



**TO LEAD DURHAM HAMPTONIANS**—Installation of officers of the Durham Chapter of Hampton Institute Alumni Association was held here Monday night at the Donut Shop Shoppe. Officers shown above being installed by G. W. Logan are, (left to right): Waverly Easley, Chairman of Program Committee; A. E. Spears, Corresponding Secretary; Samuel Harris, Assistant Corresponding Secretary; Gilbert Harden, Treasurer; Mrs. Estelle Nixon, Recording Secretary; George D. White, Jr., President. Not shown: Mrs. Felice Holmes, Vice-President; F. V. Allison, Assistant Secretary; H. T. Tucker, Sergeant-at-Arms and Crockett Elvers, Chaplain.

## "The Confessions Of A Ham Singer"

BY CHARLES JACOB HARRIS  
(Continued from last week)

In the fall of 1927, I went to the Eastern shore of Maryland and taught four years in what is now Princess Anne College. I found the students there the most musical bunch one could wish to find. They seemed to actually live for music.

The choir learned the notes of a standard choral composition in one rehearsal. We polished up the expression in a few more rehearsals, then blew the works. The smoothest male quartet with whom I ever worked was at this college. There was Emanuel Mansfield, first tenor; Sinclair Swan, second tenor; Joseph Jamés, baritone; and Lycurgus Lockman, bass.

These young men could sing from the Negro spirituals up to Bach. They toured the South and the New England states. They became so good until Roland Hayes had them do musicals in his beautiful Brookline Village Home.

There were a few excellent voices among the young women also—there was Genest A. Waters and Betty Long, sopranos; and Betty Thornton and Grace Coulbourne, contraltos. Dorothy Cannon and Louise Petway played the pianoforte above average. The late Thomas Henry Kiah was the principal then. He had four sons who had good voices.

As was to be expected, I threw a couple of recitals while teaching at the Maryland college. At each of them I sang my songs in baritone keys instead of in the tenor range. This change was a wise one; no longer was I worried over those upper reaches. After four delightful years among the Eastern Shoremen, I decided to run out to Chicago and work for a degree.

Anyone with a grain of horse sense would think I should have used the piano as my major in the pursuit of this degree. But no, I chose the hard way, by making voice my major. Like Dr. Wullner, the German master of interpretation, who was said to be a singer without a voice—I took my cue and obtained the degree after a year's study. Because of all the years of previous study and experience, the faculty of the conservatory only required me to learn counterpoint, composition, and voice.

I sang on two occasions in Kimball Hall and at commencement. During the school year, I was soloist of St. Paul's Methodist Church whose enrollment was between four and five thousand members. I had the exquisite pleasure of broadcasting as far away as Australia. I also sang for Mr. Hayes during one of our visits in Chicago. It had been fourteen years since he had heard his determined pupil.

He seemed a bit surprised at the progress made. He said,

"Harris, your singing is ripe. It goes with much expression." I said, "Look here don't kid me, or do you mean it is over ripe?" "No," he said, "I am sincere." Roland was staying in the home of Mrs. Malone and she was the famous manufacturer of hair goods. When next I saw her, she told me Roland had raved over my singing; hence, I began to believe he was not hand-

ing me a line. Then too, Emanuel Mansfield wrote me from Boston that Mr. Hayes told him and the quartet that I had developed a voice.

After the Chicago days, I went back to my home in the Tar Heel State. Following a few months of barn-storming, I went to Salisbury, Md., and organized a choral group, plus giving private lessons. I had a swell time with these lovers of music. Many of them had dandy voices. I had pupils in several nearby towns—Princess Anne, Pocomoke, and Wattsville. The eight months spent there left a memory of endearment.

## Civil Rights Leader Held For Failure To Produce Records

**NEW YORK**—William L. Patterson, veteran Negro civil rights leader and executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, has been sentenced to 90 days in jail for failure to produce records of the organization which are no longer available.

The jail sentence for alleged contempt of court, meted out Monday, June 28, by Federal Judge John F.X. McGohey, was called by Patterson "another effort by the United States government to bring a stop to the CRC's many campaigns in defense of the constitutional liberties of bona fide political parties who oppose the status quo, for the rights of the Negro people, and the protection of the constitutional liberties and organizational integrity of the trade unions."

Patterson, who has led such historic campaigns for Negro rights as Scottsboro, the Trenton Six, Willie McGee and the Martinsville Seven, had been ordered to produce CRC's lists of donors for 1950, 1951 and 1952 for examination by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Agents of the bureau had previously spent twenty days examining the documents on which CRC income tax returns for those years were based.

In a sworn affidavit, the CRC leader had declared in good faith that no receipt books containing names of donors were available because they were mislaid or lost when the CRC moved its offices in January, 1953.

"If the action of the government were in good faith," Patterson commented, "the Bureau of Internal Revenue would have proceeded with its tax deficiency action instead of seeking a contempt order. What the government seeks to do, however, is to victimize me because of my fight for constitutional liberties generally, and particularly for the dignity of the Negro people."

## House Bombing Ignored By Ky. Negro Couple

**LOUISVILLE, KY.**—The luxurious home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wade, IV, of Louisville, Ky., was blown up early last Sunday afternoon by some unknown assailants, according to reports. Mr. Wade expressed his courage and determination to ignore the im-

lications of the bombing by saying, "We're going to stay here." The Wade home is located in a white neighborhood in Louisville.

The explosion occurred while Mr. Wade and his wife were sitting on their porch. A county policeman was stationed across the street at the time. Evidence of the blast revealed that the explosive had been stuffed through a ventilation hole in the foundation of the house.

The bathroom and two bedrooms of the new home were completely demolished, however the occupants were unhurt. Police protection has been maintained in the area of the Wade home since early in May when attempts of other violence were made.

## Little River Student Wins 2nd In Revue

Shirley Turrentine, local 4-H Club member of Little River School won second place honors in a State-wide Dress Revue held last week in connection with the 4-H Club Short-course in Greensboro. Forty-two contestants competed in the Dress Revue entitled "The Girl in The Picture Frame".

Shirley's dress of ice, navy-blue cotton with a pink bolero jacket, was modeled in the "Church-Dress" division. She was also presented a pair of

pinkish-shears from Ellis Stone Company of Greensboro for superb workmanship on the garment.

Other Durham County delegates who attended the six-day Short-course were: Barbara Patterson and Paul Home of

Merrick-Moore School, Jones and Joyce Holman of Little River School, and Linwood Walker and Leon Bracey of Pearsons town School. The group was supervised by Mrs. E. T. Nixon, home demonstration agent.



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