

COURTS, ICG STRIKE UNFAIR TRAVEL PRACTICES

Gov. Hastie Admits Difficulties In Island Politics

The Tighthouse

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Says Virgins Need Vigorous Minority Group Reveals Tourism May Become Top Factor In Economy

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) Governor William H. Hastie of the Virgin Islands admitted Tuesday that he is having "difficulties" with certain political groups in the Virgin Islands.

Addressing the Capital Press Club's weekly luncheon immediately following his conference with President Truman last Tuesday, Governor Hastie said the difficulties were being brought on by the Progressive Guild organization, the dominant political faction in the islands.

Lester B. Granger, executive of the National Urban League, then spoke at the luncheon.

HEALTHY STATE

Governor Hastie said that the Progressive Guild organization was "taking a few cracks" at his administration but he indicated that he considered it a healthy state in the islands.

Explaining the origin of the "cracks" at him, Governor Hastie said he had been one of the founders of the Progressive Guild nine years ago and had addressed the group last March 30 on the occasion of its ninth anniversary.

During his speech, he had remarked that as one of the foster parents of the organization, he said he felt he could at times exercise the prerogative of the god-parent and "take the organization to the woodshed" whenever the occasion warranted but apparently leaders of the Progressive Guild had not appreciated his sense of humor and had taken exception to his remarks.

Governor Hastie said the Virgin Islands needs a vigorous minority group to keep the majority group on its toes. The Progressive Guild organization however, seems to feel that he is on the side of the minority he declared.

TRIP POSTPONED

Commenting on his visit to the White House, the Governor said President Truman had not cancelled his trip to the Caribbean but had merely postponed it. He said the President looked better and appeared more confident in his office than he had ever seen him before.

Questioned on the tourist trade of the Virgin Islands, Governor Hastie said tourism was the possibility of becoming the number one factor in the islands economy.

"The Virgin Islands, he emphasized is one of the few places under the American flag where people may go and enjoy themselves without giving thought to discrimination. Governor Hastie said this was of special interest to him because it served not only to entice the type of trade which the islands want but it also serves to keep away the element which is not wanted.

BUYER RESISTANCE

The rum business in the Virgin Islands is practically shut, the Governor said. He attributed this to the "lie-in" sales forced upon buyers during the war. He said the industry which was once a million dollar business will not amount to more than \$450,000 this year because of buyer resistance built up as a result of lie-in sales.

Governor Hastie said he is presently preparing a budget for the islands which is destined to be un-

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Burton Library To Remember Heroes

BURTON, S. C. — Dedication of the India Gordon Shanklin Library building at the Beaufort County Training School a memorial to former students and graduates who died while serving their country in World War II, will be made Sunday, April 27.

The men who will be so memorialized were: Nathaniel Simmons, Samuel Singleton, Iva Brooker, Joseph Parker, David Baker, and Benjamin Gaillard.

The address will be made by Rev. E. A. Adams of Columbia.

NEGROES AND LATINOS SUFFER MOST IN TEXAS CITY BLAST



Public Health Nurse, through a clinic examination, as the Well Baby Clinic, connected with the Elizabeth Birch Day Nursery, 216 Port Street, N. E. This is only one of the many phases of public health during the

BOARD CHAIRMAN, SUPT. RESIGN FROM GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

The resignation of Attorney R. Beverly Herbert, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and U. A. Johnson, superintendent of the hospital, was announced following a regular meeting of the board of trustees of the Good Samaritan Waverley Hospital, last Tuesday.

No reason for the resignations was set forth. Mr. Herbert and Mr. Johnson had worked hard about with other officials to obtain a new building for the present plant, a site for which has already been purchased and is to cost \$1,000,000.

Charleston Man On Federal Jury

Samuel Fleming, proprietor of Fleming Shoe Parlor, 16 Archdale Street, Charleston, is on a jury serving in U. S. District Court in Columbia this week.

MP's Kill Man In Blanding St. Brawl

Tom Taylor of 1013 Short Street was slain by MP's who allegedly drew a pistol on him in 1960 block of Blanding Street around 1 o'clock on Sunday morning, city police reported Monday.

The MP's, both colored were identified as Walter Johnson who fired on Taylor three of four shots taking effect in the chest and James Gibson on the man.

Coroner W. A. Post said the MP's had begun to search a man creating a disturbance and Taylor is said to have objected, whipped out a .22 caliber automatic. Johnson is said to have drawn his revolver and fired on the man.

Officers said Taylor's gun was cocked with a bullet in firing position and three others in the chamber. They said a bottle containing about a pint of whiskey was found in the dead man's pocket.

Several complaints against the conduct of patrons in certain establishments in the block have been frequently reported by citizens. Soldiers and civilians usually frequent these places.

Hundreds Wiped Out, No Accurate Check Yet Made

By FRED A. SUBLETTE

GALVESTON, Tex. (ANP) — Lone Star City's earth-shaking explosion last Wednesday morning wreaked untold havoc among its Negro and Latin American citizens. These two groups lived in that part of the city nearest the explosion and thus suffered the most casualties.

To Continue Fight On Va. Poll Tax

BRIDGEVILLE, Va. (NNPA) — Locke Green, Arlington county treasurer and State Republican leader, said last Thursday that he and Lawrence Michael, unsuccessful party candidate for Congress in the Eighth District, would continue their fight to have the poll tax law in Virginia declared unconstitutional.

The United States Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals last Wednesday dismissed a suit brought by Green and Michael to prevent the collection of the poll tax. The court was on appeal from an adverse ruling of the Alexandria Federal District Court.

Green said that Michael might go before the Alexandria court again and ask that the voting of his name be directed to his back poll taxes had not been paid. He said, an alternative case might be brought on behalf of a plaintiff demanding that he be registered for the next election without first paying poll taxes due.

EIGHT POLL TAX

Mr. Michael, unsuccessful Republican candidate for the House from the eighth district, sought to prevent collection of the poll tax. The Court of Appeals agreed with Virginia Attorney General Abram P. Staples that the controversy constituted a moot question and that the Appeals Court was without jurisdiction to entertain it further.

The opinion pointed out, however, that the complaint raises questions of the gravest character, which, if presented in a case properly before us, would merit our most careful consideration.

LIKE GHOST TOWN

Texas City is a thriving little seaport town which once boasted a population of 15,000. Now it looks like a ghost town, with an estimated 450 to 1,200 persons dead and 4,000 or more injured.

No accurate figures can yet be given as to the extent of the disaster. The death toll mounts hourly as more bodies are found. In the Monsanto Chemical company, where 800 employees worked, only a small portion were reportedly located. The three hospitals, John Sealy, Marine and St. Mary's infirmaries are full.

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ICG Rules Dr. Mays Treated Unfairly In Diner, Rejects Pay

WASHINGTON (SNNS) — The Interstate Commerce Commission held Friday that President Benjamin E. Mays of Morehouse College, Atlanta, was subjected to "undue and unreasonable prejudice and disadvantage" when he failed to get served in a Southern Railway diner in October, 1944.

The commission rejected President Mays' plea for \$2,400 damages. According to the commission, the Southern Railroad since has revised its arrangements for serving Negro passengers to provide equality of service in a specially reserved and partitioned compartment in its dining cars.

In its newly constructed dining cars, the Southern has constructed a steel partition around a table set aside for Negro diners. A curtain separates the races in old cars, but many times not enough service is available to would-be diners, according to reports.

GOVERNORS CALL ON THE PRESIDENT



THE GOVERNORS of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are shown as they paid a courtesy call on President Truman at the White House. The President shakes hands with Gov. William Hastie (left) of the Virgin Islands as Gov. Jesus T. Pinero of Puerto Rico watches. (International)

All-White Jury Rules Against Jim Crow Bias On Railroad Dining Car

LOUISVILLE (ANP) — An all-white jury here last week ruled against the practice of railroad Jim Crow dining car curtains by awarding two Negro passengers \$800 in damages and \$25,000 suit against the Louisville and Nashville Railroad company.

The two-day trial was climaxed by an impassioned appeal to the jury by the attorneys of white and Negro plaintiffs. The jury's verdict was more important than the \$25,000 which he suggested or reduced to a \$500 judgment.

Stirred by his argument, the jury hurried, then returned a verdict in favor of James E. Stamps of Chicago, president of the Fisk University Alumni Association, and James L. Powell of Charleston, W. Va., the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance company's manager for the state of West Virginia, who were denied the right to eat breakfast outside the Jim Crow dining car curtain on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad's train on March 17 although all the tables behind the curtain were occupied and vacant tables remained in the so-called "white" section of the diner.

Stamps and Powell were returning home from an executive committee meeting of the Fisk University Alumni Association at Nashville when they encountered the discriminatory aboard the train. They answered the 10 a. m. breakfast call, they said, stood in line with other passengers until their turn. By that time all the tables had been occupied except one beyond the section provided for Negro passengers.

They attempted to sit down at the vacant table, they testified, but were prevented from doing so by the steward, who told them they could only sit at the two tables reserved for colored people. Negro writers supported the steward's testimony that if they waited a few minutes, they could be served in the "colored" section.

Stamps and Powell declined to accept breakfast in their drawing room, one water said. Also, Stamps and Powell declined a second offer to be served behind the Jim Crow curtain because they did not have time to finish their meal before reaching their destination, they said.

Scout Camp Drive Gets Underway

The campaign for \$2,250.00 for completion of the Lexington county Boy Scout campsite was reported under way during the week of April 22. Robert C. Cross, chairman of the special drive.

The sum, if matched by writers in the Central South Carolina Council, will qualify the camp for a special \$1,500 award from National Scout headquarters, promised by Dr. Stanley A. Harris.

Stove Explosion Injures 5 Soldiers With Eighth Army

WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY AT KOBE, Japan. (NNPA) — Five col-

lectrical men were injured, two severely, last Sunday night, when a stove exploded in the latrine of the 3623rd Transportation Corps Trucking Company in the Camp Area in Kobe.

Fire which resulted from the explosion destroyed the top of the building and gutted the interior, causing an estimated damage of \$500.

Two severely injured soldiers were Private Darline Angel, Crawford, Georgia, who suffered severe burns and cuts on the legs and arms and Private First Class Thomas E. Boone, Frederick Maryland, who suffered extensive burns. Both men are receiving treatment in the 375th Station Hospital.

Corporal Ernest William Pritchard, Alabama, and Private First Class James E. Paige, Richmond, Virginia, are also hospitalized with severe burns. Private First Class William Bragbrook, Church Creek Maryland, was treated for minor burns and released from the hospital.

The fire which started at 7:30 a. m. was extinguished by members of the 3161st Engineer Fire Fighting Company. The cause of the explosion has not been determined.

Commodity Credit Corp. has lifetime loss of \$1,965,237,425.

Speakers Praise Voorhee's Work

DENMARK, S. C. — High praises of leaders, principles and the work of Voorhees Junior College observance of whose 50th anniversary began here April 13, have been sung continuously by various speakers and leaders who have shared in the momentous celebration.

Trustees, alumni, administrators, students and other well wishers made presentations to principal and Mrs. J. E. Blanton, who are retiring in June after 25 years of service.

Mr. Blanton, announced during the services that \$15,000 of \$55,000 sought for a boys' dormitory was in the bank, that the school is worth \$200,000 with an annual budget of \$12,000 and enrollment of 919 in all departments.

Speakers include: Dr. George Welland, Secretary of Domestic Missions of the Episcopal Church, the Right Rev. J. C. Carruthers and the Right Rev. C. E. Bentley also Dr. J. S. Bassett, president of Benedict College.

High tribute was given the founder, the late Miss E. E. Wright, who began the school with 13 young people and a hope 50 years ago.

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Officer Dies In Plunge In Japan Area

WITH THE EIGHTH ARMY AT KOBE, Japan. (NNPA) — First Lieutenant James E. Smith, 2625 Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana, was killed last Sunday when he plunged 100 feet through the roof of a warehouse on Pier 3 in Kobe.

Lieutenant Smith was taking pictures of a ship unloading when he fell. He died at approximately 4:30 p. m. forty-five minutes after he had fallen at the 37th Station Hospital in Kobe. Death resulted from a broken neck, fractured skull and broken arm. His wife, Mrs. Henrietta S. Smith, 839 North California St., Indianapolis, Indiana, was at the scene of the accident.

Lieutenant Smith was attached to the 36th Quartermaster Laundry.

Funeral services will be held at the South Quarters Chapel, Wednesday night, April 30.

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