

IS FATHER DIVINE REALLY DECEASED?

The St. Louis Circus

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Educators Address Teachers As School Opens For 90,000 Students

Nearly 3500 elementary school teachers attended a two-day teacher training program Tuesday and Wednesday morning, marking the beginning of the new school year.

At the general assembly Tuesday morning in Kiel Auditorium, teachers and principals heard addresses by Dr. Philip J. Hickey, Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. Elmer Ellis, president of the University of Missouri, and Dr. Ethel J. Alpenfels, professor of education at New York University. Wednesday morning, the group attended workshops at Roosevelt and Soldan-Blewett High schools.

Approximately 90,000 students enrolled in the city's elementary and high schools, which this year are completely desegregated. A redistricting program changed the boundaries of 62 elementary schools and under the new plan, 48 schools will have both white and Negro students, 48 will have white only and 26 will have Negro enrollment.

To accommodate the overflow of students, several new teachers have been added to the various schools. Among the new teachers are: Earl C. Beale, to Vashon; Jess Jones, Washington; Henry W. Pennington, Washington Tech; Lou Swartz, Vashon; Connelley J. Scott, Divell Manual Arts Center; Leatrice Branch, Pruitt; Augustus C. Clark, Wheatley; Ruby C. Crump, Divell; Rosette V. Fields, Attucks; Albert G. Lewis, D'Overtures; Lila L. Martin, Riddick Branch; Tansie J. Mayer, Cote Brillante; Louis McGowan, Attucks; Mildred O. Smith, Wheatley; Edmund W. Buren, Dunbar; Arthur Sharpe, Farragut; Lee A. Stewart, Riddick; Webb S. Clay, Pruitt; Harriet J. Taylor, Attucks; Ruth H. Atkins, Cole; Willette A. Johnson, Cote Brillante; Shirley Vaul, Pruitt; and Delores R. Diggs, Cote Brillante.

The board was deprived of the services of several teachers either by death, resignation or retirement. A former teacher at Sumner, William Beatty, died while

Bigots Act Up In Charleston

While the youth division of the NAACP chapter here, was successful last week in getting the management of a restaurant chain to change its segregation policy, in Charleston, Missouri, a Negro woman, Miss Myrene Underwood was refused service in a drive-in ice cream store, because a waitress had been given orders from the boss not to serve Negroes.

This incident was one of a series of intimidations hurled at Negroes in the small community, following the decision of the board of education to integrate schools on the 11th and 12th of grade levels this semester.

On registration day 27 Negro students enrolled in the former all white school, bringing about much protest from white citizens. Two groups were organized to protest the board's action, and when this failed, they began intimidating board members. Efforts to frighten them into changing their decisions were unsuccessful, so the intimidation were buried at the Negro citizens.

Miss Underwood is a teacher in the Charleston school system.

Touring Europe this summer, W. C. Mokey, principal of Vashon, returned from the school system as of August 1, this year, and resignations were received from Nan D. Hines of Vashon; Evelyn Bingham, Bates; J. Cecil S. Reed, Field; Loretta B. Gillespie, Johnson, and Abh R. Vaughn, Divell.

LEAVES GRANTED

Leaves of absence were granted Doris Cloud Williams, for study, Arkhecker; C. Walker, Bates; Maxine B. Smith and Margaret Rogers, for personal reasons. On maternity leave are Doris J. Benjamin, Lucille W. Lynch, Sara Ingram Scroggins and Ruth H.

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NAACP Begins Fall Meetings

The Saint Louis Branch, NAACP, will resume its monthly meetings on Monday evening, September 12, at the Pine Street YMCA at 8 o'clock. Of special interest at this meeting will be the report from the National Convention and the State Meeting on Teacher Integration.

As the activities of the NAACP moves into the fall program, we see ahead an extended drive for the Fighting Fund for Freedom. Also a mammoth entertainment feature is in the making. Each monthly meeting for the remainder of the year will be of special interest. The following outline is given:

October meeting—Election of Nominating Committee.

November meeting—Report of Nominating Committee.

December meeting—Election of Officers.

Club House Board Meets

To revitalize interest in the activities of a club known as the Club House, Trustees Board of the St. Louis Association of Colored Women, Inc., entertained a large group of club presidents and their guests at a reception Sunday.

The affair was held at the home of Mrs. Emma I. Dickson, 4917 Highland avenue, Association chairman.

Mrs. Margaret R. Mainland, chairman of the Board of Trustees, reported that a prospective house had been located by her group. The urgent members to make an inspection tour of the place this week.

Officers of the Trustee Board are Mrs. Mainland, Mrs. Mary Drer, vice chairman; Mrs. Lucille Flowers, recording secretary; Mrs. Doris Harke, treasurer; and Mrs. Beatie Buckner, financial secretary.

Police Make Big Haul In Dope Raids

Police cracking down on the narcotics traffic in St. Louis shot and wounded one man in a rooming house at 3350 Washington boulevard this week and took into custody at least 20 other persons visiting the place, which has been under surveillance several days as a reputed dope den.

Roland French, 23, of 1319 Arlington avenue, was shot in the leg Tuesday by Patrolman Edmund Pranderville of the Eleventh District, who said French became abusive and resisted arrest.

Pranderville and Patrolman Charles Mielchre arrested French and Nathan Taylor, 22, of 1709 Maroon avenue, when the two men came to the house. The place was raided the day before and the officers were stationed there with orders to apprehend all persons visiting the place.

The officer reported French became abusive when notified he was under arrest. French began lunging with Pranderville. The officer shot him.

Police said Taylor corroborated Pranderville's version of the shooting.

Police said the rooming house where a quantity of narcotics were recovered in Monday's raid was rented by Sam Little, 40, of 3 North Garrison avenue. When raiding officers arrived at the house shortly after 7 p.m. Little leaped through a window in an escape attempt but was apprehended.

SINGER NAMED

Miss Dorcas Jean Blackburn, 25-year-old singer, has been identified by several admitted narcotics addicts as the woman who sold them dope at the place.

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Thomas Allen Dies At H.G.P.

PHILADELPHIA—Father Divine, well known and long mysterious religious cult leader, was back in the news this week as the eastern seaboard pondered the question "Is Father Divine dead?"

The rumor has rapidly spread that a prediction made by Father Divine's "abolish" Prophet Jones last spring was directed at Father Divine and has come to pass. The Prophet, who has vowed intentions of taking over in the east, establishing headquarters in New York or Philadelphia, has denied he was in Philadelphia sometime in 1953.

However, Father Divine has not been seen in public for some time and all queries by the press have been answered by blonde Mother Divine who called the rumors "vile, malicious and believed only by people who want such things to be true."

According to Prophet Jones "God has told me I would soon be directed to move to New York. And when the call comes, I will be ready to leave."

The Prophet's whereabouts, maintained Jones, have never mentioned anybody's name in my predictions... and I have not spoken out against any minister, Father Divine no exception.

(When the Prophet was in St. Louis recently he had reported that he had told me I would soon be directed to move to New York. And when the call comes, I will be ready to leave.)

Well known in the Village square, Allen spent 36 months in the U.S. Navy. Upon discharge, he held the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He attended Vashon High School. Survivors include his brother Dewey, a sister, Willie Mae Smith of Chicago, sister-in-law, Hortense Allen, and two nephews, Dewey, Jr. and Phillip.

Burial will be held Monday morning at Jefferson Barracks.

College Women Report Meeting

PHILADELPHIA—The National Association of College Women convened here in their thirty-second Annual Conference Aug. 18 to 20 at the Broadview Hotel.

Delegates from branches throughout the country met to discuss their progress, achievements, problems, their purpose and to aid in the interpretation of the conference plans.

Themes for the convention was "Educating the Adult for Desegregation." To emphasize the theme, panel discussions were conducted and outstanding leaders were guest speakers.

Dr. Marion T. Wright, Department of Education, Howard U. spoke on the subject, along with Clarence L. Simpson, ambassador to the U.S. from Liberia. Atty. Eunice Houston, Carrie Quiston Doyle, of the White House Conference.

Mrs. Ethel Payne, correspondent for the Defender Publications, told the group the significance of the National Conference. Chester Hayes, of the Rehousing Bureau of Philadelphia, discussed the housing problem and its significance.

Other speakers included Marjorie Penny, of Fellowship House; Lester Granger, New York Urban League; Fred Grummon, Anti-Defamation League; Ethel Britton, Richardson Dilworth, former district attorney.

Mrs. Thelma Williams, national president of the NAACP, delivered the annual report.

St. Louisans attending included Mrs. Cecilia Hudspeth, Odessa Farrell, who served on the Political Council of Chicago, Mrs. Anna Wigley and Mabel Burns, president of the St. Louis branch, who served as Resource Consultant.

Cult Leader Surrounded By Mystery

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Herman Drer Gets Ph.D.

Herman Drer, pastor of Kingsway Baptist Church and professor of English and social science at Harris Teachers College, received the degree of Doctor of Divinity at the University of Chicago.

His thesis, "Negro Leadership in the South," is a study of Negro leadership in the South, City from 1890 to 1955 with emphasis on the period 1950 to 1955.

A graduate of Brandeis College, Drer majored in English, German and social science. He obtained the degree of Master of Arts from the University of Virginia Theological Seminary and College. From Douglas University he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. A member of the U.S. Army, he obtained from the University of Chicago.

Dr. Drer has served as a teacher at Sumner High School and St. Louis Teachers College. For a number of years he was assistant principal at Sumner.

YWCA Announces New Director

Announcement of the appointment of Miss Bertha Gregory as director of the YWCA of the St. Louis Young Women's Christian Association was made Tuesday by Mrs. Allen Hackett, president. Miss Gregory succeeds Miss Claudia Lide. The St. Louis YWCA operates six branches and centers in St. Louis.

Miss Gregory comes to the YWCA directly from the Regional Office of the National Board in Chicago. For several years Miss Gregory has worked with community associations in the twelve states of this Central Region.

Before going on the National Staff she served as young adult program director of the Springfield, Illinois, YWCA and as executive director of YWCA in Manhattan, Ohio. A native of New York state, she has the Bachelor of Arts degree from Cornell University and has done graduate work at the University of Chicago, Western Reserve University and the University of Wisconsin.

Two Men Held On Murder Indictment

CHICAGO—Funeral rites for Emmett Louis Till, the most recent victim of brutal Mississippi lynchers, were held here Saturday afternoon when about 40,000 persons had filed past the slain youth's body. The hour which followed the 14-year-old youth after he allegedly violated southern tradition by emitting a "wolf whistle" at a Mississippi white woman has aroused the entire country.

Ray Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, in a heated statement, said "It would appear from this lynching that the State of Mississippi has decided to maintain white supremacy by murdering children."

Mississippi Gov. Hugh White, who referred to the slaying as "out and out murder," has promised vigorous prosecution of the guilty parties.

Meanwhile, a grand jury in Tallahatchie county, Miss., indicted two white men for the murder Tuesday. Named in the murder indictments were Roy Bryant, 36-year-old money storekeeper, and his half-brother, J. W. Milam, 40, of Glendora, Miss.

The youthful black victim, who was visiting an uncle in Money, Miss., while on vacation from his native city of Chicago, was kidnapped from the home of his mother, Mrs. Willie Wright, on Aug. 27 by two white men and a woman Bryant and Milam admitted taking Till away from the home of Rev. Moses Wright, but claim they released him unharmed.

The woman in the case, Mrs. Bryant, has disappeared. A warrant charging kidnapping has been issued against her.

The Mississippi grand jury returned indictments against the brothers shortly after it met to hear additional evidence. It was announced when the case will go to trial.

A conviction of murder in Mississippi carries a mandatory death penalty unless the jury recommends mercy.

EXTRA POLICE OUT

Here in Chicago, extra police were assigned to the church where Till's body was performed. Emmett Louis Till, victim of St. Paul's Church of God in Christ, delivered testimony. Burial was at Burr Oak Cemetery.

The body lay in state at the Rayner & Sons Funeral Home where the casket turned out to see the remains.

Crosby Smith, an uncle of Till, interrupted a hasty burial of the body in Mississippi. About three hours after the body was found, he said, "The sheriff told me it was at the cemetery in Money."

Rushing there, Smith found a two-foot hole dug in the graveyard of the East Money Church.

"They were getting ready to throw the boy into it," Smith said. "He hadn't even been buried."

Smith said he told officials he would "see that the body got to Chicago if I had to take it myself." He said the body was arrived in Chicago, the youth's mother, Mrs. Mamie E. Bradley, leaped from a wheel chair, ran across the street, and threw the baggage car to see the pine box containing her son's body.

As the box was lifted from the truck she fell to her knees sobbing and exclaimed: "My darling, my darling I would have gone through a world of pain to see you."

All Saints' Church To Aid Folk Behind 'Cotton Curtain'

All Saints' Episcopal Church, located Street at Garrison Ave., will take an offering at each of its services Sunday morning to aid the "Cotton Curtain" people behind the "Cotton Curtain."

It was announced this week by the Rev. Joseph W. Nicholson, rector of the church, that "Surely the 'Cotton Curtain' is as good a description of those areas where racial segregation in public schools is being fought against the Supreme Court decision, as the Iron Curtain is for Russia, or the Bamboo Curtain for China."

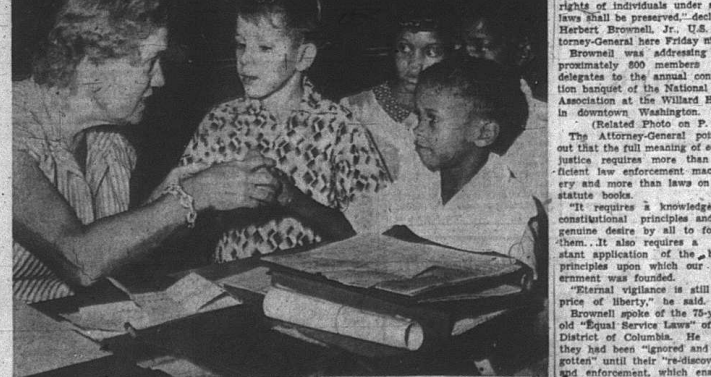
Rev. Nicholson said he would call upon every member and parishioner to make a contribution to this cause to assist the NAACP in its successful campaign.

He said this opportunity will be given at the 8 and 11 a.m. services "People Admire the Good Samaritan because he had a sense of pity and charity for the unfortunate Negroes who are behind a second-class citizen's helmet."

During services last Sunday, the All Saints' congregation contributed \$30.50 to help the Red Cross Disaster Relief.

—READ—

Mississippi Lynches Till



MISS MARTHA LEONARD receives apples from some of her pupils in grade school as the youngsters happily returned to the 3 R Thursday morning. Clark is one of the 45 elementary schools where both white and Negro students are enrolled following a redistricting program, and the beginning of desegregation in the city's 112 elementary schools. Approximately 90,000 students entered the elementary and high schools this week, marking an eight per cent increase over the total enrollment of last year.

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