

# VIOLA DESMOND

## THE CLARION

Published in the Interest of Colored Nova Scotians  
NEW GLASGOW, N. S.

1946 DECEMBER

### Did You Know?



### Takes Action

Mrs. Viola Desmond, 22-year-old Negro Halifax beautician, arrested and fined \$75 and costs by Magistrate Rod G. Mackay, of this town, for sitting downstairs in the Roseland Theatre while holding an upstairs ticket. Mrs. Desmond was fined for defrauding the Federal Government of one cent, the difference in the Amusement tax on an upstairs ticket of two cents and a downstairs ticket of three cents.

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Mrs. Desmond, manager of the theatre, charged that she had served a writ against Henry MacNeill, manager of the theatre, charging false arrest, false imprisonment, assault and malicious prosecution.

E. M. Macdonald, M.C. of New Glasgow, is acting for Mr. MacNeill.

Mrs. Desmond, the former Viola Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Davis, of Halifax, is well known throughout the Province. She is a graduate of the Halifax High School, and is also a graduate in Beauty Culture from a leading Beauty College in New York. She is a citizen of John Davis, Civil Service employee (Post Office Division), Halifax.

### Viola Desmond's Appeal

Just as we go to press we are in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Bernice Williams, Sec'y N. S. A. A. C. P. informing us that an appeal trial of the Viola Desmond case will be held in Halifax on Dec. 27th, also a Viola Desmond Court Fund has been established. By the Association following contributions. A public meeting will be held by the Association on Dec. 2nd in Halifax asking everyone to attend and give their donation.

The N. S. A. A. C. P. is the Ladder to Advancement. STEP ON IT! JOIN TO DAY!

### The N. S. A. A. C. P.

The Nova Scotia Association for the Advancement of the Colored People was organized in 1943.

- (a) To improve and further the interest of the Colored People of the Province.
- (b) To provide an organization to encourage and promote a spirit of fraternity among its members.
- (c) To co-operate with Governmental and private agencies for the promotion of the interest and the welfare of the Province or any community therein, wherein Colored People are resident, and particularly in reference to said Colored People.
- (d) To improve the educational opportunities of Colored youth and to raise the standard of the Colored people of the Province or any community therein.

The following people comprise the charter members of the Association:

Arnold P. Smith, Richard Symonds, William Carter, Bernice A. Williams, Carl W. Oliver, Walter Johnson, Pearson Gross, William P. Oliver and Ernest

Join the N. S. A. A. C. P.  
Write BERNICE A. WILLIAMS, Sec'y  
106 Maynard Street,  
Halifax, N. S.

## EN LUTTE CONTRE LA SÉGRÉGATION

Vol. 1, NO. 1

### Locals

#### The Season's Greetings to All Our Readers

Mr. and Mrs. James MacPhee have moved into their new home on South Albert Street.

Calbert Best, student at King's College, Halifax, will spend the Christmas recess with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Best.

Congratulations are being extended to Rev. and Mrs. Thomas for their Christmas

Calmair. It is a lovely job!

Miss Evelyn Williams, daughter of Mr. Norman Williams, stenographer with the Pay Roll Department at Ottawa, will be home on Dec. 26th to spend the Christmas

holidays with her family.

Friends will be interested to know that Miss Thelma Parris, formerly of this town, has become an American citizen. She is making her home in Cambridge, where her mother, Mrs. Douglas Gordon, resides.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Second Baptist Church held a successful sale and tea in the Church Hall on Dec. 19th. A lovely display of fancy work was noted.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Mills left Saturday, Dec. 14, for Boston, where they will spend Christmas with their daughters, Mrs. Thornton Harper and Mrs. Dennis Shepherd.

Johnnie Mills met a deer—DEER, that is, recently, while driving his mother to Halifax. The deer darted out on the side of the highway near Elmwood and hit the nose of the deer. Not seriously injured, the deer soon scampered off, none the worse of the impact.

Word has been received that Miss Irma MacKenney will be a participant in the St. John Music Festival in May. A student at Mount Allison School of Music, Miss MacKenney is a soprano of promise, and soon without a singing.

The Senior H. Y. P. U. of Second Baptist Church chartered a bus and motored to Riverdale where they held a service for the inmates of the Feltov County Home. Among those who took part were Mr. H. D. Thomas, Howard Lawrence, Miss Alberta Lawrence and Mrs. Gordon Clark. About twenty-five persons made the trip.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Second Baptist Church had a surprise party early in December for Rev. and Mrs. Thomas at the Parsonage, Washington St. The gift included china, linen, etc., and each gift was accompanied by an original verse. Typical of the verses was the one given by President Mrs. L. Mills:

"I may be small, but my mission is great.  
I'm here to decorate your cake plates.  
Your cakes I know like a treat to eat.  
So no one when next your guests you  
treat."

Au Canada du début du 20<sup>ème</sup> siècle, Viola Desmond, esthéticienne, ouvre un salon de beauté, crée une école de beauté destinée aux femmes de la communauté noire et lance sa propre ligne de produits de beauté pour peaux et cheveux noirs, Vi's Beauty Products.

Mais ce n'est pas seulement pour le succès de ses affaires que Viola Desmond est une femme remarquable : en 1946, dans un cinéma de New Glasgow, elle refuse de laisser sa place pour s'installer au balcon, dans la zone réservée aux Noirs. Violemment interpellée, elle est emprisonnée pour la nuit, traduite en justice et condamnée. Choquée, elle fait appel mais n'aura pas gain de cause. Son action marque une mobilisation et une résistance contre le racisme qui, en 1954, aboutiront à la fin de la ségrégation en Nouvelle-Écosse.

