

# Teacher Fired For Working With Negroes

## Fire Dept. Jim Crow Before N.Y. High Court

GLEN COVE, N. Y. — Argument in the suit to eliminate racial discrimination in Great Neck's volunteer fire department will be heard in the State Supreme Court sitting in Mineola, Long Island, on Dec. 19. The possibility that this action would be unnecessary was thwarted this week when the present fire department voted unanimously against a proposal to abolish discrimination voluntarily. The plan which was rejected had been proposed by the State Division for Human Rights.

Legal action against the fire department was started in May, 1967, when the NAACP filed a complaint with the state in behalf of two Negroes seeking membership in the department. The state unit held hearings in November and December, 1967, and then ordered the fire department to admit Leander Willet and Thurmond Green. The fire department appealed the state order, and the Dec. 19 date was set for the case to be argued.

The Human Rights Division plan to end bias was advanced in the hope of acceptance as a model for combatting racial discrimination in volunteer fire departments throughout the state. There are only 14 Negroes among an estimated 20,000 volunteer firemen on all of Long Island.

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# Negro Newspaper Man Sues Tenn. Publishing Company



**TAKES OATH OF OFFICE**—James Frazier, Jr., center, is administered oath of office as Special Assistant for Equal Employment Opportunity by U. S. Civil Service Commission Chairman John W. Macy, Jr., while CSC Executive Director Nicholas J. Oganovic, left, looks on. Mr. Frazier transferred to the Commission from the Agency for International Development. (U. S. Civil Service Commission Photo).

## Tri-State Editor Files Action in Federal Court

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE — A Negro newspaper editor recently began a suit against Memphis Publishing Company, publisher of this city's two major newspapers, The Memphis Semitar and The Commercial Appeal.

Both papers belong to the nation-wide Scripps-Howard Syndicate. McCann L. Reid, an editor for the Tri-State Defender, a local Negro paper, charges that Memphis Publishing Company refused to hire him because of his race and religion.

His suit was filed in federal court here by Lewis Lucas, a cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF). According to attorney Lucas, Memphis Publishing Company officials told Reid they could not hire him because he is a Seventh Day Adventist and therefore could not work Saturdays.

However, an investigation by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) revealed that the company had hired a white man of Reid's faith to do the same for which Reid had applied.

In the suit filed recently, attorney Lucas is asking that Reid be employed by the company as a copy reader, the position for which he applied.

He is also asking that his client receive back pay from the date of his application and that his salary be raised to what it would be now had the company not refused to hire him.

## Durham Baha'is To Observe Rights Day Sun.

The Baha'is of Durham will observe Human Rights Day on Sunday, December 8 at a 4:30 p.m. meeting at the Friends Meeting House, 404 Alexander Street. Joining with Baha'i communities over the nation, the program will focus on the theme "Human Rights are God-Given Rights."

Speakers for the occasion will be Mrs. Teresita Myers of Columbia City, Maryland, Miss Ellen Parmelle of Winston-Salem, and Dr. David Smith of Durham. Mrs. Myers, a Baha'i and a native of the Philippines, was formerly a dietician at Johns Hopkins Hospital; she is presently a member of the Local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Howard County, Maryland. Miss Parmelle, a teacher of Physical Therapy at Winston-Salem's Bowman-Gray School of Medicine, served as observer for the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States to the United Nations and as a member of the Baha'i United Nations Committee, 1967-68, she is included in the 1968 edition of Outstanding Young Women of America. Dr. Smith, a Quaker and one of the founders of the Duke Medical School, is a recently retired member of the School faculty following 38 years of service. He also helped initiate the Duke Quaker Group.

Human Rights Day this year marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption by the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In observance of International Human Rights Year the Baha'i communities of North America issued a statement on human rights which affirmed that in accordance with the Teachings of Baha'u'llah, Prophet-Founder of the Baha'i Faith, human rights are God-given rights.

The statement pronounced "The greatest challenge to this age is the recognition of the oneness of mankind. The painful but inevitable broadening of each man's allegiance from



**ARTS TO KEEP**—Fred Battle, left, of the Durham Coca-Cola Bottling Company presents Bull-Eagle II to A&T's Willie Pearson. The Aggies won their third game in the series since 1963 to gain permanent possession of the trophy, NCC retired Bull-Eagle I in 1963.

## NEA Joins LDF In Supporting Teacher Rights

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A black teacher in the South dismissed from her job because of voter registration activities... Teachers in Alabama's "Black Belt" denied protection under the state's tenure law... A white southern teacher asked to resign because of afterschool association with black people in church activities... Black teachers told they were "no longer needed" in states which were integrating schools...

All of these teachers were backed in their efforts to seek justice by the National Education Association (NEA) Du-Shane Emergency Fund and by the Legal Defense Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

When the predominantly black American Teachers Association, with members primarily in the South, merged with the NEA in 1966, NEA continued the Negro association's litigation efforts in cooperation with the Legal Defense Fund.

Meanwhile, the NEA Du-Shane Fund continues to support other non-Legal Defense Fund cases all over the country. The Fund was set up by NEA to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all educators and to protect their professional, civil, and human rights. It is partially supported by voluntary contributions from educators.

In the Willis Johnson case, which went to the U. S. Supreme Court...

## Wheeler, Cousin Urge Negroes To Continue Fight for Freedom

By John Justice  
A historical tracing of the Negro's struggle for full equality and a passionate plea to "hold on" highlighted Sunday's mass meeting of the Black Solidarity Committee at the Mount Zion Baptist Church. "Somewhere along the way, something happened to the idea of 'one nation under God indivisible,'" said John H. Wheeler, featured speaker and chairman of the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs.

Wheeler outlined the Negro's role in American history through the years and stated, "We have been fighting the same battle over and over again. We are just repeating history. We are fighting the battles that were fought during Reconstruction and after World Wars One and Two. 'What we are fighting for is the idea that freedom shall not escape from us,'" Wheeler said.

After the main address by Wheeler, the Rev. Phillip

December 2 to December 7 is  
**WINN-DIXIE**  
"Founder's Week"  
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This Week's Issue Carolina Times

## LDF Attorney Files Suit For Relief US Court

STATESVILLE — A white school teacher recently brought suit against the Alexander County School Board which dismissed her for working with Negro civic organizations and worshipping at Negro churches.

Miss Ann Collins alleges that School Superintendent Dwight Isenhour referred to her association with Negroes as embarrassing. She said he told her she would have to disassociate herself from the Negro community entirely or resign.

When she refused to do either, she said, she was dismissed.

Miss Collins was formerly a remedial reading teacher at Sugar Loaf School in Taylorsville, North Carolina.

Her suit was filed here in the U. S. District Court by Attorney Julius Chambers who is associated with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF).

Attorney Chambers is asking the court to reinstate Miss Collins or provide her with a position similar to the one she held previously.

He is asking that the county school board be prevented from practicing discrimination, based on race or color in its hiring and firing procedures, and that Miss Collins be awarded compensation for expenses and loss of wages she has incurred because of her dismissal.

## S. Carolina NAACP Calls For Bleak Yule-To Voice Wrath

COLUMBIA, S. C. — As an expression of indignation and resentment over the failure of public officials to take action against the slayers of three students on the campus of South Carolina State College last February, the State NAACP has called upon "all people of South Carolina who share our burden to observe a bleak Christmas and join us in a no-buying Christmas campaign."

The Association, in a statement released on Nov. 15, by Field Director I. Dequincey Newman, also urged "black people to boycott all public

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**MRS. TERESITA MYERS** of Columbia City, Maryland, who will serve as one of the speakers programmed for the Baha'is observance of Human Rights Day here Sunday, December 8. Mrs. Myers was formerly a dietician at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Former Durham Citizen Elected Councilman-At-Large of Oahu

HONOLULU, HAWAII — Charles Campbell, native of Durham, and teacher in the schools of Honolulu was elected City Councilman-At-Large in the General Election held November 5, which saw him come in the second highest of three successful candidates.

The first place candidate polled a total of 97,000 votes; Campbell, the second highest, polled a total of 92,000 votes with the third place winner, polling 84,000.

In Durham, North Carolina, where he was better known as Charles Black and attended North Carolina College, Campbell received the degree of A.B. His other educational qualifications include: M.A., Howard University; M.A. Columbia University and a PhD candidate, New York University.

Campbell is married to Attorney Naomi S. Campbell, Referee of Family Court. The couple has two daughters, Lori



**CAMPBELL**, a student at Royal School; Anneve, formerly of the Peace Corps; Bogota, Columbia and one son, Charles, Jr., of the Marine Corps. In addition to his position as a teacher and newly elected councilman, Campbell is chairman of the Oahu County Democratic Party.

## Defense Of Eleven Sentenced To Death By "Attorney For The Damned" Retold.

### Magazine Tells Of Darrow's Finest Hour

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Eleven Negroes charged with the premeditated slaying of a white man were given little chance of acquittal in racially tense Detroit — until one of America's foremost criminal attorneys stepped forward for the defense.

This scene, supercharged with contemporary relevancy, occurred forty-three years ago. But the results still stand as a crucial precedent in a long list of legal decisions in the cause of civil rights.

The principals in this almost-forgotten drama were Dr. Ossian Sweet, a promising Negro physician who wanted to move his family into a predominantly white neighborhood, and Clarence Darrow, the so-called "attorney for the damned," who built a career of winning justice for seemingly hopeless causes. Darrow's masterful defense of Dr. Sweet is demonstrated in the December issue of American Heritage by Author Thomas Fleming. On September 8, 1925, the Sweet family moved into their



**DR. SWEET**



**MRS. SWEET**

newly purchased home on the corner of Garland Street and Charlevoix Avenue in Detroit and immediately received several telephone threats of violence. The next evening Ossian Sweet's brothers and seven friends arrived at the house all armed and determined to protect the Sweets from the danger of the mob assembling outside. In the confusion that followed, shots were fired from the house. One man was found dead, and the Negroes were taken into police custody, charged with murder. In a city seething with racial unrest, the Negroes were considered already convicted. Enter Clarence Darrow — champion of the underdog. He

spent three weeks selecting a jury and his probing questions in the process were, in fact, a moving disquisition on the Negro's bitter journey through American history. Darrow's primary task, writes Fleming, was in "educating the jury to the point where they could feel compassion for the Sweets." Darrow summed up this goal in an aphorism: "No one ever judges anyone else without finding him guilty. No one ever understands another without being in sympathy with him. A person who can understand can comprehend 'why,' and that leaves no field for condemning." The prosecution based its attack on the contentions that



**ATTY. DARROW** there was no race prejudice involved, and that no mob had gathered in front of the Sweet house to place the family in physical danger. Darrow probed the testimonies of numerous policemen and civilians. He uncovered the fact that many of the witnesses were members of a so-called Improvement Association whose sole purpose was to keep the Negro out of white neighborhoods — by violent means, if necessary. It also became evident in his cross-questioning that the number of "witnesses" alone would

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