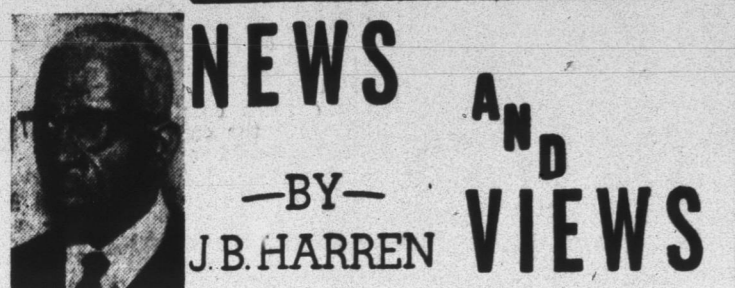


AME Zion Conference In Century Celebration

Rocky Mount Hosts 100th Session Of Church Confab



NEWS AND VIEWS
—BY—
J.B. HARREN

WORK TOGETHER CHILDREN

ROCKY MOUNT — We met a retired (white) business and civic leader on the street the morning after the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy and said to him: "We Americans have got to get together! He solemnly agreed as we briefly discussed the catastrophe of President Kennedy's death and the many angles which it will be interpreted by different people. We attempted to impress him with the idea that, regardless of Kennedy's untimely death, the cause of attaining to full citizenship rights and responsibilities must continue to show progress in our nation. He tacitly agreed that we must continue to implement our local and national 'Blueprint For Progress' looking toward full equality for all Americans.

In the same vein we wish to impress upon all colored Americans that we must, at all cost, get out and get our people registered to vote—and get them to VOTE, which is harder than making the stubborn horse drink after having led him to water. It must be done, however, if we are to survive as a big minority in the body politic of what is reputed to be the world's strongest nation. It calls for what we as colored people have been notoriously given to a lack of racial unity in crucial times when the chips are down. Just when we could or about have the opportunity for the knock-out punch against segregation we let it pass by default, thus nullifying our chances for economic advances and uplift.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the first Catholic President of the United States of America, proved himself to be a man who believed in the constitutional equality of all Americans. For this belief many will forever believe—he gave like Abe Lincoln, 98 years ahead of him, the last full measure of his devotion and life that you and I might be free.

Let us here and now resolve that Jack Kennedy's sacrifices for America will not be in vain; let us not default on the debt which we owe our fallen Commander-in-Chief. Let us not neglect nor deny ourselves the salvation of complete freedom which lies at the end of the road to the ballot-box.

which, if we make the trek to in large enough numbers we can truly 'Overcome Some Day'—and soon, the scourge of second-class citizenship and subjection to the tyranny of those who would, not only hold us back in our quest for full freedom, but go so far as to slay, freedom workers like Medgar Evers, the four little Sunday School girls and even our great President.

On his inaugural day, Kennedy pledged himself, even his life, which he gave Friday—to this cause; and asked us to, each one, ask not what your country can do for you, ask rather, what you can do for your country. "Let us all work together children for Freedom."

ROCKY MOUNT — Certainly America and the free world has just gone through the most tragic three-day period since the assassination of Abraham Lincoln April 1865. At 1:42 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, radio announced the shooting of our beloved President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Texas; the serious wounding of Gov. John Connally of Texas and the miraculous escape from injury of Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy although she was seated between the two.

While Americans of good will were praying and crying for the survival of their Commander-in-Chief, the flash came that he was dead! To many it seemed that the world was at an end. Then the Dallas police Department made "the catch" of Lee Harvey Oswald against whom a convincing chain of circumstantial evidence was amassed. Subsequently, Oswald was shot to death by an avenging night-club operator called "Rube." During the interim of the shooting of President Kennedy a policeman was allegedly slain by Oswald.

Be the facts as they may be, perhaps no one will ever know absolutely the full details. But this we do know. Within the short span of 72 hours by one o'clock Monday — we were burying Mr. Kennedy with heads of some 80 nations around the world paying tribute along with us, much to everyone's sorrow, except, perhaps, Red China and the likes of a unconstructed drink salesman who allegedly made disparaging remarks about Kennedy.

Also, Dallas policeman Tippett and Oswald himself were buried the same Monday afternoon in Texas. Let us hope that these shootings will not be the start of another world war as was the case in 1914 when a Prince in Europe was slain.

As we listened to and watched the TV coverage of the elaborate funeral procession for President Kennedy we wondered why our country will not live everyday by our professed ideals of democracy for all Americans. There was nothing but apparent sorrow among all

ROCKY MOUNT — The dream of many local citizens came to past here, Tuesday night when the 100th session of the North Carolina Conference, A.M.E. Zion Church got underway at the newly-built St. John Church, with the Rt. Rev. W. A. Stewart, Washington, D. C., presiding.

The growth and development of the oldest Negro Methodist Conference, in the state, are prides of the denomination. The denomination was founded in 1796 and 67 years later Bishop J. W. Hood took the membership of St. Andrew Chapel, formerly connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church South, into the Connection and named it St. Peter A.M.E. Zion Church, at New Bern.

The Conference is composed of churches extending from Rocky Mount to Beaufort and from Washington to the lower end of P.H. County. There are three presiding elder districts, New Bern, Beaufort and Washington, presided over by Revs. J. E. Garrett, R. F. Faulkner and A. E. Hudson, respectively.

The Conference is part of the 5th district. Other Conferences in the district are, Albemarle, Va., Blue Ridge and Tennessee. The missionary work is presided over by Mrs. Ruby Ramoa, daughter of the presiding prelate.

An impressive welcome program was held on Tuesday night with Rev. Blakey presiding. Music was furnished by United Choir Guild, directed by W. T. Grimes. Greetings were brought by C. T. Edwards, Rev. J. W. Wiley, Rev. J. H. Costen, Dr. W. T. Armstrong, Rev. George Dudley, Mayor William B. Harrison, A. H. Bryant, D. S. Johnson and C. C. Stokes. The Rev. Lawrence A. Miller, Greenville, gave the response. Joseph Bonner rendered an organ solo.

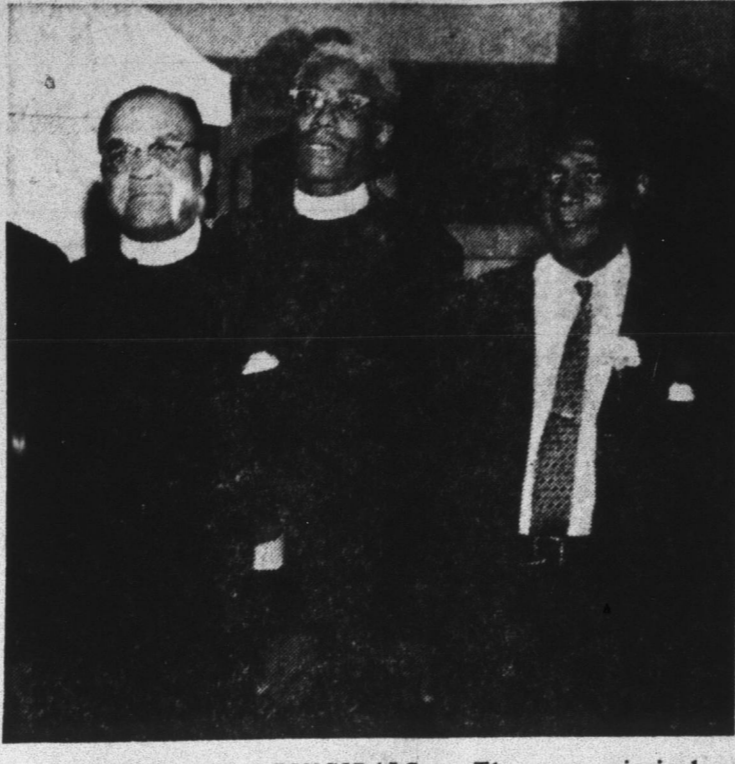
The Conference was scheduled to open formally Wednesday morning when the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed. Bishop Stewart and the presiding elders were the celebrants.

The meet is scheduled to bring many outstanding churchmen to the city. Dr. S. E. Dunson, president of Livingstone College, Salisbury, is expected to present a new approach to the role that the church-related college must play in the field of integrated education.

The most spirited session is slated for Thursday afternoon when delegates will be elected to the 1964 session of the General Conference, which will be held in Indianapolis, Ind. The women will observe "Missionary Night" Friday, with the theme, "That we all may be One." Mrs. Ramoa will preside.

people, John Fitzgerald Kennedy Sr. was himself laid to rest in the same National Cemetery at Arlington where he had extolled the loyalty of the Unknown Soldier.

Let us all here and now resolve that—like Lincoln—we will not let Kennedy die in vain; that we will pick up the broken pieces of Jack Kennedy's plan to bring freedom to all Americans, that the new plot—with the eternal flame—in Arlington Cemetery will not burn in vain; that it may, indeed, become a beacon for all people to work for a secure and enduring peace.



CONFERENCE PRINCIPALS — These are principals at the 100th session of the North Carolina Conference, A.M.E. Zion Church, which opened at St. John A.M.E. Zion Church, Rocky Mount, Tuesday night. L-r, Bishop W. A. Stewart, presiding prelate, Rev. D. L. Blakey, host pastor and Rev. A. E. Hudson, host presiding elder.

Freedom Keynotes Annual A. M. E. Zion Conference

The story of the part that the A.M.E. Zion Church has played in the Negro's fight for freedom is best told in the founding of the North Carolina Conference, now meeting in Rocky Mount. This Conference was started by Bishop J. W. Hood, who brought the message of how Abraham Thompson, James Varick, Peter Williams and Francis Jacobs, along with many others, pulled out of John St. Methodist Church, New York City, in 1796, when they exercised their right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences.

Bishop William Andrew Stewart

and other leaders of the 100th annual sessions are expected to tell the delegates and visitors how Bishop Hood did a "circuit-riding" job in telling Negroes, just out of slavery that it was the credo of the denomination, the Christian Church should be too big for race hatred and that any church, or group of churchmen, who persisted in denying any man his rights, was not in keeping with the tenets of the doctrine of Christ.

A freedom celebration is scheduled for the meet that will not only tell the story of the rise of the Negro from slavery, but will point to the fact that Negroes no longer

Hopping About TARHEELIA

By Jay Bee Aytch

HARRY SMITH IS BALTIMORE HEALTH SUPERVISOR

ROCKY MOUNT — Word has been received here that a local young man has made good in the field of recreation in Baltimore, Maryland after 15 years residence and employment.

Harry E. Smith has been appointed a senior supervisor of the Bureau of Recreation's Street Club Project following three years of service as a detached worker with that department and the Health and Welfare Council of Baltimore.

Smith's work has been with the underprivileged and delinquent boys and directing their energies to wholesome pursuits in recreation and work; making his contacts, largely, in the streets, pool rooms and depressed areas of Northwest and East Baltimore.

Smith is a native of Rocky Mount, and gained his early education here before going to get his B. A. degree in social science and psychology at North Carolina College at Durham in 1957. Later, he obtained a master's degree in the same field from Howard University. Smith served two years in the Army as a non-commissioned officer.

Smith is the son of Mrs. Alma Smith of 627 Beal Street, Rocky Mount, N. C., and the late Frank Smith, who served as custodian of a local (white) church for many years.

Harry Smith is married to the former Miss Helen Johnson. The couple has two children, Ron and Harry, 2nd. Smith is connected with many of Baltimore's civic and religious organizations.

The John L. Harrison family gathered for a brief family get-together at the home of the J. B. (Annie H.) Harrens, 240 Fenna Avenue, Rocky Mount, over the weekend where they enjoyed fellowship and a delightful pre-Thanksgiving turkey dinner.

Present were Mrs. Elizabeth H. Haughton, Mrs. Mary H. Walker, Nathaniel Jones and Joseph Walker of 1725 N. 23rd Street, Philadelphia, Penna. Also James Harrison, Baltimore, Md.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Rose Harrison and Jack Harrison of Tarboro; and Mrs. Sallie H. Baker of Kingsboro. Mrs. Mamie Worrell accompanied Miss Caustie E. Harrison to the dinner.

The visiting family group breakfasted Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. William and Sallie Baker of the Kingsboro community, leaving for Philadelphia about noon.

Among the NAACP leaders here for the statewide NAACP youth conference last week were: Charles A. McLean, N. C. NAACP Field Secretary; John Brooks, NAACP Voter Registration Chairman; John Lewis, Voter-Registration worker with the youth department of N. C. NAACP, and other political action workers.

GO TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Congregation Happy Over Edifice Built By RM Negroes

ROCKY MOUNT — The building and dedication of St. John A.M.E. Zion Church have been heralded in local church circles as one of the most outstanding feats ever accomplished here.

Many persons remember how the former pastors, officers and members tried to give the city a representative physical plant. The fact that the basement was dug approximately 18 years ago; that work stopped and started many times are now looked upon as constructive

obstacles that spurred the faithful on.

Much of the credit for the imposing structure is given to the leadership of the Rev. D. L. Blakey and the cooperation that he got from Bishop W. A. Stewart relates how he seemed stymied, on every front, to procure a loan for the completion. He says that it was not until the case was presented to the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company that a ray of hope was discerned. The company loaned the money for completion.

He is also happy over the fact that he was able to secure the services of Brown & Brown, local contractors. They agreed to complete the building and proceed to carry out their agreement. The result is that St. John is one of the best arranged church edifices to be found anywhere. The basement, which serves as an educational unit, is well arranged with convenient class rooms and other facilities that enable the church to carry on a well rounded Christian Education program.

The sanctuary is accessible from three entrances and is equipped with modern church furniture. The latest in air-conditioning and heating make the services enjoyable during any season of the year. The music department is equipped with a new organ and a new piano.

The church was organized February 24, 1886. The membership has had only 2 locations since that time. The first building was lo-

located on Gay Street. The congregation moved to the present site, the corner of Atlantic and Goldleaf Streets, in 1910. Ground breaking ceremonies for the present building were held in 1947. The dedication was held May 12, 1963.

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Fuquay Springs School
FUQUAY SPRINGS — The Fuquay Springs Consolidated School and community were elated last week when principal, W. M. McLean, announced to the PTA that the long awaited uniforms, more than \$4,000.00 worth, for the school's band had arrived. One student was dressed in the complete uniform for display before the group. This brought a hardy round of applause from those assembled.

Mr. McLean spoke to the group briefly concerning the drive. All were commended on a job well done, although the drive has not been closed.

The arrival of the uniforms saw the culmination of a drive that started a year ago. Last year the school closed a drive that started a year before and saw the realization of a long dream, a new school activity bus, costing over \$5000.00.

The school's band has been invited to play in the Raleigh Christmas Parade scheduled for next week, 1 of the area's most important events participated in by high school bands. The school will also make its first appearance this year in the local Christmas parade.

We Are Happy To Have Served St. John A.M.E. Church

TELEPHONE 442-3733

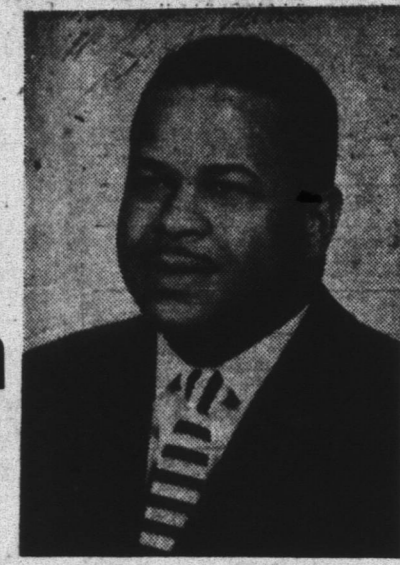
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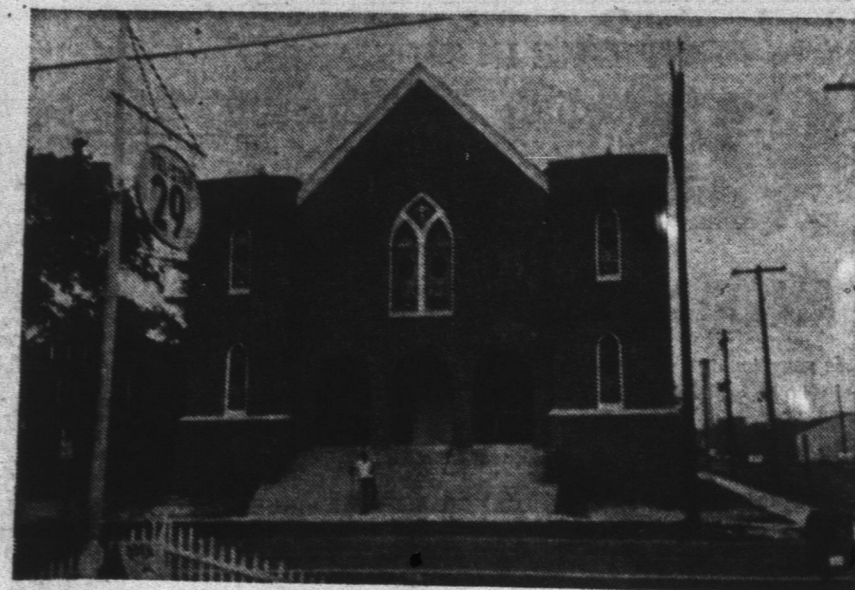
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