

12,000 HEAR

# HAILE SELASSIE AT HOWARD

## NAACP Secretary Mass Meeting Speaker



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**BEAUTICIANS' LEAGUE BURNS MORTGAGE IN HISTORIC WASHINGTON CEREMONY**—The National Beauty Culturist League, Inc., burned its headquarters' mortgage in Washington, D. C., recently, only six years after the organization launched its campaign to establish national offices in the Capital. Above, Mrs. Cordelia Greene Johnson, center, officiates during the ceremonies at the beautiful, newly decorated headquarters. Witnessing the mortgage burning are, left to right, Dr. William H.

Gray, pastor, Bright Hope Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Mrs. Beulah M. Ford, Albany, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Bessie M. Freeman, Washington, D. C. Dr. Gray shared the speaking honors with Mrs. Sara Washington Hayes, president of the Apex Hair and News Company, Atlantic City, N. J. Partially hidden, to Mrs. Ford's left is Mrs. M. D. Hurley, New York City.

### WALTER WHITE TO ADDRESS DURHAM FREEDOM RALLY AT WHITE ROCK CHURCH JUNE 13

Making his first major appearance in the South since the Supreme Court ruled segregation unconstitutional in public education, Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will be the principal speaker at Durham's White Rock Baptist Church on Fayetteville Street at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 13. The occasion will mark a mass meeting and Freedom Day Rally to be held by the Fighting Fund For Freedom Committee of the North Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches. Mr. White will meet with officers of the state branches, and officers of the legal staff of the state Saturday, June 12. Purpose of this closed meeting, (Please turn to Page Eight)

### Methodists May Drop All-Negro Conference

BALTIMORE, Md. Probably the first practical step toward elimination of the Central (all-Negro annual conference unit) Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church was taken at the 91st session of the Washington Annual Conference, meeting at Metropolitan Methodist Church last week. Mitchell Memorial Church, (Please turn to Page Eight)



John H. Wheeler Gets LL.D. At Shaw Univ. 89th Commencement

RALEIGH

At the 89th annual commencement exercises of Shaw University Monday, honorary degrees were conferred upon 107 candidates in the college of arts and sciences and the School of Religion. In addition to these degrees, two honorary degrees were conferred. John Hervey Wheeler, president of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, was recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, and the Rev. J. E. Tillet of Edenton received the Doctor of Divinity honorary degree.

## Ethiopian Emperor Lauds Contribution Of Negroes To America And World

WASHINGTON, D. C. His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia paid tribute to the peoples of African origin whose contributions, he said, have had a profound influence on the culture of the western world. The Emperor spoke to a gathering of some 12,000 persons at Howard University where he received the honorary degree Doctor of Laws at a special convocation on Friday, May 28. The Emperor's remarks followed the presentation of the degree by Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard University.

Speaking slowly and in a low voice, the 61-year old monarch said, "It is a curious fact, if we reflect upon it for a moment, that Africa has always exerted its influence and brought to bear its contribution in the West.

"It is certain that the United States of America would not have reached today its present world stature," he continued, "were it not, in part, for the enormous labors of Africans whose great descendants are here represented on this occasion."

The Emperor said that the world is becoming increasingly aware of the importance of the contributions made by colored people to higher and broader standards of social concepts. In an apparent reference to the recent Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in the public schools, the Emperor said, "Events of recent days, here in the United States, have brilliantly confirmed before the world the contributions which you have made to the principle that all men are brothers and equal in the sight of God."

In reference to Howard University, which was conferring its 147th honorary degree since the practice was started at the institution in 1874, the Emperor said, "You have reason to be proud of the role which you are today playing in the life of this great nation and I count it an honour to receive from you this high academic distinction."

In his citation to the Emperor on conferring the degree, Dr. Johnson paid tribute to him as "the long-to-be remembered voice of the conscience of mankind."

Dr. Johnson told of the Emperor's plea for collective security to the League of Nations prior to the Italian invasion of his Empire in 1938. When the nations there assembled would not heed you and the ruthless aggressors had, at length overcome the heroic resistance of your people and had driven you into exile.

The Howard president said, (Please turn to Page Eight)

### Winston-Salem Host To Old North State Medical Society This Week

GREENSBORO Prominent physicians and heads of national professional organizations were featured at the sixty-seventh annual meeting of the Old North State Medical Society held here June 1, 2 and 3.

According to Dr. F. E. Davis, Greensboro, secretary-treasurer of the organization, nearly 150 physicians from throughout North Carolina attended the meet. Meeting, simultaneously with the medicals were some 50-odd pharmacists and more than 100 members of the Society's Woman's Auxiliary.

Included among the lecturers for the physicians' section are: Dr. David Cayer, Dr. R. L. McMillan, professor of clinical medicine; Dr. R. B. Lawson, professor of pediatrics; Dr. Frank Locke, professor of obstetrics and Dr. Ernest H. Yount, professor medicine, all of Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem; Dr. R. L. Smith, attending physician; and Dr. E. L. Davis, chief of medical service;

Dr. Robert J. Nichols, assistant radiologist and Dr. D. S. Morris, pathologist, all of Kate Bitting Reynolds Hospital, Winston-Salem and Dr. Matthew Walker, head, department of surgery, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn., and president of the National Medical Association also spoke at one of the social gatherings.

Principal speakers at the (Please turn to Page Eight)

### Rev. A. S. Croom To Speak At Hillside Sunday

Rev. A. S. Croom, pastor of Union Baptist Church, will deliver Hillside's 1954 Senior Vesper Sermon at 5 p. m. Sunday, June 6 in the school auditorium. The Commencement activities began Wednesday, June 2 with the Senior Class Night. The program was entitled "Alma Mater's Children" and was under the direction of John H. Gattis.

The graduating exercises, which will be held June 7, at 8 p. m., will be preceded by a band concert at 7 o'clock. The theme for this year is "A Look At Our School" and the speakers are: Anna Joyce Newkirk, Joseph Fogg, Virginia Cameron and James Morris.

Over 200 students will receive diplomas presented by H. Spurgeon Boyce, Chairman of the School Board, assisted by L. Stacey Weaver, Superintendent of Durham City Schools. The awards will be announced by H. M. Holmes, Principal of Hillside. Music will be furnished by the band under the direction of Philmore Hall, and the Hillside mixed-chorus under the direction of Miss T. H. Claggett.

### Mrs. Sudie Curtis Eulogized At St. Joseph's AME

Final rites for Mrs. Sudie Curtis were held at St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church Saturday, May 29, with the pastor, the Rev. D. A. Johnston delivering the eulogy. Mrs. Curtis died Thursday, May 27 at Lincoln Hospital following an illness of two years. She was the widow of the late William Lawrence Curtis.

A native of Chapel Hill, Mrs. Curtis was the daughter of the late Henry and Persia Jones. She attended the Wake County Public Schools and Shaw University. At St. Joseph's Church, Mrs. Curtis was a member of the Missionary Society.

Surviving her are: Mrs. Iva Parris, New York City; Mrs. Lousie Coleman, and Miss Redia B. Curtis of Durham; John L. Curtis, Durham; Leonidas Curtis of Detroit, Mich.; James M. Curtis, New York City; Hubert F. and Lloyd Curtis of Cleveland, Ohio.

Other survivors are: one sister, Mrs. Irene Jones of Raleigh; twelve grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and a number of nieces and nephews.

## 3,500 Hear News Commentator At N. C. College Finals Tuesday

Foreign Correspondent, William L. Shirer warned the free world that Nazi "racist" theories did not die with Adolph Hitler in a speech here Tuesday at North Carolina College's 43rd annual commencement services.

"Despite two world wars and the destruction of the German state, the German people are not much changed and democracy is only skin deep, Shirer said.

The noted author of "Berlin Diary" and "Mid-century Journey" stunned some of his 3,500 hearers including 305 graduates, when he said, "And Nazism with its ugly evils, including racism, is far from dead."

Earlier in his speech, Shirer, a native of Chicago, who has spent the better part of the last 30 years in Europe, said to his youthful hearers, "I am pleased to speak to the young people of America—the young on whom America's future will soon depend. Coming down from the North, I am pleased to greet you at a time when the decision of the Supreme Court (in the school suits that declared racial segregation unconstitutional in the public schools) must have filled you with pride, hope and confidence in the future of this country."

The newsmen urged Americans to shy away from "anti-intellectualism," to continue reading books after graduation, and to keep abreast of the "grim" hard news that day after day goes into the fact book of history.

Shirer scoffed at the view in this country that the China crisis was related entirely to "bungling" of U. S. State department officials in the Truman administration. Branding (Please turn to Page Eight)



**DURHAM SPEAKER**—Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, will be the guest speaker Sunday, June 13, when an expected number of over 3,500 persons convene at White Rock Baptist Church for a Mass Meeting at which all NAACP branches of the state are to be represented.

### Joseph B. Fogg, Hillside Student Wins Leggett Memorial Scholarship

Joseph B. Fogg of 1916 East Pettigrew Street, Durham, a 1954 graduate of Hillside High School, is the winner of the 1954 William A. Leggett Memorial Scholarship for Durham County, according to a recent announcement made by the Committee of Awards.

Fogg is the twelfth winner of this annual scholarship for Durham County. The scholarship is valued at \$500 per year and is renewable for a four year term. Previous awards have been made to graduates from Durham, Hope Valley, Lowes Grove, Oak Grove and Bahama High Schools in Durham County.

Funds for these scholarships are given as a memorial for two brothers, George L. and (Please turn to Page Eight)



JOSEPH B. FOGG

## Protests Race Discrimination At Caswell Training School

GREENSBORO A group of citizens of this city, composed of members of the local chapter of the Parents And Friends of Mentally Retarded Children, instructed its president here last week to write a letter of protest against racial discrimination experienced by its members while visiting at the Caswell Training School on Sunday, May 23. President of the group is Vestal Palmer. The act of discrimination came

about when members of the local group attended the state convention of the organization held at Caswell. Last week's meeting was held at the First Lutheran Church and was attended by its members of both races.

According to one of the members five Negro members of the Greensboro group were prohibited from entering the dining hall where other members of the convention were eating. Mrs. J. S. Leary, wife of the principal

of Greensboro's Washington High School, stated that she and her husband were told that they could not be served in the dining hall but could "come around to the back door and be served." Another one of the five Negro members refused service was Dr. G. H. Evans, chief of staff of L. Richardson Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Evans stated that one of the attendants told him that he (Please turn to Page Eight)