

CLEAN OUT SUITS LOOM IN STATE

The Lighthouse

AND INFORMER

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 34

COLUMBIA, S. C.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1949

PRICE: TEN CENTS

Earle's Mother Sues For \$5,000

Two Counties Asked To Pay For 47 Murder

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANS) A \$5,000 suit in behalf of his estate was filed here in Common Pleas Court by the mother of Willie Earl, lynched by some 26 Greenville taxi cab drivers on February 17, 1947 after he had been seized a short time before from the Pickens county jail at Pickens.

Columbia Gets Third Policeman

Columbia added the third Negro officer to its police department this week when the city civil service commission approved the examination of William Ralph Mims, 29 year old native of Lexington county.

CALL DEATH "MOST CRUEL"

Mrs. Earle declares in her complaint that the murder of her son on a lonely frosty road, across from a meat packing plant was a "most cruel, lawless and inhuman" crime. The complaint alleges that after Earle had been arrested the night of Feb. 16 by officers at his home in Liberty, Pickens county, he was taken to the Pickens county jail for questioning in connection with the stabbing of Thomas W. Brown, a white cab driver of Greenville. Earle had come home from Greenville earlier that night.

Shortly after midnight the complaint sets forth, a mob of then unidentified persons gathered at the jail and procured the dead man and, after crossing into Greenville county, shot and finally put him to rest.

Subsequent trial of the 26 defendants, and in statements signifying that the arrest two days after the lynching, was because of that huge chunks of flesh were knifed out of the victim's body before he was shot. The horribly mutilated body was too much for hardened newspaper reporters to look at. The right thigh and the left arm had been cut out to the bone before the final shooting. A cut out had been made under the chin and around the heart also.

JAILERS NAME LISTED

The complaint declares that Pickens county jailer J. Ed. Gristrap surrendered the victim. However, during the trial the defendants in May of 1947, Gristrap testified that he surrendered Earle only after his family had been threatened.

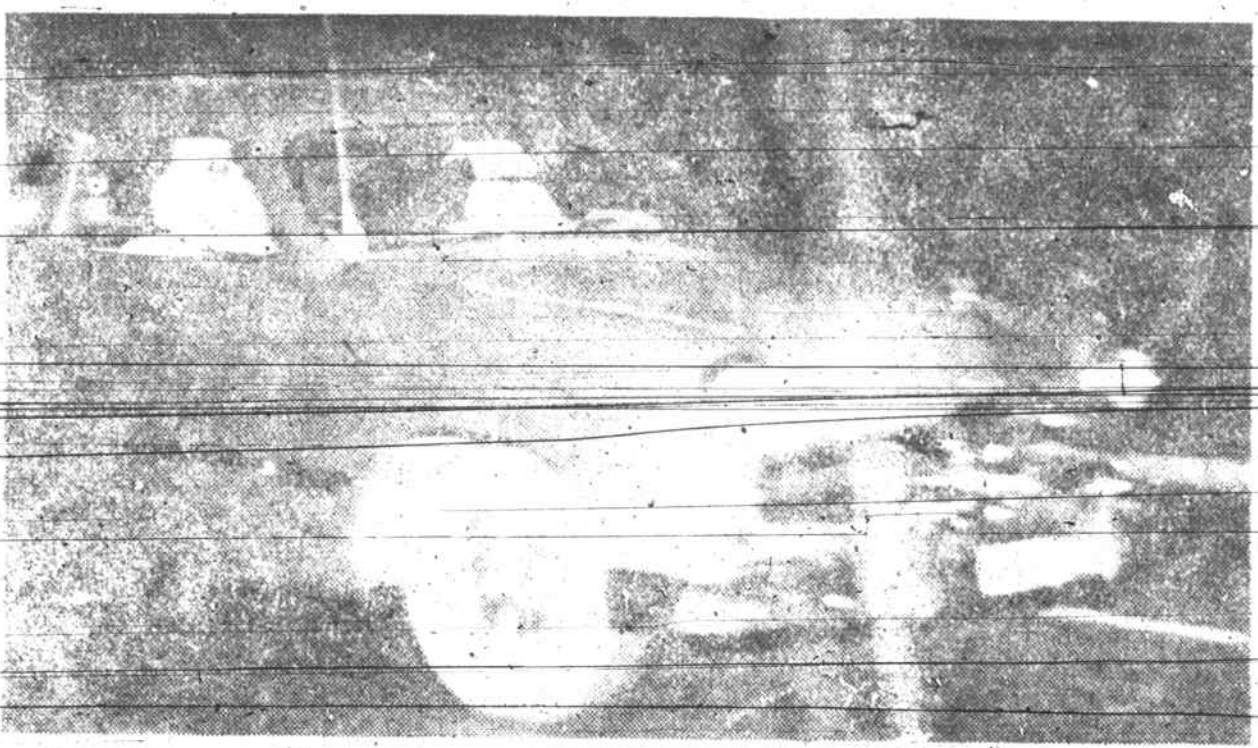
The defendants were acquitted of the charges. Brown died from the stalling on Feb. 18, 1947 and never identified his attacker.

Persons to interview Mrs. Earle, she said, which took place two days after the slaying. She stuck to this although daily newspapers had quoted her through the Pickens county official previously. She said her son, an epileptic, had come home and gone to bed before she left for work.

For several weeks following the slaying it was expected that one or both of the counties would pay the victim's mother a sum of \$2,000, provided for in the state constitution whenever citizens are deprived

of orderly legal processes while in the custody of law enforcement officials. This newer constitutional provision, the complaint bases itself on Article XI, section 6 of the state constitution and the S. C. Code of Laws of 1943, Volume 11, section 8011.

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CLANSMEN ON PARADE:— who, unable to prevent the appearance of a picture was taken for ages, and unable to get state help, the Lighthouse and Informer directed to sit back and avoid any kind of a recent parade of the Ku Klux accidents.

Mr. Mims, a veteran of World War II, who is married to a wife and son at 2404 Richmond street, received notification of his approval Saturday, from the examination taken January 21. He joins Claude Pearson and George Eleazer, approved by the commission, in December.

Oklahoma Regents Ask Segregation Ban in Colleges

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—(ANS) News of a bill in the state legislature which would ban segregation in colleges and universities was filed with the Oklahoma regents for higher education, urging that present state education statutes be amended to prohibit segregation in the public schools.

Morris College Rallies Thursday

Morris College, President O. B. ...

Judge Waring Given Wilkie Award For Vote Rulings

New York (ANS) U. S. District Court Judge J. Wilkie Waring of Charleston, S. C. was one of thirteen Americans to receive the Wilkie Memorial award during annual presentation here last week.

Hotel Clerk Freed On Bias Charge

... has been cleared of a charge of refusing to rent a room to a Negro woman.

Frankly, Senator, You Are Wrong

WASHINGTON (ANS) General Albert Anderson, Georgia Senator Russell, He gave the old Dominion ...

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Maynor, Others History Week Program Guest

... the first ...

NAACP First Again

The NAACP has to its credit many "firsts" since it began laboring for the common rights of all citizens forty years ago. But this week in South Carolina it added another first record.

Lighthouse Moves Into New Home

Headquarters of The Lighthouse and Informer, effective with this edition, have been transferred to a spanking brand new one and a half story building across the street from Allen University.

Dr. J. W. Murph Distinguished A.M.E. Leader Passes

... Dr. James W. Murph

Harlem's All Right Schuyler Declares

... Schuyler

Mississippi Hen Lays Freakish Egg

JACKSON, MISS.—A hen ...

Starting Next Week

A thrilling, suspense filled love story of an attractive "career woman," a newspaper reporter who had no time for love, met up with a "career man," who equally had no time for love.

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NAACP Teachers To Bring Cases

State officials of the NAACP and the Palmetto State Teachers Association will confer here within a few days to decide where the first "clean out" suit will be brought in South Carolina. James M. Hinton, state NAACP president, said Wednesday.

THE VIRGINIA CASE

The South Carolina action would be modeled after that brought in King George county Virginia and decided last year. It has the advantage of settling all differences in a single action, instead of bringing a series of suits, one each in each difference.

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BULLETIN

... Dr. James W. Murph

The Columbia NAACP Branch Presents.....

FLORIDA A. & M. MALE CHORUS IN RECITAL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18--8:00 P. M.

ALLEN UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM