

Governor and Mayor Lead Thousands at

SCHOOLS CLOSE; BUSINESSES OPEN

Rally Canceled After 3-Hour
Wait for Abernathy

By HOMER BIGART

Governor Rockefeller and Mayor Lindsay joined thousands of New Yorkers yesterday in memorial services and meetings honoring the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights leader.

Public schools, the City University of New York and virtually all parochial schools were closed.

But demands of Negro militants for a general closing of stores and businesses went unheeded, except in Harlem, and absenteeism was described as "negligible" by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York after a spot check of 75 businesses.

Icy winds cut attendance at commemorative rallies.

Mayor Lindsay led a hardy band of 200 on a three-mile march from central Harlem to the Mall in Central Park. There, huddling around the band shell, a crowd of 500 heard speakers demand that Congress proclaim the day a national holiday.

Whites Jeer Mayor

"From this day forward, we will no longer work on Jan. 15, with pay or without pay," said the Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker, of the Canaan Baptist Church. "We do not simply seek a day off; we insist that at least once a year this nation should pause in memory of that noble American, Martin Luther King Jr., and recommit itself to rid our land of all vestiges of racism, poverty and war."

A small group of young whites jeered the Mayor, chanting "Free the Panther 21 — jail Lindsay."

The Mayor repeated a speech he had delivered earlier in the Canaan Baptist Church, 136 West 116th Street. There, in the presence of Governor Rockefeller, Senator Charles E. Goodell, Manhattan Borough President Percy E. Sutton and other political leaders the Mayor told 600 people:

JANUARY 16, 1970

Tributes to Dr. King Here

three hours in an unheated hall, the 2,500 people were sent home when David Livingston, president of District 65, received a message that Dr. Abernathy had missed a plane from Atlanta.

Dr. Abernathy finally reached La Guardia Airport at 4 P.M., nearly an hour after Manhattan Center was emptied. He explained he had been delayed by the late start of services in Atlanta, where huge crowds had tried to enter the Ebenezer Baptist Church, the scene two years ago of Dr. King's funeral.

"I couldn't leave Mrs. King and Dr. King's mother and father," Dr. Abernathy said. "And the children look on me as Uncle Ralph. I'm sorry. I never like to stand up a crowd. And this is the first crowd I've stood up since I became president."

War Opposition Praised

Before the Manhattan Center meeting was adjourned, the crowd heard tributes by Mayor Lindsay, Senator Goodell, Eugene H. Nickerson, Nassau County Executive, and Representative Shirley Chisholm of Brooklyn.

Senator Goodell praised Dr. King's opposition to the war in Vietnam.

"He showed us that wrong leadership can lead us to a trough of slaughter, but can't make us drink from that trough."

Representative Chisholm said: "We are through with gradualism, with see-how-far-you've-comeism. We want our share of the American dream."

In Norwalk, Conn., 6,000 students, almost a third of the city's school population, missed school after schoolbus drivers walked out in observance of Dr. King's birthday.

In Spring Valley, N.Y., Rob-

ert J. Mangum, Commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights, assailed the slow progress toward eliminating discrimination. He told a commemorative meeting that "for every 10, long strides toward 'freedom,' the state had taken five strides backward."

At a memorial rally at Hunter College, Juan Gonzales, minister of education of the Young Lords, a militant Puerto Rican group in East Harlem, told a memorial rally of 300 high school students:

"We respect what Dr. King did, but now that he's dead he's no good to us. 'It's too late for memorials.' 'There's not enough time.'"

In Harlem almost every store on 125th Street between Lenox and Seventh Avenue's was closed. About half of the stores on 125th Street between Seventh and Amsterdam Avenues were shut.

But records shops were open and doing a brisk business in commemorative Martin Luther King records. The Uptown Chamber of Commerce, after a meeting Wednesday with Harlem labor leaders, had urged its 400 members—only 15 of them black—to close and to support legislation declaring Jan. 15 a legal national holiday.

2 Coeds Have Same Name

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP)—Miss Barbara A. Brandt of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Miss Barbara A. Brandt of Wellington, Kan., are both sophomores at the University of Kansas. Both girls have nearly the same middle names, with the Iowan spelling her middle name Anne and the Kansas girl spelling it Ann. They are not related.

"You do not make life better with the rhetoric of patriotism or revolution."

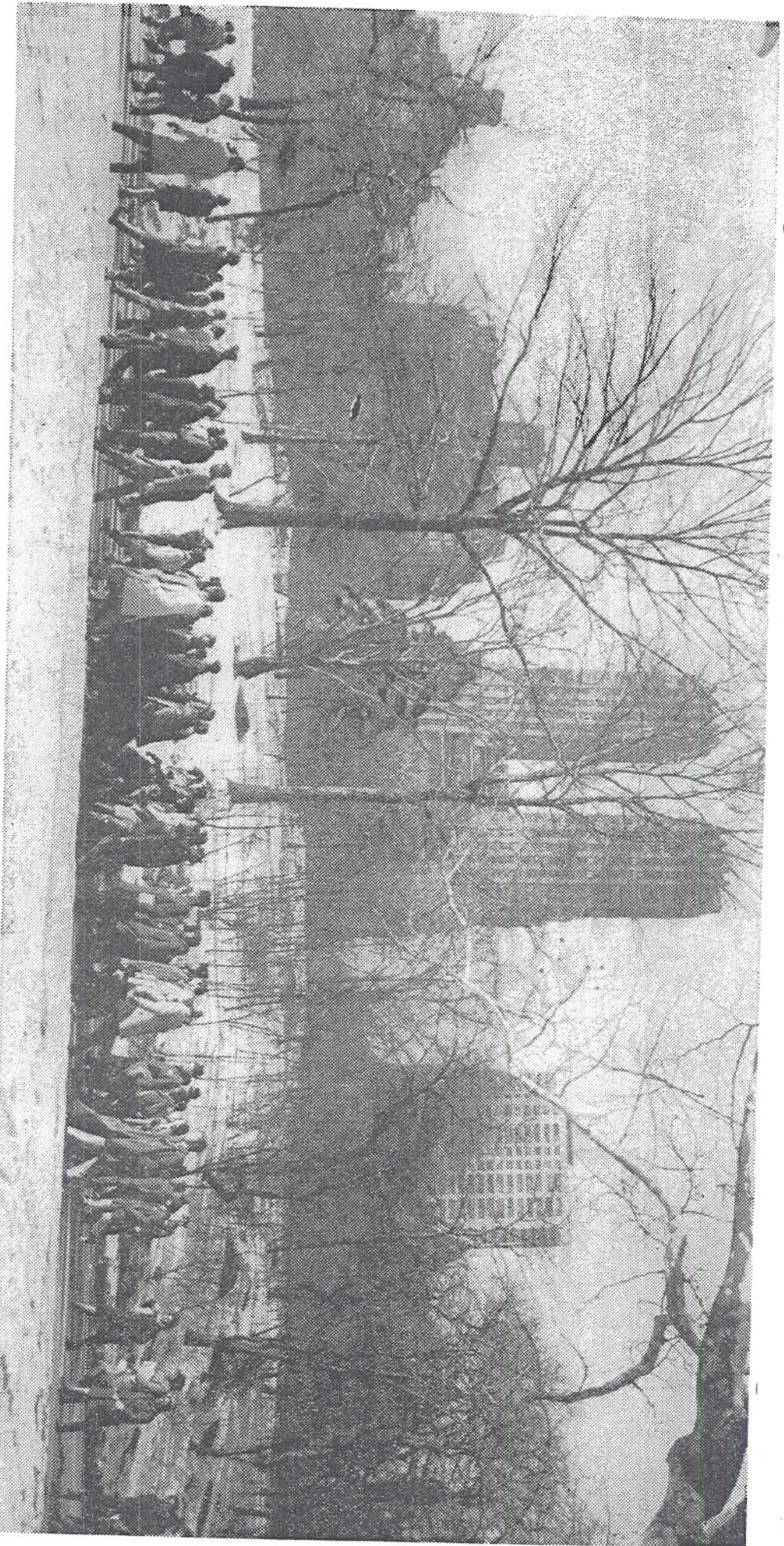
"You do not justify suffering or killing with a word," he said. "You do not end hunger and disease with a proclamation. Men still die. Violence still poisons the life of a country."

No Fear of Death

Governor Rockefeller drew fervent "amens" from the congregation when he remarked that Dr. King had no fear of death because "he had been to the mountaintop, and saw clearly the sterility of hate, the futility of violence."

A memorial convocation at Manhattan Center, arranged by District 65, Distributive Workers of America, was adjourned without hearing the chief speaker, the Rev. Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, who succeeded Dr. King as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

After shivering for nearly



PROCESSION IN CENTRAL PARK: Some of the people who marched from Harlem to the park Mall for memorial service for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Central Park West is at rear.

The New York Times (by Carl T. Gosselt Jr.)