

## Negroes to mark court victory Tuesday night

This article in the Topeka Journal outlines how the Topeka black community reacted to the Supreme Court's decision that segregated schools were unconstitutional, finding in favor of the plaintiffs in the case Brown v. Board of Education. The article includes quotations from MacKenzie Burnett, president of the Topeka NAACP, Oliver Brown (for whom the court case was named), and Lucinda Todd, secretary of the Topeka NAACP. This local chapter had planned a celebration at Monroe Elementary, one of the four segregated black schools in Topeka.

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81; Leavenworth, 228; Parsons, 214, and Salina, 66.

Segregated schools have been maintained in the second class cities of Baxter Springs, Bonner Springs, Chetopa, Manhattan, Olathe, Oswego and Paola. Elwood is the only third class city with school separation. Kansas City maintains a Negro junior high school and a segregated high school. Wichita and Lawrence have schools for Negroes, but attendance is optional.

## Negroes to Mark Court Victory Tuesday Night

### Ruling by High Tribunal Hailed by NAACP Leaders

By MONA MILLIKAN  
(State Journal Staff Writer)

Topeka Negroes were happy about the Supreme Court's ruling against segregation Monday and planned a "victory celebration" for Tuesday.

M. L. Burnett, president of the Topeka branch of National Assn. for Advancement of Colored People, said "I must say I'm completely overwhelmed, so much so that I'm hard put to find words with which to express myself.

"However, I will say thank God for the Supreme court. Their decision will enable me to pay my taxes with a little more grace. It increases my somewhat weak belief that democracy, American variety, in its finality is real.

"IT MAKES me feel that I'm an American citizen in the true sense of the word. It will enable me to sing 'My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty' without making myself a hypocrite.

Burnett said that altho the court made no decision on the time and means of abolishing segregation, the Supreme Court had "broken the back of segregation."

"WE WILL celebrate and leave the rest to the court," he said. "We believe we can depend on them. Since they've gone so far as to revise their former decision, we can leave it to them to abolish segregation as soon as prac-

ticable and by the best means."

One of the major names on the Topeka case as taken up to the U. S. Supreme court was that of the Rev. Oliver L. Brown, pastor of St. Mark's AME church.

He said, "I personally feel that this case has a deep bearing upon the hearts of our teachers. Certainly we must make an effort for them, also, for there are many I know are capable of teaching anywhere.

"SECONDLY, I feel that this decision holds a better future, not for one family, but for every child indicated. This will no doubt bring about a better understanding of our racial situation and will eliminate the inferiority complexes of children of school age.

"Every citizen of the U. S. needs equal education in order that the society in which we live may be met with intelligence. Such things as segregation have a tendency to shatter the morale of a people and leave a gap for Communism to try to creep in. We must eliminate that by unity.

"God has instituted into human hearts thru Jesus Christ that love one for another. Here and everywhere we must keep that understanding to maintain that which He gave us."

MRS. ALVIN TODD of 1007 Jewell, who is one of the parties to the case from Topeka, said, "I'm wonderfully happy about the decision. I think it is a great step forward to better relations between the races.

"We may have a long time to go before segregation is actually abolished, but we are just thankful we have come this far. The very fact that segregation was ruled illegal means a great deal, regardless of the machinery that must now be set up."

Mrs. Charles Hodison of 1195 Lincoln said, "I am very happy that the ruling was granted."

BURNETT said the Topeka NAACP group has planned a celebration for 8:15 pm Tuesday at Monroe elementary school.

Speakers will be Dr. A. M. Lampkin, pastor of Shiloh Baptist church; the Rev. E. Woody Hall, pastor of St. John's AME church; Dr. G. Robert Cotton, president of Kansas Technical institute.

Music will be furnished by the choir and men's chorus of Antioch Baptist church.

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Other families who were parties to the original Topeka segregation case, but who could not be reached for comment Monday, were Mrs. Lawrence Emanuel of 1606 East Third, Mrs. Dorsey Carper of 1217 Hillsdale, Mrs. Andrew Henderson of 1018 Boswell and a Mrs. Galloway.

Kansas City Times,  
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### CALM AT SCHOOL RULING

END TO SEGREGATION WILL FIND  
KANSAS READY FOR NEW ERA.

#### School Administrators Tell of Steps Already Taken to Comply With Supreme Court Ruling.

Topeka, May 17. (AP)—State officials and school administrators said today they foresee little difficulty in Kansas in complying with a U. S. Supreme court decision that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

Figures supplied by the Kansas Department of Education show about 8,000 Negro children attend segregated schools in Kansas. Kansas City, Kansas, accounts for more than 6,300 of this total.

First-class cities with school segregation, in addition to Kansas City and Topeka, are Lawrence, on a limited basis; Salina, Atchison, Coffeyville, Fort Scott, Leavenworth and Parsons.

Of those, Salina and Atchison already have taken steps to terminate segregation beginning with the next school term.

Second and third-class cities practicing segregation in elementary schools are Baxter Springs, Bonner Springs, Cheyenne, Manhattan, Olathe, Oswego and Paola. Elwood, a third-class city, also has segregated schools.

A check of school officials in some of the first-class cities indicated they were willing to comply with the Supreme court ruling, but were waiting for more details.

The situation in some cities:

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS—There are 6,388 Negro students enrolled in the Kansas City, Kansas, public schools. They attend classes in seven grade schools, a junior high school and a senior high school. There are 165 Negro instructors.

The Junior college is at present the only nonsegregated public school there. With the exception of the Lincoln school in the Argentine district and the Attucks school in the Rosedale district, the Negro schools are north of Minnesota avenue and east of Tenth street. That area includes the greatest density of the Negro population of Kansas City, Kansas.

It is estimated that 80 per cent of the Negro school population resides in areas now served by Negro schools. The school system contracts for eight busses to transport approximately 900 students to classes. Of that number, 150 are white children being taken to the Maccochaque school from new housing developments in the Rosedale district. The remainder are students attending Negro schools.

BONNER SPRINGS—One hundred thirty-three Negro children attend the Lincoln school of eight grades and a kindergarten. The high school is not segregated.

C. H. Branson, superintendent for the grade school board, said no major dislocation is expected, because the 4-room Lincoln school is in the midst of the Negro residential area and would be convenient. There are three teachers and two others on a part-time basis.

A recent bond issue has made available about \$360,000 for expansion, about \$20,000 of this for Lincoln, the rest for a new unit of intermediate education of the McDaniel school. A start is expected Friday on the project to add a classroom and a teachers' lounge at Lincoln.

COFFEYVILLE—Pointing up the problem of teachers in the changeover, V. A. Kloz, superintendent of schools, said the thirteen teachers that city's two schools for Negroes already have contracts for the 1954-55 term. State law requires that contracts for the next term be offered to teachers by April 15, Kloz explained.

T. W. Higginson, Coffeyville school board president, said the board would comply with the ruling, but was waiting for full information. The two grade schools have a total of 360 Negro pupils.

PITTSBURG—There is no segregation problem in the Pittsburg schools, Earl Bevan, superintendent, said.

"We have assimilated the colored population, happily for our people and their's," the superintendent said.

Pittsburg's lone Negro school was discontinued in 1950 as an economy move.

MANHATTAN—About 140 Negro pupils and a half dozen teachers are in one school, F. V. Bergman, superintendent, and Harvey Langford, board president, said the new ruling would have little effect.

They said no Negro child ever had asked for admittance to a white school and such a request probably would not be refused even if the court decision had not been made.

FORT SCOTT—The superintendent of schools, John F. Haberbosch, said:

"I don't really believe we will face much of a problem."

FORT SCOTT—One school for Negroes, with about half a dozen teachers.

LEAVENWORTH—The city has two schools for Negroes with a total enrollment of 367 pupils and sixteen teachers. Clarence Timmons, school board president, said he would not comment on the matter until the board meets May 24.

PARSONS—There is one Negro grade school at Parsons. School officials declined to comment, pending a board meeting tomorrow.

Gov. Allan Shivers of Texas was pessimistic about making the ruling effective speedily.

Governor Shivers said at Austin that it might take years to comply with the ruling.

"Just saying, 'We abolish segregation' doesn't cure," he said. "What is going to be done about enforcing it is the important thing."

Gov. Johnston Murray said in Oklahoma City that he expects