

THE REGIONAL CONVENTION

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cational standards of the Negro, the nation allows itself a chance for greater development; for a nation can be no stronger than its weakest link.

Prior to this session, the delegates enjoyed a "Coffee Hour" at the Allen High School. Teas were given at various homes after the Mass meeting, and delegates enjoyed numerous other evidences of hospitality not only on Sunday, but throughout their entire stay.

A special program was rendered Sunday evening, the main feature of which was a portrayal of the life and achievements of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder of the Southeastern Association of Colored Women's Clubs.

Mrs. Alice Meekins, prominent club woman, of West Palm Beach, Florida, prepared the program—"This is Your Life", which traced Dr. Brown's career from her girl hood days to her present position as president-emertia of Palmer Memorial Institute at Sedalia, North Carolina. This portrayal included the presentation of several persons whose lives have been touched by Doctor Brown, notably the renowned concert-artist, Carol Brice; persons who have worked at Palmer like the distinguished prelate Dr. John Brice and others.

What shall I say about North Carolina? Our state federation led by the Asheville club women left no stone unturned to make the long overdue time for entertaining the Southeastern, a genuine pleasure. Food and housing were superb; the welcome mat was out at all of the churches and business places; the press was courteous and liberal in its praise of our work.

At the Tuesday evening session when the "Parade of States" was announced, North Carolina did not "mark time." Delegates and club women marching and singing "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah" the Battle Hymn of the Republic, held high the colors of the old North State, and raised on the spot forty dollars more than the Executive Board allotted, being inspired by the example of the other states in the Southeastern. As usual Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida walked away with most of the trophies, but our N. C. president received the trophy for Art.

On the whole, the Asheville meeting presented a real challenge to North Carolina. Two of our state women were elected to the official staff of the Southeastern

Our state president who conducted such an inspiring devotional period, discoursing on the subject "Unto These Hills", that she was unanimously elected as Chaplain. Mrs. Edna B. Taylor served on the Nominating committee; Mrs. Ammie Foster had charge of the great Art Exhibit; Mrs. Maggie Jones led the tour to Biltmore; Mrs. Orr, Mrs. E. R. Merrick, Mrs. Esther Barnes, Mrs. Esther Moore,



PLANNING CONVENTION—Officers of the Eastern District Federation of Colored Women's Clubs are shown at a meeting here to plan the federation's state convention, to be held at Evans Metropolitan AMEZ Church in Fayetteville, May 17-20. Seated left to right are Mrs. Minnie Clark, treasurer; Mrs. Mary Kate McIver, nurses aide; Mrs. Edna Fuller, president Helping Hand Club; Mrs. Maggie Bethune, third vice-president; Mrs. Thelma Henley, district president and senior organizer; Mrs. Carolyn McCrimmon, chairman first aid; Mrs. Lettie M. Bridget, St. Pauls, first vice-president; Mrs. Martha Melvin of Floral Club; and Mrs. Leah Smith, youth leader. Back row: Mrs. Ruth Washington, president missionary department; Mrs. Ellen Singleton, arts and crafts chairman; Mrs. Mattie McCollum, president Usher Board; Effie Lee Smith, financial secretary; Ora Lee McLain, Bunnlevel, youth organizer; Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart, recording secretary; Mrs. Lilli B. Gibson, state youth director; Mrs. Rose D. Aggrey, Salisbury, state president; Mrs. Edna B. Taylor, Pinehurst, senior organizer; Mrs. Katie Forshee, youth supervisor; Mrs. Mamie Gore, chairman financial committee; Mrs. Bessie Kellie, chaplain.

Preventive Programs Pay Dividends

According to the Greensboro Daily News February 29, 1956.

Dr. Ellen Winston, commissioner of the North Carolina State Board of Public Welfare, appearing before the Senate Finance Committee, Washington, D. C., February 29, testified that juvenile delinquency is decreasing. The Senate Finance Committee is considering proposals to amend the Social Security Act.

She stated that juvenile delinquency in

her state is decreasing largely due to the emphasis on preventive programs.

"We know," she testified, "that it is economically sounder in terms of both dollars and cents and the welfare of children to provide basic service needed by children so that they will not get into such trouble that they must come before the courts.

"This means that we need far more extensive programs of services to children in their own homes.

"It means that we need to be able to provide specialized care as needed to children who are not developing normally whether it be physically, mentally or emotionally.

"We are concerned about the protection of children who become available for adoption. We know that we should do more to protect the young girls who become mothers without the benefit of wedlock.

"We know that we need far sounder planning so that we may provide the particular type of care which a given child needs at a given time."

She said there is need for strengthening the basic overall program of services to children."

Mrs. Alice P. Collins represented our Executive Board at every turn.

The fact that N. C. Federation has appropriated six hundred dollars for Scholarship Aid was announced at the meeting. Our state committee met at Asheville and passed upon the applicants, and the beneficiaries are in their respective colleges.

I trust that this report will serve to give some information concerning the Regional Convention to those who were unable to attend.