VOL. XLVIII.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JAN. 7, 1926

NO. 1.

THE CHURCH'S MISSION

(An Editorial from The Charlotte Observer.) Millions of people on the first, happening to the

Sabbath of the New Year will thought of the youth gather in the churches of this land. country for one purpose and another. Ostensibly all, or the church, many from the popular-greater portion, of those who atthe purpose of worship or for institutions, struck out fearless the purpose of obtaining inspily at the church as at present ration, and in very fact it is operated, and at old fashioned other than sincere motives.

the church is the greatest institution in our land, despite all the ravings of all its critics and slanderers. There are more good people in the church than outside and more bad people. "The church lacks courage in the church might occupy to be the church might occupy States is higher than the averside the ranks of church memis in good company—at least be found in this world-after the meeting. all that is done and said about may infest the church.

church out of any community eye of a needle than for a bishand few people who are really op or a church official to be a worth while could be attracted Christian," a clergyman told as new citizens of such com- the students in his address. munity. Even the man who is not a church man and never ed this shot: "The church is goes inside of a church, if he is frittering away its energies and a success in any line of worth- resources in futile denominawhile activity, if he is the type tional rivalries which never of man that chambers of commerce make efforts to get for long since lost that significance. their cities, would not care to Costly buildings,

amount of your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. This obligation rests upton your church would be if every members. The vivid simplicity and pathos of this "Incident" is fairly indicative of church." How strong your church would be if every members. The vivid simplicity and pathos of this "Incident" is fairly indicative of church. This obligation rests upton your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. This obligation rests upton your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. This obligation rests upton your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. This obligation rests upton your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. This obligation rests upton your payment it can but cause embarrassment to him. They are sometimes called "the pillars of the cident" is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of this "Incident" is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the cident" is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of the country is fairly indicative of church. all these attacks are without deal with the race problem be- gation, and should any of your you could be counted on al- Heart-filled, reasonable ground. To be sure cause it knows it will tread on members fail in their expected ways. the church has its faults. In someone's toes. It assumes an contribution, you, as a congrenot fulfilling its mission. In too war and militarism as the tool from any part of your obliga bership of the churches is too a war-like spirit directly opmuch interested in handsome posed to the teachings of Jebuildings and elegent furnishings and not enough interested "Too many eccle in the religion of the church's dentists have been pulling the ful for the honor of religion and law more than the religion and the religion Great Founder. In too many teeth of Jesus' words until they his comfort among you. There cases, perhaps, the individual don't upset anybody," a church-are times when most of us have with them. During the readmembers of the church are man told the students. He demore interested in what they plored the great building prowear to church than in the gram of churches estimated in quality of his or her heart.

the world's progress, that it is cent place in which to say behind the times, that it has not something and will have nothkept up with the advancing ing to say. ground there seems to be some that the church would change of religion." What does that devoted to it, he will feel it is thing of widespread revolt among the young people of the ments which the student leadcountry, even the denominational colleges, supposed to be citadels of fundamentalism and guardians of the orthodox in religion. Many of these young people, students in church colleges, are championing new views of the mission of the church.

Oliver Sherman, special correspondent of the Consolidated will be observed by all denomi- gion. Press Association, in a copynations in the United States Now, what are your duties may say to your neighbor, right dispatch from Evanston, and Canada on the first Friday in a social way? That your pas-"Rather a dull sermon today." Illinois, tells us that the thous- in Lent, Feb. 19. Mrs. Helen tor may serve you to the best You are criticising the Word of and representative students Barrett Montgomery is the au- of his ability, he should know Life as spoken by the servant To catechism by a mind too from most of the church col- thor of the program, entitled you-know your strength and of your God, and you are probleges, who spent several days of the past week "taking healthy wallops at hide-bound when "Prayer and Missions" by reversing their in the program, entitled your strength and of your God, and you are proposed as individuals ably implanting a thought in and as a community. He can the mind of your neighbor never know you intimately from which will render him indifferreligious ideas" during their in-ter-denominational meeting Mrs. Montgomery is one of the casual conversations before or ter-denominational meeting current study books, to have her after church or on the streets. there, gave the cue to what is prepare the program.

religious

These coming leaders of the tend church services, do so for of Bible schools and religious doubtful that any large portion of the millions who go to church today are actuated by other than sincere motives.

But none of the speakers despaired of the church or of religion. Rather they indicated the field which The church is the greatest in the church might occupy to bet-

outside than in the church. The dealing with industrial probaverage quality of all the people lems and has shown an undue that make up the membership fondest for the capitalist order of the churches in the United of society. It has side-stepped or white-washed the race quesage quality of all the people out- tion and has failed to create a sentiment of racial brotherbership. The church member hood. It is un-Christian in its attitude toward war," one stuthe very best company that can dent leader declared, addressing

"The church too often is a the shortcomings of the church perfume to obscure the stench people and after making due dis- of social life. It is the victim count for all the hypocrites that of the Roman genius for organization so that today it is easier Take the influence of the for a camel to go through the

A girl student speaker direct had deep significance or have printing any community plants, colleges, are set up by

church has its faults. In someone's toes. It assumes an gation, are in no wise relieved what is your duty? I charge Keep looking straight at me.

the neighborhood of five hun-One of the grounds of modern-dred million dollars for the last day attack upon the rch is year. As a result the church that it has not kept step with will have a perfectly magnifi-

ers set up. Churchmen, instead of being shocked by the student expressions, expressed pleasure that the students are thinking seriously of modern problems.

TO PRAY FOR MISSIONS FEBRUARY 19.

A day of prayer for missions you, your churcch or your reli-

CHURCH CHARGE

Made by Mr. Teames Gettys at the installation of Rev. T. B. Hay at Ridgeway, S. C., and published by request of Congaree Presbytery. Reprinted from The Presbyterian

ing upon an ordained minister spiritual obligations: You have gone conclusion that you will as the pastor of this congrega-tion. How great the effort up-on his whole future career may be the success of this, his first ministry, and how earnest we should be in our endeavors to should be in our endeavors to encouragement, and I believe no wish your pastor to succeed, if make it a success, not only for greater encouragement can be pray for it, you will do all that

spiritual obligations. Let us to be present to take your part consider them in the order in that transaction. How named.

promises you have made today.

The man who is desired as a ful duplication."

a stated competence that he may literate the first and the country of a civic club, as a "It is time the church tackled be free from worldly cares and the country of a civic club, as a "It is time the church tackled be free from worldly cares and the country of the free from worldly cares and the country of the free from worldly cares and the country of the free from worldly cares and the free from worldly cares and the country of the free from worldly cares and the free from the free from worldly cares and the free from member of a fraternal order, or the problem of eugenics," a Bi- avocations, and to continue that would encourage him more? even as a citizen of a communi- ble school student and leader that competence during his mineven as a citizen of a community, in an overwhelming majority of cases at least has a wholety of cases some respect for the church and not be fulfilling its mission un- be met as business obligations would not care to live in a city til it has birth control clinics, are met in the business world. would not care to live in a city til it has birth control clinics, at life business world. There are usually in every con-where its influence is unknown. psychiatric service which will be paid as promised. There are usually in every con-traction two or three man and son of a Negro In these latter days, however, assist its people with their be- Your pastor's business affairs gregation two or three memthe church is on trial. Tremen-havior problems and thus make dous attacks are being leveled possible a healthier and happier with the church is on trial. Tremen-havior problems and thus make are arranged on the supposition places and who can always be colored people. The vivid simpossible a nealthier and nappier you fail either in the time or counted on. They are sometimes plicity and pathos of this "Infurnish him, in addition, with words of the song in your book mands made upon us, and it is with attention and reverence, Of all the things that happened tor will need financial assistance ing the sermon look your pasbeyond his stipulated salary. If tor in the eye, let him know to come to his assistance at such that he has your sympathetic times. Further, you have agreed understanding. However go may be needful for the "honor much hard work he may have I doubt not God is good, wellthat the church would change phrase, "the honor of religion," a failure if he looks out over its course and meet the require-include—what does it mean? I his congregation and sees one support should be such that some looking out of the winfellow men which is worthy of church a discouraged man. his high calling. Your support charge you, therefore, it is your should not be so meager as to re- duty to give him your earnest Is baited by the fickle fruit, dequire him to live in a manner attention. which will bring reproach upon

He should be invited to your He will come to church next

You have heard the charge to your pastor with regard to his duties to you, and now it becomes my duty to charge you as to your obligations to him as your pastor. As it happens, your pastor. As it happens, your pastor is also my pastor, and I may, therefore, speak the more freely and frankly, because the obligations of which I shall remind you are the same obligations which I feel are upon me and my church.

We have as our pastor a young man who is just beginning his first ministry. It is true he is not without experience as a preacher and that he has been twith us in that capacity for some time, but it is today, for the first time, he has assumed those serious obligations resting upon an ordained minister as the pastor of this congregation to the first time, he has assumed those serious obligations resting upon an ordained minister as the pastor of this congregation to more and the provided the provided the provided the provided the provided to the provided the prov

make it a success, not only for his sake and the sake of our church, but for the sake of God's work here on earth.

It seems to me that your duties to your pastor may be conveniently grouped under three heads—your business or worldly obligations, your social obligations, and your religious or conveniently leading to the present to take your part to the pray for it, you will do all that you can to make him succeed. So, I charge you that it is your duty to honor him, to respect him and to pray for him.

"A CREDITABLE BOOK OF POEMS."

(From The Birmingham News.)

uld your pastor feel if on the Your business obligations are outlined in your call and in the promises you have made today. The promises you have made today. a stated competence that he may member of their families with he was succeeding in his work.

to furnish him with whatever his sermon may be, however believe that it means that your asleep here and another there, your pastor may always main- dows with their thoughts far tain that appearance among his away. He will go out of the

> you will refrain from criticism. As you go out of church you

Sunday expecting a dull sermon. Your vow today is to receive with meekness the Word of Truth as spoken by your pas-tor. A spirit of meekness, I believe, implies a spirit of earnest attention, a spirit of obedience. Meekness can never carry with

Countee Cullen, whose volume of verse, "Color," comes from the Harper Press, is singing musically and very appeal-

whether it springs from the would feel that that blind alleys of the Negro poor Cullen, a child of New York's

obligations. Your promise is to cannot sing, you can follow the And so I smiled, but he poked rights is likely to have epochal out

there. That's all that I remember.

And again there is the minor strain in the beauty of "Yet Do I Marvel," but with a more am-

bitious setting: meaning, kind,

And did he stoop to quibble could tell why The little buried mole continues blind,

Why flesh that mirrors Him must some day die, Make plain the reason tortured Tantalus

clare And when the service is over, If merely brute caprice dooms Sisyphus

struggle up a never-ending Inscrutable His ways are, and marily a mysticism, but a lifeimmune

With petty cares to slightly understand

What awful brain compels his awful hand. Yet do I marvel at this curious thing:

To make a poet black, and bid him sing!

Countee Cullen was born in May, 1903. Every poem within the covers was written before his twenty-second birthday. He his twenty-second birthday. He won his first recognition as a poet while in high school—a prize offered by the Federation of Women's Clubs. While a student at New York University he was elected to the Phi Bets Yang. In his scandomare year Kappa. In his sophomore year he took second prize in the Withe took second prize in the ter Bynner intercollegiate poetry contest; in his junior year he won second prize again, and in his senior year he carried off first prize. He was recently awarded the Amy Spingarn prize for poetry in the contest conducted by The Crisis.

Within the past two years his verses have made their way into the best magazines; and now his first book appears, striking evidence of the growing the growing achievement of his race in the field of letters. In his work are tenderness and passion, humor and scorn, and a quite delicate and appealing lyrical quality rarely found in these latter days. And if a day may be judged by its morning, the young black poet will do bigger and better work.

AMERICAN NEGROES EN-TERING A NEW DAY.

The fact that every tenth

American is a Negro makes the American colored man, by sheer

numbers, one of the most important factors in American life. Fortunately for both Negro and white, the progress which the colored people have made since emancipation is one of the re markable achievements of the modern era. Negro illiteracy s Paul has been reduced since the clo Since art is art and beauty cent to somewhat less than 20 per cent, though in some of the backward communities of the South it still reaches the fifty per cent mark. But the recent heavy migration North has awakened even these sections, and they are hastening to provide for the Negroes educational facilities and economic opportunity, hitherto vigorously denied, in a degree at least partially commensurate with that afforded the white population. Some States, like North Carolina, have revolutionized their budgets, and for the first time now hold out promise that at least a common school education is available for all children, Negro as well as white. On the 11,000,000 Negroes in the Unitmany cases, perhaps, the mem- of the Government for creating tion. I charge you further, the pate in every part of the woracknowledgement of their

In one field Negroes have made a substantial advancement of which white people in general have little knowledge. It is the field of agriculture. Most of the contacts between the races being commercial, white persons usually think of Negroes in terms of porters, luggage carriers, waiters, house servants and unskilled laborers. They little realize the number of bankers, lawyers, physicians, nurses, teachers, ministers, artists, editors and social workers among the Negroes. The number of trained Negro men and women devoting their lives to arts, science and music, and the various professions is amazing. And often their skill has been achieved at acute sacri-

Likewise in religion the Negroes advance. The old primitive emotionalism of plantation life is passing out, and a new conception of Christianity as it is—not a superstition or priis coming in. An educated ministry is being developed. Substantial church buildings, equipped for social work as well as for worship, are being erected. With developing intelligence and advancement in the economic scale, the Negro's

(Continued on page 2)