

The K.E.A.
Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN of
KY. TEACHERS ASSOCIATION INC.

VOL. 2

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1954

NO. 1



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The K. T. A. Journal

Vol. 2

October - November - 1954

No. 1

Published by the Kentucky Teachers' Association
Editorial Office at 1925 W. Madison Street
Louisville, Kentucky

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Published Bimonthly during the school year October, December, February
and April

Membership in the K. T. A. (Four Dollars) includes subscription to the
Journal

PRICE \$2.00 PER YEAR OR 50 CENTS PER COPY

Rates for Advertising space mailed on request

Present Circulation, 2,000 Copies

1954 K. T. A. Membership 1420

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PLAN TO ATTEND THE 79th CONVENTION
 of the
KENTUCKY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION APRIL 13, 14, 15, 1955
Louisville, Kentucky

Editorial Comment

THE U. S. SUPREME COURT DECISION

The decision of the U. S. Supreme Court on school segregation May 17, 1954, stated:

"To separate them (children) from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may effect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely to be undone . . .

"Separate educational facilities are (therefore) inherently unequal."

On the cover page of this Journal is a picture of first graders in the elementary school of Fort Knox, Kentucky. These pupils are of the Crittenberger School. In general, children do not have prejudice unless it is taught to them by adults.

If there can be integration at Fort Knox, Kentucky, why can it not be elsewhere in the state?

THE K. T. A. MEMBERSHIP FEE

At the April, 1954, convention, the teachers voted to increase our annual membership fee from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per year. This increase was made necessary because of the increase in printing prices, rental of meeting places, speakers' fees, etc. The enrollment fee in the Kentucky Education Association is \$6.00 per year contrasted to our fee of \$4.00 per year. We urge the teachers of Kentucky to send in their fees for the year of 1954 as soon as possible. Give them to your principal, send them by mail, or authorize the superintendent to deduct your fee from some monthly check.

This year we have added expenses and need in a larger way your membership fee. We have plans to help make secure the jobs of Negro teachers. During the process of integration, the K. T. A. is planning to employ legal counsel to help teachers with their problems of tenure, and on any matter that might arise that would seem to penalize the teachers as the program of integration materializes. In addition, the office of the K. T. A. secretary is seeking to help teachers in a larger way with their personal problems.

Plans have been made to issue four K. T. A. Journals and this will make an increase in our annual expenditures. These issues of the K. T. A. Journal will keep teachers informed concerning practices, procedures, etc., during the process of integration. This issue of the K. T. A. Journal features several articles concerning integration that should be of interest to our teachers.

We trust that no teacher will fail to enroll in the K. T. A. for 1955.

We seek your cooperation, loyalty and support by paying the new membership fee.

HELP SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION; IT WILL HELP SUPPORT YOU!

THE FUTURE OF THE KENTUCKY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Some teachers have asked if the K. T. A. would be absorbed by the Kentucky Education Association in the near future. We believe that the K. T. A. has reason to exist for several years to come. There will be problems of integration for these

two organizations which will require time. Help will also be needed to secure jobs for our Negro teachers. The K. T. A. will sponsor the assignment of teachers to teach in schools regardless of the racial population of the school. We see no reason why qualified Negro teachers should not teach classes in which there are white children.

We know there is a teacher shortage in Kentucky. There are several thousand white teachers that are not qualified and we feel that our right thinking white citizens would prefer well qualified Negro teachers for their children, rather than have them taught by teachers who do not measure up to the qualifications of a standard teacher. In Washington, D. C., where the Negro children make up 58 percent of the school population, a Negro teacher, Mrs. Ella J. Rice, was assigned to teach the third grade class in an all white school. It was reported that the children and teacher got along well. If this can happen in Washington, D. C., it can happen elsewhere.

The Negro teachers of Kentucky have had an organization for the past 78 years. The name of the organization was changed to the Kentucky Teachers Association, so that any teacher who is qualified, regardless of race, might become a member of this association.

A committee has been appointed to study procedures for combining the K. T. A. with the K. E. A. For the next few years enroll in the K. T. A. to insure the integration of our teachers along with the students.

THE KENTUCKY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 1955 CONVENTION

The K. T. A. Association will meet in Louisville on April 13, 14, 15, 1955, in the new Central High School building, at 12th and Chestnut Streets. There will be general sessions in the beautiful and spacious auditorium and sectional meetings in the various class rooms of the building. There will be commercial exhibits, and meals will be served in the cafeteria for teachers in attendance.

The main objective of the 1955 convention will be the setting up of a plan for integration of teachers as well as students. In accordance with this idea, the theme of the 79th convention will be "Education and Job Placement". We believe that one of our major needs in our Educational Guidance Program is the placement and follow-up of students who withdraw from our schools or who graduate from our high schools and colleges. Much emphasis will be put on the placement in suitable jobs for qualified Negro teachers. The meeting will be featured by addresses and discussions pertaining to the integration of teachers as well as students.

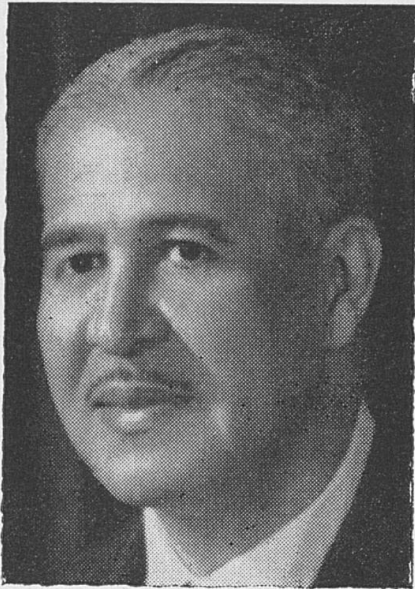
Among those who might be invited as guest speakers are the following: Dr. J. Ernest Wilkinson, Assistant Secretary in the Department of Labor, at Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines, President of the National Association of Colored Women of Chicago, Illinois; Dr. J. Rupert Picott, Executive Secretary of the Virginia Teachers Association and now a Vice-President of the N. E. A.; Dr. Sadie Yancey, Dean of Women, Howard University, Washington, D. C.; State Superintendent Wendell Butler, of Kentucky; principals and teachers of Kentucky and various prominent social leaders.

The convention will be featured by group discussions relative to the employment of Negro teachers and proposed programs for integration of students in our Kentucky schools.

There will be sectional meetings of the various departments on Thursday, April 14, a luncheon meeting of the principals at noon on the same date, and finally the annual musicale on Friday, April 15.

Teachers should start now in the making of plans to attend this historic convention. Other important features of the convention will be the considering of the merging of the K. T. A. with the K. E. A. and election of officers for the K. T. A. on Friday, April 15, 1955. Principals are asked to invite ministers and other prominent citizens of their respective communities to the 1955 convention. Friends of education may enroll as associate members.

K. T. A. CONSULTANT IS HONORED



ATWOOD S. WILSON
K. T. A. Consultant

(By **Bettie L. Douglas**)

Mr. Atwood S. Wilson, principal of Central High School and consultant to Mrs. Anita Robinson, secretary-treasurer of the K.T.A., was honored by Simmons University, Louisville, Kentucky, when the school conferred on Mr. Wilson the degree of Doctor of Humanities at June, 1954, commencement exercises. This honor came to Mr. Wilson, a long-time leader in state educational circles and former secretary-treasurer of the K. N. E. A., in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the welfare of the youth of Louisville, Kentucky, as principal of Central High School for twenty years and also as a civic-minded member of his community. He served as a scout master for many years and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award. As a member of the Board of the Louisville Free Public Library he introduced a resolution which, when passed, made the Main Library available to all persons regardless of race. Mr. Wilson served for many years as chairman of the Board of Plymouth Settlement House, and he continues to be president

of the Colored Orphans Home Society. These are but a few of the many achievements of a man who has worked tirelessly and with devotion of purpose to making a lasting contribution to the progress of his profession and his community.

Dr. Wilson was also given a Citation of Merit by the K. T. A. at the 1954 convention in recognition of his significant contribution to this organization. He served as secretary-treasurer of the K.N.E.A. for over 20 years (1922-1942) and the organization points with pride to the strides made during that period.

Thus, it is with great pleasure that we salute Dr. Atwood S. Wilson, a pioneer in educational guidance, leader in his profession, a father of five daughters of whom he is justly proud, and a worthy member of his community.

Dr. Wilson, congratulations from the K.T.A. and may God bless you with health, happiness, and the strength to continue to serve your fellowmen for many years in the future as you have in the past.

New Tax Relief For Retired Teachers, Effective This Year

Some 100,000 retired teachers around the country will be among those eligible for substantial savings on their 1954 federal income tax as a result of Sec. 37 of Public Law 591, the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Due primarily to a united effort by N.E.A. and a dozen national organizations, Congress passed Sec. 37 as part of the overall revision of the nation's tax laws. Sec. 37 is essentially the "Mason Bill" which was introduced early in the 83rd Congress by Rep. Noah M. Mason (R-Ill.). Under N.E.A. leadership, state and national groups including firemen, police, civil employees, librarians and government workers cooperated to achieve passage of the new exemption provision.

KENTUCKY STATE COLLEGE AND INTEGRATION

(By R. B. Atwood, President
Kentucky State College)

Since the Supreme Court decision last May outlawing segregation in public schools and institutions of higher learning, many persons have asked me to express an opinion on the effect of the decision upon the future of Kentucky State College. I have always tried to oblige, and I am glad now to present my views here at the request of the editor of the KTA Journal. It is only natural that the question should arise of the ultimate disposition of Kentucky State College in the process of implementation of the decision of the Supreme Court. Kentucky State came into being in 1886 to serve the educational needs of the Negro people of Kentucky. This evidenced in its first name: State Normal School for Colored Persons. For the first 68 years of its existence it has served as a college for Negroes of Kentucky, the nation, and a few foreign countries. Recently when institutions in the state and region, which formerly were closed to Negroes, opened their doors to all, Kentucky State was the sole institution in the state offering collegiate instruction to Negroes.

It was inevitable that the admission of Negroes to institutions formerly closed to them would have profound effect upon Kentucky State. Some people, no doubt, recalled immediately the abandonment of Louisville Municipal College when Negroes were admitted to all courses at the University of Louisville. I have been asked often if Kentucky State will experience a similar fate or will it be able to withstand the new competition? Is Kentucky State any longer necessary? Will it admit students of all races? I am constantly assailed with these and many other such questions.

Answers to these questions are not always easy. Frankly, I cannot entirely

divorce my opinion from the interest that I naturally feel as one who has given many years service to Kentucky State, and who is bound to be influenced by what in fact is a vested interest. Here, indeed, is one of the most difficult problems involved in the whole problem of desegregation for all Negro teachers with years of tenure. Certainly I am interested to see Kentucky State remain a college and that in the future it occupy an even stronger position in the state's system of higher education than it has in the past. Paraphrasing the thought of the eminent British statesman, Sir Winston Churchill, I was not elected president of Kentucky State College to preside over its liquidation, neither do I intend to do so. On the contrary, I intend to attempt to show upon every opportunity that there is a field of service to be rendered to the state by Kentucky State, and, that if given adequate support, the institution will thoroughly justify its continued existence. Here are the reasons why I draw this conclusion:

1. Kentucky ranks very low among the states in education generally, standing 47th in the percentage of college educated persons in the adult population. The state needs, therefore, more not fewer, opportunities for its citizens to attend college. There is reason to believe that the low proportion of Kentucky youth who now graduate from high school and later attend college will be appreciably increased in the future, and the need for college facilities will be proportionally greater. In the past many highly gifted high school graduates have not attended colleges primarily for financial reasons. At least half of the most capable high school graduates do not now attend college. The state and

the nation have great need for the services of these persons as college graduates. It is difficult to imagine a more profitable way the state might invest its money than in providing scholarships, fellowships and loans for these worthy persons. The 1954 General Assembly recognized this when it passed a resolution authorizing the Research Commission to study the needs of the state in this area, and to make appropriate recommendations to the 1956 General Assembly on a policy necessary to provide the financial assistance required to put a college education in the reach of deserving high school graduates of marked ability. In light of these needs, this is no time to consider abandoning any of the State's institutions of higher learning. Indeed, the present trend in education is to expand opportunities for college attendance by establishing community colleges. California has made great progress along this line with its many junior or community colleges located throughout the state. If Kentucky is to serve the minimum educational needs of its people, it will need not only to retain all its present institutions of higher learning but may well consider increasing their number.

2. Under the Supreme Court decision all state-supported colleges — University of Kentucky, Western State College, Eastern State College, Murray State College, Morehead State College, and Kentucky State College should — and no doubt will — open their doors to all persons without regard to race.
3. I have always advocated, and I repeat here, that there should be one system of higher education supported by the state, with different units of the system located at strategic centers throughout the state. Some type of over-all state agency

should designate what each institution would do in order to constitute a sensible and complete system of higher education for the state as a whole. Located at the state's capitol as it is, Kentucky State College would logically be the college selected to render, among other services, the various higher education services needed by the state government personnel itself. Indeed, the future might very well see Kentucky State become Capitol State College or Frankfort State College.

4. Under any future state plan of higher education, Kentucky State can serve a useful purpose by offering a thorough program of general education which should include remedial instruction for the many students with accumulated deficiencies because of poor elementary and secondary schools. A place should be in the program for terminal courses for those students who plan to seek employment before completing college. Opportunities in building and construction, maintenance and building operation or engineering, farm operation for supplying dairy, poultry and pork products, and secretarial courses might well be established. These courses would have great appeal to both white and Negro students. For those who wish to take a full four year college course, the state should put sufficient funds at Kentucky State to enable it to strengthen its offerings and to expand into those areas that an enlarged student body would require.
5. It has been well said that no function of the state-supported institutions of higher education bears a closer relation to the state's welfare and progress than does the preparation of public school teachers. Kentucky is in desperate need of well prepared teachers. This need will

not be lessened in the foreseeable future. In fact, when considered in light of the Minimum Foundation Program, there will be increased demand in the state for prepared, certificated teachers. In the future, as in the past, Kentucky State can be expected to train and graduate teachers well prepared to give instruction in the public schools of the state.

For all of the above reasons the question of the future need for Kentucky State College must be answered in the affirmative. There is a definite place and need for the institution in any plan the state may draw to meet its future educational requirements. Whatever these may be, under the Supreme Court's decision, they must be met by a integrated educational system. If the future welfare and happiness of the state is given proper consideration, and there is every reason to expect this, integration in the state will include both

teachers and pupils. Integration should work both ways—it must be a two-way street.

Most Americans have always known that segregation is un-democratic, un-Christian, and un-American. The Supreme Court now says segregation in public education is un-constitutional as well, and as such, must go. But this does not necessarily mean that such institutions as Kentucky State must go. Far from it. These institutions have only to widen their services to include instruction of students of all racial groups to justify their continued existence. But at whatever cost we must insist upon an integrated educational system for the state. If a scientific, objective study should show that Kentucky State College is a stumbling-block in the road to achieving this objective, then, I would be first to say that Kentucky State should go. In my judgment, however, in light of universal anticipation of ever increasing college enrollments, there is little danger of this.

INTEGRATION IN THE NEWS

(By Robert S. Lawery)

Except for the isolated cases in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, and Milford, Delaware, those communities starting integration in September of the current school year did so without much protest or conflict. In Washington, D.C., the largest city attempting integration this September, the transition was remarkably successful. For the most part the public schools in Washington are completely desegregated. Teachers have been mixed as well as students. Only a few schools remain completely white or Negro. As a pattern for the nation, the progress made in Washington, where Negro students numbered approximately 61,000 out of the District's total enrollment of 106,000, should be distinctly significant to those states and districts yet waiting for the Supreme

Court to supplement its decisions with details for integration.

Several communities in Missouri, West Virginia, Arkansas, Maryland and Delaware brought an end to their segregated schools with calm acceptance of the integrated pattern.

However, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, after experimenting with integration for a five-day period, the school board returned to segregation when 600 parents threatened to stage a mass meeting and bodily remove the 25 Negroes enrolled at White Sulphur Springs High School. Likewise, in Milford, Delaware, protesting parents are attempting to hold up integration in spite of the Governor's insistence that the community should integrate without delay on a law-abiding basis.

K.T.A. Kullings

Rev. A. R. Lasley, Hopkinsville, president of the Kentucky Teachers Association, was elected President of Simmons University, Louisville. President Lasley is considering the acceptance of this offer and call to serve the ministers of Kentucky and elsewhere.

The LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL on September 13, 1954, published a picture of Mrs. Ella J. Price, teacher of a third grade class in an all white school in Washington, D. C. This was one of the situations in which integration seemed to get off to a good start.

Attending the National Education Convention in New York June 27 to July 2 were President A. R. Lasley, Mrs. Anita W. Robinson, Secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Bernyce Brooks, Hopkinsville, all as delegates from the K.T.A. Also attending were Miss Eunice Newhouse, delegate from Louisville Teachers Association and Mrs. Clara W. Taylor, delegate from Lexington Teachers Association.

It is reported that white students graduated in the 1954 classes of Fisk University, Nashville, and Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Florida. This might be a pattern as progress in school integration continues.

The Louisville Board of Education is in process of building Cotter Elementary and the new DuValle Junior High schools at a cost of over one million dollars. These schools will serve the Parkland area of the Louisville school district.

President R. B. Atwood, Kentucky State College, was given a citation by the 4-H clubs of Kentucky for his leadership in that organization and for sponsoring progressive measures in the field of agriculture among Kentucky farmers.

Dr. Maurice Rabb, Louisville, was one of the first Negro physicians to be admitted to the Jefferson County Medical Association and more recently has been elected to the staff of St. Joseph Infirmary in Louisville.

President Whitney M. Young, Lincoln Institute, reports an enrollment of over 550 students. This is the largest enrollment in the history of Lincoln Institute.

The city of Bowling Green has nearly completed the building of an ultra-modern high school to replace State Street High. Prof. E. T. Buford will be the principal of this new community high school, which is built and planned much on the order of Central High School in Louisville.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, who was one of the principal speakers during the N.E.A. Convention in New York, has been appointed to the highest post held by an American in the United Nations secretariat. Bunche and a Russian, Ilya S. Tchernychev, will handle jobs on assignment from United Nations Secretary Hammarskjold which may range over all departments of the U. N. and to all parts of the world.

The NEA \$5 million Building Fund Campaign got the needed shot-in-the-arm at the New York City Convention. 586 Life Members, adding \$87,900 to the building fund, were recruited.

New teachers in the Louisville Public Schools are Miss Edna M. Daniel, B. T. Washington; Miss Barbara Fleshmon, Madison Junior High; Kendrick Hamer, Madison Junior High; Miss Geneva M. Hawkins, Madison Junior High; Samuel O. Hazzard, Madison Junior High; Miss Rosemary Lanier, Lincoln; James R. Lauderdale, Central; Mrs. Helena V. Lawson, Douglas; Miss Ella M. Lilly,

Douglas; Miss Lucille Mackey, Virginia Avenue, and Mrs. Margaret Wright, B. T. Washington.

The University of Louisville has four Negro players on its football team. They are Leonard Lyles, Louisville; George Cain, Middleton, Ohio, and from Birmingham, Alabama, Lyde Bingham and Anderson Walker.

The first teachers to enroll 100% in the Kentucky Teachers Association for the 1954-1955 school year were from Lexington and Harlan County schools. These two groups of teachers also enrolled 100% in the N.E.A.

Mrs. Susie B. Fish of Danville, Kentucky, was given a citation at the 1954 State Fair for distinguished service to the youth of Kentucky. For over forty years she has been a teacher in the public schools of Kentucky. Her picture was carried in the Louisville Courier-Journal on September 14, 1954. The award was made by Mr. N. B. McMillan, director of public relations of the K.E.A.

Dr. Charles H. Parrish, Professor at the University of Louisville, has returned to his duties there after an extensive stay in the south. Dr. Parrish, who was visiting the southern region in the interest of the Negro and desegregation of schools, reports many

interesting experiences. In the next issue of the JOURNAL we hope to have a complete report on Dr. Parrish's summer project.

The members of the Board of Education, faculty and students of the Eminence Elementary School held open house at the school Sunday afternoon, October 3 at 3 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood S. Wilson and Mrs. Anita W. Robinson attended as official representatives of the K. T. A. Prof. L. L. Spradling is the principal of Eminence School.

K. T. A. districts that met in October are the Blue Grass, Third and First. The Fifth District meets November 5th. Reports of district meetings will be in forthcoming JOURNALS.

K. T. A. HONOR ROLL

October 8, 1954

System	Superintendent
Lexington City*	John M. Ridgway
Harlan County*	J. A. Cawood
Carrollton City*	Russell P. Roberts
Lincoln County	Joda Milbern
Hickman County	Dentis McDaniel
Clark County*	W. G. Conkwright

* 100% enrolled in N. E. A.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT OF THE N. E. A. CONVENTION

(By A. R. Lasley
President of K. T. A.)

Twenty thousand teachers and educators from all sections of the United States and outlying territories gathered in New York City at the famous Madison Square Garden June 27 to July 2, 1954, for the ninety-second annual convention of the N.E.A. This was the first time this assembly had met in New York since 1938. All restrictions were lifted and President William A. Early had arranged a uniquely valuable program. It provided both inspiration and practical help to all members of the profession and to the many lay friends of education who attended. Some ninety group discussions were held on the major problems of education. These discussions were in the general areas of information, community relations, teacher welfare, organizational problems, professional preparation and growth, and finance and buildings.

Presentations were made by experts in the various fields. Among the topics discussed were **Education's Role in American Economy, How to Judge A School, Working With Citizens' Committees, Dealing Constructively With Attacks on Public Schools, Retirement and Social Security Problems**, only to mention a few.

The United Nations officials took unprecedented action in opening all the facilities of the UN to members of the N.E.A. and co-sponsoring with the N.E.A. "Operations Sunny". Seven sessions were held at the UN, with discussions on the general theme, "Education and the United Nations". Among the UN speakers were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt; James J. Wadsworth, Deputy United States Representative to the United Nations; Ralph Bunche, Director Trusteeship Division UN Secretariat; Rufus Clement, president of Atlanta

University and John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State.

The convention adopted a resolution unanimously endorsing the action of the U. S. Supreme Court in outlawing segregation in the public schools of the United States, and ordered a telegram sent to Chief Justice Earl Warren and the other members of the Supreme Court.

Miss Waurine Walker, of Texas, was elected president for 1954-55. The 1955 Convention will be held at Chicago, Illinois.

I am humbly grateful for the opportunity of serving as your representative along with the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Anita W. Robinson, to this convention.

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PICOTT ELECTED TO N. E. A. OFFICE



J. RUPERT PICOTT

At the ninety-second annual convention of the National Education Association of the United States, J. Rupert Picott, Executive Secretary, Virginia Teachers Association, Richmond, Virginia, was elected a vice-president.

Dr. Picott was the "father" of the following resolution on segregation and integration in the public schools which was passed unanimously by the more than twenty thousand educators that attended the N.E.A. Convention in New York this past summer:

"The principle embodied in the re-

cent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States with regard to racial segregation is reflected in long established provisions of the platform of the National Education Association. The Association recognizes that integration of all groups in our public schools is more than an idea. It is a process which concerns every state and territory in our nation.

"The Association urges that all citizens approach this matter of integration in the public schools with the spirit of fair play and good will which has always been an outstanding characteristic of the American people. It is the conviction of the Association that all problems of integration in our schools are capable of solution by citizens of intelligence, saneness and reasonableness working together in the interest of national unity for the common good of all."

Dr. Picott is the second Negro in the 97-year history of the association to hold such a high position in this organization of the nation's teachers. Such an outstanding educator will serve the association with distinction.

This is a splendid example of our National Education Association recognizing leadership and merit among our Negro educators. Further it should serve as a stimuli to our state organizations as they tend toward plans of merging state associations in the southern states.

PEOPLES DISPENSARY

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TEACHERS ARE WELCOME!

Drugs and School Supplies

Opposite the K.T.A. Convention Corner

MATHIS WINS LINCOLN FOUNDATION KEY



Howitt Conway Mathis

(by J. A. Carroll)

At the Thursday evening session of the 1954 K. T. A. Convention, Howitt Conway Mathis was awarded the Lincoln Foundation Key. This award is made annually to the Kentucky educator who has been outstanding in his community and state because of his inspiring leadership.

Mathis, a native of Greenville, Kentucky, has been the principal of Drakesboro Community High School since 1945. Prior to his coming to Drakesboro he taught in the Greenville Training School eleven years, serving five of these years as principal. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the K.T.A., now serving his second term.

After completing the grade school and high school in Greenville, Mathis received his degree from Tennessee A. and I. State College, where he is now doing graduate work leading toward a degree in school administration.

Many improvements have been made at Drakesboro Community High School

during Mathis' administration. Some of the more outstanding improvements are the revision of the curriculum, expanded and improved library, addition to the Home Economic Department, placing the school lunch program in the Federal School Lunch Program, equalized teachers' salaries and an expanded athletic program.

Mathis is a member of the St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church at Drakesboro, member of the Masonic Order, former president of the Third District Teachers' Association of this organization, President of the E-41 Basketball Region of the Kentucky High School Athletic League, member of the Board of Control of the K.H.S.A.L. and Polemarch of the Hopkinsville Alumni Graduate Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

He is married to the former Miss Eloise Walker, of Central City. They have one son, Howitt C. Mathis, Jr., who is nine years old.

The above-mentioned activities, projects, and ideas sponsored by Mr. Mathis are witness of his energy, initiative, and hard work, but no value can be placed upon the inspiration that he has given those with whom he comes in contact. Spiritual values arising from the counsel and guidance which this humble teacher has given to the many, many boys and girls who have entered and gone forth from the high schools in Greenville and Drakesboro, will live within their hearts as long as life itself.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK
November 7-13, 1954

PLEASE URGE PARENTS
TO VISIT
YOUR SCHOOLS
"Good Schools Are
Your Responsibility"

VIRGINIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND INTEGRATION

In the September BULLETIN of the Virginia Teachers Association, a statement was issued on school integration. It is felt that the evaluation and conclusions expressed in their statement might be a worthwhile platform for Kentucky teachers and other citizens in this commonwealth to take. Particularly noteworthy are the sections quoted herewith.

"As teachers, we believe that the interest and welfare of children should receive first consideration. We are convinced that the attitudes of parents in the homes influence tremendously the attitudes of children in the classrooms. In order to make certain that there may exist in our classrooms the proper climate for learning, we feel that it is highly essential that proper attitudes be developed in the homes with respect to mutual understanding, appreciation and goodwill of one race for the other. This points up the urgent need for interracial discussion groups on the local levels. We therefore, urge that teachers, ministers and other community leaders should take the initiative in organizing and promoting such study and discussion groups."

This, it is felt, is a good program for us the leaders of our race in Kentucky. Too, the following quote from Virginia's statements, may well apply to Kentucky teachers, and to its point of view, we concur:

"We are conscious that whatever

form the implementation of the Supreme Court decision leading to integration in our public schools takes, a major consideration should be the retention of competent teaching personnel irrespective of race. In this connection, we believe that it is fair and proper to point out that Negro public school teachers in Virginia proportionately hold more advanced degrees, have more teaching experience and have attended more of the widely recognized universities than any similar group in the state. There is an extreme shortage of competent teachers in a large segment of Virginia schools and the training and experience of these Negro teachers should not and cannot honorably be overlooked."

The Negro teachers of Kentucky are approximately in this same category, and to this statement from Virginia, we ascribe.

In conclusion: "Integration is more than an idea. It is a process and a process in the right direction. Integration of Negro and white Americans is necessary if we are to have democracy in this country. We believe in democracy. We believe in democracy because we believe in something deeper. We believe that man is the creature of God, and the child of God. One God breathed His Divine Spirit into us all. One God loves us all with an equal and infinite love; that makes everyone of equal and infinite worth. That makes us all brothers, one of another."

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GOOD EDUCATION FOR ALL

(By Whitney M. Young)

The people of Kentucky are faced with more than just the necessity of complying with the Supreme Court's decision outlawing school segregation.

Where can any child be educated in a class A.A. high school with such vocational offerings as Agriculture, Home Economics, Mechanical Arts, Pre-nurse Training, Guidance, and Building Trades, is really the \$64 question.

Just attending school with some other race means little in Kentucky unless the facilities, teachers, length of school term, teacher-pupil load, library, salary and transportation measure up to the national average.

A good education should come first, whether the school has a majority whites or Negroes or in some instances all of one group not by coercion or subterfuge but because of the quality of service and geographical considerations.

A pupil attending Dunbar of Lexington, Central of Louisville, Western of Owensboro, Lincoln Institute, Lincoln Grant of Covington, Lincoln of Paducah, just to name a few, would never need to apologize for his school or training.

There are any number of Negro schools with superior teachers. Where do we go from here?

1. Study each county and district without regard to race and evaluate its potential.

2. Have the State Department of Education to provide the leadership and technical assistance and all available data.

3. Arrange for a series of community organizational meetings.

4. Among the participating groups should be representatives of the P.T.A., Church groups, Rotary, Kiwanis, Farm groups, Chamber of Commerce, Business groups or any other civic-minded group, such as the Urban League, N.A.A.C.P. and S.R.C.

5. A careful study should be made of the qualification and available teachers both in-service and out-of-service.

6. We need to study the tenure law and how the local boards interpret and apply the law. How many teachers in Kentucky have tenure and where are they?

No intelligent person wants to segregate or isolate himself or his children. Neither should we be sucked into an educational vacuum which provides less than a minimum of hope for any child regardless of race, creed or color. Kentucky is a long state with rugged hills, red clay soil, and many undeveloped areas where life is no less monotonous than that which one finds in the cotton fields of Alabama or the rice swamps of Louisiana.

To be sure, we have our bluegrass farms, beautiful parks, rich coal mines and fertile valleys, but outside of these live thousands of white and Negro youth to whom American civilization is yet a nightmare.

My idea calls for consolidation, liquidation, limited transportation, expansion, re-organization and state regional planning. All of these come within the realm of scientific research and the use of evaluative criteria acceptable to real educators.

It is no longer a question of Who's Right, but What's Right.

Perhaps the greatest need is Character Education. This type of education has been beautifully defined in, **WHAT IS A GOOD SCHOOL?** "A recent Harvard survey disclosed that 65.8% of the men who failed as employees were discharged for lack of personality development and adjustment. In our society based on the importance of the individual, the school's main contribution should be the creation in each child of that well balanced personality which can live with satisfaction in the society in which it finds itself."

K.T.A. Announcements

THE K.T.A. KERNEL, published and sent out in May of this year gave the highlights of the 1954 Convention. The report of the Secretary - Treasurer showed receipts of \$6,849.21 and a balance of \$696.58 as of May 1, 1954. After the annual audit by Mr. M. J. Sleet, Paducah, his report will be published in the January - February K. T. A. JOURNAL.

The Earl W. Hamer Printing Company, Wabash, Indiana, which firm prints the K.T.A. JOURNAL, has announced that it prints commencement programs showing lithograph pictures of graduates on the front cover. This firm also prints tickets, placards, programs, stationery, etc., at a very reasonable rate and will be pleased to send to interested persons samples and prices.

The annual election of officers of the association will be on Friday, April 15, during the 1955 Convention. Candidates for President and other offices should send in their names as early as possible for publication.

The K.T.A. Board of Directors will meet in Louisville on Saturday, October 30, at 11 a.m. at the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, 1925 W. Madison Street. They will meet again in January at which time district presidents, department chairmen, and presidents of local associations will be invited to help plan the 1955 Convention Program. They will be asked to also suggest a plan for integration in Kentucky to be considered at the 1955 Convention.

A new feature of the K.T.A. JOURNAL will be "ASKING and SHARING". This section of the JOURNAL will be devoted to questions from teachers as well as to comments and suggestions. It is hoped that teachers will take advantage of this medium to ask questions,

give solutions and advice on problems in pupil adjustment, professional interests, and educational problems both locally, state-wide or nationally. Let us hear from you, won't you? Address all letters to the Editor, K.T.A. JOURNAL, 1925 W. Madison Street, Louisville, Kentucky.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes will meet in Louisville November 28, 29, 30, December 1 and 2. The President of the Association is P. L. Guthrie, principal of Dunbar High School, Lexington. Meetings will be at the Central High School building in Louisville. A feature of the meeting will be the consideration of the merger of this association with the white association of the same type.

The Board of Directors at its April, 1954, meeting voted not to hold the Spelling Contest during the 1955 Convention. This action was taken because there were only twelve entries in the contest and because of the difficulty in securing prizes.

There will be a Principal's luncheon on Thursday, April 14, at 12:30, during the 1955 convention. It will be held on the Central High School cafeteria. The fee for this luncheon and details of the program will be announced by the chairman, Mrs. Agnes Duncan, Louisville, in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

One of our most important projects this year is the formation of local education associations in the various school districts. District presidents and principals have been asked to recommend teachers in their areas who would be interested in taking the leadership in the organization of such local associations in their community. It is felt that a strong local association will be one of our greatest assets as we confront

the many problems that will arise as the result of the desegregation of the schools. Too, more local groups give us more representation in the national association and in the state organization as we plan for a proposed "delegate assembly". For more information con-

cerning local associations, write the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Secretary-Treasurer will send to each educational unit an Honor Roll for 100% enrollment in the K.T.A. for the year 1954-55. Enroll now in the K.T.A. and the N.E.A.

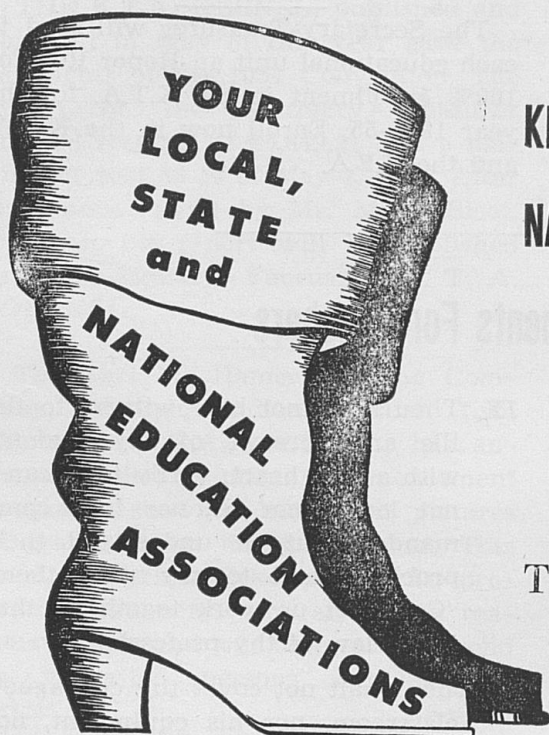
Eleven Commandments For Teachers

- I. Thou shalt have interest outside thy classroom.
- II. Thou shalt not attempt to make graven images of thy students, for lo, they are not stone, but flesh, and heir to the wriggings and whisperings thereof.
- III. Thou shalt not cry out in a loud voice unto them, for the voice of wrath is alien to the spirit of learning, and thy students will respect thee not if thou callest their names in vain.
- IV. Remember thy weekends and thy vacations, for in times of stress the thought of them will comfort thee.
- V. Honor thy students and believe in them, for they have great need of thee whatsoever their actions; and verily thou must hold strong to this faith when the spitballs fly unto thee and the unruly grow wild.
- VI. Thou shalt not kill in any way, even the smallest, the curiosity of a little child, yea, though it seem often the curiosity of a cat and never-ending.
- VII. Thou shalt not suffer any unkindness of thought or action to enter the door of thy classroom.
- VIII. Thou shalt not steal time from thine own hours of leisure by putting off work so long that it fitteth not into its rightful schedule.
- IX. Thou shalt not bear witness to the ills and sorrows of thy students with a cold heart; verily thou canst not love them all, nor is it commanded, but to understand their problems and to say unto them, "Come let us work together," that is the law of thy profession.
- X. Thou shalt not covet thy colleague's classroom, nor his equipment, nor his system, nor his degree, nor his personality, nor anything that is thy colleague's, but work out thine own salvation in fear and trembling.
- XI. Thou shalt not lose thy sense of humor, for verily without it thou art lost and doomed surely to beat out thy brains upon thy blackboard.
(From N.E.A. Handbook)

A TEACHER'S PRAYER

Dear Lord, I do not ask that Thou shouldst give me some high work of Thine, some noble calling, or some wondrous task. Give me a little hand to hold in mine; give me a little child to point the way over the strange, sweet path that leads to Thee. Give me a little voice to teach to pray; give me two shining eyes Thy face to see. The only crown I ask, dear Lord, to wear is this: That I may teach a little child, I do not ask that I may ever stand among the wise, the worthy or the great; I only ask that softly, hand in hand, a child and I may enter at Thy gate. Amen.

Put These Boots On And Go Places With Your . . .



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KENTUCKY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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GOOD NEWS TO KENTUCKY TEACHERS

The Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled on October 8, 1954, that all teachers that have been teaching in the same district for six successive years have permanent tenure. This is true regardless of the type of contract the teacher has signed for the seventh year.

Teachers who are in this category (7th year of teaching on a one or two year contract) should see their respective superintendents and ask to have a permanent contract issued. The K.T.A. hails this as "good news" on the eve of integration.

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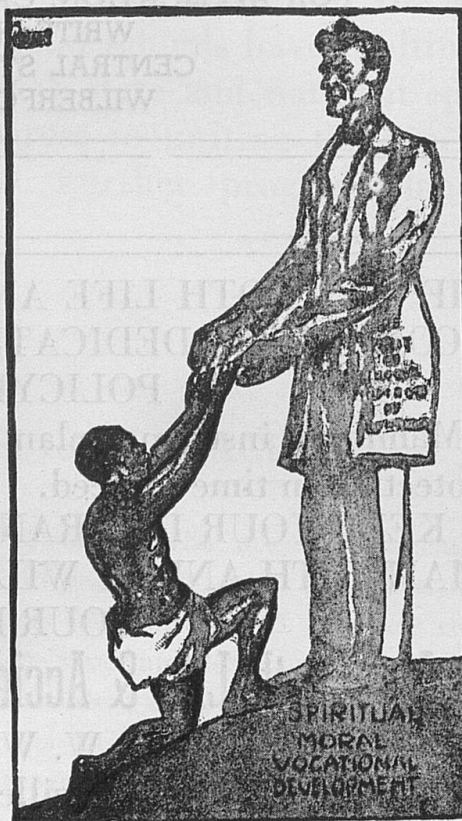
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