

## Richmond Welcomes Rights Leaders

# 'Freedom Now' Is Ringing Theme For SCLC Session In Virginia



ROY WILKINS  
Thursday Speaker



REV. THOMAS KILGORE  
Friday Speaker



DR. S. D. PROCTOR  
Keynote Speaker



### Discuss Plans For SCLC Richmond Session

The Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker, center, executive assistant to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is shown with members of the local chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as they discuss plans for the annual session in the conference in Richmond, Sept. 24-27, at Virginia Union University.

From left to right, they are: Father John McMahon, the Rev. Milton A. Reid, co-ordinator; Rev. Mr. Walker, Mrs. Laurayne James, co-ordinator; and the Rev. Eugene Smith.

The convention officially opens with the banquet on Tuesday evening, Sept. 24, at 8 p.m. in the Virginia Room of the John Marshall Hotel. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday morning.

## Famed Speakers Listed; Thousands Attend Meet

RICHMOND — More than 10,000 people are expected to attend the 7th annual Southern Christian Leadership Conference session here from Sept. 24 - 27.

Headlining the four-day sessions, which will be held for the most part on the campus of Virginia Union University, will be Senators Jacob Javits, (R-NY); Paul Douglas, (D-Ill.); Comedian Dick Gregory, Leroy Johnson, State Senator of Georgia; Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, president of A. and T. College of Greensboro, N. C.; Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary; and Martin Luther King, Jr., SCLC president.

CONSIDERED to be the biggest civil rights meeting, next to the Freedom March on Washington, the conference is expected to attract many of the outstanding theatrical and political personalities that were active in the March on Washington.

The banquet will be held in the spacious John Marshall Hotel's Virginia Room Tuesday, Sept. 24, at 8 p.m., marking the first time that this facility has been opened to a Negro group.

DICK Gregory, who broke through unwritten color restrictions against Negro comics several years ago to start the nation to laughing as he satirized the racial problem will be one of the participants at the session.

Another participant will be Georgia Senator Johnson, the banquet speaker, who was elected to his post in 1962 and became the first Negro to hold such a high political office in Georgia in 92 years.

Gregory will receive the 1963 "at the banquet affair. The affable comic, jailed many times for his involvement in protest demonstrations against segregation, will be presented the award by Martin Luther King, Jr., president of the protest movement organization.

SENATORS Javits and Douglas will appear as guest speakers on Wednesday night, Sept. 25, at the first public meeting of the convention. This meeting will be in the Barco-Stevens Hall of the Belgian Building at Virginia Union University at 8 p.m.

The theme of the 7th annual SCLC convention is "Freedom Now." Morning workshops and clinics will be conducted daily at the First African Baptist Church.

THURSDAY, Sept. 26, at 12:30 p.m., Dr. Proctor, who was formerly president at Virginia Union University here, will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Proctor recently returned to the presidency at A. and T. College after a two-year stint with the Peace Corps.

Thursday night's open public meeting at 8 o'clock will present Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, who will share the platform along with the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, president of the Birmingham, Ala. Christian Movement.

FRIDAY night, Sept. 27, the final session of the SCLC convention is expected to bring in many outstanding figures from the theatrical world to attend the gigantic "Freedom Rally." Rev. Mr. King will share the speakers' platform at 8 o'clock along with the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, SCLC secretary-treasurer; and the Rev. Thomas C. Kilgore of New York City.

Appearing at all the sessions are open to the public. will be the famed Alabama Freedom Singers, who will perform at the banquet and the freedom rally along with the freedom rally along with the Virginia Union University Choir.

Mrs. Laurayne James, executive coordinator for the convention, said that all sessions are open to the public.