

SEGREGATION DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

Lynchburg Man Given Thirty-Five Years For Rape

High Court Decrees It Must Cease

Washington—The Supreme Court this week unanimously struck down segregation in the nation's public schools. The tribunal said that to separate Negro and white pupils violates the constitutional guarantee of equal protection of the laws.

The court said it will hear arguments in the fall on how and when to end the practice.

Chief Justice Warren read the court's opinion which declared:

"We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of separate but equal has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.

"Therefore, we hold that the plaintiffs (Negro parents) and other similarly situated for whom the action has been brought are, by reason of the segregation complained of, deprived of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the 14th Amendment.

"This disposition makes unnecessary any discussion whether such segregation also violates the due process clause of the 14th Amendment."

The 14th Amendment was adopted after the Civil War, primarily for the benefit of slaves freed by President Lincoln. It says no state may deny any person due process and equal protection of the law, nor abridge their privileges or immunities.

The cases decided today—with the court's finding South Carolina, Virginia, Kansas, Delaware and the District of Columbia.

But lawyers said a ruling against segregation would affect a total of 17 states which have laws requiring separation of the races in schools, plus three other states having laws which permit—but do not require—segregation.

The court was told the 17 states and the District of Columbia had 70 percent of the Nation's Negro population, or 10,522,495 Negroes out of a 15,042,692 total. States with permissive segregation had an additional one per cent.

States whose laws require segregation were listed for the court as Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida,

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Rev. F. E. Alexander

Rev. Alexander Named To Youth Study Commission

The City Council of Roanoke recently appointed a group of citizens to be known as the Youth Commission of the city of Roanoke. The appointees were as follows: Mrs. A. B. Camper, 1 year; Dr. D. E. McQuilkin, 1 year; Rev. F. E. Alexander, 2 years; Mr. W. W. McCathern, 2 years; Mrs. Mary C. Pickett, 3 years.

Rev. Alexander is the only Negro appointee. He is the publisher of The Tribune, the only Negro newspaper published in Southwest Virginia; pastor of the First Baptist Church of Buchanan; past president of the Baptist Pastors' Conference and the Frontiers of America. He served as Negro campaign manager of the sixth congressional district in the past gubernatorial election and was formerly co-chairman of the inter-

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Dr. Roberts Speaks at Cornerstone Laying Ceremonies at New Burrell Memorial Hospital Last Sunday

Dr. J. H. Roberts, who came to Roanoke October 25, 1911, has the distinction of having served the hospital in more official capacity than any of the co-founders. He was the first vice-president and secretary. He is Emeritus President of the hospital Association, Emeritus Chairman of the Trustee Board, Emeritus Chief of Staff, Emeritus Chief of two departments of the hospital and Emeritus Assistant Chief of another department.

Dr. Roberts' address went as follows:

Mr. President, Special Guests, Members of the Trustee Board and Fellow Citizens:

At the ground breaking ceremonies last fall which was the initial step in the erection of the new building, I closed my remarks with these sentences, and I quote, "Like all hospitals of this type it will not be self supporting. Funds must be obtained from our sources." So, the Trustee Board has the task and the duty of instituting and outlining a program of public relationship to augment the regular hospital revenue and to clear up the present operation deficit of the old one."

End of quotation.

Five-Year Child Killed By Car

Douglas Monitors Brown, five-year old son of Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Route 5, Roanoke, was killed by an automobile Sunday night about 9 p. m. on U. S. 220, south of Roanoke.

Police said the child was struck as he and his sisters played along the highway. Maynard R. Reynolds of Glasgow was booked for a hearing May 26 in Roanoke County Trial Justice Court on a charge of reckless driving.

In addition to his mother, the boy is survived by two sisters, Elizabeth and Priscilla, and a brother, Kenneth. Funeral was held Thursday at 2:30 p. m. from the Jordan Funeral Home. Interment was in the family cemetery at Pinkard Court.

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Appeal May Be Filed In Sixty Days

LYNCHBURG, Va.—Bernard Skipper, 21, has been sentenced to a 35-year prison term after a Corporation Court trial from which the press and the public were barred during the presentation of evidence.

Skipper, a young Lynchburg Negro, was accused of raping a white woman a year ago. In that hearing, which was also closed to the press and public, the defendant was given 30 years.

The verdict of that first trial was appealed by Attorney Harold B. Singleton, who was appointed by the court to defend Skipper. The State Supreme Court ordered a new trial.

At the opening of the second trial, Commonwealth's Attorney Royston Jester, III, made a motion to close the court in view of the nature of the charges and the evidence which was to be anticipated. Judge S. DuVal Martin asked defense attorney Singleton if he objected. He agreed to the motion after saying that he had maturely considered the matter and felt that it was to the best interest of the prisoner. Judge Martin then sustained the motion of attorney Jester and directed City Sergeant Charles M. Watts to carry it out. As in the first trial the court was opened, following the conclusion of the evidence.

During a recess in which the court was cleared, Judge Martin told reporters that he thought that the newspapers should bring out the fact that the action to close the court was not taken arbitrarily by him, but that it was done by the prosecution and agreed to by the defense attorney.

Members of the chosen jury panel, which included two Negroes, one of whom—Robert Thompson—was chosen as foreman, were Nathan H. Hancock, Lawrence W. Horton, Robert E. Jackson, Charles W. Pryor, W. L. Riddle, Robert Thompson, C. I. VanCleve, Carl D. Branch, Lawrence Ferguson, Nathaniel T. Gorchoff, A. W. Benoy and Paul M. Morrison.

On the stand in the early afternoon, the victim was said to have identified Skipper without hesitation. Attorney Singleton challenged the identification by telling the jury that the victim had said to the police that her

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SEVEN MINISTERS AND CHOIRS TO SERVE IN BUCHANAN CHURCH AND PASTOR ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

The Rev. F. E. Alexander, pastor First Baptist Church in Buchanan, announced this week that plans have been completed for a week of anniversary services with seven outstanding pastors, their choirs and congregations participating. The meeting will begin Monday night, May 24 and will close Sunday afternoon, May 30.

The order of service will be as follows: Monday, Rev. W. N. Hunter, pastor Jerusalem Baptist Church, Roanoke, will preach. Tuesday, Rev. A. L. James, pastor First Baptist Church of Roanoke will deliver the sermon. Wednesday, Rev. O. G. Poarch, pastor Buchanan Baptist Church, (white) will preach. Thursday, Rev. D. R. Powell, pastor Hill Street Baptist Church of Roanoke is the speaker, and Friday, Rev. M. T. Coker, pastor Mt. Zion Baptist



Rev. W. N. Hunter

Church of Roanoke, will deliver the sermon.

Each minister will be accompanied by his choir, officers and members of his congregation.

The series of services will



Rev. A. L. James

climax Sunday with Rev. Logan Williams of Lexington preaching at the regular 11:00 morning service. Music will be furnished by members of the choirs of Indian Rock Mt. Zion Methodist churches of which the Rev.



Rev. O. G. Poarch

Mr. Williams is pastor. Rev. Williams is also pastor of Randolph Street Methodist Church in Lexington. Special musical selections will be rendered by the Twilight Gospel Singers of Buchanan



Rev. D. R. Powell

with Miss Joanna Lee directing.

The anniversary services will close Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p. m. with Rev. William Gilbert, pastor Sweet Union Baptist Church



Rev. M. T. Coker

of Roanoke delivering the anniversary sermon. Music will be furnished by senior choir of Jerusalem Baptist Church choir, Prof. T. W. Macklin, directing.

At the afternoon service



Rev. William Gilbert

"History of the Church" will be given by Mrs. E. Williams. "Progress of the Church under the Present Pastor," Deacon B. H. Jones. There will be a solo by Mrs. Lillian Guarrant of Roanoke.