Supreme Court To Hear Three Civil Rights Cases

McLaurin, Sweatt and Henderson Appeals To Be Argued This Week

United States Supreme court decisions, as well as state court de- public education. cisions, support the constitutional for separate but equal educational

the state of Oklahoma in its brief Laurin, a retired professor of Langston university now a student in the Graduate School of the University of Oklahoma.

McLaurin is appealing from a decision of a special three-judge Federal district court upholding race segregation at the graduate level in state-supported institu-

for argument before the Supreme court this week. The other two cases are those of Heman Marion Sweatt, of Houston, Tex., who was denied admission to the University of Texas Law school, and Elmer W. Henderson, of Washington, who is attacking racial segregation on railroad dining

The justice department has filed briefs in all three cases, as a friend of the court, asking the Supreme court to re-examine to reach a determination that race segregation under compulsion of law, violates the due process clause of the 14th amendment.

While both the McLaurin and Sweatt cases involve the question of racial segregation in institutions of higher learning, here is a fundamental difference between the two.

Sweatt declined to enroll in a separate law school which the State of Texas established for colored students after he had unsuccessfully sought a write of mandamus to compel his admission to the University of Texas Law school. He contends that separate schools are unconstitutional, no matter what the degree

of equality may be. Higher Education, the Board of Regents of the University of Texas and administrative officers of the university in August, 1948. In Federal District court ruled that Oklahoma's Jim Crow laws were unconstitutional and unenforceissued no injunction.

In November, 1948, the threejudge court ruled that Oklahome's Jim Crow statutes, previously held to be unconstitutional could be used as the constitutional and unenforceable in the students, and the Fourteenth

Amendment did not prohibit the racial distinctions in providing

After the ruling, McLaurin was validity of state laws providing permitted to go into the regular classroom and sit in a section facilities for white and colored surrounded by a rail on which was a large sign stating "Re-That is the main argument of served for Colored." At the beginning of the semester (last filed in the case of G. W. Mc- February), the rail and sign were removed.

The State denies that in adopting the restrictions McLaurin is attacking, the purpose was to 'humiliate and degrade' him or to place a "badge of inferiority" upon him. It asserts that their adoption was "an honest attempt" by university authorities to comply with the public policy The case is one of three civil of Oklahoma and at the same rights cases which are calendared time not violate the Fourteenth law as guaranteed by the Four-Amendment.

Court, however, may choose to avoid the fundamental issue of segregation raised and decide the case on the theory that the accommodations have not been "equal." If that happens, the Sweatt case would lose much of its importance, as it would be just another case where the courts have decided that facts have violated the "separate but equal" test for lawful segregation, as laid down in the Plessy vs. Ferguson case, decided by the Supreme Court in 1896.

The NAACP appealed Sweatt case to the Supreme Court on the issues that the accommodations at that institution were not equal to those at the University of Texas and secondly that segregation is illegal per se, as it stigmatizes Negroes as inferior, and therefore denies them the equal protection of the Supreme teenth Amendment.

Harrington Discusses Housing; Says People Are Sympathetic

Saturday, April 1, R. E. Harrington, president of Lincoln Housing, Incorporated, addressed the Republican Women's club at an open meeting at the Y.M.C.A. Speaking under the topic, "Public

Listing mistakes in estimating the housing requirement for Lincoln, Mr. Harrington pointed out that the Housing authority had no 'correct" survey to base its figures. The climate of opinion was that if government housing were to be "temporary" in nature, to absorb the great increase in population and families following the war, it would be all right. But permanent government housing? Such units would not pay taxes for municipal services like water, light, sewage, streets, etc but that the "payments in lieu of taxes" (about 10 percent of rental fee) would not be sufficient.

The matter of schools were dishouse about 2,500 people. School of the "general welfare" clause of McLaurin brought suit against buses to Huskerville are okay, but the Constitution preamble), howthe Oklahoma State Regents for some doubt was expressed about ever, he was not able to show that the wisdom of transporting so many children to existing schools.

The corporation makes use of Socialistically inclined. many surveys. One recent one of October, 1948; the three-judge 136 persons at Huskerville showed "adverse conditions." Mr. Harable as applied to McLaurin, but rington also noted that the averof the people there would be ineligible for low-cost renting.

situation asked: "Why should the on them will begin in a few days. government set down 700 houses case of McLaurin could be used for people who never had 'that vored public housing did so for as the constitutional basis for kind of living'. Build new houses sympathetic reasons. segregating him from all other for the people who can afford them, then let the lower income on.



R. E. HARRINGTON Lincoln Realtor

group move into the old houses," he suggested.

Mr. Harrington also warned of cussed since such a project would Socialism (government provision Senator Taft and others who sponsored the housing bill were

Mr. Harrington said the LHI's first obligation was to Negroes that Huskerville people are because figures show they have "happy," there being no report of a legitimate need. He announced that several lots were purchased by LHI last week for the conage income at Huskerville was struction of housing for Negro ocabout \$170 a month, so that most cupancy in locations "that are suitable" to them and "satisfying." However, he declined to dis-An interesting comment on the close their location. Construction

He charged that people who fa-

Segregation in Lincoln marches

By Louis Lautier WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA). State of Oklahoma from making

-Courtesy The Daily Nebraskan Pictured above are four students rehearsing for "The Story They'll Never Print." They are (l. to r.) Charles Goolsby, Bob Riedy, Gay-Never Print." lord Marr, director, and Jeanne Malone,

braska's radio section.

Barnouw's drama, demonstrating points of inter-group strategy, understates one of Americans' fears: The fear among men whose skin happens to be white of accepting the man whose skin hap- Crump.-The Daily Nebraskan. pens to be black.

George Randol, well-known for- Walter White mer Broadway actor and former director of the Circlet theater, Wants To Get was featured as guest performer. Cast in the role of the Urban League representative who points understanding, Mr. Randol was heard in some of what is considered Barnouw's most brilliant

Charles Goolsby and Jean Malone characterized the young Negro couple about whom the play's dramatic action evolved. Although the persons portrayed were fictional, the roles were composites of numberless Negroes who experienced in the postwar years the situation depicted in the Barintroduction of Negro labor in a hostile, all-white factory.

Others in the cast were Erling Jorgensen as the narrator, Gus to work. Riedy as Mr. Harris, Dutch Meyers as Vendemeer, prejudiced production manager, Dutch Bar- that White had officially withron as Fred, Dick Carlson as drawn his resignation. White sub-Steve, anti-Negro worker, and mitted his resignation in May,

dio drama should have purpose, the public interest to keep con- ing no one will venture to say.

They'll Never troversial issues out of radio Print," Eric Barnouw's contribu- drama. Controversial issues are tion to the American Negro the- the issues that must be faced and ater, was heard at 9:30 p. m. solved. They need to be explored March 30 over KFOR on "Authors in every possible way. For the of the Ages," weekly dramatic sake of an informed public, it is feature of the University of Ne- important that radio drama be allowed freer scope. It can play an important part in public life."

"Authors of the Ages," heard weekly over three Nebraska stations, is directed by Gaylord Marr with technical production by Jesse

Back To Office

CHICAGO. (ANP). Rumors that out the complexity of inter-racial Walter White wants his office of executive secretary of the NAACP back were verified here last week by Walter White in an exclusive interview. White told an ANP reporter that he expects to return to office when his leave is up May 31.

> The NAACP board of directors will act on White's return at its regular May 8 meeting, according to Roy Wilkins, acting secretary, in New York.

White was in Chicago for a nouw script: The experimental brief stay to visit friends before going to Springfield, Ill. He said that he had withdrawn his resignation and was ready to return

In the meantime from New York, Wilkins verified the fact Anne Marshall as the secretary, 1949, according to Wilkins, and Contending frequently that ra- withdrew it March 13, 1950.

When White first attempted to the author of "The Story They'll resign the board refused to ac-Never Print" declares: "One of cept, and instead voted him a the greatest dangers to radio is year's leave of absence. Just what the notion that it is somehow in action it will take at its May meet-

While It Yet Was Dark

by Grace Noll Crowell

WHILE it was still dark, they came, Their faith quite blurred, their hope grown dim, They bore a grief that had no name Since they had looked their last at Him. They knew they lost their Friend and Guide The day that He was crucified. There in the dark they could not see The blossoms that had pierced the gloom; The hope of immortality
Was overshadowed by the tomb, And then, oh then—the rich reward: There in the darkness stood their Lord! This day is dark beyond belief, The dawn delays, no wild birds stir, Within the shadows of our grief Each waits beside some sepulcher, Yet closer than hands or feet stands One, White as the morning, gold as the sun: A living proof—as clear as a cry-That those whom we love can never die!

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