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COUNTY REPLIES

Both long-time principals of the Chance High School, Pernette and the Williamson High School, respectively, are being retained. Mr. Manning asked that it be emphasized that neither man was being fired, contrary to rumors.

It is generally known, however, that Prof. Chance has led many movements for the improvement of the colored citizens during the building up and maintaining of his school, which has been the only high school in the western part of the county.

The fight between Pernette and Oak City communities resulted in much name-calling a couple of years ago with state board hearings, and finally came to a head according to Mr. Manning when a survey by Dr. H. L. Price, colored member of the State Board and Manning recommended the building of the new small high school building at Oak City which will have as principal Mr. Slade, former principal of the six-teacher representative school there. Asked regarding Slade's qualifications to head the high school, Manning replied that "he will be qualified this summer as he is taking a schoolmaster's course and he will have several experienced teachers with him."

Manning did not have the number of teachers at hand, but said that 54 percent of the population was colored and there were 4000 colored children enrolled last year. He explained that the average daily attendance was understandably lower than for whites due to the strictly agricultural formation of the county. However, he stated the whites' six high schools are being reduced to five this year. The colored high schools are increased from two to three this year.

Mr. Manning said that successors for Messrs. Chance and Hayes had not been chosen. One man who was offered the Williamson job has declined, Manning said.

He hinted that the vacancies were expected to be filled from within the county. A 1949-50 survey of school calculations gave \$950,000 for whites as against \$350,000 for colored. Manning said his report to the State showed last year there were 50 buses for white pupils and only 17 for colored. Despite the disparity of 54 percent of county school enrollment being colored, Manning hastened to add that four or five buses would be added this year for colored. Asked how long did he feel it would take to equalize the schools at present rate, Manning replied, "Five years would equal schools." Asked if the new Oak City high school would, as many felt, soon eliminate the W. C. Chance School entirely, Manning said "No." Manning said the board figured that with 2300 elementary children in that area there would be 1000 high school pupils to feed both high schools. Some children, he said, had previously been bused 35 miles to and from high school before the new school was erected. "Martin is spending \$1,000,000 in capital outlay for colored schools this year," the superintendent added, "and \$4,838 was so expended last year." Oak City high cost \$100,000 and the plant there is considered to be barely adequate. The out-poured frame building used for elementary classes there is discouraging to say the least.

DENIES RUMOR
Mr. Manning denied a rumor that has gained circulation regarding the source of the land upon which the Chance school now stands. He said he had it on good authority that the tract was obtained by the county from one "Lon Gray at low price and the original brick building erected on it about 1915."

FEELS RACE RELATIONS IMPAIRED
Asked if he felt the petition and suit had impaired race relations in the county, Mr. Manning replied, "I think it has." He said the board felt it had done a pretty fair job in bringing up the

Negro schools." Manning, in an attempt to justify the contention that "many of the signers of the petition were misled and did not know what they were signing," pointed to the fact that "only one of the signers of the first petition signed the second one." This reported incident, he said, is hardly probable that the second group of citizens could have been misled even if the first group had been, especially since all resided close together in the same county where everyone had discussed the details of both petitions.

ANSWER PUBLISHED
Williamston's "THE ENTERPRISE" published a long account of the board's answer to the suit in its July 16th edition, repeating the allegation that it is reported several plaintiffs did not know what they were signing.

Signers of the petition were listed as being, "Henrietta Keefe, Bessie Little, Lula Bellamy, Marjorie Morrow, Sylvia Williams, Elisha Candell, Magnolia Corfield, Eva Roberson, Lillie E. Council, Annie Moore, James Wallace, Johnnie Mizell, Harvey Britney, Annie B. Roberson, Bert Moore, Blossie Perkins, Lonnie Roberson and Raymond Lloyd."

"THE ENTERPRISE" says the defendants declare that they are performing to the best of their ability the duties prescribed by law for their offices and in the performance of the functions of their offices that are following the law with respect thereto.

The board declares that many things which white schools have that are not in colored schools have been provided through private donations of books, funds and labor. The case now awaits its turn in court.

6-STATE RACKET

The NCM employees, believing the youth to be intent in his solicitation and feeling that there was truth in the letter proffered by Rucker revealing that he was purchasing a limo from a noted manufacturer, filed a box to the bill for the youth.

Individual donations in some cases amounted to \$5 or \$6. Rucker reportedly acted suspiciously when he was given a counter check made payable to the company from which he was allegedly purchasing the limo and demanded to know why the check was not made personally. He also failed to account for the whereabouts of funds to the amount included in the check given him by the NCM employees.

CALL MADE TO S. C.
Noting the youth's reluctance to accept the check for the manufacturing company he allegedly was doing business with, and recognizing a series of changes in his "files," an NCM official placed a telephone call to Anderson where the story of Rucker's "racket" was made known.

SOUGHT IN S. C.
Only last week, South Carolina officials revealed, a "pick up" order was sent to Asheville, NC where Rucker was allegedly soliciting funds. The youth had vanished when word of his arrest



YEARS FOR A HERO—No longer able to restrain the tears, Mrs. Van Overton breaks down during the toll in the cemetery at Governor's Island, New York, where an Army Ferry was named for her late Congressional Medal of Honor son, Sgt. Cornelius Charles Young Overton who was killed in April, 1945, as he led a charge on an embattled Korean Hill. He was the third Negro Medal of Honor Platoon. (New Photo Photo)

officers arrived where he was last reported seen, however.

REALLY GETS AROUND

A member of the staff of a south-wide dance promotion firm revealed that Rucker had been seen soliciting funds at dance attractions throughout the North and South Carolina area. He had traveled in the company with an officer, reportedly a brother, who sends his collection to his family living in Anderson. Only the mother participates in the funds as a parent, it was pointed out, because of separation.

WHAT OF THE MONEY?

Rucker, according to conservative estimates, solicits an average of \$100 a week. South Carolina officials contend that the youth and South Carolina area. He had traveled in the company with an officer, reportedly a brother, who sends his collection to his family living in Anderson. Only the mother participates in the funds as a parent, it was pointed out, because of separation.

HOW RUCKER LOOKS, WORKS

Rucker has been described as having a "wide open" youthful countenance and to be of dark brown complexion. He wears closely-clipped hair and has no mustache. He stands about 5 feet six inches.

He is conspicuous because of the loss of his right leg in place of which he wears a wooden peg. On occasions, it was learned, he uses a crutch while not wearing the peg. The youth reportedly seldom solicits individuals, preferring to approach entire organizational groups. His major individual solicitations are made at public affairs, it was pointed out.

COVERS THE SOUTH

Rucker reportedly has solicited funds not only in the two Carolinas, but has also been reported "working" in Virginia, Georgia, Florida and Alabama.

HOSPITAL ISSUE

Following a bond issue and passage, self-perpetuating and that the board will not deed the hospital to the county unless it (the board) is allowed to operate the hospital.

Making these observations was J. C. E. Erinsburg, Jr., member of the board and attorney for Saint Agnes trustees. After noting the advancements made by the hospital in acquiring certain equipment, needed accreditation, etc., Mr. Erinsburg, upon query, noted that the board would consider the employment of a Negro as administrator of the hospital when the need for one occurs. He noted that the hospital had acted upon recommendations of certain institutions and organizations in the appointment of a white administrator for the hospital when a recent vacancy occurred in the post and pressure was brought to bear for the naming of a Negro to the post. The assurance that consideration would be given the appointment of a Negro administrator, served to

PETTY DEBT IS CAUSE OF MAN BEING WOUNDED

RALEIGH—For a dollar and seventy cents one man was sent to the hospital with a bullet wound and another landed in jail last Saturday night. The hospitalized man, Tall Kennedy, said that his neighbor, Earl Green, came to his home and demanded the money that he said Green owed him. Kennedy said that he told his assailant that he had already paid him at an earlier date.

Green refuted his statement and threatened to beat him up. After a fist fight, which neighbors had broken up, Green said that he would be back.

A few minutes later Green came back to the Kennedy home and started shooting with his .22 rifle and an Kennedy in the shoulder. When he arrived Green reportedly told them that he had shot Kennedy and was ready to go with them. The wounded man was taken to St. Agnes Hospital. Earl Green was taken to police headquarters and held pending investigation.

Two Persons County poultrymen

Thomas and Talmadge Long, lost 5,000 broilers in the June heat wave. Since that time, they have installed electric fans and added large vents in the roof of their broiler house.

FUNERAL RITES HELD FOR MRS. HARRINGTON

RALEIGH—Mrs. Mary Louise Harrington, 37, of Holly Springs died at her home after an extended illness. Funeral services were held from the St. Ann's Methodist Church, July 19, at the Post Office building officiating, assisted by the Rev. C. H. White. Burial followed in the Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Harrington is survived by her husband, Bill Harrington, 5 sons, Frank, Charley and Corley, three daughters, Joyce, Peggie, and Janice, all of Holly Springs; two sisters, Mrs. E. A. Rogers of Holly Springs and Mrs. Alice Jenkins of Greensboro; four brothers, Price Rogers of Fayette Springs, Ivey Rogers and Jack Rogers of Holly Springs, and J. C. Rogers of Brookline, N. C.

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