WILL U. S. MOVE TO OPERATE CLOSED SCHOOLS?

Ark., Va. move irks Flemming

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The closing of public schools in Arkansas and Virginia to avoid desegregation is indefensible, Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, told a news conference Monday.

Commenting on the closing of these schools, Dr. Flemming said the closing "is indefensible in what is being done to the children."

The problem is one with which citizens of local communities should come to grips and deal with it in such a manner that the schools will be opened under policies in harmony with the decisions of the Federal courts.

Asked if it were not true that he could not do anything about the situation, Dr. Flemming replied:

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"WE HAVE a responsibility at the present time to point up the seriousness of the situation and urge the citizens of local communities to take action that will result in restoring these (educational) opportunities to children within the decisions of the courts."

Dr. Flemming declined to reveal any recommendations he may have made to President Eisenhower.

"Any conversations I have had along that line," he said, "can be discussed only by him and on the basis of the decisions he makes."

Asked whether he had seen any signs that citizens in the local communities were coming to grips with the problem, Dr. Flemming replied that:

"All of us have read stories from these communities which indicate that there is certainly a segment of the public concerned about this matter and interested in working out a solution."

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DR. FLEMMING said he was not in a position to discuss the legislative picture at all, and he did not want to leave any inference as to whether there will be legislative recommendations from his department to the President.

He further said he certainly did not want to make any comment at all on what the President will do.

He also said he did not know whether his department will take part in the conference on the school situation which is to be held in Nashville, Tenn., in February, under the sponsorship of the Civil Rights Commission, "but we will certainly be interested in that conference."

Asked what effect the closing of the schools would have on the procurement of professional and technical personnel, Dr. Flemming said:

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"WHENEVER ANY sizeable group of young people are denied the opportunity of participating in a sound educational program, that is bound to have an effect on the manpower resources at some point in the future.

"I have been going through a series of conferences with the heads of national organizations who are interested in various programs relating to this department. The one thing they have emphasized is the lack of trained personnel.

"So far as the future of this country is concerned, it seems to me that if there is going to be any limiting factor in terms of continuing progress it is going to be the manpower factor."

State represented

BALTIMORE

Louis G. Shepard, instructor at Douglass High School, represented Maryland in the annual meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education which was held in New York.

RELAXING AT HOME — Mrs. Hortense R. Johnson reads to her husband, Dr. Phillip T. Johnson, president - elect of the Federation of Civic Associations, in their home in Washington, D.C. She is a registered nurse.

Husband of blonde fired as teacher

WASHINGTON

School officials denied this week that a temporary teacher was fired at Roosevelt when it was learned that his wife is white.

Students reportedly protested the firing and at least one was temporarily suspended in the case of John E. Rudder, 23, who was hired this term as a math teacher.

School officials said Mr. Rudder was dismissed for incompetence. "There is nothing involved in this dismissal other than judgment of his performance as a teacher."

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PRINCIPAL Wilmer F. Bennett said, "This action was taken through the assistant superintendent of school. He was given a trial and he wasn't able to measure up.

"Mrs. Grubbs tried to work with him," the principal added, referring to Mrs. Ethel Grubbs, math supervising director.

John D. Koontz, assistant superintendent in charge of junior and senior high schools, said his office had no report on any organized protest over the firing.

"A COUPLE of parents have called about it," Mr. Koontz said.

Mr. Rudder, a former Marine Corps lieutenant, reportedly came under official fire at the school, when his wife, Mrs. Doris Rudder, accompanied him to a football game on the campus last month.

The couple are parents of four children and are expecting another child in January. The family lives at 521 Alexander Pl., NE.

He is a graduate of Purdue University and studied law at Howard University and George Washington University.

Grant heads drive

BALTIMORE

Dr. George C. Grant, dean of Morgan State College, is heading a drive to establish a $50,000 loan fund to aid needy graduates of Morgan State College to develop their potential by continuing their education.

To support this project the General Alumni Association of Morgan will sponsor a card party on the campus, Jan. 24.

Look Who's Who

MISS VIRGINIA ARNOLD
Her hobbies are typing and cooking

Loss Of Sight Fails To Stop Dr. Johnson

New civic head says 'We are approaching new phase of life

WASHINGTON

Dr. Phillip T. Johnson is still accepting the challenges of life though he lost his eyesight a few years ago from glaucoma.

His latest is his election as president of the Federation of Civic Associations.

"It's a challenge," said Dr. Johnson, 60, who is a practicing orthopedic surgeon (bone specialist) with offices at 1742 Sixth St., NW.

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"WE ARE approaching a new phase of life," he said of the Washington community, which he has served in various civic capacities over the years.

"We want to make the Federation representative of the community."

A committee of which he was chairman presented plans prior to his election last Friday to bring neighborhood groups and interracial organizations into the Federation.

"We will concern ourselves with all facets of community life," Dr. Johnson said. "We are interested in both adult and juvenile delinquency."

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HE MET perhaps what turned out to be his greatest challenge of a lifetime when he overcame the handicap of blindness that threatened to end his career.

"I was trained at Hines Hospital in Illinois," said the veteran of both world wars. "They teach the cane method there instead of using the seeing-eye dog.

"We swing the cane from side to side. We know that where the cane touches we can walk. It is equal in that respect to the dog. We are taught how to cross streets with or without traffic lights.

"Drivers raise their motors when they start," he added. **"We start just before the motor reaches its peak."**

He learned to judge direction and the movement of traffic by sound.

DR. JOHNSON was a lieutenant colonel in the Medical Corps during World War II.

He is a former member of the faculty of Howard College of Medicine, where he was head of the orthopedics department. He was chief of orthopedic service at Freedmen's Hospital.

For six years he was a staff member of orthopedic clinics at Children's and Providence Hospitals. He is past president of the Medico-Chirurgical Society.

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DR. JOHNSON served a term on the District school board after World War II. He led the community fight in the rehousing of Cardozo High School at its present location.

"Perhaps the best compliment to his effectiveness on the board is that the judges wouldn't re-appoint him," a civic leader quipped.

Dr. Johnson started the junior civic group in the Federation in 1953 while serving as chairman of the education committee.

"WE PLAN greater participation by the junior group in Federation work" he said.

His wife is Mrs. Hortense R. Johnson, a registered nurse. The couple lives at 6111 Dix St., NE.

"She is my right hand," Dr. Johnson said.

Mrs. Johnson drives him to the office when he doesn't take a cab. "I can use the bus," he said.

The couple enjoys hi-fi, a favorite relaxing pleasure at home.

RECUPERATING — This picture of Newark Councilman Irvine I. Turner was taken at Martland Medical Center, where he is recuperating from a mild cerebral stroke suffered Nov. 7. The photo was taken a few hours before Mr. Turner's mother, Mrs. Mary Turner, died following a stroke suffered a month ago.

5 students honored at Md. State

PRINCESS ANNE, Md. — Five students at Maryland State College have been elected to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges," announces Dr. John Taylor Williams, president of the Eastern Shore College.

The undergraduates so honored are:

Miss Bernice Jenkins, 742 Princeton Pl., NW, Washington, D.C., a business education major with an overall average of 2.70; Miss Virginia Arnold, Rt. 4, Box 87, Bassett, Va., a business major, and Cleotha Lucas, 4100 5th St., NW, Washington, D.C., a history and government major.

Also, Richard Lunsford, 400 S. Stokes St., Harve De Grace, Md., a sociology major, and Samuel Branham, 3818 Ludlow St., Philadelphia, a history major.

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THE QUINTET will be honored in the semester during the special assembly known as honors convocation.

Miss Jenkins, a 1956 graduate of the East Deer - Frazier High School, Crieghton, Pa., is a junior class vice president, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority president, vice president of the women's council, student counselor, secretary of the student council, business manager of the YWCA, vice president of the business club, secretary of the Pan - Hellenic Council, student secretary to the Dean of Women and a member of the Ledger staff.

Miss Arnold, who graduated from Carver High School in Fieldale, Va., plans to be a teacher or enter secretarial work.

She is chaplain of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, secretary for the Ledger, member of the business club and a member of the women's Council. Her hobbies are reading, caring for children, typing and cooking.

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MR. LUCAS is freshman class president, editor of the college paper, and holds membership in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, student council, debating society, stagecraft, the AFROTC and the football team.

Mr. Lunsford is president of the senior class, president of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, president of the men's council, chairman of the student loan fund, vice president of the student council and of the Pan - Hellenic Council, vice president of the debating club, an honor student, and a member of the Yearbook Committee.

Mr. Branham, president of the YMCA, treasurer of the Pan - Hellenic Council, and treasurer of Pi Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

RICHARD LUNSFORD
He's a sociology major

SAMUEL BRANHAM
His field is history

MISS BERNICE JENKINS
She's secretary to the dean

CLEOTHA LUCAS
Editor of the college paper

Junkman will reap his share of gold coins found in pipe

PHILADELPHIA

Julius Bracey, 1222 Poplar St. has every reason to believe the Santa Claus spirit even though the fat-jolly fellow may not pay him a visit before Christmas.

Bracey, known as Willie-the-Junkman, is going to get his share of the gold treasure he found wedged in a piece of discarded drainpipe at 12th and Poplar two years ago.

Willie's share will be 36 percent of whatever the coins bring which is the deal is lawyer, Louis Mitchell Paul, made with executives of the estate of Dr. Marie Riegger, which will get the bulk of the find. The Reger family has been established as owners of the coins.

ALTHOUGH BRACEY is only getting a part of the money, it may add up to several times the face value of the hoard of gold coins he found.

The face value totals $5,542, but many of the coins are reported to be collector's items, which could very well turn out to be worth between $25,000 and $50,000.

Louis Paul, Bracey's lawyer said, "Bad luck has been plaguing the junkman since he lost his eye when he was attacked by hold-up men and a knife was stuck in his eye.

"Because he is totally blind in one eye he lost his job as a welder and became a scavenger."

Mr. Paul said that employers are hesitant to hire Bracey for fear his other eye may also become affected. The lawyer said the junkman and his wife are living from hand to mouth, being supported by the money she makes doing domestic work by the day.

Bracey plans to get a glass eye with his share of the treasure.

The two stipulations ending the two-year court dispute over the treasure were approved by Judges Ethan Allen Doty and Maurice W. Sporkin in Common Pleas Court No. 2 last week.

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THE FIRST stipulation was between the estate and Mrs. Lois G. Forer, Deputy Attorney General, representing the Commonwealth. In it, the Commonwealth gave up its claim, since proof had been offered that the coins were part of the Riegger estate, which also included $166,000 found in a box in her bedroom.

The second stipulation was between Bracey's lawyer and the estate.

Thurgood Marshall guest star at Alpha convention

PHILADELPHIA

One of the highlights of the 44th annual convention of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., being held here Dec. 27-31 will be the public meeting.

This event will be held Sunday afternoon Dec. 28 at Irvine Auditorium, 34th and Spruce Streets.

State and city officials will join members of the fraternity in a program highlighting the civil rights situation throughout the country.

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PRINCIPAL speaker will be Thurgood Marshall, chief of the NAACP's legal department, and generally acknowledged as the mastermind of legal battles against discrimination and other injustices.

During the program, the Alpha Award for achievement will be made to a nationally known person.

Kermit J. Hall, general chairman of the convention committee, says that early registration indicates that the convention of the oldest collegiate fraternity will draw more than 700 delegates.

The Sheraton Hotel will be convention headquarters.

Important matters having to do with the growth of the fraternity will come before the body during business sessions.

Announcement of the election for general president will also be made. Ballots were sent out to members during the fall. Other fraternity officers will be elected during the convention.

Judge Myles A. Paige of Brooklyn, N.Y., is general president. He is seeking reelection.

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RUNNING against him are: William Hale, Atlanta, Ga., professor of Sociology at Clark College; and W. H. Williams, Jackson, Miss., insurance and business man.

Dr. Charles A. Broaddus, president Eastern vice-president, is also seeking reelection.

Civil Defense Day on anniversary of Pearl Harbor

TRENTON — New Jersey will join the nation observing Civil Defense Day on Sunday, Dec. 7, the seventeenth anniversary of Pearl Harbor, State Director Thomas S. Dignan announced.

Towns and cities throughout the state in recent weeks have been heralding the coming of CD Day with billboard posters along the highways, radio reminders, and serialized news stories. Postal authorities also have cooperated by displaying some 40,000 posters throughout the country.

In nearly every community, the observance will begin on a solemn note when clergymen will deliver special Civil Defense Day sermons symbolizing the need for nation-wide preparedness.

THINKING OUT LOUD

THINKS IKE MADE GOOD MOVE IN SENDING "AMOS" TO MEXICO

By Ralph Matthews

WASHINGTON

FROM EAVESDROPPING around and about among my journalistic friends I gather that most of them are disenchanted over the fact that President Eisenhower selected Freeman D. Gosden to represent him at the inauguration ceremonies of the President of Mexico.

Mr. Gosden, for the benefit of the uninitiated, is one half of the famous radio team of Amos and Andy, which fact accounts for the objections of my more serious minded friends.

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NOW AMONG all of the boners that Mr. Eisenhower has pulled on race relations I believe that this is probably the least objectional and, in a sense, displays considerable brilliance, a quality for which he is not particularly distinguished.

Colored folk object because Amos is a blackface comedian, but this recommends itself to me as a very highly commendable choice, and is well in keeping with the middle of the road policies for which Mr. Eisenhower is especially adept.

It fits well into the world scheme of things. The Mexicans, be it remembered, are an admixture of colored and white-not quite dark enough to be classed with those among us of unmistakable African extraction and not quite fair enough to be identified as pure Nordics. The problem of just whom to send under the circumstances presented an administrative conundrum which would tax the wisdom of Solomon.

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FRESH IN THE executive mind is the horrible treatment accorded to Vice President Nixon on his recent Latin American tour.

Still smarting from the drubbing he took in the recent election, it was unthinkable that the second string quarterback should be subjected to more humiliation right at this time while still smarting from his home inflicted political wounds.

Adam Clayton Powell would have been an excellent choice being easily identified with any race to which he decides to attach himself, a fact proven when he was almost driven out of the Asian - African Conference in Bandung when he was mistaken for a white man, trying to pass for colored which was an original twist.

This was negated by the fact that a mere congressman was not sufficiently high on the roster of international protocol without causing some offense. The job called for someone of at least cabinet rank or no rank at all.

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IN SELECTING Mr. Gosden the president did a bit of ethnic fence straddling by selecting a man who by profession is colored but who is in actuality white. This was a happy solution to a very delicate problem which should have pleased everybody including the Mexicans and Mr. Eisenhower must be both mystified and chagrined to learn that his laudable effort at bending over backwards to satisfy even the most discerning camp follower, proving that you just can't please everybody no matter how hard you try.

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THE CRITICISM of our colored brethren is perhaps the most ill founded of all. They object to Messrs. Amos and Andy because they depict colored folk in a humorous light.

To me this is their greatest virtue and I honestly believe that during the 20 - odd years they have been a national institution, they have made a greater contribution to racial amity than all of the brotherhood movements rolled into one.

I don't believe anybody can hate anybody else while listening to Amos and Andy so that for 15 minutes a day we are in a spirit of universal goodwill.

They have also added richness to the American language. The main objection of most colored folks to Amos and Andy not that they represent us as they pretend, but because their character delineations are all too true.

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THE GREATEST curse of modern education is that it robs its victims of their ability to laugh at themselves, increases their sensitivities and keeps them constantly on the defensive. They mistake pomposity and affectation for solid accomplishment and they hate Amos and Andy because their brand of humor sticks a pin in their superficial self-esteem and deflates their exaggerated egos.

"But, the critics howl, "all colored people are not like that." Nobody said they were and any series; which depicted all colored people as honorable upright lovable citizens would be equally false. But there are enough Amoses and Andys extant in every community from Maine to California to make the picture a reasonable facsimile of life.

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THERE IS A saying, "those whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

The first step in that direction is to lose one's sense of humor.

Deliver me from a man who has forgotten how to laugh and the same goes for a race or group.

Amos and Andy helped to keep our funny bone lubricated if we but had the wit and tolerance to sit back and have a good belly laugh without getting things all mixed up with our social and political aspirations.

Former tenant seeks $70,000

BALTIMORE

James Kenneth Easley Jr., 500 block N. Carrollton Ave., has filed suit in Superior Court with Christopher Foreman as his attorney to collect $20,000 damages from Mrs. Nellie Patterson, the 500 block N. Carrollton Ave., identified in court papers as her former landlady.

Mr. Easley alleged that Mrs. Patterson caused him to be falsely arrested in June and charged with theft of $500 from her apartment.

Although completely freed of the charges, Mr. Easley told the court that he suffered humiliation, mental agony, and injured reputation.

Rhodes to get school board appointment

PHILADELPHIA

E. Washington Rhodes, publisher of the Philadelphia Tribune, is expected to be appointed to the board of education at a meeting of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas on Thursday.

He will succeed Dr. John P. Turner, who died in September after 23 years service. The appointment is for a six-year term.

LOVE LEAPS OCEAN FOR PARIS YULE WEDDING

(Story in Column 4)

The Afro-American

67th Year, No. 21 BALTIMORE, MD., DECEMBER 20, 1958 NATIONAL EDITION 28 Pages ★★★★★★★★ Price: 15 Cents

Admit Dumping Her Body In River

(Story in Column 2)

Records Or Jail

It's Most Hush-Hush

If true, it could be the nation's most explosive secret. See Samuel Hoskin's 'Reporter's Row' on Page 3.

How To Hold Your Husband

Some timely tips for girls, and the boys, too, who are seeking a happy marriage.—Magazine Section.

Last Chance For Coloring Contest

AFRO offers 25 big cash prizes for boys and girls under 12. Details in Magazine Section.

Tan 18 In Big League Basketball

Sam Lacy lists stellar cagers and reports there's not a club in pro ranks that has not had a colored player.—Magazine Section.

Tells court he strangled friend put body in river

The "River Murder" case is closed.

Behind District Jail bars and in the conscience of Philmore Clark, 42-year - old government carpenter, is the personal reason why he strangled to death and dumped into the Anacostia River last Sept. 7, the body of Mrs. "ruth Reeves, 36, with cement wired to her leg.

Clark, estranged father of four and formerly of the 200 block C St., NE, had denied any connection with the slaying until Wednesday when he pleaded guilty to second degree murder. He made this plea instead of going through a trial on a first degree murder charge, and facing the electric chair if convicted.

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DISTRICT COURT Judge John Sirica asked Clark if he knew his rights and put him under oath before accepting the guilty plea. Clark, dressed in prison wear and quiet-spoken, said he did. Clark then pled guilty to the killing.

Frederick Smithson, assistant U.S. Attorney, explained to the court that the first degree murder charge on which Clark had been indicted, was not pressed because the case was "wholly circumstantial."

Smithson said there was a question of unpremeditation because Clark had lived with and supported Mrs. Reeves for almost ten years.

The government, however, felt it had an airtight first degree case based on evidence and testimony that pointed to a "lover's quarrel," sudden strangulation and a sudden realization of what had been done before deciding to get rid of the body.

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CLARK'S ATTORNEY, Denis K. Lano, said that during counsel with Clark at District Jail last Friday and after talks with his relatives and with the U.S. Attorney's office, Clark decided to plead guilty to second degree murder. He faces a possible penalty of 20 years to life.

This is the police report and government case Clark faced:

Three small boys while fishing after school under the East Capitol St. Bridge called police after they saw a pajamaclad body of Mrs. Reeves in the Anacostia River. Tied to the left leg with wire was a half cement block.

From that Monday (Sept. 8) to the next morning the body was at the morgue unidentified. The description running in newspapers caught the eye of a downtown building superintendent who notified police.

• • •

AT THE MORGUE he identified the body as that of Mrs. Ruth Reeves, one of the building elevator operators who seldom failed to call in if she was to be late or absent from work.

Police went to Mrs. Reeves' duplex apartment in the 200 block 34th St., SE, where they found signs that a struggle had taken place.

Neighbors had heard no struggle but had noticed that Mrs. Reeves' car had been parked in front of the apartment since Sunday morning (Sept. 7) and remained there after her arrival. She was seen

(Continued on Page 2)

MISS BERNICE HOLLOMAN
Wedding in Paris, wedding breakfast at in-laws' villa in Spain

Va. pupils in class

WASHINGTON

Eighteen children from closed Warren High School in Front Royal, Va., were registered in District schools this week.

The group was brought to Washington by local citizens comprising the Front Royal Educational Fund Committee.

(See Photo on Page 19)

"We have had wonderful cooperation from the schools here and wonderful understanding from the homes in which the children have been placed," said Mrs. Burma Whitted, a member of the committee.

A press conference was conducted Wednesday by Mrs. Whitted, Prof. Frank Coleman and Mrs. James E. Scott, also committee members, together with the children at the National Cathedral School for Women's Club, 1601 R St., NW.

CONDITIONS AT the jim-crow schools in Arkansas were described by Faye L. Coleman, 17, a student in the group.

There were 8 of them who boarded at the segregated school at a distance of 50 miles from home for many.

They were admitted to Warren High by Federal District Court order. Governor Almond closed the school under so-called massive resistance laws.

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"IT WAS a very old and very cold building," the attractive dark-haired girl said of the dormitory. "We had to stay

(Continued on Page 2)

Studies destroy old housing myth

PHILADELPHIA

The belief that whites will not live in mixed housing areas is completely false.

This is the police report and government case Clark faced:

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(Continued on Page 2)

Fired teacher files suit which results in weighty problem

PLAQUEMINE, La.—Judge Paul B. Landry Jr. of the state district court has a weighty problem on his hands —and he says it may take at least two months to do something about it.

Miss Louise Singleton, who was fired for "failure to keep order in classes and unsatisfactory teaching methods" in May, 1957, charged in her suit for re-instatement that she was ousted because she was too fat.

Sam Distefano, school supervisor in Iberville Parish School system where Miss Singleton taught for 14 years, agreed. She weighs an estimated 325 pounds.

Paris site of wedding

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

An ancient Roman Catholic church in a small village just outside Paris, France will be the scene as a 1941 Douglass High School graduate and popular Baltimore beautician is wed to the son of a prominent socially prominent French family.

On Dec. 27, petite, five-foot tall, 23-year-old Miss Bernice Holloman, 1604 W. North Ave., owner of the Salon Hollomans, will be married to Gerard Pochonet, 34, the only son of silver-tongued Baron Pierre Marcoux, an oil and ship-building heiress and socialite, and M. Pierre Pochonet, millionaire owner of the French National Soccer Association.

The groom-to-be is a distinguished musician, owner of a French jazz band, a graduate of Sorbonne of Paris in drafting and art and is a writer on the staff of a famous

U.S. gives Ala. official 9 days to reach decision

By MARY STRATFORD
AFRO Staff Correspondent

MONTGOMERY, Ala. —"Produce the records or go to jail."

That is a simple statement of the choice Alabama officials have after receiving an order from Federal District Court Judge Frank Johnson.

The order, calling for the officials to appear Friday, Dec. 19 with the records, results from swift action by the Civil Rights Commission.

After adjourning for a recess at noon Tuesday, the Commission turned over to the Justice Department the records of proceedings so far.

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THIS RECORD documented the refusal or failure to testify and the defiance of subpoenas calling for the registration records of six Alabama counties.

On Wednesday, the United States attorney for the district asked Judge Johnson to issue a court order for the officials and their records.

The following day, Thursday, the six county registrars received the orders.

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ALSO RECEIVING a court order to produce records was Alabama Circuit Judge George C. Wallace of Clayton.

Judge Wallace had impounded registration records from two counties under his jurisdiction — Barbour and Bullock.

In defying the Commission's original subpoena, he said the group challenged the authority of the court and that he would jail anyone who tried to take the records.

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ARCHITECT of this rebellion was John Patterson Jr., distinguished musician, owner of a French jazz band, a graduate of Sorbonne of Paris in drafting and art and is a writer on the staff of a famous

felt about the matter, he replied:

"Well, I don't feel very well about it."

Emphasizing that he took pains to see that southerners were included in the group, he said:

"Now that kind of a commission (three northerners and three southerners) goes down and, under authority of the Congress which has given them the power of subpoena, is defied and they have had to ask the Justice Department to place this case before a Federal court.

"I think this a rather sad sort of thing because all the way around, we are running into this refusal of complying with the basic laws of the land; laws that have been upheld by our courts as legal and proper."

He said that he would like for the commission to be continued. The commission is slated to expire 60 days after making its report to Congress next Sept. 9.

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS Law setting up the Commission was approved Sept. 9. The Commission was to function for two years.

However, because of delays in the selection of Commission personnel by the President and the approval of those nominees by southern Congressmen, the Commission was late in getting started on its investigation of denial of voting rights of Negro citizens.

The President said last week:

"I should like to have it continued because its work, I think, it's becoming now more factual and real than it was possible before."

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ALTHOUGH the Commission, in its two - day investigation, was denied access to official records, it heard a procession of witnesses who told of their futile attempts to register.

A total of 31 colored citizens resigned their jobs because of what they called "intimidation."

They still, however, will be required to appear at Friday's hearing.

IN WASHINGTON Wednesday, President Eisenhower said the actions of the Alabamans appear defiantly.

Asked by a reporter at his weekly press conference how he

Flash News In Brief

The Happiest News Of The Week

NEW YORK — Governor Harriman said last week that he would work as a private citizen next year to bring pressure on the legislature for enactment of a state law similar to the city's Sharkey - Brown-Isaacs Law prohibiting racial discrimination in the sale or rental of private multiple dwellings.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. — Details of a bill slated to be introduced in the Rhode Island Legislature would make it illegal to make racial or religious distinctions in the sale or rental of any kind of living accommodations in the state, exempting only property owned and controlled by religious or denominational interests.

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CHARLESTON, W. Va. —Jim Jarrett, former coach at Garnet High School, was appointed last week as head basketball coach at Charleston High School, one of the largest integrated schools in the state. After leaving Garnet in 1956, Mr. Jarrett served as a social science instructor and assistant coach for two years at Charleston High.

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COLUMBUS, Ga. — The Rev. Robert B. McNeill, rector of the center of a controversy within the First Presbyterian Church because of his views on racial harmony, was elected last week as president of the Columbus Ministerial Alliance for 1959.

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RENO, Nev. — Nevada's 94-year old law barring interracial marriages was declared a violation of the 14th Amendment last week, thus permitting labor leader Harry Bridges 58, to wed a Japanese American secretary. Nevada, 32 nd similar law was declared unconstitutional in California three years ago.

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HOIXE, Ark. — Edward Ring, a 54-year - old segregationist, was defeated in the race for a school board post by E. L. Layne, a 48-year - old rice farmer, who took no public stand on the desegregation issue. Hoxie's schools were integrated in 1955.

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PHILADELPHIA — Dr. William C. Wheaton of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute on Urban Studies, last week that studies conducted in Philadelphia "have completely destroyed the myth that whites will not buy homes in areas occupied in part by non-whites.

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ATLANTA — The Fulton County (Atlanta) Grand Jury last week called for creation of a permanent committee of white and colored citizens to lift the "racial curtain" which it said has descended on the community. The jurors also urged that "elected public officials refrain from name calling and inflammatory statements and that they realistically examine their positions in the light of recent judicial decisions."

Roundup Of The Week's Newsmakers

HOUSTON, Texas — **Mrs. Charles E. White,** the first colored person to be elected to the Houston School Board, told police last week that air pellets struck the windefield of her car while it was parked at a church. **Mrs. White** dismissed the incident, as well as the burning of a small cross on her lawn 10 days after her election, as the work of pranksters.

WASHINGTON — Authorities on the Presidency last week said "nope" to claims that **President Eisenhower** last week became the oldest man to hold office in the White House, having reached 68 years and 55 days. **Andrew Jackson** was only 21 days shy of 70

Marriage held to be a right

RENO, Nev. — "Marriage is a right, not a privilege."

This declaration by Federal District Judge Taylor Wines overthrew a 94-year-old Nevada law against interracial marriages and permitted Harry Bridges to wed Noriko Sawada, an American of Japanese descent.

The head of the West Coast division of the International Longshoremen's Union was refused a license three times by the office of Washoe County Clark Harry K. Brown.

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WITH HIS ATTORNEY, Samuel Francovich, Bridges went to Judge Wines who issued an order for him to be given a marriage license.

It was at this time that the judge said "Marriage is a right..."

The couple made it back to the clerk's office just before closing time, procured the license and were united by justice William Beemer.

Requesting privacy for the ceremony, Bridges, 58, told newsmen:

"This is private. It's my marriage and my last one. I might add, because I'd never

(Continued on Page 2)

Ga. not jim crow U.S. judge told

(Special to the AFRO)
Photo On Page 9

ATLANTA — Georgia has no policy of segregation in state supported colleges, the chancellor of the university system told a Federal court last week.

But he failed to explain why not a single person of color has been allowed to attend the University of Georgia in its 172-year history.

The chancellor, Dr. Harmon Caldwell, made the statement during trial of suit filed by three women seeking admission to the Georgia State College of Business Administration.

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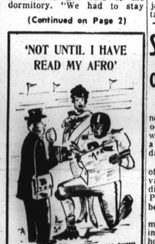
DR. CALDWELL'S testimony was rebutted by the Rev. Samuel W. Williams, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church and professor of philosophy at Morehouse College.

"The registrar and late president of Georgia State College said they were acting on orders of the State Board of Regents when they refused admission

(Continued on Page 2)

'NOT UNTIL I HAVE READ MY AFRO'



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No Santa, But Charlie's An Expert On Reindeer

He does the impossible in bringing animals 5100 miles

WASHINGTON

Charles W. Thomas is best bet to Claus into Washington by 14 days. And where Santa only has eight reindeer (nine if you count Rudolph), Mr. Thomas came with 50 reindeus a caribou, a porcupine and a white-fronted goose.

The reindeer herd is a Christmas gift from Alaska to the nation.

Mr. Thomas, senior zoo-keeper at the National Zoological Park and in charge of all animals with hooves, was chosen to escort the reindeer from Alaska because, according to Zoo Director Theodore Reed: "If anyone could do it, Mr. Thomas could. He is the best animal man I have ever known."

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MR. THOMAS had to call on all of his 12 years' experience at the zoo to carry out his assignment.

Odds were against his success. No one before had been able to transport reindeer over such a distance.

Even the kindest critics predicted that he would lose half of the herd en route.

Reindeer, although accustomed to rugged Arctic living, are very susceptible to respiratory diseases and "travel" fever if captured and shipped.

• • •

MR. THOMAS and J. Lear Grimmer, associate zoo director, arrived in Kotzebue, Alaska in November.

For three days they tracked, corralled, caught and tied the wild reindeer.

(Despite the docile temperament that our Christmas legends give them, reindeer are tough, full of fight and hard to domesticate. Especially dangerous are their antlers and hooves — they can kill a man with them footing in ice and snow. They stand a little over three feet high and weigh about 300 pounds.)

Once caught, the animals were given medicine to ward off sickness and tranquilizers to reduce their aggressiveness. It was also Mr. Thomas' task to accustom the animals to new eating habits.

THEN CAME the 5,000 - mile trip to Washington — by plane, boat, train and truck.

The herd was flown the 650 miles from Kotzebue to Anchorage in an Alaska Air Command transport.

There, they were taken by train to Seward where they boarded the llamma, an Alaskan liner, for the 1400-mile voyage to Seattle, Wash.

They traveled the 3100 miles from Washington (the state) to Washington (the city) in a trailer-truck provided free by Consolidated Freightways Inc.

The 40-foot trailer was set up in individual stalls with 10-inch-deep alfalfa mattresses.

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TWO TWO-MEN teams of drivers drove the route. Meanwhile, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Grimmer were right on the trailer with their charges.

They fed them, made them comfortable and even "babied" them when necessary.

At Chicago, Mr. Thomas left the trailer to take a plane for Washington so he could arrange a suitable reception for them.

THE REINDEER also made their televisions debut in Chicago where they were unloaded and taken to the zoo to "stretch their legs."

The unloading operation required 18 minutes per deer. Two strong men were stationed at the antlers while another held a board behind the deer's rear hooves to keep it from kicking.

On arrival in Washington, the deer got another grand reception complete with a "press conference."

They will also "star" in the annual Christmas Pageant of Peace next Tuesday (Dec. 23) when President Eisenhower will light the National Community Christmas Tree in President's Park, just south of the White House.

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MR. THOMAS received warm praise for his handling of the difficult assignment.

Reindeer are something new for him although he has had experience with animals as exotic as deer, wild horses, the rhinoceros, hippopotami, tapir, camels and llamas.

The 48-year-old Washington native is the father of a 19-year-old daughter who is a nurse.