

U.S. Moves Against St. Bernard Board

Racial segregation protagonists of St. Bernard Parish who sought to rescind their hard compacts in Orleans Parish from complying with the Federal Court's order to desegregate public schools now face their own similar predicament in their own bailiwick.

The U. S. Department of Justice last week asked for court orders forbidding the State of Louisiana and the St. Bernard School Board to provide racially-segregated schooling for students assigned to desegregated schools in adjacent Orleans Parish.

Approximately 700 white students boycotted the William T. Frantz and McDonogh 19 elementary schools in New Orleans when four Negro pupils were admitted last Nov. 14. Many of the white students dropped out of the two schools and were carried by bus into St. Bernard Parish.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy said last week that the petition filed in the U. S. District Court in New Orleans asserted that by providing such segregated schooling last year, the State and St. Bernard Parish School Board had circumvented and obstructed court desegregation orders for Orleans Parish. The petition said approximately 900 white students from Orleans Parish attended a new segregated school, Arabi Annex, in St. Bernard Parish.

ASKS ST. BERNARD MIXING

Mr. Kennedy said the Department's petition sought two orders. One would forbid the State of Louisiana to finance racially-segregated schools in St. Bernard Parish for students from Orleans Parish.

The second order would forbid racial discrimination in any St. Bernard Parish school which accepts Orleans Parish students. Desegregation has not been ordered in St. Bernard Parish.

No date has been set on when the preliminary injunction would be heard by the three-judge Federal Court consisting of Judges Herbert W. Christensen and J. Skelly Wright of the district court, and Judge John Minor Wisdom of the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

"NULLIFY COURT ORDER"

Attorney General Kennedy said, "The State of Louisiana and the St. Bernard School Board nullified the effectiveness of the desegregation orders in Orleans Parish merely by shifting the educational site."

"It appears that a similar effort will be made this year. Therefore, the Government is asking for a court ruling to prevent such interference with the orders of the court."

Mr. Kennedy said the petition did not question the authority of the state to permit students to withdraw from the public school system.

"This petition challenges the action of the State in shifting students from schools subject to court desegregation orders to other schools being operated in the same unconstitutional manner which the court orders had enjoined," he said.

The Justice Department's action was brought as a friend

of the court in the original suit filed by Earl Benjamin Babin against the Orleans Parish School Board.

The Federal Court last Nov. 30 authorized the Justice Department to institute such action as might be appropriate to maintain the administration of justice and the integrity of the federal judicial process.

DEFENDANTS ADDED

A motion adding parties defendants in the injunction suit was filed last Wednesday by the Justice Department. Additions to the suit are members of the State Board of Education, the St. Bernard Parish School Board and Joseph J. Davis, superintendent of St. Bernard Schools and a member of the State Board of Education.

Subsequently, Louisiana's top segregation strategists gathered in Baton Rouge to discuss the situation.

President, Armand Darvin, member of the National American Surety Association, said in a paid newspaper advertisement:

"Attorney General Kennedy has finally revealed the real purpose of forced racial integration -- the complete control over the lives of our children as in Russia."

"Since the parents of the Frantz and McDonogh 19 children refused to submit them to the Communist plan of forced integration, the federal government has been attempting to force our children to comply with its plan for 'Besse'."

"Mr. Kennedy says, in effect, that our children are no longer ours, but now become property of the federal government. How much further can a tyrannical federal government go?"

Dr. Emmett L. Irwin, chairman of the New Orleans White Citizens' Council, said in a telegram to President Kennedy pointing out that the special class being attended by the President's daughter, Caroline, was not integrated.

He said this looked "suspicious."

ASK REVERSAL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

U. S. District Judge James M. Jones, sitting in chambers at the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sentenced in Baton Rouge last week to serve a 90-minute trial before Judge Garner, Vernon J. Jordan, Janette Hoston, Donald T. Moss, Jr., Ann Morris, Kenneth Johnson, Mary Ann Robinson, John Johnson, Felton Valdez, Mary Briscoe, Eddie C. Brown, Jr., Larry L. Nichols, Charles R., and the Governor's Advisory Committee on Integration, Monday's brief filed by the government as a friend of the court preparatory to oral arguments expected in mid-October asks the Supreme Court to reverse the convictions on four grounds:

1. That there was no evidence tending to prove "essential elements of the only offense charge," thereby violating due process clause of the 14th Amendment.

2. That the law under which they were convicted is "so vague and uncertain as to violate due process."

3. That the arrest and conviction of the Negroes was the result of state, not privately imposed racial discrimination, and therefore violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment.

4. The arrest and conviction of seven of the defendants violated their rights under general laws which prohibit racial discrimination against interstate passengers in restaurants operating as part of a bus service for interstate passengers.

Seven of the students were arrested after they sat down at a white lunch counter in the Greyhound Bus Station in Baton Rouge. Seven others were arrested in Kress' Department Store, and two more were arrested in Sitman's Drug Store, for seating themselves at white lunch counters.

Drive First Pile For Wm Guste Homes

Actual construction of the \$14 million William J. Guste, Sr., Homes - a new 993-unit public low rent housing project for Negroes being driven.

The contract for construction of the first pile was driven. According to Laurance Eustis, Jr., chairman of the Housing Authority of New Orleans, the new project is expected to be ready for occupancy in about two years.

Brief ceremonies in connection with the driving of the first pile were attended by members of the Housing Authority of New Orleans, representatives of the architects who designed the project, Guste and Davis and Nolan, Norman and Nolan; and representatives of the R. F. Ball Construction Co., San Antonio, Texas, the general contractor.

The project is just above the area bounded by Melpomene, Thalia, Erato, Glio, Simon Soliva, South Liberty, LaSalle, French and South Robertson Streets.

Existing buildings on the site are being demolished. This will continue for two or three additional weeks. All buildings at the intersection of South Liberty and Thalia Streets had been demolished by the time the first pile was driven to open the way for the pile driving equipment and the first piling was driven into the earth at that point at 11 o'clock Friday.

The new project will consist of a high-rise building containing 626 efficiency and one-bedroom apartments for occupancy by the elderly, and in six three and four-story structures there will be 466 additional apartments of two, three and four-bedrooms in size.

DALLAS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

trained police, commanded by captains and inspectors, were stationed at each school as a precautionary measure.

Both White and Police Chief Jesse E. Curry were jubilant at the smooth integration of the Dallas plan.

Under federal court orders, Dallas is integrating on a staircase plan. Only the first grade was admitted for this year. The second grade will be integrated next year, and so on until all 12 grades are integrated.

The important role of the NAACP in the success of Dallas public school desegregation was cited by Clarence A. Laws, southwest regional secretary of the organization here last week.

Laws said, "As Dallas received the much-deserved praise for its leading efforts to overcome the nation for its peaceful desegregation of eight public schools this week, it should not be forgotten that without the continuing efforts of the NAACP, this could not have been possible.

"Acting on behalf of Negro parents, it was the NAACP attorneys who won the court decision which ordered the schools here to be desegregated.

Laws declared that even the "much praised interracial committee" which worked for desegregation of Dallas schools had its beginning when NAACP executive secretary Roy Wilkins was in Dallas on March 5, 1960. He said that Mr. Wilkins met with business and civic leaders at the Dallas Times Herald office on that date and argued that such a committee be formed.

In Galveston, 37 Negro children were arrested for sitting on a bus service for interstate passengers.



ELKS WINNER - New Orleans' own NATHAN "OLD CROW" KING is showing presenting a trophy to MISS DORIS J. TERRY, winner of the Elks National Convention in the Commodore Hotel, New York City, N. Y. The trophy was donated by the Jax Brewery Co., Old Crow, W.T.L.D. Venice Gardens Supermarket and the Gallo Theatre. Other Elk officials shown are Judge Hobson R. Reynolds, Grand Exalted Ruler; Mrs. A. Terry of Birmingham, Ala., George W. Lee, Grand Commissioner of Education, Mr. King, Judge Perry Jackson, Grand Treasurer and Mrs. Anna Belle Reid, Grand Directress of Education. (Pd. Pub.)

Radio Commentator Raps 'Handpicked' Leaders

It is high time for Negroes of New Orleans to repudiate self-styled leaders or those so-called leaders who have been selected by the other race to lead Negroes," O. C. W. Taylor, moderator of The Negro Forum, a radio program aired every Sunday over Station WNOE, said this week.

Mr. Taylor specifically referred to the recent appointment by former Mayor Dellesseps S. Morrison of Rev. A. L. Davis, Jr., to be the representative of "the more than 200,000 Negroes in New Orleans" and the subsequent cancelling of the appointment last week by Mayor Victor H. Schiro.

Declaring himself to be friendly toward Dr. Davis, Mr. Taylor said he still objected to any mayor take the position of ambassador to the Organization of American States.

In a letter terminating Dr. Davis and abolishing the position, Mayor Schiro said last week that the appointment had never been approved by the City Council as it is required for the payment of the salary.

Mayor Schiro pointed out that a recent council resolution suggested the formation of a committee on human relations and proposed that any employee of the city whose duties are in the field of race relations be a member of the committee.

"Therefore, although the procedure was improper, I have decided to form such a committee and it is my wish that you will accept service on it and continue to serve in the best interests of the City of New Orleans, as you have in church, fraternal and civic affairs for so long," Schiro wrote Dr. Davis.

"We need to stop fooling ourselves with these false formations. Only the truth can live and can make us strong."

Former Mayor Morrison had named Dr. Davis to a \$850-a-month position on June 26, a few days before resigning as mayor to take the position of ambassador to the Organization of American States.

In a letter terminating Dr. Davis and abolishing the position, Mayor Schiro said last week that the appointment had never been approved by the City Council as it is required for the payment of the salary.

REGISTER & VOTE

discuss chemistry institute - William Tanner, teacher at the Booker T. Washington Senior High School, and Miss Constance Marion, teacher in the George Washington Carver Senior High School, discuss with Sister Mary Veronica, S. B. S., one of the pieces of equipment which will be used in the laboratory which will be held at Xavier University, New Orleans, this year. Registration for the institute will be held Saturday. The institute is open to science and mathematics teachers in the seventh through the twelfth grades of both public and private schools. It is co-sponsored by Xavier and the National Science Foundation, will carry graduate credits, and will be free to those selected to take part.

Hurricane Shows Up Southern Tradition

By John E. Rousseau (A Short Short Story)

Hurricane warnings had been hoisted over the entire area. The impending storm, predicted to be the worst since 1901 South Roman street; McDonogh No. 24 School, 414 Adams Street (in Algiers) All Saints School, 1415 Teche Street; and L. P. Landry Junior Senior High School, 1200 Whitney Avenue...

"Hurry up, get out so we can close the door," a voice broke into John's reverie. "You haven't got long to get to your people's shelter."

As the gusts of wind and rain buffeted John, making him stagger and reel like an intoxicated man, he thought:

"Well, sir! Just the other day I was reading of how we Americans are trying to save those poor Germans in East Berlin from old Khrushchev and the Communists; how we Americans are trying to help the poor Cubans who are under the heel of Fidel Castro and the Communists. But poor me, I need somebody to save me from this here storm. I'd be willing to bet the people running that storm shelter didn't ask my boss or any other white person if they were Communists. Even if they said 'Yes,' I'll bet they wouldn't have been told to get out and go to their people's shelter. No, indeed. Not even old Khrushchev himself or even Castro would have been treated as I have been. I guess it's the color, not the political creed, that counts!"

"Well, boy, you've done a good job to get these people here but you can't come in. This shelter is for whites only. Your people's shelter is about three miles away. You'd better hightail it out of this storm get real bad."

Just before old John staggered into the storm, someone thrust into his hand a copy of a four-page pamphlet published by a transit company. His eyes fell on this paragraph:

"In the event a hurricane should strike the New Orleans Area, it may become necessary for some residents to seek shelter in places other than their own homes. A list of public shelters which will be opened in emergencies has been prepared by the American Red Cross as part of its disaster plan...Shelters for White Persons are..."

"Shelters for Negroes are: Walter L. Cohen Senior High School..."

YOUTH BEATEN

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

courthouse to see about him. They were released later. A friend of the youth also was arrested but he too was released, the informant said.

Persons in the community appear reluctant to discuss the incident however it is reported that several persons heard the youth screaming and pleading not to be beaten as he was being taken away in the police car. Informants said one of the officers involved was from the St. Bernard Parish sheriff's office.

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