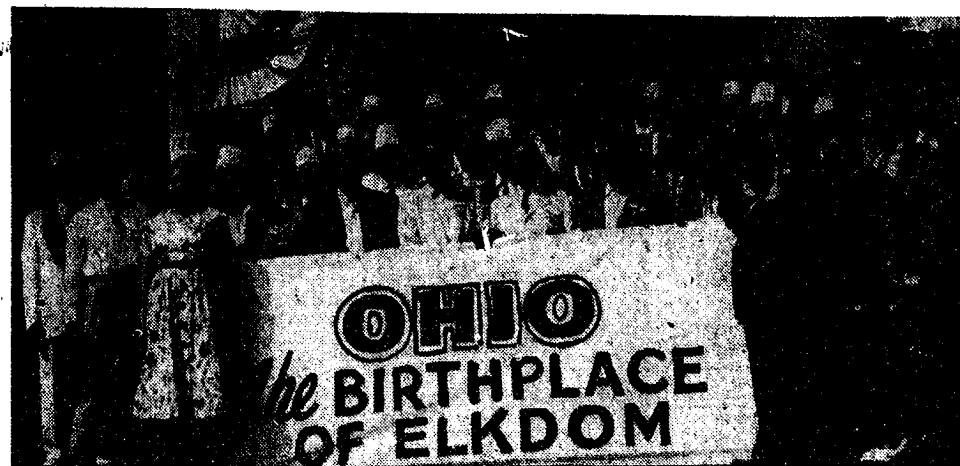


Many Southern Towns Open First Integrated Schools



AT ELKS CONVENTION in Chicago last week, Speed Coleman, official Elks photographer, made these photos of Ohioans at the annual meet. Top left, Ohio delegation poses for a photo, and in bottom left panel can be seen the Progress Train of the Grand Lodge officers passing before reviewing stand in parade. Above, are a few of the Clevelanders who attended the convention. Left to right, Dr. Henry Hunter, president of the Ohio State Federation, Harrison Harney, Cleveland detective who was appointed Deputy Commissioner of police for the Grand Lodge; Perry B. Jackson, reelected Grand Treasurer, Mrs. Mozell Moore, an accountant in the Finance Department and Mrs. Perry B. Jackson. In group at right, Arthur Rodgers, exalted ruler of Great Lakes Lodges No. 43, host to the convention talks over matters with Clevelanders Clarence Bowling of Sidney B. Thompson Lodge and Ernest G. King of Mighty Majestic Lodge.

NO TWO-YEAR WAIT!

Hillsboro School Board Gives in: Jim Crow Out

HILLSBORO, O.—Elementary schools in this city of 5,000 will be integrated Sept. 7—and not two years from now as proposed by the Hillsboro school board. When Negro parents send their children to previously all-white classrooms, "we couldn't prevent them if we wanted to," Paul Upp, superintendent of schools told the CALL & POST this week.

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Hillsboro School

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Upp's statement was made as Hillsboro Negroes, backed by the CALL & POST newspapers, stood as a solid wall in opposition to continued segregation of elementary school pupils.

The school superintendent who earlier this year told CALL & POST reporters that there were no segregated schools in Hillsboro, said in a telephone interview the Negro children seeking admittance to all-white Webster and Washington will be admitted.

He declared that he did not see how anyone could avoid following the dictates of the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregated schools, and that he had recommended integration two years ago because "we knew we had a problem."

But in the same interview, Upp said he felt that Negro parents should wait two or three years until new buildings are completed. Their action in demanding immediate integration "will do nothing but stir animosities and create an unfriendly atmosphere between

Negroes and whites," Upp asserted.

Tried To Be Fair

Although he joined other school board members in urging Negroes to wait two years for integration, Upp said he had "tried to be fair with everyone" and that the problem would not have reached such a quick climax if Phillip Partridge, then Highland County Engineer, had not set fire to Jim Crow Lincoln Elementary school.

Partridge, father of two children and a Sunday school teacher, said he attempted to burn down the segregated school because of the inequalities that existed between Negro and white teaching facilities.

Damage to the building was estimated at only \$5,000, but Partridge's act focused the national spotlight on Hillsboro, one of the many Ohio communities in which Jim Crow schools still exist.

Negroes Organize

It also spurred Negroes into action, and a citizens committee was organized to lead the fight against school segregation. Backed by the CALL & POST, Negro leaders took a firm stand against sending children to Jim Crow Lincoln School, and refused to heed the school board's plea to "wait two years."

Lincoln school, the Negroes contended, was inadequate; Negro children had to walk by Washington and Webster schools to attend classes at Lincoln, and there were only two teachers for seven grades and 70 pupils.

Even when welfare workers threatened to take from a Negro family children they were paid to care for, unless they were registered at Lincoln the Negroes held their ground.

Upp said this week that the school board would not make an announcement on Lincoln school until "we reach that point." He did not know whether reported overcrowded conditions in the other schools due to integration would force the board to make use of Lincoln School.