

## COURT GIVES MAJOR DIVINE NEW TRIAL Negro Rep. Gets Chairmanship

### Divine Wins A New Trial

Case of Widely Known Cult Leader That Led To His Conviction Held Unfair.

New York City—(CNS) The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, has handed down a decision reversing the conviction last June of Father Major Divine and granted him a new trial.

#### Ruling Held Unfair

In the decision it was stated that reversal of the trial court's finding was granted on the grounds that—

"In our opinion the court's rulings were erroneous and prejudicial and we think that prejudice against the defendant was excited in the minds of the jurors by comments, rulings and questions by the court throughout the trial, and that the court went beyond reasonable and proper limits in the cross examination of defendant's witnesses."

The real difficulty in which Major Divine, a minister 52 years old and married found himself arose on or about November 16, 1931, when the State police, the county police, the village police and the fire department raided his home at 72 Macon Street, Sayville, Long Island, at midnight and arrested 78 of his flock for disorderly conduct.

#### Pay All Fines

They were taken before the justice of the peace and held in jail all night after which 46 were found guilty and fined five dollars each; fifteen persons of this group were white. The remaining 32 were instructed to return that night for trial after which they too were found guilty and fine five dollars each.

Payment of their fine was made by the Rev. Mr. Divine from a new, crisp five hundred dollar bill, which the reporters wanted to photograph, and which the court could not change. Divine told the judge, however, to send the change when he got it.

Divine was shortly afterwards convicted and sent to jail. Within a week after the minister was sentenced the judge who presided in the case and sentenced him dropped dead. Divine followers at once pointed to this as retribution.

### ALLEN CHAPEL A. M. E. CHURCH

9:30 Sunday School, Bro. James Chapman Supt.  
11:00 o'clock morning worship  
Allen Chapel's Endeavor League 5:00 P. M.  
7:30 Evening worship.

Regular P. M. and Communion service is the second and third Sunday in each month. Trustee day is the first Sunday at 11:00 o'clock. Official board Monday night after each pastoral day.  
Rev. P. Butler, Pastor.

A silver banquet will be given at Rose Hill M. E. Church Asylum Heights, Friday night, February 3, 1933. A program will be rendered at 8:00 P. M. The lunches consisting of Baked Chicken, Dressing, Potato Salad on Lettuce leaves, Bread, Lemon Pie, Potato Custard, Cake and Punch.  
Sponsored by the Ladies Aid No. 2 of Rose Hill.  
Beatrice Hardy, Reporter.

### Modern Sunday School Conducted

The entire services for Sunday January 22nd., were unusually good. The Sunday School was opened at 9:30 o'clock by the Asst. Supt. Brother Luther Noble. Rev. N. W. Wallace was present and was received with a hearty welcome. Rev. J. A. Burns gave a real impressive review on the lesson. The blackboard review was beautifully demonstrated by Mrs. Ella Jackson.

The Installation service of the Sunday School was also good. The Welcome Address was distinctly read by Miss Annie Louise Calhoun, Mr. P. J. Brown gave some brief interesting remarks. Mrs. N. A. Harris sang a solo which was enjoyed very much. Mr. D. V. Johnson presented the officers. The charge was given by Prof. G. M. Reese and the fact is known if one complies with his saying will make wonderful leaders. Selections were rendered by the St. John Female quartet, we are proud of them for they are ours. Prof. C. T. Tigges gave a summary of the program, there isn't a doubt about this orator, he is really a "Talking Wonder."

The Superintendent and members expressed their appreciation to those appearing on program and also to those attending.

#### CLUB NEWS

Mrs. Laura Harris was hostess to the Aurora Wednesday January 25-1932.

After a lively business meeting Bridge was enjoyed. Miss Hattie Nelson making top score for club. Mrs. B. C. Beal consolation. Mrs. Francis Eaton top score for guest Miss J. R. Scott consolation.

After bridge a lovely two course menu was served by little Martha Jane Sumner, niece of the Hostess. Chicken Salad on lettuce leaves, crackers, vanilla ice cream and angel food cake. The invited guests were Misses S. B. Ivy, J. R. Scott, Alma Lee Reese and Mrs. Frances Eaton.  
Radio music was enjoyed by all.

Mr. Thomas J. Young left the city Thursday morning January 19th for New Orleans. Where he is receiving medical aid.

#### MENDENHALL, MISS.

The Old Time Quilting Club met at the home of Mrs. Nellie Walker, January 18, 1933. A prize was given for the one completing the first quilt. Believe it or not the needles were red hot and thread scorching. Two rooms were used but the winners of the first prize carried the Glory. Music was furnished by Miss Geneva Walker, also Piano and Grafonola. Vocal numbers were furnished by Mesdames Jennie Norwood and Ellen Williams. Oh! at lunch time, we marched in the dining room. Chicken Salad, Chicken Pie, Backbone. All kinds of cake, Coffee and custard. Everyone expressed themselves as having a nice time. The Guests were Mesdames Lela Williams, Luler Gardner, Mattie Walker, Martha Williams, Lillie Durr, Lucille Norwood, Maggie McLaurin, Jennie Norwood, Ellen William, Sallie Brown Minnie Stones and Miss Genera Walker. Mrs. Walker is a faithful H. B. A. member and, has been for years.

### Wechsler Quartette Makes Fine Impression In Stonewall

By O. C. Twyner

The Wechsler High Female Faculty Quartette of Meridian appeared in a splendidly arranged and finely executed program Monday night at the Colored Junior High School. A large and appreciative audience greeted them. There was not a single brake of interest noted of the listeners from the opening number to the closing one. Loud and long applause followed each rendition.

The solo numbers and readings by Miss Anderson, the soprano duet "Morning" by Misses Anderson and Alma Reese, and the personally pronounced climax of a varied program, a deep mellowly rich contralto solo, "A child that do love Jesus" by Miss Varnado were the numbers that made the group most favored of the many fine ones heard in Stonewall recently. Mrs. J. P. Reese was the accompanist. Conspicuous among the white people present for the evening of entertainment was the entire family of Dr. D. D. Harper whose daughter is nationally known as a violinist of super ability. Very fine comment made by such people as those make us here anxious to present often and in a big way the best groups of kind that are available.

### Reception In Honor Of Pastor

An entertainment of unusual spiritual inspiration and social delight was given at the Haven Chapel Methodist Church, Friday evening, in honor of the new pastor, Rev. G. W. Johnson of Union, Mississippi, and our District Supt., Rev. L. E. Johnson of this city. Much regret, however, was expressed by the congregation that the pastor was not able to be present, by reason of his wife's illness at Union, they having not yet moved to his charge here.

The choir rendered a beautiful program, after which Rev. Reese Jenison made a brief talk, introducing Rev. Johnson, District Supt., who delivered a splendid address, holding his congregation's undivided attention through out his discourse with his encouraging remarks, replete with optimism and good will.

Rev. Johnson, then introduced the Rev. R. L. Young, who brought a very inspiring message, interspersed with wit and humor.

After the devotional program a sumptuous banquet was spread, and all enjoyed to the fullest this social hour, when cats and a pervading spirit of good fellowship brought the entertainment to a close. There were one hundred twenty-two present, including many visitors, among them being Mrs. Johnson, wife of the District Superintendent and Mrs. Young.  
Naomi Crawford, Reporter.

#### AURORA LITERARY ART CLUB—ELECTS OFFICERS

President, Mrs. M. P. Strayhorn, Vice President, Mrs. M. J. Sumrall, Secretary Mrs. Laura Harris, Asst. Secretary Mrs. Edger Cullum, Treas. Mrs. Hattie McCain, Chaplin Miss Lucille Barrett.

Miss Cora Thomas is still confined to her bed. Her many friends wish for her a speedy recovery.

### P. T. A. East End Resists Arrest Slain School

The P. T. A. of the East End School held a very interesting meeting Monday January 23rd., 1933. After the usual opening the body entered into the business session. A popularity contest was launched. Five girls were chosen from the five grades of the school respectively. A mother was named sponsor for the girls chosen and a teacher as adviser. The following are the names of contestants, sponsors, and advisers.

#### CONTESTANTS

1st. Grade Mary E. Johnson; 2nd Grade Georgia D. Hodges; 3rd. Grade Mildred Crawford 4th. Grade Lois Brown Fifth Grade Rosa L. Stewart.

#### SPONSORS

Mrs. Magnolia Johnson; Mrs. Zanthia Rimpson; Mrs. Jessie Hall; Mrs. Allie H. Brown; Mrs. Leona Stewart;

#### ADISERS

Miss Smith; Miss Curry; Miss Wobblington; Miss Scott; Mrs. Harris.

The contest will close the fourth Monday in March. Buy votes and help your favorite child win.

The Association will celebrate Founders Day, February 17, 1933, with a very interesting public program, that was outlined at this meeting. There will be a call meeting of the members, February 15, at 3 P. M. to perfect plans for the Founders Day Program. The next regular meeting will be Monday March 29, 1933.

One of our ex-teachers, Mrs. Esther D. Thornton Kennedy was a visitor in our meeting. The teachers and members were very glad to welcome her back. When the President announced that we had a visitor present, Mrs. Kennedy said that she felt so much at home that she looked around to see who the visitor was. She gave an interesting talk and was elated over the changes and progress the school had made since she left.

#### VISITING

Mrs. Emily Jones, wife of H. S. Jones of Kelona, Miss., is now visiting her son and family, W. M. Jones of Meridian, Miss. She is now entering her 2nd. week and is having a very enjoyable time in the City.

The recent bride Mrs. Cloud Williams formerly Miss Lula Mae Glenn a graduate from Wechsler High in '29 was honoree of a pretty courtesy Wednesday January 18th. When her friends Mrs. Eule Trussell and Miss Dorris Williams tendered her a miscellaneous shower entertaining at the home of Mr. Will Allen.

The guests enjoyed checkers, card games and dancing. Dainty little mints, Cocco and cake were served later. Miss Rosa Miller pulled in a red wagon laden with attractive and useful gifts and these were presented to the bride by Mrs. L. E. Morgan.

Misses Hazel Weston and Rosa Miller will entertain with a miscellaneous Shower, Friday, January 27th honoring Mrs. Claud Williams, formerly Miss Lula Mae Glenn at the home of Miss Weston- 1610-29th Avenue at 7:30.

Mr. C. M. Mayfield, Pres. of Lodge No. 233 of Waynesboro, Miss., together with four of his members, Messrs. Bernma, Eugene, J. W. and Robert Mayfield were in the office on business Wednesday. We are always glad to have our presidents and members visit us.

### Kansas Negro Representative Gets Chairmanship of Important Committee

Shreveport, La., Jan. 27 (ANP) Brandishing a knife as he resisted arrest, Charley Johnson, 20 year old on convict, was shot and instantly killed by T. E. Christy, in his effort to arrest Johnson for disturbing a public worship at the Park avenue Methodist church, Dr Harry W. Paul, deputy coroner, said after a preliminary inquiry, he will not return a verdict in the case pending further investigation in the offices of Dr. Willis P. Butler, parish coroner.

#### STONEWALL, MISS.

Wechsler High School Quartette rendered a program at Zion Chapel M. E. Church. The Quartet, being composed of Misses Anderson, Reese, Sims and Varnado. Mrs. J. P. Reese assistant teacher of Meridian Baptist Seminary was pianist. Mr. Moses Knott a graduate of Meridian Baptist Seminary acted as master of Ceremony.

The program was nice with such good music and singing. Everyone enjoyed it, hoping they'll be back again soon.

We also hope Mrs. J. P. Reese a speedy recovery.

### St. Paul Epworth League

St. Paul Epworth League sends out another invitation to the public to attend its Epworth League Sunday evening at 6:15 o'clock P. M. This is said to be one of its program for this first quarter. Every officer in the league will appear on program. Other persons will appear who are not officers, but their names will be in parenthesis. Any person in town or out of town is cordially invited to attend our League. We will be glad to put you on program if you desire. The program will be as follows: Song Scripture and Prayer—Mr. Louis Berry Sims, Song Reading Miss Alace Solo Miss Mildred Gaines, Paper Mr. Linuett Allen, Bible Verses by All, Duett Misses Shedd and Williams, Paper (Mr. Joe Emerson,) Solo (Mr. Theo. Emerson,) Topic Our part in sharing First John 3-17, Led by Mr. Allen Johnson and Miss Mirian Howard. Collection Misses Lee and Holloway, Benediction.

W. L. E. Cole, President and Master of Ceremony.

#### MASS MEETING

Miss Rachel May Lemon, R. N., a graduate of the Orlando, Fla., Sanitarium and Hospital who was affiliated with Washington Sanitarium, Washington, D. C., wishes to conduct a class in "Home Hygiene and care of the sick" for the colored people of Meridian. Miss Lemon has had several years experience in conducting short courses in nursing besides having taught physiology and Home Nursing at Forest Lake Academy, Florida. All who are interested in taking this course are invited to meet at the Baptist Seminary, Sunday, January 29, 4:00 P. M. There will be certificates issued from Washington to those who complete this course.

### Kansas Negro Representative Gets Chairmanship of Important Committee

Topeka, Kans. Jan. 27, (ANP) Dr. W. M. Blount, Kansas City, Kansas, the only Negro representative in the Kansas legislature, was elected chairman of the very important Committee on Hygiene and Public Health.

Blount also holds membership on two other powerful and important legislative committees. The Committee on "Cities of the First Class," and the "Committee on Railroads." The former has to do with the granting of certain liberties and rights to the larger cities of the states, in matters pertaining to such privileges as are given for self-government, while the latter has to do with the regulation of the many railroads which traverse Kansas territory. Dr. Blount, who is one of the four representatives from the Eighth district, is the only Republican from Wyaundott county of which Kansas City, Kansas is the county seat. Blount is serving his third term in the legislature of Kansas.

### Saved From Gallows

Jackson, Miss., Jan., 27 (ANP) Walter Bumpus, Tunica county, under death sentence for the slaying of his wife, Rucy Lee Bumpus, August 31, 1931, was saved from the gallows by Acting Governor Dennis Murphree who commuted the sentence to life imprisonment. Bumpus was to have hanged January 19 at Tunica. He was found guilty in the Tunica circuit court March 18 1932. The Supreme court denied his appeal last December and fixed January 19 as the date of execution. The slaying occurred at Robinsonville. The state charge Bumpus shot his wife during an altercation on the streets of that place.

#### W. B. D. CLUB

The W. B. D. Club of St. Paul M. E. Church has joined the Good Samaritan Club for the next two months. We solicit the support of our friends. Any one having votes that they would like to turn over to this club will be appreciated.

You will note from the Meridian Star the firms who are issuing these votes. Anyone obtaining votes will please notify the Committee, Miss E. B. Ivy Mrs. M. P. Strayhorn or Mrs. Bessie Williams.

St. Paul members please take note. M. P. Strayhorn, Secretary.

#### ALLEN CHAPEL NEWS

On last Sunday the Sunday School was opened at 9:30. We had an attendance of thirty. Our Church has put new life. At 11:00 o'clock Rev. Butler preached a soul stirring sermon. At 5:00 P. M. the Allen Chapel Endeavor League met with a large group of young people. There was an interesting program rendered. The Program for Sunday, January 29th is as follows: Song, Prayer, Sout, Scripture reading by Miss Flossie Patterson, Rec. John C. Glispie, Paper Miss Athelena Glover, Duett Mrs. and Miss Glispie, talk Mrs. Pearl Walker, Reading Mrs. Zanthia Rimpson, Remarks by the Pastor.

Rev. P. Butler, Pastor, Mrs. Johnnie Glispie, Reporter.