

Law School at Lincoln to Be Set Up by Fall

Curators Authorize President to Create New Course at Once

President Sherman D. Scruggs said yesterday a law school would be created at Lincoln (Negro) University here in time for next September's school term.

Establishment of the law school—first step in a program to bring the Negro university to an educational parity with the University of Missouri at Columbia—was authorized at a meeting of the school's new board of curators.

The action followed a United States supreme court opinion that the state must admit Negroes to the state university unless they could be assured equal educational opportunities elsewhere in the state.

That opinion—handed down in the Lloyd L. Gaines case—resulted in a special \$200,000 appropriation to the Negro university by the legislature this year. The additional money was accompanied by a bill by Rep. John D. Taylor (D), Keytesville, authorizing the broadening of school standards at Lincoln University.

Committee Is Named

The curators—Monday earned a committee to work with Scruggs “in the study and planning of an expansion program for the university to meet the needs of the undergraduate school and to meet the provisions set forth in recent legislation.”

The board authorized President Scruggs “to proceed immediately to set up a law school to be opened by September 1, 1939, employing necessary and qualified teachers or instructors and that the setting up of the school be in accordance with the cooperation, suggestions and advices of the representatives of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.”

Named to work with Scruggs were B. F. Boyer of Kansas City, C. C. Hubbard of Sedalia, W. Wallace Fry of Mexico, and Frank L. Williams of St. Louis.

Wins in High Court

Lloyd Gaines, a St. Louis Negro, fought unsuccessfully through the state courts for years in an attempt to be enrolled in the University of Missouri law school. The state supreme court ruled more than a year ago that he was not admissable to the university.

However, in reversing that decision, the United States supreme court held that Gaines had been denied his constitutional rights of equality and that the university should admit him unless the state could assure him an equal education elsewhere. Shortly after that opinion the legislature took its first steps to broaden Lincoln University.

Dr. F. L. McCluer of Fulton was elected president of the board at Monday's meeting. Dr. J. E. Perry of Kansas City was named vice president, Clifford Scruggs of Jefferson City, treasurer, and Mrs. Alberta Hall, secretary.