

# TRUMAN SCORES ON STATE OF UNION

By JOE SHEPHARD

Backed for the first time by the expressed mandate of the people and a friendly Congress President Harry S. Truman stood before the 81st Congress Wednesday and delivered one of the most hard-hitting and yet op-

timistic state of the union addresses in modern political history.

Lashing out at those who had predicted the collapse of the American system of free enterprise and its ability to continue to maintain the highest living standard in

the world, the Chief Executive nonetheless scored many of the hits which currently beset the American scene.

Coupled with his expressed hope for cooperation between government, business, labor and industry was a demand for legislation aimed at the improvement of

the lot of the individual American citizen.

Lacking the fire and oratorical ability to sway his hearers which was a part of the Roosevelt tradition, Mr. Truman exhibited the same direct and straightforward

## \$1,000 GIFT IS CONTRIBUTED TO N. C. ORPHANAGE

OXFORD, Jan. 4 — The Oxford Colored Orphanage has received a gift of \$1,000 toward the replacement of the boy's dormitory, which was burned last year, from the Charitable Trust of Burlington Mills, it was announced this week.

In a letter to Supl. T. A. Hamme of the Orphanage, Charles F. Meyers, assistant vice president of Burlington Mills, stated that "every one who knows your work is tremendously impressed with the work which is being done. We are sincerely pleased with the opportunity to have some small part in your progress and wish for you the best of success in your drive for funds."

## GAINS OF YEAR CITED AT ANNUAL CITIZENS' MEET

"The year 1949 is a year of great challenge and promises to be one of great achievement in the extension of civil rights to all stated Herman L. Taylor, attorney, in his address before the Raleigh Citizens' Committee in annual session at the Bloodworth Street YMCA Sunday afternoon.

"America must become the moral leader of the world and will need no assistance from Communism or any other foreignisms that have no place in this country of ours," according to the speaker.

Leonidas Frazier, chairman of the sub-committee on Education reported satisfactory progress of efforts in cooperation with the Board of Education to secure a site for a new Negro high school.

The report of the sub-committee on police officers was given by C. G. Irving who stated that city authorities are now committed to the fair policy of appointing these officers as soon as vacancies occur on the force." (Continued on back page)

## MANSLAUGHTER COUNT LODGED IN FATAL CRASH

Weldon Adams, 23, of Route 1 Middlesex, is being held under \$1,000 bond here charged with manslaughter in the killing of Lea Green Willford, 35, of Raleigh.

Coroner J. M. Check reports following an investigation that Willford was killed almost instantly early Monday morning when the car his son was driving collided with a truck operated by Adams on the Poole Road.

Adams who sustained lacerations of the head, arms and legs, is reported to be in a fair condition at Saint Agnes Hospital. He is under \$1,000 bond.

Willford's son suffered chest injuries, and sustained skin abrasions.

Following a police investigation of the crash it was found that the truck had veered across the road at Adams applied his brakes.

Examination of the vehicle revealed that the entire braking mechanism had been removed from the right front wheel. Skid marks showed that the truck skidded for 50 feet across the road.

Mr. Willford is believed to have died instantly from a broken neck. Both vehicles were total wrecks.

# 4 PASS POLICE TEST

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# MOB IS BALKED

## ST. AUG. INAUGURATION SET

### POSSIBLE INCREASE, SEEN IN NUMBER OF NEGRO POLICEMEN

An increase in the number of Negroes on the Raleigh Police force, loomed as a possibility this week when it was learned that four Negroes have passed the city Police Department examinations given on August 31.

The four are Samuel Clarkson, 22, of 321 S. Faison, Logan Jones, 37, 303 E. Blane, Milton Peoples, 22, 616 Oberlin Road and Billy Holloway, 23, 611 Oberlin Road.

All four of the successful candidates are natives of Raleigh and graduates of Washington High School in this city. Clarkson and Jones also attended Shreve University while Holloway and Peoples attended St. Augustine's College.

Clarkson is currently employed as a clerk in a drug store, served in the Marine Corps during World War II and is married. Jones, who is married and the father of one child is currently employed in the public relations office of Shaw University.

Raleigh's police department has two colored members, Patrolman Joseph Winters and John Baker who were appointed approximately five years ago.

Up to last summer Officers Winters and Baker, although carried on the rolls as patrolmen, operated as plainclothes. Following numerous requests of citizens groups for Negro uniformed policemen to patrol the more disorderly areas of the city the two were issued uniforms.

Spokesmen for the citizens groups then contacted Raleigh city and police officials to inquire whether the change to uniforms indicated any demerit for the two Negro policemen.

At that time they were told by City Manager Roy S. Braden that the change did not involve any loss in status, rank or income and that additional Negro police-

men would be appointed as soon as there were vacancies and qualified Negro applicants.

### BISHOP E. PENICK TO CONDUCT RITE AT ST. AUG.

Plans are completed for the inauguration of Dr. Harold L. Triggs, sixth head of St. Augustine's College, on January 14. The inaugural ceremonies, which have been timed to take place on the 81st anniversary of the opening of the institution, will begin in Taylor Hall at 3 P. M.

The exercises will include also observance of the anniversary, the Rt. Rev. M. George Henry, D. D., bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina (Protestant Episcopal), being the principal guest speaker for the combined events.

President Triggs will deliver the inaugural address and the Rt. Rev. Edwin A. Penick, D. D., president of the board of trustees of the college and bishop of North Carolina, will preside.

Dr. A. Elder, president of North Carolina College, and Dr. L. S. Cranz, president of Barber Scotia College, will bring greetings from the colleges and universities. A large number of educational institutions, beginning with Harvard, the oldest in the country, have indicated that they will be represented.

(Continued on back page)



CO-EDITOR — The two prominent writers, Langston Hughes, left, and Arna Bontemps, right, teamed up recently and co-edited a poetry anthology containing works of 147 poets. The new book is called "The Poetry of the Negro". Its first section is devoted to the works of Negro poets, the second an third parts take up the works of Caribbean poets and white poets who have written about Negroes, respectively. (ANP)

## Sudden Illness Is Fatal To Wife Of Local Pastor

Mrs. Mary Julia Lawrence, the wife of the Rev. E. C. Lawrence, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Raleigh, died suddenly at 1:45 Tuesday while enroute to St. Agnes Hospital after having been stricken ill at her home at 798 Manley St.

The deceased was 55 years of age and was the former Miss Mary J. Brown of Jennifer, Ala. She was a graduate of Talladega College and lived in Birmingham, Ala. for a number of years where she was very active in work with the American Red Cross.

A resident of Raleigh for the past seventeen years, she has served as president of the Pauline Women's Missionary Union of the First Congregational Church, treasurer of the Sunday School and a member of the adult Bible class.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Marion Harris of New York City and Mrs. Cecelia Goodrum of Philadelphia; one grandson, William Lawrence Goodrum, four brothers, John, William, Eugene and Albert of Talladega and Minneapolis, Minn., and one sister, Mrs. Pauline McCarrroll of Talladega.

The couple's daughters and sons-in-law arrived in Raleigh on Wednesday evening. Funeral arrangements had not been completed up to press time.

Bill Vecek, president of the Cleveland Indians, will be the featured speaker at the annual dinner of the Chicago Urban League, to be held Feb. 17.

## MOB GATHERS AT ASHEBORO AFTER FARMER IS SLAIN

ASHEBORO, N. C. — Mob violence which might have placed North Carolina at the top of the nation's roll of infamy for 1949 was narrowly averted Sunday when a partially masked mob of approximately 300 persons besieged the Randolph County Jail in search of a prisoner who had been transferred elsewhere for safe-keeping.

The prisoner, and intended mob victim was 26-year-old Autley Lee Brown, suspect in the robbery slaying of Edgar M. Cain, wealthy white farmer and livestock dealer.

The body of Cain, apparently the victim of a shotgun blast from behind, was found Sunday morning by a search party which began hunting for him Saturday evening after he failed to return to his home.

Brown was linked with the crime through statements of Cain's friends and relatives that the livestock dealer had had an appointment with Brown to discuss a livestock transaction a few hours before his disappearance.

When arrested, according to Sheriff Ben Morgan, Brown had a bloody handkerchief and about \$500 in his possession and admitted being involved in Cain's death.

Also arrested for questioning in the case were Marvin Staley and Wade Brady who lived near Brown's home. Staley, according to Sheriff Morgan, told of seeing Cain and Brown together near the Holly Springs Church.

Realizing the danger stemming from the high feeling which the killing aroused, Sheriff Morgan said that he immediately took Brown to another jail to prevent trouble.

Upon reaching the jail, the mob demanded to see Brown and milled about upon being told that he had been taken elsewhere.

Leaders of the mob talked with Sheriff Morgan and Jailer W. P. Lassiter and the latter finally agreed to admit about 20 of them if the rest would remain outside. (Continued on back page)

## NEW YEAR'S EVE CRASH KILLS 2 AT ROCKY MOUNT

Rocky Mount — In a highway accident near here, on New Year's Eve two men, both Negroes, were killed and two others were injured seriously.

It was reported by Patrolman W. J. Parrish that the accident occurred when the car in which they were riding overturned on a curve.

The victims were listed as Frank Lawrence and Johnny Warren, Earl Cutchin and a brother, William Thomas Cutchin, were injured. All of the men were natives of the Rocky Mount section, but had been residing recently in Brooklyn, N. Y.



LEAVES FOR LIBERIA — He has been commissioned by President Jacob L. Reddix of Jackson College, Jackson, Miss., is shown above as he boarded a plane for the Republic of Liberia. (ANP)

## Too Much Gossip PROBE BEATING OF MAN AND WIFE BY NEGRO "KLANSMEN"

Conyers, Ga. (ANP)—Teb, and Ida Lee Kelly, tenant farmers and parents of five children, reported to Sheriff W. L. McCarl here last week that four persons who called themselves members of the "colored Ku Klux Klan" attacked and beat them with rifle butts on a deserted country road recently.

In assault warrants sworn out against the Negro Kluxers, the Kellys named Carl Brown, his sister-in-law, Dolly Mae Brown; and two others.

According to the story the victims told, the Browns lured them to a deserted country road where several robed but unhooded Negroes "pretended to hold us up." The robes resembled those worn by the KKK, and one of the party said they belonged to the colored Ku Klux.

The Kellys charged they were forced from the automobile and beaten by the "colored Kluxers." The attack occurred one night after a fire was burned in the yard of the Kellys' home.

Bill Farmer, on whose land the Kellys live, said he understood the couple had been blamed for gossip about the Browns.

## DETROITERS BLAST JUDGE'S ATTITUDE IN BOYS SLAYING

DETROIT (ANP) — According to "old-timers" never in the history of Detroit have Negroes expressed so much indignation as they have toward the recent freeing of patrolman Louis Melais by Recorder's Judge Arthur E. Gordon and the Judge's unwarranted attack upon the NAACP.

Melais had been charged with involuntary manslaughter in the shooting of a 15-year-old Negro lad, Leon Mosley, who was fleeing from the officer in a stolen car.

Melais and patrolman John Bohland had chased Mosley for a mile as a traffic violator without knowing the car was stolen. The car had crashed into a tree and according to witnesses, the officers had beat the youth. It is stated that he was shot in the back. However, the coroner's jury branded the shooting as unnecessary.

Citizens are not so much disturbed over the Judge's decision, declaring that he was "within his rights," but they resent strongly his statements in rendering the decision.

He was reported by the daily press as "lauding the patrolman, saying to him, 'you should be commended as an alert police officer.' Melais was immediately restored

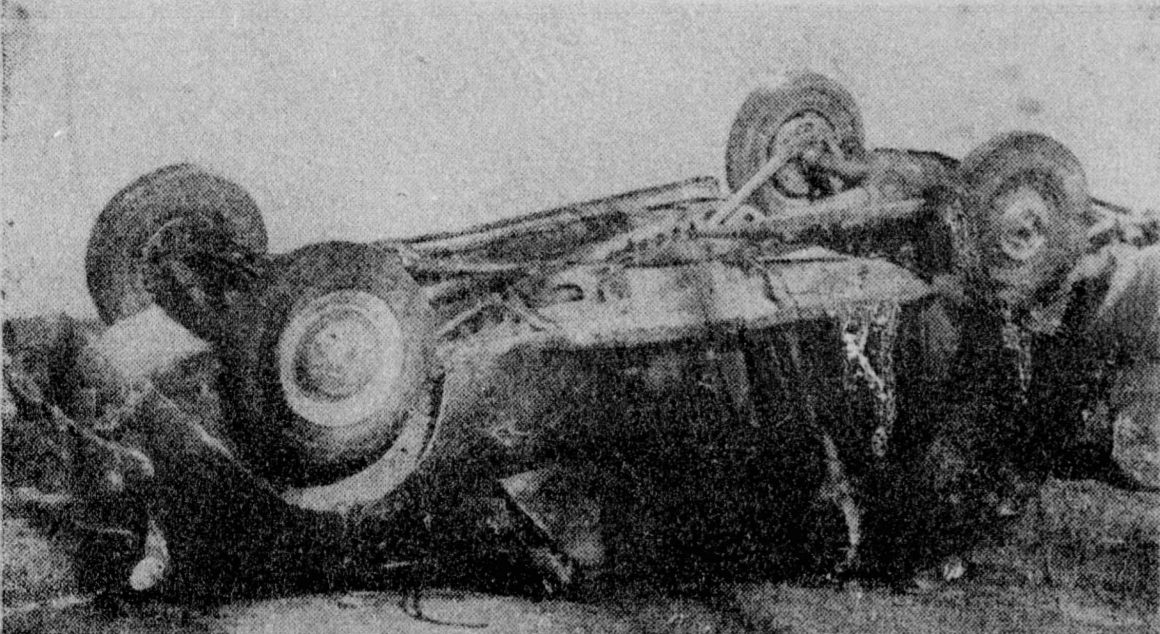
to duty by Commissioner E. F. Toy, who has been the target of criticism since he was appointed, with back pay of \$2,021.

## WHITE MAN JAILED IN CHRISTMAS EVE SLAYING OF NEGRO

FRANKFORT, Ky. (ANP) — Raymond D. Tolman, 26-year-old white man, was arrested and jailed here last week for the Christmas Eve murder of 44-year-old Tom Miller, a Negro.

Tolman was drinking and one of his boys asked Miller, who lived nearby, to help quiet his father. Miller was shot as he stepped to-

## Death Vehicle For Two Negroes



DEATH BEATS THE NEW YEAR — Frank Lawrence and Johnny Warren of New York City died in the wreckage of the

above car which overturned on the afternoon of New Year's Eve on a long curve near Rocky Mount. Two other men who were also riding in the car were seriously injured. PHOTO—Courtesy of News and Observer.