

# Christmas: Contrasting Moods, White To Black . . . by Clay Ross

**CHRISTMAS:** the waking of light-hearted, round-cheeked children from warm beds to stare and gape at the bright, shiny toys . . . toys of their year-long dreams; the waking of feeling-numbed, half-starved, senile appearing waifs and urchins from crowded, smelly tenements, out of gutters to stare and gape at the never-ceasing procession of vice, depravity and immorality practiced by their elders.

**CHRISTMAS:** the gathering of the family group around the traditional Christmas tree, glittering with tinsel, nonsense kick-nacks and laden with gifts, wrapped excitingly; the splitting up and hieing off of each individual member of the family group to his own shady pursuits, not pausing to tender a cordial greeting or a simple "good morning."

**CHRISTMAS:** the bride and bridegroom anxiously await the appointed hour on which

they will walk down the aisle of the church, crowded with friends, relatives and well-wishers, leaving the happily sobbing mother and proud father at the door as they depart, united in marital bliss; the condemned killer and an abandoned prostitute await their deadly fate . . . the killer, taking long draws off a last cigarette before being ushered down the narrow, darkened hallway between two armed guards and into a somber room in the center of which squats and odd-looking seat, with straps and attached wires; the prostitute, alone and unloved, diseased, hungry and cold. No warm hands of a hospital nurse nor soothing, courage-imparting words of a loving mate as she awaits the dreaded final hour of her lost life.

**CHRISTMAS:** a group of youths gather in the early morning hours to form into a choral group to wander about the neighborhood, sing-

ing carols to gently awaken the slumbering burglars; a group of youths gather behind an abandoned warehouse near the fog-hidden waterfront to plot robbery, gang wars and to smoke "reefers."

**CHRISTMAS:** a group of portly, mild elderly men and women briskly trod the beaten path to the village church where they will join in the early morning worship, celebrating the birth of their blessed Savior; a group of gaunt-faced, ragged, and bent men and women scuffle about the once peaceful, but now war-beaten heath, competing with the village whelps in search of food to fill their long-empty stomachs and fuel to warm their chilled bones.

**CHRISTMAS:** big-jowled men, with rotund bellies, lined with holiday Turkey, fume and scowl at the efforts of the descendants of slaves and of their grandfathers to gain the respectable

place the law of the land so expertly provided them; a group of lean, haggard men, with strong, brown, sinewy arms, ponder the next step in their relentless drive toward equality.

**CHRISTMAS:** a nation of peace-loving people of all descents, races, beliefs, creeds and convictions, scan the headlines of their papers, listen to the newscasts on the radio, and remain in ignorance of the people of their rival nation; a similar nation of people, ordinarily peace-loving, hear and read only that which is intended for truth-starved ears and lie-weary eyes and thus remain in the darkness also.

**CHRISTMAS:** an uneasy world, divided into two camps armed to the hilt, suffering from the wounds of two conflicts, awaits the future . . . an unsettled and most shaky future.

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VOLUME 27—NUMBER 51 DURHAM, N. C., SATURDAY, DEC. 24th, 1949 PRICE: TEN CENTS

## NAACP Hails Voiding Of Birmingham City Zones

Federal Judge Voids Racial Zoning Ordinances; Marshall Greets Action

NEW YORK

The decision handed down this week by Federal Judge Clarence Mullins invalidating racial zoning ordinances in the City of Birmingham, Ala., was hailed by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, as a "forthright, decisive action which gives to all who are interested in good government renewed faith in our democratic processes." Marshall and Attorney Arthur D. Shores of Birmingham argued the case for the NAACP.

Judge Mullins declared the zoning ordinances unconstitutional and void in accordance with a 1917 United States Supreme Court decision outlawing zoning ordinances based on race or color. He issued a permanent injunction enjoining the City of Birmingham forthwith from enforcing the ordinances, and refused to grant a supersedeas bond which would have held the ruling in abeyance until further court action is taken.

Marshall charged that Safety Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Connor "deliberately made inflammatory statements" to incite white citizens to the violence which resulted in bombings of Negro property, "for the purpose of being able to argue later that segregation ordinances were necessary for peace." Marshall also pointed out that nothing in the requested ruling compels anyone to live anywhere, and that Negroes cannot live in so-called "white neighborhoods" unless they find willing sellers and have money enough to purchase the property in question.

In response to an assertion by Horace Wilkinson, the city's attorney, that Negroes "depreciate" property and that whites do not want Negro "shacks" near their homes, Marshall pointed out that proposed homes in the neighborhoods in question range in price from \$11,000 to \$16,000 and could hardly be described as "shacks."

Shores firmly stated after the

### Mrs. Meadows Wins Refrigerator Given By Firm

There was great excitement in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont Meadows when Fred Williamson, representative of the Bull City Electric and Appliance Company, informed them that Mrs. Eunice Meadows' entry had been chosen by the judges as most representative of the standards set up by the Crosley Company in its recent million dollar give-away contest.

Mrs. Meadows was so overwhelmed by the good news that she could hardly speak. All of the little Meadows children crowded around their mother as Williamson attempted to make the mother realize that she was not dreaming and that her good fortune was a reality and not a dream.

When Mrs. Meadows regained her composure, she told the representative of the local electric appliance company that she had worked where there were many different makes of refrigerators and of all of them, Crosley had proved most satisfactory in every way. Always she had dreamed of the time when she might own some kind of ice box, but never in her wildest dreams had she hoped to own a beautiful, gleaming white Crosley, with its generous storage space, and frozen food compartment.

Williamson told the other members of the Meadows family that Bull City looked upon all of them as prospective Crosley owners, and that he counted on the sale of twelve more Crosleys as each Meadows child sets up his own home and family.

decision that despite threats of violence made by Mayor Cooper Green, Mrs. Mary Monk and other parties to the suit would demand that building permits be issued and would proceed to build their homes immediately.

### Speaker



Dr. M. C. Allen, president of the Virginia Theological Seminary and College of Lynchburg will deliver the principal address at the Emancipation celebration to be held at the First Calvary Baptist Church, Monday, January 2. A large crowd is expected to attend.

### Rev. Cheek Is Speaker At Union Meet

Warren County citizens honored the Reverend G. E. Cheek, Director of Public Relations of Shaw University, and former citizen of the county, in a Banquet held at the Community Center recently.

The audience listened with unusual attention as the Rev. Cheek gave a challenging address on the existing opportunities for Negroes to project themselves into the manufacturing and distribution side of America's economy.

The following ministers were in attendance: The Reverend, Misters L. J. Alexander, J. M. Burchett, W. N. Hawkins, J. S. Spruill, E. L. Broadie, S. E. Dunston, S. L. Suitt, P. G. Davis, J. S. Davis, H. P. Williams, Jerry Jones, Willis Perry, B. R. Cheek, H. H. Alston, J. H. Clanton, J. E. McGrier, J. G. Strickland and Reverend Marable.

### Negro Marshall For Harvard

GREENSBORO

Frank S. Jones, son of Dr. and Mrs. David D. Jones here, received top honors on the Harvard University campus, Saturday, December 17, when he was elected second marshal of the Senior Class.

Jones will lead the class at commencement and at alumni reunions in future years.

Each year the Senior Class elects three persons, who are the outstanding and most respected members of the class, as marshals. This year a record number of 69 Seniors was nominated for the marshalship. Out of a class of 1,600 eligible to vote 851 ballots were cast. The marshals were chosen on the basis of receiving the greatest number of votes.

Jones, a resident at Lowell House, was the first Negro manager of the Harvard football team. He is majoring in Social Relations and upon graduation in June plans to return to the South to teach.

### Alphas Present "Stars Of Tomorrow"

RALEIGH

Raleigh graduate and undergraduate chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. presented musicians of five North Carolina Colleges in concert on their first annual "Stars of Tomorrow" program Friday night at Crosby-Garfield Auditorium.

A large and appreciative audience enjoyed the brief but varied program which included several numbers by each of the participants. The five students were presented by the fraternity as outstanding collegiate musical talent, for whom in each case a concert career is predicted.

### FIRST MRS. ROBINSON

BOSTON—The search for the first wife of Bill Robinson has been ended here in Boston. At 64 years of age, and now Mrs. Lena Chase Cambridge.

### Jackie Gets Award



Jackie Robinson, (left), second baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers, receives the Benny Leonard Good Sportsmanship Trophy from D. Beryl Manischewitz. The Trophy, which is sponsored by the United States

### Quarles Gets Scouting Honor

RALEIGH

Walker Henry Quarles, Jr., Secretary of Shaw University, became the recipient of one of scouting's highest honors, the Silver Beaver Award, at the annual divisional meeting of the Occaneechee Council held Wednesday night at the W. D. Hill Recreation Center in Durham.

Quarles, who is also Administrative Assistant to the President of Shaw, was characterized in the citation to the honor as a "devoted scout for eighteen years, and sacrificing servant in positions of trust and responsibility, and an unselfish community worker."

In addition to the 13 years in scout work since he had been in Raleigh, Quarles has a record of five years of active service to scouting as a Scoutmaster in Richmond, Va., his home. Upon coming to Raleigh in 1936, he was one of the persons who helped organize the first division committee for the Negro work of the Occaneechee Council. He also served for a time as Chairman of the Raleigh District Committee and has since been chairman of the Court of Honor for Boy Scouts in Raleigh.

Also active in community work, he has served as chairman of the board of ushers of the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, and is president of the Ushers Union in this city. He is a member of the educational committee of the Interdenominational Ushers Association of the State of North Carolina. Recently he

## Peekskill Victims Ask For Judgement Against N. Y. State

NEW YORK

Paul Robeson, Howard Fast, the Civil Rights Congress and twenty-five victims of the mob violence at the Peekskill concerts have filed federal suits asking a total of \$2,020,000 for personal injuries, property damage and deprivation of civil rights, the Civil Rights Congress announced today.

Named as defendants in the complaints were New York State, Westchester County and Peekskill officials, as well as the veteran organization leaders who planned the demonstrations which led to the attacks on the concert-goers.

In announcing the suits, William L. Patterson, National Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, declared, "in this historic federal action, which is led by the great Negro people's leader, Paul Robeson, we aim not only to secure relief for injuries suffered and rights deprived, but to unmask an official government policy which exists everywhere in the United States — North and South, East and West — under which officers of government join with hoodlums and Ku Klux Klan elements to deprive the people of their constitutional rights."

"In addition," he continued, (Please turn to Page Eight)

### Reverses Salary Case Decision

JACKSON, MISS.

After hearing testimony here for three days this week, Federal District Judge Sidney C. Mize reversed decision in a suit filed by the NAACP to secure for Negroes teachers salaries equal to those paid to white teachers of similar training and responsibilities.

The State of Mississippi, the legislature of which had made a special appropriation to fight the case, admitted that lower salaries were paid to Negro teachers whose training equalled that of white teachers. However, the state maintained, white teachers possessed certain intangible cultural qualities superior to those of Negro teachers and, accordingly, were entitled to greater pay. Moreover, the defense contended, the state has a right to set salaries as it sees fit.

Robert L. Carter and Mrs. Constance Baker Motley, represented the NAACP, introduced evidence showing that 50 of the 53 white high school teachers receive higher salaries than all but one of the Negro teachers.

## Tosses CRC Attorneys Out Of "Trenton Six" Case

NEW YORK

With Civil Rights Congress attorneys in the Trenton Six case on the verge of producing new witnesses and evidence which would have left "nothing but the crude frame-up," Judge Charles P. Hutchinson today threw three of the four CRC lawyers out of the case and simultaneously set January 9, 1950 as the date for the re-trial.

Collis English, spokesman for three of the framed Trenton Six, was quoted by George Marshall, National Chairman of CRC, who visited the men in prison a few hours later, as saying, "We do not trust a state-appointed lawyer. We want our CRC lawyers."

Judge Hutchinson's original conduct of the trial was called "tainted with error" by the New Jersey State Supreme Court when it threw out the first conviction and ordered a re-trial. The six, all Negroes, had originally been sentenced to death in the electric chair, following a defense by court-appointed lawyers.

O. John Rogge, former Ass't. Attorney General of the United States and one of the three CRC lawyers, declared:

"We were touching a nerve in asking for the dissenting police report and other documents and proof of the innocence of the Trenton Six."

"We were on the verge today of uncovering in open court so much of the crude frame-up that there would have been nothing left of the case. Is that why the court brushed aside our motion, refused to hear our witnesses?"

"Is that why on this day Judge Hutchinson retaliated by throwing us out of the case, thus depriving the men of their chosen counsel and simultaneously setting a trial date for three weeks hence?"

"We intend to continue the fight until the innocent Trenton Six have been freed."

William L. Patterson, National Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, which has been conducting a world-

wide campaign on behalf of the Trenton Six, and also an attorney in the case, declared:

"I charge that this attempt to throw us out of the case was made at this time not only because we have so vigorously defended our clients, but also because we have exposed a vicious frame-up which is a symbol of the State of New Jersey's policy of enforcing Jim Crow and segregation by terror against the Negro people even in the courts."

"We will not be intimidated. We will continue to carry the case of the Trenton Six to the Bar of public opinion. As counsel in this case, we owe it to our clients and to the American people to put up a vigorous defense and to tell the story of this attempted lynching northern style."

Judge Hutchinson's action followed denial of a motion for bail and a series of motions asking for the dissenting police report and the right to cross-examine Prosecutor Mario Volpe, Director of Public Safety An-

(Please turn to Page Eight)

