

VIRGINIA

A Review Of Occurrences In The Old Dominion Baptists Reaffirm Anti-Bias Stand By Alice Jackson Houston

Good News

RICHMOND, Va.—We rejoice with the rest of the nation and the world in the good news that our Chief Executive hopes to return to

Washington Nov. 11. The report from his doctors that he had no heart enlargement was heartening. Take it easy, now, Mr. President, and bide your time for full recovery. Our nation cannot afford to expend uncommon men like you.

Baptists Split
The Virginia Baptist General Association wound up its annual three day meeting in Richmond last week in dispute over adopting the following section of the report reaffirming the Association's action in Norfolk at last year's meeting:

"WE FEEL THAT basic to the democratic freedom in our republic is our system of free public schools. Any plan which eliminates these schools directly or indirectly would cause more harm than the condition sought to be remedied.

"We believe every boy and girl in Virginia has a right to an education that will enable him to read and interpret the Scriptures and to attain his full competency as a responsible citizen. This can be guaranteed only through

compulsory school attendance laws."

LOUD opposition to this clause left the group divided into two camps. Quipped one delegate from the hill section of Virginia, "We as well as some other denominations, are going too far in suggesting or urging integration. If we have it in the churches, we will have it in other church institutions, and in the end, we'll have mongrelization." The report was received, but no action was taken.

'World' President

At the London Congress of the Baptist World Alliance, a Virginian, Dr. Theodore F. Adams was elected World Baptist president. What a nasty spot for Virginia churchmen to leave him in! The eyes of the Protestant world are looking to Virginia and Dr. Adams for Christian leadership.

THE VIRGINIA Supreme Court convenes Monday to rule on the legality of the state's payment of tuitions for individual students who wish to attend private schools. On this thin legal thread, presumably hangs the final report of the Gray Commission to the Governor and the Legislature, and the Governor's announcement of school policy in Virginia.

Poor People

Despite general prosperity in the United States, many Americans are still chronically poor. The Joint Committee of Economics Report,



DR. ROBERT P. DANIELS
Cites Figures

the major economic study group for Congress, in a recently released study on poverty, pointed to the South, to farms, and to the non-white population as having a disproportionate share of the poor. The gainers from the nation's rising standard of living were the middle income families. Figures showed that during the seven years covered by the study (1948-55) the number of the nation's families with high incomes showed a dramatic gain, but the number with permanently inadequate economic resources of up to \$2,000 income a year, showed little improvement. Recent reports on income in Vir-

ginia indicate a minimum of less than \$2,000 for non-whites and more than \$3,600 for whites.

Tax Trouble

T. COLEMAN Andrews, former Commissioner of Revenues for the United States, who resigned his position after 33 months to accept the presidency of the American Fidelity and Casualty Company of Richmond, stepped into his new position last week. The company he now heads is having revenue tax troubles reportedly amounting to \$5,500,000.

On Integration

In a letter to the Governor last week, the Virginia Council on Human Relations, urged Governor Stanley "in accordance with your solemn oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, issue a statement affirming that Virginia will comply with the spirit and the letter of the Supreme Court decisions," and that he "request the cooperation of the Negro and white leaders throughout the State in safeguarding our public schools system and promoting sound and lawful human relations."

THE COUNCIL asked that each county and city form a study group to survey the local educational situation and then recommended a step-by-step program of compliance. That a State Commission composed of both Negro and white leaders and representing fairly all points of view be appointed by the Governor to make a study of

statewide adjustments required and to recommend appropriate action for effecting the changes smoothly.

Defenders Act

While the Gray Commission deliberated alternatives to the Supreme Court Decision on school segregation, and while the Virginia Council on Human Relations worked diligently to offer a constructive program of compliance to our Governor, the Defenders of State Sovereignty met in closed session at the Hotel John Marshall in Richmond to reaffirm their stand against any form of integration. In a formal statement to the press at the close of their session the body renewed its opposition to any plan that might be devised for mixing the schools. In their unwavering resistance to change doubtless lies their ultimate annihilation—but at what price? is the question.

Ex-Native Dies

ARTHUR ALLEN Guild, former director of the Richmond Community Fund, and husband of author June Purcell Guild (Black Laws in Virginia) died in San Clemente, Cal., last week. The Guilds lived in Richmond from 1925 to 1939. Both the deceased and his wife were well-known throughout the State for their work in race relations and community welfare.

Team Sold

The International League's farm team, the Virginians, will be sold at auction to the highest bidder. The Virginia Director of Internal Revenue

Service seized all equipment, franchise, contracts and other properties after notifying Harry Siebold, club president of unpaid tax claims amounting to \$79,218.68. No Negroes played with the Virginia Triple A team.

College Students

DR. ROBERT P. Daniel, president of Virginia State College said last week that Virginia paid \$185,000 last year to send 580 Negro students to out-of-state schools for studies denied them in our segregated system. Columbia and New York universities are the most popular institutions with Virginia students. Multiply this figure by twenty, the number of years the out-of-state system of education compensation has been in operation and you get \$3,700,000 that could have been used for improvement in education in the state; or multiply this figure by seventeen, the number of states in the South that preferred giving away their revenue to other states and institutions to admitting a small percentage of Negroes enjoying the benefits of higher education at home, and the figure mounts to within a hundred million dollars!

Think how much education this could buy for all the youth of the South, not only in quantitative measure but in qualitative measure as well. We, perhaps would not have to grieve that the South is no longer able to produce uncommon men of the caliber needed for today's leadership. And those gifted children from the South could be persuaded to keep their rare talents in the South.