

# MURDER-SUICIDE ORPHANS SIX

## Cemetery Caretaker Kills Spouse, Takes Own Life

WINSTON-SALEM—A 38 year-old cemetery caretaker, apparently overcome by blind rage, shot his wife to death while three of his children looked on in frozen horror, then walked out of his house to the garage and ended his own life with a shot gun blast to the head. The double slaying took the lives of Mrs. Emma Lee Miller and her husband, Luther Miller late last Friday night. It left without parents six children, ranging in ages from 20 to 13.

An aura of funereal silence settled over the neat Miller residence on New Walkertown Road as poker-faced ambulance attendants carried the bodies from the house to waiting ambulances.

The spell of stillness crept over the curious crowd of neighbors and passers-by who huddled in the chill rain outside the Miller home, stalked the hardened battery of detectives, reporters and photographers who did their jobs quietly and even gripped the older three children, who watched calmly as the bodies of their parents were wheeled away.

Funeral services for the couple were held at the Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church here Wednesday. The Rev. A. A. Perry conducted the church rites at three o'clock and interment was held at the Evergreen cemetery.

Masons of Prince Hall lodge 795 were in charge of services. The first shooting took place around 11:30 at the Miller residence. According to the story told police by 15 year old Herbert Miller, his father came home late Friday and started an argument with his mother because she was washing clothes in the kitchen.

Herbert told police that his parents had quarreled many times in the past and that his

father had threatened on several occasions to kill his mother. The boy said when his mother went to the front bedroom to retire, he and two of his brothers watched in fright as his father went into the bedroom, heard a scuffle then one shot. He said he ran to the bedroom and found his mother lying across the bed, fully dressed, in a pool of blood.

He said he then ran to a neighbor's house to telephone for help and on his return to the house, he and his two brothers

went out to the garage where they discovered their father, lying face down in a pool of blood, dead.

He had shot himself through the head with a 20 gauge shotgun, which was found lying beneath his body.

It is believed that he shot his wife with a .38 calibre pistol, though a pistol had not been found early this week.

Miller had been employed as a caretaker of Evergreen cemetery for nine years. He and his wife (Please turn to page Eight)



Congressman Adam Clayton Powell visited Durham Monday night for an address at the Saint Mark A. M. E. Zion Church launching the city's NAACP's membership drive. He was greeted by an overflow crowd, part of which can be seen in above pictures. Large photo at left shows a portion of the estimated 1,900 persons who jammed the auditorium and entrance-ways of the church to hear his address. The New York Congressman sees details of the program prior to his speech with Attorney Floyd B. McKissick, left, and Reverend William H. Fuller, president of the Durham NAACP, right. McKissick was in charge of the program. Powell, who pastor's Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York, one of the country's largest, makes a point during his address in inset left. He signs autograph for unidentified girl in bottom inset. — Photos by ALEX RIVERA.

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# The Carolina Times

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### IN BEAUTICIANS' CONTEST

## Steele Leads, But Darkhorse Looms

Mrs. Eula Steele jumped into the lead this week in the CAROLINA TIMES Beauticians' Popularity Contest. At noon Wednesday Mrs. Steele had polled a total of 600,000 points. Trailing her for second place was Mrs. Callie Daye with 575,000 points.

This week the race is expected to gather momentum as interest in the contest mounts. Already whispers of a dark horse were beginning to be heard as many of the lesser contestants were said to be organizing their customers and friends to support them.

At stake in the contest is a full round trip with one week's hotel expenses paid to the Beauticians' Annual Convention which meets in Miami, Florida in August.

This week's relative standing of contestants is as follows:

MRS. EULA STEELE, Durham	600,000
MRS. CALLIE DAYE, Durham	575,000
MISS VICTORIA MOORE, Durham	400,000
MRS. SYMINER E. DAYE, Durham	345,000
MRS. BEATRICE MOSS, Durham	345,000
MRS. ODELL LEAKE, Durham	300,000
MISS MARY FOUST, Chapel Hill	300,000
MISS LILLIE WELLS, Durham	300,000
MRS. PECOLA JONES, Durham	275,000
MRS. EARLIE GRANDY, Durham	275,000
MISS BLANCHE SCOTT, Durham	275,000
MRS. NOTIE J. CURRY, Durham	275,000
MRS. ROSETTA HARRIS, Roxboro	260,000
MRS. CORA M. BYRDINE, Durham	260,000
MRS. CATHERINE LUNSFORD, Durham	260,000
MISS HAZEL MCKOY, Chapel Hill	245,000
MRS. W. D. JEFFREYS, Burlington	245,000
MRS. HENRIETTA BATES, Durham	245,000
MRS. THELMA HILL, Durham	230,000
MRS. MARGARET MINOR, Durham	230,000
MRS. ESTHER BLAND, Durham	195,000
MRS. HATTIE GEER, Durham	195,000
MRS. J. DeSHAZOR JACKSON, Durham	195,000
MRS. ESTELLE FREELAND, Durham	195,000
MRS. ELIZABETH BROWN, Durham	195,000
MRS. ALICE PAYNE, Hillsboro	180,000
MRS. J. N. LOVE, Durham	180,000
MRS. C. D. ASHFORD, Durham	180,000
MRS. ELVETA MONROE, Durham	180,000
MRS. JOSEPHINE E. DAYE, Durham	90,000
MISS LENAY WILLIAMS, Durham	90,000
MRS. ETHELENE PRAYLOE, Durham	75,000
MRS. DILSIE CHANDLER, Burlington	75,000
MRS. ANNIE B. TILLIE, Burlington	75,000
MRS. MATINS DICKENS, Roxboro	60,000
MISS MINNIE JOHNSON, Roxboro	45,000
MISS DAISY HAWLEY, Durham	45,000
MRS. S. W. WEAVER, Chapel Hill	45,000
MRS. IRENE JACKSON, Durham	45,000
MISS DAISY CARMAN, Durham	30,000
MISS MONTEZ BATES, Durham	15,000
MISS JANIE COUSIN, Durham	15,000
MRS. JEROLINE BAIRD, Roxboro	15,000
MRS. IOLA GOSS, Durham	15,000
MISS ROSA HENDERSON, Durham	15,000
MRS. E. A. JOHNSON, Durham	15,000
MRS. MARIE BRADLEY, Durham	15,000
MISS MARTHA PETTIFORD, Roxboro	15,000
MRS. WILLIE E. WATKINS, Durham	15,000
MISS MABLE OXENDINE, Rocky Mount	15,000
MRS. JULIA PERRY, Durham	15,000
MRS. CLASSIE BROWN, Durham	15,000

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J. L. WILKINS

## J. Ernest Wilkins, Top Aide To Pres. Eisenhower Awaited By Durham

A capacity crowd is expected to greet J. Ernest Wilkins, Chicago lawyer and top Negro in the Eisenhower administration, when he speaks at North Carolina College Thursday night.

Wilkins, who is assistant secretary of labor for international labor affairs, will be the featured speaker at a banquet to be held in the NCC dining hall Thursday night.

The public is invited to attend the banquet. On Friday morning at ten o'clock, he will speak at Shaw University's Greenleaf auditorium.

Wilkins' appearance in Durham is being sponsored by the Civic Committee of The Durham Committee on Negro Affairs and several other cooperating organizations.

L. B. Frasier, chairman of the sponsoring committee, said Durhamites are expected to turn out in large numbers to hear the distinguished Republican and Methodist Church layman.

Wilkins, as chairman of the Methodist Judicial Council, is the highest ranking layman in the Methodist Church in America.

Agencies cooperating in sponsoring his appearance here represent a wide cross section of the Durham community.

Among cooperating sponsors are the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs, NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Durham Business and Professional Chain, the Labor Unions, Ministerial Alliance, One O'clock Luncheon Club, Durham Council, the Durham Branch of the National Council of College Women, and A s b u r y Temple Methodist Church.

Prior to moving up to his present position in the department of labor, Wilkins received two other Eisenhower appointments. In 1953, he was vice chairman of the President's Committee on Government Contracts. And he also served as chairman of the U. S. Government Delegation to the International Labor Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1954, '55, and '56.

## Powell Likes Williams As Demo Nominee

Democrat Adam C. Powell, Jr. told the TIMES this week that he would like to see Michigan's Governor G. Mennen Williams get the nomination for president on the Democratic party's 1960 national ticket.

"Williams and (Stuart) Symington would make a good team... hard to beat," the New York Congressman said. He made these and other observations on the political scene following his speech at St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church Monday night.

"Kennedy (Senator) has faded." "Bunche has a good chance for the senate, if he wants it." Powell, who bolted the Democratic party for Eisenhower in 1956, said he did not believe Negroes would stick with the Republicans unless they take a strong civil rights stand.

## Ghana Press Officer Slates April Appearance At N. C. College

R. O. Mensah, press attache in the embassy of the new state of Ghana, will be the keynote speaker at the Third Annual Publications Conference at N. C. College on April 11.

Designed for high school publishers throughout the Southeast area, the conference is sponsored by the Campus Echo, award winning student newspaper at North Carolina College.

Mensah, a native of the Gold Coast of Africa, will speak on the challenges of journalism and (Please turn to page Eight)

## Georgia School Teachers Back Negro Ministers

### Smith President's Inauguration Set For Easter

CHARLOTTE — The Ninety-first Anniversary of the founding of Johnson C. Smith University and the inauguration of its seventh president will be combined into streamlined ceremonies on Easter Monday, April 7.

The services will begin at 10:00 o'clock in the morning. Dr. Kenneth Irving Brown, Executive Director of the Danforth Foundation, St. Louis Missouri, will deliver the address in celebration of the Ninety-first Anniversary of the founding of the University.

Following the address, the program will continue with the inauguration ceremonies for Dr. Rufus Patterson Perry, seventh president of Johnson C. Smith University. The ceremonies will be conducted by Dr. Walter L. Moser, president of the university's Board of Trustees.

Dr. Perry was unanimously elected by the Board of Trustees last spring. He is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University in the class of 1926. He received the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the State University of Iowa. In 1956, his Alma Mater conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Law.

Dr. Perry taught Chemistry, and served as Director of the Division of Arts and Sciences at (Please turn to page Eight)



PRESTON DRAKE

### WINSTON-SALEM

A 28-year-old Winston-Salem man was fatally injured early last Saturday about 11 miles west of Salisbury on Highway 150, when his 1953 Dodge over turned, pinning him beneath it, and crushing his chest. The accident occurred about five a. m.

Preston Drake, of 2021 East 14th Street, was pronounced dead on arrival at Rowan Memorial Hospital at Salisbury. Drake had been with the faculty of a Shelby school three years. He resided there at 403 Antram Street.

An investigating State Highway Patrolman reported that the car, going east, was apparently traveling at a high rate of speed and that Drake may have fallen asleep. The Patrolman stated that the car ran off the right side of the highway, then (Please turn to page Eight)



R. N. HARRIS

## HARRIS' NEW JOB TOUGHER

R. N. Harris, who won the plaudits of members of both races for his work on the City Council, said this week that his new job as member of the Board of Education promises to be even tougher than the one he held as first Negro Councilman. He made this appraisal of his new position after being formally sworn in Monday night.

First Negro to serve on the Council, Harris repeated the "first" when he was unanimously elected by the Council to serve on the School Board.

Also during Monday's session, the school board turned a blank ear to pleas by the newly established Human Relations Committee that it hear suggestions by Negroes on the question of school desegregation.

Chairman Frank Fuller interpreted the school board's silence on the Committee's suggestions as meaning simply silence.

## Funeral Services Held In Durham Friday For Mrs. Mary Henderson



MRS. HENDERSON

Last rites for Mrs. Mary Frances Henderson, wife of W. Fred Henderson, prominent Durham merchant and business man, were held at White Rock Baptist Church, Friday, March 7 at 4:00 P. M. The Rev. Miles Mark Fisher, pastor, delivered the eulogy.

Mrs. Henderson, the daughter of the late William and Mrs. Bella Bullock, was born in Granville County. She was married in 1921.

For a long number of years she was a member of White Rock Baptist church where she served as a member of the Philanthropic Sunday School Class, District Eleven and the Mission. (Please turn to page Eight)