



Four Freed, 2 Sentenced To Life in Trenton Case

TRENTON, N. J. (ANP)—Four members of the Trenton Six were freed, and two more found guilty of charges of first degree murder, last week, as the most expensive and longest case in New Jersey history came to a close.

A jury of six men and six women, all white, delivered the verdict. Found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Ralph J. Smalley of Superior court were Collis English, 27, a navy veteran, and Ralph Cooper, 26.

Their attorneys said they would appeal the case, and hinted that it could eventually reach the U.S. Supreme court.

Declared innocent were McKinley Forrest, 38, Jack McKenzie, 27, Horace Wilson, 40, and James H. Thorpe, 27. The jury deliberated six minutes less than 20 hours before announcing what defense lawyers call a "compromise verdict."

This was the third trial of the six Negroes, all accused of the murder, Jan. 27, 1948, of a white second hand dealer, William Horner, 73, with intent to rob, and the beating of his common law wife, Miss Elizabeth McGuire, who lived with him.

In the original trial, all six men were found guilty and sentenced to death in six weeks. The Civil Rights congress, headed by William L. Patterson, a group labeled subversive by the justice department protested what it called "lynching northern style," and appealed the case.

Its battery of lawyers eventually took the case to the New Jersey State Supreme court which ordered a new trial. The CRC named the defendants "The Trenton Six."

When time for the new trial came up in February, 1950, the CRC was pushed into the background by other groups who decided to take an interest. The second trial, however, was declared a mistrial when the prosecuting attorney, Marie H. Volpe, Mercer county prosecutor, was forced to have an operation.

The third trial, which finally ended Thursday morning, began March 5, 1950.

Today, the Princeton Committee is planning to raise \$75,000 to appeal the sentences of English and Cooper. Their attorney, George Pellettieri, said he will appeal the case in 30 days. During the trial he served as counsel for English, Thorpe, and Cooper. Also serving these three

J. E. Johnson, 69, Here Six Years, Dies

John Edward Johnson, 69, of 1955 Vine, died Wednesday afternoon, June 13, at a local hospital.

A native of Oregon, Mo., Mr. Johnson moved to Elwood, Kas., with his family at the age of nine. He later lived in St. Joseph, Mo., where he married Miss Alena Butts who preceded him in death in 1942. He lived in Chicago for 43 years, and moved to Lincoln in 1945.

He was a member of the Mount Zion Baptist church in Lincoln.

Surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Walter "Birdie" Artis of Lincoln, Mrs. Samuel "Essie" Roy, Lincoln, and Mrs. Frances Wilson, Chicago; four nieces and one nephew.

Burial was in St. Joseph.

men was Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel of the ACLU.

Serving as attorney for McKenzie and Wilson were NAACP lawyers Raymond Pace Alexander, J. Mercer Burrell and Clifford H. Moore. Frank S. Katzenbach, jr., a former judge, was appointed by the court to defend Forrest.

THIRD TRIAL BITTER AFFAIR

The third trial, itself, was a bitter one in which testimony presented by the prosecution and the defense clashed. Key evidence in the case was provided by the alleged confessions of five of the six accused men and statements by Miss McGuire, an eyewitness to the murder.

In the first trial the confessions were accepted as evidence, but police records were not allowed to be presented to the court. The state high court sent it back because of these and other irregularities.

The defense challenged the ad- See Trenton Case, Page 3, Col. 1.

Election To Be Held July 10 by Council

A group of public spirited citizens have met at regular intervals for the past few months to discuss the problems and needs of the city. They organized themselves into the Citizen's Council and are sponsoring the charter amendment which will be submitted to the voters at special election on July 10th.

The purpose of the amendment is to change the city charter so that additional money (up to approximately \$400,000.00) can be obtained to run the city adequately.

A campaign to enlist popular financial support behind Citizens' council efforts to inform voters on the need to amend Lincoln's tax-revenue ceiling in the city charter is being launched.

The campaign was announced by Burnham Yates, chairman of the Citizens' council.

THE COUNCIL'S program is to inform residents of Lincoln of the city's urgent financial situation.

"The urgency of the city's needs is recognized by everyone but the task of informing the public just what these needs are is a big one and we need money to accomplish it before the July 10 election," said E. J. Faulkner, finance committee chairman.

"The Citizens' council, a non-profit educational association, has members from all parts of the city . . . but we need more," Faulkner said. "Our only goal is for a better Lincoln. We can only get that better Lincoln now by voting for the city charter amendment."

The Citizens' council has established temporary headquarters at 731 Stuart bldg. Information on the city's financial situation is being distributed throughout the city from that office.

June 29 is the last day open to registration for the special city election to be held July 10. Total registration is now 46,292. The office of the election commissioner will be open until 9 p.m., on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the last three days of the

Wide Spread Damage From Flood of 3 Creeks

Sewer System Causes Major Damage in Areas

The city was practically cut in half Thursday night (June 14) when tremendous rains sent three creeks over their banks and across town.

Two major contributing factors to the flooding were inadequate bridges and gaps in the big Ante-

lope conduit which extends from a half block south of N to a half block north of Vine.

Many streets were turned into streams, and the streams turned into yards and basements, and tragedy followed. The flooding was the worse in many years in some areas.

The usually insignificant Antelope creek, hardly big enough at most times to be called a rivulet, was suddenly turned into a raging torrent of swollen, muddy fury from A to the State Fair Grounds and Court or Holdrege streets.

Basements were flooded, some being filled to the brim; foundations of a number of houses were washed away and many streets were impassable for hours.

Policemen were kept busy directing streams of sightseers, and private citizens took over when there were no uniformed men available.

All along R, S, T, and U on 19th and 20th, cars were stalled in several feet of water, many were pulled to safety. Rescue workers took trucks to assist stranded persons. Where cars couldn't go boats were used.

Several inches of water covered floors at the Urban League building at 2030 T Street.

For the second time in less than two weeks, overflowing of storm sewers in the 8th and Park street areas caused many basements to be filled again. The drainage area from the Country Club down Lake street was a virtual torrent, hiding the island in the Lake street lake.

8th & Park Sewer Problem Discussed at Meeting

Property owners have complained on several occasions of the difficulties attributed to the sewer situation in the vicinity of 8th and Park. A meeting was held Saturday evening and a plan of procedure was discussed whereby the matter would be presented to the City Council.

George Randol was present and explained the program of the Citizens' Council and what benefits they might derive by being a member.

Iowa State At Ames To Honor Dr. Brown

AMES, Ia.—(ANP)—Dr. Russell W. Brown, professor of bacteriology and chairman of the graduate school at Tuskegee institute, was honored at Iowa State college on Saturday, June 16, when he received the Chicago Alumni Merit award.

Inaugurated in 1932, the award is bestowed upon outstanding alumni for meritorious service in their fields and contributions to their fellow men.

In addition to his departmental work and his duties with the graduate school, Dr. Brown is also director of the Carver foundation and Agricultural Research and Experiment station at Tuskegee institute.

Dr. Brown has been actively engaged in research during the 15 years he has been associated with Tuskegee institute. He has made a number of contributions to the literature in bacteriology and biochemistry. His greatest contribution has been his effort toward developing research at Tuskegee through the Carver foundation.

When he was appointed director of the foundation in 1944, there was no staff and no active research projects, but there was a budget of \$2,500 allocated by Tuskegee institute. Since that time, the growth of the research program and development of the Carver Foundation has been noteworthy. From 1944-1945 through 1950-1951, more than \$100,000 has been received from 15 industries, government agencies and foundations for research and an equal amount appropriated by Tuskegee institute for salaries, equipment and supplies. The staff now consists of 11 senior members and eight graduate fellows in addition to the director and secretary.

Dr. Brown is the third man of his race to receive the Alumni Merit award. Others were Dr. George Washington Carver, class of '94, and Dr. Fred Patterson, class of '23.

final registration week. Only issue before the voters will be the proposal to increase from 7 1/4 mills to 9 1/4 mills, the maximum to be levied each year for general operating purposes. It would also eliminate the stringent dollar limitation.

Negro GI Gets Medal of Honor

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military award given by the United States to members of its services for "gallantry above and beyond the call of duty," will be awarded posthumously to Pfc. William Thompson, 22-year-old machine gunner of the 24th infantry regiment in Korea, who was killed by a grenade last Aug. 6.

Thompson is the first Negro to receive the medal since the Spanish-American war and is the 43rd of the race to be given the medal in all of this country's military history. He is the 15th soldier to win the coveted award in the Korean fighting.

Thompson's act of bravery, which cost him his life, occurred near Haman, Korea, when his machine gun platoon was surprised and cut off from the main body of U.S. forces by an overwhelming number of communist troops. In the fight to extricate itself from the attack the platoon began the costly withdrawal to a more tenable position. A squad leader, Cpl. Washington and another man sought to pull Thompson away from his gun position, but he fought them and succeeded in getting back to the gun and commence firing again.

Although wounded many times by enemy fire and grenade fragments, he stuck by his gun. A blast of a grenade snuffed out his life, after he had declared that if he could not get out alive, "I'll take a lot of them with me."

Thompson, a native of New York, whose address was given as the Home for Homeless Boys, enlisted in the army in 1945 when he was 17. The award will be given his mother, Mrs. Mary Henderson, 39, in ceremonies at the Pentagon building here June 21. His stepfather, Harry Henderson, will also attend.



DOG ENJOYS A SWIM—Near the peak of the highwater level at 8th and Park, a dog was seen enjoying a little swim (See circle. A sewer

opening was completely covered. Scene is directly in front of the J. S. Burks' home.

Courtesy Lincoln Journal and Star