lay, September 11th, 1931



beba, Abyssinia, - By his will Emperor Haile Selasyssinia, "Conquering Lion today stepped from the the world's absolute mongranted a Constitution to ts.

### First Constitution.

; from the throne at a eremony in the place, the innounced he had decidea sh a two-chamber Parliaresponsible Ministers to ts decisions henceforth, he e would rule Abyssinia in with the Constitution, in order to prevent future the crown would be seie present dynasty. istitution, he explained, Milment of an old wish not been fulfilled sooner the backwardness of the

### Ready for Progress

iny years, the Emperor ssinians have been isolathe world so that it was 'or the Emperor to govern er. But now such progen made as to enable them some share of the task we mmed alone. It is in this we have decided to inlegislative body of two the members of which ignated by provinces subconsent.

a must remain united like mily and will be governed peror in conformity with ution. In the future ev-Il be subject to law."

on or the development of , he promised, would be y scientific principles." e presence of foreign dip-Emperor signed the new which was countersigne Aslau, heir apparent, by Primate of Abyssinia, and ices and chieftains pres-58

1 gesture the Emperor inreign representatives, invspaper men, to sign the as witnesses.

### Appointment oward Univ'ty



# THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. IV., NO. 30.

LONDON, OCTOBER 30th, 1931.

## **B.M.E. CHURCH CELE-BRATES ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY**

L Jorana

### B.M.E. Congregation Marks Establishing of Faith in Canada.

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Diamond Jubilee Services of the establishment of the British Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada were held Tuesday, Sept. 29th in the B.M. E. Church, McDougall St., Windsor, at which city officials added their word of congratulation to those of visiting pastors and delegates from various parts of Ontario.

Organized by Former Slaves On September 29, 1856, descendants of fugitive Negro slaves, who since the early 1830's had flocked to Canada to take advantage of the protection of British justice, banded together and declared themselves ready to undertake the duties of carrying on a church among their people. They retained the name British in their title in honor of the reigning Queen Victoria, whose proclamation made it possible for slaves to live in freedom if they would take the oath of allegiance to the British Crown.

Throughout the years that have passed since then-leaders emphasized- the name British has been retained despite attempts to change it. "We honour this name," declared Rev. T. H. Jackson, speaking at the service on the history of the Church, "it gave our fathers the right to live in peace and equality. We shall always retain it." Mayor Croll. Commissioner Dayus, Charles E. Redeker and Roy R. Hicks spoke and congratulated the delegates on the success of their church and the attainment of their 75th anniversary. Many touching references were made to the pioneers of the B.M.E. Church in Ontario. The present superintendent and leader of the church, Rev. H. D. Wright of Brantford, is a former Windsor resident. His father drew the plans for the building in which the anniversary was held here on Tuesday. Mrs. Mary E. Ball 84-year old widow of the late Rev. R. A. Ball, a former pastor of the Windsor B.M.E. Church was present ovation as she was assisted to the aart Green is free. The beautiful plans for the future were could not tremendously brilliant. platform where she sang one of her girl who for three weeks has under- be learned. Close friends claimed Whittaker is a true artist. He gave

without assistance for any great distance, drew applause from the well filled church as she sang. Her voice was heard quite clearly and indicated her earlier ability as a singer.

Mayor Croll paid tribute to the work of the local pastor, Rev. F. O. Stewart, whose work he said the city appreciated. The B.M.E. Church and its work played an important part in the city's life, the Mayor pointed out. He hoped for them many successful years for the future. Arthur Holder, lyric tenor of Tor-

onto, held the attention of his audience with the excellent rendering of four selectioins, among which were two Negro spirituals. Among those who attended and took part from outside of Windsor, were: Gen. Supt H. D. Wright of Brantford; Rev. T H. Jackson of Toronto; Rev. C. A Johnston of Brantford; Rev. E. A. Richardson of London; Rev. L. C. Gow of Collingwood; Rev. J. T. Dawson of St. Catharines; B. J. Spencer Pitt, LlB., Toronto, conference solicitor; Rev. R. L. Bradby, W. C. Osby of Detroit, Mich. were among the visitors who brought greetings to the conference.

Mrs. F. Dawson, Miss G. Bell, Mr and Mrs. A. Nicholson and family were present from St. Catharines; Mrs. L. B. Jackson and daughter Marguerite, from Toronto; Miss R. Wilson, Guelph, Mr. P. Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Lucas and Mrs. C. B. Wright, Brantford, Mrs. E. Talbot and Mrs. Susan Johnson of Harrow and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Smith of Woodstock, Mrs. M. Drake and daugh ter Florence, London were also among the many who attended the celebration. Mr. H. W. Walker represented the local church. while from the first Baptist eetings Church and Tanner A.M.E. Church were brought by Mrs. M. Walker and Rev. S. T. Byrd, respectfully. The B.M.E. Choir, under the leadership of C. H. Ball, was in attendance and sang two anthems. Lawrence Millben, trombone soloist, played; E. A. Walker, B. A. McDowell sang. A vote of appreciation was extend ed to the local church and committee for the splendid entertainment given and for the serving of meals and etc.

# W. INDIAN SOPRANO RISKS JOB TO DEFY **CREATES FINE EFFECT SOUTHERN MOCKERY**

### More Vocal Gift than Roland Hayes-Astonishing in Beauty

### . . .

(By Augustus Bridle) The first negro coloratura soprano ever heard here gave a recital in orium last night-the first concert of a new season.

Modame Olive Norman is a West ndian. Both her parents were Negroes. All her lyric gifts came straight for generations from the black race. Her father is an amaeur singer; her mother not strongly musical.

Asked before she sang how she had come to learn the Mediteranean lyric style with not even Moors for ancesors, she said: "I have always wantknew what it was. But I began as a aught to me afterwards."

The recital, sometimes quite astonshing in beauty, delicacy and fugitive elusions of tone, proved that this born Negro singer has learned a great deal, has much yet to learn and, with much more vocal gift than Roland Hayes, has in a way imitated him in and plantation melodies into high

he trial table in the Court of General Sessions here wondering whether she would be convicted of kidnapping and face a possible sentence of fifty years, and who waited three hours vocal art. and thirty-five minutes for the jury to In her coloratura arias-"Car)

Harpers Ferry, W. Va., Oct 22-With such Negro notables as the Rev. George Bragg of Baltimore on the platform while United Daughters of the Confederacy heaped bittered reviling words on John Brown and his Negro followers in the very shadows three languages at the Eaton audit. of their graves, it took a courageous little brown woman, Miss Pearl Tatem, to rebuke the Southern rebels for their action, while listeners black and white, were struck dumb by her The occasion was the uncourage. veiling of a tablet to "honor" Heyward Shepard, a Negro who refused to fight for the freedom of his race, and the type of colored man he stood for, by the Confederate group. Many Negroes of non-descript types were on the platform. Present were the colored baggage porter of the Harpd to sing coloratura-long before I ers Ferry station on the platform to symbolize the Heyward Shepard type lyric singer. The Italian method was Also typifying the class of Negroes approved of was the Rey. George Bragg of Baltimore, who pronounced the benediction.

Price 5 cents

#### Could Stand No More.

In charge of the music at the direction of President McDonald of Storer College, was Miss Pearl Tatem, directress of the music department at struggling to get above "spirituals" the school. Mrs. Leopold Bashinsky, daughter of an Alabama rebel, had just finished telling her audience how she loved her old black mammy and how Robert Russa Moton typified the

Continued on Page 5

on, D.C. - Dr. Georgianteacher of Dunbar High, D.C. has been appointed rofessor, in German at iversity according to anby Dean E. P. Davis of of Liberal Arts. son received her public ation in the District of id in the Girls' Semiaary ermany; and was one of American Negro students road. :Is college work Harvard, Glark .... e University of Chicago. , ie graduate work at the If Paris and at the Uniours, France.

### Freed in Kidnapping

dow, slightly bent and unable to walk assault in white papers, who sat at away from New York to rest.

terful lawyer.

Her arrest shook the social circles In some of her English songs she of the east, where she and her hus- displayed natural beauty of tone colband and his family were prominent. or. Now and then she revealed touch Rumors that she had passed for white es of real humoresque, as in "The were dispelled, however, when she Lavender Song" by German. In her secured the services of Attorney Pope "spirituals" she was much too cultito defend her. Her acquittal came vated in style for such primitive as a welcome relief to her aged mo- songs. {Two of her finest numbers ther in Pennsylvania, who has insist- were "Villanelle" in French by Del ed on her daughter's innocence and Aqua-a remarkably vne-textured bit to her husband, who was instrument- of work-and "The Wren" by Beneal in securing attorney Pope to defend dict. in which, with Walter Whittaker

favorite hymns. The venerable wi- gone the strains of endless newspaper that she would seek some quiet place a classic finish to three of the arias.

ome in has finally been ecquitted. Nome," "Shadow Song," "Una Voce Much of the credit is due to her at- Poco Pa" from "Barber of Seville" torney, A A. Pope, who throughout and "The Wren" by Benedict- she the trial, displaying himself as a mas- created very beautiful effects, mainly by a marvellous softness of tone.

NEW'YORK, Oct. 22-Betty Stew- her. What Mrs. Green's immediate of Melba fame as flautist, she was