

(Norfolk & Portsmouth)

(file)
(Missy Ebert)

Emanuel (Script)

One of the graetest revivals in Portsmouth was conducted by the late Dr. J. G. Robinson, then Editor of A. M. E. Review sometime between 1921 and 1926. Lasted about 3 weeks. Packed church each night. Many conversions and especiall about 50 or more young people, who served as a neucleus # for an additional young peoples class for which Pop was the Leadr for a while. They had elected officers, gave special programs and added much to to the religious life of the church and community. J. G. also conducted revival in Norfolk later for Pop.

The unveiling of the baptismal fountain in Emanuel Church chancel was one of the highlights in Ports and the church. (Cannot remember the date) It was a Sunday afternoon with special musical program arrabged by Ora Churchill and others. Included an all male choir organized just for the occasion. (It was probably the first such baptismal fountain in a Negro protestant church in city, except maybe St. James Episcopl Church)

Pop was in a solo contest with late Rev. C. C. Somerville, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Ports. Pop sang "Somebody Is Calling My Name". It ended in a draw. Just a stunt by each church to raise money.

Madame Bruce, an Evangelist came from N. Y. on serveral occasions and put on religioue plays in Ports. using local talent.

Sermons

Only text I remember is "In The Year King Uzziah Died, I Saw The Lord", Isaiah 6:1

A favorite scripture was 53rd chapter of. Isaiah and also 91st Psalm.

Sermonette by Spwey

Anthems-----Portsmouth

"Listen To THE Lambs", Dett, Soloist Johnsie Churchill
"Lest We Forget, Soloist, Bessie Churchill Gibson
Of course Hiram Simmons' anthems were sung when he was Organist. Some other soloists there were James G. Norcom Sr., George Morgan, David Driver, Charlotte Nottingham Foreman, Lula Colley, Lillian Davis Morris, Gillian Bailey Malloy, -----Fisher(Charles brothe) Willie Mae Sanford, Lethia Tatem et al.

Anthems-----Norfolk

"Inflamatus", Soloist ---Ruth Epps-----
"O Clap Your Hands" by Simmens, Soloist, Mrs Chestina Griffin
"Seek Ye The Lord", Soloist, Gravette Carr

Many of Sommons compositions were sung at St. Johns also. when Leonard Liggins was Organist. Some regular soloists there were Harriet Brown Fulford, Sophronia Hamlin, Daniel D. Brown, Indiana Johnson, Oscar Johnson, Sr., and Alice harris Coston .

Biography (Postulate)
Concert Artists

Portsmouth

Helen Hagan, Pianist
Mary Church Terril, Woman's Day Speaker (date unknown)
Revedy C. Ransom, Men's Day Speaker "
W. Sampson Brooks

Norfolk

Roland Hayes
Marian Anderson
Wilberforce Quartette