

## Presbyterian Launch Plan For Abolishment of Apartheid in Africa

NEW YORK—A policy statement that calls for new steps toward eliminating apartheid in South Africa has been adopted by the highest governing body of The United Presbyterian Church, USA.

It urges the South African government to consider a national convention proposed by a United Nations committee; asks the United States government, American business, and churches to use their influence in ending apartheid; and sets up programs within the United Presbyterian Church through which the apartheid policy can be attacked.

The statement was approved by the 177th General Assembly of the 3.3 million member Presbyterian denomination, meeting in Columbus, Ohio recently.

It was drafted by the United Presbyterian Commission on Religion and Race (CORAR), presented to the General Assembly's Standing Committee on Church and Society, and ultimately passed by the 835 commissioner's to the assembly.

Noting that South Africa "is the only country dedicated to an official governmental policy of racial separation, known as Apartheid," the statement charges that South Africa's government "continues to pursue this policy against the will of the majority of the South African people." Apartheid is branded as "theologically and morally indefensible," a policy that "consigns millions of Africans to perpetual inferiority, depriving them of the most elementary political, civic and human rights in 37 per cent of their homelands."

In its major points the pronouncement: "Urgently appeals to the churches in South Africa to seek new and more effective ways of urging the South African government to abandon its dangerous policy and to consider the plan recommended by prominent South African Christians, and the Expert Committee established by the Security Council of the United Nations, whereby a national convention attended by the de facto representatives of all sections of the South African population would jointly decide the future structure of South African society."

Strongly deploring any material support, no matter how limited, of the present government of South Africa, by the United States government . . . and calls upon the United States government to take vigorous action, both directly and through the United Nations, to persuade the South African government to consider the national convention proposal, and to respond to the appeal of the United Nations to member states, for contributions for relief and assistance



**AWARD WINNER**—Reginald G. Mitchiner, Durham, who recently graduated summa cum laude in mechanical engineering at A. and T. College, holds the Hamilton Watch Award as "high ranking engineer graduate who also maintained excellence in the humanities."

Mitchiner turned down fourteen job offers, several above \$8,000 per year, except a fellowship, to pursue graduate studies in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois, beginning this fall.

### AME MINISTERS TO DIRECT FLORIDA VOTE CAMPAIGN

JACKSONVILLE—Two ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church have been named to direct the voter-education project for Gadsden County, sponsored by the Florida State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Picked to head the project, by Rutledge Pearson, state NAACP president, was Rev. D. H. Jamison. Appointed to assist him was Rev. K. S. Dupont.

Jamison is a native of Gadsden County who pastors in the town of Madison, and Dupont is a preaching elder who resides in Tallahassee.

Rutledge said both men will be important cogs in NAACP efforts to add an additional 75,000 persons to registration rolls and will be working in cooperation with the statewide campaign and the summer voter registration project of the Association.

Other areas where the summer drive will begin on June 20, are Tampa—where the NAACP branch has set a goal of 5,000 new registrants from the surrounding Hillsborough County—Madison in Monticello, Tallahassee, Panama City and Stuart.

to families of persons persecuted by the South African government for their opposition to apartheid."

## NAACP SUMMER VOTER REGISTRATION PROJECT BEGUN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

FROGMORE, S. C.—This sun-drenched island off the coast of South Carolina provided the launching stage for the NAACP summer voter registration project as 100 volunteers gathered here for a three-day orientation program, June 7-9.

After completion of intensive training in registration requirements and the techniques of getting potential voters on the registration books, the volunteers, mostly South Carolinians, returned to their respective communities to conduct local training institutes for members of NAACP youth councils who will do the door-to-door canvassing for new voters.

Addressing a session of the orientation cores here, Rev. I. DeQuincy Newman, NAACP field director for South Carolina, said there were some 250,000 unregistered potential Negro voters in

the state. "Our job," he said, "is to get as many of these on the books as possible. This job cannot be done in one day. It will take work every day, Monday to Sunday, throughout the summer. This is the most important job facing us now."

Gloster B. Current, director of NAACP branches and field administration, discussed the low rate of Negro registration in southern states—38.8 percent in South Carolina. He expressed confidence that the anticipated passage of the pending voting right bill will accelerate registration. However, he warned, "enactment of the bill will not automatically register voters. Our job will be to make the new voting legislation a reality."

Other NAACP staff members who conducted the orientation courses included Miss Althea T. L.

Simmons, coordinator of the southern voter project, and W. C. Patton, field director for voter registration. Also Richard Miles, field director of the South Carolina Education Project.

Similar NAACP-sponsored projects are scheduled this summer for Alabama, Florida, Maryland and Mississippi.

## Urban League

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is that we have a long way to go. That's the real problem."

In Canton, Thomas says, the United Fund and private agencies are pumping dollars into basic education for illiterate adults and backing the League's secretarial training project.

Also, four bigoted neighborhoods are getting a boost from Operation Candlelight, a self-help program. "A neighborhood of 100 homes is given intensive work," he says. "Housing inspectors do something about code enforcement. Each family is interviewed by social workers and their problems referred to the proper agencies."

Overall, says Thomas, "the mood this summer is better than last. Higher employment is a big factor. I don't expect any trouble, but what happens in Cleveland or Hall declares, "The NAACP, CORE

Chicago could spill over into Can-hearts of police officials, biased as long as we have poverty and segregation."

The consensus of the League's directors is that Ohio's cities this summer likely may not be torn by racial strife unless the unforeseen happens. Negroes welcome the overtures of churches and concerned whites; they've been made hopeful by gains in employment.

But the picture in education is spotty, with some very felt bias, particularly in Cincinnati, and there is considerable worry over possible police brutality. In housing, there has been no visible improvement anywhere, a cause of deep resentment.

League directors have gotten, or are seeking, Federal aid in Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Dayton Springfield and in Warren to help wipe out poverty.

But Federal grants, they say, cannot open doors in all-white suburbs for hardworking people living in slums who want to move out. Nor can they change the

guidance counselors, or trade union officials.

For relief of these ills, rights leaders may protest by direct action. If they are unsuccessful, the chances of a "long, hot summer" could increase. That's why Urban League directors are pressing for closer cooperation with whites and reminding Ohioans of the words of Cleveland's Ernest Cooper, "We've got a breathing spell. All we've done is to buy a little time."

## Births

The following births were reported to the Durham County Health Department during the week of June 7 through 12:

Richard and Leona Moore, girl; Well-born and Mary Williams, girl; William and Pansie Brown, girl; Alexander and Ella Robertson, girl; Charles and Johnnie Snipes, girl; Clee and Ella Lee, boy; Edgar and Mae Curtis, girl; Willie and Lynn Wilson, boy; Fred and Brenda Jackson, girl.

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