White Pupils Remain Home In Delaware School Fight

MILFORD, Del. (AP)—The deepening dispute over integration of 11 Negro pupils in Milford's previously all-white high school reached another crossroad today with segregationists appealing again for white pupils to remain away from classes.

Attendance at today's session under the watchful eye of state and local police, could well set a trend for future action in the battle over continuing the 11 Negro pupils in the 10th grade of the Lakeview Ave. School. Yesterday, less than 30 per cent of the enrollment of 1,562 pupils appeared for classes. Ten of the 11 Negroes arrived, went to classes and then were driven home with police escort.

School officials explained the low attendance by pointing to parents' fear of possible violence or opposition to integration. Just which is predominant apparently will be decided this morning, the officials felt.

Meanwhile, in Marion County, West Virginia, the County Board of Education announced last night that it would "seek relief in the courts" against persons protesting integration in the small coal mining community.

The Annabelle elementary school opened Sept. 7 with 13 Negroes attending classes with 157 white students. County Board Superintendent J. R. Straight said the number of white students subsequently attending classes dwindled to about half that number.

And yesterday, about 16 people warned the principal and teachers of the elementary school there would be "trouble" if they entered the school. Principal Lloyd H. Securro and the five teachers went home and the school was closed.

Last night, pro-segregation forces in the Milford School District, at their third meeting in three days, stepped up their drumfire for a boycott of the school at a mass meeting in nearby Lincoln. State police said a conservative estimate of the crowd was 750.

The Rev. Manaen Warrington, newly elected president of the Delaware Chapter of The National Assn. for the advancement of White People, urged the parents to keep their children home in opposition to integration "until the Negroes get out of our schools."

He said anti-integrationists would continue their attack "no matter if it means bloodshed ... no matter what the consequences."

Yesterday's reopening, after a one-week shutdown, went off without undue incident. The identity of the eleventh Negro, a boy, was still unknown today.

Warrington and others were circulating a petition today calling for the ouster of School Superintendent Ramon C. Cobbs and high school Principal M. Alexander Glassmire. Warrington said a "criminal investigation bureau is being started to probe the rest of the teaching staff."

Another speaker last night, Earl Hastings, of Georgetown, Del., introduced 14-year-old Betty Jean Tingle, who confirmed that she signed a letter to the NAAWP stating that a Negro boy asked her for a date last Friday afternoon when the schools were closed and she was sitting on her front porch. She said she refused.

Delaware has a state law calling for compulsory attendance of children in schools until they are 16. Bowles told the meeting if anyone was arrested for breaking this law by boycotting the Milford school, he would be furnished with a lawyer.

Dr. George R. Miller, state superintendent of public instruction, announced late yesterday that the administrative — but not policy-making — powers of the Milford District were being returned to the school superintendent. Dr. Cobbs was not at the school yesterday and was reported out of town but expected back today. The State Board of Education has assumed the power of the four resigned members of the Milford Board until the next election in May.

Fort Rock

By ROBERTA McGEE

Gathering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McGee Sunday, September 12, for the horseshoe tournament were Mr. and Mrs. Philip Pitman, Mr. and Mrs. Al Baert, Silver Lake; Mr. and Mrs. George Larimer, Lapine; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gillette, E. T. Edwards and T. I. Rogoway, Portland. Arriving the same day from Los Angeles was Mrs. Jennie Schneider, mother of Roberta McGee. An enjoyable afternoon was climaxed with all present enjoying a turkey dinner honoring Mrs. Schneiders arrival. As for the outcome of the tournament, Phil Pitman and George Larimer came out with top score.

There will be a dance held at the Fort Rock Grange Hall Saturday evening, September 25, with music by the Desert Dudes.

The Booster Night and annual fair held at the Fort Rock Grange Hall Saturday evening, September 18, drew a large crowd. The room was arranged with the different exhibits of hobbies, needle work, canned foods and exhibits by the different classes of the Fort Rock Bible School.

An interesting rock exhibit was displayed by Leon Gilder, with many shapes of raw rocks and polished rocks made into jewelry. Roger Miles had a display of arrow heads. The grasses that took blue ribbons at the fair were also exhibited by Bud and Helen Parks and several ranches showed the different grasses and seeds. Eleanor Derrick was in charge of the floral booth and did a beautiful job of arranging the flowers that were brought to the hall. The needle work booth and canned goods were in charge of Ann Sloan; the vegetable garden and produce booth was taken care of by Venita Branch. Assisting in general were Beth Boley, Marie Eskelin; in charge of arrangements were Hazel Ward and Roberta Miles.

The program was opened with Jess Miles welcoming everyone. Roberta Miles was mistress of ceremonies; Helen Parks read the booster night message of the national grange master, Herschel D. Newsom; Eleanor Derrick recited a poem; a skit about electricity was performed by Bob Morehouse and Shorty Gustafson.

Ed Eskelin told of the many activities of the Fort Rock Grange during the past year. Rube Long recited a humorous poem.

Dick Brown, Bob Morehouse, Bob Brown, Dick Morehouse, Delbert Wilson and Ivan Painter made up the band that rendered two musical numbers, with ukuleles, that fell apart, guitars that had live mice popping out and all of the other instruments doing about the same thing. The ladies of the youth committee were dressed in ruffled dresses and did several dances. Those who were in the chorus were Lavonne Brown, Bernie Brown, Vesta Munnerlyn, Muriel Hergert, Delores Morehouse, Sharol Painter and the leading lady, Katherine Gillette. Shirley Wilson sang a solo.

The youth committee wishes to thank Mrs. Leon Gilder and Mrs. Anne Sloan for the time and effort spent on their costumes. Square dancing followed the program with Owen Pitcher and Dean Hollingshead calling. Ed Eskelin and Josine Gilder furnished the music.

Highlight of the evening was the excellent meal cooked and served by the male members of the grange. Katherine Gillette won first prize and Dora Arney second prize in the pie baking contest.

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