

# Was J. F. Kennedy Sincere About Dawson Offer?



**CHRISTMAS BLOOMS** — Della Hawkins, left, Susaboard, N. C., and Margaret Bradley, Asheville, N. C., both seniors at A and T College, admire a bumper crop of poinsettia blooms produced just in time for the Christmas holidays by the A and T College Department of Horticulture.

## IN DURHAM SCHOOL SUIT

# Policy Stays Integration, Board Member Testifies

By JOHN W. EDWARDS

R. N. Harris, first and only Negro member of the Durham City school board, testified in federal court this week that if the school board had used any other means than race for assigning students, forty percent of the Negro students now attending senior and junior high schools would be attending white schools.

Harris' testimony came during the second day of a trial in U. S.

## Man Dies in Flames Trying To Rescue Daughter Already Safe

Two separate incidents, resulting in the deaths of two men here this week, dimmed the prospects of a bright Christmas for their relatives and neighbors.

In perhaps the most poignant, Joe Allen, resident of 206 Ames Place, died in a fire when he went back inside his flaming house to rescue a daughter who was already safe.

In the other, Charlie Paul Thompson, just released from the hospital, suffered a seizure apparently alone and died before he could get help.

His body was discovered in front of his home at 1400 Evelyn street in the early morning hours of Sunday by his newboy.

The fire at the Allen home Sunday night had spread throughout the small house by the time firemen arrived.

Firemen found Allen's body at the front door. It was burned beyond recognition.

Authorities theorized that he crawled to the front door before he was overcome by smoke and collapsed.

Neighbors reported that the man had escaped from the burning house earlier but went back inside to rescue his daughter who he thought was still inside.

The girl, 12 year old Edna Earl Allen, told police she was visiting neighbors when the fire broke out.

Two other daughters, Ernestine, 15, and Ameryllis, 9, were at the house at the time of the fire but escaped injury.

County coroner Dr. D. R. Perry believed Thompson, found in front of his home early Sunday, died of a heart attack brought on by a seizure.

See **DIES**, page 6-A

## LEADERS DISAGREE ON JFK'S MOTIVES

# Suspicion Hints Refusal Was Planned

NEW YORK — Speculation over President-Elect John F. Kennedy's offer of the postmaster-generalship to Democratic Representative William A. Dawson and the Negro Illinois Congressman's rejection of the Cabinet post has been voiced by prominent Americans of both races and political parties.

In a telephone poll conducted by Vital Information Press, New York syndicate which services the Negro press nationally, opinion was sharply divided as to the motives both of Senator Kennedy in offering and Rep. Dawson in rejecting the historic opportunity for a Negro to hold cabinet status.

Meanwhile, in Washington, knowledgeable sources raised the issue of whether Dawson's failure to accept the post was attributable to fear that Senate confirmation would be withheld due to opposition by Southern Senators or the fact that a former Dawson congressional secretary was twice indicted in 1952 and convicted and sentenced in 1954 on a federal grand jury charge of peddling influence for the sale of post office jobs.

From Phoenix, Arizona, Republican Senator Barry Goldwater, who characterized Congressman Dawson as "qualified" and the Kennedy offer as "preposterous" admitted to a "suspicion



# RUN OVER BY TRAIN, MAN LIVES

## POPULAR DISC JOCKEY DIES

# Final Rites For Jam-A Ditty

GREENSBORO — Throngs of mourners paid final respects here Tuesday to J. Cirt Gill, Jr., who was best known to thousands of radio listeners as "Jam-A-Ditty."

The well known disc-jockey died in L. Richardson hospital Sunday after suffering a heart attack.

In the crowd which swarmed St. James Presbyterian, scene of the funeral services, were numbers of teen-agers who were "Jam-A-Ditty's" most rabid fans and several of the state's leading disc-jockeys.

He had been at WNCN for 11 years as an announcer and advertising salesman.

All of the city's radio stations planned a one minute silence tribute Tuesday afternoon on the hour of his funeral.

His program, "Jam-A-Ditty," on See **JAM-A-DITTY**, page 6-A

## La. Vote Denial Case To Be Resumed

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Commission on Civil Rights will resume its hearings into alleged denial of the right to vote in Louisiana, Chairman John A. Harbo announced today.

The hearings were recessed in New Orleans on Sept. 26 after 1.2 days' testimony was taken. The resumed hearing has been scheduled for March 1961, Dr. Harbo said.

During the September sessions the Commission took sworn testimony from 35 Negroes who charged that their right to register and vote in certain areas of the state had been denied because of race.



**PRINCIPALS IN OMEGA PSI PHI'S CONCLAVE**—Four of the principals in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 47th annual Grand Conclave at San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 26-30 are shown here. Left to right: Dr. I. Gregory Newton, professor of political science, N. C. College, Durham, Grand Banquet; H. Carl Moultrie, I, Wash-

## McKissick To Direct B and P Chain Again

The roster of newly elected officers for the Durham Branch of the NAACP was released this week by secretary R. Kelly Bryant, Jr.

Attorney Floyd B. McKissick was re-elected to a second term as president. McKissick was named to the office last year.

Other officers elected were J. W. Hill, first vice president and promotional director; Mrs. Magnolia Leak, second vice president; Bryant, secretary; Mrs. J. DeShazor Jackson, assistant secretary; J. J. Henderson, treasurer; C. M. Ross, publicity director; Charles A. Ray, assistant publicity director; L. B. Frasier, editor of the Chain Bulletin; Miss Hazel Clarke, assistant editor; and D. F. Reed, promotion director.

Elected to the board of directors were Miss Sara Dotson, Rev. W. H. See **McKISSICK**, 6-A

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# Transferred to VA Hospital After Surgery

## George Lott, of 1105 Granby Street, was transferred Wednesday afternoon from Lincoln to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Durham after he had undergone emergency treatment at Lincoln following the incident.

It occurred around 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Norfolk and Western railroad crossing east of Hanover street.

Trainman Jennings Zimmerman told police that the double-deisel engine, pulling several boxcars, was turning the curve at a low rate of speed when the lights from the engine showed a man lying across the tracks.

Zimmerman said he applied the brakes immediately but could not stop in time. The engine train passed over the victims legs.

Lott was taken to Lincoln hospital where Sunday he was given only a poor chance to survive the ordeal.

But Wednesday, hospital authorities reported he was in "fair" condition. He was transferred to the VA hospital later Wednesday.

Just how Lott came to be lying across the railroad tracks has not yet been explained. An employee of Carolina Cinder Block Co., he lived within sight of the accident.



**SILVER FOR THE YWCA**—Gifts donated to the Harriet Tubman YWCA by the MMS Service Club are presented to the YWCA's director Miss Rupert Blanchard (left) by the Service Club president Mrs. Mary M. Saunders during a brief ceremony at the facility this week. The gifts, shown in the photograph, consisted of a sterling silver punch bowl and tray and a four-slice toaster. The Service Club is a young organization of women who pool their efforts to assist the YWCA in improving its facilities and service. Photo by Stanback.

## News Summary

NAACP memberships should be given for Christmas gifts, an official of the Durham Youth NAACP said Sunday, December 17, at the monthly meeting of the Durham Youth NAACP at St. Joseph's AME Church.

Willie Burt, Vice President of the Durham Youth branch of the NAACP, said in a statement that youths should exchange NAACP membership for Christmas in the place of expensive gifts.

Burt said membership cards could be picked up at any church in the city or from any member of the NAACP.

## Raleigh Woman Can't Seem To Keep Husbands

RALEIGH — Mrs. Ada Thompson Umphrey McLamb has had her troubles with husbands.

Two and one half years ago she shot and killed her first husband, Alton Umphrey. She was convicted of manslaughter and given a sentence of two to five years, suspended on payment of \$500 fine and cost.

Sunday night, police charged her with the murder of her second husband, Josephus McLamb, 26.

McLamb's body was discovered by investigating police lying on the porch of the McLamb home when they arrived.

Detective Sgt. J. W. Boles said the slain man and his wife had been arguing.

## BELL GETS PH.D. DEGREE

GREENSBORO — The Director of athletics and chairman of the

## Ex-Teacher is Held for Arson in Center Fire

WINSTON-SALEM — A 27 year old former teacher was charged with arson here this week in connection with a fire which virtually destroyed a recreation center at Columbia Heights elementary school.

Nathaniel Wiseman, who once taught at Columbia Heights, was charged with setting the frame structure on fire after a series of questionings by police.

Wiseman at first told police he set fire to the old wooden building which adjoins Columbia Heights school, but later denied this.

He lives nearby the school.

Wiseman was discharged two years ago as a teacher at the See **TEACHER**, page 6-A

## NAACP Official Subpoenaed

Dr. Ralph M. Wimbiash, president of the St. Petersburg NAACP, was subpoenaed this week on charge that NAACP "No Christmas Gift Buying" campaign was costing one local merchant \$15,000 daily. NAACP units in southeastern parts of the country have refused to buy from merchants who fail to hire Negroes or refuse to treat them with "human dignity."