

NEGRO HELPER AT BONNY OAKS TO BE DROPPED

Teacher Accused by Girls Is
Through, Court Is Told—
Grand Jury in Probe

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Attorney Fletcher Morgan, acting

for Dr. W. S. Keese, superintendent of Bonny Oaks Industrial school, notified Judge L. D. Miller yesterday that Issac Springs, Negro teacher at Bonny Oaks who is charged with misconduct in dealing with Negro students, will be discharged "for the best interests of the school."

Meanwhile, the grand jury which is now in session began an investigation of the charges made against the teacher by students at Bonny Oaks. Dr. W. A. Thompson, Negro civic leader who was instrumental in having the trouble aired before Judge Miller on Tuesday, appeared before the grand jury yesterday afternoon.

Subpoenas for Students Reported

It was also reported yesterday that the students who made the charges have been subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury today.

Springs is accused of making improper advances to the girls in his charge, drinking on the premises, using profane language in front of the children and beating and otherwise abusing the children.

The charges were made before Judge Miller at a hearing in juvenile court Tuesday morning. Springs was not present and the hearing was continued until this morning to give him an opportunity to be heard. Springs was not present yesterday morning when court opened and Morgan announced that he would be discharged.

"Dr. Keese has gone into the charges and it is his belief that the best interests of the school will be served by the discharge of Springs," said Morgan. "I think that will meet the exigencies of this case. The man's usefulness at that institution is through."

"I think Dr. Keese used good judgment in letting Springs go," Judge Miller commented. "I will feel much better about sending children out there."

Girls Corroborated Charges

The charges were made by three Negro boys who were brought before Judge Miller and charged with entering the colored girl's dormitory. One of the boys admitted going in the dormitory, but the other two denied it. The girls corroborated the charges made against Springs.

Judge Miller announced yesterday that he would put the three boys under suspended sentences of three years each in the state training and agriculture school for Negroes at Pikeville. He said they would be allowed to stay at Bonny Oaks on good behavior.

Squire Wilkes T. Thrasher who represented a group of Negro civic leaders interested in the case protested against the boys being given suspended sentences at Pikeville and asserted that they were only following the example set by their teacher.

"That doesn't make any difference about that," said Judge Miller. "We can't tolerate any such thing as that."