NEGROES PURCHASE CHURCH AND HOMES ON ENRIGHT AVENUE: SALE OF STONE

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Resident's blame White Congregation

Declares Negotiations to Sell

Building Brought About

Movement on Part of Negro Buyers.

Sale of the First United Presbyterian Church, a stone edifice, at the southwest corner Enright Avenue and Enright Avenue, to a negro congregation. In the face of protests from several white residents in the neighborhood, has been followed by the sale of several homes on Enright, between Enright Avenue and Enright Avenue, which was once one of the most attractive residential sections in the West End.

The fact that the church had been sold was confirmed privately to the News last week by the pastor, the Rev. H. L. McConnell, who said the deed was to be recorded next week.

Since that time, a negro gentleman, the Rev. J. E. Selma, formerly of Memphis, has purchased one of the four lots in the 410 block, and has reserved, the Rev. W. V. Turner, negro president, color, has bought another, at 415 Enright Avenue, neither of whichhe knows he has had any sort of promise before.

Many homes in the four blocks cost upward of $15,000—some of them more than twice that much, and most of the homes on the Avenue, have lived in them many years. They have a most solid appearance, and, in the opinion of the negroes, are all right in the street, but now, leaving of the sale of the church, they are offering their homes for sale to any body who will buy them.

White Congregation

Both the and the negro congregation are selling homes for the church, but the negroes claim that these homes cannot be purchased for the religious purpose, as they are worth several hundred dollars more than that.

The Rev. Mr. McCoun said Negroes had made several offers in the street before there was any talk of selling the church, but the only people willing to pay for any of them.

The only negro homes that are not ready to be sold are in the town house of the police commissioner, and a negro home a few blocks away. They have been offered for sale, but they cannot be sold.

When it became known, in October, that the church was to be sold, the negroes began to purchase homes to live in. They wanted to have a church, where they could meet to worship, and to have their children educated.

The negro congregation, who have been in the church for twenty years, are the first to buy homes. They have been looking for a church for a long time, and they are not willing to sell their homes.

The sale of the church has made a big difference in the town. The negroes are no longer willing to sell their homes, and they are no longer willing to sell their church.

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