

# Where Do Youngsters Get The Courage?

# SCHOOL VIOLENCE EXPLODES

## The Carolina Times

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### Fear Racists Set \$300,000 Ga. Fire

## NAACP State Convention Opens Thursday In Charlotte

### Albany State Victimized By Arsonists' Work

ALBANY, GA. Approximately \$300,000 in damage was inflicted on Albany State College as the result of fires here Friday night which totally destroyed one and seriously damaged another building.

First reports of white men seen leaving the scene shortly before the fire was discovered have added to the general feeling in this 35,000 population college town that the fire was the work of white arsonists. Hazard Hall, a laboratory school, and Carolina Hall, which served as an auditorium and for classroom space, were victims of the arson. An estimated \$250,000 damage was done to Hazard by the blaze and another \$50,000 to Carolina Hall.

An atmosphere of tension immediately seized the town as reports indicated that the fire was started by white men. The general belief expressed hereabouts was that whites were inspired to set the torch to the Negro school in the wake of general south wide tensions over school desegregation.

However, there has been no school desegregation in Georgia's public or private schools at any level, and there will likely be none in the immediate future, veteran observers feel.

In addition, Albany State boasts of enjoying harmonious relations with all segments of the community.

First reports say that a "blonde" man in a red checked shirt along with two or three other teen aged white youths were detected running away from Carolina Hall shortly before the flames were discovered in that building.

A double night watch was posted on the campus early this week and city and state police authorities began investigation of the fires. They (Please turn to page Eight)



ROY WILKINS

### Durham Body Backs Ike On Arkansas Issue

A telegram commending President Eisenhower for his "courage and determination to uphold the rights of all United States citizens to equality" was sent to the White House last week by the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs. The message which was authorized by the Committee Thursday was signed by the chairman, J. H. Wheeler.

Not only did the Committee authorize the sending of a message, but a special committee was appointed to explore the idea of asking for a conference with the president and Negro leaders of the South on the matter of integration.

This question was raised at the meeting when it was thought by some that such a move might be advisable since a committee of southern governors had been granted a conference with the president, in which there was little possibility that both sides of the matter would be presented.

Whether the special committee will recommend that a conference with the President be sought will be decided at the next meeting of the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs at (Please turn to page Eight)

### Thurgood Marshall, Roy Wilkins To Speak During Four-Day Meet

CHARLOTTE The convention will get underway on Thursday with a Special Ministers Conference with Dr. Edward J. Odom, Jr., National Church Secretary of the NAACP as the guest speaker. The Theme of this special conference is "The Role of the Church in Preparing the Community for Integration". Roy Wilkins will address the opening mass meeting scheduled for eight p.m. Friday evening at the Charlotte Park Center. Thurgood Marshall will deliver the convention's concluding address at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, October 13.

Some 500 delegates from all over the state will begin gathering in Charlotte on Thursday, October 10, for the annual convention of the North Carolina NAACP, a meeting which promises to be the most crucial in its history. With three North Carolina cities desegregating on a token basis since the historic Supreme Court desegregation decisions the delegates will concentrate on plans for expanding present desegregation programs and implementing freedom for Negroes in all areas.

Clarence Mitchell, Director, NAACP Washington Bureau will direct a workshop on Registration and Voting and report to the convention concerning civil rights legislation recently passed. (Please turn to page Eight)

### Special Program To Honor Pastor Browne In Ninth Year At Church

The Mount Vernon Baptist Church has set apart the week of October 7-13 for the celebration of the ninth anniversary of its pastor, the Rev. E. T. Browne. During the celebration, five of the city's leading churches will render service. Appearing on successive week-day nights will be the following Baptist churches: Morehead Avenue, First Calvary and Mt. Gilead. On Thursday night, the St. Mark A. M. E. Zion Church will render the program and on Friday night the New Bethel Baptist Church.

The ministers of these churches preaching during the week are Rev. C. E. McLester, Rev. A. L. Thompson, Rev. Harold Roland, Rev. R. L. Speaks, and Rev. L. W. Reid. The time of each service is 7:30 P. M.

At 7:30 P. M. the exercise will be given by the Mount Vernon Baptist Church Family of 1970 and will be sponsored by the Children's Church and Dramatic Club.

Among the achievements recorded at Mt. Vernon during Rev. Browne's pastorate include the establishment of a credit union, purchase and operation of "Mt. Vernon Acres," a picnic-farm, organization of a young people's church, purchase of several buses and a steady growth in membership.

The public is invited to attend the special anniversary services.

Funeral services for Mrs. Mary Jane Cunningham were held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church at 7:00 p. m. on Wednesday, September 25. The officiating minister was the Rev. J. A. Brown, the pastor.

Mrs. Cunningham, who was 101 years old, died Sunday, September 22, at her residence 425 Lakeland Avenue.

Following the services, she was buried in Beechwood Cemetery.

She is survived by a grandson, James Cunningham, Jr.



### REVEREND KING N. C. BAPTISTS WILL HEAR MARTIN KING

FAIRMONT Rev. Martin Luther King, perhaps the most widely known Baptist minister in America, will address North Carolina Baptists at the State Convention here late this month.

He will speak before the second meeting of the three day General Baptist Convention which gets underway here at the First Baptist Church on October 29. The convention will end on October 31.

Some 1700 Baptist churches in the state will send representatives to the session. Panel discussions, forums and reports marking 80 years of the convention's work will be featured.

John W. Fleming, spokesman for the State Baptists, said this week that the convention committee has drawn up a program designed to encourage and strengthen support of educational and missionary work.

The convention's featured speaker, Rev. King, is pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery and President of the Montgomery Improvement Association, an organization which catapulted him into international prominence as the result of his leadership of its passive resistance to bus segregation in that city.

He has been widely acclaimed throughout the United States and has been described by several national publications as the most outstanding and admired personality of the country.

In addition to Rev. King, several prominent Baptist ministers and convention officials will participate on the convention program. Among them are Dr. P. A. Bishop, president of the State Convention; Rev. O. L. Sherrill, executive sec'y; Rev. Wendell Somerville, president of the Lott Carey Convention; and Revs. J. W. Jones, Harold Roland and W. L. Wilson.

### Fayetteville Honors Coach Who Resigns

FAYETTEVILLE Resigning Fayetteville State Teachers College Coach William "Gus" Gaines and his family were presented with gifts from the college faculty, staff and alumni at a recent student assembly.

Gaines is leaving Fayetteville after twelve years as head coach of its athletic teams and chairman of the Health and Physical Education Department.

He is scheduled to take a position in the New York State Department of Civil Service and Social Welfare. In this capacity, he will direct programs for the New York Boys Training School at Warwick.

Gaines and his wife, Mrs. Landonia Gaines, were presented gifts from the faculty and staff by acting dean Lafayette Parker and from the Alumni Association by Alumni President Orlando Hudson. The Gaines' children, Linda, 7, and Deborah, 3, were presented checks from the faculty and staff.

Mrs. Gaines has worked for 11 years as secretary to the President and assistant budget (Please turn to page Eight)

### Dynamite Set Off At Home Of Pupils In Mixed School

GREENSBORO The first instance of violence since the initial wave which accompanied desegregation of schools here erupted Tuesday night in a dynamite explosion in the yard of the home of two of six Negro pupils who have been admitted to formerly all white Greensboro school.

City police said that dynamite was either thrown or planted in the front of the Elijah J. Herring home which was undamaged by the blast.

Noise from the explosion awakened the Herring family which had retired for the night. No one was hurt.

Police had made no charges early Wednesday, but reports say they were trying to round up

suspects for questioning. Two of the Herring boys, Elijah, Jr., 16, and Russell, 12, were among the first Negro students to be admitted to Gillespie Park high school at the beginning of the fall term.

A car seen leaving the scene of the blast late Tuesday was chased several miles out of Greensboro, but there was no indication that the suspects were caught.

All available policemen were rushed to the scene of the blast and reports say that the investigation is being pushed in an effort to capture the dynamiters. Four suspects were reported questioned late Tuesday, but it was not clear if they were held

or released. Herring, who lives at 2101 Finley Street, escorted his two boys to the white school on opening day amidst jeering and hooting.

Since the first wave of jeering and insults stemming from opening day, a calm had settled over the desegregation picture here with incidents confined to classrooms.

In addition to the Herring boys, four other Negro students were admitted to formerly white schools in Greensboro.

The explosive, which rocked the Herring home, was apparently detonated from a drainage ditch in front of the home, police reported.



Key figures in the Fall Convocation at Kittrell College, formally opening the college for its 72nd year, are pictured here. Left to right are the Rt. Rev. F. M. Reid, Presiding Bishop of the Second Episcopal District of the A. M. E. Church; Dr. Ezra Johnson of Hot Springs, Arkansas, who delivered the principal address; Dr. W. L. Hildebrand, Chairman of the Executive Board of Trustees; and Dr. R. W. Wisner, President of the A.M.E.-supported school.

### Nation's Press Praises Kids Facing Angry School Mobs

NEW YORK The courage and dignity of the Negro students in Little Rock and elsewhere in the South has won wide commenda-

tion from the press and from individuals throughout the country, as well as from the foreign press.

President Eisenhower paid tribute to them in his statement of Sept. 21 on the Little Rock crisis when he said: "All parents must have a sympathetic understanding of the ordeal to which the nine Negro children who have been prevented from attending Central High School have been subjected. They and their parents have conducted themselves with dignity and with restraint."

Life magazine in its issue of Sept. 30 published on its editorial page a letter from Prof. J. B. Rhine of Duke University in Durham, N. C. "Thank you for recording for history the account in word and picture of these brave Negro kids going off to face the mob waiting for them at the schoolhouse," Prof. Rhine wrote.

"Brave they must be, for they know they will be taunted with abuse that will hurt more than physical injury itself. I cannot recall that there has ever been a more inspiring demonstration of courage by the children of any race, in any age. Their example is at least one redeeming feature in all this horrid chap-

ter of our country's history."

Following are other editorials. Montreal (Canada) Star:

"Where they (Negro youngsters) get the sheer guts to go through with it, we don't know. Nor is it easy to imagine the soul-searching that their parents went through before letting the children step into such a maelstrom of terror. What sort of dedication does a man—or more important, a youngster—need to face the stones of a crowd, their knives or guns or clubs, of being cornered by a mob of vicious whites egged on by screaming viragos who resemble women?"

A Fearful Price To Pay New York Post (by Max Lerner):

It doesn't destroy it can be a young to pay. For those whom it doesn't destroy it can be a creative experience. The night before Elizabeth Eckford went to school, at Little Rock, she read the lines in the Psalms, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I fear?" Los Angeles Mirror-News: "One thing in the story from Little Rock sticks in our mind. In the face of a jeering crowd, (Please turn to page Eight)

### Little Rock, Ark. NAACP Leader Applauded By Unit's Chairman

NEW YORK The entire nation is indebted to Mrs. L. C. Bates for her "steadfast, sober, calm and courageous leadership and guidance" in the Little Rock crisis, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, chairman of the NAACP Board of Directors, said today in a letter to Mrs. Bates, president of the Association's organization in Arkansas.

"Considering the provocations confronting you," he said, "the situation, without your leadership might well have deteriorated into disastrous conflict. Never has there been greater need than today in Little Rock for perceptive and decisive leadership such as you have shown."

Mrs. Bates' work in Little Rock, he asserted, "demonstrates the need for strong NAACP state and local units. This is a challenge which our branches and state conferences throughout the country must meet. You have demonstrated what can be done. It remains for all of us in the organization, and indeed for all liberty-loving Americans to rally to your support through increased memberships and contributions to the Association which for nearly a half-century has borne the brunt of the struggle for equal rights."

Praising the courage of the Negro school children, Dr. Tobias said: "I am sure that these young people have been inspired by the fine example set by you. Your dedication exemplifies to them the role they must play in today's struggle and in the future. History will accord to them, and to you, full recognition of the role they and you have played in man's unending struggle for human justice."

### DR. VAN DOREN AT HAMPTON

HAMPTON, VA. More than 1500 students and nearby residents gathered at Hampton Institute's Ogden Hall last Thursday to hear an address by Dr. Mark Van Doren, Professor of English at Columbia University, and winner of Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, 1949, the first speaker in the college lecture series.

Dr. Van Doren spoke on "Homer," immortal Greek poet and author of the classics "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey," emphasizing Homer's ever-present themes of people, family relationships that have made his literature live through the ages.



Miss Bennie Booker, second from right, was formally installed as the new president of the Hillside High School Student Council in ceremonies at the school last week. Principals in the installation ceremony pictured with Miss Booker here are, left to right, T. M. Davis, member of the Council faculty advisory committee; John S. Stewart, City Councilman who delivered the main address; Miss Booker, and acting Superintendent of Schools, Law Hannon. Other officers of the new Council are Willie Green, vice-president; Awanya Rush, secretary; Catherine Burnett, treasurer; and Elaine Bowling, parliamentarian.