

The Afro - American Presbyterian.

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All questions arising under the various subjects above indicated are addressed from a Christian point of view. Each number contains the freshest and best news from the Southern field and from the Church at large. There is carefully selected material suited to all classes of our people—the farmer, the mechanic, the artisan and the professional man.

The Sabbath School and Missionary cause will receive special attention.

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Entered at the Postoffice at Charlotte, N. C., as second class matter.
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1926
A NEGRO PIONEER MERCHANT CHANT.

Mr. W. E. Evans, a veteran merchant of Laurinburg, N. C., celebrated his fortieth anniversary in business December last. This long, successful business career of Mr. Evans clearly demonstrates the fact that the Negro is capable of succeeding in any business as well as in other lines of occupation. His store was said to be the oldest business house in Laurinburg and a large part of his patronage is white. His sales in 1925 were around one hundred thousand dollars. In a letter from Mr. Evans we quote the following: "These long years have been arduous and self-sacrificing, and at times, sad and discouraging, yet I pushed through them all. In reviewing the past and considering the frailty of man, I conclude that no man, rich or poor, should so bow over his desk or counter, farm or avial, as to lose sight of the judgment day, the cross and the grave. I feel that the perpetuation of the Evans White Front Department Store, the responsibility should devolve on younger men. To that end I am writing you to ascertain if you know any young men with whom I could form a corporation and thus reduce the direct burden of my responsibility."

Here is an opportunity for young, educated Negro men desiring to enter mercantile business to begin their career under most favorable conditions.

ALBION ACADEMY NOTES; AND AN APPEAL.

The winter is almost gone and the young and old folks are blooming out for the spring and summer. As to enrollment and work done, Albion will close in May, 1926, one of the most prosperous years. The fire last November destroyed our chapel building and forced us to work on the campus. The noble God made no complaint. But the bad weather almost exacted the life of the Principal. We are today a little more comfortable in our paper house. The saw dust floor is a little soft and damp, but so much better than the open court. We sorely need a combination building for classroom and chapel. This appeal is for sympathy and help. April 6, 1926 has been designated as a special day of prayer for Albion Academy. The Women's Societies and all other gatherings on that day or some other more convenient hour could be spent very wisely and profitably in

prayer to our God for Albion and her needs.

We need a double portion of common sense, a deeper work of grace, a large distribution of personal honor and individual responsibility to the ideals of life. Next to these we beg to be made comfortable. Take us out of the weather. We are cold. We believe in prayer. We wish the whole Presbyterian Church to make Albion Academy a special object of prayer. This is our 34th year here in this work and when the mantle falls, as surely it must fall, we wish to leave a glorious heritage—not the old hardships to endure, but lines in pleasant places.

Sincerely,
J. A. SAVAGE.
Franklinton, N. C.

MILLER MEMORIAL CHURCH NOTES, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

The spiritual interest of the church is growing each week. Members are becoming more and more consecrated each time they hear a sermon by the pastor, Rev. Wm. Sample. He puts thought, energy, humor, emotion and theology, as the case requires, into each sermon, which never fails to reach the mark it is intended to reach. Old members are being revived and new ones taken in. Since the arrival of Rev. Sample seventeen members have been added to the church.

The Ladies' Missionary Society presented a pageant, "Christ in America," at the 11 o'clock hour Sunday. This pageant has attracted much attention throughout the churches of the city. The ladies have carried this pageant to several churches, among them the Congregational, Temple Baptist, and Mission's Tabernacle A. M. E. Zion church. Neat sums of money have been collected, which will go to pay the missionary quota.

The every member canvass of our church will be launched Sunday, March 21. It is hoped that each member will make a liberal pledge to both the church and benevolence.

The Men's Progressive Club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Tanner. The meeting was largely attended. For several meetings the men have discussed "Stewardship," and the "Every Member Canvass." The discussions are interesting and full of zeal for the church. With Mr. B. L. Greer, President; Mr. W. M. Parrish, Secretary; and Mr. E. D. Bolden, Treasurer, the club is rendering valuable service to the church and is adding much to the development of the social side of the church. It is hoped that other men may come into the club and help to do better work. At the close of the meeting the hostess, Mrs. A. S. Tanner. The meeting menu of chicken salad, peas, hot rolls, pine apple, ice cream and cake. The next meeting will be held at the home of Dr. R. B. MacLin, at which time "A Church Paper in Every Home" will be discussed.

The Sunday school rally was ended with a musical. Members from other churches appeared on the program. The rally was in the form of a contest between the Reds with Mrs. L. A. Bolden, captain, and the Blues with Mrs. L. C. Curry, captain. The Blues won the contest with \$18.56, while the Reds had \$16.35. The grand total was \$34.91. The amount will go on the electric bulletin board which has been placed on our church front.

One day in each month is known as Fuel Saving Day on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad at which time a conference is held at some point of the system to educate the colored firemen. These conferences are conducted by the officials of the system. Through the efforts of Mr. E. F. Roberts the last conference was held in our school building. The General Manager, Fuel Supervisor, Superintendent, Master Mechanic and other local officials were present. A few minutes were given for the assembling of the student body who sang and recited Bible verses and the Catechism. Talks were made by the officials. Mrs. W. J. Harris was asked to give a brief outline of the work and at the close of her talk the officials made an offer-

ing of \$6.80 for the school. They enlisted their aid for whatever we may see fit in the future.

A prize of five dollars has been offered by the Sunday school to any member of the church who brings the largest number of visitors to church or Sunday school for the first quarter. Each Sunday our church is filled with members and visitors.

MRS. E. F. ROBERTS,
Reporter.

A NEGRO LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

(From The Charlotte Observer)
It was in Durham, 23 years ago, that the first Negro Life Insurance Company in the State was organized, under the management of Dr. A. M. Moore and John Merrick, and we can well remember the encouragement and assistance given it by General Carr and other leading citizens of that community. Through all the subsequent years this Negro company has had this same line of assistance, with the added asset, as accomplishment justified, of confidence. The company began business on April 1, 1899, without capital stock. It has now developed assets of \$2,750,471.66. These assets belong solely to the policy holders. The company's loans to Negroes on real estate and life insurance policies amount to \$1,433,518.05. The insurance in force is \$44,326,283. The total income for the year 1925 was \$2,157,381.29, and total payments to policy holders was \$802,134.51. This is a regular old line insurance company operating on legal reserve basis and now operates in the States of North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Oklahoma and Alabama. It now lays claim to being "the largest Negro Life Insurance company in the world." In Durham it owns and occupies a six-story, fire-proof building, which cost \$250,000, and it stands as an example of the progress of the Negro in the material things.

MT. TABOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Since October we have had the pleasure to worship and serve in some of the churches in Washington, D. C. One church particularly has made an impression on the mind of the writer as well as the minds of the people of Washington—the Mt. Tabor Presbyterian church, organized by Rev. R. A. Fairley.

The writer has not attended a church in Washington where the spiritual feeling of friendliness has been felt as keenly as it was when crossing the door sill of Mt. Tabor church and Sabbath school. The credit for this should go to Rev. R. A. Fairley, under whose nurture Mt. Tabor is producing fruit.

We were surprised when we went on our first visit to see such a gathering. When we say gathering we do not mean a handful of people with just a few children, but a large number of mothers, fathers, young men and women as well as the children. Some of Washington's best people are members of Mt. Tabor. As a young church one is surprised at the success that has been attained.

Having known the pastor as a schoolmate and during that period having been in constant contact with him, we knew him as a quiet, unassuming young man. Having gone from the portals of Biddle and entered Lincoln Theological school, where he equipped himself for this sphere of labor, he has shown in his work the spirit of the Biddle bull and the fight of the Lincoln lion.

It is unfortunate that the ministry has not more such young men as Rev. Fairley. He is giving his best, not only to Mt. Tabor, but to Washington, and, above all, to God. Too much praise and credit can not be given to Rev. Fairley.

The following reference to Mt. Tabor church was taken from "The Washington City Presbyterian," a weekly paper published under the auspices of the Washington City Presbytery: "In giving a list of the church-

es in our first issue we accidentally overlooked the name of our newest Presbyterian church, Tabor, now holding its services in the 12th Street Y. M. C. A.

"This congregation, under the active leadership of its pastor, Rev. Richmond A. Fairley, is looking about now for a larger and more suitable location. Tabor is ministering to a very large section of our colored population and in this service has the valuable help of several students of Howard University. It affords a splendid opportunity for the men of high purpose at Howard, both in the University and in the School of Religion, to gain experience and training in Religious and Social Service in a great city, and to perform a valuable work besides."

J. D. MARTIN, JR.

SHADY SIDE NOTES, LEXINGTON.

On the fourth Sunday in February Rev. W. M. Wyatt, of the Summer Hill Baptist church, of this city, preached for us at 11 o'clock. The Scripture lesson was read by Rev. Anderson and prayer was offered by Bro. J. M. Hargrave, of the Baptist church. "Praise Jehovah's Name" was sung by the choir.

Rev. Wyatt's text was taken from Gal. 6:1-12, theme, "The Christian's Restoration." "If a man be overtaken in a fault ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness." It was a powerful sermon. The speaker made plain our duty to our fellowman.

In the absence of the pastor last Sunday morning the prayer service was led by Elder R. B. Bitting.

We are very sorry to note that Rev. Anderson has been confined to his room for several days on account of illness. We hope he will soon be out again.

A visitor in the midweek prayer service was Miss Thenia Smith, one of our faithful members, who is making Winston-Salem her home now. She never fails in her duty to her church here.

Mrs. W. G. Anderson, who spent some time in Wilmington visiting her sick sister, is with us again. We as well as our pastor are glad to have her back.

The Ladies' Missionary Society is planning a series of entertainments for the benefit of the church. The first was a play, "The Minister's Wife's New Bonnet." On the first of April there will be an educational program and bazaar, also the sale of a quilt to the highest bidder.

"BEE."

REID'S S. S. MISSION, DANVILLE, N. C.

By Mrs. Ada Reid

Our little Sunday school has taken a new step under the great leadership of Mr. L. W. Ellis as Superintendent, one that we feel needs special notice throughout the Presbytery of Catawba. For five successive Sabbaths we as a school have listened to him on the different lesson subjects and they have been beautifully pictured, all of which we must attribute to his knowledge of Teacher-Training gained under Prof. I. M. Martin, S. S. M. and Rev. Shirley, Synodical S. S. M., each being a great friend and supporter of our Superintendent.

Sunday at 3 o'clock Rev. L. J. Melton, D. D., pastor in charge of the work at Cedar Grove church, visited us with a representative number and took our Sunday school under the session of Cedar Grove church, and made arrangements to preach for us as often as possible this summer.

Dr. Melton is known abroad for his work as a minister and pastor and we believe with the present prospects things are going to go in the next ecclesiastical year. At least, we hope so.

The Easter Program is already on the way. Many of the children are ready now to say their recitations.

In closing we ask for the prayers of each Christian that we may have the blessing of God and the continued interest of Dr. Melton, Rev. Shirley and Prof. Martin until we shall have won every soul in this community.

ST. JAMES CHURCH GREENSBORO

By Mrs. S. W. Carter.

Sunday morning Rev. H. C. Miller spoke from Isaiah 88:1-5, using the subject, "The Reprieve of Hezekiah." The speaker by way of introduction showed how from a bad father and good mother came a noble son. He also asked: which exerts the greater influence over the child, father or mother?

A man's goodness does not exempt him from trials, neither does his badness necessarily subject him to immediate evil or punishment. When the message came to Hezekiah. Set thine house in order for you must die and not live, on reviewing his life this king found that he had walked in the ways of God. How stands our case, should such a message come to us today? Some of us have been cheating God all this year. Some have been cheating Him of time, some of tithes, yet God sees and knows.

Continuing, the speaker said: "There are some sad thoughts in connection with death; the saddest is, when the man is not prepared to meet his God."

The speaker then told of the message of hope, "I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears." This message comes to men today who are passing through trials.

In spite of the slippery streets there was a fair sized audience out at the morning service.

The Sunday School was well attended, considering the weather. The banner for finance went to Earnest Workers, while J. R. Nocho class received the banner for attendance.

Mrs. S. B. McBryer is much improved at this writing. She is with her brother, Mr. Lee Waugh, at Hannah.

Mrs. Georgia Caldwell has come home from St. Leo Hospital where she underwent an operation a few weeks ago. She hopes to be out in a few days.

The Missionary Society met with Mrs. Chase Brown last Thursday. The principal business was the appointment of committees on homes for the coming presbytery. Delicious refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

Rev. and Mrs. L. M. Onque spent part of the day with Rev. and Mrs. Miller last Monday. They were enroute home from Mocksville.

Dr. Sevier gave a brilliant and instructive lecture on the possibilities of Africa Sunday night in St. James church. He exhibited many beautiful things made by the natives of Africa.

Mr. S. W. Carter and Dr. W. L. McNair have been enjoying themselves at Hot Springs for the past month. They are expected home within the next two weeks.

The Choral club of St. James will sing the Easter Cantata, "The Living Christ," in the Palace Theater, Sunday afternoon, April 4th. This promises to be a rare treat for the music lovers of Greensboro.

The Christian Endeavor was very well attended yesterday, having as special speaker Dean Miller of Bennett College, who gave a very interesting talk.

MISS BERTHA GRAHAM

On March 13, 1926, Miss Bertha Graham, loyal citizen, friend and teacher, passed to her reward leaving a void in this community, for her life was one of service until compelled by affliction to relinquish the activities of life. She never failed to respond to all demands of her station.

The Mooresville City School, in which she was for many years a teacher, had no more loyal and zealous supporter than she and she will be greatly missed by all, but we are sure she will not be forgotten. Her work will survive, for she was willing to spend and be spent for the cause so dear to her.

Our school will miss her, but we have the comforting reflection that we are not without hope, for we are quite sure that if we are as faithful as she was we shall meet again where there are no more partings, for she has only gone ahead.

At the Graded School of Mooresville, March 15, 1926, the

following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

First, that while we bow in humble submission to the will of our heavenly Father in removing by death our dear teacher, we express our gratitude for her service.

Second, that our school has lost one of its faithful teachers, who was ever ready to do her part, as she saw it, in the Master's work, and in the betterment of the world.

Third, that we extend our deepest sympathy to her bereaved family, near relatives, and other loved ones; and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Afro-American Presbyterian, and a copy sent to the family.

TEACHERS AND SCHOLARS, Of the Mooresville Graded School.

HONOR ROLL OF CHURCHES WHICH HAVE PAID THEIR 1925-26 BENEVOLENCE QUOTAS.

On the suggestion of Dr. G. W. Long, strongly endorsed by Dr. J. M. Gaston, the Workers' Conference at Chester, S. C., voted to request the Afro to publish an Honor Roll of the churches in various Presbyteries that have paid their full benevolence quotas for the year 1925-26. This Roll will appear weekly in the Afro as soon as the quota is raised and sent in to the Central Receiving Agency or to any of the Boards for proper distribution.

(Signed) C. J. BAKER.

Fairfield Presbytery

Sumter, Second Sumter, S. C.
Shiloh, Second Wedgefield, S. C.
York, Second York, S. C.
Cheraw, Second Cheraw, S. C.
Ladson Columbia, S. C.
Bethlehem 1st, McConnellsville, S. C.

Knox Presbytery
St. Paul Cordele, Ga.
Laura Street Jacksonville, Fla.
Moore's Chapel Albany, Ga.
Butler Memorial Savannah, Ga.

McClelland Presbytery
Allendale, Second Allendale, S. C.
Jethesda Gaffney, S. C.
First Church Irmo, S. C.

Kiamichi Presbytery
New Hope Fort Towson, Okla.
Beaver Dam Grant, Okla.

White River Presbytery
Westminster Cotton Plant, Ark.
Hot Springs, 2nd, Hot Springs, Ark.
Holmes Chapel Monticello, Ark.
Hopewell Morrilton, Ark.
Smith Memorial Crockett, Texas

Cape Fear Presbytery
Mt. Pleasant Franklinton, N. C.
Jethany Lumberton, N. C.
Red Springs, 2nd, Red Springs, N. C.
Mt. Pisgah Rocky Mount, N. C.
St. Paul, 2nd Timberland, N. C.

Catawba Presbytery
Trinity Marion, N. C.

Southern Virginia Presbytery
Holbrook Street Danville, Va.

Yadkin Presbytery
John Hall Chapel Carthage, N. C.
Pine Street Durham, N. C.

Birmingham Presbytery
Clark's Chapel Ackerman, Miss.
Miller Memorial Birmingham, Ala.

Rogeraville Presbytery
Jethesda Johnson City, Tenn.

Hodge Presbytery
Christ church Augusta, Ga.
Bethany Conyers, Ga.

OFFERS PRIZES.

Durham, N. C.,
January 28th, 1926.
To the Principals of Colored School, State of North Carolina: Gentlemen:

In an effort to stimulate the interest of Negro children in life insurance and to give them an idea of what it does, the North Carolina Negro Insurance Association is offering prizes of fifteen dollars, ten dollars and five dollars to pupils in our high schools for the three best essays on "Why Insurance on Negro Lives Should Be Placed in Negro Companies."

We would thank you to make this announcement to your pupils and urge them to begin to collect material in order that the essays may be completed before the end of the present school term. The conditions of the contest will be arranged by Prof. W. A. Robinson, Supervisor of Colored High Schools, Raleigh, N. C. He will forward you these instructions within the near future.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation, we are Very truly yours,
NORTH CAROLINA NEGRO INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.
A. E. SPEARS,
President.