'Separate But Equal' Schools Doctrine Not Cast Into Discard by Sipuel Case

By ART CARTER

WASHINGTON

The United States Supreme Court's decision in the Sipuel case, in which the State of Oklahoma was ordered to provide a legal education for all its citizens at the same time, was, in effect, a reaffirmation of the Gaines decision. The ruling, though hailed as another step toward attainment of full educational rights, still leaves open for argument the issue of "separate but equal" facilities.

In the Sipuel case, the high court held that the State must not only provide any sort of educational training that whites can get in State-supported schools for colored students, but also must provide it as quickly as it does for any other group.

Equality Theory Untouched

The high court's ruling said nothing about the "separate but equal" doctrine which Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel of the NAACP national legal staff, asked that it clarify when arguing the Sipuel case last week.

Mr. Marshall said Tuesday that the separate but equal doctrine was not involved in the Sipuel case inasmuch as there was no separate school to compare with the University of Oklahoma's Law School.

"Certainly, you can't compare something with nothing," he pointed out.

The issue will be raised in two other pending NAACP cases involving education, Mr. Marshall asserted, referring to the Sweatt case in Texas and the Louisiana case.

A third case, in South Carolina, is pending, but no decision as to what course will be followed there has been planned.

Sweatt Case Issue Cleared

In the Sweatt case, now on appeal in Texas courts, the petitioner, Heman Sweatt, was given an opportunity to attend a separately established law school at Prairie View University, after denial of admission to the Texas University Law School.

He refused this on the grounds that the two schools are not equal —and Mr. Marshall points out that there can be no equality where separation exists.

The NAACP chief attorney contends that since the Gaines decision in 1939, the lower courts have been whittling away at the "separate but equal" doctrine until now it means "substantially equal."

"Substantially equal" never can be equal, Mr. Marshall continued as the phrase itself means "almost equal."

Judge's Decision Attacked

Judge Roy C. Archer of the Texas court decided that the law school at Prairie View University was "substantially equal" to that of the University of Texas, since instruction offered is the same and is taught by university professors.

The school is now operating with three students in Austin. A library of 10,000 volumes was ordered for the institution several months ago.

The Sweatt case has been set for hearing on Jan. 29 in the Third Court of Civil Appeals in Texas.

"We intend to fight this thing to the last ditch as 'separate but equal' is not going to work," Mr. Marshall said.

"Mere segregation denies equality," he declared, as "equality requires an interchange of ideas among students of different groups."

Impact of Ideas Lacking

He further pointed out that if it were possible to have buildings and libraries the same size and an equal faculty (if there is such a possibility), there still would be no equality without the impact of ideas of one group on another.

He added that all law school deans admit this.

Later, at a meeting of the Capital Press Club, Mr. Marshall declared it is the job of the weekly press and the liberal white press to keep hammering away at segregation with a plan to show what harm it does to the country as a whole—not merely to colored citizens.

Warns Against Compromisers

He urged newsmen to beware of so-called liberals who give lip service to campaigns to end segregation but welch when it hits home.

"They are no better than Bilbo was as he advocated separate but equal facilities," Mr. Marshall emphasized.

The NAACP attorney added that the weekly press has an added responsibility—that of exposing the persons within their own group who subscribe to the separate but equal theory for self aggrandizement.

Hits So-Called Leaders

He declared there is no good reason why a doctor, school official or community leader should be permitted to advocate a separate but equal policy simply to get himself a better job or advance his own standing in the community.

"The average colored man is opposed to segregation because he faces it daily, but those who are economically benefited don't bother too much about it," Mr. Marshall asserted.

"They don't have to ride street cars, walk a mile for a meal or attend inferior schools. They have their own cars and can go to Harvard," he stated.

Urges All to Join Fight

In concluding his talk, Mr. Marshall said: "You can't just agree that segregation is bad, you must take a stand against it and prepare to do something about it."

He also emphasized that the NAACP intends to carry on the fight against segregation in education, voting and otherwise until it is won.

BRACKETED BY BRASS—George M. Lane (center), of 715 Brunt St., Baltimore, found himself sandwiched in between two Generals at a holiday party at Fort Meade, where Mr. Lane, an Army civilian employee for 13 years, is messenger for the General Staff. On one side is Maj.-Gen. John T. Lewis, Second Army Commander, and on the other, Maj.-Gen. Rob ertB. McClure, Second Army Chief of Staff.

Violent Deaths Doubled in December, Report Shows

Some 14 persons lost their lives through violence during December, twice the number reported for the previous month.

Of the total, six were victims of slayings, three auto deaths were reported, two persons succumbed to fall injuries, fires claimed two other lives and one man was crushed to death.

The year ended with the largest number of violent deaths being reported in August. That number was 17. The month of June followed with 16, and January and March had 15.

December and May had 14, each; April and July, 12, each; September, 10; November, 7; October, 6, and February, 5.

December Deaths

A chronological daily list for December follows:

Dec. 1—Benjamin Carey, 72, 1706 Laurens St., fire.

Dec. 5—Vance Mellon, 54, of 543 S. Paca St., fatal fall.

Dec. 5—William Foster, 70, of 13 N. Stockton St., fatal fight.

Dec. 8—Miss Lavonia Newman, 21, of 1620 Druid Hill Ave., slain.

Dec. 8—David Brown, 35, of 250 N. Exeter St., auto death.

Dec. 9—Walker Lewis, 43, of 644 Aull St., auto death.

Dec. 15—Miss Lucy Jenkins, 21, of 216 S. Sharp St., auto death.

Dec. 17—Frederick Stewart, 13, of 1547 N. Gilmor St., shot in an attempted robbery.

Dec. 23—Louis Brown, 27, of 1115 N. Wolfe St., crushed to death.

Dec. 24—James Simmons, 25, of 924 S. Paca St., slain.

Dec. 25—Bernard Williams, 35, of 104 W. York St., slain.

Dec. 25—Mrs. Florence McKim, 64, of 602 Brune St., fire victim.

Dec. 26—Hanibal Bowie, 38, of 2539 Pennsylvania Ave., slain.

Dec. 28—Alexander Bass, 78, of 1158 N. Carey St., fall from a third-story window.

Church Raised $63,000 in '47

Metropolitan Plans Expansion Program

WASHINGTON

Metropolitan Baptist Church, 1224 R St., N.W., has completed its organizations program for the year. The audit report shows that during 1947 the church raised $63,715.89 in all departments. The treasury balance as of Jan. 1, was $103,110.37, which represents retrenchment for the extension program.

The church plans to build a three-story annex with basement on the site of the old garage next door. Construction will begin about March 1. The new building will contain over 50 rooms including a gymnasium, church offices, dining room, space for a day care center, and classroom for religious education.

To Have Dormitory

Metropolitan's congregation also has voted to purchase property at 1701 13th St., N.W., to be used as a dormitory for working girls who desire a touch of home life while working away from home.

A new office of assistant pastor and director of church activities has just been created. The pastor's son, the Rev. Oswald G. Smith, a graduate of the Howard University School of Religion, was appointed to the new position.

The church is now in the midst of its annual revival. Dr. R. A. Banks, pastor of the Young Street Baptist Church, of Charleston, W.Va., is guest revivalist.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE GROUP RAISES $496 AT MEETING

The seventh annual meeting of the Washington Conference of the Women's Home and Foreign Missions Service was held last week and at Mt. Zion Methodist Church. The meeting netted $496.

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15 Organizations Pledge Aid in FEPC Bill Fight

WASHINGTON

Representatives from 15 civic, religious and labor organizations, meeting at the 12th Street YMCA last week, pledged active co-operation to help get Fair Employment Practice Bill, S-984, passed by the 80th Congress. The Washington Council for a Permanent FEPC sponsored the meeting.

Elmer W. Henderson, executive secretary of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, which is co-ordinating the national effort to pass the bill, told the group of the progress of the legislation thus far.

Henderson asserted that the bill will pass if sufficient pressure can be mobilized to break the filibuster threatened by Southern senators.

Plan to Raise Funds

Plans were made for a fund raising drive, and a committee was organized with W. S. Calloway of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, as chairman. The local group will act as host to the National Conference on Fair Employment Legislation here in March.

The FEPC measure has been introduced by Senator Irving M. Ives of New York, and a bi-partisan group of co-sponsors in the Senate and House. The bill is in the Senate Labor and Welfare Committee and, according to Chairman Robert A. Taft of Ohio, will be acted upon this month.

Organizations Represented

Among those present at the meeting were:

John E. Lee, Washington Ethical Society; Arthur H. Fawcett, department of social relations, Episcopal Church, Washington Diocese; Mrs. Arthur Fawcett, Women's Organization of Episcopal Church, Washington Diocese;

Mrs. Geraldine D. Elliott, Washington Pan-Hellenic Council; Miss Ida Fox, Committee for Racial Democracy; Alexander Weinstein, B'nai B'rith; Elton Rayack, Chapter 838 Potomac; Mrs. Harriet Calkins, Interchurch Fellowship; Mrs. Bernard Dodder, Washington City Presbytery;

Charles R. Braxton, National Alliance, Postal Employees; Miss Alice C. Hunter, Parent-Teachers' Association; Miss Helen V. Acree, American Veterans' Committee; Vernon Crane, Americans for Democratic Action; C. A. McCane, Brookland Civic Association; H. C. Haging, Mrs. Muriel M. Alexander, A. Sandle, and W. W. Blocker.

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RULES

1. Entries should be from 500-1000 words in length.
2. Entries should be written with pen and ink or typewritten with double spacing.
3. Entries will be judged on subject matter, syntax, grammatical construction.
4. Entries MUST be in no later than midnight, February 12 and should be sent to the National Director of Education, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, —529 Gold Street, Baltimore 17, Md.
5. Local and National prizes will be awarded the winners.

Write MISS EVELYN D. WILKEY, National Director of Education, 529 Gold Street, Baltimore 17, Md., or CALL MA. 0328

Morgan Teacher Named Co-Head of Wallace Group

Dr. Alexander J. Walker of the department of education of Morgan State College has been selected as co-chairman of the Maryland for Wallace Committee, it was announced this week by Harold Buchman, secretary.

Mr. Buchman also announced that the 104th Medical Regiment Armory will be the scene of a convention that will launch a new party in the State of Maryland on Feb. 15. The call to the convention states, in part, he said:

"The people of Maryland will respond to Henry A. Wallace. We must have a choice in 1948. Neither major political party will nominate a candidate who will carry forward the Roosevelt program.

Present Parties Unsatisfactory

"In Maryland the voting records of the Democratic Congressmen, who voted down the line with the GOP, show a complete disregard of the people's needs. The sales tax in Maryland is also a bitter reminder of the failure of both parties to furnish progressive leadership.

"Nor can we ever expect either the Democratic or the Republican Parties to make any serious attempts to eliminate segregation and discrimination in Maryland.

Emphasis on Masses Ahead

"Baltimore will always be plagued with slums so long as there is no people's party in existence to champion our needs. The refusal of the Governor to accept Federal funds to aid State education reflects the neglect of our basic educational requirements.

"The half-hearted efforts to furnish adequate medical and hospital facilities will never succeed until a party representing the aspirations of the citizens of Maryland leads the way.

"Sales taxes, slums, broken down schools, high disease rates, segregation — these are the problems a new party will tackle."

Tailoring Instructors Sought for Vets' School

Three full-time tailoring instructors are being sought for School No. 456, the new veterans vocational school soon to begin classes at 2614 Pennsylvania Ave.

The jobs pay from $2,400 to $3,000 a year depending on the qualifications and experience of the applicants. Interested persons should apply to the Department of Education, 3 E. 25th St., to James L. Proctor, Room 107.

Chester Patrolman 27 Years Promoted

CHESTER, Pa. — Ellery Purnsley, a patrolman on this city's police force for almost 28 years, became its first colored detective last week.

His appointment was announced Saturday by Chief Andrew J. Desmond. It became effective on Monday.

Officers who were not white have done city detective work here in the past, but this marks the first time one has received a permanent appointment.

Purnsley, the father of two children, joined the force in March, 1920.

The father, Leon Sapp, is a veteran of two and one-half years' service in the Philippines and Okinawa. He is the son of Mrs. Cecelia Sapp of the Liberty Hotel. Young Sapp received the Asiatic-Pacific service medal, good conduct medal, Philippines liberation ribbon and World War II victory medal.

Mrs. Sapp, whom husband is unemployed at the present time, is often referred to as the "Cinderella Girl" because dame fortune has the habit of smiling on her at the right moment.

Delaware YMCA Leader Succumbs

WILMINGTON, Del. — Gomester T. Gilbert, one of the leaders in Delaware YMCA work, died Sunday at his home, 1327 Tatnall St., after a lengthy illness.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 15, at his home, with the Rev. Hilton R. James, pastor of W. Eighth Street Baptist Church, officiating.

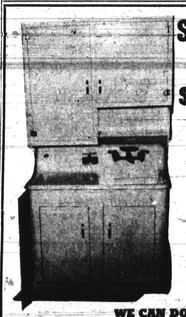
Both Mr. Gilbert and his wife, Mrs. Cora Gilbert, have long been identified with "Y" work.

Helped to Obtain Building

It was largely through their efforts that funds were contributed for the erection of the Walnut St. building at 10th and Walnut Sts., about seven years ago.

At the time of his death, Mr. Gilbert was chairman of the boys' work committee of the YMCA.

Widely known, he was a member of the Monday Club of Wilmington and the Pyramid Club of Philadelphia. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Lois Adams, of Hartford, Conn.



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WHEN HUGE VEHICLES CRASH—It's a pretty sure bet that something unusual results when two outsized vehicles meet up with each other. That's what happened in Baltimore when the Fire Department's hook and ladder truck, shown in the photo at left, encountered the truck shown in the second photo as it was being pulled off the sidewalk early Thursday at Carrollton Avenue and Mulberry Street. In the third photo, workmen are about to right the huge truck with the aid of the crane and pulleys of a third outsized vehicle.

—AFRO Photos by I. Henry Phillips

Dissatisfied Car Riders Invited to Rally Sunday

Complaints for PSC Hearing Jan. 20 to Be Summarized; Youth to Give Musical Program

If you have any gripes about service of the Baltimore Transit Co., the place to air them will be at the NAACP public meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday at Sharp St. Methodist Church. Admission is free to all.

The meeting was planned to summarize complaints to be presented at the hearing of the Public Service Commission in Suite 1701, Munsey Building, on Jan. 20.

Civic organizations, as well as the PSC, have been swamped recently with reports about irregular, overcrowded streetcars, and discourteous, bigoted, insulting drivers. Riders are asked to bring their complaints to this meeting to be co-ordinated.

BTC Facilities Outmoded

"All citizens have a responsibility to protest unsatisfactory service by the Baltimore Transit Co., William Muth, vice-president of the city council told the Frontiers Club on Tuesday.

Mr. Muth said that the BTC is endeavoring to adopt its 1916 rules and facilities to present-day operations. The result is overcrowding of 50% on streetcars and 25% on buses.

Highlights of the NAACP meeting, however, will be the appearance of 15 talented high school pupils in the annual program of voice, piano and oratory presented by the NAACP Youth Council.

The group will include Rosa Mae Turner and Richard Walters of

FRANK BOONE DIED IN HOSPITAL

Funeral services for Frank Boone, 40, of 722 N. Bruce St., who died in Franklin Square Hospital on Jan. 10, were held at the Metropolitan Funeral Home on Jan. 16. Interment was at Mount Auburn Cemetery.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boone of Siler City, N.C., he was the brother of Mesdames Lucille Henry, Lillie Durant, Ethel Mae Jones, Ruth Siler, Alma Chauffeur, and Ethel Peoples, Miss Elizabeth Boone and Jerome and Roosevelt Boone.

PCA Group Hits Welfare Attack

The Social Workers' Group of the Progressive Citizens of America has announced the circulation of a petition to all social workers protesting the attack on the City Welfare Department by the Commission on Governmental Efficiency and urging Governor Lane to call a special session of the State Legislature to reconsider the matter of an adequate welfare budget for 1948.

Accompanying the petition is a letter analyzing the Commission's report which points out that part of the report is a sober and objective analysis of various Welfare work problems and how Department procedures while the rest is a bitter attack on the social legislation. The report, according to the letter makes discriminatory remarks about colored persons and about the Department's union organization.

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Misses' Suits and Jackets $3.99 to $12.49

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Printed patterns. Cotton. Broken sizes.

$5.98 Cotton Housecoats $3

Floral and other prints. Not all sizes.

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High or Cuban heels. Tan, navy, red. Most sizes.

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Cardigans and slipovers in broken sizes. Lots of nicely styled sweaters in all colors. 3-12.

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