

Dixie Studies Integration Problem: Alabama Ponders Methods To Avoid Mixed Schools

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Six Southern states Saturday appeared to be holding firm in their determination to circumvent the U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing public school segregation. But in other states where separate white and Negro schools have been traditional, there were signs pointing toward varying degrees of compliance with the court's order to make a start toward integration.

The Supreme Court on May 17, 1954 ruled that separation of students solely on the basis of race is illegal. Last May 31, it ordered federal district courts and local school systems to end segregation as soon as feasible, taking local conditions into account.

In 18 days since that ruling, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Virginia do not appear to have changed their position.

Georgia and South Carolina are ready to close schools if segregation is ended. Alabama and Louisiana legislators are studying ways

Arkansas school districts which have Negroes and to Gov. Orval Faubus. The state office will ask for meetings as soon as possible to discuss desegregation. State officials declined comment. Arkansas has 423 school districts. In the northwest where Negro population is relatively small, already have integrated. Negro population in the rich farm area of East Arkansas. Negroes already attend the University of Arkansas, but president of the state's 7 tax supporters colleges say they are unsure whether Supreme Court decision applies to them.

Gov. Faubus would not speculate on how long integration will require in Arkansas, but predicted continued "good will" between the races.

FLORIDA—State Sup. Thomas D. Bailey believes desegregation problems must be handled at the local level and that there can be no statewide approach.

Bailey last week recommended that local boards name biracial advisory committees to study integration and said he has had good responses. The state officials said that the 1954 law gives county boards authority to place Negroes in public schools with the latest Supreme Court decision. The act gives county boards the final authority to assign pupils.

NAACP spokesmen called for an immediate start toward desegregation and said conferences would be sought with Bailey and others.

FRANCISCO A. RODRIGUEZ, NAACP attorney, said the court decision means a start toward desegregation must be made "now and not tomorrow or when we get around to it."

He added that while the court did not set a deadline "for the conclusion, it has unequivocally set a deadline for the beginning of such a program, that deadline being now."

GEORGIA — Georgia is doing nothing toward integration, awaiting the first move from the NAACP, Gov. George Wallace said. Attorney Gen. Eugene Cook took the position that Georgia was not in violation of the cases. The latest Supreme Court decision was based

and is not yet affected.

Georgia states more than 70 per cent of the part of public school operations and statistics specifically bar use of state funds for mixed race. Gov. Griffin has vowed to cut off funds of any local system where "44-44" forces integration.

Griffin, whose term runs to January, 1959, also has pledged that white and Negro students will attend the same classrooms "so long as the state can do so."

KENTUCKY — A committee appointed by the governor is now studying the Bureau of Education's report to get desegregation into effect in Kentucky.

LOUISIANA — Segregation leaders of the Bienville school district and general plan" to circumvent the Supreme Court decision, but declined to disclose their strategic reasons."

Sen. W. M. Rainach, chairman of the state legislative segregation committee, said "we will fight to preserve our laws and institutions with every weapon at our command."

NAACP attorney A. P. Tureaud has written Atty. Gen. Fred E. Blake asking action in a suit for school filed in 1953 in Jackson Parish county white schools. The suit was filed in 1953 in Jackson Parish county white schools. The suit was filed in 1953 in Jackson Parish county white schools. The suit was filed in 1953 in Jackson Parish county white schools.

Gov. Robert Kennon Friday vetoed a \$24 million dollar matching grant for school construction. Legislation forced said was necessary to equalize white and Negro facilities.

MARYLAND — Baltimore schools have been integrated since last fall and most of the state's 23 county school boards have set up committees to study desegregation problems. Two have acted.

Montgomery County has set integrated schools in the southern part of the county—bordering the District of Columbia—for September. Frederick County in western Maryland will integrate junior and senior high schools in Sept. 1955.

Mississippi — The state NAACP is working to prevent integration. The state NAACP is working to prevent integration. The state NAACP is working to prevent integration.

First In A Series: Who Does What In Colbert County

(First of a series on Northwest Alabama Counties)

Figures for the workers and their earnings for the first quarter of 1953 in Colbert County were recently released by the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance.

Colbert County had a total of 8,116 employees with \$23 employed in contract construction; \$206 in manufacturing; 398 in public utilities; 103 in wholesale trade; 1,331 in retail trade; 193 in finance, insurance and real estate; 616 in services; 26 not elsewhere classified; and 185 unclassified.

Of the 837 operating units in Colbert, four were agriculture services; forestry, fisheries with no reported payrolls; and two were mining with no reported payrolls. Contract construction reported 51 operation units with a payroll of \$1,044,000; manufacturing had 18 units with a payroll of \$247,000; finance, insurance and real estate had 20 units with a payroll of \$97,000; health and 128 units with a payroll of \$317,000; four units with a payroll of \$17,000; not elsewhere classified; and 53 units with a payroll of \$55,000 were unclassified.

In the 64 size units a total of 271 employees were reported with four in mining; 21 in contract construction; nine in manufacturing; three in public utilities; 15 in wholesale trade; 109 in retail trade; 14 in finance, insurance and real estate; 66 in services; and three not elsewhere classified; and 18 unclassified.

In units of 47 employees a total of 128 were reported with 12 in contract construction; nine in manufacturing; six in public utilities; seven in wholesale trade; 54 in retail trade; three in finance, insurance and real estate; 32 in services; and five unclassified.

The 8-18 employees units reported a total of 67 with one in contract construction; nine in manufacturing; four in public utilities; six in wholesale trade; 10 in retail trade; and three unclassified.

wait and see attitude and nothing is being done.

TEXAS — The State Board of Education has appointed a 6-member committee to help Texas' 1,900 school boards study ways of implementing the Supreme Court decision.

Committee chairman Cecil A. Morgan said integration will be easy in West Texas where there are few if any Negroes in most school districts. But he added, it is a blanket order that makes it necessary to supply LEAC with ammunition to use in fighting integration cases.

Robert Patterson of Wiltona, executive secretary, and Bill Simmons of Jackson, administrator, claim the citizens council movement is a "harmful" force. Simmons said the groups "are organized to make the schools and to use every legal resource to resist attempts at breaking it down."

NORTH CAROLINA — The Asheville school board has announced a plan of making a "honest effort" toward complying with the Supreme Court decision. The board said it would move "With measured step in the direction of ultimate integration."

Gov. Luther Hodges, who saw no Southern victory in the decision, said he will not call a special session of the Legislature at this time. He said the court did not forbid a dual system of schools in which children of each race attend separate schools and that the court did not say any state must set up a single school system mixing the children of both races.

"These factors provide some possible hope for time in which to work out the state's plans," he added.

OKLAHOMA — Regents have ordered separate schools in state colleges and universities in September, but some are admitting Negroes to summer sessions.

In the public schools, Poteau in Oklahoma's "Little Dixie" area is first to eliminate segregation, ordering schools integrated in September. Enid closed all schools to Negroes in summer school but made immediate decision on the fall term.

State education officials predicted tight budgets will force more than 20 districts to integrate and that others will do so upon prodding by courts.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Clarendon County Superintendent James H. Hill will close its schools rather than accept the Supreme Court desegregation ruling, according to Chairman J. D. Carzon. The district will make the five involved in the case on the court ruling cases on which the court ruling was based.

"We will keep the races separate," he said, "if we close one school, we'll close them all."

South Carolina has adopted a constitutional amendment eliminating the requirement that the General Assembly provide "a liberal system of free public schools." In the 1955 Legislature, the compulsory school attendance law was repealed.

Gov. George Bell Timmerman Jr. has often expressed belief that South Carolina is the best choice of schools their children attend.

TENNESSEE — The Davidson County (Nashville) school board has directed its chairman and superintendent to work out desegregation plans with racial committee to be named by the chairman.

At the same time, the Nashville school board referred to a standing committee a copy of the Supreme Court decision. The committee's recommendation will be made to the parent to have his children attend a Negro school. The parent, Robert Kemp, is a associate professor of mathematics at Fisk University. He requests that the board be terminated down on a similar request last year.

State officials have adopted a

Attorney To Address AA

A Tri-Cities attorney—an ex-drunkard who found relief from the disease of alcoholism through the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous—will address the meeting of the Florence A.A. group Monday night at 8 o'clock, in the club room at 118 1/2 E. College St., Florence.

Thursday night, in the Tri-Cities area, Sheffield, plans will be outlined for the third Sunday afternoon public meeting of the "A.A. Circuit Riders" to be held in Fulton, Miss., at 3 p. m. on June 19, with a member of the Tri-Cities A.A. group acting as chairman.

Members of Alcoholics Anonymous, men and women from all walks of life who have found a simple but effective means of relief from the disease of alcoholism, make an association of helping fellow alcoholics with charges.

"A. A." as the organization is widely known, has no fee or dues and is open to any person unable to stop uncontrolled drinking. Information concerning the work of the local groups will be given in confidence to anyone writing "A. A.", P. O. Box 201, Sheffield.

Determined Gunmen Steal \$12,000

CHICAGO, June 11 (AP)—Three determined gunmen took \$12,000 from a department store last night using a watchman, braving a flood of tear gas and drilling off the safe door.

Joseph Nobel, 60, the watchman, said the three intruders accosted him about 8:15 last night in the 18th Street Federal Department Store, forced him to lie on a mattress and then worked three hours to get into the safe.

He said the robbers tossed several jugs of water into the safe in an attempt to halt the tear gas that poured out when they knocked off its combination dial.

They also forced the watchman, at gunpoint, to make his scheduled rounds at 10:15 and 11:15 p. m.

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