Elks go interracial and 'Bills' love it

Marian Anderson given sixth Lovejoy award

By SAMUEL A. HAYNES

ATLANTIC CITY — The program of integration initiated recently by the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World was a big feature of the 56th annual convention which opened here Saturday and will close Thursday with the grand ball.

The "Bills" who can now truly call themselves an international influence—delegates are present from Hawaii, Cuba and the West Indies—saw integration demonstrated in the social, religious and educational phases of the convention.

At the gala open air Birthday Celebration for Mrs. Mary M. (Cookie) Johnson, wife of the grand exalted ruler, and his press secretary, Clay J. Claiborne at the Carver Hall Apartments on Saturday night, Commissioner Thomas B. Wooten, public safety director, greeted the grand lodge and grand temple officials.

* * *

THE BACCALAUREATE sermon Sunday night at the Senior High School was delivered by Rabbi Martin Weitz of Temple Beth Israel. Heretofore only colored ministers were accorded this honor.

At the national oratorical contest Monday night, the Dixiecrat governors and their attorney generals who are openly defying the Supreme Court's edict to integrate their schools would have learned a lesson in cultural democracy were they present in the Senior High School.

The sons and daughters of Elkdom forgot all about race, color and creed to root as vigorously for the first white contestant in the history of the contest to win as they did for one of their own race.

The eloquent white youngster was William Lisenmeyer of Phoenix, Ariz., where he is a pupil at St. Marys Catholic High School.

* * *

HE WON OVER all the contestants in his state, five of whom were white, and won out again over all host opponents at the Elks' 7th regional oratorical contest held in Los Angeles.

The program of integration was initiated by George W. Lee, grand commissioner of education and approved by Dr. Robert H. Johnson, grand exalted ruler.

It was planned particularly to increase favorable public opinion toward greater compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling that public school segregation is unconstitutional and must be abolished.

* * *

IT IS PERTINENT to note that whereas five of the 10 white participants in the Elks' oratorical contest in Arizona were white, Arizona had maintained segregated schools until the Supreme Court's decision.

The civil liberties meeting Monday afternoon in the Senior High School was an impressvie interracial affair.

Governor Robert B. Meyner, Mayor Joseph Altman and State Senator Frank S. Farley paid glowing tributes to Marian Anderson, the world renowned contralto and Metropolitan Opera star, to whom the Elks awarded their sixth Lovejoy Medal.

Elks told to fight for full equality

ATLANTIC CITY (NNPA)—Elks are no longer interested only in grips, passwords and parades but are participating in the great American struggle toward full equality and freedom, Robert H. Johnson of Philadelphia, grand exalted ruler, declared Tuesday.

Delivering his annual report to the 56th grand lodge session, Mr. Johnson said the Elks will carry on this struggle until the freedom of each individual becomes a reality.

He recommended that the Elks develop the John Brown Farm in Maryland near the West Virginia border in memory of his ill-fated stand at Harpers Ferry, W. Va., to free slaves. He was captured and later hanged.

* * *

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER informed him on July 18, Johnson said, that he would assume leadership in restoring peace to the world and to curb colonialism.

Johnson also called upon Elks to continue the fight to end segregation in the public schools.

Elks must fight delays of state officials and school authorities in complying with the Supreme Court ruling that a prompt and reasonable start must be made toward desegregating the schools, Johnson said.

He added that Elks' educational committees in the Deep South "have pledged to support the fight every inch of the way."

Johnson called upon Elks to rededicate themselves to the elimination of second-class citizenship at home and colonialism abroad.

FOR AN ELKS program he proposed:

1. A national scheme of education, including the raising of $1,000,000 for scholarships.
2. Promotion of the principle of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.
3. Elimination of colonialism.
4. An American policy to bring about the understanding of all groups.
5. Development of the place of the Elks in the future America.

Civil rights 'symphony' urged by Elks speaker

By LOUIS LAUTIER

ATLANTIC CITY (NNPA)—Rabbi Martin H. Weitz of Temple Beth Israel, Sunday night urged adoption of a civil rights program to make the United States a symphony instead of a melting pot.

Delivering the baccalaureate sermon for the Elks Educational Department in the Senior High School auditorium here Sunday night, Rabbi Weitz said as a Jew he was tired of hearing America described as a melting pot. A melting pot, he said, is the lowest common denominator for everybody. "Why not speak of it as a symphony?" he asked.

* * *

"WE MUST BE more insistent than ever that the desegregation ruling of a year ago shall not become a dead-letter law." He was referring to the Supreme Court decision of May, 1954, against segregated public schools.

Rabbi Weitz urged that there be "a definite legal commitment" against lynching, that the civil rights section in the Justice Department in Washington be raised to a division, and that the anti-peonage laws be strengthened so to apply to Mexicans in the Southwest as well as colored people in the South.

He also said there should be insistence that there be no racial discrimination in the right to vote but that it be administered fairly and impartially in every state of the Union.

DURING THE program, the Addie E. Johnson Memorial Chorus of Philadelphia sang "O Sing unto the Lord" and "Remember Now Thy Creator." The Allendale Chorus, a men's group, directed by George M. Allen, of Atlantic City, also sang.

After the arrival of Robert H. Johnson of Philadelphia, grand exalted ruler, George W. Lee, commissioner of education, introduced Rabbi Weitz.

Flanked by two Elks' police guards and wearing the robe and cap of a doctor of laws, Johnson entered the auditorium.

* * *

BECAUSE OF THE intense heat, much of the program was skipped, but a number of the grand lodge officers seated on the platform were introduced.

Rabbi Weitz, in the course of his address, praised Dr. Ralph Bunche of the United Nations for working out a truce arrangement between the Arabs and Israelis. He said Dr. Bunche was "an outstanding spokesman of conscience and an expert craftsman" in dealing with boundaries and people.

Masonic leaders list annual visitations

WASHINGTON

Grand Commander Robert W. Campbell and Deputy Grand Commander William F. Turner of the John W. Freeman Grand Commandery Knights Templar of D.C. open their annual visitations on Sept. 1.

All visitations will be at Masonic Temple with Henderson Commandery No. 1 the initial participant.

Other visitations are Sept. 9, Simon Commandery, No. 1; Sept. 14, Gethsemane Commandery No. 2; Sept. 20, Mt. Calvary Commandery No. 4.

The commandery meets in annual conclave on Oct. 10, when officers for 1956 will be elected.

The annual visitations of Marie I. Smith Guild, Heroines Templar Crusades, are listed:

Sept. 9, Eleanor Guild; Sept. 22, Emanuel Guild; Sept. 27, Columbia; and Sept. 28, Belle E. Lewis Guild.

All visitations will be at Masonic Temple with Grand Princess Eleanor Davis and Grand Royal Advisor Martin L. Jackson leading.

The Order of Cyrenes visitations are as follows:

Sept. 8, Doreas Court; Sept. 9, Simon Court; and Sept. 23, Alica Court.

Gordon Named V. I. Governor

He's choice of Interior Dept. head

- Californian to succeed Alexander
- Organic Act next target of islanders

FRASER, Colo. — Walter A. Gordon of California (native of Atlanta) has been given a recess appointment by President Eisenhower as governor of the Virgin Islands, succeeding Gov. Archie A. Alexander, who resigned.

The new islands governor, 60, is currently serving as chairman of the California Adult Authority (State pardon board) and as chairman of the State Advisory Pardon Board appointed by Gov. Goodwin Knight.

* * *

WITH MR. Alexander's resignation effective Sept. 1, Virgin Islands leaders have expressed their determination to press for their next objective — revision of the Organic Act of 1954.

That information came from Norman Chelquist, white, secretary of the St. Thomas Labor Union, which sponsored an anti-Alexander mass meeting July 28, demanding the resignation of Governor Alexander.

A heart condition was the official reason for Mr. Alexander's resignation, announced by the White House last Thursday.

* * *

MR. GORDON, a close friend of Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U.S. Supreme Court, was the choice of Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay.

(As soon as the Islanders heard of the resignation of Governor Alexander, a committee urged Mr. Eisenhower to name Charles Claunch, government secretary in the islands, as governor.)

(Mr. Claunche, a native of Chicago, former employee at the White House and the only white person in Governor Alexander's administration, issued a statement declining to accept the post if offered.)

Since shortly after his appointment, Mr. Alexander has been the center of a political storm that came to a head last month with the gathering of a crowd of several hundred in a market place to demand his resignation or recall.

* * *

IN ACCEPTING Governor Alexander's resignation, dated Aug. 10, Mr. Eisenhower expressed concern about the state of Mr. Alexander's health and praised his administration of the Islands.

"On leaving your post," the President said, "you take with you my appreciation of the many excellent services you have performed and my best wishes for an early return to complete good health."

Discussing the Islanders' drive for revision of the Organic Act, which went into effect July 22, 1954, Mr. Chelquist, in a telephone conversation from St. Thomas, said the act places "too much authority in executive hands."

"Much of this authority should be delegated to the legislative branch," Mr. Chelquist declared.

He said that the Islanders would like to see a native Virgin Islander take over the governorship but added that this did not seem likely.

* * *

NEWS OF Governor Alexander's resignation came as a surprise to Washington newsmen whom he had told July 29 that he did not intend to resign.

Persons in the capital who know him, however, revealed that he has had a heart ailment for 10 years.

According to reports, he was examined by physicians on his last visit to the capital.

* * *

ANTHONY T. Lausi, director of the Office of Territories for the U.S. Department of the Interior, stated on Friday that the governor had been confined to a hospital in the Virgin Islands for a week.

Mr. Lausi said that doctors also advised another week of bed rest for the 57-year-old governor. His wife, Mrs. Audrey L. Alexander, is with him, Mr. Lausi said.

The Interior Department official pointed out that as governor Mr. Alexander had on July 22, 1954, been given one year in which to complete reorganization of the government of the Virgin Islands.

"He had an extremely difficult job—and we knew it," Mr. Lausi stated.

* * *

THE reorganization, plus Governor Alexander's allegedly "rough" manner toward his constituents, brought down the wrath of the Islanders.

This past spring a group of Republicans and Democrats launched a campaign for his removal. The CIO-sponsored mass meeting on July 28 went further.

It sponsored resolutions, calling upon the governor, himself, to resign and urging Congress to hold immediate hearings on the Organic Act.

In addition, the St. Thomas Labor Union wrote to President Eisenhower, declaring that the Organic Act had created a virtual dictatorship.

* * *

ISLANDERS claim that Governor Alexander hit the wrong note from the time of his arrival on the islands. They charge that his manner was "arrogant" and his language strong.

They say that he fired the incumbents from some jobs and imported his own assistants from the United States.

It was also charged that he ignored labor leaders, failing to include them in conferences and other discussions on economic problems in the Islands.

* * *

ANOTHER CHARGE brought against Governor Alexander was that he "hated" the Virgin Islanders and made derogatory remarks about them.

This was flatly denied by the governor.

He declared that he liked the people of the Virgin Islands and pointed out that heads of five of the island departments were residents.

He cited public works and educational projects which were initiated under his administration.

* * *

AT CIO headquarters in Washington, William J. Smith, field assistant to the executive vice president, said that he would be in St. Thomas and Charlotte Amalie on Labor Day.

The CIO will proceed to reorganize the hotel workers, in addition to the longshoremen, bakers, mutton workers and others now organized in the St. Thomas Labor Union, Mr. Smith said.

Concerning the resignation of Governor Alexander, he commented:

"I feel that the resignation is to the best interest of the U.S. Government and to the people of the Virgin Islands.

"The CIO labor union has for some time protested Governor Alexander's actions and his administration of island affairs.

"While I am sorry that the governor is in ill health, I do feel that his resignation will allow the forces of democracy to operate in the Virgin Islands and will create a better unity with the mainland."

* * *

OFFICERS of the St. Thomas Labor Union, in addition to Mr. Chelquist, are:

Percival Reese, president; Autain King, vice-president; Orado Wilson, treasurer; Mario Leonard Normil, recording secretary; Ithiel Melchoir, corresponding secretary; Archibald Williams, sergeant-at-arms;

Earle B. Ottley, Rodney Penna and Titus Codrington, executive officers; and Albert Sewer.

All of these officials are colored. Mr. Reese is a member of the Virgin Islands Senate.

* * *

ALTHOUGH the White House did not announce acceptance of Governor Alexander's resignation until Aug. 18, the resignation was submitted Aug. 10, the AFRO learned.

On Aug. 8, it was also learned, the St. Thomas Labor Union wrote to President Eisenhower complaining about the governor.

The letter mentioned "distrust of a man who has no respect for human dignity." It also stated:

"We cannot believe, Mr. President, that you can be pleased with the actions of an appointed governor who continually embarrasses his party and belittles the people whom he governs."

The letter also assured the President that the Islanders "would not resort to violence" and added that the party would do well to correct the mistake it allegedly made in the appointment of the governor.

* * *

BREAKING POINT in Mr. Alexander's relations with islands leaders reportedly came when Mr. Alexander awarded a $500,000 contract for a waterfront highway project on the island of St. Thomas.

Two construction companies reportedly offered bids for the job, one of them organized by a group of Mr. Alexander's Des Moines friends.

When the second company protested to the Interior Department that the Des Moines group had not conformed to conditions of the bid invitation, Mr. Lausi of the Office of Territories threw out both bids.

It is reported further that Mr. Lausi's office in Washington instructed Mr. Alexander to issue a completely new invitation for bids.

During the dispute, it was charged that the Des Moines group had been promised special privileges, including the use of construction equipment owned by the government.

HOWEVER, THE State Department started reacting even before the news of the occurrence appeared in print.

Late Monday afternoon, it is reported, a special TPS briefing was held in the U.S. Information Agency.

The decision was to "admit that the incident did occur," that it was unfortunate and to speed the necessary apologies to all concerned.

The suggestion also was made that the hostess and manager of the airport restaurant, Mrs. Mary Alley and Frank Mullen, be fired.

* * *

ONE OF THE clerical workers at the Indian Embassy said on Tuesday that "all kind of people have called to apologize." But members of the staff had been instructed to tell outsiders they knew nothing at all of the incident, she declared.

The Washington Bureau of the NAACP also revealed that Roy Wilkins, executive secretary, called the New York office from the West Coast and ordered a protest issued.

* * *

ACCORDING TO a report from attendants at the Houston airport, the incident may already have resulted in a change of policy. Insofar as a change of policy. However, no formal announcement has been made.

Tuesday morning a colored Wac and three other Wacs were served breakfast in Horizon House, the name of the restaurant.

Previously, however, there was no question regarding the discriminatory policy of the restaurant. Colored persons consistently were refused service.

On one occasion eight Cuban athletes were refused service. They had to go into the city to eat, and return for their flight.

* * *

FRANCIS POHLHAUS, counsel for the Washington NAACP Bureau, expressed the opinion that the racial segregation policy violates both CAA contract regulations and the federal constitution.

He pointed out that the CAA regulation is contained in the project application for federal aid. This section reads:

"The sponsor agrees that it will operate the airport for the use and benefit of the public on fair and reasonable terms and without unjust discrimination."

* * *

IT WAS this agreement which the CAA used a few years ago to force the Washington Airport to serve colored in its restaurant.

The same regulation also served as the instrument which resulted in opening the restaurant in the Baltimore Airport to colored.

Mr. Pohlhaus also referred to the court action of June, 1951, brought against the Kanawha County Airport, Kanawha County, W.Va.

In this case the U.S. District Court issued a decision which prohibited segregation at the airport and enjoined the Kanawha County and Sky Chiefs, Inc., from continuing segregation in the coffee shop and restaurant.

WHEN QUESTIONED regarding application of the contract regulation to the Houston Airport, however, John Hunter, chief of the general counsel's office, CAA, said he was not sure it bars racial discrimination.

"There has never been a court test on the issue, and we don't know about it," he declared.

Mr. Hunter said CAA files contain the following information of cases decided by court regarding racial segregation in airports.

1. Greater Cincinnati Airport in Covington, Ky., American Airlines.

The case was that of Henderson versus American Airlines, Inc. It was heard in U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York.

The decision granted the defendant's motion to transfer the case to the Eastern District in Kentucky. There was no ruling on the question of constitutionality.

It eventually was settled out of court by an agreement to admit colored to the restaurant.

2. Washington's National Airport, Nash versus Air Terminal Services, Inc. The U.S. District Court ruled that segregation was not violative of the Constitution or any act of Congress.

3. Air Terminal Services, Inc. versus Rentzel (Then CAA administrator). The case, however, involved the authority of the administration to enforce a regulation on Federal property.

The court upheld the CAA administrator.

4. A newspaper clipping on the Kanawha County case, sent in by the NAACP.

'Jimcrow Incident'

Furore narrowly avoided; case not closed

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

WASHINGTON

The "jim-crow incident" which occurred Monday at the International Airport, Houston, Tex., narrowly missed setting off an international furore, according to diplomatic sources here.

Despite a series of official apologies by Secretary of State John F. Dulles, it is understood that the matter is not yet closed.

From Mexico City, where Ambassador Mehta went following the incident, he has promised to "personally check into this matter."

ALTHOUGH THE Indian ambassador and his secretary, B. A. Rajagopalan, were not aware at the time that they were being segregated, the Civil Aeronautics Authority has launched an investigation.

Officially, the probe is limited to the Houston airport. It is understood, however, that CAA will investigate all of the major terminals in the South.

The objective is to prevent repetition of such an incident.

* * *

QUESTIONED LATER in Mexico City, Ambassador Mehta gave the following explanation of what occurred:

"This woman came over to our table and said to us, "Would you mind going into the private dining room?"

"We got up and followed her in there. I thought for a minute that it might have something to do with color, but my secretary disagreed and I was inclined to agree the matter his way."

* * *

HE SAID he thought they were moved into the small dining room for VIP (very important person) treatment, that the room was reserved as a special dining room for visiting diplomats.

"If I had suspected that color was involved, we would have left the dining room," he added.

* * *

K. R. PANDAN, press officer of the Indian Embassy here said the Ambassador and his secretary later met Mr. and Mrs. Percy Strauss of the Macy Department Store.

They were the guests of the Strausses while in Houston, Pandan said. He intimated that except for ill-timing of the meeting, the incident probably would not have occurred at all.

Pandan refused to comment on the possibility of the incident being used as material for anti-American propaganda.

* * *

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English Town Council pays wedding costs for girl, 16

LONDON (ANP) — Sixteen year-old Lindy Bedford got married in Reading, England, Saturday—and the Town Council paid for the wedding.

Lindy, born of a Jamaican father and an English mother, has been a ward of the Children's Committee of Reading since she was a baby.

Last week the aldermen and councilmen were among the guests at her wedding at All Saints Church. The council also paid for the reception.

* * *

THE BRIDEGROOM is 22-year-old Eustace Small, who left home in Barbados two years ago to come to England and now works in a factory. He took his bride to a terrace house he is buying in Reading.

Lindy, who lives in one of the committee's homes in Brownlow Rd., said she first met Eustace about a year ago when she was out walking. He called to her and she stopped and spoke to him.

They began courting, and last December he proposed. Said Lindy:

"He took me by surprise, but I said 'Yes' right away."

Mr. Ambassador, we also apologize

(An Editorial)

As Secretary of State John Dulles did on Tuesday, we also apologize for the humiliating incident which occurred Monday night in the International Airport restaurant in Houston, Tex.

Indian Ambassador Gaganvihori Lullubhai Mehta and his secretary, B. A. Rajagopalan, were shunted from the main dining room into a jimcrow room.

Mrs. Mary Alley, restaurant hostess, later explained the incident. She mistook the Indian officials for colored Americans.

Our apology, however, differs from that telegraphed by the Secretary of State.

His was motivated by diplomacy and protocol—in behalf of the Federal Government.

Our apology stems from the acute and painful awareness of 16,000,000 Americans of the incident's dull and agonizing meaning and is in their behalf.

Additionally, we apologize in behalf of millions of other Americans, who do not approve, and who are utterly ashamed, of the circumstances which made the Mehta incident possible.

Although we reject and abhor it, we also apologize for the anachronistic racial concept which spawned and nurtured these mean and reprehensible conditions.

If Ambassador Mehta were a student of sociology such as, say Gunnar Myrdal, he would know that these conditions are the real core of what has been aptly described as "An American Dilemma."

He would know, too, that the restaurant incident is part of an overall pattern, represented and defined by numerous other "incidents" which currently are sweeping the South.

For instance, last spring a minister was killed in Belzoni, Miss., because he insisted upon exercising his constitutional right to participate in public elections.

In Brookhaven, Miss., a few days ago, another person was killed in the courthouse yard for the same reason.

In a number of southern states the Ku Klux Klan, long dormant, is again raising its ugly head.

Numerous so-called Citizens Councils, collar-and-tie versions of the KKK, have been and are being organized in the area.

The basic doctrine of both organizations is "white supremacy" (another way of saying racism, and apartheid).

(This is proof that it can happen here.)

Aligned with these groups and/or doctrines are congressmen, state governors, attorney-generals, judges, legislators and numerous other public officials.

Together, they are fighting a rear-guard, last-ditch battle in the frantic hope of compromising democracy in the United States.

Their effort follows in wake of (and to some extent was stimulated by) the U. S. Supreme Court's May 17, 1954, decision outlawing segregation in public schools.

Theirs is a battle of desperation, of racial animosity, of national division.

But it is also a losing battle. The day will come (sooner than they think!) when they will be rioted, when justice and the Federal Constitution will triumph.

Then such disgraceful occurrences as the Mehta incident will not be impossible.

Until that time, however, we are ashamed and we apologize.

Anderson asks that Johnson be impeached

ATLANTIC CITY (NNPA)—Trezevant Anderson, Washington newspaper reporter, Tuesday, filed charges asking the impeachment of Grand Exalted Ruler Robert H. Johnson of Philadelphia.

The charges, filed with Grand Esteemed Leading Knight Bertram V. Gregory, allege that Johnson has violated various laws of the Elks' grand lodge, which held its 56th session here this week.

One count asserts that Johnson last April 26 refused to accept charges preferred by Anderson against William C. Hueston, grand secretary.

* * *

ANDERSON ALSO charges that Johnson appointed Charles P. McClane as commissioner of public relations in violation of the laws of the order. The Elks' constitution provides that all officers receiving salary and expenses of more than $2,000 shall be elected.

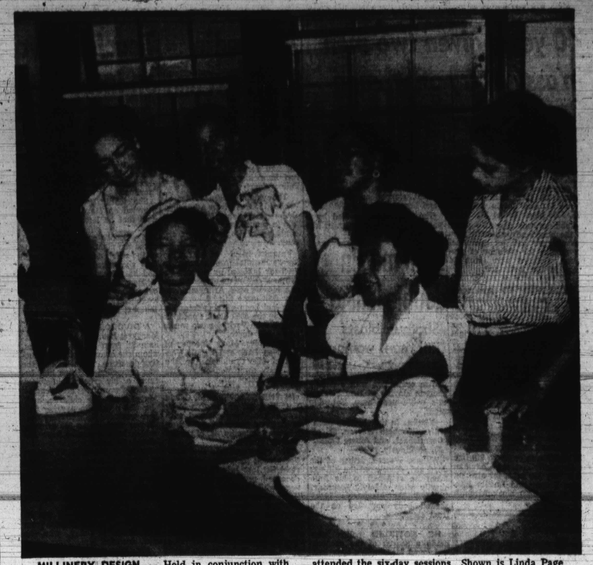
Minutes of the 1953 grand lodge, Anderson says, show McClane received $2,300 for expenses as commissioner of public relations, and in addition, a salary of $3123 a month from the Shrine department.

FREED IN AUTO DEATH

BALTIMORE — A charge of manslaughter by auto was dismissed, Friday, against Jerome H. Bailey, whose tractor-trailer ran over and killed a 7-year-old boy on a highway near here on Thursday.

FARM FUN—Miss Josephine Curry, Hickory, N.C., and junior at A. and T. College, mounts a cub tractor at the college farm. Many of the students spend happy hours of recreation at the college's 500-acre farm.

HALL OF FAME — One of the significant moments of the 38th annual convention of the National Beauty Culturists League's meeting in the District last week was the formal dedication of its national shrine and Hall of Fame at its national headquarters, 25 Logan Circle, Washington. Mrs. Cordelia Greene Johnson, left, is shown unveiling a mural with the assisiantce of artist Lucile D. Roberts, who did the painting depicting the development of the beauty culturist profession. The Hall of Fame honors 16 pioneers in the field.



MILLINERY DESIGN — Held in conjunction with the beauticians' convention was the National Institute of Cosmetology at Margaret Murray Washington Vocational school. Over 180 beauticians from 30 states attended the six-day sessions. Shown is Linda Page of New York on left creating a hat. On extreme right is Miss Maple Anderson of Tyler, Texas, the youngest participant in the conference.

AFRO Goes To Beauticians' Meeting

AFRO-AMERICAN August 27, 1955

LEARNING MAKE UP — Miss Mary Clarke, a member of the Carmen Murphy House of Beauty in Detroit, is shown instructing a class at the institute in the proper method of make up.

COURSE IN CHARM — Another course offered at the institute was one of charm through proper poise. Mrs. Mary M. Hill of Detroit, right, was instructor. Demonstrators are Precola De Vore, director of a D.C. modeling school, and Emma Cheatham, a model.

PLANNED CONVENTION — Responsible for the successful convention, which will move to Detroit next year are Mrs. Maude Gadsen, NYC; Mrs. Bessie Mercer Freeman, D.C., treasurer; Mrs. Cordelia G. Johnson, national president; Mrs. Annie Jackson, D.C.; Mrs. Florence Scott, D.C.; and R. L. Baker, Philadelphia, contest promoter

OFF FOR BERMUDA — Among the members of the Rhett Corri Models, who recently departed for a trip to Bermuda were: From left — Ruth Barnes, Roberta Barnes, Loretta Holmes, Jacquelyn Powell, Verdelle Howell, Charlotte Coffield, and Odessa Ingraham. The group is spending two weeks at the fashionable resort.