The People Take The Lead

A Record of Progress in Civil Rights

1948 to 1959
As this edition of The People Take the Lead goes to press, many of the daily headlines would appear to belie all faith in civil rights progress.

Certainly we are witnessing some tragic setbacks—the closing of public high schools in Arkansas and Virginia; outbreaks of violence in half a dozen states, ranging from intimidation to bombings of public schools, private homes and places of worship; and outright defiance by some public officials of the Constitution they have sworn to uphold.

But these instances of "massive resistance," disturbing and horrifying as they are, must not blind us to the broader picture.

This annual survey was initiated shortly after the President's Committee on Civil Rights issued its call to the conscience of America, in October 1947. At that time, smoldering civil rights tensions were not making the front pages. But denials of civil rights were everywhere in evidence. The right to vote was a mirage for citizens whose color—or inability to pay a poll tax—kept them from the ballot box. Our Armed Forces drew a color line among the men enlisted in America's defense. Skilled craftsmen were barred from jobs because of race, religion or ancestry. Racial and religious quotas were the rule at most colleges and professional schools. And the constant, corrosive indignity of segregation—in schools, housing, restaurants, theatres, buses, parks, playgrounds, hotels, hospitals, even cemeteries—blighted the lives of one-tenth of our population.

Today, the first Federal civil rights law in over 80 years is in effect, and the first Federal challenge of maneuvers barring qualified Negroes from the polls is now before the courts. A citizen who serves his country in the Armed Forces can expect the same assignments and training, be his skin white or black. The right of a worker to be judged on his merits is enforced by law in 14 states and by Federal administrative regulations in firms doing business with the Government. At most of our top-ranking universities, racial and religious quotas are on the way out. A dark-skinned visitor to our nation's capital encounters less and less discourtesy.
in hotels, restaurants, theatres and other public places. Interstate travelers are no longer shunted to separate sections of trains and buses as they cross certain state lines; and laws requiring racial segregation in public accommodations have been struck down in one state after another.

Today, moreover, some 2½ million white and Negro children are in school systems that have been, or are gradually being, desegregated.

There is no denying that some would rather close the public schools and permit terrorism to reign than accede to this changeover. But these last-stand, defiant efforts, instead of retarding social progress, may ultimately speed it; for the forces of moderation, law and order are mobilizing in a determined stand against lawlessness.

There is, unfortunately, no assurance that the immediate future will be free of strife. But even those who shout the loudest know they are fighting a rising tide. For the trickle of civil rights action that began in the forties has swelled into an ever-broadening stream, refreshing and strengthening our democracy. From time to time, as in recent months, its flow may be slowed—but it cannot be turned back.

In earlier editions, this report listed the first Negro to hold office in the South, the first to join a hospital staff, the first appointed to a city post. Today, such “firsts” are no longer news; a comprehensive tally, even if possible, would more than fill this booklet. Likewise in amateur sports—golf, fencing, hockey, tennis—achievements that were noteworthy not long ago are today taken for granted.

In previous years we heralded each Southern school district, each public accommodation that fell into line with Supreme Court decisions; today a full account of these multiplying moves would overflow this edition.

In short, the current is strong, the course clear. Americans are surging forward together toward the equality and justice that are our common heritage.

IRVING M. ENGEL
President, The American Jewish Committee
ARMED SERVICES

Washington, July 1948: President's Executive Order #9981 bars discrimination in military service; Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services to check progress.


Washington, 1950-55: Army drops quotas for Negro enlistments; Selective Service drops questions on race for draft registrants; Air Force, Army, Marines and Navy report segregation entirely eliminated; Defense Department reports number of Negro officers and enlisted men more than doubled in six years; Navy bars segregated facilities at Government-owned Shore Stations.

Washington, September 1951: President orders Arlington burial with full military honors for Indian sergeant barred from Iowa cemetery.

Washington, October 1954: Veterans Administration announces end of segregation in all VA hospitals.

Washington, February 1957: Army drops racial designations in orders for assignment or movement of personnel.

Washington, Fall 1957: Defense Department announces personnel qualified for duty with U. S. Military Missions and Military Assistance Advisory Groups will not be rejected because of race.
CITIZENSHIP

Administrative Measures

New Orleans, La. December 1949: Two policemen are dismissed for depriving two Negro youths of their civil rights.

Trenton, N. J. September 1952: State Banking and Insurance Commissioner orders auto insurance companies to remove questions on race from applications.

New York, N. Y. April 1955: Police Department initiates police training course in intergroup relations.

Olympia, Wash. June 1955: Attorney General bars questions on race or religion from applications for marriage licenses.


Baltimore, Md. July 1957: Police Department orders members of department testifying before grand juries to avoid describing defendants as "white" or "colored" unless requested to do so for essential identification purposes.

Albany, N. Y. November 1957: State Commission Against Discrimination announces agreement with Commercial Travelers Mutual Accident Association to eliminate inquiries as to color on insurance applications.

New York, N. Y. December 1957: Governors of 12 states with fair employment practice acts establish continuing committee to expand interstate cooperation in civil rights.
Columbus, Ohio, December 1957: Governor appoints state advisory commission on civil rights.


Washington, April 1958: District Board of Commissioners creates Council on Human Relations to assist in administering antidiscrimination policies.

Chicago, Ill. May 1958: State Department of Public Safety drops designation of race from traffic tickets.

Legislation

U. S. A. 1949-1951: South Carolina and Texas adopt anti-lynch laws.


U. S. A. 1950-1953: South Carolina and Tennessee abolish poll tax; Alabama reduces cumulative tax from 24 years to two.


New York, N. Y. June 1952: Ordinance bars public funds to child-care institutions discriminating against youngsters because of race, creed or ancestry.
U. S. A. 1953-1955: Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska and New Mexico end bans on sale of liquor to Indians.

✓ U. S. A. Spring 1953: Iowa and Washington bar cemeteries from refusing burial because of race or color.


✓ Washington, August 1953: Congress repeals Federal prohibition against sale of liquor and firearms to Indians.


Washington, September 1957: Congress adopts first civil rights bill in 82 years; establishes Federal Civil Rights Commission with subpoena powers; creates special civil rights division in Justice Department; enables Government to seek injunctions in cases involving violation of voting rights.

Court Action


Washington, June 1948: U. S. Supreme Court (*Takahashi v. Game Commission*) invalidates California law prohibiting issuance of fishing licenses to persons ineligible for citizenship.

✓ Santa Fe, N. M. August 1948: Federal District Court removes last restriction on the right of American Indians to vote.
Sacramento, Calif. October 1948: State Supreme Court invalidates law barring interracial marriages.

Columbia, S. C. November 1948: Federal District Court enjoins state Democratic Party from barring Negro voters from primaries or from participation in party affairs.


Washington, March 1949: U. S. Supreme Court (*Schnell v. Davis*) upholds Federal District Court decision that Alabama's "Boswell Amendment," which set up stringent educational requirements for voting, is unconstitutional.

Atlanta, Ga. July 1949: State Supreme Court rules that counties with substantial Negro populations must add Negroes to grand and petty jury lists.

Montgomery, Ala. September 1949: Federal Grand Jury, including two Negroes, indicts policeman and three former peace officers on charges of violating civil rights.

Birmingham, Ala. May 1951: U. S. Court of Appeals upholds conviction of Georgia sheriff and deputy who delivered seven Negroes to a masked mob.


Madison, Wis. January 1953: State Supreme Court rules a state-administered life insurance fund may not reject Negro applicants as substandard risks.

Washington, May 1953: U. S. Supreme Court (*Avery v. Georgia*) sets aside death sentence of Georgia Negro because jury was chosen on racial basis.


Oklahoma City, Okla. July 1955: U. S. Court of Appeals rules that designation of Negro candidates by race on state election ballots is unconstitutional.

Miami, Fla. March 1957: Four White Citizens Council members are found guilty of unlawful assembly for attempting to burn cross on lawn of Negro homeowner.

Richmond, Va. January 1958: Federal District Court voids three Virginia statutes which curtail legal activities of NAACP.


Washington, June 1958: U. S. Supreme Court (*NAACP v. Alabama*) unanimously voids Alabama's $100,000 contempt fine against NAACP; holds that compulsory disclosure of membership lists as demanded by the state violates Constitutional guarantees of free speech and association.


**Voluntary Action**

U. S. A. 1949-1951: Democratic state primaries are opened to Negroes in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas.

Washington, May 1950: CIO orders locals to disregard state segregation laws and operate all facilities without discrimination.
Chicago, Ill. November 1950: Red Cross votes to eliminate racial data on blood donations.

St. Louis, Mo. March 1955: The St. Louis Globe-Democrat decides its news accounts will no longer label persons by race unless the information is pertinent.

Washington, September 1956: Executive Council of AFL-CIO declares community and welfare services seeking union support must be free of discrimination.

Atlanta, Ga. October 1958: Southern Regional Council survey reports increase in registered Negro vote from 595,000 in 1947 to 1,266,488 in 1958.
Administrative Measures


U. S. A. 1954-1958: Following U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing racial segregation in public schools (May 1954), moves toward desegregation are initiated in close to 1,000 school districts and units in Southern and border states. By October 1957, Southern School News reports 350,000 Negro and 2 million white children in "integrated situations." Little change is reported at the opening of the 1958-59 school year as school boards await the outcome of last-ditch tactics to avoid integration in Arkansas and Virginia. Some 220 formerly segregated colleges and universities—including such 1957 holdouts as the Universities of Florida and Louisiana—now admit students of all races. Principal Southern and border cities which have inaugurated—and in some instances completed—public school desegregation include: Fayetteville and Van Buren, Ark.; Wilmington, Del.; Frankfurt, Lexington and Louisville, Ky.; Baltimore, Md.; Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo.; Charlotte, Greensboro and Winston-Salem, N. C.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Clinton and Nashville, Tenn.; Austin and San Antonio, Tex.; Wheeling, W. Va. and Washington, D. C. Seven states—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Virginia—have taken no steps toward desegregating public schools.

Louisville, Ky. January 1954: City-supported General Hospital accepts Negro student nurses.

Albany, N. Y. September 1954: State Education Department admits Indian children to regular schools, ending century of segregated reservation schools.

Columbus, Ohio, July 1956: Attorney General rules State Board of Education may withhold funds from school districts or boards permitting segregation.

Washington, September 1957: President federalizes Arkansas National Guard; instructs Federal troops to prevent obstruction of court order desegregating Little Rock public schools.

U. S. A. Fall 1957: Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and other Northern cities study ways to overcome school segregation resulting from residential ghettos.

Boston, Mass. December 1957: Assistant State Attorney General rules that request for a photograph of an applicant for admission by an educational institution is an unfair practice under State’s Fair Educational Practices Act.


Tallahassee, Fla. August 1958: Hendry County, last holdout in Florida, admits Seminole Indians to public schools.

Legislation

Trenton, N. J. 1947-1949: New state constitution ends segregation in New Jersey’s public schools; omnibus civil rights law extends jurisdiction of the Division Against Discrimination to all nonsectarian educational institutions.

Albany, N. Y. 1948-1951: State adopts first law outlawing racial and religious discrimination in higher education (Mar. 1948); extends coverage to business and trade schools (Mar. 1951).
Indianapolis, Ind. March 1949: State adopts progressive elimination of segregation in public schools.

Springfield, Ill. July 1949: State bars funds to school districts discriminating against pupils because of race or creed.

Madison, Wis. July 1949: State forbids racial or religious discrimination or segregation in public schools.


Salem, Ore. April 1951: State outlaws discrimination in vocational, professional and trade schools licensed by state.

Albany, N. Y. April 1953: State bars universities from accepting gifts conditioned on teaching racial superiority.

Santa Fe, N. M. March 1955: State repeals law requiring segregation in public schools.

Jefferson City, Mo. August 1957: State repeals law requiring segregation in public schools; eliminates color as factor in computing school attendance.

Court Action

Washington, January 1948: U. S. Supreme Court (*Sipuel v. Oklahoma*) decides unanimously that Negro students cannot be excluded from state university which offers educational opportunities unavailable at Negro school.

Austin, Tex. June 1948: Federal District Court rules that public schools of Texas may not segregate children of Mexican descent.
Washington, June 1950: U. S. Supreme Court (McLaurin v. Oklahoma; Sweatt v. Painter) rules that forcing a Negro to sit apart from his classmates at a state university or to attend a school with inferior educational opportunities is unconstitutional.


Phoenix, Ariz. February 1953: State Superior Court invalidates 1951 statute which permitted local option on desegregation.

Washington, 1954-1955: U. S. Supreme Court (School Segregation Cases) rules compulsory segregation in public schools is unconstitutional (May 1954). Following further arguments on implementation, Court orders school segregation ended "with all deliberate speed" and rules that moves toward integration must be carried out in a "systematic and effective" manner, within a "reasonable" time (May 1955).

El Paso, Tex. July 1955: Federal District Court voids all sections of state constitution and other state statutes sanctioning racial segregation in schools.

Washington, October 1955: U. S. Supreme Court (Lucy v. Adams) orders University of Alabama to admit Negro students.

Washington, March-May 1956: U. S. Supreme Court (Hawkins v. Board of Control) upholds lower court ban on racial segregation in Florida's tax-supported colleges and universities; bars delay in admission of Negro students; later (Board of Supervision v. Tau an) refuses to review lower court ruling ordering Louisiana State University to admit Negro student.

Nashville, Tenn. September 1957: Federal District Court rules that state's new law permitting "voluntary" school desegregation is "patently and manifestly unconstitutional."

U. S. A. 1958: Federal suits to compel the admission of qualified Negro students to all-white public schools are instituted in many Southern communities; Federal District and Appellate Courts rule repeatedly that school boards must comply with U. S. Supreme Court's desegregation rulings. Some 50 school cases await court action as of October 1958.

Washington, September 1958: U. S. Supreme Court (Cooper v. Aaron) rejects plea to delay integration in Little Rock public schools; bars any "ingenious or ingenuous" attempts to evade Court's 1954 ruling outlawing school segregation.

**Voluntary Action**

Lexington, Ky. May 1949: Catholic Committee of the South urges all Catholic institutions of higher learning to admit Negro students without discrimination.


Washington, November 1949: Poll of 15,000 Southern college teachers by Southern Conference Educational Fund reveals 70 per cent favor integration in professional and graduate schools.

Easton, Pa. January 1950: Lafayette College refuses $140,000 bequest restricted to non-Jewish and non-Catholic students.

Birmingham, Ala. October 1951: Southern Episcopal Synod urges admission of Negro students to theological schools at Lexington, Ky. and Sewanee, Tenn.
Chapel Hill, N. C. October 1951: Students' protest wins right of recently-admitted Negro students at University of North Carolina to sit with white students at athletic events.

Washington, 1952: New Roman Catholic high school and several Episcopal elementary schools announce non-segregation policy.

Sewanee, Tenn. June 1952: Faculty of Cumberland Forest Music Festival and eight leading religious instructors cancel teaching and concert contracts in protest against University of the South's refusal to admit Negro divinity students; following year, university admits Negroes to school of theology.

Denver, Colo. December 1952: Colorado-Wyoming Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers votes to delete references to race and religion from applications.

New Haven, Conn. December 1952: Yale Divinity School undertakes two-year survey of racial and cultural references in Protestant church literature.

Gadsden, Ala. June 1953: Cumberland Presbyterian Church admits Negro students to theological seminary.

Boston, Mass. December 1953: Department of Education announces that all of the state's 1,131 private schools have eliminated discriminatory questions on admission applications.


Oklahoma City, Okla. April 1955: State voters approve constitutional amendment paving way for desegregated schools.
Texas, 1957-1958: Citizens of Bloomington and Pleasanton approve school integration in local referenda required by state law.


Waltham, Mass. April 1958: Brandeis University turns down two gifts limiting benefits to students of specific faiths as contrary to the institution's nonsectarian policy.

Delaware, Ohio, August 1958: Southern delegates to the National Students Congress vote overwhelmingly against continued school segregation.

Norfolk, Va. September 1958: Students, parents and ministers urge Governor to reopen public high schools which were closed to avoid integration rulings.
EMPLOYMENT

Administrative Measures

Washington, 1948-1955: President Truman’s Executive Order #9980 orders Federal agencies to ban discrimination in employment; creates Fair Employment Board in Civil Service Commission to investigate complaints (1948); President Eisenhower’s Executive Order #10590 creates Committee on Government Employment Policy to replace Fair Employment Board; makes heads of Government departments responsible for preventing job discrimination in their agencies (1955).

Washington, November 1948: Secretary of the Treasury discharges a Collector of Internal Revenue in Alabama for refusing to comply with the President’s Executive Order #9980.


U. S. A. 1951: State Employment Services in California and Illinois announce they will refuse to accept discriminatory job orders and will delete all racial and religious data from records.

Washington, 1951-1954: President Truman’s Executive Order #10308 creates Committee on Government Contract Compliance (Dec. 1951) to enforce prohibition against discrimination in employment by firms contracting or subcontracting Government orders. President Eisenhower’s Executive Order #10479 creates new Government Contract Committee with Vice President as chairman (Aug. 1953); Committee tightens regulations (Apr. 1954).
Salem, Ore. August 1951: State Labor Commissioner orders Brotherhood of Railway Carmen to cease racial discrimination against applicants.

St. Louis, Mo. October 1951: State Employment Service merges Negro and white offices.

Raleigh, N. C. September 1952: Governor eliminates Negro-white salary differentials for staff of state mental hospital.

Washington, October 1953: District Board of Commissioners orders anti-bias clause in all contracts let by the nation’s capital.

Silver City, N. M. December 1954: State Fair Employment Practices Commission orders Kennecott Copper Corporation to cease segregating employees in company-owned housing, washrooms and payroll lines.


Washington, January 1955: President’s Committee on Government Contracts refuses to permit Bureau of Indian Affairs to negotiate a contract with Mississippi omitting standard non-discrimination clause.

Washington, January 1955: Capital Transit Company drops ban on Negro bus and trolley operators after conferences with transit union and President’s Committee on Government Contracts.

Red Bank, N. J. March 1955: State Highway Authority orders non-discrimination clause added to all construction contracts for Garden State Parkway.
New York, N. Y. April 1955: State Commission Against Discrimination approves consent decree in which brewery local of the AFL Teamsters Union agrees to end practices deemed discriminatory by the Commission.

New York, N. Y. June 1955: State Commission Against Discrimination announces agreement by local of International Alliance of Theatrical State Employees, AFL, to admit Negro stagehands to full membership.

Los Angeles, Calif. July 1955: City Civil Service Commission requires all applicants for municipal employment to pledge they will “willingly work with or for any associates regardless of race, color or creed.”


Trenton, N. J. June 1956: State Division Against Discrimination orders Erie Railroad to end discrimination against Negro employees in hiring and upgrading.

Washington, February 1957: U. S. Civil Service Commission eliminates racial designation of employees from personnel forms.

Albany, N. Y. May 1957: State Labor Department announces it will receive complaints of racial and religious discrimination in support of the State Commission Against Discrimination.


Washington, October 1957: President’s Committee on Government Contracts announces many leading industrial firms will emphasize in all help-wanted advertisements that employment is offered without racial or religious discrimination.
New York, N.Y. March 1958: State Commission Against Discrimination reports that evidences of discrimination against Jews in employment, public accommodations and housing have declined steadily since 1945.

Denver, Colo. April 1958: State Anti-Discrimination Division orders local school board to end discriminatory hiring practices.


Birmingham, Ala. July 1958: City Personnel Board removes "white only" restrictions on civil service jobs.


Legislation

U.S.A. 1948-1956: Richmond, Calif.; Sioux City, Iowa; Baltimore, Md.; St. Louis, Mo. and Cincinnati, Ohio adopt limited fair employment ordinances.


Albany, N. Y. May 1949: State bars questions on birthplace on applications for civil service.

Sacramento, Calif. June 1949: Revised Civil Service Law bars discrimination against state employees on grounds of religion, political belief, marital status, race, color, sex or blindness.


Sacramento, Calif. November 1952: State constitutional amendment eliminates last prohibitions against employment of Chinese on public works.


Albany, N. Y. April 1957: Amendment to State Labor Law bars racial or religious discrimination in apprenticeship training programs under union-management sponsorship.

Springfield, Ill. August 1957: State bars aid to school districts which discriminate in hiring teachers.

Albany, N. Y. April 1958: Legislature extends jurisdiction of State Commission Against Discrimination to include bias based on age of employees.
Court Action

U. S. A. 1948: Suits to equate Negro and white teachers' salaries succeed in Atlanta, Ga.; Oklahoma City, Okla. and Surrey, Va.

Washington, November 1949: U. S. Supreme Court (Graham v. Brotherhood) sustains injunction against Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, barring discrimination against Negro railroad employees.

Charlotte, N. C. January 1951: U. S. Court of Appeals reverses lower court decision which permitted railroads to restrict hiring of Negroes as firemen.

Hartford, Conn. 1952-1954: State courts sustain Civil Rights Commission's order against International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (July 1952). Superior Court fines Hartford local of IBEW $2,000 for refusing to drop discriminatory membership policy, plus $500 per week until compliance. Union admits two Negro apprentices (Apr. 1954).

Washington, June 1952: U. S. Supreme Court (Brotherhood v. Howard) rules that a railway brotherhood may not use its power as a bargaining representative to effect racial discrimination.

U. S. A. Spring 1954: Supreme Courts of Michigan and Ohio rule workers may refuse to work on their Sabbath without sacrificing unemployment compensation.

New York, N. Y. April 1954: State Court of Appeals upholds authority of State Commission Against Discrimination to order an employment agency to cease inquiring, directly or indirectly, into race, creed, color or national origin of applicants.

Houston, Tex. September 1955. State District Court approves agreement between Shell Oil Refinery and Shell Chemical Co. and Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union not to restrict workers to certain jobs on the basis of race or color.
Voluntary Action


U. S. A. December 1948: Ten railroad unions agree to eliminate discriminatory clauses from their national constitutions, or to make them inoperative in states with FEP laws.

New York, N. Y. April 1950: New York Telephone Company announces discriminatory advertisements by employment agencies will not be accepted for classified telephone directories.

New York, N. Y. June 1950: Journal of American Medical Association announces designations of race and creed will be dropped from all "situations wanted" ads.


Chicago, Ill. March 1955: Armour and Company assures United Packinghouse Workers Union that qualified Negroes will be employed in white-collar positions.


New York, N. Y. December 1955: Merger convention of AFL-CIO creates Committee on Civil Rights to further equal opportunity for all workers.

Pittsburgh, Pa. 1956-1958: American Federation of Teachers votes to void charter of any local which continues to segregate
members after December 1957; rejects reinstatement appeal of Chattanooga (Tenn.) local.

**Washington,** June 1956: Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. serving the District of Columbia and its environs, agrees to hire Negro telephone operators.

**Cleveland,** Ohio, April 1957: AFL-CIO President George Meany orders Cleveland local of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to end discrimination against Negro applicants or face loss of charter.

**New York,** N. Y. July 1957: National Urban League and United Automobile Workers of America announce pact for joint action to combat racial discrimination in all industries where UAW has collective bargaining agreements.

**Miami Beach,** Fla. February 1958: AFL-CIO orders unions to include clauses barring racial discrimination in hiring, wages and promotions in all labor contracts.

**Chicago,** Ill. June 1958: Bureau on Jewish Employment Problems reports that during 1957, over 250 large companies in the Chicago area adopted a policy of non-bias in hiring.

**Kansas City,** Mo. September 1958: National Postal Transport Association amends constitution to admit Negroes.
Housing

Administrative Measures

Washington, December 1949: Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Administration refuse Federal loans for new housing with discriminatory deeds or leases.


Charlotte, N. C. January 1950: Public Housing Administration rejects bid for Federal aid in construction of segregated housing project; City Council reverses segregation policy.

New York, N. Y. April 1951: State Commissioner of Housing rules that, for the purposes of the housing law, segregation is discrimination.

New York, N. Y. June 1951: Federal Housing Administrator announces that all projects to which FHA obtains title will be administered without segregation.

Washington, September 1953: National Capital Housing Authority ends segregation in 2,000 public housing units, making 87 per cent of all District public housing interracial.

Hartford, Conn. December 1955: State Commission on Civil
Rights rules real estate agents are covered by state law barring discrimination in services offered to public.


**New York, N. Y.** May 1958: Commission on Intergroup Relations settles first complaint involving religious discrimination in *private* housing, under new city ordinance.

**New York, N. Y.** June 1958: Following protest by City Council, Slum Clearance Committee discontinues listing of race, religion and national origin on tenant-relocation records.


**Legislation**

**U. S. A.** 1949-1952: Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif. and Cincinnati, Ohio bar segregation in *urban redevelopment*.


**U. S. A.** 1949-1957: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Washington forbid racial and religious discrimination in *publicly-assisted* housing, including housing covered by VA or FHA loans.

**Madison, Wis.** June 1951: State bars racial restrictive covenants in housing deeds.
St. Paul, Minn. April 1953: State prohibits race restrictions in real estate contracts.

**New York, N. Y.** July 1954: Ordinance bars racial or religious discrimination in multiple dwellings erected with loans or guarantees from public agencies.

**Trenton, N. J.** July 1955: State bars discrimination in granting of mortgage loans.

**Minneapolis, Minn.** April 1957: State creates study commission to investigate discrimination in sale or lease of housing.

**New York, N. Y.** December 1957: City adopts first ordinance in U. S. to bar racial or religious discrimination in private housing.

**Willow Run, Mich.** April 1958: Ordinance bars racial and religious discrimination in housing constructed with direct or indirect public assistance.

**Court Action**

**Washington, May 1948:** U. S. Supreme Court (*Shelley v. Kraemer; Hurd v. Hodges*) rules that courts cannot enforce racial restrictive covenants. Five years later (July 1953), Court rules that damages may not be awarded for breach of racial restrictive covenant (*Barrows v. Jackson*).

**Birmingham, Ala.** December 1950: U. S. Court of Appeals rules that city's racial zoning law is unconstitutional.

**San Francisco, Calif.** 1953-1954: State Court of Appeal rules that San Francisco Housing Authority must abandon "neighborhood pattern" of resident selection and admit applicants without discrimination (Aug. 1953); U. S. Supreme Court (*Housing Authority v. Banks*) rejects appeal (May 1954).

Chicago, Ill. June 1953: State Circuit Court bars attempt to convert Negro-owned property into public park.

Akron, Ohio, April 1955: State Board of Tax Appeals rules that advent of Negro residents into a "white neighborhood" does not necessarily reduce property values.


Denver, Colo. October 1957: State Supreme Court rules that "no rights, duties or obligations" in connection with real property can be based on racial or religious restrictive covenants.

Doylestown, Pa. December 1957: Bucks County Common Pleas Court issues permanent injunction to prevent harassment of Negro family in Levittown housing development.

White Plains, N. Y. January 1958: State Supreme Court upholds law barring discrimination in publicly-assisted housing; affirms SCAD finding of violation.

Sacramento, Calif. June 1958: Superior Court rules that realtors advertising FHA or VA terms, conditions or financing, and who secure "commitments" for such assistance may not refuse to sell homes to qualified Negro applicants.

Voluntary Action

Miami, Fla. November 1950: National Association of Real Estate Boards votes to change code which held it unethical for realtors to introduce new races into a neighborhood.

Philadelphia, Pa. April 1954: Commission on Human Relations reports that 88 per cent of the city's Negro families and 22 per cent of white families live in blocks with racial integration.

San Francisco, Calif. December 1954: Study by University of California reports that West Coast white neighborhoods are accepting arrival of non-white residents without incident.

Teaneck, N. J. July 1955: White citizens unite to integrate Negro newcomers and prevent panic selling in neighborhood.

Washington, February 1957: Red Cross declines purchase of home for its president because land is covered by racial and religious restrictive covenant.

Cleveland, Ohio, December 1957: New integrated private garden apartments are completed with Federal "Title I" assistance.

Fresno, Calif. March 1958: Social action bodies of American Baptist Convention, Disciple of Christ, The Methodist Church, The Presbyterian Church in the USA and The United Church of Christ unite in program attacking racial barriers in housing.

New York, N. Y. March 1958: President of nation's largest saving bank declares "the color or ethnic origin of the borrower is irrelevant" with respect to the security of mortgage loans.

Seattle, Wash. May 1958: Greater Seattle Housing Council, representing builders, architects, realtors and lenders, joins with church, labor and civic agencies to combat housing discrimination.

San Francisco, Calif. August 1958: Largest builder-member of Associated Home Builders of San Francisco resigns in protest against official statements supporting racially-restricted housing.
PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Administrative Measures


Houston, Tex. December 1951: City Authorities bar segregated rest rooms and eating facilities in new airport terminal.

St. Paul, Minn. July 1953: Governor orders discriminatory resort literature removed from State Tourist Bureau offices.

New York, N. Y. July 1953: State Commission Against Discrimination orders summer resort to discontinue "club" memberships used as subterfuge for religious discrimination and to eliminate brochure references to "selected clientele."

Dallas, Tex. June 1954: Park Department ends segregation on municipal golf courses.

New York, N. Y. December 1954: State Commission Against Discrimination rules that a swimming pool operating as a "private club" is still a public accommodation and must admit customers without racial discrimination.

Washington, December 1954: Board of Commissioners announces it will enforce 85-year-old anti-discrimination laws in all places of public accommodation.

Columbus, Ohio, June 1955: Ohio Turnpike Commission announces it will not publicize any establishment along the Turnpike practicing racial discrimination.


Montpelier, Vt. May 1956: Attorney General rules that resorts practicing racial discrimination may not be listed in official state tourist publications.

Washington, May 1956: Civil Aeronautics Administration bars use of Federal funds for construction of segregated rest rooms, dining rooms and other airport facilities.

New York, N. Y. December 1956: Welfare Commissioner orders private nursing homes treating recipients of public assistance to prove non-discrimination or be dropped from welfare list.

Detroit, Mich. August 1957: Attorney General rules that golf course "club" with retail liquor license is a place of public accommodation under civil rights law.


Denver, Colo. July 1958: State Anti-Discrimination Commission rules that student rooming facilities posted by State University must be available without racial or religious discrimination.
Legislation


Annapolis, Md. February 1951: State repeals mandatory racial segregation in public transportation.

Kansas City, Mo. June 1951: Ordinance forbids segregation at municipal air terminal, auditorium and theatre.


Albuquerque, N. M. March 1952: Ordinance bans racial discrimination in public accommodations.


Knoxville, Tenn. January 1954: Ordinance bans segregation at privately-owned restaurants at Municipal Airport.


U. S. A. 1955-57: Montana, New Mexico and Vermont ban racial and religious discrimination in public accommodations, bringing total number of states with such statutes to 22.

Springfield, Ill. July 1955: State bars tax exemption to hospitals discriminating against patients because of race or creed.

Oklahoma City, Okla. February 1956: Ordinance ends racial segregation in municipal parks and pools.

Lansing, Mich. April 1956: State strengthens civil rights law; extends definition of public accommodations to include motels and public housing.

Greensboro, N. C. July 1957: Ordinance ends racial segregation in public libraries.

Chicago, Ill. October 1957: Ordinance bars discrimination in public accommodations.

Court Action

U. S. A. 1948-1954: Courts in Minneapolis, Minn.; Kansas City, St. Louis and Webster Groves, Mo.; Trenton, N. J.; Oxford, Ohio; Philadelphia, Pa. and Houston, Tex. rule that public swimming pools and bathing beaches may not bar Negroes.


Washington, January 1949: Federal District Court sustains right of Civil Aeronautics Administrator to prohibit discrimination and segregation at Washington National Airport, although airport is in Virginia, which has a compulsory segregation law.


Washington, June 1953: U. S. Supreme Court (*District of Columbia v. Thompson*) upholds 1873 statute prohibiting public eating places from refusing service because of race or color; voids long-standing segregation tradition of Capital restaurants.

Norfolk, Va. 1955-1956: Federal District Court rules that racial segregation in state parks is unconstitutional whether operated by state or private lessee (July 1955); ruling is upheld by U. S. Court of Appeals (Apr. 1956); U. S. Supreme Court (*Tate v. Dep't. of Conservation*) refuses to review (Oct. 1956).

Richmond, Va. 1955-1956: U. S. Court of Appeals declares segregation on intrastate buses unconstitutional (July 1955); U. S. Supreme Court (*South Carolina Electric and Gas Co. v. Fleming*) refuses to review (Apr. 1956).


New York, N. Y. 1955-1957: State Supreme Court upholds ruling of State Commission Against Discrimination ordering swimming pool to admit Negro patrons (June 1955); ruling is upheld by Appellate Court (Apr. 1956) and New York Court of Appeals (Apr. 1957).

Washington, November 1955: U. S. Supreme Court (*Mayor v. Dawson; Holmes v. Atlanta*) affirms lower court ruling barring segregation in public beaches and bathhouses; reverses lower court ruling permitting segregation on public golf courses.

Frankfurt, Ky. December 1955: State Court of Appeals bans racial segregation in public parks.

Beaumont, Tex. December 1955: Federal District Court holds that "separate but equal" principle was voided by U. S. Supreme Court in *School Segregation Cases*; enjoins city from enforcing segregation in public parks.
Washington, November 1956: U. S. Supreme Court (Gayle v. Browder) bars segregation in intrastate buses.

U. S. A. January 1957: Federal District Courts rule that state and city bus segregation laws in Florida, Louisiana and Maryland are unconstitutional.

Charlotte, N. C. February 1957: Superior Court enjoins Park and Recreation Commission from excluding Negroes from city's golf links, even though part of the land was donated to city for use of whites only.

Washington, April 1957: U. S. Supreme Court (Casey v. Plummer) refuses to review lower court decision barring racial discrimination in Harris County, Tex. court cafeteria.


Los Angeles, Calif. December 1957: Superior Court rules retail stores are places of public accommodation, though not specifically mentioned in state's anti-discrimination law.

Washington, October 1958: U. S. Supreme Court (New Orleans City Park Improvement Ass'n. v. Detiege) affirms lower court ruling barring segregation in golf courses and other public park facilities.

**Voluntary Action**

Washington, 1948-1953: Actors' Equity bans Washington bookings because theatre excludes Negro patrons (May 1948); National Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital issues Report condemning discrimination in Washington, D. C. (Dec. 1948); National Theatre drops segregation and reopens for legitimate stage productions (Nov. 1951); last dime store chain operating segregated lunch counters drops ban against Negro patrons (Sept. 1952); motion picture theatres drop color line (Oct. 1953).
New Orleans, La. October 1949: Archbishop cancels annual holy hour services in city stadium because Park Commission insists on segregation of participants.

New York, N. Y. May 1951: Unions representing more than 70,000 restaurant employees, and management associations comprising more than 1,500 restaurants, pledge equal treatment of patrons regardless of race; Committee on Civil Rights in Manhattan, Inc. finds (June 1952) discrimination against Negro patrons in East Side restaurants has decreased from 42 per cent to 16 per cent in two years.

Atlanta, Ga. June 1951: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People holds first non-segregated meeting since Reconstruction days in Municipal Auditorium.

U. S. A. 1952-1953: Legitimate theatres in Baltimore, Md. and St. Louis, Mo. end segregation.

Norfolk, Va. June 1952: Norfolk Ministers Association cancels annual January preaching mission until racial segregation of audiences is eliminated.

Washington, January 1954: Columbia Hospital announces complete racial integration of patients.


Lake Junaluska, N. C. June 1955: Three hundred and seventy-five students from 90 Southern colleges, attending Methodist Conference, call for end to racial discrimination and resolve to shun local pools barring Negro students.

Oklahoma City, Okla. March 1956: National Council of Presbyterian Men cancels Southwest area meeting because delegates could not be assured non-segregated eating and housing facilities.
New Orleans, La. September 1957: Tulane University and U. S. Military Academy shift site of Army-Tulane football game from New Orleans to West Point to avoid segregated seating required by state law.

Greeley, Colo. December 1957: Colorado State College cancels three basketball games scheduled in Louisiana because state’s segregation laws would not permit Negro squad members to play.

Lake Placid, N. Y. May 1958: Mayors’ convention of New York State moves from Lake Placid resort in protest against club’s policy of refusing accommodations to Jewish guests.

Austin, Tex. October 1958: Students at University of Texas vote 17-1 to ask business establishments near campus to extend services without discrimination.
Religious Groups

U. S. A. 1949-1958: Southern Presbyterian Church votes to absorb colored presbyteries in white synods; Washington Cathedral selects Negro canon; South Carolina Diocese of Protestant Episcopal Church welcomes Negroes to convention; Bishop of Raleigh bans segregation in Catholic churches of the diocese; Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey bars church segregation; Bruton Parish Church, Williamsburg, Va., admits Negroes; Bradenton-Palmetto, Fla. Ministerial Association admits Negro pastors; Texas-Louisiana Presbyterian Synod admits Negro members; Archbishop suspends New Orleans Catholic mission for rejecting services of Negro priest; Austin, Tex. Baptist association admits Negro members; white and Negro ministerial associations in Asheville and Winston-Salem, N. C., Daytona Beach, Fla., Little Rock, Ark. and Cleveland County, N. C. merge; white and Negro Episcopal congregations in Maywood, Ill. merge; Methodist Board of Evangelism abolishes Negro section; First Methodist Church of Mission, Tex. bans segregated congregation; General Assembly of United Presbyterian Church votes for complete integration of all churches, agencies and institutions in denomination; Disciples of Christ announces some degree of integration in 464 local congregations in 40 states; North Arkansas and New Jersey Methodist Conferences approve transfer of Negro churches to white jurisdictions; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. votes support for those exposed to violence and ill will because of their integration stand; Philadelphia Methodist Conference admits Negro pastors to membership; Rock River (Ill.) Conference of Methodist Churches welcomes Negro church;
Virginia Episcopal Conference Center opens on integrated basis; Evangelical United Brethren Church, Presbyterian Church in the U. S. (Southern) and Virginia Methodist Conference bar use of church buildings for classrooms as means of circumventing desegregation rulings; resolutions and statements condemning racial segregation in public schools and other facilities are adopted by clergymen of numerous Southern cities and by state and national bodies of most major church groups in the U. S. A.

**Professional Societies**

**Chicago, Ill. 1948-1954:** The American Nurses Association votes to give direct membership to Negro nurses refused district membership; two years later, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses disbands. By 1954, 53 state and territorial Associations—all except Georgia—include Negro nurses in membership.

**U. S. A. 1947-1958:** Bar Associations of Cincinnati, Ohio; Galveston, Tex.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Louisville, Ky.; St. Louis, Mo. and Washington, D. C. admit Negroes.

**U. S. A. 1949-1957:** Education Associations of Arkansas; Oklahoma; Arlington, Va. and Washington, D. C. admit Negroes.

**U. S. A. 1949-1957:** Negroes are admitted to membership in state medical associations of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia; medical societies of Pulaski County, Ark., Fulton County, Jackson County and St. Louis, Mo., Charleston County, S. C., Bexar and Harris County, Tex., Northern Virginia, Roanoke, Va. and Washington, D. C.; American Pediatric Society; American Board of Surgery; St. Louis, Mo. Dental Society.

**U. S. A. Fall 1951:** North Carolina Academy of Science admits Negroes.

**Chicago, Ill. May 1956:** American Bar Association votes to drop questions on race from membership application forms; declares inquiry "serves no useful purpose."
Fraternities

U. S. A. 1948-1957: Following example set by Amherst, steps are taken to end discrimination in Greek-letter societies at numerous colleges and universities. Colleges: Allegheny; Arizona State; College of the City of New York; Dartmouth; Lafayette; Lake Forest; Lewis and Clark; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Middlebury; San Francisco State; Williams. Universities: American; Bridgeport; California; Chicago; Colgate; Colorado; Columbia; Connecticut; Cornell; Denver; Houston; Kansas City; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota; New York; Northwestern; Ohio Wesleyan; Pennsylvania State; Rutgers; Stanford; State University of New York; Syracuse; Tufts; Vermont; Washington; Wayne State; Wesleyan; Wisconsin. National Committee on Fraternities in Education is organized to fight bias. Action by fraternities to prevent universities from ordering elimination of discriminatory charter clauses is dismissed by U. S. Supreme Court (Webb v. State University).

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