

NEGRO SUICIDES RISE

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Suicides among Negroes are on the rise across the nation as a result of rights gains, a Howard University sociologist has asserted.

Suicide statistics in the nation's capital and the observations of a Tulane University sociologist tended to confirm the view.

Franklin Edwards, Howard University sociology department, declared that Negroes take on the characteristics of other Americans as they are drawn more into American life. Negroes used to lag behind whites' suicides, he said. "Now they are catching up."

MEANWHILE, District of Columbia records showed that 13 Negroes killed themselves there in 1960, compared to 33 in 1965. During that period, the Negro population of Washington increased from 418,693 to 488,167--a far smaller percentage gain than the number of Negro suicides.

Before 1960, the number of Negro suicides was small. Only 13 Negro suicides were reported in 1950. The number jumped to 24, in 1961, 33 in 1962, 30 in 1963, and 50 in 1964. However, officials noted that the number of Negro suicides in D.C. remained lower than the number of white suicides, even though 60 per cent of the district's residents are Negroes.

At the same time, Warren Breed, professor of sociology, Tulane University, New Orleans, noted that Negroes are becoming more like white Americans as new opportunities are opened to them.

"AS NEGROES' aspirations rise, because of the civil rights movement, they begin to want more. When you want more, you really have to get more. But when you are blocked, your feeling of frustration is heightened, and frustration can lead to suicide," said Breed, who is making a study of Negro suicides.

A recent magazine study has disclosed that two-thirds of suicides are in the middle and upper classes.

Postal Clerk Pleads Guilty To Usury Charge

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Admitting he loaned money to fellow postal employees at 360 per cent annual interest, John W. Tuck, 36, pleaded guilty to usury charges in U.S. District Court. Disposition of the case was set for Jan. 31.

Chief postal inspector Martin J. McGee said records showed 87 "customers" of Tuck were paying 15 per cent interest twice a month on loans from \$1 to \$90, or 360 per cent annual interest.

STATE LAW limits interest charges to 20 per cent annually in such a federal case. Otherwise, 36 per cent a year is allowed.

Tuck, a \$6,551-a-year mail handler, was quoted as saying his loan business started as "a friendly thing, then spread."

Political Control Of Cities By Negroes Seen

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Two national leaders and a University professor have seen the white flight to the suburbs as an opportunity for Negroes to assume political control of the cities.

"It is projected that, in a few years, more than 10 of our major cities will have Negro majorities," said Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "I hope it will not be under circumstances of deepened decay and chaos," he added.

THE DECAY of the cities "is not a Negro problem alone, but no one is more seriously involved than he," Dr. King said at a Senate subcommittee hearing on urban problems.

Meanwhile, James Farmer, former CORE National Director, said Negro migration to large cities, while whites were "fleeing to the suburbs," was strengthening the political power of Negroes. "We would be foolish not to take advantage," he said.

Addressing a conference on "The Bill of Rights--Today and Tomorrow" at the Brooklyn Center, Long Island University, Farmer said he favored Negro bloc voting but opposed attempts to create a Negro party. "We would be guilty of bad arithmetic," he said, "if we ignored the fact that Negroes are only a tenth part of the population," he explained.

MEANWHILE, Prof. Richard Cloward, Columbia University, said Negroes can expect to win control of governing bodies in St. Louis, Detroit, Newark, and several other cities in the next 10 or 20 years. The professor of social work said Negroes can use their expected political dominance in these cities to win important concessions from suburban residents.

"When the commuters come to the city asking for land on which to build highways and rapid transit, the Negro-dominated city council can say, 'All right. But for every mile of right-of-way that we give you, you must authorize 5,000 units of low-rent housing in the suburbs for our people,'" Prof. Cloward said.

Problems posed by the increasing concentration of poor Negroes in large cities will become more solvable as Negroes gain political control in those cities, he added.

Klansman Demands Rights

BATON ROUGE - (NPI)--A former member of the New Orleans draft board who was fired due to complaints lodged against him by the local NAACP branch, Jack Helm, was the principal speaker at a Klan rally near here last week.

Helm said the governor of Louisiana should appoint on his bi-racial commission some men who were more conservative than the present members--meaning more inclined towards Klan ideas. Helm threatened the governor with reprisals in the event he failed to appoint men with Klan ideas and thoughts.

Urban League Gains Strength In South

JACKSON, Miss. - (NPI)--The National Urban League has suddenly become popular in the South. After opening a local affiliate this fall, the league was organizing affiliates in seven other Southern cities and planning to organize chapters in two more.

THESE NEW chapters will mean a doubling of Urban League strength in the South in less than a year. Much of the support of the Urban League is coming from whites who support its moderate stand.

According to J. Harvey Kerns, associate director, Southern regional office of the League in Atlanta, "The South is more interested in getting Urban Leagues now than the North."

Among cities where the League is organizing are Birmingham, Ala.; Dallas, and San Antonio, Tex.; Nashville and Knoxville, Tenn.; Columbia, S.C.; and Charlotte, N.C. League chapters are being planned in Norfolk, Va., and Houston, Tex.

AND IN WASHINGTON?

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--President Johnson has pardoned the executive director of the Washington Urban League, who had been convicted of income tax evasion in 1959.

Sterling Tucker, then executive director of the Urban League in Canton, Ohio, was found guilty of failing to pay \$1,661 in taxes between 1951 and 1954. He pleaded no contest to the charges.

ON DEC. 5, 1959, he was sentenced to pay a \$500 fine and given a one-year suspended sentence. He was placed on probation for five years. The fine was paid and Tucker was discharged from probation in 1961.

The pardon issued by President Johnson frees Tucker from any guilt in the tax evasion case. The President pardoned Tucker after receiving a petition from three prominent Washington leaders, who testified to Tucker's character. The three were District Commission John B. Duncan; the Rev. E. Franklin Jackson, Democratic National Committee and former president, Washington NAACP; and Dr. R. Frank Jones, medical director, Freedmen's hospital.

KIDS GIFT COPS

CINCINNATI - (NPI)--Police, who are used to being considered the enforcers of white oppression, were pleasantly surprised on Christmas when 150 Negro youths marched on the District 4 Police Station to give the policemen gifts. Roger Tilford, 38-year-old teacher at Ach Junior High School, staged the march, designed to "put kids on the giving end instead of the receiving" and to "show the police we appreciate them"

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION REPAIR \$65^{NO} UPS

FORDS - CHEVROLETS - PLYMOUTHS

OTHER MAKES NOT OVER \$100 SEATED TYPE CONVERTORS

REBUILT IN OUR SHOP- (We invite you to see it done) \$25 No Ups

How can we do it? We have recently acquired machine shop equipment and tooling so that worn and damaged parts may be returned to factory specifications

J.B. GARAGE and MACHINE SHOP

7 Yrs. in Las Vegas American Cars Only

2112 Commerce St. N.L.V. Ph. 649-1826

"COMPLETE BAIL BOND SERVICE AROUND THE CLOCK"

LYLES' A-AA BAIL BOND

Call The Man Who Cares

Free Transportation Home

Phone 384-5544

512 Jackson E. Lyles

TOP CAT & His Rocking Twisters

FEATURING VOCALIST **CLEOTHUS JACKSON**

(Rock With Cleo)

at 9 p.m. Nitely

Louisiana Club

"F" & JACKSON STREETS

Ph. 385-9067 - 385-9765

FAMOUS FOR DELICIOUS AUTHENTIC CHINESE FOOD

KENO

CRAPS-21-SLOTS

DRINKS AS YOU LIKE THEM IN THE COCKTAIL LOUNGE