

# Four Children Burn To Death When Fire Destroys Home

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THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

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# Marshall Blasts "Separate But Equal" Philosophy

## NAACP Lawyer Speaks At North Carolina College

Thurgood Marshall, chief special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, served notice here this week that the NAACP plans an all-out fight against racial segregation throughout the nation.

Marshall spoke in B. N. Duke Auditorium of North Carolina College Monday noon in the final number of the college forum committee's program to sponsor a variety of speakers representing different economic, political, and educational opinions.

Speaking on the subject, "Trends in the Struggle for Civil Rights," the New York lawyer said, "There is no such thing as separate but equal. There can be no equality in separation." He said the NAACP is "not discouraged over the failure of civil rights legislation in the last Congress." It was a failure which he attributed to a coalition of Northern Republicans and Southern Democrats.

In a question period after the speech, Marshall spiked rumors of internal dissension within the higher echelons of the NAACP, lashed out at the "complacency" of Southern Negroes, and predicted an all-out legal battle to extend to every area of segregated life in the nation.

Although Marshall pictured the dismal side of civil rights legislation, he said he saw in the cases currently before the court attempts to clarify the status of the doctrine of "separate but equal."

The NAACP's civil rights expert, who has been awarded both the Spingarn and Russwurm medals for his activities in behalf of civil liberties within the past three years, reserved a considerable amount of his comments for Negroes. Selfish interests among Negroes he said, often are as effective in their opposition to segregation as any other interests.

Indications of the NAACP's views on segregation are represented in cases currently before the United States Supreme Court in which the organization contends that if Negro schools are exact duplicates of white schools, and are segregated, they are not equal, Marshall said.

Marshall's condemnation of the South's racial segregation system was mixed with admonition for the region's people: "We're going to break down segregation in the South, and when we break it down, we are going to depend upon people in the South to take advantage of it," Marshall declared.

Marshall scoffed at what he termed the isolationist attitude of Tar Heels. He said the "North Carolina way in race relations reflected to have and have-not attitude. Negroes, he intimated, were in the have-not class.

To his predominantly Negro audience, Marshall, in conclusion, addressed three questions: 1. Do we really want to break down segregation? 2. How can we do it? 3. What can each of us do to break it down?

In reply to a question regarding the recent rumors of merging North Carolina College and the Agricultural and Technical College at Greensboro with the Greater University of North Carolina, Marshall said "mere labeling is unimportant." He said if the proposal contemplated a full-scale integrated program in the present Negro units it suggested compliance with full equality requirements.

## POLITICS MAKES STRANGE BEDFELLOWS



We stated in our editorial last week that when a Negro educator and a white State official become bedfellows and pull the cover over their heads that nobody on earth can tell what goes on under that cover. We repeat that statement.

The above cartoon, brought to you this week by a member of our staff, speaks louder than any words we can write or utter on the well-known subject, "Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows."

There are a large number of Negro educators, including some of our college presidents and school principals, who think it is smart diplomacy to build their own standing at the expense of their own race. They think it is just wonderful to be the only Negro consulted on important matters that affect the race. They will promise, do or say anything to ingratiate themselves with the powers that be, if the powers that be will make them little powers that be over their own group.

They will even go so far as to inform the governor, in the face of all kinds of information to the contrary, that educationally the State is doing its share by the Negro.

The adage that politics makes strange bedfellows was never truer than the instance in which Dr. Harold L. Trigg and Dr. N. C. Newbold have misled Governor Scott.

We don't believe the many fine, upright and Christian white citizens of North Carolina appreciate this kind of action on the part of a so-called Negro leader and a State official of the Department of Education. We believe every decent white person in North Carolina appreciates the truth and will support any Negro who is man or woman enough to declare the truth about the unequal educational opportunities or other problems that confront the Negro.

# Early Evening Blaze At Home Of Tenant Farmer Takes Lives Of Four

HUGO  
The four children of Charles and Elvie Harper, tenants on the farm of R. B. Jackson, Jr., in Lenoir County, perished in an early evening blaze Monday when fire engulfed the three-room frame house in which the children were sleeping.

It was believed that the victims had been smothered before they realized the house was on fire. The dead are James Dennis, "Buddy" Harper, 11; Hazel Mae, nine; Charles, Jr., six; and Gloria Mae, four. The coroner ruled the deaths accidental.

Harper said that he had taken his wife to a doctor in Ayden during the afternoon and had returned about dusk. He left the children playing in the yard and told them he would be back shortly to take them for a visit with their grandmother. A passer-by informed the Harpers of the blaze while they were visiting a neighbor a short distance away. It was too late to save the children or any contents of the household when they reached the scene.

Origin of the fire was undetermined. (Please turn to Page Eight)

# Name Graham, Pepper Most Progressive Solons Of South

WASHINGTON  
In the opinion of "The New Republic," liberal weekly magazine, Senator Frank P. Graham of North Carolina and Senator Claude Pepper of Florida are the South's most progressive law makers.

Surveying the work of the 81st Congress, which it termed "the best since 1937," The New Republic measured the relative progressiveness of members of each house on the basis of fifteen votes. Graham's record was perfect except for one absence. Pepper also had a 100 per cent score.

The Senate votes on which the study was made were: Cutting foreign aid; aid for Spain; (Please turn to Page Eight)

## NEGRO RUNS FOR COUNCIL SEAT IN GA.

AUGUSTA, GA.  
Frank Summerfield became the first Negro ever to qualify as a candidate for a seat in the Augusta City Council.

In a letter to Mayor W. D. Jennings, Mr. Summerfield stated that he would be a candidate for the Third Ward in the election, called for Dec. 7. The Ward is predominantly colored.

His entry into the campaign, brings to 23 the number of candidates for the nine City Council Posts to be vacant in January. (For more about Bill Robinson, see page six.)

# Senator Clyde Hoey Attacks Civil Rights Program Again

## Calls Dixie Solons True Liberals

RALEIGH  
Senator Clyde R. Hoey continued his fight on the civil rights program here Monday night and praised Southern Senators as the only "true liberals."

The blast from Senior Senator of North Carolina came during his address before a meeting of the Occupational Vision Congress at North Carolina State College.

Said Senator Hoey, civil rights proposals "destroy the principles upon which individual liberties were founded."

Following his attack on President Truman's civil rights program he went on to declare that "in the past 16 years every humanitarian program passed in the Senate has been sponsored by Southern Senators."

He stated that his speech in the Senate against FEPC was the longest he has ever made.

"When I was through," he said, Northern Republicans came up to him and said "Senator I'm sorry I'm not a Negro and live in the South."

## Thompson And Sansom Victors In Church Case

RALEIGH  
Floyd Baker, Wake County Negro, was freed of a 90-day sentence on the road for trespassing the State Supreme Court last week.

Baker was first tried in the Recorder's Court of Wake Forest and thence to the Superior Court where Baker was tried and sentenced last June by Judge Henry Grady.

Charged with crossing the New Bethel Church grounds on two occasions after being forbidden by the church and with destroying a fence which officers of the church had erected to prevent him from doing so, Baker contended that he had a legal right to use the right-of-way through the church grounds to his property.

The Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower Court and noted that the State presented no documentary evidence to show any title in the church.

Representing Baker before the State Supreme Court were Attorneys M. H. Thompson and J. J. Sansom of Durham. Attorney General McMullan and Assistant Attorney General Bruton represented the State.

## Last Rites Held For Bojangles Robinson In N. Y.

NEW YORK  
The dancing feet of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson were stilled, forever and a day, when the one and only "Bo" died Friday at the age of 71.

He was buried in an atmosphere to which he was well accustomed — that of jazz bands, songs, and a full house. Side-walks were lined from Harlem to Broadway as the 100-car cortege wound its way to Times Square. There a 30-piece band played "Give My Regards To Broadway," in the dance tempo the way "Bojangles" would have liked it.

More than 30,000 persons crowded into and around the Abyssinian Baptist Church for the final rites which lasted an hour and a half. Mayor William O'Dwyer delivered the eulogy. He said, "... you got into places no money can buy. You got into the hearts of all America. I hope God is as good to Bill as he was to everyone."

Present at the funeral were such celebrities as Jackie Robinson, Don Newcomb, Sugar Ray Robinson, Jimmy Durante, Milton Berle, W. C. Handy, Ethel Merman, Phil Rizzuto and others. Flowers came from Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Lena Horne, Jack Benny, Clark Gable and Shirley Temple.

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Congressman from New York, gave a resume of Robinson's life. He said, "he will live as a legend, ageless and raceless." Mrs. Powell better known as Hazel Scott, played Chopin's Funeral March. (For more about Bill Robinson, see page six.)



VICTORY SMILE — President F. D. Bluford of A. and T. College is shown here with Miss Jessie M. Carney, Greensboro native and "Miss A. and T. College" for 1949. The victory smile on the president's face gives evidence the Aggies are doing alright. The Eagles were defeated by the former in their annual Thanksgiving Day Classic by a score of 33-6. Miss Carney is a senior in Home Economics.

# NAACP Victor In Virginia Unequal School Fight

## Helen Phillips To Present Concert At City Armory

The Usher Board of Saint Joseph A. M. E. Church is presenting Soprano Helen Phillips in concert at the Durham City Armory, Thursday evening, Dec. 8, at eight o'clock.

Miss Phillips' voice has been acclaimed by the New York TIMES as being "... pure and consistent throughout ... warm and rich in the lower registers, and sweet and true at the top ..."

Critics throughout the nation have praised hers as "... the finest voice we have heard in a long time ..." and have called her performance "magnetic and thrilling ..."

It is indeed fortunate to have the opportunity to see and hear this rising young star on Thursday evening.



Ralph McGill, Editor of the Atlanta Constitution, has been elected to membership on the Board of Trustees of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. Said Mr. McGill, when notified of his election, "I am honored to be selected and hope that I may be of some service."

# "Witchcraft" Slayer Indicted For Murder By Halifax Grand Jury

## Former Durham Citizens Slain In Philadelphia

(Special To The TIMES)  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
The dead bodies of a mother and her son who had been stabbed, shot and beaten with an axe and hidden in their home at 8517 Crothers Avenue since Thanksgiving evening were discovered Saturday night by police.

After ransacking a downstairs room the killer fled with the dead woman's savings hidden there, police reported. The battered bodies of Mrs. Mamie Smith, 50-years-old seamstress and her son, Charles Reed, 19, formerly of Durham, N. C., were found by police after neighbors notified them that "something queer" had taken place in the house which had been completely closed and all the shades drawn since Thanksgiving Day.

Moses Smith, 69, the dead woman's husband and stepfather of Reed, charged by police as being a bootlegger and suspected of the double killing is being hunted by police. Smith was last seen by neighbors Thanksgiving evening when he and his wife arrived home in a taxicab. It is believed the crime occurred when Smith became enraged over his wife's continued objections to the operation of the still.

son, see page six. "Bill Robinson ... As I've Known Him" by Floyd Snelson.)

## Richmond Law Firm Wins Again

RICHMOND, VA.  
The Virginia State Conference of branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People this week announced that its school facilities and opportunities program was strengthened and accelerated by a recent opinion handed down by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. The appeal was heard by Judges Parker, Soper and Dobie.

Attorneys for the NAACP were Martin A. Martin, Oliver W. Hill and Spottswood Robinson III of Richmond, Virginia who have been employed by a group of Negroes in North Carolina to assist in a similar case involving unequal conditions existing in the city schools of Durham.

In reversing in part a lower court decision in an NAACP suit charging discrimination against Negro children in the schools of Pulaski County, the Court of Appeals recognized for the first time the fact that segregation is invalid where Negroes "are discriminated against and substantially equal educational facilities are denied to them by virtue of their race and color."

Citing the fact that Negro children must travel out of Pulaski County to attend school (a distance farther than that traveled by white children), that they are not offered the same courses of study, auditoriums or gymnasiums, or opportunities for play and recreation as those offered white children, the Court stated: "Where, as here, a right guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment has been breached we cannot concern ourselves with questions of either mere expediency or the difficulties which school authorities may have in securing that constitutional right. Whenever the forbidden racial discrimination rears its head, a solemn duty to strike it down is imposed upon the Courts."

W. Lester Banks, executive secretary of the Virginia State Conference of the NAACP, said in announcing the Court's decision that "the most momentous impact of the opinion strikes at the roots of the vicious practice ... of establishing regional or area schools for the education of Negro youth, while maintaining high schools within each of white youth." Mr. Banks stated that the NAACP "is happy to note" that the Court had agreed with its contention that this policy "is an undue burden on both Negro students and parents and is unconstitutional and void."

## Shoes, Clothing Needed By Children

Many children in Durham are absent from school due to the lack of sufficient shoes and clothing. The Attendance Officer is asking that individuals of families that have articles of clothing that are not being used or not needed by them, to turn them over to him. He will in turn give them to the needy and deserving children so that they will be able to attend school. The attendance officer, upon notification, will gladly call by your home to pick up such clothing. To notify attendance officer call W. G. Pearson School, Phone L-7371 or residence 9-2265.

EDGAR ALSTON  
Attendance Officer