

June 2, 2021

Addendum to October 27, 2020 Information about the background of Dabney Stewart Lancaster

Additional information has been found regarding Dabney Stewart Lancaster that was discovered after the initial review of the research from the fall of 2020. Specifically, **Dabney Lancaster was a member and national officer of the Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America.**

The Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America was founded in Richmond, VA by John Powell and Ernest Sevier Cox, both of whom were white supremacists. "The purpose of the Anglo-Saxon club was to preserve Anglo-Saxon civilization in the United States and to participate in the 'intelligent selection and exclusion of immigrants.' The club had various chapters on college campuses throughout Virginia, many of whom were in attendance for the meeting held in Richmond. The purpose of the meeting was to draft a constitution for the organization and to strategize expanding chapters throughout the United States."¹

On March 20, 1924 the Virginia General Assembly enacted the nation's most comprehensive legislation to insure racial integrity. "Behind the bill's political passage lay the work of a white supremacist organization called the Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America."²

The leaders of these clubs saw themselves as spokesmen for "a race-conscious generation that perceived the American Negro's inferiority in biological rather than social terms. Obsessed with the idea of maintaining white racial purity, they believed that the greatest threat facing America was the moral, intellectual, and physical degeneration of its citizens through the interbreeding of white and non-white races."³

In 1922, the first Club began with a constitution and eligibility for membership were all native-born white, male American citizens over eighteen years of age who possessed temperate habits a good moral character, and a willingness to exercise the franchise."⁴ Unlike the Ku Klux Klan, membership in the Clubs was open to all white male citizens regardless of religious backgrounds. A Post of the Anglo-Saxon Club of America was organized at William & Mary in 1923.⁵ The organization had 400 members in 1923 and 32 "posts" by 1925 and was open only to white male members.

¹ "Anglo-Saxon Club to Meet Tomorrow: Colleges and Schools in Virginia Plan to Send Representatives to Richmond," The Collegian, University of Richmond. October 12, 1923.

² Landon, J. C. The Plea for Racial Integrity: A History of the Anglo-Saxon Clubs of America." A thesis presented to the Graduate faculty of the University of Virginia, May 1978.

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ "Anglo-Saxon Club organizes post at College," Flat Hat, May 18, 1923, p. 2.

During their second year, the Anglo-Saxon Clubs grew rapidly. On Saturday, October 13, 1923, they convened their first national convention. “National officers were elected and included President Dr. Lawrence T. Price, a prominent Richmond MD then serving on the city council; Vice President, Dr. J.L. Jarman, president of the State Normal School at Farmville; and **Treasurer, Dabney S. Lancaster, state supervisor of agricultural education.**”⁶

Virginia's Racial Integrity Law survived until 1967, when the United States Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional. The case, *Loving v. Virginia*, was a landmark decision for the civil rights movement. The court unanimously ruled that Virginia's law to prevent marriages between persons solely on the basis of racial classification violated the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

⁶ “Anglo-Saxon Club Starts National Organization,” *Richmond Times Dispatch*, October 14, 1923, p. 4.