

# North Carolina Minister Elected Head Of World-wide Baptist Group

## Three Dead, Three Facing Murder Charges As...

# POISON BOOZE SCARE SPREADS

# Federal Post Created For Former Area Farm Agent

## John Mitchell Worked The Horse and Buggy Era In NC

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special) — Promotion of John W. Mitchell, Extension Service field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to the newly created post of Director of Cooperative Extension Work was announced this week by national leader on the staff of the Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Tamm Benson.

Mr. Mitchell, who began work for Extension Service as a buggy-driving emergency agricultural agent in two North Carolina counties 26 years ago, is the first colored Extension worker to be promoted to national leader. His headquarters will be transferred from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., to the Department here in Washington by September 15.

The promotion broadens the scope of Mr. Mitchell's duties from regional to national level. And although the larger part of his work will still be with State Extension directors and Negro Extension supervisors in the South, he also will counsel with Extension Director C. M. Ferguson on national problems relevant to the agency's program.

"I regard Mr. Mitchell as highly qualified for the position to which he is being assigned," says Director Ferguson. "And I consider his promotion only as a first step

in a long range program to further develop and strengthen the work with Negro farm families and 4-H club youths."

As an Extension career employee, Mr. Mitchell has worked his way up through the ranks from emergency agent to county agent, to district agent, and then to State Extension agent of Negro work in North Carolina. From that post he joined the federal staff as field agent in 1943, succeeding the late John B. Pierce.

For his work in North Carolina, Mr. Mitchell was awarded a number of signal honors. Last spring the U. S. Department of Agriculture also honored him by presenting him a Superior Service Award "for his contribution to the development of effective and practical Extension work for Negro farm families."

Mr. Mitchell was born in Morehead City, N. C., and is a graduate of the Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, N. C. Also, he holds a master's degree from Central University, Indianapolis, Ind., and an honorary doctorate from Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C.

The national leader of Extension work is married and has six grown children. One of his sons, Tal-

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**EXTENSION LEADER** — John W. Mitchell, center, Extension Service field agent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who has been promoted to National Extension Leader, is being congratulated by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, J. Earl Coke, right, and Director of Extension C. M. Ferguson, Mr. Mitchell,

who has been in agricultural extension work for 36 years, is the first colored worker to be promoted to national leader. His office will be transferred from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., to the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington. He began his career in North Carolina,

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# CRACKDOWN SHOWS N.C. MAN AS 'BIG-SHOT' DOPE-HANDLER

## Dunn Man Is In Syndicate Fed. Declares

DUNN — The chief of the federal narcotics squad in North Carolina minced no words this week when he described the owner of a local Negro night-club, nabbed in New York on a dope rap this week, a "big operator."

Joe Hamm, 40, was one of two men picked up by federal narcotics men Sunday as operatives in New York and in Fayetteville moved in with stop-watch timing. Hamm, who, along with his brother, was known locally as owner of the Broadway Night club, was nabbed in New York. Another man, W. L. Doer Griffin, was cornered at the same time near the Cumberland County courthouse in Fayetteville as he completed a dope sale to a federal agent.

Hamm was described by federal agents as "a big operator in a powerful nationwide dope syndicate." W. T. Atkinson of Greensboro, chief of the narcotics squad in North Carolina, revealed that the Dunn ex-convict was one of the biggest suppliers of dope in this part of the country and that the government had been after him for at least three years.

Hamm now is under \$10,000 bond for appearance at the September 21 term of U. S. District Court at Fayetteville.

Atkinson said that within a matter of minutes after Hamm was arraigned in New York, syndicate lawyers and bondsmen appeared with the \$10,000 bail.

Hamm, who drives a Cadillac convertible still owns the Bird Land Club establishment, maintaining another apartment in New York City.

In 1932, he escaped a death sentence by becoming a state's witness in a famous Dunn murder case in which one of his accomplices went to the electric chair and another got life imprisonment. Hamm and two other defendants escaped with light prison terms.

His brothers, Avant and David Hamm, have been convicted of federal narcotics charges. Avant recently completed a prison term for dealing in dope and David is now serving a term in New York, Atkinson said.

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Mrs. Willetta S. Jones, left, of Deep River, Conn., recently appointed director of the new School of Nursing to open at A.

and T. College this Fall, discusses the new program with Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of the col-

lege. She will officially assume the new post with the opening of the Fall quarter at the college on September 14.

# Planning Now Underway For Home For Young Unwed Race Mothers

## Charlotte Home Would Be A "1st"

CHARLOTTE — Negro community leaders and members of the Social Planning Council of the United Community Service organization have come together here to lay foundations for the establishment of a home for unwed Negro mothers.

Realization of the planning would result in the setting up of the first establishment of its kind in the area.

Dr. Nathaniel Tross, prominent local physician heads the Negro community leaders group which is working in collaboration with the United Services organization, set up here last year to foster a single fund-raising campaign annually.

Already Charlotte has a home for white unwed mothers, one of a national chain, but Charlotte nor any other city in the state has a home for unwed Negro mothers.

Purposes of the establishment of such a home are twofold. It has been pointed out. Not only will unwed young Negro mothers have a "home" to turn to in their time of distress, but will also be aided in social rehabilitation.

Dr. Tross revealed this week that a committee of which he is the head has already received application for admission to the projected home from 12 young race-

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**NORTH CAROLINA NEWS IN BRIEF**

## LIGON HIGH HAS BOOSTERS' CLUB

RALEIGH — A "Ligon High School Little Blues Boosters Club" is being organized in Raleigh.

Purpose of the organization is to lead financial and moral support to the athletic teams of the J. W. Ligon (formerly Washington High School) here.

In addition to the 40-man Ligon High football squad, the boosters' organization has Coach P. H. Williams, Silas Webb, Wiley "Bull" Latham and G. E. Newell in official posts. Initial plans call for the sale of special boosters tickets locally at the rate of admissions to six home games to be played by the Little Blues for \$5.

Persons wishing to obtain boosters' tickets are asked to contact G. F. Newell by phone at Ligon High School and tickets will be delivered.

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## MAN APPEALS IN ARSON ARREST

RALEIGH — Charged with breaking into the home of William Minter of Joe Louis Park and setting fire to a mattress in Minter's home, Thomas Jackson was bound over to Wake Superior Court to await trial. His bond was set at \$500.

Magistrate H. A. Bland found probable cause in the case heard last week. According to testimony, Jackson broke into the home on August 20 by cutting a screen.

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## "Cain and Abel" Killing Shocks N. C. Community

TAYLORSVILLE — The 27-year old father of four small children was the victim in a "Cain and Abel" slaying which shocked this community last Saturday night.

He was the victim of his 21-year old brother in a shooting which occurred at the home of the two men's mother.

Killed instantly by a charge from a 410 gauge shotgun was R. T. (Dude) James. The gun was wielded by Dickey James, "baby brother" of the victim.

Police reports say that the two men quarrelled in the yard of the home of their mother and that Dickey James went into the house, secured the shotgun and came back into the yard to fire one blast at his brother.

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# Scare Grips State As 3 Drink Bad Booze And Die

BY STAFF WRITER  
HIGH POINT — With three persons dead as result of drinking poisoned whiskey and three others in jail facing murder charges growing out of the deaths, the "fatal moonshine" scare which first came to light in this area early this week shows signs of gaining state-wide proportions.

Already High Point and Thomasville have seen results derived by partaking of the lethal mixture, and police departments of other cities and towns in the state are urging residents to think before they drink "stump hole," "white lightning" or other moonshine mixtures.

## "ENOUGH TO KILL AN ELEPHANT"

The mixture which caused the death of a 24-year-old woman at Thomasville Saturday night or Sunday morning has been described as being "strong enough to kill an elephant and weaken a whole herd of them" by an unofficial police department spokesman.

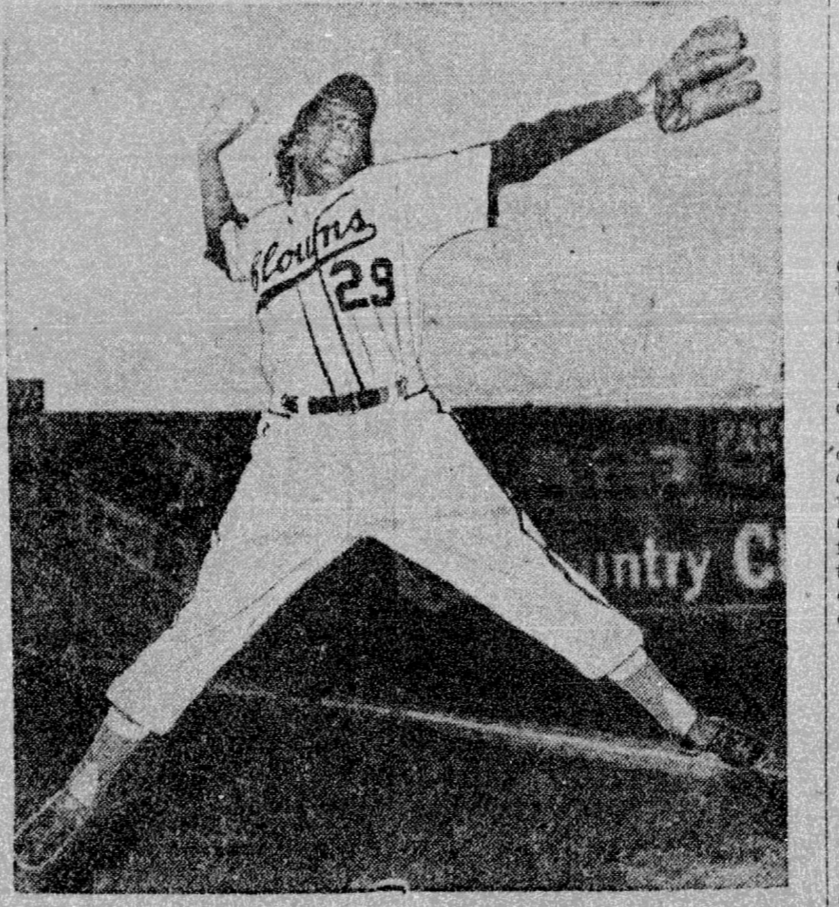
The "whiskey" which caused the death of Miss Doris Barnes at Thomasville was said to have been merely a mixture of paint thinner "spiked" with "stump-hole."

## FACE MURDER CHARGES

Thomasville police officers have arrested Manning Joiner, 27, Johnny Simms, 23, and Simms' wife, Dorothy, 19, all of Number 10 Finch Row in Miss Barnes' death.

According to reports, Miss Barnes called at the Finch Row address late Saturday night or early Sunday morning and proceeded to "have a few" which were allegedly sold to her by one or all of the three persons charged.

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**FIRST OF A KIND** — Miss Toni Stone, female second baseman of Syd Poilock's Indianapolis Clowns will make her first appearance before the fans of North Carolina in Raleigh, Monday night, September 14, when the Negro American League champions clash with the Negro

League All-Stars in an exhibition tilt. Miss Stone, who has earned herself a regular starting berth with the Clowns is the first woman to sign an official NAL contract and become a regular on a professional baseball team.

## Principal, Facing Drunk Driving Rap, Loses School Post

DURHAM — The principal of a local elementary school, now awaiting trial on a charge of drunken driving and who "bear" a morals charge brought against him last spring by a 13-year-old student at his school, was replaced as head of his school early this week as local schools prepared for Wednesday morning's opening exercises.

W. L. Bradsher, Jr. was appointed acting principal "until further notice" of Hickston School here Monday.

Bradsher replaces H. A. Hill who is awaiting trial in Superior Court on drunken driving charges. The trial is expected to be heard next week.

Last spring Hill was acquitted on a morals charge brought by

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# Dr. P. A. Bishop Elected Lott Carey Group Head

BY S. R. JOHNSON, JR.  
BALTIMORE — Dr. P. A. Bishop of Rich square, was elected president of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, the world's leading Negro Baptist group, here Thursday afternoon, September 3, at the regular business session of the organization in its fifty-sixth annual session here at Zion Baptist Church that opened on Monday, August 31, and closed on Friday night, September 4 with the honorable Clarence L. Simpson, Liberian Ambassador to the United States bringing the closing message to the more than 2,000 messengers and visitors from twenty-four States, four foreign countries and the District of Columbia.

Rev. Mc. Bishop is also president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention and holds several other top Baptist posts both on a state and national level.

In the presidency of the Lott Carey convention, which has the largest membership of any Negro Baptist group in the world, the Turkish churchman succeeds Dr. U. G. Wilson, pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Portsmouth, Va.

\$114,000 COLLECTED

According to the annual report of Dr. Wendell C. Sommerfield of Washington, D. C., executive secretary of the convention, a total of \$114,919.81 was raised from all sources for the year 1952-53. Funds were spent for mission work in Haiti, Liberia, China, India and South America.

COLLEGE HEADS PRESENT

Presidents of Virginia Seminary, Shaw University and Virginia

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DR. P. A. BISHOP

Union University were present. Presidents M. C. Allen, William H. Strosser, and John Ellisor each made a strong appeal for trained religious workers to combat the troubles and conflicts in the world today.

RETIRED PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Dr. Ulysses G. Wilson, retiring president of the convention in his annual address declared that "the missionary task of the church is becoming more and more difficult, and its sphere of activity will be

# Man, Sitting On Railway Tracks, Killed By Train

SMITHFIELD — A Kenly resident, Freddy Lee McDonald, 27, was killed last Wednesday night, about 10:50 while sitting on the northbound track of the Atlantic Coastline Railroad about 500 yards from the Main Street Crossing in Kenly. McDonald was killed when struck by a freight train, Pittman of Selma.

The train engineer and fireman according to Coroner James E. Smith, stated that they saw the man only when the train was about 200 feet from him. He was sitting on the track with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees, they reported.

McDonald sustained a fractured skull, broken neck and his left arm was broken in two places. Coroner Pittman said, "He was killed in front of the nose of his father, David Mc-

Donald, the father stated that he had not seen his son since Monday and that he was asleep when the accident occurred.

McDonald was employed by the Wilkeson Lumber Company of Kenly. The coroner stated that his investigation was complete and no further investigation would be held unless further details developed in the case.