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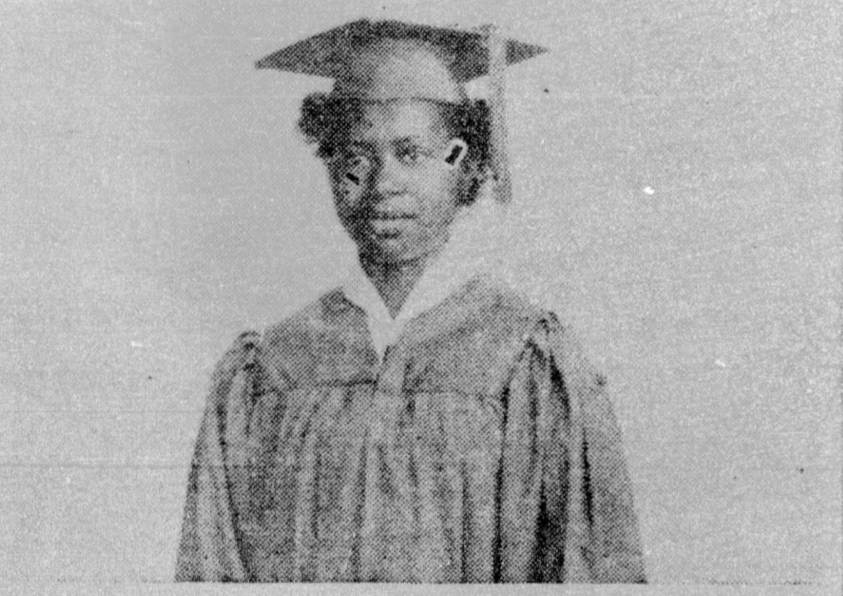


MUSIC IN THE CHURCH
BY
WILLIAM T. GRIMES

THE GOSPEL SONG
About the middle of the nineteenth century, the form of church music known as the gospel song made its appearance in America. It was introduced, according to Dr. E. S. Lorenz, in a little book entitled "Gospel Hymns," published by Chaplain McCabe who later became a bishop. It contained songs written by Brachbury, Lowrey, Doan, Root, Bliss and others. This type of song was an effort to furnish a more simplified form of music for the church, to be used in the Sunday Schools and Young Peoples' meetings. In character, it is much lighter than the standard hymn, and its usual form provides for a chorus after each stanza. Its popularity was greatly increased through its use in revival campaigns of Moody and Sankey, White, and Bliss and other evangelists. The demand for it became so great that many gospel song writers were developed, and publishing houses sent out song books by the thousands.

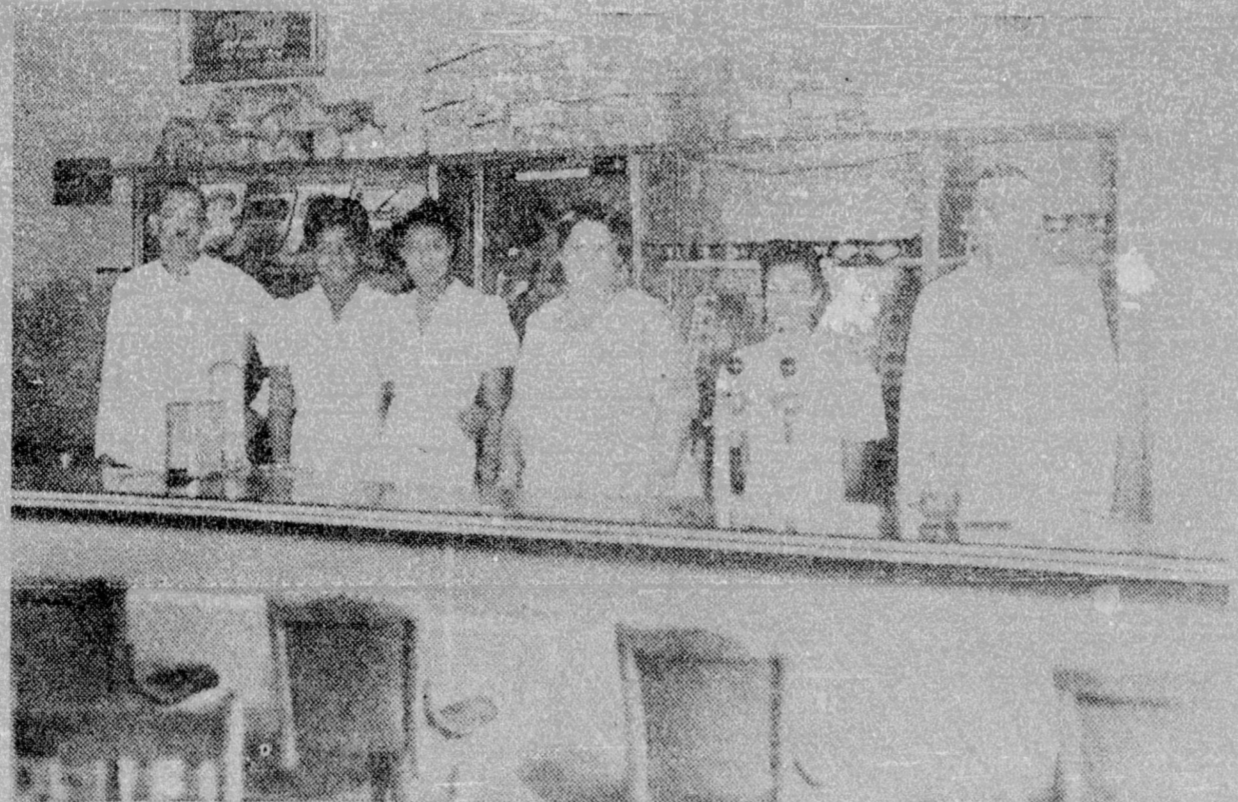
Some school teachers, who had been using standard hymns began to use gospel songs. It also gained in favor and popularity because of its simplicity of construction, its swing rhythm, and attractive melody. At first it maintained fairly good standards in literary and musical arrangement but after a few years it began to degenerate, until at present much of the music of gospel songs is of a very poor order. Many of these songs are of very high order from a very standpoint. Some of them are of short duration, serving a purpose and passing out of use. The gospel song form of composition has been, and is a mighty power in the service of Christ. It is paramount and no effort should be made to eliminate it as a religious service. But only songs that are worthy in this form, should be used in religious services.

The Standard Hymn and Gospel Song Compared
The question is often asked, what is the difference between the standard hymn and the gospel song? There is a difference in the form, but there are still greater differences in the type, content, and general content of the two. According to Dr. David, the standard hymn must be (1) Scriptural in sentiment and expression (2) It must be devotional in character (3) It must be lyrical or poetical. There are certain conditions which a gospel song must be placed in the first rank, namely: (1) It must be based upon the Christian community (2) It must hold its own in a place in some authorized body of authorized songs, put forth or sanctioned by some recognized organization of Christians (3) It must find a place in the solemn and steady worship of the congregation. It is obvious, then, that only the best gospel songs can meet the required standard and conditions outlined for the standard hymn. Another way in which the two differ is that the hymn is very largely objective in its character, drawing the singers' attention to God, Christ the Cross, Salvation and Heaven. The gospel song is subjective in character, relating a personal Christian experience. The reader may draw their own conclusion as to just where or at what point a poem becomes a hymn or a gospel song.

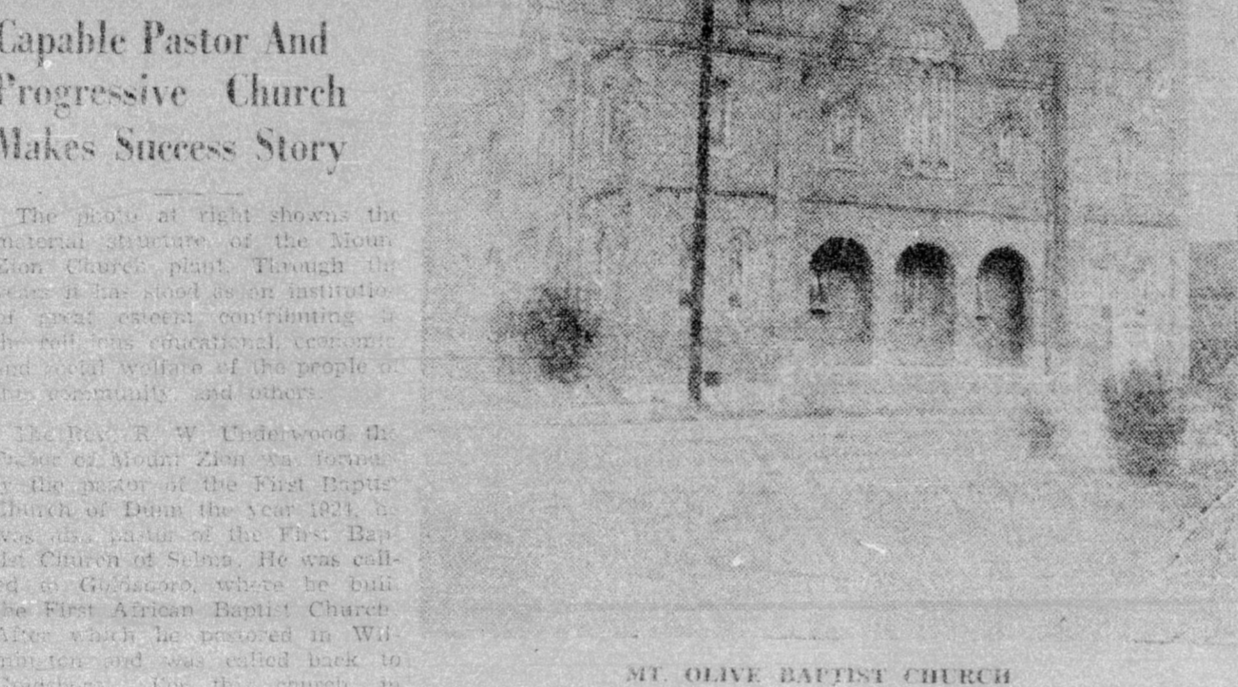


Miss Modistene Gaynor of 801 South Edge Street left, September 22, to enter college at Shaw University where she will begin her college career. Miss Gaynor was a honor student at Booker T. Washington High School receiving a nine hundred dollar scholarship given by the Sigma Gamma Rho society. Her record shows that she was an A grade student. Her musical talent has enabled her to become one of the assistant organists of St. James Baptist Church, and an outstanding member of the Junior Choir.

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TO SERVE YOU — Above are shown the personnel and interior of Tobbes Cafe at 209 N. Main Street. This establishment which has served the people of Rocky Mount for more than seven years is noted for its fine and courteous service and decor. New modern equipment has been added, including the new fountain which is shown in the picture. Six capable and interested employees make up the staff which is at your service at any time that you enter Tobbes for refreshments or for good meals.



Capable Pastor And Progressive Church Makes Success Story
The photo at right shows the exterior structure of the Mount Zion Church, built through the years. It has stood as an institution of great external contributing to the educational, economic and social welfare of the people of this community and others.

The Rev. R. W. Underwood, pastor of Mount Zion was formerly the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dunn the year 1921. It was also pastor of the First Baptist Church of Selma. He was called to Goldboro, where he built the First African Baptist Church. After which he pastored in Wilmington and was called back to Goldboro. For this church in Goldboro a membership of great spiritual value and numerical and financial strength was built. His pastoral administration lasted from 1921 to 1922.

In 1922 he received Central Baptist Church of Wilmington, where he served nine months. His call back to Goldboro was in 1935. He remained there until 1938. Including both periods in Goldboro, the Rev. Underwood served fourteen years in Goldboro and was called to the First Baptist Church of Lenoir in 1938, where he served until 1941. While there he served the mortgage paid off of indebtedness and renovated the plant.

In March, 1941, he was called to Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Rocky Mount. The first movement here was to pay off some old outstanding mortgages. This was accomplished in 1942. The same year the church was renovated. Secondly, he abandoned the obligation of buying the lot joining the church at \$2,000 and in 1944 this was accomplished and the passage was renovated at a cost of \$1,400. The Sunday School annex was completed, furnished and equipped. We have had each year a continued growth in membership. Today we are in the midst of a financial campaign to install a pipe organ. The resolution will bear on the twentieth of October.

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PERSONALS

Willie Heart, son of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Heart, of Rocky Mount, is visiting his parents, relatives and friends. Mr. Heart is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School and is specializing in voice at Temple University of Philadelphia. He is expecting to finish his course next year and begin his career as a professional singer.

Little Ola Gass of Norfolk, Va., has returned home after spending several days with her uncle and family. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Prewitt, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Prewitt and Mr. and Mrs. Judge Gass of Smithfield, Va., spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Prewitt and daughter.

Mrs. Georgia Battle, the wife of Lawyer Battle of Kinston visited Mrs. Nora Bailey enroute to Norfolk, Va. to visit her brother.

Miss Prewitt and daughter Sylvia spent the week end with her sister and family. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Eaton of Raleigh.

Mrs. James Nora E. Bailey, Lula Lewis and Mrs. Willie Mitchell worshipped with the Union Branch Baptist Church Sunday.

Miss Helen Lewis has gone to Blackwell College, Washington, D. C. She will take a course in business. Miss Ella Brown has returned to Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, to resume her senior work. Miss Aurora Mitchell has returned to Shaw University to complete her senior work.

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