

Rugged Desegregation Pioneers Almost Forgotten By Successors

By AL KUETTNER
United Press International
 Atlanta — In the long battle by Negroes to break down the segregation barriers in the South's institutions of higher learning, the rugged pioneers of the movement have been almost forgotten amid the attention focused on their present day followers.

Those who first dared to knock at the doors of Dixie colleges and universities found trouble and frustration. But in the 27 years since Don-

ald Murray, a Negro, was ordered admitted to the University of Maryland law school, college doors have been opened to hundreds of Negroes in the South.

Girl Pioneers
 Of the 240 public colleges with all white or predominantly white enrollments, 150 will now accept Negroes. That's about 62 per cent. Paradoxically, only 15 of the 52 Negro colleges will accept white students, only 29 per cent.

One of the most celebrated pioneers of college desegregation was a Negro girl named Autherine Lucy. On Feb. 1, 1956, armed with a court order, she arrived on the campus of the University of Alabama. She stayed for three days amid tension-charged rioting. She was expelled for charging that the university conspired in the violence.

Today, far removed from the limelight, Miss Lucy lives a quiet life as the wife of the Rev. H. L. Foster, a Negro clergyman in Houston, Texas. Looking back on her fright-

ening experience with desegregation, Mrs. Foster said: "I wouldn't try it again, knowing what I know now. I just wanted to study. I had no idea of the trouble that would follow."

Negroes Return
 Similarly, riots greeted the first Negroes to win admission under court order to the University of Georgia. Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter were removed from the Athens campus in a midnight rescue by the state patrol in January of 1961.

But the two Negroes returned the next week under another court order and that time they stayed. The event broke the back of segregated school facilities in Georgia. Miss Hunter is still enrolled at the university. While she is not involved in extracurricular activities on the campus, she is accepted academically as just another student. She has a negro roommate, one of six Negroes now on the Georgia campus.

Holmes, who will graduate with high grades from Georgia in June, has been accepted as a medical school student at Atlanta's Emory university and will enroll next fall. Emory also was an all-white school but took Holmes in voluntarily.

Ward Assists
 One of the Negro lawyers who helped Holmes and Miss Hunter win their case in court was Horace Ward, who tried for years but failed to win admission to the University of Georgia.

After the University of Georgia victory for Holmes and Miss Hunter, Ward assisted in the successful legal battles that peacefully desegregated Atlanta schools and cleared the way for the seating of the first Negro in more than 50 years in the state senate.

One of the most sensational early desegregation fights involved spending thousands of dollars to get Ada Lois Sipuel (now Mrs. Warren W. Fisher) into the University of Oklahoma.

At one point in the battle, the state set up a special

three-professor law school for Negroes to accommodate Miss Sipuel. The courts ruled it out of order and the university finally capitulated.

More than 30 Negroes followed Miss Sipuel when the ban was lifted and today all of Oklahoma's 18 colleges are open to all.

Supreme Court Acts
 Then there was Heman Marion Sweatt, a Houston, Tex., mail carrier, who pioneered in the desegregation of Texas universities 13 years ago.

In ordering Sweatt admitted to the University of Texas, the Supreme Court issued one of its earliest denunciations of the "separate but equal" doctrine under which it had been traveling throughout the 20th century on the issue of Negro education.

Sweatt stayed at the University of Texas two years. Later he attended Atlanta university and received a master's degree in social work. He now works for the National Urban League in Atlanta.

Today school segregation is pretty much a threadbare is-

sure in most of Texas. There are at least 125 Negroes at the State university.

The situation is about the same in North Carolina where almost 100 Negroes are enrolled in the state colleges and universities.

Two Professions
 One of the North Carolina pioneers, Edward O. Diggs, finished medical school and now practices in Washington, D. C. Another, Bernadine Booker, is teaching in a Negro college at Greensboro, N. C.

Forty-four Negroes are enrolled at previously white state-supported colleges in Virginia and in Florida barriers have been dropped at the University of Florida since Negro George H. Starke Jr. enrolled in 1958.

The next big college desegregation battle may be at the University of Alabama again. Three Negroes have applied for admission to the Tuscaloosa campus and the state government has indicated they will not be allowed to enroll without another all-out scrap.

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FIRST NEGRO ACCEPTED—Autherine Lucy, 26, was the first Negro accepted by the University of Alabama. She was one of the desegregation pioneers who met with nothing but trouble and frustration in 1956. Today, living a quiet life in Houston, Tex., as wife of Negro Clergyman H. L. Foster, she says she wouldn't have entered the university had she known of the trouble that would follow. (UPI)

Nuns of Red Hungary Now in Secular Work

ILONA GAZDAG
 Budapest — (UPI) — Thousands of nuns whose Roman Catholic orders were dissolved by the Hungarian Communist government 13 years ago now work as nurses, cooks or factory laborers.

Others, forced almost overnight and without warning into the world beyond their cloisters, have found jobs as housekeepers, teachers and seamstresses.

The nuns were the victims of a battle between the Hungarian regime and the Roman Catholic church.

In June, 1950, the government closed down many convents and monasteries. The following September it dissolved all but four of the 63 religious orders in Hungary with their 11,000 monks and nuns.

Four Left
 The four left were the Benedictines, Franciscans, Piarists and a teaching order of nuns.

The rest found great difficulty in returning to secular life, which coincided with a severe housing shortage. Some lucky ones were able to continue as teachers or nurses, the positions they held before.

Others took whatever menial employment they could find.

In 1954 the Catholic welfare organization came to the aid of those who still had not settled down. It founded the "Solidaritas" production commune where several hundred former nuns could work together in their accustomed community.

There now are 15 such communities throughout Hungary, producing such things as leather gloves, lingerie, baby and doll clothes and religious garments. Forty per cent of the goods are for export.

Homes Built
 Several homes also have been built for old and sick nuns. A few are controlled by the church and supported by the parishes. The majority are supported by the health and welfare ministry.

But there are not enough of these homes. Many of the old and sick live with their families. Those not eligible for social security receive a state pension of 500 forints (\$20) a month.

The few hundred nuns who were allowed to retain their

orders live in the bishoprics or are teachers in the two parochial schools in Budapest and Debrecen. Some also work as nurses in the Budapest religious hospitals and in the Esztergom hospital for incurably ill children.

No Habits
 They must wear every-day clothes, instead of nun's habits, when they appear in public.

The curriculum at the parochial schools includes Marxist-Leninist theory. Although the nuns must learn it, they are not required to take examinations on the political or philosophical facets of Communism. But new teachers are being recruited from the state universities.

A limited number of novices are permitted, but only to replace nuns who have died. Because of this, there can be no increase of nuns in Hungary.

Gigantic Salt Mine Has Untold Supply
 Belle Isle, La. — (UPI) — A gigantic new salt mine, containing enough salt to supply the world's needs for centuries, has been opened here by Cargill, incorporated.

The dome tapped by the company's 1250-foot shaft will have an initial annual production of 400,000 tons of rock salt, which is used extensively in the chemical and other industries, and also is purchased by states, counties and cities for snow and ice removal.

Only three per cent of such salt, according to Cargill, ends up in the kitchen or dining room.

Sewage Water Tests Now Being Conducted
 University Park, Pa. — (UPI) — Penn State university plans to irrigate 160 acres of forest plantations and croplands with treated waste water from sewage in an effort to determine whether plant nutrients can be conserved.

Under present plans, a portion of the effluent from the local sewage disposal plant will be used. The effluent will have undergone a customary sequence of disposal treatments ending with chlorination.

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