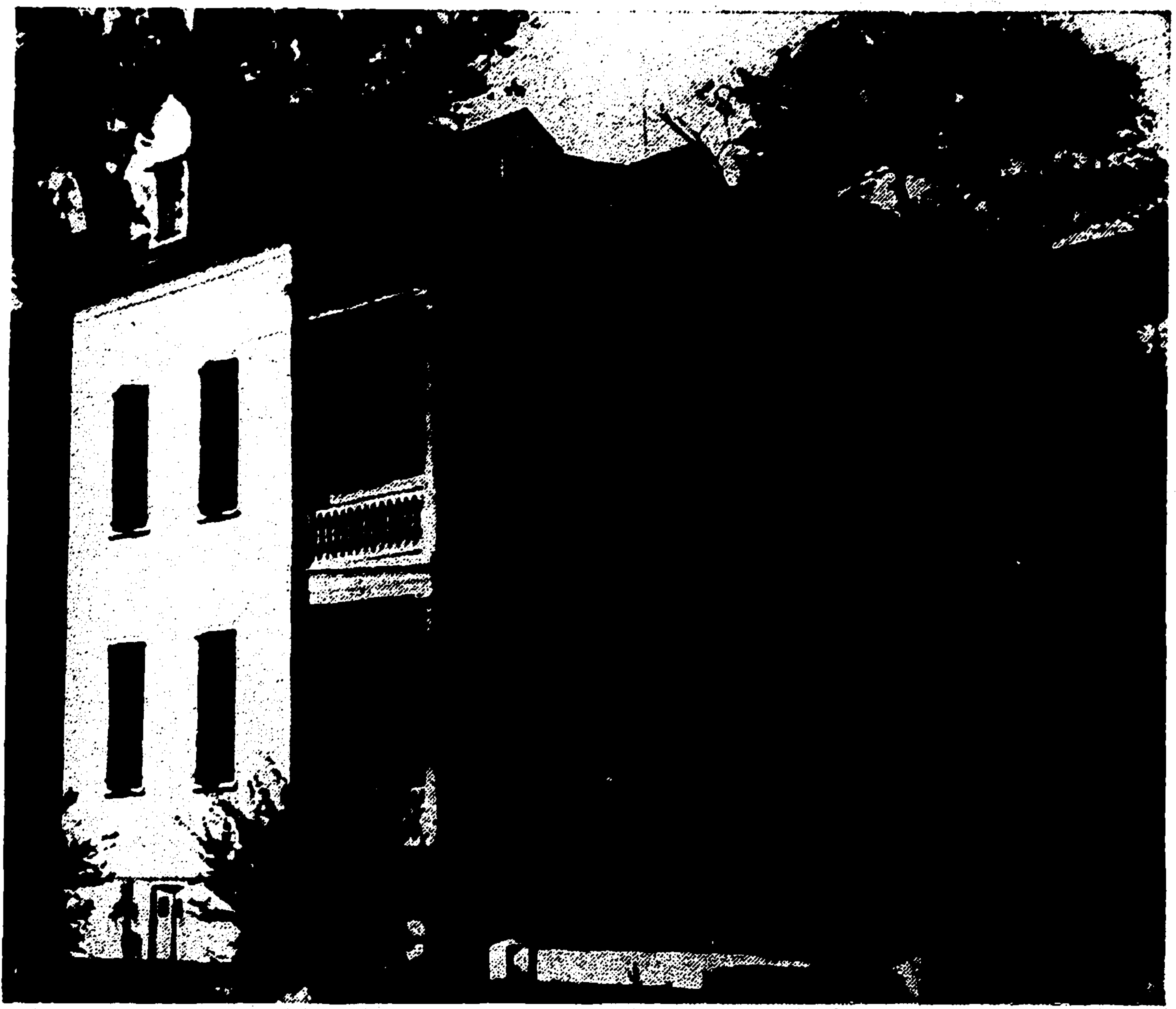


## Do You Know Your Charleston?

156 Rutledge Avenue



THE WILLIAM JOHNSON HOUSE, at 156 Rutledge avenue, is shown above. It now is the residence of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Wilbur. (Staff Photo by Peck.)

### NAVAL RESERVES NOW RECRUITING

Applications are Invited for  
Place in Third Fleet  
Division Here

Authorized to increase its strength to about 225 officers and men, the Third fleet division, United States naval reserves, now is accepting applications at its armory in Chisolm street, near the Ashley river.

Ensign F. J. LeaMond has been on active duty for several months, as recruiting officer. Lieutenant (jg) John Winn is commanding officer of the division, which is being trained for home defense work.

Officers of the division are awaiting specific orders for mobilization. They now are "standing by", following announcement by the navy department Saturday of the mobilization order. Officers say the division is ready whenever the specific order comes. The unit, on its last summer training cruise, was reported to have made an unusually good record.

As applicants, men between the ages of seventeen and twenty-eight years are wanted. Preferably they should be high school graduates. They must be of good moral character and physically fit. Twenty men have been recruited during the last week but vacancies still are available.

Technically qualified men who are past the age limit and who have had previous sea-going experience can be accepted. They come under Class V-6.

The local quota for Class V-7, which is being trained as officer material, was filled.

The recruiting office is open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

### THESPIAN CAST READY

Arrangements Finished for  
'Reserve Two for Murder'

Final arrangements have been made by the Thespian Players and their production staff for presentation of "Reserve Two For Murder" at the Victory theater tomorrow evening at 8:30 o'clock.

Against a background of mystery and suspense, the play will offer local mystery fans something new in the line of murders. During its original stage presentation last year at the Cherry Lane theater in New York, it baffled large audiences and won praise from the critics for its novelty. It also has screen and radio versions to its credit.

The local production is directed by Traynor Ferillo.

"Reserve Two For Murder" is a departure from the usual type of mystery play. It is said to combine "the best features of 'Hellzapoppin' and 'Charlie Chan in Greenwich Village'." Its palatial setting, a luxurious cyclorama of black velvet and silver jewel drapes, is considered the most elaborate set arranged for a Thespian play to date. With effective touches of gold, crimson and blue, the set is arranged to give a futuristic appearance that will provide an appropriate background for this offering.

Reserved seat tickets may be secured at the boxoffice before the performance.

"Reserve Two For Murder" will be the Thespian Players' opening production of the 1940-41 season. The cast includes Miss Billie Boze, James Mitchell, Mr. Ferillo, Miss Maybelle Witham, James G. Edwards, Miss Nell Barsh, Jack Franklin, Miss Frances McQueeney, Edwin May, Jr., Mrs. Bertha Santo Edwards, William J. Dickerson, Miss Leila Sircs, Miss Vyvian Williams and Irwin Weinberg.

### BRITISH SHIP TORPEDOED

Vessel Sent Down 600 Miles  
from Irish Coast

New York, Oct. 6—(U.P.): The 6,989-ton British steamer British General was torpedoed late today in the North Atlantic about 600 miles from the Irish coast, according to a wireless message intercepted by Mackay Radio corporation.

The message said the ship was attacked at 6:30 p. m. (Greenwich Mean Time) at 51.42 north latitude and 24.03 west longitude.

### William Johnson House, Near Doughty Street, Once Occupied by Justice — Thomas Bennett May Have Designed It

The white, clapboarded house at 156 Rutledge avenue, once the home of Judge William Johnson, conceals an elaborately ornamented interior behind a simple facade. Except for fluted piazza posts and a row of dentils under the eaves, the exterior has been left plain. By way of contrast, the inside shows an unusually lavish use of intricately designed stucco decorations.

Judge Johnson (1771-1834) became an associate justice of the supreme court of the United States when he was only thirty-two. He was appointed by President Thomas Jefferson. The judge and the president corresponded for years, one great bond being their mutual interest in agriculture. Even when Johnson wrote a decision which challenged Jefferson's authority in a matter connected with the embargo law, they did not quarrel. Another friend of Johnson's was President Madison.

As Johnson married Sarah Bennett, daughter of the lumberman and architect, Thomas Bennett, the idea naturally occurs that Bennett may have designed or, at least, have selected the decoration.

The house stands almost opposite Doughty street. It is built on the traditional plan of the Charleston single house, with its gable end and fronting on the street.

In recent years, an addition containing a large, airy dining-room has been built at the back, but in Johnson's day, the house had only four rooms, two on a floor, separated by the hall which contains the staircase.

In the front room of the first story, the stucco cornice consists of a double row of trefoil and a frieze with a graceful pattern, made up of festoons, urns and eagles. Each urn rises from between twin eagles, standing back to back, whose heads seem to form its handles. Designs with eagles were very popular during the early days of the American republic, and seem especially appropriate in the home of a member of the federal supreme court.

The room is further decorated by diagonally reeded bands which run around the tops and sides of the windows and are echoed on the mantelpiece, around the edges of the fireplace. This mantelpiece, the most elaborate in the house, shows both carving and Adam putty. On the central panel, two girls in classic costume hold up the ends of a leaf festoon, from the middle of which springs an urn containing a bush full of tropical fruit. Festoons and pairs of doves are on the side panels, while at each end of the mantelpiece is a gracefully draped woman accompanied by a child. As if to emphasize the decoration of the mantelpiece and cornice, the chairboard is plain.

Traditional Stairs Noted  
Across the hall, the original dining room has a similar cornice so far as the double row of trefoil is concerned, but its frieze is simpler, consisting of festoons and rosettes. A festoon of roses, accompanied by a flower basket, is seen on the mantelpiece. The old round-headed china closet, is divided into an upper and a lower section. Its shelves are cut in a curve and are very deep, capable of holding a great deal of china.

The second story is reached by a staircase which, following the old tradition, has right-angled turns and straight lines. In the second story hall, however, as if to foreshadow the curved banisters which were to come in Victorian times, the railing makes a shallow bend around the well of the staircase before ascending to the attic. On the ceiling, beginning in the lower hall, a stucco design of a vine with berries accompanies the stairs to the upper hall.

The upstairs rooms now are bedrooms, but that on the front may once have been the drawing-room, as it has the most elaborate cornice in the house. It projects several inches from the wall, and not only is decorated along the sides, but lozenges containing quatrefoils cling to its lower surface. Below this runs a frieze, reminiscent in style of the one with the eagles. Here, however, medallions, each containing a human figure several inches high, alternate with winged griffins and arabesques. The mantelpiece shows gouge work and reeding.

Tin Gives Burglar Away  
The other second story room has an unobtrusive but carefully work-

ed trefoil cornice, with beading and fret-work. Its mantelpiece, unlike the others, is very simple, but its well-balanced proportions are pleasing.

Not so many years ago, the upstairs piazza was floored with tin. This caused the undoing of a burglar who climbed up there, for his footsteps made so much noise that he woke up the family and was discovered. On another occasion, an intruder who had invaded the second story fled before the jaws of the policedog.

The attic is floored with broad cypress boards, one of which measures fourteen and a half inches across. The whole house is sturdily built and has changed little since Judge Johnson lived there. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Wilbur.

KITTY RAVENEL.

### Mrs. O'Brien Named Program Secretary

Fall Plans Made for Sunday  
School Work at Second  
Presbyterian Church

The Sunday school of the Second Presbyterian church yesterday entered upon a new fall session planned for a successful year.

Among the changes announced was the appointment of Mrs. Harry H. O'Brien as program secretary, in charge of planning and arranging programs for special events observed during the year. These include Rally Day, October 19, Thanksgiving and Christmas. In addition to arranging special programs Mrs. O'Brien will assist in arranging the weekly departmental workshop programs.

For the last several years Mrs. O'Brien has acted as superintendent of the intermediate department, a post which has been assumed temporarily by Hall T. McGee, Jr., who has served as secretary of this department. John McKnight, assistant physical director of the Y. M. C. A., was introduced as a new teacher.

Goals which have been set for Rally Day are an attendance of 350 and an offering of \$100, which will go for Sunday school extension in the area served by the Southern Presbyterian church. Features of the Rally Day exercises will be warding of attendance pins to members who have not missed during the year and the presentation of a program, "The Romance of Rally Day", under the direction of Mrs. O'Brien.

The Rev. Dr. S. Hugh Bradley is minister of the church and Roy M. Zeigler is superintendent of the Sunday school.

### TWO HURT IN WRECK

Red Top Youths Injured  
in Auto Crash

Allen White, twenty-two years old, and his cousin, Elijah, twenty-six, both of Red Top, were injured yesterday morning when the automobile they occupied left the road and piled into a wire pole.

Both were taken to Roper hospital for treatment. Allen suffered lacerations and abrasions of the right arm and leg and Elijah suffered lacerations of the face and left arm. Both were discharged from the hospital after treatment.

### News of First V As Reported

Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States, announced his engagement to Mrs. Norman Galt, of Washington, according to a Washington dispatch in The News and Courier twenty-five years ago today. The wedding date was not announced but it was said that it probably would be in December.

In Panama, Major General George W. Goethals announced he had withdrawn his resignation as governor of the Canal Zone, which was to have become effective November 1.

The Serbian, Russian, French,