

# Last Rites Held For Governor Umstead



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# MOTHER, SON ELECTROCUTED

## Expectant Mother And Small Children Perish In Blaze



Superintendent L. Stacey Weaver of the Durham City Schools is shown above addressing the Hillside Chapter of the National Honor Society here recently. Twelve students of Hillside were installed as full members of the Society during the program. — Photo by Stanback.

## Young Woman Loses Life In Vain Attempt To Rescue Her Small Child

**MT. AIRY**  
A heroic but futile effort to save her young son from electrocution last Monday when he threw a wire across a power line ended in death for a 24-year-old mother here Tuesday.

The mother, Mrs. Gracie Elliott had been in a critical condition at Kate Biting Reynolds Memorial Hospital to which she was taken following the accident in Mt. Airy.

Her seven-year old son, James Elliott, was dead on arrival at Baptist Hospital.

Mrs. Elliott's clothes were burned completely off her body when she grabbed a wire in an effort to pull it away from her son who witnesses said had tied a small wire to a piece of wood and thrown it over a 2,400 volt wire. Her hair was burned to the scalp.

The boy was knocked to the ground immediately. His mother standing only a few feet away, then grabbed the wire. She too was knocked to the ground. (Please turn to Page Eight)

## DR. SOMMERVILLE TO SPEAK AT OXFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

**OXFORD**  
The Rev. Thomas E. Parker, Jr., Pastor of First Baptist Church announces that Dr. W. C. Sommerville, Executive Secretary of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention will be the guest speaker at First Baptist Church, Sunday, November 14, at 7:30 P.M.

The Rev. R. E. Cooper, Missionary, Pastor, and school Principal of Nassau, Bahama Islands was recent a guest of the Church and Pastor. He was received wholeheartedly by the Church and surrounding Churches both in Oxford, Granville County and surrounding counties, as he ably presented the subject of missions and the extensive work being done in this field in his native Nassau. The Mass Mission Meeting at



which Dr. Sommerville will speak is being supported by Granville, Vance, Person, Warren and Franklin Counties. (Please turn to Page Eight)

## Thousands Pay Final Tribute To Durham's First Chief Executive

By H. ALBERT SMITH

The Governmental Machinery of North Carolina was hushed in the silence of inactivity, flags atop public buildings at half mast fluttered gently in the soft breezes of a beautiful Indian Summer's day, schools were closed and many businesses locked their doors as the final rites for the late Governor William Bradley Umstead were held Tuesday morning at the Trinity Methodist Church.

From various parts of the State and sections beyond, thousands made their way to Durham to the scene of the funeral services and to view the body of North Carolina's Chief Executive and first citizen, who died last Sunday morning at Watts Hospital from a heart ailment aggravated by bronchial pneumonia.

The fallen political leader had spent only 22 months in office as governor during which time he had labored under a severe physical handicap due to a heart attack suffered three days after his induction into the gubernatorial office.

Only a relative few of the thousands who came for the funeral services could get into the main auditorium. Many occupied seats in the basement of the church where they heard the tributes paid Mr. Umstead over loud speakers.

A crowd estimated at 3,500 unable to get into the church lined the streets in a two block radius in front of the church. They too heard the services broadcast over loud speakers.

Many notables, state and national, were present to join in the tribute of respect paid the fallen chieftain of a great state. They included Representative Carl Durham of Chapel Hill and Dr. Frank Graham, former United States Senator and former president of the University of North Carolina, and at present a United Nations Media- (Please turn to Page Eight)



## Dr. Whitehead To Speak At N. C. College

Dr. Matthew J. Whitehead, President of Miner Teachers College, Washington, D. C., will address the State Resource-Use Education Conference in B. N. Duke Auditorium, North Carolina College November 18 at 2 p.m. He is one of the nation's leading educators.

Before accepting the presidency of Miner Teachers College, Dr. Whitehead served as professor of education at Elizabeth City State Teachers College, Elizabeth City; Howard University of Washington, D. C., and chairman of the Division of Education at Miner Teachers College.

Other distinguished speakers on the Eighth Annual State Resource-Use Education Conference (Please turn to Page Eight)

## S. C. Teachers O. K. Supreme Court Ruling

COLUMBIA, S. C.

The House of Delegates representing more than 6000 teachers of the Palmetto Education Association at their annual session Sunday, November 8, approved for release a policy commending recent ruling of the Supreme Court on segregation in the public schools.

The policy which was approved read: "We commend the Supreme Court on its recent ruling on Segregation in the public schools and will work unceasingly with any group or organization or association to uphold this principle."

The assembly also went on record in behalf of the PEA delegates to concur in a recent resolution adopted at the annual session of the National Education Association supporting the Supreme Court ruling on segregation.

Another highlight of the all day session was the House of Delegates vote to wait before continuing the proposed construction of a \$72,000 headquarters building in Columbia. The vote to wait came after the questioning of members of the Executive Committee of the Association about funds that have been earmarked for the construction of the building.

Mrs. Madge Perry Harper, first woman president of the Palmetto Education, made a special appeal for the support of the program of the new administration which included the sponsoring of a drive for the



Governor William B. Umstead, Durham's first and only citizen ever elected Chief Executive of North Carolina, whose funeral was held here Tuesday morning at Trinity Methodist Church. Interment was at Mt. Tabor Methodist Church Cemetery near Durham. Governor Umstead succumbed to a heart ailment last Sunday morning at Watts Hospital here.

## DANVILLE FIRE TAKES LIFE OF WOMAN AND THREE CHILDREN

DANVILLE, VA.

## New Bernian Named Head Of Home Ecs

Miss Adelaide Respass of West Street High School, New Bern, was elected president of the North Carolina Association of Home Economics at the close of the 10th annual meeting at North Carolina College yesterday.

Other officers named for 1955 were Miss Esther Perkins of Charlotte, vice President; Miss B. W. Alston, Henderson Institute, Henderson, secretary; and Mrs. Ellen Berry, Savannah School, Lenior County, treasurer. Some 75 state economics teachers attended the meeting.

Miss Diana S. Dent, chairman of NCC's Home Economics Department and her staff, were hostesses for the meet.

"Closer Integration of Secondary and College Home Economics Curriculum" was the theme of the session which was held in NCC's Duke Auditorium. An open house followed the main meeting in NCC's new Home Economics Building.

A flash fire thought to have originated in a cook stove while a meal was being prepared left stark tragedy in its wake here today when in the blazing inferno a two-room house was destroyed and four persons lost their lives.

The unfortunate victims have been identified as Mrs. Mary Alice Long, 21, an expectant mother, and three children of a neighborhood family she was keeping while their parents were at work in a tobacco factory.

The children listed are Isaac Mendinghall, 2, Rita Mendinghall, 4, and Maggie Mendinghall, 8.

So quickly did the fire engulf the two-room wood structure (Please turn to Page Eight)

## CHAIN FLOAT CONTRIBUTORS

The following firms and persons made contributions toward the cost of the Durham Business and Professional Chain float displayed in the Trade Week—NCC Homecoming Parade: Speights Auto Service, Service Printing Company, Long's Florist, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Wm. L. Boykins, The DoNut Shop, W. D. McNeill, Royal Cleaners, Yarnell J. Gribbsy, E. B. Bass, Dr. Clyde Donnell, G. W. Cox, Sr. Charles J. Jackson, E. R. Merrick, W. J. Kennedy, Jr., C. C. Spaulding, Jr., N. H. Bennett, Jr., J. J. Henderson, A. T. Spaulding, L. B. Frasier, D. B. Martin, W. A. Clement.

## URGES LABOR UNION TO JOIN FIGHT TO END SEGREGATION

LAKE KIAMESHIA, N.Y.

"The organized labor movement in the North as well as in the South has an obligation to assist the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in bringing about a peaceful and orderly transition from segregation to integration," Herbert Hill, NAACP labor relations assistant, told 500 delegates attending a convention of District 4 of the IUE-CIO here last week.

Citing examples of school segregation in Hempstead and Freeport, L.I., and Englewood, N. J., Mr. Hill told the electrical workers that "the historic Supreme Court decision striking down segregation in publicly financed schools not only relates to the South, but is significant for many areas in the North. Their union he pointed out to the delegates to "go beyond the hollow ritual of convention resolutions on civil rights and participate in the day-to-day struggle of the NAACP to eliminate the vicious practice of segregation and discrimination."

## Hot Lips Page Dies Suddenly

NEW YORK

The sudden death of Hot Lips Page this weekend stunned the music world. It especially stunned true jazz fans for this quiet, unassuming man was one of the most talented. The man who worked with him called him the "greatest trumpet ever." And yet he never quite made the top.

Page was more of a pioneer. One of the first Negroes to be regularly employed by a white orchestra, he trailblazed before the rest as Lionel Hampton in the '30s.

He knew he had the talent. His family however complained he was too good hearted without that dash of prodding to get to the top no matter the cost. He was forever anxious to help young folks and would spend hours giving them advice and (Please turn to Page Eight)



Miss Sarah Dotson presents a \$100 check to Miss Audrey Wilson representing Local No. 204, T. W. I. U. as she is being crowned "Miss Trade Week" by Mrs. Callie Daye, president of the Durham Housewives' League. Mrs. Magnolia Leake who was co-chairman of the "Miss Trade Week" contest with Miss Dotson is shown at left. Other contestants shown are: (left to right): Misses Theodora Speight, Alice Hopkins,

Mildred Faulk, Elaine Hairston of Chapel Hill, third prize winner, Shirley Faulkner, Sarah McNeil, Inez Riley, Annetta Benton, Grace Rowland, second prize winner, Virginia Gordon, and Dannie Stewart. The "Miss Trade Week" contest was sponsored by the Durham Business and Professional Chain.