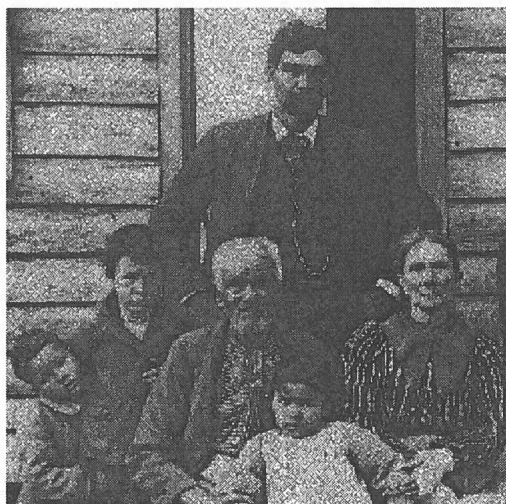


PAM 2803

# Battles in Red, Black, and White

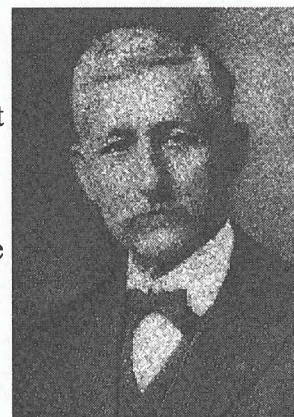
## Virginia's Racial Integrity Law of 1924:



A Nansemond family, ca. 1900

Walter Ashby Plecker was unassuming in appearance: a small-town doctor whose penchant for number-crunching earned him the position of registrar in Virginia's Bureau of Vital Statistics in 1912. But appearances were indeed deceiving. With Plecker at the helm, the bureau went on an all-out war against "amalgamation".

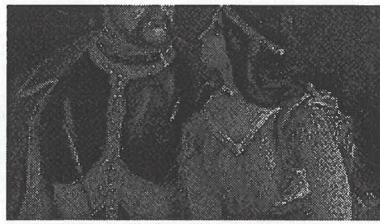
Plecker was not the author of the Racial Integrity Law of 1924--Virginia's infamous "one drop" statute, which created two racial categories, "pure" white and everybody else. But he--and allies such as John Powell of the Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America--pushed hard to enforce the act's provision for "ancestral registration".



Virginians shied away from compliance in that area, according to J. David Smith in *The Eugenic Assault on America: Scenes in Red, White, and Black*. Indeed, "passing" might have been commonplace among whiter-skinned African-Americans since at least 1662, when the first anti-miscegenation laws were passed in Virginia, but even for allegedly "pure" whites, proof of racial purity might have been difficult to obtain.



Detail from *John Rolfe and Pocahontas*,  
J. W. Glass, early 1850s



And at least one group of whites who had been proud of their so-called impurity lobbied successfully to have the act revised. The aristocratic descendants of Pocahontas-- resentful of being lumped in with "Negroes, Mongolians, American Indians, Malayans, or any mixtures thereof, or any other non-Caucasian strains"--twisted arms until the legislature decreed that persons with no more than one-sixteenth Native American ancestry might still be considered white.

But Plecker's power to grant birth, death, and marriage certificates gave him unprecedented and awesome powers over Virginians who had less clout than the Pocahontas contingent. With the stroke of a pen, Plecker could write an individual into "Negro" status--and legal and social oblivion. Plecker was only too willing to exercise that power, thus making him a figure of dread to Indians in general, but particularly to the Powhatan remnants in Rockbridge and Amherst counties, until his retirement and subsequent death in 1946.

**William Terrill Bradby, a Pamunkey, in full regalia. The Pamunkeys were very conscious of the importance of maintaining a "wild" image and even sent a representative to the 1893 World's Fair.**



According to Helen Rountree, a Old Dominion University professor who has written extensively on Virginia's Powhatan tribes, Plecker believed that all Indians had "polluted" their blood by mingling it with free African-Americans--or "free issues", in the local vernacular. Plecker thus saw those who claimed Indian ancestry as opportunists seeking what Rountree called a "way station to whiteness"--in other words, he saw all Indians as blacks attempting to "pass."

Plecker's beliefs placed him squarely in the mainstream of the American eugenics movement, which assaulted the rights of poor whites as vigorously as those of racial minorities. (Compare, for example, the case of Carrie Buck, an 18-year-old Caucasian girl from Lynchburg who was believed, it now appears erroneously, to be "feeble-minded." In a case that went before the Supreme Court, the state vigorously pursued and won the right to sterilize Buck to prevent her from passing on her "imbecility.") But the desire to make Native Americans simply "vanish," whether into the African-American population or into thin air, had much deeper roots.

Peter Houck, author of *Indian Island in Amherst County*, cites Bacon's Rebellion in 1676 as the first sustained and coordinated effort in Virginia to drive the Powhatans from their land. But we cannot forget that the nation's Indian removal policy was formulated by that great defender of liberty Thomas Jefferson and carried out by that great defender of the common man Andrew Jackson. Indeed, long before Ulysses S. Grant had developed "vanishing" into an official "Peace Policy," Virginians had mastered the mechanics.

"In time, you will be as we are," Jefferson promised in his 1809 Indian address. "You will become one people with us. Your blood will mix with ours; and will spread with ours over this great Island..." Absorption into the white race--a consummation devoutly to be wished from one perspective--was the lure Jefferson tossed before the tribes.



**The Majors, a Mattaponi family, ca. 1900**

As for those who "mingled their blood" with African-Americans, they, too, would



Americans, they, too, would be absorbed--though they might not like the consequences. Let us consider the example of the Gingashins. This eastern tribe had two strikes against it: Its members refused to give up their traditional lifeways; even worse, they intermarried freely and unashamedly with blacks.

This was anathema to Virginia elites. Intermarriage with whites could be, and was, tolerated. Intermarriage with blacks, however, was an intolerable

challenge to the arbitrary color line that had been in place since the first chattel slavery law passed in 1661. Thus, in 1813, the Gingashins made their way into the history books, becoming the first U.S. tribe to be terminated.

Needless to say, Gingashin identity did not die with the legal decree. As late as 1855, Rountree notes, county maps showed an "Indian Town," an Indiantown Creek, and a settlement of seven houses. Eventually, however, white antagonism, not to mention opportunism, forced the Gingashins to merge into a sympathetic African-American community. Tribes such as the Pamunkeys, Mattaponis, Upper Mattaponis, Nansemonds, Rappahannocks, and Chickahominies took note of the lesson--and learned how to resist.

A century later, armed with the awesome power of the state, Plecker declared war on these people. Consulting a listing of surnames associated with Native American ancestry-- such as Beverly (from beaver), Sparrow, Penn or Pinn, Fields, Bear, and so on--and drawing his authority from century-old census records that were likely to list Indians as "mulattoes"--particularly if the census were taken in summertime, Houck notes-- Plecker embarked on a crusade to re-classify every Native American in the state as an African-American.

A marriage certificate from 1940. Note that "mixed" is handwritten below the typed designation "Indian."

57	Indian	Single	None	14	Indian	Single	None
	<i>Mixed</i>				<i>Mixed</i>		
Occupation	Farming			BRIDE'S NAME	Lee Anna Clark		
					Arthur H. ...		

Plecker intimidated mid-wives, wrote threatening pamphlets, editorialized in newspapers, and trained an entire generation of county clerks and health service workers in his methods. When all else failed, he simply changed records to suit his prejudices, striking out the designation "Indian" and replacing it with "Negro" or "colored" or "mulatto"--or writing notations on the back.

But while Powhatans suffered under Plecker's tyranny, they refused to vanish. When necessary, they sacrificed both family ties and good will in the African-American community by refusing to attend Jim Crow schools or segregated churches.

These isolationist tactics cost them--Indian communities in Amherst were often poor and poorly educated--but they appear to have worked. It is worth noting that Amherst Indians who successfully held themselves aloof from "black contamination" regained tribal recognition in the 1980s. Another group, also living in Amherst County, which proudly claimed African, Native, and Caucasian ancestry--the Buffalo Ridge Cherokee--did not.

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19 March 1924

# State's Vital Statistics Registrar Explains Law

## Dr. Plecker Tells Of Reasons For And Methods Of Operation Of New Racial Integrity Bill Just Passed By Legislature

(By Dr. W. A. PLECKER.)

State Registrar—Vital Statistics.)

Richmond, March 18.—Senate bill 219 to preserve racial integrity, passed the house March 8, 1924, and is now a law of this state.

This bill aims at correcting a condition which only the more thoughtful people of Virginia know the existence of.

It is estimated that there are in the state from 10,000 to 20,000, possibly more, near white people, who are known to possess an intermixture of colored blood. In some cases to a slight extent, it is true, but still enough to prevent them from being white.

In the past it has been possible for these people to declare themselves as white or even to have the court so declare them. Then they have demanded the admittance of their children into the white schools, and in not a few cases have intermarried with white people.

In many counties they exist as distinct colonies holding themselves aloof from negroes, but not being admitted by the white people as of their race.

### Not White in Reality.

In any large gathering or school of colored people, especially in the cities, many will be observed who are scarcely distinguishable as colored.

These persons, however, are not white in reality, nor by the definition of this law, that a white person is one with no trace of any blood of another race, except that a person with one-sixteenth of the American Indian, if there is no other race mixture, may be classed as white.

Their children are likely to revert to the distinctly negro type even when all apparent evidence of mixture has disappeared.

The Virginia bureau of vital statistics has been called upon for evidence by two lawyers within the last month who were employed to assist people of this type to force their children into the white public schools, and by another employed by the school trustees of a district to prevent this action.

In each case evidence was found to show that either the people themselves or their connections were reported to our office to be of mixed blood.

Our bureau has kept a watchful eye upon the situation, and has guarded the welfare of the state as far as possible with inadequate law and power. The condition has gone on, however, and is rapidly increasing in importance.

### Amalgamation Must Result.

Unless radical measures are used to prevent it, Virginia and other parts of the nation must surely in time go the way of all other countries in which people of two or more races have lived in close contact. With

the exception of the Hebrew race, complete intermixture or amalgamation has been the inevitable result.

To succeed, the intermarriage of the white race with mixed stock must be made impossible. But that is not sufficient, public sentiment must be so aroused that intermixture out of wedlock will cease.

The public must be led to look with scorn and contempt upon the man who will degrade himself, and do harm to society, by such abhorrent deeds.

The bureau of vital statistics, clerks who issue marriage licenses, and the school authorities are the barriers placed by this law between the danger and the safety of the commonwealth.

The task of the bureau of vital statistics is a great one, with not a cent of appropriation to accomplish it with.

There is a plan, however, by which it may be financed if the public will lend its aid.

Thousands have applied for the registration of births that occurred before June 14, 1913, the date when the old law went into effect.

The new law further provides for the registration of all persons who desire it, and who will make application for such registration of color and birth, remitting at the same time the fee of 25 cents for each applicant. Do not send stamps. These births will be permanently recorded and preserved for all time, and will be of great value for many purposes, such as to prove American citizenship when applying for passports to go abroad, and for establishing and preserving the family tree for future generations.

### From Out of State.

We will even admit for registration persons living in Virginia, but born elsewhere. A family may complete its family tree by recording deceased ancestors or relatives. Each person will thus obtain full value received for the small fee. Virginians now living elsewhere, may also register.

If ten or twenty thousand or more will register within the next few weeks we will be able to provide printed forms, filing cases, desks, typewriters, postage, and clerk hire, to begin a vigorous statewide educational propaganda. After ninety days those who do not register at once, may do it through our local registrars at the same cost. Write at once for sufficient registration cards and instructions, enclosing for reply a stamped, addressed envelope large enough to hold three by five-inch cards. A card announcing the registration will be returned as soon as possible. Lodges, patriotic orders, women's organizations and schools can act as bodies

The Jewish population of the world is 15 1-2 millions.

# Repair Church At Amherst

## Committee Will Meet Next Sunday Afternoon—Presbyterians Extend Call

(Special to The News.)

Amherst, March 18.—Sunday morning, in Amerst Baptist Church, Rev. J. H. Franklin preached to a large congregation. At the close of the service there were two accessions to the church by letter.

The committee on repairing the church will meet next Sunday afternoon to further consider the plans suggested. Modern Sunday school rooms will be added to the church, a heating plant will be installed and other necessary improvements made.

The aid and missionaries societies of the church met at the home of Mrs. R. M. Cox and completed four quills which will be given to the Piedmont Mission School, located just above Woodson.

### Call to Pastor.

Sunday morning, at the Amherst Presbyterian Church, it was decided to extend to Rev. Mr. Sieg, of Loudoun county, a call to become pastor of the Amherst group of Presbyterian churches, composed of Amherst, Tye River and Monroe. These churches have been without a pastor since the resignation of Rev. J. A. Thomas last fall. Rev. Mr. Sieg visited Amherst the first Sunday in March and filled the regular appointments.

During the Lenten season a mission study class composed of ladies of the Episcopal Church, is being held in the parish house. The class is being taught by Mrs. Edward Sandigan and the topic for study is "Creative Forces at Work in Japan." This class is largely attended and is quite interesting.

A plan is being worked out among some of the Sweet Briar College students whereby the parish house at Amherst may be used as a center for community welfare work, in which these students are much interested. Friday afternoon twelve students met at the parish house where they were entertained by the Woman's Guild and St. Agnes Guild, of Ascension Church. Light refreshments were served and ways and means for carrying out the

scheme were discussed. It is hoped that in the building, the college classes

### Entertain

Saturday afternoon at their 1 o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Walbraten the twenty (their wedding present, including W. A. Orner, and Mrs. Hudson occur and Rev. Mr. Ors most appropriate.

The dining room decorated for the note being pink-terpless on the dived of twenty pink surrounding a cake. A four-course served during the course consisting ham sandwiches and of jelly, with cake; the third fourth of fruits an

Mr. and Mrs. H appropriate and among them being china.

Monday evening entertained a few day supper, her that of Mrs. C. B. that of Mrs. W. I was the honor a same day Mrs. ville, Mrs. Orner present. The dec flowers and potter the idea of St. J

Miss Hamilton, ing in Amherst, her work of teach in the Amherst of Mrs. L. B. R. e. Every week her home in Car

## Tronhy Awa Field Bird

Newport News Bringing back a silver cup which Langley field out for being the no the air carnival. Commerce of M. H. A. Crags tells today by airplane

The population times that of the

## House Passes 135 Measures In Single Day

Senate Also Grinds Away On  
Calendar, Legislature Honoring  
Washington By Working

### Make Wilson Birthday State Legal Holiday

Opposed By Senator Willis  
And Epes, On Ground Of  
Number Of Holidays Already

(By The Associated Press.)

Richmond, Feb. 22. — Virginia's house of delegates today observed Washington's birthday by establishing a new record. In a session lasting only three and a half hours the lower body passed 135 bills hastening to the usual routine business. One hundred and four unopposed and minor measures were adopted in one block, while 31 senate bills went through.

also ground steadily on its calendar, but its work fell far below that of the lower branch.

Senator Byrd, of Winchester, saw his bill to increase the license taxes on trucks weighing over two and a half tons passed by the senate and sent to the house. The senate took the same action on a bill by Senator Smith, Norfolk county, designed to regulate the practice of pharmacists in the state, and on another measure providing for the sterilization of inmates of insane asylums in Virginia when permission is given by parents or guardians of the persons concerned.

#### Call It Empty Honor

Although Senator Willis, of Roanoke, and Senator Epes, of Nottoway, spoke against the measure by Senator Smith, Norfolk county, to make December 28, Woodrow Wilson's birthday, a legal holiday, it was passed by a vote of 32 to 8. The two senators based their opposition to the bill on the plea that the state already had too many holidays and that passage of the measure would only be an "empty honor."

The Barkdale measure, designed to lessen the number of automobile thefts through a system of strict registration of all machines, also was passed by the senate. Whiskey runners became a subject before the senators when the latter took up and passed a bill making it a felony for a driver of an automobile to create a smoke screen. A device throwing out a heavy veil of smoke recently has given city agents in the state much trouble in chasing liquor runners.

After remaining on the calendar some days without definite action, the "racial integrity" bill was advanced to engrossment. It was amended so as to leave optional the registration of persons as to color. The bill is being sponsored by the Anglo-Saxon Club of America, of which John Powell, pianist and composer, is president.

Among the measures passed by the house were the following:

The Hall bill allowing cash deposits in lieu of recognizances with surety in criminal cases.

The Brown bill establishing uniform office hours.

Delegate Nottingham's bill reducing the amount of profit druggetts may secure from the lawful sale of intoxicating liquors from 100 per cent to fifty per cent.

The Smith bill to punish fraud in the procurement of any state license or certificate.

Among Senate Bills

# International Rumors Discredited Before Fisheries Committee Will

## Willis Stops Progress Of "White" Bill

Renoise Senator Prevents Advancement Of Measure To Insure Race Integrity

## "Anglo Saxon Clubs" Working For Passage

Would Require Registration Of All Persons In State Showing Race

Washington, Feb. 15.—(By The Associated Press) Supporters of a bill designed to preserve the integrity of the Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America, tonight were preparing to advance it to engrossment in the Virginia senate. The measure was up for advancement today, but Senator Willis, of Renoise, and Senator Wickham, of Hanover, launched an attack against it. The Renoise senator moved to indefinitely postpone the bill, but the senate adjourned before a vote could be taken.

Registration of all persons in the state as to race would be required under provisions of the bill. Individuals applying for marriage licenses would be required to show birth certificates or give evidence relating to their birth. The bill also defines a white person as one having only Caucasian blood, except that a person with one-sixty-fourth American Indian blood with the rest Caucasian, also would be classed as white. The present law prohibiting the intermarriage of whites and blacks would be continued.

## Says Bill an Insult

Senator Willis termed the bill an "insult to the white people of the state" because it would require registration as to race. He further declared "citizens already have too many forms to fill out" and that the bill was "another one of those 'thou shalt not' measures."

"I do not think there is any serious danger of further amalgamation of the white and negro races," he continued, "except one knows that the amalgamation to date has not resulted from inter-marriage and I think our present laws deal with the situation sufficiently."

Senator Booker, Halifax, one of the authors of the bill, criticized Senator Willis as being inconsistent because the latter had introduced the first "thou shalt not" bill of the session — the anti-gambling bill.

"I deny the charge that fanatical reformers are working for the passage of the bill," Senator Booker stated. "It has some of the best people in the state supporting it — people who realize the importance of its passage."

The senator read a letter from the director of the state bureau of vital statistics in which the official declined to issue white birth certificates to negro in Lynchburg who was attempting to enter his children as whites in the white city schools. Senator Booker said he could show many instances of the necessity for the proposed law.

## Bartholme a Patron

The bill will be before the senate when it reconvenes tomorrow. John Powell, pianist and composer, is working for passage of the bill, which has as its patrons, Senator Booker, Alfred C. Smith, Woodson, Jeffrey, Bartholme and Early. Delegate Olin, of Lunenburg, saw the house advance his Robertson act bill to third reading and engrossment. The measure limits the state to borrow \$1,000,000 a year under the act and provides for repayment of a loan eight years after it is made. Provision also is made for the state to bring paying interest on a loan after four years of use.

Unless the bill is passed, Mr. Olin declared, the state would be forced to issue bonds to retire the indebtedness. Delegate Houston, of Hampton, was further in predicting bankruptcy for the state if a check is not placed on amount to be borrowed under the bill. The "pay-as-you-go" forces supported the bill.

The bill distributing the one-cent gasoline tax awarded counties for highway work on the basis of the number of automobiles assessed for taxation in a county as compared with all the counties in the state was advanced to third reading by the house.

## G.O.P. Bows In Surrender On Surtaxes

Leaders Will Try To Get 35 Per Cent Rate And Failing That Will Accept Forty

## Plan Of Democratic Party To Be Accepted

So Declares Representative Garrett Democratic Leader In The House

Washington, Feb. 15.—(By The Associated Press) House Democrats definitely agreed today to make a stand for a maximum rate of 25 per cent instead of the Mellon rate of 35 per cent, reported by the Associated Press. At the same time they laid plans for a fight to the finish on the maximum surtax rate of 44 per cent as well as the normal income rates, proposed by the Democrats.

While the house was spending another day discussing the revenue bill, Representative Longworth, the party leader, held a conference with about ten others directing the Republicans' campaign. Afterward it was announced that the attempt would be made to obtain a vote on the 25 per cent surtax maximum when a showdown comes next week on the income tax schedule.

## Seek To Get Vote First

Instead, the Republicans in making a stand for a 35 per cent rate, as a compromise, will endeavor to shape the situation that a vote on such a proposal will come before the Democrats can force a roll call on their recommendation that surtaxes range upward to 44 per cent.

The Republican leaders indicated that if routed on the 35 per cent, they would gradually yield upward, perhaps to 37, then to 40 per cent, if necessary, in an effort to command a majority. Republicanism and Democracy alike agreed today there was no possibility of a favorable vote in the house on the Mellon surtax rates. Some Republicans expressed confidence that the 35 per cent maximum could be put through although others were dubious.

While declining to credit the Democrats' 35 per cent surtax, Mr. Longworth declared that the rate agreed upon would be less than 44 per cent.

## Democrats Are Confident

On the other hand, Democratic leaders are confident that, with the aid of Republicans unwilling to go along with the organization, they can write their income tax schedule into the bill. Representative Garner, of Texas, ranking Democrat of the ways and means committee, asserted there was a majority in sight for the rates carried in his substitute. Representative Garrett, the Democratic leader, made this prediction:

"The tax bill as it is passed by the house will be the Democratic plan."

At the Republican conference today those who discussed the tax situation, in addition to Speaker Gillett and Mr. Longworth, were members of the Republican steering committee. Chairman Green, of the ways and means committee, and Representative Tilson, of Connecticut, and Mills of New York, members of the committee. Further conferences will be held during the next few days for a discussion of preliminary strategy. Votes on the income tax provisions of the bill probably will begin Tuesday. The house already under agreement to terminate general debate late Monday, today approved a proposal that Tuesday amendments to the income section should be in order. Little time, leaders predicted, would be spent in debate as the five-minute rule then would be in effect.

## Day In Washington

The house agreed to take up the income rates in the revenue bill next Monday. Charles B. Warren, of Detroit, it was indicated, probably will accept the ambassadorship to Mexico. The work week held up by the President's condition yesterday

## Lady Astor Accuses Labor Government With Wobbling

In Debate On Liquor Question She Says No Sound On Dry Question — Charges Fear Of Clubs Prevents Bill's Support

(By The Associated Press) London, Feb. 15.—Lady Astor attacked the labor government in the house of commons this afternoon and accused them of "wobbling" on the drink question after putting it in their program.

The occasion was the debate on the second reading of the Welsh temperance bill which would enable Wales and Monmouthshire effectively to control the liquor traffic in their county through local option as it does in Scotland.

Mr. David, under-secretary for home affairs, said the government favored the bill. "I have never fully but would not support the bill because it contained provisions looking to place under control of justice of the peace a large number of clubs whose members combined to provide refreshments for themselves."

Lady Astor, in a lively speech, said this was one of the most enlightened debates she had heard on the subject. "I have always said," she declared, "that the party in this country is sound. When it comes to the drink question they are all frightened of something."

She said that Mr. David had made out a weak case for a government which had put local option in its party program. She was glad the country would continue it now and

asserted that the members of the cabinet had joined forces with the trade unionists. "You are afraid of you know it," she retorted, "and you are afraid of the crime of protest adding that though women had voted labor, that that when the labor party put forward its program they had their hearts."

"If you really believe in things," she challenged, "come out and say so. Don't be afraid of your own shadow."

Mr. Lloyd George, in support of the bill, said there was a real danger in Wales for the measure. He said it was a mistake to say that the fact that the bill was passed in the house of commons was a guarantee of its success.

He had been told he was any attempt was made to reverse the decision of the United States, 71 per cent of the business community would be against it. The effect there had been a great deal. There had been a distinction in crime as far as the United States was concerned. The fact that the bill was passed in the house of commons was a guarantee of its success.

The motion for closure was rejected by 229 against 241 and the bill eventually talked out and dropped.

## Joe Jackson Gets \$16,711

Judge Gregory, However, Sets Aside Verdict And Bitterly Arraigns Jury

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 15.—Joe Jackson, former outfielder for the Chicago American League Club today was given a verdict for \$16,711.00 against the club for salary under a contract signed in 1920, but the court set aside the verdict and dismissed the case. Whether an appeal will be taken will be decided tomorrow.

Raymond J. Cannon, counsel for Jackson, said tonight: "We view the victory obtained by Jackson from a jury of 12 men and women to be so far reaching as to bring about Jackson's ultimate return to organized baseball," said Mr. Cannon.

Judge J. J. Gregory, trial judge, bitterly criticized the jury, declaring the case was based on perjury. He set aside the verdict and dismissed the action. During the trial Judge Gregory ordered the arrest of Oscar "Happy" Felch, a former team mate of the plaintiff and a witness for him, for alleged perjury.

Jackson was arraigned on a charge at the conclusion of the trial that he had committed perjury. The former players are at liberty under bond.

The jury answered in favor of the plaintiff all questions presented to it by the court for consideration. It answered in the affirmative the question as to whether the defendant club had offered the player a sum sufficient to make his share in the world series \$5,000, and whether the club had represented to Jackson that his contract contained no ten day release clause.

Questions answered in the negative were whether Jackson had conspired with "Chick" Gandil, "Lefty" Williams and other "White Sox" to "throw" any of the games in the 1918 world series; whether Williams gave Jackson \$5,000 before all the games had been played; and whether Jackson was informed at the time there had been an agreement among certain players to throw the series and that the \$5,000 was his share of the money paid for "throwing" the games.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—Charles A. Comiskey, owner of the Chicago American League Club, declared today after hearing of the dismissal at Milwaukee of Joe Jackson's suit for back salary from the club that he would continue to fight crookedness in baseball and that if the sport could not be kept clean he would get out.

He had made a fight at great expense, single handed and alone, against these crooked ball players and

## Fall And Den Under New Fi

Senate May Initiate Inquiry Into Long-Fought Alaska Coal Inquiry

Washington, Feb. 15.—Initial toward a possible senate inquiry into the long-fought Alaskan coal inquiry were begun today after 22. Ballaine, of Seattle, an Alaskan railroad construction expert, was named as the transfer of the Alaska coal reserve from the navy to the Interior department.

Mr. Ballaine in a lengthy letter to the president declared, "I have no official files would show that the Alaska coal reserve was transferred to the Interior department and the leasing of that reserve for a period of fifty years. The negotiations and the terms agreed upon Ballaine asserted, were exactly paralleled with the negotiations and the terms of the lease of Teapot Dome oil reserve."

The Alaskan railroad man expressed that the lease was never summarized, but declared that the Interior department upon taking mining operations in the Matanuska field suspended mining operations and that the navy department refused to utilize Alaskan coal in the Pacific coast although it had shown to be cheaper and better than coal, according to naval tests, better and cheaper than the Teapot Dome coal as used by the navy, included by Mr. Ballaine in his letter.

Questioned by Mr. Ballaine as to whether the president was to be prepared by Senator Follette, Republican, Wisconsin, a resolution for introduction to the senate calling upon the Interior department for certain records relating the inter-departmental transfer of the Alaska coal reserve.

## U. S. Senator Green Shot Down In Str

Wounding Of Greene Of Vermont Not Believed Fat Result Of An Accident

Washington, Feb. 15.—Sen. Green of Vermont, who was shot in the Pennsylvania avenue tonight, according to physicians his condition is favorable. The shooting was reported by the police as an accident. The bullet struck Green in the frontal bone over the left eye and the bullet was located. The

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# Racial Integrity Measure In Last Stand This Week

## Teeth Extracted By The Senate John Powell's Pet Bill Now Goes To The House Where Fate In Doubt—Advocate Plan Big Fight

(Special to The News)

Richmond, March 1.—Virginia must face the question of whether to enact a "racial integrity" law to prevent the amalgamation of the white and negro races.

Such a law, drafted under the direction of John Powell, the great Virginia musician, has just been adopted by the state senate—but not until it had been amended until it had no more teeth than Nebraska's champion Ben. The house of delegates must either kill or give life to it next week, for the legislative session ends next Saturday. The bill was favorably reported today by the house committee on courts of justice.

Powell's bill, as originally drafted, provided for the registration of all persons in the state, for the purpose of establishing their race. No person with the slightest trace of negro blood was to be permitted to marry a white. Under present laws, persons with less than one-sixteenth negro blood are regarded as white.

As it came from the senate, the bill would prohibit the intermarriage of white persons having one drop of negro blood. But the registration feature, which, according to Powell and his supporters, is the only sure means of settling the race issue, was stricken out.

Whether even the amended bill will pass the house is a grave question. The original bill was introduced in the house on Feb. 27, and by a vote of 100 to 40, a motion to advance it for action. Now, with the senate's amendment, it goes back to the house, where its sponsors will make another desperate effort to get it through.

The fight over the bill, conducted in the building where the congress of the Confederate States met in those agitated early '60's, when the negro problem had reached its first crisis, has been a burning topic for students of legislative psychology. The measure had been expected to pass with-

out serious opposition. Why it did not the psychologists are at a loss to explain.

Hushed by Mr. Powell, who produced letters strongly supporting it from Madison Grant, Lothrop Stoddard and E. H. Cox, noted authorities on the race question, the measure apparently had no enemies. Negro leaders themselves did not oppose it. They do not wish amalgamation any more than the whites, they say.

Sponsors of the measure contended that only an iron clad law which prevented inter-marriage with the lightest of mulattos could prevent ultimate amalgamation. And that, they declared emphatically, meant the death of Anglo-Saxon civilization.

"This is the biggest question in the world," declared Mr. Powell. "If these steps are not taken, people will be sorry within thirty years. Mark that, thirty years. That soon there will be so many negro people in the country that you won't be able to find out whether the man your daughter wants to marry is pure white or not."

Senator Morton G. Goode, of Dinwiddie county, one of those who voted for the "toothless" bill in the senate, asserted that he and his conferees were not opposed to registration in principle, but believed the people were not yet ready for it.

"I believe the registration feature will pass the legislature in a few days," he said, "and in this case, it is a matter of time."

Each person for registering with the state bureau of vital statistics of the health department. Dr. W. A. Flecker, director of the bureau, urged adoption of the bill.

### RECOVERED AUTOMOBILE

Lieutenant Crow recovered the stolen automobile belonging to James Long, Dumfries. The machine was reported in Jefferson street, early yesterday morning.

# Sister New

## Organization Night To Be May Test

Meeting last Pythian temple streets, a new sisters, to be temple, was elected and the instituted and meeting is by Mrs. Emma M. the Pythian to come from charge of the representatives Roanoke temple

Officers elec organization at first chief; Mrs. excellent chief excellent senior manager; Mrs. of records and Elmer Davis, as Russell Duffie E. Butler, and Blankenship, Langdon, Mrs. W. C. Maltian

Mrs. Lovelace permanent of effected, and by virtue of his ership of the night that all ing are eligi

At the meet Pythian band which is a met play. It is exp at least 150 cl

at the close gram

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### Story

## Hold Inquest In Dinwiddie

#### Man At Once Slain Her

#### Richmond Man Said To Have Been Stabbed And Shot In Petersburg

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Petersburg, March 3. — Justice Church Pleasants today stated that the corner's inquest into the killing of Leo Schiff, alias Joe Turner, about 26 years old of Richmond, will probably be held in Dinwiddie Wednesday or Thursday night.

Cora Livermann, charged with murder was removed from the Petersburg jail to Dinwiddie court house in company with H. G. "Slim" Jackson, charged with felonious assault. J. L. Nimmo and Joe Cavell are being held for police examination. All participants in the tragedy are said to be well-known to the Petersburg police.

While the actual motive for the crime had not been definitely ascertained, the alleged shooting by Cora Livermann was said to have been the consequence of a quarrel which began Saturday night. It was shortly after 7 o'clock last night that Officer Crowder and Magistrate Herzog at police headquarters received a call asking that officers be sent at once to the home of a Mrs. Sutton, on the Sutherland road, about a quarter-mile from Ritchie's store. The message stated that violence was feared and urged immediate action. A detail of police, headed by Sergeants Payne and Timm, and including Officers Kirkland, Hatcherson, Goodwyn, Sandford and Owen, put out at once for the Sutton house. The shooting occurred just before their arrival.

Mrs. Livermann and Jackson are understood to have expressed a grievance against Schiff, intimating an intention of bringing the reported quarrel to a termination. Hiring a jitney, it was said, they left the home of Mrs. Livermann's mother at 130 East Bank street just before 7 o'clock. Ac-

## Musician Cancels Concert To Talk To Legislators

Richmond, March 3. — Many unusual things have happened during the present session of the Virginia general assembly, but the most interesting perhaps, has been the work of a noted pianist and composer for a measure now awaiting action in the house.

Early in the session a bill entitled "to preserve the integrity of the white race" was offered in the senate. John Powell, of Richmond, was the pianist and composer who cast aside his recitals for the time being in order to work for the passage of the measure.

Powell has been directly interested in the bill because it was sponsored by the Anglo-Saxon Clubs, of which he was the organizer. The bill was designed to require all persons in the state to register as to color. It defined a white person as one with none but Caucasian blood, except that one sixty-fourth American Indian blood might be included. The law prohibiting inter-marriages of whites and blacks also would be continued.

After the measure had been amended in the senate so to leave registration optional it was passed by a large majority and sent to the house. The house committee on courts of justice unanimously approved the bill and it now is on the calendar awaiting action. A measure identical to the original senate bill was defeated in the house, but members of the courts of justice committee said that the amended senate bill would now be acceptable to the lower body.

Powell, who had been away for a week on a concert tour, cancelled several engagements in order to return to Richmond Friday to appear before the committee with Dr. W. W. Flecker, director of the bureau of vital statistics, who urged its approval.

6:30 o'clock eastern standard time in the afternoon of the same day." Election hours in the state now are irregular.

## Riddle Succeeds Zigler As Republican Chairman

(Special to The News)

Harrisonburg, March 3. — J. A. Riddle, Bridgewater contractor, was elected chairman of the Rockingham Republican county committee here today to succeed E. A. Zigler, of Harrisonburg, who retired after filling the place for eleven years.

Mr. Riddle was recently appointed postmaster at Bridgewater and he resigned as mayor of that town to accept the appointment. He had served twelve years as mayor and twenty years on the town council. During the Taft administration he served as postmaster.

C. Leo Hawkins, of McGaheysville, was elected as vice-chairman of the county committee, with D. Wampler Barman, secretary; Miss Payline Moubrey and Olin A. Dovel, assistant secretaries, and John W. Morrison, treasurer.

Yes, it does cost more  
Tobacco and for that  
It's the best Kentucky  
money can buy and that  
All harshness and bit  
It's mild and mellow  
notice the difference.

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