

No Negroes Enroll Here

Registration Is Held; None Cross Color Line

Thursday, the day designated by the Bristol Board of Education as registration day for their schools, passed without any Negro children appearing to register.

Supt. D. F. Adkisson said last night, "As far as I know there were not any Negro children registering during the day."

Area Winners At State 4-H Get Awards

Three area young people received awards after being named district winners in the 4-H farm and home electric program that high-lighted the Thursday night banquet session of the 12th annual state 4-H electric congress at Richmond.

The winners were Linda Ann Arnett, and Fred McConnell, Abingdon, and Kelly O. Frazier Jr., Jonesville. They were presented with a watch and certificate of recognition.

Miss Arnett, who is the Washington County 4-H reporter for the Bristol Herald-Courier, is the 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irby Arnett. A student at Abingdon High School, she has completed 56 projects and has earned over \$570 in prizes and awards. She was 1962 state winner in the public speaking contest and has given 86 different demonstrations.

McConnell, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. McConnell, says, "The electric project has been of so much interest to me that I plan to major in electrical engineering when I go to college." He is president of his junior class in high school and active in community and church groups.

Frazier, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly O. Frazier, Sr., plans to enter college this fall and study either electrical or nuclear physics. His prowess as orator won him first place in the district public speaking contest and third place in the state contest this year.

Central, Fairmount and Anderson schools, designated by Supt. Adkisson as the most likely places for Negro enrollment, all reported they had not registered any Negroes.

The Board of Education announced earlier this year that it would integrate the all-white schools on a grade-a-year basis beginning with the first grade.

Officials at Rosemont, the only school not affected by the recent elementary school rezoning program in Tennessee Bristol, said they had no anticipation that any Negroes would register.

They said there was only a remote possibility of Negro enrollment due to the fact that only a few Negro families live in the Rosemont zone, and none apparently have children who would be of the first-year age.

The remaining two schools, Haynesfield and Holston Heights, reported an average registration of white students, with no indication of Negro registrants.

Under a plan adopted by Tennessee Bristol earlier this year, which closely follows the program accepted by the Tennessee State Department of Education, Negro students are eligible to enroll in previously all-white school on a grade-a-year system.

Under this system, first-year students could enroll this year, second graders next year and so on until the complete 12 grades have been integrated.

Formal adoption of the grade-a-year integration plan by Tennessee Bristol schools was made on May 26 when the complete rezoning program of southside elementary schools was announced.

At that time school officials pointed out that the rezoning program and the integration program were not necessarily connected with each other in any way.

However, one major effect of the rezoning program was the placing of several Negro students in zones having schools previously attended only by white children and white students in zones that formerly related only to Negro schools.