

Desegregation Pattern May Emerge From Tennessee Proposal

A court approved pattern for desegregation in the South's schools and colleges may emerge from a proposal by the Tennessee Board of Education.

In a plan to be submitted to the Federal District Court at Memphis for approval, the board proposes to admit "qualified" Negroes to graduate schools next fall and to admit "qualified" white students to the graduate school at the state's Negro university at Nashville. The Board controls six colleges.

Desegregation would be extended to the senior classes during the following term and downward one class each year until the process is completed in the 1959-60 term.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has denounced this proposal as too slow and failing to provide the "reasonable compliance" that the United States Supreme Court ordered in its desegregation decree of May 31.

Library Now Exhibiting Cartographical Display

A miscellany of old maps, atlases and geographies is being displayed in the lower foyer of the University of Kentucky library where it was placed by Dwight Tenney, retired engineer of Lexington and an active member of the Library Associates.

Tenney and his wife are collectors of antiques and the imprints displayed were discovered by Tenney in small shops in this country and abroad. All of the maps in some way or another are connected with American history in general or with Kentucky history in particular, the time span extending from 1509 until the American Civil War era. Tenney values them as documents which portray the development of this continent and nation, as records showing the scientific advances in cartography, and, in some instances, for their decorative qualities.

The earliest map (and the only

facsimile in the exhibition) is that made by J. Ruysch in 1509 which shows North America as China and links Greenland to Eastern Asia. Its Latin inscriptions give clues to contemporary ideas about people and places of that era. Tenney shows that some of the mapmaker's knowledge was derived from Marco Polo's account of his travels.

Perhaps the most impressive item in the exhibit is the two-volume, folio edition, English version of the Hondius-Mercator Atlas of 1633-36. One of the great cartographic masterpieces of Europe, it is printed on handmade paper and bound in "suede" leather of a later date. So scarce was paper that maps all carry textual information on the reverse side, as shown by one map mounted in plexiglass. Decorations are elaborate and include mythical figures and beasts, animals and costumes characteristic of different parts of the world, agricultural and scientific instruments.

There is even a touch of humor, as, for instance, where a man is portrayed looking through the wrong end of a measuring device. One instrument, an obelisk-like gnomon, as used by the Greek philosopher, Eratosthene, to calculate the circumference of the earth. With such a slender shaft and a deep well at Syrene (and four compensating errors unwittingly introduced) Eratosthene concluded that the earth measured 24,000 miles, an error of but 4 per cent.

Kentucky maps present a graphic record of the exploration of this state from earliest times until Kentucky joined the Union in 1792, and of its later development until the middle of the 19th century. As the eye follows the line of the Ohio River and its tributaries one finds such landmarks as "Big Bones," "Tall Cedars," "Yellow Banks" and the dangerous rapids near Louisville.

In addition to the pleasure which he finds in studying these old maps and atlases from the historical and scientific point of view, Tenney admits that some of the fun lies in discovering these imprints and in recording the way in which they came into his possession. Still another enjoyment comes when he discovers one of those not-infrequent "windfall" items stuck into an old atlas or geography, whether it is an additional map from another source, a political broadside probably used to mark the place in a volume, or (as in a charming old school geography) a cleverly cut paper doll complete with extra clothes of all categories which some little girl created while teacher thought she was studying her new assignment.

The exhibition will remain in the King Library until the end of October.



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