On Civil Rights Firing Line, LDF Is The Back-Up

NEW YORK — Two mothers who never finished public school or reached the status in life they dreamed of as girls in South Carolina and Alabama, relaxed in air-conditioned splendor on the 11th floor of the Americana Hotel and talked to the AFRO about how tough things still can be for black leaders striving to make American democracy work.

The two, Mrs. Victoria Delee, of Ridgeville, S.C. and Mrs. Sally Hadnott, of Prattville, Ala., shared honors with a third freedom fighter, Mrs. Mary Ellen Cooper, of Mt. Vernon, N.Y., at Friday's "Crisis In American Justice" institute sponsored by the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

They're the kind of black women who for years have stuck out their chins in the face of economic, social and physical dangers to carry on the grassroots efforts that have helped bring the human rights battle to its present state.

They've lived under pressures most Americans who never saw combat can't imagine. They have a way of shrugging off danger. And they don't mind telling it like they see it.

One of the things Mrs. Delee and Mrs. Hadnott see now is that many middleclass blacks, for selfish reasons, are betraying the grassroots people.

They're particularly tough on preachers and teachers because "they've lived off black people and could do so much for our children."

Mrs. Delee wife of S. B. Delee ("I've got me a good man") an ammunitions handler at a naval weapons center, is mother of seven children 28 to 12 years old.

A daughter, Verbenia, is running for magistrate of Ridgeville and is given a good chance to win on June 9.

At 45 she's superintendent of the Sunday School and usher board president at the House of God Holiness Church, president of the Ridgeville NAACP, president of the Voters League of Dorchester County and the OEO board member who spurred the hiring of a black director.

When everyone had to reregister in 1966 her county set one of the best records in the state.

"I have seen people shot down, beaten to death and hanged. My husband's uncle was hanged and shot to pieces by a white mob. This white woman said he whistled at her," Mrs. Delee recalled.

Things have changed in Dorchester County but not completely, Mrs. Delee found in recent years as she worked to register voters and was a leader in sending her children to forumer all-white schools.

Mrs. Delee tells it in simple language:

"I've got a good husband. He's in the movement too.

"White people used to shoot at us all the time. We would take turns sitting up with guns.

"After 1964 all of us in the house never slept at the same time.

"We learned to put mattresses on the floor and sleep that way to keep from being hit by bullets.

"We would shoot back.

"One night (Nov. 13, 1966) there was no one at home but me, my husband and two boys. I was supposed to be watching, but it seemed so peaceful and quiet I dropped off.

"About 3:30 that morning I woke up and the house was burning. They had set fire all around it.

"I don't know how any of us got out. The Lord was with us.

"The story was never printed in our local paper.

"Oh my God, I just couldn't say how many times I've been put in jail. Last time was for trying to get Indians into school this year.

"They know they can't scare me now.

"I want to tell you this. I'm not the first person in Dorchester County who ever stood up and fought, but I'm the the only one who has not been killed or run out.

"I ain't going to die, and I ain't going nowhere and they know it.

"I've got the faith and I'm going to stay right there and straighten Dorchester County out.

"I feel change is going to come faster. These young people are going to do it. They are not going to put up with these things."

Mrs. Hadnott has 8 children, 29 to 8 years of age.

She keeps telling you her husband, James Hadnott, is "just the sweetest man."

Mr. Hadnott suffered a heart attack some years ago but he has not stopped his family's involvement in the human rights movement.

Mrs. Hadnott's county, Aulauga, is known as a hot bed of the Ku Klux Klan.

"They call up and try to scare you. They ask 'n—r are you still there?' then hang up," she said.

Mrs. Hadnott started losing jobs a few years back when whites circulated the list of children who had signed up to attend a desegregated school.

Being president of the NAACP does not help her in the eyes of conservatives.

At first, Mrs. Hadnott recalled, a way was "found to get every black male" student out of the desegregated school.

But she too has great faith in young people.

When desegregation was an even more explosive issue, as late as 1965, Mrs. Hadnott and her family also had to sit up and watch at night with shotguns.

"The young people saw our plight and took it up. Young boys formed a watchdog committee with their own weapons to guard us," Mrs. Hadnott recalled.

"They built a special little house outside to protect themselves. They could close the door and still see out and they stuck by us."

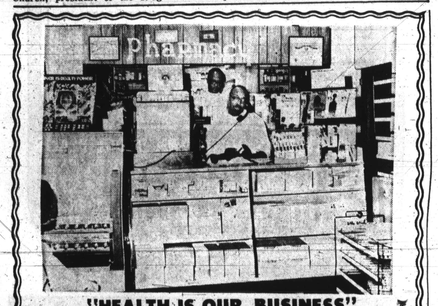
Children in Southern desegregated schools suffer all types of indignities, such as being able to sing in the school choir for credit but not being able to appear outside the school with the group.

Her children, of course, are major targets.

Mrs. Hadnott goes from one challenge to another, taking on the small and the big.

Now, backed by the LDF, she is suing Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, charging discrimination in Alabama textile firm that, among other things, is accused of giving preference in hiring to relatives of other workers.

THREE HONORED BY LDF—The Legal Defense and Educational Fund honored three of the frontline workers whose efforts it supports during last week's meeting at the Americana Hotel in New York. The honorees, seated from left, are: Mrs. Mary Ellen Cooper, member of the Mt. Vernon, N.Y. school board and co-director of the Upward Bound project; Mrs. Victoria De Lee, president of the Dorchester County, South Carolina, Voters League, and Mrs. Sally Hadnott, chairman, 4th Congressional District, National Democratic Party of Alabama. With them are Miss Carlayne Hunter, New York reporter who was leader of LDF gathering honoring the women, and the Rev. Andrew Young, congressional candidate in Georgia, who made a non-political talk at the gathering stressing support LDF attorneys over the years provided the civil rights movement, especially the Southern Christian Leadership Conference with which he worked.



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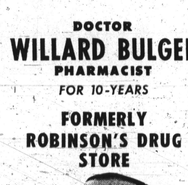

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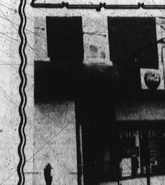

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FLETCHER | JAMES HAUGHTON | WM. L. ROBINSON | C. L. ALEXANDER

PANEL ON JOBS—Members of panel on, Top Jobs: For Whites Only, at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund included, from left: Arthur A. Fletcher, assistant secretary of labor; James Haughton, president of FIGHT BACK; William L. Robinson, director, employment litigation, LDF, and Clifford L. Alexander Jr., former chairmm of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Consensus: Blacks rein far behind whites in employment picture, laws against discrimination in hiring are failing because of a lack of enforcement, unions are working with employers against fair hiring practices and, if something drastic does not take place, there is going to be explosions among working people.

John Faison sits on N.C. county unit

SEABOARD, N.C. — John W. Faison, head of the local NAACP, was recently elected to the Board of County Commissioners in Northampton. He was the first of his race to serve on the county board of an area which is 70 per cent black.

Northampton is where much litigation was held nearly 15 years ago about barring black people from registering to vote.

Faison, a native son, has headed the local NAACP chapter for 25 years, and was principal organizer of Progressive Lodge No. 1280 and Unity Temple of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World.

He is Grand Auditor of the Grand Lodge IBPOEW; vice president of the North Carolina IBPOEW, and leader in voter-registration in the county.

Jack Faison will tell you that a score of years ago a fourth grade white registrar was denying black college graduates or students the right to vote because he said blacks did not "satisfy the registrar."

Faison says if as many as "a dozen black persons got registered in the entire county," it was considered as "doing well" prior to the breaking of the shackles by NAACP and the courageous blacks of that day.

Faison says the NAACP unit in Northampton "goes out of its way to help" and, in turn, reaps a harvest in memberships and always has extra finance to help others.

ECSU Has Early Graduation

ELIZABETH CITY —"If not you, then who?" questioned State Representative Henry E. Frye, as he addressed the 203 graduates of predominantly Elizabeth City State University, recently. The occasion, an outside ceremony on the quadrangle, was the first commencement since the institution became a university, in 1969, and marked the first time ECSU has closed early in May.

Introduced by President Marion D. Thorpe, the Guilford County Democrat spoke briefly of the need for organizational power in the decades ahead. He described organizational power as being, "The capacity for change that comes from a group of people organized for a common purpose."

Equal Justice Meet Held

DETROIT, Mich. — The Second Annual Conference of the Equal Justice Under The Law Council was held here last week. Among the activities was a special feature, "Adults Listen" by the Conference Youth.

Other discussions were Equal Justice Under The Law, and a Report To The People. Among the speakers were Judge George Edwards and Judge George Crockett.

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Dr. Jenkins: 1970 'High Note Of Career'

Complete List Of Morgan Grads (PHOTO-STORIES ON PAGE 13)

Baltimore Afro-American

AFRO Clean Block Office Now Open (SEE BACK PAGE)

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KILLED SON IN SELF-DEFENSE

Accused Father Free In Minutes

Slain youth 'would not go to school'

By AL RUTLEDGE

Yesterday afternoon, 48-year-old James Johnson, wearing a blue polo shirt and dark khakis, stood between several police officers, his attorney David Allen Jr. in Central Municiple court where Judge Joseph Broccolino uttered one word, "Dismissed" and freed him of prosecution for the stabbing death of his son, Reginald.

The preliminary hearing which lasted only a few minutes, had been delayed for several minutes while th judge heard other brief cases during which time Mr. Johnson's remaining five children and other relatives fidgeted on the long courtroom benches.

* * *

When Judge Broccolino announced his decision, the aisle was filled with smiling, hugging relatives of Mr. Johnson who quietly walked back to the cell block to be released.

Judge Broccolino's decision came after Assistant State's Attorney James Welsch requested that the charges be dismissed on the grounds of "justifiable" homicide in self defense.

The 19-year-old dead youth, who stood six feet tall, was a senior at Charles Houston Junior High No. 181. He died the result of a stab wound in the heart inflicted by his father at their 3 N. Ellamount St. home during a family argument Wednesday morning.

* * *

The argument between father and son started when Mr. Johnson asked the teenager why he had not been going to school.

The son replied he and would do what he didn't care about school wanted.

The father left the downstairs living room and went up to his bedroom. His son followed, butcher knife in hand.

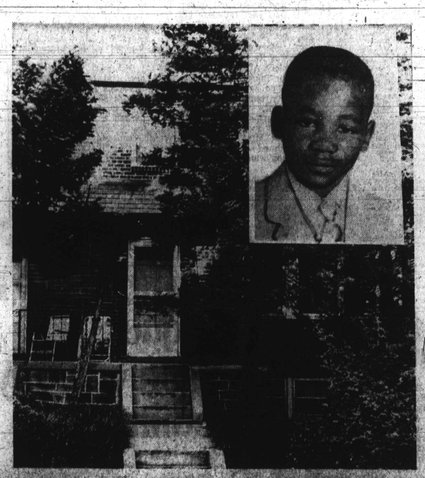
Mr. Johnson pulled from his pocket a two and a half inch pen knife and stabbed his son once in the chest.

A neighbor, Mrs. J. B. Rucker, told the AFRO she was in her basement washing when she heard this "terrible noise like someone falling."

* * *

"It shook the walls," she said, "and I ran upstairs

(Continued on page 2)



DEATH SCENE—House at 3 N. Ellamont St., in northwest Baltimore where police report, 19-year-old Reginald Johnson, shown in inset, Houston Junior High School student, was slain by his father.

Dr. Jenkins tells why leaving feels good

By DAVID SLOAN and EDITH HOUSE

"Although I have some regrets at leaving Morgan State College, I really am ending on a high note —so much so that even though this is my last commencement, in many ways it is my best one."

In listing the reasons for his feeling of ending on a high note, Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, retiring president of Morgan State College, told the AFRO that there are five:

"My relations with students are at an all-time high, I am elated over the prospect of the new Center for Urban Affairs here on campus;

I am proud to have participated with my colleague in the profession in laying the case of the young before President Nixon last week;

I view with high anticipation the prospect of assuming a new position of national importance and I feel good because of the expressions of so many community people and faculty upon my leaving," Dr. Jenkins declared.

On the negative side of the ledger, Dr. Jenkins said he has regrets that he will not be present when the college is on the verge of a great breakthrough in increasing racial integration and the physical plant.

"I regret that I will not be around to help that to happen," the new director of the Urban Affairs Office of the American Council on Education said.

On the difference in the personalities of students since he came to Morgan, Dr. Jenkins said this is noted most in the area of their "expectations and anticipations."

"Twenty-two years ago, when I was inaugurated at Douglass High School because we did not have an auditorium large enough to accommodate the crowd, students lived within the confines of segregation.

* * *

"Consequently, they had a ceiling on their expectations and anticipations.

"Now, 22 years later, they regard themselves as just some more college graduates, so far as this is concerned, and they expect and anticipate that they

(Continued on page 13)

DR. MARTIN D. JENKINS
"I regret not being here to help increased integration . . ."

SOLDIER FREE

Leakin Park suspect found not guilty

Fort Meade Army Specialist 4th Class William Henry Frazier, 24, accused of the Leakin Park murder of 16-year-old Miss Elsie Josephine (Tobey) Johnson a year ago, was found not guilty when he appeared before Judge Joseph Carter in Criminal Court Wednesday.

Judge Carter announced his decision as a directed verdict for the defense and then dismissed a jury of seven women and five men before they had a chance to hear the defense case or deliberate.

The 12-member panel, with five black jurors, had listened to the state's testimony from a score of witnesses over a period of two days. They were prepared to hear defense witnesses when the jurist halted the trial at 3:10 p.m. Wednesday.

The not-guilty verdict shocked the crowded courtroom and Frazier's friends and relatives rushed up to hug and kiss him. He wore his Army uniform both days.

Judge Carter noted that few such verdicts have ever been rendered in murder cases in his 16 years in Criminal Court. He also noted that few criminal cases are ever "taken from the jury" so to speak.

The soldier, who resides in the 800 block Lynhurst, was one of four men accused of the murder of the blond teenager in the early morning hours of May 28, 1969.

Her body was found in the wooded area of Leakin Park off the 3900 block Chesholm Rd., with bullet wounds of the neck, left side and hip and chest.

Convicted four months ago of first degree murder was Andre VanLear Foster, 20, 1600 block Bethel St., now serving a life sentence as the gunman.

Testimony at the February trial revealed that the blond victim Tobey Johnson, had resided with Foster and another man at the Bethel St. address some time before she met with death.

According to Judge Carter the cotive for the crime, was fear that the 16-year-old girl would tell police about a robbery Foster was in-

(Continued on page 2)

Decorated policeman promoted

Police Commisioner Donald D. Pomerleau, presented certificates of promotions to 9 officers yesterday. Of those promoted three are lieutenants and six are sergeants.

One of the new sergeants is William E. Stanley of the Eastern District. Sgt. Stanley resides in the 3000 block Belmont Ave. with his wife, Estelle, and three children.

They are Karen, 11, a student at Belmont Elementary School and William E. Stanley III, 9 months; and two step-children Benjamin Carter, a 25-year-old Vietnam veteran and Mrs. Marie Toney, 24, a receptionist at the Zero Corporation.

The 43-year-old sergeant has been with the police force since 1957, had received over 30 commendations, including the Bronze Star and has served as a

(Continued on page 13)

Minimum wage hiked to $1.45 per

A 15-cent increase from the present $1.30 an hour to $1.45 in the state's minimum wage law becomes effective Monday, covering those employers with up to six workers first brought under coverage of the state law in 1967.

This will conform with those establishments with seven or more employees which have had this minimum wage level requirement since the past Feb. 1.

Further requirements under an enactment of the past General Assembly session is that this minimum wage will be increased to $1.60 an hour for those establishments employing seven or more workers Feb. 1 of next year.

For those employing less than seven workers the $1.60 minimum will become effective June 1 of next year.

* * *

Also provided is that time and a half be paid to employees working over 40 hours per week.

The $1.60 an hour minimum will bring the state in line with the present federal wage law, but the state law covers many exempted from that national law.

Coverage does not include, however, domestics and agricultural workers nor outside salesmen.

Also excluded are students working 20 hours a week or less, employees of restaurants grossing less than $250,000 annually and persons 62 years of age and over, working 25 hours a week or less.

The state minimum wage level will be five cents above the Baltimore City level until an ordinance set to be signed by Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd shortly will raise that level to $1.50 by Oct. 1.

Next April 1 this city level will be hiked to $1.65.

DEATH NOTICES UNTIL 5 P.M.

Death notices, can be inserted for 50 cents a line or as little as $4. Remember, the AFRO accepts paid death notices up until 5 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for publication in its Tuesday and Friday editions.

728-8200

Fair weather for Memorial Day

The long Memorial Holiday weekend extends from (today) Friday through Monday for some persons and includes official Memorial Day, May 30 (Saturday) the first of the summer holidays.

Highlighting the various events will be memorial services in the city and at cemeteries for the dead and especially for those who have lost their lives in the Armed Forces.

All citizens are asked to fly the American flag.

* * *

WEATHER

Warm, light and variable winds from 8 to 10 miles an hour will bring balmy, ideal weather, sunny and partly cloud skies but no rain until perhaps Sunday evening. Temperatures will linger in the high 70's and low 80's.

OPEN

Some stores and businesses — Friday and Saturday

All banks — Friday and Monday

Police and Fire Stations — around the clock

Trash Collection — Friday (none Saturday)

Parks — all weekend (no pools open

CLOSED

Courthouse — Friday, Saturday

All Federal, state and city courts — Friday and Saturday

Department of Social Services, 1500 Greenmount Ave. — Friday and Saturday

City Hall — Friday and Saturday

Libraries (public) — Saturday

MEMORIAL SERVICES

The annual Police Memorial Service for deceased members will be held Sunday, May 31, at 8:45 a.m. at Macedonia Baptist

(Continued on page 2)

Mixed couple's baby killed in bombing

By MILDRED O'NEILL

CHESTER, Pa. — "We just don't understand it. We've never had any kind of trouble in this neighborhood. We've always gotten along."

Those were the typical comments of blacks and whites as they stared at the charred three-story, single, frame house at 412 E. 11th St., where a nine-year-old daughter of a mixed marriage burned to death when a Molotov cocktail was tossed into the living room early Tuesday.

At the scene were about 15 detectives searching for more evidence after police on stakeout duty near the victim's home surprised two youths igniting wicks of three fire bombs. Wednesday morning in an alley across the street from the victim's home.

An 18-year-old boy was accidentally wounded when Chester police fired shots at the fleeing youths.

Police told the AFRO the two incidents may be connected.

* * *

On Tuesday night State Police arson experts and Chester fire officials declared the death of the victim, Donna Ann Reason, a murder.

The investigators said they found a wine bottle with part of a fuse still in its neck near a living room window in the Reason home.

They said they believe the bottle contained a flammable fluid and caused the blaze.

Until two weeks ago, the Reason house was occupied by James E. Lamb, Chester's director of public safety.

Lamb sold the house to Robert Reason Sr. on May 11 and the family moved in Friday, a week ago.

Police told the AFRO

(Continued on page 18)

Justice Marshall shows improvement

Although doctors report steady improvement in the condition of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, it is doubtful that he will be back on the bench in time to halt the buildup of pending court decisions.

The High Court has suffered setback in the number of decisions normally handed down during the term, apparently caused by illnesses of Justice Marshall, who has been hospitalized with pneumonia since May 14.

ON THE GRADUATION FRONT

Hopkins grad points finger at university

By PAUL F. EVANS

"Come on home. Come on home Johns Hopkins. Are you coming home?"

DR. JOHN W. SIMMONS
He lectured Hopkins

Dr. John Wesley Simmons, a black physician from Philadelphia, cast this unexpected broadside when he got to the platform to represent the University's School of Hygiene and Public Health in commencement exercises at the Homewood Campus of the Johns Hopkins University, Wednesday morning.

Dr. Simmons, 37, who received a degree in Public Health, told the 3,500 graduation guests that Hopkins had refused to aid the poor of this city.

His remarks drew sustained applause after he pounded the lectern and declared, "I do not see many black faces, nor Oriental, nor Mexican faces here. It is time that Johns Hopkins came home to the people of

(Continued on page 3)

Black student leader does own thing, wins top honors

Hayward Farrar, of Baltimore, is living proof that a college student can be an activist in racial matters can picket, sit-in, "confront," polish off" his picket be outstanding in scholarship.

Mr. Farrar has done his activist "thing" at the University of Maryland, where he was president of the Black students Unior, 1968-69, but also he never turned in a late paper," did not desert his studies, even if he did not desert his studies, even if he had to go with little sleep.

The results paid off Monday evening (May25) when he was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest and most prestigious honorary scholarship society. He was one of 75 so honored in graduating class of 5,000

Twenty-year-old Farrar is the son of Mrs. Gloria Farrar of the 1300 block of Linwood Avenue (his father, after whom he is named died when he was five).

His grandmother is Mrs. Mabel Weaver Holsey, of the Memorial Apartments. He has a brother, Ri-

(Continued on Page 13)

HAYWARD FARRAR
Initiated In Top Honor Fraternity