

# Letter Discloses College Head Met In Private With NAACP

A letter from Thurgood Marshall, chief of the legal staff of the NAACP, to Dr. George D. Grice, president of the College of Charleston, and disclosing that Dr. Grice has recently consulted the NAACP's national office on state-announced plans to sue for admission of Negroes to the institution, was made public Tuesday by James M. Hinton, state president.

Dated June 2, 1949, the letter suggested that Dr. Grice had conferred with NAACP leaders in New York City to determine the exact NAACP position although he

had been informed by Mr. Hinton. Text of the letter, which is self-explanatory, follows:

**NAACP HEARS STATE RUMORS**

Dear Mr. Grice:

Since the conference you had in this office a short time ago with Mr. Walter White and myself, we have been hearing from our representatives in South Carolina certain rumors of statements allegedly made by you. Knowing the unreliability of rumors we have not taken any steps to correct them up to the present time. How-

ever these rumors have reached the stage where we believe that it is necessary to get the record straight.

I explained to you that under our organizational set-up local matters were handled by our state conferences and our local branches under the broad general policy established by our annual convention and administered by our National Board of Directors.

**STATE TO DETERMINE ACTION**

I also made it clear to you that the ultimate decision as to what, if any, action would be taken in South Caro-

lina in regard to colleges, including the Charleston College of South Carolina would be determined by our state conference of branches. At the same time, I recognized the problem you presented and told you that we already had two cases in the United States Supreme Court and other cases in the highest state courts on the question of the validity of state statutes requiring segregation in public education. It was clear that the decision by the Supreme Court in these cases would determine our future action. Although the National Office did not con-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

# THURMOND APPOINTS FIRST NEGRO

# The Lighthouse AND INFORMER

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 52 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1949 PRICE TEN CENTS

## AN EDITORIAL

### Before Another Stone Is Cast

For the past month much has been said on the conduct of perhaps as many as 800 Negro teachers during the teacher examinations in February, all of it pointing the finger of disgrace and shame on this group of state teachers, and little or nothing being said about the real factors that even the simple-minded knows exist.

The teachers found guilty of cheating during this examination should be punished. They should receive the exact degree of punishment, whatever their individual degrees of involvement. Those who bought answer lists, or who sold them, are all guilty of conduct unbefitting to persons charged with preparing the future citizens.

But the action of the State Department of Education, the legislature and the governor's office should not be halted there. This is certainly not the first time that the teachers have bought and used answers during one of the examinations. We have heard of the lists for four years, and our understanding was that they came to the colored teachers from some white source who was in a position to get the questions before they were placed in hands of the examiners. If the state officials haven't known of this before the last examination, perhaps they weren't interested in knowing. And we understood all along that the lists were being used by teachers of both groups, which didn't make us an unusually informed source. We were just among the average people who had heard what everybody else knew.

If the department is to carry out the orders of Gov-

CONTINUED ON EDITORIAL PAGE (4)

## DEDICATE NEW ACADEMY IN LOS ANGELES



SEVERAL THOUSAND persons, including religious and civic leaders of the Pacific coast, were present at the recent dedication of the new Seventh Day Academy in Los Angeles. Shown above are some of the church officials who took part in the dedication services. Left to right: Reverends Owen A. Troy, Department Secretary of the Pacific Union Conference; C. L. Torrey, president of the Southern California Conference; David Voth, past president of the conference; and J. F. Dent, principal of the Academy. —(ANP)

## Johnson Declares Didn't Object To The NAACP

**AN EXCLUSIVE**

In an exclusive interview on Saturday, principal A. S. Johnson of the Palmetto high school at Manning, categorically denied that he had fired three teachers because of their memberships in the NAACP, though the NAACP or had fired against the best interests of his people since coming to the school last fall.

Mr. Johnson was interviewed while passing through Columbia enroute to Atlanta University in Atlanta, Ga., where he is to begin summer study on June 13.

**CITES OTHER REASON**

Admitting he had recommended dismissal of McNeil and his wife to the school board, and of a third teacher, Mr. Johnson declared that the action came on a basis of "teacher-teacher" relationship in the McNeil's case and in the interest of pupils in the third teacher's case, who he said had worked at the school for about two years.

In discussing the McNeil case, Mr. Johnson said that only Mr. Neil had been dissatisfied, but he and his administrative staff felt that dismissal of both was a proper action under the circumstances.

He said that Fred Richardson, his predecessor at the school, had recommended dismissal of McNeil last year but that after McNeil went to school officials and made certain charges against Richardson.

The other day, this man, the president of the United States, or Harry S. Truman, heard that another fighting chief, a man from Georgia, was in the city. He is mayor James Ferguson of Soperton, Ga., who the other night ripped masks from three klansters parading the streets, and slammed them in the little jail there.

The big chief, who himself battled the klan in the 20s in Missouri, just wanted to meet the little chief and talk over this klan-busting business.

And it was arranged, Mayor Peterson postponed his trip back to Soperton to see the big chief here on Monday.

## MRS. FREDERICK DIES AT SUMTER

**SUMTER** — Death came to Mrs. Corinne R. Frederick, widow of the late attorney N. J. Frederick of Columbia, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. B. T. Williams here on May 30. Funeral services were held last Wednesday in Emanuel Methodist Church and interment was made in the Palmetto Cemetery.

Mrs. Frederick, a native of Columbia, was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Carroll. She was educated in Columbia City schools and at Claflin University. After teaching school in Columbia for several years, she married attorney Frederick, who in his own right left a record of proud service when he passed away several years ago. Four children were born from this union.

Mrs. Frederick was a devoted mother and was active in civic and religious work in Columbia from which she moved several years ago. She served as the organist for more than thirty years in Wesley Methodist church in that city.

Surviving are four children: Dr. Raymond D. Frederick of Greenwood, Carroll G. Frederick of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mrs. Catherine Williams of Sumter, and Miss Natalie Frederick of Washington, D. C. Also one sister, Mrs. Mary F. Bulky, three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

## SAY COP HIT SCHOOL GIRL

**CHARLESTON** — Angry citizens stormed out an NAACP meeting here Tuesday night planning to ask Mayor W.M. Morrison's hand in punishing a city officer who is charged with slapping a 15 year old high school girl here Sunday afternoon.

A delegation was named to wait on the mayor in the case. Leaders say that Miss Elizabeth Coaxum, the daughter of a meat market operator, and a student at Immaculate Conception high school, was hit by the officer between Morris and Radcliffe streets, while returning from her home after services in the Broad Street Methodist Sunday afternoon.

The officer is alleged to have slapped the young woman in a verbal exchange on King street, not far from her father's place of business.

Mrs. Adams Gets 1st Prize

Mrs. Fannie Phelps Adams a city school teacher and member of one of Columbia's oldest and best known families, was the winner of the Bridges Furniture store's grand prize in a recent promotional effort. R. A. Small, manager of the store, said early this week.

The prize was a Westinghouse Laundromat, valued at \$300.00. It was awarded during celebration "Customers' Appreciation Month at the store."

Mr. Small said Mrs. Adams was one of the oldest customers by record, having started at the store in 1941. Drawing for the grand prize took place on June 1 and was broadcast over radio station WKIX.

Mrs. Adams, a member of the faculty at Booker Washington high school, lives at 1620 Catawba Avenue.

## Charleston Physician Named To Advisory Hospital Council

The appointments of a Negro, Dr. T. Carr McFall of Charleston, to a high state post by Governor J. Strom Thurmond during the week, created an excitement in Columbia early this week.

The young Charleston medical doctor was named to the Advisory Hospital Council and is to take office in September. His appointment is the first of a Negro to a state agency in recent time. No similar appointment was immediately recalled within the past thirty or forty years.

The Advisory Hospital Council was created two years ago by the legislature, to aid the state in sharing in provisions under the Hill-Burton Act.

The state has qualified for the amount of Two million dollars a year in federal funds under the Act covering a five year period, which means that South Carolina will receive some ten million dollars under the program. All requests for aid under this provision will be acted on by the Council, which will pass on or reject.

Dr. McFall, who has enjoyed a brilliant and distinguished career, is a member of one of Charleston's oldest families, being the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. McFall, Sr. The elder McFall was at one time president of the Mutual Savings Bank at Charleston that voluntarily liquidated its business several years ago. He operated McFall's pharmacy at the intersection of Smith and Morris streets for many years, a business being run now by Dr. John A. McFall, Jr.

The new appointee attended Charleston schools and Meharry Medical College. He began his Charleston practice shortly before the outbreak of World War II, volunteering for service and spending most of his Army tenure under Dr. Bousfield at Fort Huachuca. He returned to Charleston after the war and has devoted much time to developing the Hospital and Training School for Nurses on Cannon Street.

He is a member of the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, belongs to the Charleston Athletic Club in Columbia, and numerous other organizations.

## Cantwell Assails Judge Waring

U. S. District Court Judge W. W. Cantwell was target of another Dixiecrat backer here on Saturday, although the jurist's rulings on the Democratic primary have been consistently upheld by higher federal courts.

During a filibuster speech in senate Saturday, state senator E. W. Cantwell of Kingstree, in Williamsburg county, blasted the famed judge for his primary rulings which have ended the ban against Negro membership, declaring that Mr. Waring should be deported to North Africa, and that this is where the jurist would have been if state lawyers had his (Cantwell) brand of bone in their backs.

Cantwell, now and then aping Mr. Waring's personal traits on the bench, told senators that at one time Mr. Waring had laughed in his face while he was in the judge's court, and had threatened him with contempt charges.

"I challenge him to charge me with contempt now," Cantwell yelled.

Cantwell at one time was the secretary of former governor Olin D. Johnston, who called the 1944 special session to repeal the primary laws for the purpose of keeping Negroes voteless. Judge Waring ruled, and has been upheld, that the change in state primary laws did not give legal or other support to a ban against Negro participation in the party.

## MORRIS COLLEGE TRUSTEES HEAR REUBEN REVIEW YEAR'S WORK

**By O. S. Franklin**

**SUMTER** — Morris College trustees extended president O.R. Reuben a vote of confidence, lauded his accomplishments at the end of one year in office, heard reports of progress at the Baptist-operated college, adopted in full the president's report in annual session here last Tuesday.

Seventy-four of the 99 board members attended the session. In accordance with recommendations, these chose 19 from the board to represent the full memberships as suggested in the Feabody report. Dr. J.W. Boykin of Camden presided over the meeting.

**PRESIDENT REPORTS**

The main business of the meeting was the annual report of President Reuben. He declared: "From many points of view, this has been the most successful year in the history of Morris College. It has been forced this year to make adjustments and reorganizations on such a scale as normally would require years."

"Generally, this year our efforts have been to improve public relations, renovate and rehabilitate the physical plant, secure necessary instructional materials and equipment, provide a better quality of instruction, meet standards of State and Regional accrediting agencies, and in a limited way, plan for the future of the institution."

**CITES GAINS**

President Reuben listed among gains during the year: Equipment of the science building with approximately \$14,000 worth of equipment, additions in both space and equipment to the Art Department; addition of a Hammond organ to the music department; and 200 pieces of music literature; placing in the library of stocks, desks, cabinets, typewriters and other equipment; and more than 6,000 volumes.

**RECOMMENDATIONS MADE**

In concluding his report, the president recommended that Trustees support fully the \$100,000 drive launched at the State Baptist convention in May, express disapproval of irregularities reported during the examination of prospectus under the Certificate; prosecute vigorously the building program; to the president power steps necessary to obtain accreditation of the college; both state and other institutions.

## Two Klan Fighting Chiefs Chew Fat

**WASHINGTON (ANS)** — The fighting chief from the state of Missouri, last year, went on a one-man campaign, pulled the masks from a lot of big people and powers, and got himself elected to the White House for four years, and gained the plaudits of a somewhat surprised world.

The other day, this man, the president of the United States, or Harry S. Truman, heard that another fighting chief, a man from Georgia, was in the city. He is mayor James Ferguson of Soperton, Ga., who the other night ripped masks from three klansters parading the streets, and slammed them in the little jail there.

The big chief, who himself battled the klan in the 20s in Missouri, just wanted to meet the little chief and talk over this klan-busting business.

And it was arranged, Mayor Peterson postponed his trip back to Soperton to see the big chief here on Monday.

## DuBois Sees Africa Awaking

**NEW YORK** — (ANP) — At a press conference following his return from Paris, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois told newsmen that Africa was awakening and would soon be demanding different treatment; that is, all except the best.

Dr. DuBois said the core of the growing demands is in Central Africa where there are 25,000,000 natives of unmixed bloods.

## TEACHER PROBE NETS OUTSIDERS

The probe into pony-riding during the February state teacher examinations appeared to widen during the week, with investigating officers pulling several persons not connected with the teaching profession for questioning.

By late Wednesday reports were that a prominent Columbia business man had been summoned for questioning and that several ministers, many outside of school work, were also on the list for interrogation.

From the Piedmont area was

## Democrats Meet On Court Ruling

Members of the state Democratic executive committee have been called into a special meeting here on June 17, state chairman W. P. Baskin said Saturday.

The party leaders will consider the next course of action in their quest to keep South Carolina primaries "white."

Specifically, they will decide whether to seek appeal further in the Brown versus Baskin ruling, upheld recently by the Circuit Court of Appeals, or to let it stand there.

Several months ago, party leaders voted to take the case to the U. S. Supreme Court, if possible.

The meeting follows appointment by both the senate and the house of a special committee to work out plans for putting on state books again laws governing primaries, which were removed in 1944.

Senator Baskin himself proposed the committee.

## Democrats Meet On Court Ruling

Members of the state Democratic executive committee have been called into a special meeting here on June 17, state chairman W. P. Baskin said Saturday.

The party leaders will consider the next course of action in their quest to keep South Carolina primaries "white."

Specifically, they will decide whether to seek appeal further in the Brown versus Baskin ruling, upheld recently by the Circuit Court of Appeals, or to let it stand there.

Several months ago, party leaders voted to take the case to the U. S. Supreme Court, if possible.

The meeting follows appointment by both the senate and the house of a special committee to work out plans for putting on state books again laws governing primaries, which were removed in 1944.

Senator Baskin himself proposed the committee.