

The Future Outlook

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J. F. JOHNSON, OUTSTANDING CIVIC LEADER-PUBLISHER MEMORIALIZED

James F. Johnson, formerly of 1905 Drexmore Avenue, succumbed to injuries, Sunday, September 3, 1972, in the Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital, where he had fought to survive three weeks in the Intensive Ward since his auto-tractor trailer accident of three weeks ago.

Funeral services were held Thursday, September 7, 4:00 p.m., from The St. Matthews United Methodist Church where he was a devoted member. The Reverend J. W. Patterson, Minister officiated.

Editor and publisher of THE FUTURE OUTLOOK, J. F. Johnson was widely known by his newspaper which he started and maintained over thirty years, after having worked with three other young men on a previous paper called THE POST. On first coming to Greensboro from Dillon, South Carolina in 1928, Johnson attended public school at A. and T. College. When the establishment of Dudley High School materialized, he matriculated there to complete his public school education. Later he reentered A. and T., from which he earned the Bachelor of Science Degree in General Education and Business.

He was a founder of the Hayes-Taylor YMCA, soliciting funds from wealthy citizens and organizations to support the Y for Negroes, and is said to be its first youth director, from 1932 to 1941. Even after he was succeeded by David Morehead, he continued to lend volunteer support to the activities of the YMCA. He was one of the top members in the campaign drive for funds throughout forty years.

An outstanding member in St. Matthews Church, he was Sunday School Teacher, member of the Usher Board in the church, and in the North Carolina Usher's Union; a member of the Masons' St. John's Lodge, and the L. Richardson Memorial Hospital Auxillary, where he was instrumental in the observance of its annual Christmas Party for in-patients. There are few civic organizations and activities in which he did not participate or affiliate. He was also a member of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce and worked diligently with the local and state P.T.A. Each Spring he featured in the Future Outlook the most outstanding Negro Mother of the Year fete.

Through the years of his publication, he has taught many young women the arts of publishing a newspaper during their services as secretary to the paper, which kept the Black Community informed of happenings pertinent to their interest.

An industrious worker, the editor worked closely with the city's business executives and with Deal Printing Company who put out his newspaper. Quite often, he was busily engaged in soliciting advertisements and selling his papers when help from youthful salesboys faltered. Johnson was a man of hard struggles, but one of pride and dignity, and the City of Greensboro experiences a great loss in the death of this staunch humanitarian.

—by Ms. Annie B. Herbin
writer for The Future Outlook

The Future Outlook Editor is survived by his wife, the former Gertrude Briggs of Greensboro, two daughters, Emma Patricia, a teacher in the Mecklingburg School System, and Linda Gertrude of the home, who works in a local business firm here; two brothers, the Rev. John Wesley Johnson of Trenton, New Jersey; Isaac Brown of Washington, D. C.; one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth McInnis of Dillon, S. C., a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.



MR. JAMES FRANKLIN JOHNSON

FINAL RITES HELD FOR FUTURE OUTLOOK EDITOR

By MISS ANNIE B. HERBIN

Final rites for James F. Johnson, former publisher of the *Future Outlook Weekly*, in Greensboro, for over thirty years, were held Thursday, Sept. 7, 1972, from the St. Matthews United Methodist Church of which he held long membership, at 4:00 p.m., the Pastor, Rev. J. J. Patterson officiating.

Tributes were made by The Rev. Joseph B. Bethea, former Pastor of St. Matthews and David Morehead, Church member and former Executive Director of YMCA in Greensboro, with whom the deceased worked faithfully in years past.

Amid a throng of floral designs from concerned sympathizers throughout the city, which flanked the bier, the pastor, Rev. J. J. Patterson spoke words of comfort to the bereaved family and friends. Reverend Patterson directed a thought that this life is ground for prepara-

tion for Eternal Life. Implying the mysteries of this life, and the frequent misunderstandings of each other, the Pastor quoted from Corinthians 1, chapter 13:

"For we know in part and we prophesy in part; But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away . . ." "Now I know in part, but then shall I know even as also I am known." — selected

Thus, the minister admonished the congregation to live a life of love and concern as did the deceased; to observe the blessings God has given all, and to rejoice in the victory over sadness in having been blessed to have known a man like Mr. Johnson. At the climax of his sermon, the Pastor referred to life's difficulties which we all face at times, and to the light of Salvation which brightens our paths to the duties of humanity. In closing the eulogy, he left the thought that memory is a won-

derful companion; however, the Pastor, reemphasizing his main point of the sermon said: "Take His (God's) Blessings today, live by His Commandments till He comes for you."

NOTE OF THANKS

The family of the late James F. Johnson wishes to thank its many friends whose presence and deeds of kindness, during their darkest hours, imparted great consolation and lightened the burden in their loss of a husband, father, brother and uncle.

They express the awareness of God's presence and love newly resurrected in the hearts of those who lay aside their various duties to support them in a time when friends are most helpful.

Equally, to Miss Annie B. Herbin, whose sacrifices in editing the *Future Outlook*, during the confinement and death of the deceased, and to Mrs. Pearl Thompson, both who have assisted him through the years, Mrs. Gertrude Johnson, daughters, Patricia and Linda, as do other relatives, express herewith, their deepest appreciation.

May God brighten your paths with great blessings as He has ours by giving us friends of love and concern like you.

—The Family

A FUNERAL ORATION FOR JAMES F. JOHNSON

by David Morehead

James F. Johnson was an unusual dedicated citizen, he was a doer, a builder, and a dreamer, whatever he was a part of, he followed through to make it a success. When others around J. F. would give up the cause, whatever it might be, J. F. would challenge it and do the job. If you really knew him, you knew him for his loyal service, dedication and concerns, you had to admire him. Instead of trying to secure big things, J. F. would take a little thing and make it big. When others would never attempt to work for a cause or a program because it was unimportant J. F. Johnson would work to make it important. What manner of man was he? What were some of his contributions? In 1932, when the idea of a YMCA program for minorities in Greensboro was unheard of, J. F. Planted the seed in some minds and helped to get a "Y" program started in the basement of the old Carnegie Library, and from that beginning, he worked with the "Y" pro-

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