

NEGROES REFUSED USE LAVATORIES IN CITY ARMORY AT KAPPA DANCE

Mailing
EDITION

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

Reaches The Mass
Of Readers

VOLUME 26 No. 11

DURHAM, N. C. SATURDAY MARCH 12, 1938

PRICE FIVE CENTS

N. C. MUTUAL ASSETS OVER \$5,000,000

Dance Promoters Awarded \$1,075 In 'Fats' Waller Suit

City Manager Turns Deaf Ear To Plea Of Kappa Fraternity Officials

Local members as well as visitors of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity got a good dose of the "friendly" relationship which exists between the races here on last Friday evening when members of the fraternity, visiting guests and other patrons of the dance given at the City Armory for the benefit of the North Carolina College scholarship fund found the doors of the lavatories for both men and women locked.

Up until a few hours before the opening of the dance, influential Negro citizens who had pleaded to believe that they would have use of the entire building which is owned by the city of Durham.

Up until a few hours before the opening of the dance, officials of the Kappa Fraternity had been led to believe that the city officials would rescind their custom of not permitting Negroes to use the lavatories inside the building. When it was discovered that the city manager, H. A. Yancy had no intention of letting them have use of the entire building even though he had been paid the required amount of rent for it, several influential Negroes appealed to members of the city council by personal calls and over the telephone. Their

appeals were of no avail for the doors of the lavatories were never unlocked and Negro women in evening gowns were forced to go outside the building, as well as the men, to seek the use of lavatories elsewhere.

Much disgust has been expressed by leading Negro citizens concerning the action of the city manager and members of the city council. Negroes when using the municipal buildings in Charlotte, Raleigh, and Greensboro and other cities in North Carolina are not denied the use of the entire building, and yet Durham with all its boasts of education, they say, is too narrow to do the fair and right thing by its Negro citizens whose money helped to construct the local armory.

The Committee on Negro Affairs will have an opportunity to learn all the facts in the case at its next regular meeting which will be held next Wednesday morning. Just what action it will take concerning the armory offense will not be known until that time.

Columbus, O. As the result of a boycott by colored citizens, the A. & P. store on Mt. Vernon St. has hired a colored cashier.

20,000 HEAR FORD LECTURE ON HISTORY OF NEGRO PEOPLE

NEW YORK, March 9—(CNA)—Vast Madison Square Garden was turned into a classroom of 20,000 pupils when James W. Ford, noted Negro leader and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, lectured on the progressive traditions of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The occasion was the public session of the National Party Builders Congress.

Ford emphasized that it was Douglass who aroused the North with his revolutionary slogan, "Emancipation of the Slaves!" It was Douglass who urged the arming of the slaves, declaring that "a single Negro regiment would have a remarkable effect on Southern nerves."

Ford detailed at length the international viewpoint of the three "greatest heroes of American democracy." He delved into history for parallels in comparing contemporary events.

Citing the aid given to Washington's army by the Europeans, Kosciusko, Pulaski and Lafayette, Ford proudly related the achievements of the Negro and white Americans who are fighting in Spain today to defeat fascism.

The necessity to cooperate with friendly nations for peace and against reaction was clearly understood by Washington and Lincoln, Ford declared, pointing out that Washington sought an alliance with France for protection against hostile European countries, and that Lincoln wrote Karl Marx in London acknowledging the earnest sympathies of the workers of Europe for the Union's fight against the slavocracy.

"Just as Douglass in his day declared that the preservation of the Republic demanded the emancipation of the slaves," Ford said "so today the defeat of the Big Business fascist offensive (in the United States) demands the emancipation of the Negro people from the bondage under which they still suffer."

"FATS" FAILED TO PLAY BUT DID NOT FAIL TO PAY



Reading from left to right are C. O. Pearson, local attorney; "Fats" Waller, a characteristic pose and Raymond Pace Alexander, Philadelphia attorney. \$1075 is the amount Waller was forced to pay to Lathrop Alston, local dance promoter who entered suit against the well known orchestra leader when he failed to fill an engagement to play for a dance here on the night of February 28. Attorney Alexander and Pearson represented Mr. Alston in the action.

Local Dance Promoter Goes To Philadelphia To Attach Waller Orchestra

(Special To Carolina Times)

PHILADELPHIA, March 10.—Because he and his orchestra failed to fill an engagement to play a dance engagement in Durham on the night of February 28th, Thomas "Fats" Waller, well known orchestra leader, was forced to pay Durham promoters a total sum of \$1075 damages here today.

The Durham promoter, Lathrop Alston who employed the well known and prominent attorney of this city, Raymond Pace Alexander, came here this week and brought with him his attorney from Durham, Conrad O. Pearson with full intentions of attaching instruments and other orchestral property of the "Fats Waller company.

According to information obtained here, Waller after signing a contract to play for the dance in Durham was offered a week's engagement at a local theatre while he was in Danville, Virginia and without notifying the Durham promoter left immediately for Philadelphia where he was when notice of the action taken by Mr. Alston was given.

This is the second time Waller has jumped a contract in North Carolina and the second time he has been sued for the same offense. The first time he failed to appear after signing up to do so was at Winston Salem, North Carolina. Without giving notice on that occasion he did not show up and the promoters of that dance waited until he put in his

appearance for an engagement in Durham, where they served, at attachment papers and "Fats" was compelled to get up off \$600 to satisfy the parties concerned.

It was learned here today that the failure of Waller to show up in Durham caused quite a bit of dissatisfaction on the part of many persons who had purchased advanced tickets with the expectation of attending the dance. The Durham promoters were forced to refund money for each ticket, and in addition were left with the bag to hold so far as advertising and other regular cost of promoting the dance were concerned.

Immediately after the settlement Attorney Pearson and Mr. Alston left for Durham.

Colored Library Has Served City Over 20 Years

The Durham Colored Library has been serving the public for more than twenty years. Even under adverse circumstances the library has made its contribution to the cultural side of Negro Durham by serving thousands of children and adults each year.

In 1918 Dr. A. M. Moore founded a Sunday School Library in White Rock Baptist Church. Under the supervision of Miss Mattie Louise Moore the library began to grow. All churches were invited to use the library. In an effort to serve the public better, the library was moved to its present location in 1917. Miss Hattie E. Wooten was appointed librarian with the following trustees: Dr. A. M. Moore, Chairman; J. M. Avery, M. T. Norfleet, G. C. Spaulding, Mrs. S. V. Norfleet, E. D. Mickel, Dr. S. L. Warren, Mrs. M. S. Pearson and J. A. Dyer.

Contribution from the city began in 1917 and the county in 1918. In 1919 the number of volumes in library were 1,942; at present there are over 7,000 volumes with 1,486 registered borrowers serving 15 per cent of Negro population. Library service is also given all the county schools with a circulation of 9,997 last year.

At the March monthly meeting, the librarian's report showed progress being made as to circulation, special activities, and the general use of the library. But the program of these are hampered by the little space. A new building is needed.

(Continued on page eight)

GRAND JURY INDICTS INSURANCE COMPANY MANAGER

CLEVELAND, O., March 9—(ANP)—The Cuyahoga County Grand Jury returned a surprise manslaughter indictment last week against Tyre S. Jones, Cleveland branch manager of the Mammoth Life Insurance Co., and Dr. C. Alexander Simpson, 2166 East 68th St., both of whom figured in the accidental death of an aged white pedestrian and his son last September, when the automobile driven by the doctor collided with one driven by Jones and continued on to mount the sidewalk at 71st and Quincy Aves. and struck the two men as they walked along E. 71st St.

In the light of testimony given by the doctor and witnesses, confusion was created as to which car had the right of way, the doctor contending that the caution light came on when he was in the middle of the intersection, and that the car driven by Jones crashed into his machine, rendering him unconscious and that his dazed condition prevented him from giving police at the scene his version of the collision and subsequent tragedy.

In the light of the evidence, both men were indicted and the case set for early March. Jones has retained Attorney Chester E. Gillespie to defend him, and is free under \$1,000 bond.

FOUR NEGRO OFFICERS TO FORT BENNING FOR SPECIAL TRAINING

FORT BENNING, Ga., March 9—(ANP)—Four Negro officers arrived here Saturday for the special infantry officers training course which began Monday. They are, Major Wilmer F. Lucas and Captain Jesse W. Pollins, both of the 389th Infantry, New York National Guard, and 2nd Lt. Raymond Watkins, and 2nd Lt. Geo. W. Rose of the 8th Infantry Illinois National Guard.

Immediately after their arrival and registration the officers were put through a somewhat exacting physical examination and all jeered physically fit.

The special infantry training period which extends over a period of three months will begin Monday with a refresher course in topographical calculations and procedure. Aside from the four officers, there are over

(Continued on page eight)

Calls For Equitable Distribution Of Federal Funds For All Schools

WASHINGTON, March 9—(ANP)—In all states maintaining separate schools for Negroes, federal grants should be conditioned on an equitable distribution of the funds between white and colored schools, without reducing the proportion of state and local funds spent on Negro schools, the President's Advisory Committee on Education recommends in its report which has just been sent by Roosevelt to congress.

Leading white and colored educators took part in a year's survey of the national school system which resulted in this and other recommendations, particularly for the South where a just distribution of funds between the races has long a sore spot. Congress is expected to take definite action on the report, which has just been released to the press.

Many of these suggestions incorporated in the committee's report were the result of suggestions by Negro leaders who led the

fight for amendments to the Harrison-Fletcher bills last spring. Definite statutory guarantees for a fair distribution of funds are asked, with provisions for withholding money from states that do not meet the provisions.

Federal grants of \$70,000,000 for 1939-40, to be increased to \$199,000,000 for 1944-45, are asked. In addition to vocational work, the committee recommends new aid for public elementary and secondary schools, a fund for preparation of teachers and other educational personnel, construction of school buildings, improved administration of state departments of education, adult education and rural library service. It was also suggested that congress provide a special fund for educational research, planning and demonstrations. After six years, the program might be revised.

Discussing how the money should be divided within each state, the report says it "is of

the opinion that the distribution of federal aid funds within a state is not a matter that should be left exclusively to state officials." State and federal officials should be required to make the allotments to local districts on an objective basis, in the manner that will "most effectively lessen inequalities of opportunity" for schooling.

Although joint planning is necessary in connection with such problems as allocation of funds, the committee points out, cooperative planning should be carefully restricted by law to matters of direct federal concern.

Special attention should be given to rural schools of both races, since "the least satisfactory schools in the United States are to be found for the most part in rural areas." Urban schools spend almost twice as much per capita, as did rural institutions which, according to the committee, means that county areas should receive

(Continued on page eight)

GREAT STRIDES MADE BY LOCAL INSURANCE COMPANY IN 1937

In his annual message to the policyholders, officers, and friends of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company of Durham, North Carolina, President C. C. Spaulding commented upon the exceptionally fine experience of the company during the year 1937. Notwithstanding thousands of Negroes were unemployed and on relief rolls during the year, it is significant to note that the company experienced no wholesale loss of business — rather, made substantial gains in all branches of its operation. This fact speaks eloquently for the high esteem in which the company is held.

The year marks the beginning of the company's fortieth year of uninterrupted operation. During this period, economic disturbances occurred that would inevitably have shaken the very foundations of institutions less firmly entrenched. A world war, the 1918 epidemic of influenza, and three major depressions were tests that firmly proved the downfall of many institutions. Notwithstanding these crises, North Carolina Mutual moved steadily onward, extending its field of operation and gaining in strength and experience as the years passed.

In commenting upon the company's exceptional experience, Mr. Spaulding attributed its success to the fact that the management has constantly kept abreast of trends in the business world, and has charted the course of the

company accordingly. During the past few years the company has held schools for training its field and home office employees, which have greatly improved the personnel of the organization. Thus the institution has remained unscathed by the ravages of wars, epidemics, and depressions, and has moved steadily forward to a position of strength and stability that is as enduring as the Sphinx.

Commenting further upon the annual statement, Mr. Spaulding, called attention to the fact that the officers have conserved the deposited resources of the policyholders in the form of legal reserve in the sum of \$459,729.94. In addition thereto, \$60,000 has been set aside in the form of contingent reserve to more fully protect those insured in the event of unexpected emergencies such as epidemics, disasters, etc. It is of interest to note that nearly 90 percent of the admitted assets of the company has been reserved to mature outstanding policies as they become due and payable.

During the year the assets of the company were increased \$391,869.24; the surplus, \$75,221.02; the insurance in force, \$1,495,313.00. The company has \$41,521,952.00 insurance in force on the lives of more than a quarter million policyholders. The report shows admitted assets of \$5,108,472.22, surplus of \$304,066.

(Continued on page eight)

DOINGS OF USHERS

By RUTH BUCHANAN

GREENSBORO

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Usher's Union was held Sunday afternoon with J. W. Doak, president presiding. It was reported to the organization that the home of a member of the Raleigh Cross Road Usher's Board was lost by fire. The matter was turned over to the First Aid Committee for disposal. Mrs. Cora Sampson, Vice-President of the First Aid department made an interesting talk. Mrs. M. J. Coplin is secretary of the union.

CHAPEL HILL

C. C. Craig, Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee of the state association has informed the State president that he will attend the meeting in High Point, Sunday afternoon. The occasion will be a get-together for all ushers in High Point. President Austin will deliver the principal address.

President Austin has accepted an invitation to deliver an address at Reidsville on March 20 at 3 o'clock for the Community Club of that city.

DURHAM

The social given in honor of Mrs. Arlie Sims at the home of Mrs. Paula Pratt on last Monday evening was enjoyed by all those present. Sandwiches, coffee, devilled eggs, crackers, the cream and cake were served. Those present were Mesdames Minnie Ford,

Arlie Sims, Arelia Greenwood, Noda Currie, Thelma Pilgrim, Messrs Lee Brown, R. L. Chavis, Eurch Coley, Louis Lassiter, L. E. Austin, Percy Barbee and W. G. Rhodes.

The state president has received a letter from J. D. Madden, member of the board of directors of the National Association. Mr. Madden states he has been keeping up with what the ushers of North Carolina are doing through the columns of the Carolina Times, and extends congratulations to them for their splendid work. Mr. Madden says he hopes to see North Carolina well represented at the national association meeting which is to be held in Washington the last week in July.

B's plans have already been set in motion for the entertainment of the Easter meeting to be held in Raleigh. The slogan of Usherdom, in North Carolina, is "On to Raleigh." All ushers planning to attend the meeting are urged to be on time as the meeting will start promptly at 2 P. M. Luncheon will be served all visiting ushers at 1:30 P. M. It will be necessary for all ushers desiring to take a dinner to be present before that time. The meeting will be run according to schedule in order that ushers who live in distant parts of the state will be able to get started home before dark.