

## Solemn Final Tribute . . .

# Thousands Attend Rites For 3 "Bombing" Victims

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (UPI)—Birmingham's Negro Community paid solemn final tribute Wednesday to three of the four girls killed in last Sunday's church bombing.

The services for the three young girls — Denise McNair, 11, Cynthia Wesley, 14, and Addie May Collins, 14 — began with an old revival hymn, "Shall We Meet."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference delivered a tribute midway in the services between the singing of the hymn "He Leadeth Me," and "Beautiful Garden of Prayer."

Several thousand mourners crowded into the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church for the services.

The caskets containing the bodies of the three young victims were brought into the church well in advance of the ceremony.

### PACKED WITH MOURNERS

The main section of the church, the balcony and the streets around the building all were packed with mourners.

The three caskets were rested in the front of the church, one of them slightly forward of the other two.

Sunday school classmates served as flower bearers for the

three young victims. The fourth child in the blast, Carol Robertson, was buried Tuesday.

In attendance at the funeral Wednesday was Roy Wilkins of New York, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People NAACP.

It was Wilkins' second trip to the South in three months to attend funerals of Negroes killed in the desegregation struggle.

Wilkins was also on for the funeral of Mississippi integration leader Medgar Evers last June 15 in Jackson, Miss. Evers was killed by a sniper's bullet in the driveway of his home.