

THE FEDERATION JOURNAL

"Lifted to our Clasp, We are Lifting As We Climb"

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Pioneer Educator and Club Leader Rounds Out Fifty Years of Extraordinary Service to our Race

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, who has been a Sedalia for approximately 50 years as head of the institution, is retiring at the end of this academic year. She has been, as we all know, one of the foremost educators in our country and has been working for sound educational principles of democracy not only for American citizens but for citizens around the world.

Dr. Brown has maintained the highest moral and social standards for her students. This she has done in a swift changing society that has not always put moral and personal welfare first. Even through the depression years she held on to the eternal verities and the records of her students in all educational walks of life are ones of which we are proud.

Those of us who have been associated with Dr. Brown through the years as friends or colleagues have admired her rare courage, refinement and foresight.—Dr. Flemmie Kittrell, Howard University, February 25, 1952.

On February 2, 1947, Dr. Frank P. Graham, at that time President of the University of North Carolina, made the following statement:

For the past fifteen years I have had intimate knowledge and association with the work of the Palmer Memorial Institute located less than fifty miles from the University of North Carolina.

I take great pride in my trusteeship and am uniting with the Board to encourage and help Dr. Brown reach the \$100,000 goal which will go a long way towards the substantial support this institution will require to continue its fine job of educating young Negro boys and girls to a sense of their responsibilities in the new world which is ahead of them.

Her spirit and good judgment have held together through the years outstanding men and women of the North and South, in developing one of the most useful institutions for Negroes in this country.

Through these years she has rendered



DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN

through accredited auditors, and has given evidence that every penny has been carefully spent.

From an old shanty to imposing buildings worth a half million dollars is a long hard road, but the trustees have stood by with their time and their means to encourage her at every step.

Dozens of testimonials like these could be quoted here. Space forbids. To get the real life story of Dr. Brown's life and achievement, both illuminating and inspiring is the following clipping from an old *Boston Herald* quoted twelve years ago in the *Charlotte Observer*.

"One spring day on the streets of Cambridge, Massachusetts, a little brown skin girl was wheeling a baby carriage and reading Virgil. She was a senior in the English high school of that city and was trying to earn money to purchase extra things wanted for graduation.

Along came Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer. She was attracted to this girl, whom

"Operation Europe," Mrs. Josephine H. Kyles

The extraordinary work of Mrs. Josephine H. Kyles, Director of Christian Education, Washington Federation of Churches, for the past decade, has recently received international recognition through her appointment as technical advisor to Chaplain (Major General) Charles I. Carpenter, USAF, Chief of Air Force Chaplains. Superbly efficient and qualified for the assignment, Mrs. Kyles will direct "instructional work for the training of teachers in . . . a religious education program," designed for "the training of the children of Air Force families stationed" in Europe.

It is by no means surprising, yet highly gratifying, that Mrs. Kyles should be chosen for this significant task, for through her extensive and highly successful experience in the field of Christian Education in the nation's capital, she has demonstrated her ability to do a thoroughly satisfactory job for the training of teachers as indicated.

In order that Mrs. Kyles be made available for this specific task, it was necessary for Dr. Frederick E. Reissig, Executive Secretary of the Washington Federation of Churches, to grant her a leave of absence from her exacting duties in America. And, while she will be greatly missed for a while from her work in Washington, the importance of her work in Europe fully justifies the sacrifice of Mrs. Kyles therefor.

And this eminent leader and authority in the field of Christian Education will not only be missed by her associates in Washington, but also by the nation at large and specifically by the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church which has so signally benefitted through the years from her extraordinary ability and contribution in the field of Social Action in national church affairs. And it is with significant pleasure that "The Star of Zion," on behalf of her countless friends in the church, congratulates her upon this deserved honor and distinction. We wish for Mrs. Kyles, and we are most confident she shall have great success in her task abroad, for she is an indefatigable worker, with an amazing capacity for efficient and sustained effort in whatever she undertakes. And, when her work in Europe is successfully completed, as we are certain it will be, we shall rejoice to see her resume her place in Washington and her