Malones Have Martial Disagreement, To Divorce

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LOCAL PROGRESSIVE NEGRO MOVEMENT

(EDITORIAL)

OUR POWER or force and position in politics is petty indeed,—no united response or effort. Our business life or activity is the most ordinary of any city or town of one-half, or one-third the Negro population of ours in America,—all the lamented South surpasses us. There is no whole-hearted, united, sincere, response on anything, each man working by himself, and total disagreement as to any united action.

Fifty-thousand Negroes in Indianapolis these Negroes claim the same aspirations as any or all good Americans. Why not some influence, voice and status in politics? Why not some real honest to goodness business development? It costs 50,000 Negroes at the smallest figure $30,000,000 a year to exist. Who gets thirty millions of dollars spent by Negroes in Marion County Indiana every year? Probably the Jew gets it, the Protestant, Catholic or the Kluxer, anybody, and everybody. The Negro gets a pittance of the aggregate, a self indicting count. The same people who segregate, discriminate against, and abuse Negroes, wax fat on the thirty-millions spent annually by Negroes. These parties may be owners and renters of real estate, owners of groceries, and food selling stores and businesses, fuel dealers, or dry goods and clothing merchants, or even financiers and bankers, and at the worse officers and administrators of the law.

What are the Negro people of Indianapolis doing to offset the contribution they make to all the various possible anti-Negro elements? Fifty thousand Negroes should operate at least three substantial banks, several building and loan associations, contribute to several insurance companies largely, and other financial activities. They should operate clothing stores and any number imaginable, fuel yards, groceries, and the various inter-changeable businesses. We should have several at least two or three public hostileries (hotels) theatres and the like. We should underwrite the power and influence of 50,000 citizens in politics.

All these people should engage in all the commendable activities of 50,000 of any other citizens of the land But as a fact what, have we got to refute the finger of scorn of the Jew, the Gentile, the Protestant, the Catholic or the Kluxer? We have long faces in the presence of adversity, long tongues before the observers of evidence,—jealousy, envy, suspicion and mistrust among ourselves. The question or issue has been talked to a frazzle,—talking should have stopped in 1866.

There are 1,000 Negro men in Indianapolis, who will read this and pledge themselves as men to act—there is no need for idle talk, boasters, "doubting Toms" or the like. One thousand Negro men with sincerity of purpose in the course of five years can raise our Negro citizenry to esteem and blot out the sleeping sickness that chokes our progress.

The number may include day laborers, porters, chauffers, butlers, busness men, doctors, lawyers, teachers, preachers and any or all persons, sincere, honest and upright, who are interested in the progress and prosperity of Negro people. These men will support and co-operate with honest leaders, no particular few or individuals will aspire to rule, wreck or ruin the work at hand.

The purpose of the movement will be to organze at least one banks, one or more building and loan associations, and several of the other various financial institutions possible. The movement will build up a respect and support for general Negro business, and promote new business.

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POLICE SLAYER GOES ON TRAIL, FOR LIFE

Indiana vs Gene Alger For Murder Of Police, In Hendricks County

(By J. Ernest Webb, Recorder Staff Correspondent)

DANVILLE, Ind., Jan. 20th.—Gene Alger, the youthful desperado, who last July shot and killed John Buchanan an Indianapolis traffice officer, went on trial here Monday morning, January 17th. The case was heard before Judge Edgar Blessing, of the Hendricks County Circuit Court. The first three days of the trial have been taken up by the selection of a suitable jury to try the case. But up to noon today, a panel [illegible]

BULLETIN

DANVILLE, Ind., Jan. 20th.—The jury in the Gene Alger's Case, was obtained at 10:51 A. M. Mr. Judson Starks, deputy in the office of the Marion County Prosecutor, William H. Remy, opened the case for the State. Mr. Starks made a strong plea to the jury. He read the indictment to the Grand Jury, expained the law on murder charges and appealed to the discretion of the jury as to the serious of the charge and their obligation and duty. He talked for forty-five minutes on the facts, circumstances, and details of the case.

Rejection of Jurymen

The State's question. Have you any scruples or opinions against the inflictions of capital punishment? And the defense's question: On the law of self defense are the main obstacles encountered in the selection of a jury of 12 men to try the case. As a rule it would seem that most of the veniremen called are opposed to capital punishment, and more have been challenged by the State on this account than any other.

Mr. Humes of the State Counsel, does most of the questioning, and he appears to be a very able lawyer. Mr. Humes is an assistant to Mr. William H. Remy, the Marion County Prosecutor, who is also assisted by Mr. Judson Starks deputy prosecutor. The case was moved from Marion to Hendricks County and Mr. George K. Reibold, prosecutor of Hendricks County also assist in the case. Mr. John T. Humes is rated as one of Hendricks County's best so the State is well prepared with prosecution counsel.

Public Opinion Prejudiced

It appears that the public mind of Hendricks County is very much prejudiced on most points involved. The word "Nigger" is very much in use by spectators in the Court. The writer overheard one woman spectator say, "he is charged with killing a Nigger policeman over in Indianapolis. I do not blame him, for I would not let one arrest me if I could help it." One venireman, who was challenged stated he would not give a black man the same consideration as a white man.

Defense Wins Point

The defense won one major point of contention Monday, when Judge Blessing refused to uphold the objection of the State to this question, to prospective jurors. "Do you belive in the law of self defense." This question is interpreted by the prosecution as showing that the defense will attempt to free Alger, or secure a light sentence on the plea of invoked self defense.

It seems ther is a rule or law in Indiana, that a person being without fault and in a place where his right is unquestionably so far as an assailant is concerned, and who is attacked by another, and believes his life is in danger, may invoke the right or plea of self defense. But it appears that [illegible] person may not invoke an attack by his or her own act or deed. [illegible] interest is manifested in the Alger case by colored people of Indianapolis, and those who have kept up with the case are familiar with the facts.

Alger's Statement

At the time Alger was carried to the hospital, he made the following statement to the police officers,-it is stated. My name is Gene Alger, 18 year old, and I live at 1710 E. Ohio St. On the morning of July 9th, 1926, sometime after 9 o'clock, I went to the North side of the State House and I tried to steal a Chevrolet automobile. I was caught by the owner of the car, and this man took me to the corner of Capital Ave., and Ohio St., and turned me over to a colored police officer.

He took me to the tire store on the corner and as the officer called headquarters, I jumped up and ran out up Capitol Ave., to the Beyer Hotel. I entered this place by a rear window. I made the proprietor hide me in a closet. When the police came and opened th door, I fired. I then jumped out of a window and over a rear wall. As I jumped over the wall my revolver was discharged again. I then ran across Indiana Ave., and through an alley to Illinois St., where I jumped on an automobile, and here I was arrested.

On July 27th, the Marion County Grand Jury returned a true bill indicting Gene L. Alger on a charge of first degree murder. The penalty under the law of Indiana, is death or life imprisonment. The indictment charged that Alger murdered, traffic officer John Buchanan, July 9th feloniously, purposely, and with premeditated malice."

Wife of Slain Officer Denies Times Statement

The Indianapolis Times of 19th carried a statement in which the wife of John Buchanan was alleged to have said, "I would hate to see the boy sent to the electric chair; that would give me sorrow,—etc., expressing great sympathy for Gene Alger.

The writer presented the Times' item to Mrs. Buchanan, and the wife of the dead police officer positively and emphatically denied she made the statement to anyone. Another point of interest is the Alger's Counsel experienced very little difficulty in obtaining a change of venue, but who remembers the Shaw Case or the Wallace McCutcheon Case. It took the

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MAN CRAZED BY LIQUOR KILLS LADY

HORACE SMITH, colored, 1757 Boulevard Place, was held on a murder charge for fatally wounding Mrs. Blanche Johnston, [illegible] Allfree, on last Saturday evening. Smith ate dinner at the Johnston home about 5:30 P. M., on the evening of the shooting. He left the house in a car with the husband of Mrs. Johnston and went to 1757 Boulevard Place, it is reported. For a while he was in a store room near 1757 Boulevard Place. Smith is an uncle of Brs. Blanche Johnston's husband.

About an hour after finishing dinner it is said, Mrs. Johnston left her home at 2136 Allfree to visit Mrs. Hattie Fentress and Mrs. Nannie Smith both sisters of Horace Smith, and the aunts of Wm. Johnston, Mrs. Johnston's husband, who live at 1757 Boulevard Place. It is said Chas. Thomas of W. 13th St., who was employed in a restaurant operated by Mrs. Fentress was at 1757 Boulevard Place at the same time.

Horace Smith, who was crazed by the use of drink, it is alleged, entered the house of his sisters at 1757 Boulevard Place, and it is reported unmolested, began firing at Thomas. It is said he shot wild because of his condition, the first shot hitting Mrs. Blanche Johnston.

It is said after Smith shot Mrs. Johnston, he then fired at Thomas at close range striking him in the chest.

Smith then dropped his revolver and fled from the house on Boulevard Place, going to the home of the Johnstons' on Allfree Ave., where he hid under the bed of a sick brother of Mr. Johnston.

It is reported that Smith killed a woman in Louisville, Ky., a number of years ago under similar circumstances, having shot at a man and hit a woman. It i said for this offense he served 9 or 19 years in the Kentucky State Prison.

WHY PROGRESS

Will you respond to the call?

On the basis of the claims presented elsewhere here, do you think the Negroes of Indianapolis, the whole hearted opened minded unselfish few should attempt to get out of the rut?

What is your suggestion for a real forward movement among Indianapolis Negroes, anything practical. What will you contribute? What measure or steps do you think, might arouse all the people to united action? Do you think Negroes in Indianapolis ought to be progressive as Negroes in Chicago, Louisville, Atlanta, Memphis, Norfolk, Savanah or anywhere else. Send to The Recorder your written and signed opinion two hundred and fifty words or less. Any and everyone is requested to send in your plan.

In The News Of The Week

SLAIN OFFICER

JOHN BUCHANAN, who was slain last July by youthful gunman.

POLICE SLAYER

GENE ALGER, who smiles while the State fights that he forfeit his life.

WANTS DIVORCE

AARON E. MALONE, darling husband of the head of Poro College, who wants a divorce.

MRS. MALONE

MRS. ANNIE MALONE, who claims she picked up her husband, a second rate school teacher, and made him.

BOOSTERS' PROGRAM

The biggest treat of the season is offered for Sunday, Jan. 23rd. On this date Mr. F. B. Ransom will address the Men's Booster Club, on the subject, "The Political Outlook."

The members of the church and the ladies aer especially invited to hear Mr. Ransom speak on Sunday, Jan. 23rd. All are requested to be out at 3 P. M. The Boosters' Club promises as equally interesting treat from Mr. Ransom as the public received at the "Y" a Sunday or so past. And all who did not hear him at the "Y" are invited to attend.

H. L. Hummons To Head Medical Society

Dr. Henry L. Hummons, 2242 N. Capitol Ave., prominent physician and surgeon, was elected last Tuesday night to head the Aesculapean Medical Society, composed of Doctors and Dentists of this city.

Other officers elected were Dr. David, Vice-President, Dr. Young, Treasurer; Dr. Homer Waller, Asst. Secy.; Dr. Mary Hyatt Smith, Asst. Secretary.

NEGRO ATHEISTS IN CANADA

(By The Associated Negro Press)

TORONTO, Cana., Jan. 14th.—Religious life in this city has been stirred by the appearance of "The Christian Enquirer," a pronounced atheistic publication, and investigation has revealed its headquarters to be the Queen Street office of E. L. Cross, Toronto's only colored lawyer, and its compiler and publisher to be one R. V. Sterry of the same race.

PORO HEAD IS SUED FOR A DIVORCE

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 21st. (Special Dispatch to The Associated Negro Press) The rumors of a rift in the domestic affairs of America's wealthiest colored woman and her husband, which for several yea s have been a [illegible] St. Louis, and at times has [illegible] abroad, were brought to a focus last Thursday when Aaron A. Malone filed a divorce action here against Mrs. Annie Pope Turnbo Malone, his wife and proprietor of the famous Poro College. The case was set for next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Malone were married in 1914 after a romance in which Malone who had been a poor school teacher and later a book agent for the Bible Encyclopedia Company, won the hand of the most successful business woman, whom he had known since their childhood in Quincy, Ill., the town where both were reared. He was a bachelor with a reputation of being something of agallant among the fairer sex and having a flair for ladies well-to-do. His bride had been twice widowed by death.

Widespread condemnation of Malone's action in asking for the appointment of a receiver, thereby permitting white men not only to delve into the affairs of this successful racial institution and mulct it of large fees, the while observing its inside workings, is perhaps the loudest note

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Dr. H. Thurman Will Speak At Local Y.M.C.A.

Rev. Howard Thurman, Pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Oberlin, Ohio will be the speaker at the Monster Meeting next Sunday at 3:30. His subject will be "Christian who calls me Christian." This is Rev. Thurman's first appearance at the Monster Meeting, but he comes highly recommended. Mordecai Johnson says of him—"Rev. Thurman is unquestionably one of the keenest minds in the race today. He is a concecrated Christian leader, burning with a passion to serve his fellowman." The head of the department of Education of the University of Chicago where Mr. Thurman took his Master's degree referring to Rev. Thurman, said, that "his was one of the brightest minds that ever passed through his department."

At the recent Student's National Conference held at Milwaukee in Dec. Mr. Thurman was one of the invited speakers. From Indianapolis, he goes to Howard University to give the annual religious series of talks that have previously been given by Dr. Mordecai Johnson. Rev. Mr. Thurman is a protege of Dr. Johnson. He is a graduate of Syracuse University and also of Chicago University.

The musical program will be furnished by the Comet Orchestra and the Women's Quartett from Second Baptist Church composed of Mesdames E. Holden, Chas. Ray, Helen Jefferson, Florence Finley and Mrs. Josephine Wood at the piano.