

Mrs. Ferguson to See Dewey Today

MASS DELEGATION TO SEEK JUSTICE FOR SLAIN NEGROES

By CLAUDIA JONES

Carrying a Presidential citation of her slain soldier-husband, Mrs. Minnie Ferguson will appear before Gov. Dewey in Albany today to demand that long-overdue action be taken at once against the Freeport policeman who fired the fatal shots Feb. 5.

Mrs. Ferguson will be accompanied by Edward and Richard Ferguson, brothers of Pfc. Charles and Alonzo, the dead Negroes.

City Councilmen Benjamin J. Davis Jr. and Eugene P. Connolly will go with the Fergusons heading a mass delegation.

SCORE DEWEY

At a press conference at the Hotel Diplomat yesterday, Stanley Faulkner, general counsel for the New York Committee for Justice in Freeport and attorney for the Ferguson family, assailed Dewey's attitude in the case.

"The Governor's attitude in the whole matter," Faulkner charged, "has been one of complete disregard of the seriousness of this case and has reached a point where he not only must answer to members of the Ferguson family, but to the people of New York, as to why he has considered this entire matter so lightly."

The Presidential citation of Charles Ferguson marks the fourth time since the slaying that the whitewash of Patrolman Joseph Romeika, the killer, has been challenged.

● Richard Ferguson was exonerated by the Nassau County Court of any charges of disorderly conduct after he was railroaded to jail on a 100-day charge.

● The U. S. Navy exonerated Joseph, another brother, wounded also by Romeika.

● An Army General Board cleared Charles Ferguson of any disorderly conduct, and stated that he died "in the line of duty."

The Presidential citation followed this finding.

Yet the charge of "disorderly conduct" against the Ferguson brothers was the basis of the cop's whitewash.

Faulkner stated that, "in view of these developments, it is impossible to believe that an indictment could not be procured against Patrolman Romeika."

SEEK INDEMNITY

Faulkner stated that \$47,500 total claims have been filed with the Freeport village board for indemnities to the Ferguson family.

Also filed was a formal petition with Gov. Dewey requesting:

(1) That a special prosecutor be appointed; and

(2) That a complete investigation be made of the conditions in the village of Freeport, such as housing, schools, Police Department, etc.—conditions which are responsible for the Ferguson case.

There are no Negro teachers or

Negro policemen in Freeport.

Faulkner criticized as "unsatisfactory" the legal probe now under way by State Attorney General Goldstein's office against the Knights and Women of the Ku Klux Klan.

He also revealed that the committee had employed a handwriting expert to check the signature on a threatening letter received by Miss Dorothy Langston, executive secretary of the Freeport committee, with those of the signatures on the incorporation papers of the Knights and Women of the Ku Klux Klan.

Miss Langston told reporters that the delegation visiting Albany had not yet received an appointment with Gov. Dewey. Their major demand will be that Gov. Dewey supersede District Attorney James Gehrig, of Nassau County, and appoint a special investigator.

Miss Langston also stated that, "as far as the Ferguson case is concerned, we won't be satisfied until Gov. Dewey appoints a special prosecutor to supersede Mr. Gehrig and give Romeika the punishment he deserves."

Goldstein Roar on Klan Fades To Whisper as GOP Squirms

By HARRY RAYMOND

The fanfare of State Attorney General Nathaniel Goldstein's four-day-old declaration of war on the Ku Klux Klan diminished to less than a whisper yesterday. Goldstein, obeying orders from a GOP state leadership embarrassed by the discovery of an old-time Kluxer in its midst, had no word to offer on the progress of the crusade.

It was reported Gov. Dewey was deadlocked in high-level discussion on ways and means to explain his appointment of Horace A. Demarest, self-admitted founding father of the Knights and Women of the Ku Klux Klan, to the high post of Queens Motor Vehicle Commissioner.

And, it is said, strict instructions have been rushed from Albany to the Attorney General's office in New York that all Republicans on the spot in the KKK revelations—and there are many—must stay mum until decision is reached on who will do the explaining and how it will be done.

Goldstein acted to lift the state corporation Klan certificate three weeks after the Daily Worker exclusively revealed the hate group was operating under state law and a week after The Worker carried the name of Demarest as a KKK di-



Honored: Mrs. Minnie E. Ferguson holds Presidential Citation sent to her husband, Pfc. Charles Ferguson killed on Feb. 5, with his brother Alphonse by race-hating Patrolman Joseph Romeika. Beside her are Cpl. Edward Ferguson and Richard Ferguson, brothers of slain man. The citation reads: "In grateful memory of Private First Class Charles R. Ferguson who died in the service of his country in the America area, Feb. 5, 1946. He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have died that freedom might live and grow and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it, he lives—in a way that humbles the understanding of most men.—HARRY S. TRUMAN."

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Pa. CIO Asks Big 3 Unity

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PITTSBURGH, May 2.—Pennsylvania's powerful CIO took a firm stand today for Big Three unity and the late President Roosevelt's foreign policy. More than 500 delegates representing 650,000 CIO workers at the state convention here rejected blocs in the United Nations and demanded that fascism be rooted out by implementing the Potsdam agreements. They demanded further that the United Nations respect the peoples rights to choose their own form of governments.

The convention then put teeth in its fight for peace and United Nations unity by demanding that President Truman remove Hoover from his food post; that the UN quarantine Franco Spain and Argentina; and that the Rankin un-American Committee and its red-baiting campaign be ended.

They further called for immediate withdrawal of British troops from Palestine, abrogation of the white paper and the British mandate, and abolition of the DP camps in Europe.

Another resolution struck against lynch terror. Citing the L. I. and Columbia, Tenn., killings, the convention demanded that President Truman and Attorney General Clark take federal action to stop lynching and lynch incitements against the Negro people.

Declaring that it is not tied up with any political party the Pennsylvania CIO convention endorsed James Guffey, Democratic candidate for re-election to the Senate, and the Democratic candidates for governor, Lt. governor and secretary of internal affairs.

Full moral support to the 400,000 striking coal miners was voted with spontaneous applause. A number of delegates took the floor to insist on ending strike-breaking injunctions, and a unanimous vote decided that the convention would visit the strike bound Westinghouse picket line Friday Morning.

An all-around progressive policy adopted by the convention in its many resolutions were passed unanimously. Other points included sup-

Dear Reader:

A reader writes in to say that "It is a privilege to help support the Daily Worker."

A capitalist newspaper turns for

enough." Still another sends his contribution with wishes of "good luck for the fight against the Klan."

T. E. W., of Shamokin, Pa., thinks "there was never a time in the history