

DEATH CLAIMS N. C. AMEZ BISHOP

200 Escape Death As Church Floor Caves In

Home-State Edition

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No Intimidation Noted In Asheville Attorney's Withdrawal From Race

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT
ASHEVILLE — Efforts to substantiate rumors here that the sole prospective Negro candidate for public office in this week's municipal election here had withdrawn from the race because of "intimidation" proved false this week and last.

A CAROLINIAN investigation here, including reporters, photographers and other, failed to uncover any "intimidation" reason why Attorney E. D. Fitzgerald, who was to have sought a seat on the local city council, suddenly withdrew from the running on last Wednesday.

Fitzgerald signed a letter withdrawing from the race following the announcement of the withdrawal.

The noted attorney here had previously filed as a candidate for the city post, being the only Negro seeking office in the bidding which was held on Tuesday this week.

In seeking the post, he was the sole opposition to the current administration in which not only the local mayor but the entire slate of councilmen are incumbents.

No indication of why he withdrew from the race was made public by Attorney Fitzgerald, whose campaign has lately been held to be "promising." The attorney had received the endorsement of several "influential" local organizations during the opening days of the race.

AT CHAPEL HILL

Two Would Seek Alderman Post

CHAPEL HILL — At least 2 local Negro residents are eyeing political positions in the forthcoming local elections. It was revealed here this week.

Hubert Robinson, long a local civic leader, and Dr. C. W. Thompson, a leading physician who has lived here about five years, are prospective candidates for city alderman election.

AFFAIRS GROUP PONDERS
Dr. Thompson announced

FLASH! Dean Strassner Is New Shaw Prexy



University Board Votes En Toio

RALEIGH — In a unanimous action here Wednesday, the Board of Trustees of Shaw University named Dean William R. Strassner, acting president, to the presidency of the noted Baptist institution.

Dr. Strassner was appointed acting president of Shaw in November, 1948, taking over the activities of an "Interim Committee" which had been formed to administer the school following resignation of Dr. K. P. Daplet to accept presidency at Virginia State College in February of last year.

FACES CHARGES—Mrs. O. M. Hill, owner of La-Mae Beauty School, will face charges of making fraudulent claims as to administration of her institution following arraignment by U. S. Government order this week.



WHERE CHURCH FLOOR CAVED IN—Mourners attending funeral services for a recent dance-hall murder victim are shown above being slumped at the door of Greensboro's High Street Methodist Church while attempts are made to restore disorder

\$175,000 YM BRANCH SITE IS DEDICATED

CHARLOTTE — The new \$175,000 Henry Lawrence McCroskey branch of the YMCA was officially dedicated here Sunday afternoon, with the Rt. Rev. Edwin A. Penick, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, as the principal speaker.

The new facility, named for the president-elect of Johnson C. Smith University here, and the result of a fund-raising effort under-

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LAST RITES FOR MURDER VICTIM SITE OF CRASH

Floor Gives Away As Choir Chants "Nearer My God To Thee"

GREENSBORO — An estimated 200 people were miraculously saved from death when the floor of a church in which they were attending a funeral caved in here this week, killing some 50 to 75 of them in a cellar.

Nearly a third of the floor space of High Street Methodist Church ripped away from its foundation just as pall-bearers entered the church with the mortal remains of a former member Monday, causing injuries to at least six persons and—according to attendants at the services—"scaring everybody nearly to death."

WAS MURDER VICTIM

The incident occurred at 2 p. m. the hour set for the beginning of funeral services for Floyd Hayden, 30, who died Friday last week after being stabbed to death at a dance hall in the former Overseas Redistribution Depot area here.

Miss Mary Blackmon, a 22-year-old local resident, is scheduled to face trial in connection with the killing on April 23 in the local Superior Court.

"NEARER MY GOD TO THEE"
The choir at the church had just continued on page 8, this section)



ATTY TAYLOR WILL ADDRESS MEET YMCA

RALEIGH, N. C. — Herman L. Taylor, local attorney and candidate for city council, will speak at a public meeting at the Bloodworth Street YMCA, Tuesday, April 24 at 8:00 P. M. He will discuss basic issues in the current campaign for membership on the council. The meeting is open to the public.

IT HAPPENED IN CAROLINA

Learning Young

DURHAM — The least one can say about a quartet of girls from Oxford who came to town here on several occasions in that they have indeed learned young.

What the girls have learned—and at a tender age—is the dubious art of shoplifting.

Misses Elizabeth Chandler, 18, Annie Taylor, 16, Dorothy Lee Thouse, 15 and Georgia Mae Downey, 13, have been charged with the theft of several hundred dollars worth of merchandise from stores here.

According to local police, the girls worked in pairs in smuggling some 20 dresses, women's lingerie, shoes, etc., out of stores during a short period.

One method employed, officials said, was for one of the girls to engage store personnel in conversation while the other quickly rolled dresses, still on hangers, into small packages and secret them about her person. Trials are now pending.

Woe Is Me
RALEIGH — At least 5,000 employers of domestic servants throughout the state will have additions to their woes come April 30, a report from Washington indicates this week.

April 30 has been set as the deadline date for the filing of the first Social Security reports and payments for household servants. Reports are to be filed every three months thereafter.



CHARLOTTE SPEAKER—Ray Wilkins, administrator for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was scheduled to address a special meeting of the Charlotte NAACP at the Queen City's St. Paul Baptist Church Thursday night, April 19. Business of importance was to typify the meeting, Charlotte spokesmen revealed.

Presiding Bishop Of 1st District Taken By Death

SALISBURY — Bishop Benjamin Gabriel Shaw, Birmingham, Ala., presiding bishop of the 1st AME Zion Episcopal District, comprising the Western North Carolina Conference, the Blue Ridge, the North Alabama and the Georgia Conference, succumbed to a short illness here last Saturday night in the local hospital.

Bishop Shaw was known to have been ill for some time but it was not considered serious until he came here for an official visit and had to be hospitalized about two weeks ago. The end came after all efforts to restore his health.

He was born in Pope, Mississippi in 1878 and after attending the public schools of his native state and the Pullman School College, Little Rock, Ark., was licensed to preach. His greatest success was

while he was head of the evangelistic bureau of his church. He is reported to have constrained many people to fall out with their ways and follow Christ from only other members of his profession. He was elected bishop of Indianapolis, Ind., 1924, and became the senior pastor of the church on the death of Bishop L. W. Kyles.

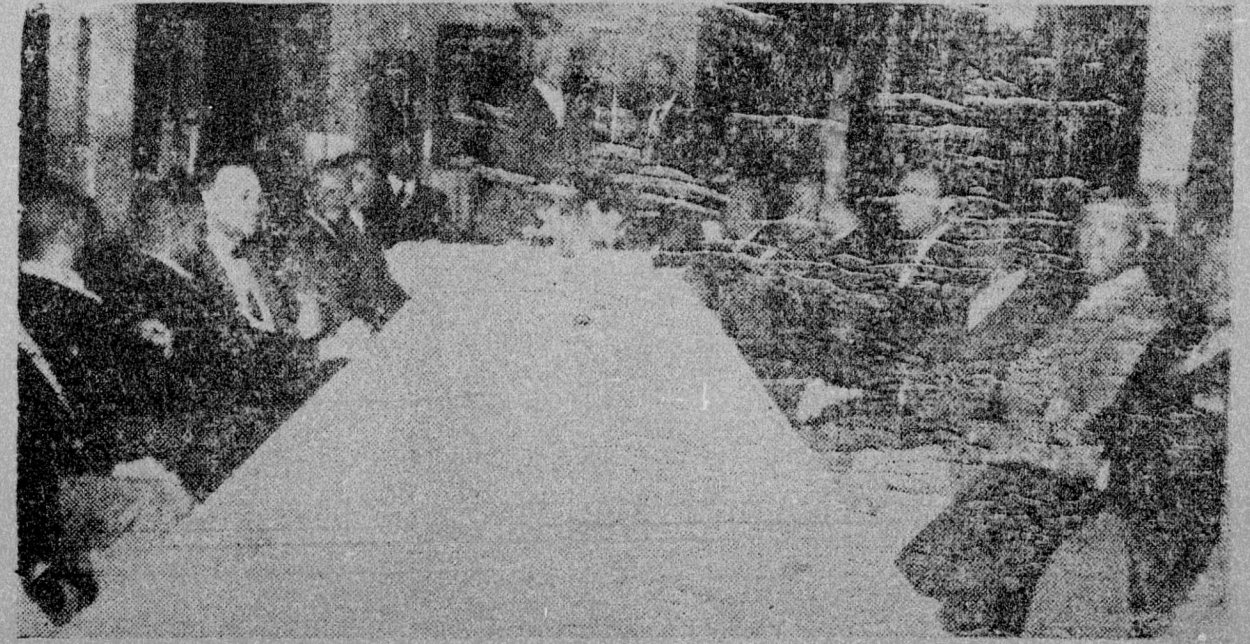
His record as a preacher continued during his tenure as a presiding bishop and when he appeared there were always large crowds to hear him. He was married to Mrs. Garnett Wilkins and to this union was born three children, B. G. Jr., who now pastors in Winston-Salem and Charles M. and Maxine. He later married Miss A. Gunn who is now connected with the educational department of the state.

Funeral services are scheduled at Livingstone College here on Thursday afternoon, April 19 at 4 p. m. Interment is to be made at Birmingham on Friday.

2 Teen-Agers Killed As Racing Automobiles Meet

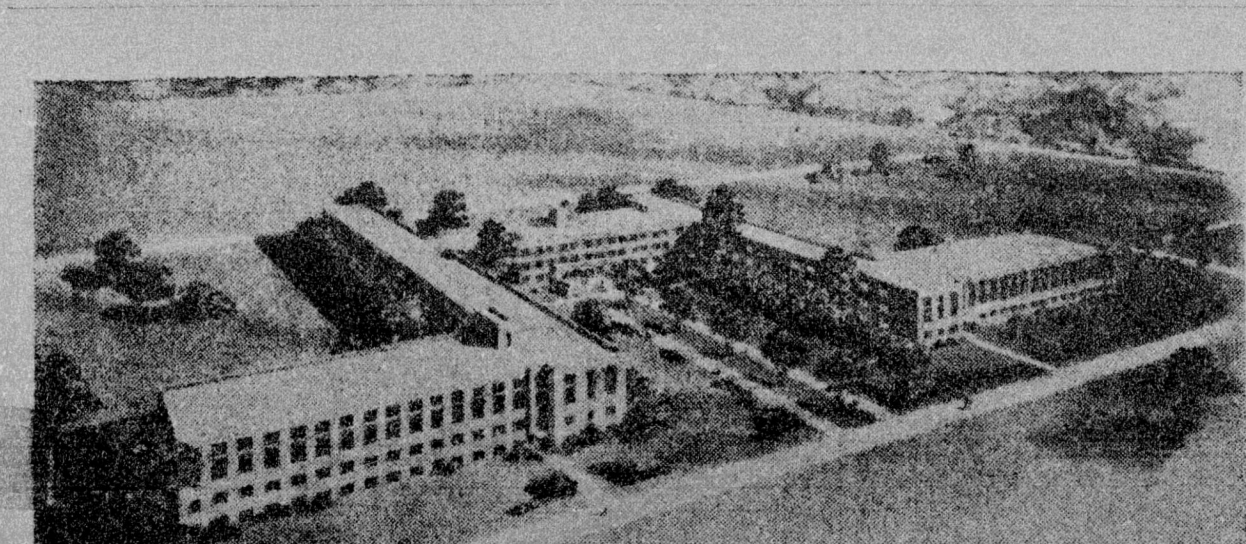
SUNBURY — Two teen-aged youths are dead here and a girl will never talk again as the result of a head-on truck-kiff between two auto race cars here Saturday.

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CANDIDATE PRESENTED— Raleigh Attorney Herman L. Taylor, candidate subject to election to the Raleigh City Council in forthcoming municipal elections, was officially presented to the Capital City's clergy last Saturday during a banquet staged by the Taylor-for-Councilman Committee for the benefit of the Raleigh Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance. Above Attorney Taylor is being greeted by Dr. O. S. Bullock, pastor of First Baptist Church. Seated below Dr. Bullock is the Rev. T. F. Dehart, pastor of St. Paul AME Church, who served as toastmaster during the event held at Raleigh's Bloodworth Street YMCA.

School Head Faces Fraud Rap



LARGEST COLLEGE DORMITORY IN SOUTH— Modernist is the word for the new men's dormitory at A. and T. College in Greensboro, which was recently completed at a cost of \$150,000,000. The largest and finest in the south and one of the largest in the nation, the dormitory contains 305 double rooms and three apartments for custodians. It houses 1010 students. ANP

WINSTON-SALEM — Mrs. Ola Mae Fortie Hill, owner of La-Mae Beauty College, was arrested here on Tuesday by Federal officers and charged with fraudulently obtaining money from the U. S. Government.

The woman, who allegedly falsified records to get tuition payments under the GI Bill of Rights 1949, has been indicted on nine charges by a Federal grand jury in Salisbury the day before.

Following her arrest, she was arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Charles E. Ader and released in \$5,000 bail pending trial in Federal Court here May 7.

Charles W. Brown, special agent in charge of the Charlotte office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said the accusations against Mrs. Hill covered the period from September, 1949, to January, 1951, but did not disclose the amount of money involved.

Mrs. Hill, according to the investigator, was under contract with the Veterans Ad-

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VOTE!
A Voteless People Is A Defenseless People

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