CIO Program** — "We fight for the revival of OPA. We advocate the Negro's rightful economic share; we operate to increase the Negro's earning capacity and economic level; we fight for a decent wage; we work to obtain as much of the 65c minimum hourly rate as possible; and we strive to make a better American citizen of the Negro."

Mrs. Reddick said "You don't need a Ph.D. to join a union. God

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## Church President



**FRATERNAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT** — Bishop John H. Clayborn of Arkansas, presiding prelate of the 14th district of the AME Church, was elected president of the Federal Council of Negro Churches at the annual meeting in Little Rock last week. He succeeds Bishop Alexander P. Shaw.

off by congress but Gov. Hastie said that he has done such valuable administrative work, in addition to purely legal matters that he will retain him in the new position for which congress has appropriated funds.

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