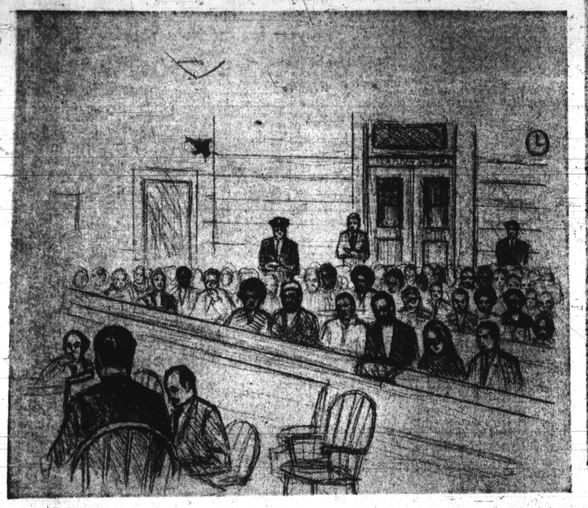
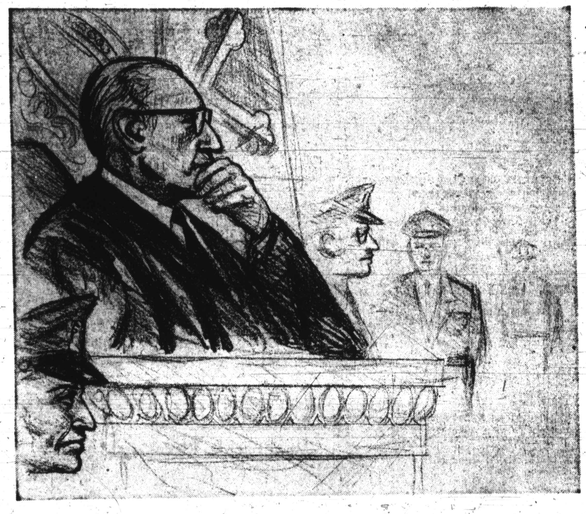
AFRO-Artist's Sketches Document Panther Trial

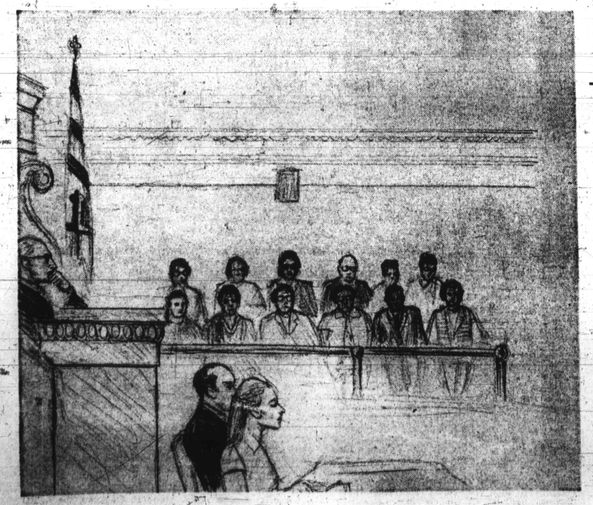


COURTROOM SPECTATORS, more white than black, crowded the benches and at one point numbered 150 persons. Mostly young men and women, they displayed more than usual interest and involvement. At one point Wednesday, one white Panther's emotions ran so high he was ejected. "Power to the people," said the blond haired youth as he gave the clinched fist sign. "Right on" "Hold out Ed:" "Hang in there man," were some of the phrases used in the outbursts.

VACANT CHAIR where defendant Marshall Edward Conway would have been seated is flanked by right) defense attorney James McAllister who is waging the battle alone and (left) assistant state's attorney's Peter Ward and Rodney Watts. Conway refused to remain for his trial Wednesday without an attorney of his choice and remained down stairs in the lockup. He has been confined to Baltimore City Jail since the April, 1970 incident. (Sketches made in Criminal Court Part I Wednesday by AFRO artist Thomas Stockett).



JUDGE CHARLES D. HARRIS, the presiding jurist, is guarded by six police officers who stand in groups of three at the doorways on either side of the bench. At various periods of the trial Wednesday a total of 41 policemen were counted inside and outside the courtroom. Policemen stationed at the one entrance to the courtroom frisked all males before they could go inside as spectators or for any other reason.



JURY of nine black women, a white woman foreman, one black and one white panel members remained stone-faced as defense attorney James McAllister warned the law requires that judgement be made on basis of law and fact regardless of the race of the defendant of his group or organization affiliation. "Panthers," he told them, "are prosecuted affiliation. "Panthers," he own beliefs to realize the American Dream."

—Panther

(FROM PAGE ONE)

"Power to the people," and "hang in there Ed."

* * *

This was one of the many crises that came during the trial which began Monday with the selection of a jury of nine-black-women a white woman forewoman, a black male and a white male as panalists.

The trial may last three weeks.

Judge Harris has not allowed Conway to fire his black court-appointed attorney, James McAllister. His reason given is that Conway has had since November to obtain an attorney of his choice.

In November, Conway fired the lawyer he had hired privately, Nelson R. Kandel.

When the trial opened Monday, Conway said he would try his own case and continued to tell the judge and the jury Mr. McAllister was not capable of handling his defense.

* * *

On Wednesday, Judge Harris opened the trial by saying that William Kuntzler had phoned him from New York that the Panther Party will send an attorney but not for 30 days.

Judge Harris entered into the record the fact that the attorney of the Panthers Party's choice will be on the scene later. However, he stated, the trial could not be postponed another day.

He praised Mr. McAllister as capable and one of the city's most able attorneys.

He did say, however, whenever the Panther Party attorney arrives, he may enter the case.

He told the defendant, "You may if you wish conduct your own defense."

However, Conway said he wanted Arthur Turco, the white Panther lawyer who is confined to Baltimore City Jail charged with murder in the unrelated Anderson murder case along with Conway.

DAUGHTREY

This case is the "Bag of Bones Murder Case" involving the torture and murder of Ander, a Panther member suspected by club members of "ratting" to police. His skeleton was found in Leakin Park.

* * *

Judge Harris contended that with Turco's being in jail, "He is in no position to serve as defense attorney".

Insisting, Conway countered, "Bring him over. You brought me over.

Judge Harris did not charge Conway with contempt of court.

Seemingly "going along with the program," the jurist once replied "I dig you" in answer to Conway's question, "Do you understand me?"

The jury remained calm and stone-faced throughout the portion of the discussion.

* * *

The state through Peter Ward, prosecutor, opened with a brief statement accusing Conway of murdering the policeman, Officer Donald W. Sager and critically wounding Officer Stanley Sierakowski on April 24.

The officers are reported to have been in the 1200 block Myrtle Ave. writing a report in the patrol car when "ambushed" and fired upon.

Mr. McAllister's opening statement reminded the jury of Democracy's rule that a defendant is innocent until proven guilty.

He also accented the fact that race or color or a person's organization affiliations do not condemn him as guilty.

* * *

He asked the jury to search its conscience and realize that all Panthers are persecuted because beliefs "may not be like yours."

But Mr. McAllister added, "They are entitled to realize the American Dream in their beliefs."

Throwing a hint of what is to come, Mr. McAllister said the state has no evidence to prove Conway is a murderer.

He said the state intends to base its case on "the real murderer" who is a "stoolie" and will point a finger at Conway "to save his own hide."

He concluded, "I defy the state to tie Conway in with the crimes and prove that Conway did it."

* * *

Highlighting the testimony of Officer Sierokowski was his disrobing to show the bullet wounds in his stomach to the jury.

He told the jury bullets suddenly rained down upon him and Officer Segar in the patrol car and he saw fire come from guns.

He claimed he saw Segar bleeding from the nose and mouth. He replied "No" when Mr. McAllister said "Actually do you really know who shot you?"

Sierakowski also replied "No" when asked if he could tell the size weight or height of the persons who fired.

At the trial Thursday, Federal Squad Officer Roger Nolan testified he picked out Conway's picture and identified him as the person who shot at him the night of the April murder.

Angela declares she's innocent

By DONALD B. THACKREY

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (UPI) — Angela Davis charged this week she was the victim of "a political frameup" and declared herself innocent of the murder of a judge killed with three others in a courtroom shootout.

Miss Davis, who raised her clenched fist in a "Black Power" salute as she entered a heavily-guarded courtroom for her arraignment, said she was "innocent of all charges" but did not formally enter a plea.

Superior Court Judge Joseph G. Wilson said she and Ruchell Magee, 31, a San Quentin prison inmate chained in his chair during the hearing, would probably return to court in early March to enter formal pleas to charges of murder, kidnaping and conspiracy.

"I declare before the court and the public that I am innocent of these charges," Miss Davis said when allowed to speak by the judge. "I stand before this court on a political frameup."

* * *

The judge permitted her to talk briefly in support of a motion that she be allowed to act as co-counsel with her five attorneys.

Wilson took the request under submission and gave the defense attorney's until Feb. 5 to file briefs supporting it and other motions. He gave the prosecution until Feb. 22. Wilson said he would seek to have a judge room outside the county appointed to handle the case before then.

Magee, who was chained to his chair because of violent behavior at previous proceedings, was finally removed physically from the courtroom while making a rambling speech saying that he would not cooperate with his court-appointed attorney.

About 60 supporters of Miss Davis —including her fathern brother and sister — and 40 newsmen jammed the courtoom at Marin County Hall of Justice, where Judge Harold Haley, two convicts and their accomplice in an escape attempt were shot to death last Aug. 7.

Miss Davis allegedly purchased the guns used during the escape bid, in which a judge, prosecutor and several jurors were kidnaped.

Under California law, an accomplice can be charged with murder and faces the death penalty. Magee was one of the three convicts trying to flee.

Except for Magee's attempts to complain about his lawyers and murmurs of "Right On . . . Free Angela" as Miss Davis made her clenched fist gesture and as she spoke, there were no disruptions.

About 300 persons marched around a knoll across a street, chanting "Free Angela," while 200 others filled a corridor outside the court. The modernistic civic center was designed by the late Frank Lloyd Wright.

* * *

In her speech, Miss Davis contended the charges against her were political and therefore it was necessary for her to help represent herself if she were to receive a fair trial.

She was interrupted by prosecutor Albert W. Harris Jr., who objected to her remarks, and by the judge, who told her: "The courtroom is no place for a speech."

Harris argued that Miss Davis could either act as lawyers act for her, but not both.

Her lawyers were Allan Brotsky, Margaret Burnham, Dennis J. Roberts, Howard Moore Jr. and Michael Tigar. Brotosky is a colleague of Black Panther attorney Charles Garry.

* * *

Miss Burnham represented Miss Davis during her attempts to avoid extradition from New York, where she was captured two months after the shootout. Moore is an Atlanta attorney who has represented Stokely Carmichael, H. Rap Brown and Julian Bond.

Roberts was one of the attorneys at the "Chicago Seven" conspiracy trial. Tigar was one of the attorneys in the recent "Seattle Seven" conspiracy trial.

One of the defense attorneys, Noah A. Hillman, said in a postconviction hearing for Merchant that he did not believe the woman of a different race consented to submit to him. Another lawyer, John A. Blondell, said Merchant insisted that the houseiwfe did consent.

Judge Childs said when he ordered the new trial that he believed the attorneys could have supported Merchant's contention if they had developed the defense properly.

New trial set for Merchant

Gus Merchant, 33, convicted and sentenced to death for criminally assaulting a white Glen Burniw housewife in 1957, will receive a new trial.

Raymond G. Thieme Jr., Anne Arundel County Deputy State's Attorney, recommended that the tiral be returned to court and states that all material witnesses are still available to testify.

Merchant was convicted Oct. 8, 1957 by Judges Benjamin Michaelson and Mathew S. Evans in the county Circuit Court.

He remained in the penitentiary until July 17, 1970 when he was released on $2,000 bail pending an appeal the state filed against an order issued by Judge E. Mackall Childs.

Judge Childs had ordered the state to conduct a new trial on May 12, 1970.

* * *

The state elected to ask the Maryland Court of Specials Appeals to review the Childs order. The seven judges of the appeals court refused unanimously to allow the state to appeal the order.

Merchant would have gone free if the state had not decuded to go back to court.

When Judge Childs granted the new trial his decision was that Merchant was not given effective legal representation during the 1957 trial.

Judge Childs said he found the court-appointed attorneys failed to bring out Merchant's contention that the housewife consented to the sexual relationship.

* * *

AME Z Church honors Ernest Heggie

The Rev. Clinton R. Coleman, pastor, Pennsylvania Ave. AME Zion Church, along with officers and members recently honored Ernest Bryon Heggie, 1300 block Argyle Ave., for 33 years of service as chairman of the church's board of trustees.

In his tribute to Mr. Heggie, the Rev. Mr. Coleman stated:

"This is a special occasion tonight for a very special person. There are not many persons here tonight whose lives have not been touched in some way by the honoree, either for advice or on matters which involve our church.

"Your presence is testimony to the fact that you have known him to be a fine man and a good churchman.

"This is not because Ernest Heggie goes to church every Sunday, nor because he serves as a trustee each Sunday, nor because he is chairman of the board of trustees.

"Rather, because a man who lives close enough to the church to know all of its failures, its misdoings, its weaknesses, who knows all of the things that he doesn't like, the church's common deficiencies, who recognizes the good of the church, its assets and its fine points and yet with all still loves it. That's a churchman."

Mr. Heggie was presented a plaque and a monetary contribution.

MT. LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH

"The Church With The Family Atmosphere"

2326 REISTERSTOWN ROAD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10th

8:00 A.M.—EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE
SERMON BY THE PASTOR

10:00 A.M.—EXTENDED SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 A.M.—MORNING WORSHIP
SERMON BY THE PASTOR

3:00 P.M.—SENIOR CHOIR No. 1 Presents MRS. LYDIA A. BROWN, Baltimore's Most Versatile Woman In A PROGRAM OF SOUL EXPRESSIONS Soloist - Poetess Artist!

MRS. BROWN

Intermission music by Senior Choir No. 1 of this church. Listen to her sing God's praises. Hear her sermon on stone! See her display of Art work! Reminisace at her original poetry! Watch her portrayal of other men's works.

Admission—Free Will Offering
Mrs. Hazel Turner, Organist
Mrs. Lillian Gee, Pres. of Senior Choir No. 1
REV. OLIN P. MOYD, Pastor

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

"The Praying Church"

Bond St. and Ashland Ave.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971

9:15 A.M.—Church School
10:45 A.M.—Worship. SERMON BY THE PASTOR.
7:30 P.M.—Annual Installation of Officers-1971.
SERMON by REV. EDMOND D. MEADE, Pastor of Israel Baptist Church.

"Everyone of Us Shall Give Account of Himself to God"

ALL ARE WELCOME

WALTER E. PAIGE, D.D., Minister

ENON BAPTIST CHURCH

EDMONDSON AVE. and SCHROEDER ST.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971

6:30 A.M.—Early Prayer Service
9:15 A.M.—Sunday Church School
11:00 A.M.—Sermon by Rev. Joseph N. Patterson
Subj.: "Possibilities Unlimited"
Blessing of babies.
1:00 P.M.—Mother Club Party
3:00 P.M.—Pythians Service
Speaker—Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Payne

Revival will be held this week, January 11th to January 16th, at 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Speaker: Rev. Joseph N. Patterson.

Panel talks on church role

"The Role of the Church in Meeting the Needs of Troubled People" was the topic of a panel discussion of the Board of Deacons and Deaconesses last Sunday.

The leader of the discussion was F. B. Poulson.

David Sloan, senior editor of the AFRO, was the summarizer.

Other panel members were: Mrs. Gladys Augustus, Alcoholics Anonymous; Miss Rosetta Davis, Baltimore Public School System; Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, school counselor, and Ralph Williams, Maryland House of Corrections chief warden.

Acknowledgements were made by Deacon M. Lewis, Deacon A. Minnis and the Rev. S. Ray.

The program was completed with selections from the Senior Choir

EMANCIPATION DAY Celebration—The Rev. Benjamin S. Foust, pastor of the St. John's AME Church is greeted by Prince Hall Grand Master, the M. W. Samuel T. Daniels, as the Masons presented the 108th observance of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln in 1863, at the St. John's Church. Right Photo: the Rev. Foust addresses the Masonic Order and the Myra Worthy Matron, of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Celia McLeod is the Grand Grand Chapter of the Order

Sen. Welcome's sister buried in Salisbury

"She openeth her mouth to wisdom; in her tongue is the law of kindness. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

These words of praise were part of the eulogy honoring Mrs. Rosalie Freeman Wyatt, North Carolina educator and eldest sister of State Senator Verda Welcome (D.-4th), at Salisbury, N.C., funeral services held last Monday.

Dr. J. B. Humphrey, of the First Baptist Church, Charlotte, officiated at the service which was held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Salisbury.

Mrs. Wyatt was eulogized by Dr. David R. Hedgley, of the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, who took his text from the 31st Chapter of Proverbs.

Other ministers assisting were the Rev. Theodore Walker, the Rev. John Gaston and Dr. J. P. Johnson.

Remarks were made by Mrs. Wyatt's friends and co-workers. They were: Mrs. Elizabeth Randolph, Mecklenburg County City Schools; Mrs. Prudence Johnson, Woman's Auxiliary, Rowan Association president; Mrs. M. A. Horne, executive secretary of the Woman's State Baptist State Convention, and Mrs. Vera Slade, president of the Woman's State Baptist State Convention.

Mrs. Ruth Camp, a longtime friend, was soloist.

Mrs. Wyatt, 65, wife of the Rev. William McKinley Wyatt of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, died last Friday in Rowan Memorial Hospital after an illness of two weeks.

She visited Baltimore and her sister, Sen. Welcome, in November. She had also attended the February testimonial which honored the senator.

* * *

Mrs. Wyatt and her husband resided in Salisbury at 413 N. Church St, and also had a home in Charlotte at 2231 Celia St.

Prior to her retirement in 1968, Mrs. Wyatt was principal of Amay James Elementary School, Charlotte, for six years. She had previously been an elementary education supervisor in the Mecklenburg County School System for 15 years. She was the first black woman to hold such a position in that area.

Mrs. Wyatt taught in the Rowan County School System before going to Mecklenburg County.

Mrs. Wyatt was affiliated with educational organizations on the local, state and national levels.

She participated actively at Mt. Zion Baptist Church where she was Sunday school superintendent and a member of the deaconess board, the senior choir and Missionary Society.

She was president of the women's auxiliary of the Rowan Baptist Association and chairman of the executive board of the Women's General State Baptist Convention.

* * *

Mrs. Wyatt also belonged to the Business and Professional Women's Club.

In addition to her husband and sister, Mrs. Wyatt is survived by one son, William B. Mitchell, Salisbury, two daughters, Mrs. Virginia Chase, Charlotte, and Mrs. Rosalind Collins, Chicago; seven brothers, Dr. David Lee Freeman and Booker T. Freeman, Detroit, Nubern Freeman, Old Fort, Dr. Stephen Freegan, Orange, N.J., and Vincent Freeman, John Freeman and Price Freeman, Philadelphia, nine other sisters, Mrs. Emma F. Oliver, Winston-Salem, Mrs. Pernetta F. Campbell and Mrs. Evelyn Logan, Lake Lure, Mrs. William F. Davidson, Bronx, Mrs. Lovie F. Proctor, Mrs. Theodocia Freison and Mrs. Margaret F. Turner, Detroit, Mrs. Janice P. Patterson, New York, and Mrs. Thelma F. Flood Hollis, Long Island, and four grandchildren.

Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery, Salisbury.

FRIENDS

STONY RUN FRIENDS MEETING
5116 N. CHARLES ST.
Meeting for Worship 11 A.M.
EVERYONE WELCOME

THE CHURCH of the HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL
Garrison Blvd.
Near Liberty Heights Ave.
THE REV. TIM HALL, Rector
SUN., JAN. 10, 1971
8:30 Holy Communion
10:30 A.M.—Family Eucharist and Church School.

PENTECOST DAYS REVIVAL
BACK AGAIN
BLESSINGS and DELIVERANCE
Sun., Jan. 10, thru 16th at
HOLY CHURCH OF CHRIST
1249 E. NORTH AVE.
MOTHER DIXON, Pastor
Sister Parker, Sponsor
Featuring Baltimore's Young Evangelist
Rev. Simon DeShazo
Just returned from 7,000 mile tour with Gene Ewing.
Outstanding SINGING GROUPS Will Be Here!
YOU ARE WELCOME

REV. DeSHAZO

TOWSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10th—11 A.M.
"CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNIVERSALISM"
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17th—11 A.M.
"RELIGION IN BLACK AFRICA"
(World Religion Sunday)
TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
East Ridge Road
call 825-6045 or 252-5743
DAVID HICKS MacPHERSON, Minister

PENNSYLVANIA AVE. AME ZION CHURCH
"The Church Of The Burning Heart"
1116-26 Pennsylvania Avenue
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971
9:30 A.M.—CHURCH SCHOOL
11:00 A.M.—MORNING WORSHIP
Sermon: "Jesus, The Messiah" by Dr. Coleman.
Music by the Sanctuary Choir and Gospel Choruses.
The Sacrament of Baptist.
3:30 P.M.—ANNIVERSARY SERVICE of the South Carolina Club. The Rev. Joseph L. Hinton and members of Greater St. John Baptist Church will worship with us.
6:00 P.M.—ZION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP HOUR
—A FRIENDLY WELCOME TO ALL—
CLINTON R. COLEMAN, D.D., Minister

PENTECOST BAPTIST CHURCH
1615 POPLAR GROVE STREET
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971
11:00 A.M.—SERMON by the PASTOR
Sub.: "GRASS HOPPERS IN THE CHURCH"
3 P.M. — HOLY COMMUNION
Guest Speaker Rev. Sis Douglas
Every Fri., 8:00 P.M.—PRAYER SERVICE
SUNDAY, JAN 17th—5 P.M.
Trial Sermon—Charles E. Fletcher, Jr.
WE WELCOME YOU
REV. CHARLES E. FLETCHER, Minister

Rev. Fletcher

PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
2500 EDMONDSON AVE., corner Warwick
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971
COMMUNION DAY
8:00 A.M.—Early Morning Worship SERMON by REV. RICHARD OGLE and HOLY COMMUNION.
9:15 A.M.—Sunday School
10:30 A.M.—Open Heart Service
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship SERMON by REV. RICHARD OGLE and HOLY COMMUNION.
6:00 P.M.—BAPTIST TRAINING UNION
WE WELCOME YOU

Rev. Ward D. Yerby Pastor

St. James' Episcopal Church
LAFAYETTE SQUARE
THE REV. FATHER DONALD O. WILSON, Rector
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971
7:00 A.M.—Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M.—Family Worship Choral Eucharist Sermon
10:40 A.M.—Church School
11:00 A.M.—Choral Eucharist and Sermon
Thursday—
10:00 A.M.—Holy Communion
10:30 A.M.—Healing Mission
11:00 A.M.—Bible Study

Grand Opening and Dedication Services Of The New Trinity National Congregational Church of America

(Formerly at 2101 Walbrook Ave.)

BISHOP M. D. MORTON & FAMILY

Invites ou to Worship With them

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971

At The New Church

2100 EDMONDSON AVENUE
(Formerly The Bridge Theatre)

We Will Be Marching From
2101 Walbrook Avenue
At 10:00 A.M. By Cars

11:00 A.M.—The Morning Message Will Be Delivered By The Pastor—Bishop M. D. Norton, D.D.

2:00 P.M.—Service—Rev. George Smith, Choir and Congregation of Mt. Winans Baptist Church.

4:00 P.M.—General Dedication Hour. Platform Guests—Judge Robert B. Watts, Senator Verda Welcome, City Solicitor Hon. George Russell, Dr. Lillie Jackson, Attorney Juanita J. Mitchell, State's Attorney Milton B. Allen, Captain Dennis Mello, Bishop Winfield Showell and Many Others.

The Dedication Address Will Be Delivered By
CONGRESSMAN PARREN J. MITCHELL

CONG. PARREN J. MITCHELL

7:00 P.M.—The Gospel Musical Hour. All Choirs and Gospel Groups Are Invited. Bishop M. D. Norton, Sr., D.D., Pastor and Founder; Rev. Maggie L. Norton, Assistant Pastor; Mr. Earl M. Jordan, Church Clerk; Mrs. Ellen Pearson, Hon. Church Mother; Rev. M. B. Andrews, Mrs. Inez Martin, Ministers of Music.

Douglas Memorial Community Church
"The People of the Way"
LAFAYETTE and MADISON AVES.,
MARION CURTIS BASCOM, D.D.
Minister
JOHN MINOR DAY
Associate Minister
JAMES S. HAMMOND
Minister of Music

JANUARY 10, 1971
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Subject:
"A WORD ABOUT THE RULES OF THE ROAD"
Mr. Bascom, Preaching

MUSIC
8:30 A.M.
"HOLD ON"
Arranged by John Work
"JESU JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING" By Bach
11:00 A.M.
"HOW LOVELY ARE THE MESSENGERS"
By Mendelsohn
"ROCKING JERUSALEM"
By John Work
9:30 A.M.
CHURCH SCHOOL

Pitcher St. Church of Christ
Advocating Pre-Denominational Christianity
664 PITCHER ST. cor. FREMONT AVE.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1971
10:00 A.M.—BIBLE SCHOOL. Classes for ALL Ages
11:15 A.M.—WORSHIP SERVICE
7:00 P.M.—EVENING WORSHIP
HUMPHREY FOUTZ, Minister
Listen to "Hearing For Eternity"
8 A.M. Sunday, WEBB, 1360

Bishop Ellen Hodges Britton, D.D.
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