

The Star of Zion

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH.

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AN EXPLANATION.

It is Not a Fake—Simply a Misunderstanding.

BY BISHOP J. W. HOOD D. D. L. L. D.

Mr. Editor: I deeply regret that a member of the Connectional Council should send you a statement not warranted by the facts. When Dr. J. B. Colbert sent you a statement of what the Christian Endeavor Constitution contained, he believed he was correct. In the main he was undoubtedly correct. On one single point there was a difference of opinion, which was finally settled by the Council. Dr. Colbert presented to the General Conference a constitution for the government of the Varick Christian Endeavor Societies. As there was not time to consider it there, it was referred to the Council. At the meeting of the Council in Indianapolis, Dr. Colbert understood that all of the constitution was adopted as he had prepared it; hence, he, in good faith, sent it to the Editor in that shape.

There has been no question about the provision which requires each pastor to organize a Varick Christian Endeavor Society in each church in his charge.

The pastor is also required to observe the Christian Endeavor anniversary day, and to solicit voluntary contributions. (All Christian Endeavor contributions are voluntary).

The point of misunderstanding was respecting the item which required the minister to lift a collection from the church, where there was no Christian Endeavor Society. This was in the Constitution as originally written by Dr. Colbert. Some of us hold that this item was stricken out at Indianapolis, and the Council at Atlantic City sustained this opinion. So what was published, was not a fake. Neither is there any disposition to discourage Dr. Colbert's efforts. The offering solicited is a Christian Endeavor offering, and we think it best that the societies should have all the credit for what is accomplished.

Fayetteville, N. C.

Methodist "Rt. Revs."

BY REV. E. GEO. BIDDLE.

Mr. Editor: How strange it is that those who are so earnestly contending for "Rt. Rev." in our Church do not deign to tell us how it is that the Wesleyan Church of England, founded by John Wesley and the great Methodist Episcopal Churches of this country, do not use, recognize nor tolerate this title? How is that of the whole Methodist family, it is left for "the title-loving Negro" to assume it?

If it is Biblical, will some one tell us wherein? Does the life, character and teaching of Christ encourage pompous titles? If it is Methodist, will some one tell us how it is that with the exception of Negro Methodists it is repudiated by the whole Methodist family?

Does it not reflect rather badly on us as a race that of the scores of Bishops in attendance upon, and of the numerous Methodist Churches represented in the Ecumenical Council now in session in London, the cradle of universal Methodism, it is only Negro Bishops who assume "Rt. Rev."? How is it that to sustain and enhance their dignity the Negro Bishops need so much more title than the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church? Are they so lacking in other respects that they need this additional title as ballast to make them stand on even keel with others?

We reiterate that according to the Word of God, Methodist history, and Church polity, "Rt. Rev." as a title for Methodist Bishops is an inadmissible, meaningless, pompous and useless title, which no white Methodist Bishop would be foolish enough to assume or wear.

Well, for the present, we shall say no more on this subject, since we see that those who are on the other side are so determined to hold on to the questionable title. If it does them good, and they can work better with it, let them enjoy it in peace; and let any and every Zion minister who can by pull, push or money, and desires so to do, secure an additional title and wear it without molestation.

As for the charge hurled at us of "attacking the Bishops," and of "slandering" them, because we dare to question this "questionable title," we simply have this to say: pile on your accusations, we fear them not, and care not for them; "none of these things move me." If to question a man's right to a certain claim or title he holds is to slander him, then in this we have an entirely new interpretation of the English language.

Troy, N. Y.

Grandfather Clause Upheld.

New Orleans Dispatch to Philadelphia Times.

Judge Somerville, in the District Court, dismissed the suit instituted by D. K. Raynes, a Negro, at the suggestion and expense of the Afro-American League, of Washington, to test the constitutionality of the suffrage clause of Louisiana, by which 90 per cent of the Negroes are disfranchised, which clause has been adopted in North Carolina and is in the process of adoption in Alabama.

Raynes demanded registration, claiming that the constitutional and statutory laws in regard to the registration are unconstitutional. The court decides that if this contention prevails Raynes could not be registered, because the supervisor would not have any legal duty to perform in connection with registration.

A significant point in the decision is the declaration that if part of the law affecting suffrage qualification is unconstitutional, it does not in any manner affect the other sections, and if it be found that the famous grandfather clause, section five, by which men are given the electoral franchise because their grandfathers were voters, is unconstitutional, this doesn't affect sections one and two, which make ability to read and write or the ownership of property, the basis of suffrage. The grandfather clause gives those few illiterate white men without property the right to vote because of their grandfathers.

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS.

SEPTEMBER:

- 1-3 Providence, R I
- 4 Attleboro, Mass
- 5-8 Boston, Mass.
- 11 Henderson, N C
- 12-13 Fayetteville, N C
- 15th At 11 Manley, night; Southern Pines
- 16 Foundation, S C
- 17 David Stand, S C
- 18 Corner Stone
- 19
- 20
- 21-21 Kershaw, S C
- 23
- 24 White Hill S C
- 25 Liberty S C
- 26
- 27 Fort Mill S C
- 29 At 11 Morvin, N C
- 29—Redding Springs
- 30 At Mt Zion, Union Co N C

Notice.

The address of Bishop and Mrs J W Alstork from August 28 to September 18 will be Wesleyan House, City Roads, London, England.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

Of the Woman's H. and F. Missionary Convention.

BY MRS. C. C. PETTEY.

The first missionary convention of the W. H. and F. M. Society of the A. M. E. Zion Church, which was held in Price Memorial Temple, Atlantic City, N. J., was a decided success. Promptly at 10.30 a. m. Tuesday, July 30th., the convention assembled and after devotional exercises the Bishop of the district, Rt. Rev. A. Walters, D. D., announced the unavoidable absence of the President, Mrs K. P. Hood, of Fayetteville, N. C., caused by severe illness.

He then introduced the Vice President, Mrs. M. E. Washington, of New Albany, Ind., and announced that she would preside over the convention. Mrs. Washington came forward in her usual stately and dignified manner, and took the chair after making some very timely remarks relative to the work of the convention and the duties of her office. Rev. Mary J. Small conducted devotional exercise. In the course of her remarks, she grew quite eloquent. The roll was called by the Secretary, Mrs. C. C. Pettey. All of the General Officers responded save the President. Many vice presidents from various sections were present at roll call.

The Acting President appointed the following named persons, Miss S. J. Janifer, of Washington, D. C., Mrs. Annie Vance Tucker, of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. E. H. Badham, of Edenton, N. C., as a committee to draft and bring in suitable rules by which the convention should be governed. Mrs. C. C. Pettey spoke in the interest of "The Brotherhood and Missionary Link," a paper published at Pensacola, Fla. by Dr. J. H. Manly, with Mrs. J. W. Alstork and Mrs. Pettey associate editors. She begged the indorsement of the convention, and asked that the columns of this paper be used as a medium of communication for the various organizations of the W. H. and F. M. Society. Bishop J. B. Small, D. D., stated that he was contemplating publishing a missionary medium, in order that we might become better acquainted with our African work. He thought that we should move very cautiously in accepting any medium. While he said that, he was not opposed to "The Brotherhood and Missionary Link" represented by Mrs. Pettey, but he hoped that we would not adopt any particular paper until the appearance of his paper to be known as "Zion's Missionary Seer."

The chair appointed the following committees: On Resolutions, Mrs. M. J. Small, Mrs. F. Randolph, Mrs. E. V. Walters, Mrs. C. C. Pettey, Rev. J. S. Caldwell, Rev. J. H. Love, Mrs. Annie W. Blackwell. On Assessment, Mrs. M. E. Harris, Miss Eliza Gardner, and the entire Board of Bishops. On Local Organizations, Mrs. E. H. Badham, Mrs. Georgie Loney, Mrs. E. V. Walters, Miss S. J. Janifer, Rev. T. H. Tipton, Rev. A. Fitch Rev. W. H. Chambers. Ways and Means, Mrs. M. E. Harris, Mrs. Adele Turner, Mrs. A. W. Blackwell, Mrs. K. L. Swanson, Miss S. J. Janifer, Rev. C. D. Hazel and Rev. J. H. McMullen. Miss S. J. Janifer and Miss Bessie B. Johnson served as marshals.

It was decided by common consent that the ladies, who were not official delegates attending the convention, should represent the conferences not already represented. A motion prevailed that each Bishop should the vacancies on his own district. The following conferences were supplied accordingly: Michigan, Mrs. Georgie Loney; Missouri, Mrs. Florence Randolph; Allegheny-Ohio, Miss Ella J. Robinson; West Alabama, Miss S. J. Janifer; Central North Carolina, Mrs. K. L. Swanson.

Bishops Hood and Walters expressed themselves strongly in favor of the organization of local societies. Bishop Hood stated that the Central North Carolina Conference had thus far carried off the banner, in raising the largest amount of money for home and foreign missions, and he suggested that the vice presidents should travel, organize and work up local societies already organized, and that said vice presidents be allowed one-third of their collections for their expenses. Miss Gardner, of Boston, heartily agreed with the remarks of the Senior Bishop, and begged the hearty co-operation of all of our ministers in our missionary efforts, and encouraged expansion in the work. Bishop Small discouraged the triple idea of dividing the money into thirds. He further stated that all money collected for missions should be spent on missions alone. He was also opposed to the one half division of the missionary money in all Conferences where such division is now carried on. After singing "God be with you till we meet again," the convention adjourned to meet at 2.30 p. m. Benediction by Bishop J. W. Hood.

Convention assembled at 2.30 p. m. Mrs. Annie C. Vance Tucker, of Louisville, conducted devotional exercises, which were very impressive. Next came the reports of the vice presidents. Miss Gardner, of Boston, read some very encouraging letters from absent vice presidents in the different missionary fields. The Secretary, Mrs. Bishop C. C. Pettey, then delivered an address, subject, "Zion in Missionary Endeavor." Rev. Mary J. Small, vice president of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference delivered an able address on "How to Make a Success of Woman's Missionary Day in Our Church." Excellent five minute speeches were made by Mrs. M. E. Harris, Miss S. J. Janifer and Mrs. Annie C. Vance Tucker. After singing, convention adjourned to meet at 8 p. m. Benediction by Bishop C. R. Harris.

Promptly at 8 p. m., Mrs. M. E. Washington, Acting President, called the convention to order. Mrs. M. E. Harris, of Salisbury, N. C., conducted devotional exercises. After reading the sixty first Psalm, Mrs. Harris offered a very fervent prayer. At this hour a welcome reception was tendered the delegates. Mayor Stoy welcomed the convention in behalf of the city, and prayed God's blessings on the work of the W. H. and F. M. Society. Mrs. M. L. C. Clinton sang a beautiful solo. Rev. Florence Randolph extended a cordial welcome in behalf of the New Jersey Conference. Miss Eliza Gardner warmly welcomed convention in behalf of the W. H. and F. M. Society. Mrs. Clinton favored us with another very beautiful solo.

(To be continued.)

213 E. King St., York, Pa.

NEWS EPITOMIZED.

By the Editor for the Delectation of the Readers.

SWEEPING THE HORIZON.

There are about 16,000,000 pupils in the schools of the United States.

The Court of Inquiry in the case of Admiral Schley begins its work September 12th prox.

There are in the world 197,500,000 Mohammedans, and of this number but 18,000,000 live in Turkey.

The Ecumenical Conference will meet in Wesley's Chapel, City Road, London, on Wednesday, September 4, 1901.

A company has been organized in White Plains, N. Y., to operate a through trolley-line from New York City to Boston.

Popular attention is being drawn by the proposition to present a loving-cup to the figure of Admiral Cervera, of Spain.

Lord Roberts has issued an order that dismissed infantry officers must carry carbines instead of swords on active service and in maneuvers.

Since June 30 last the pensioners numbered 997,735, a gain over the pension of last year. The sum of \$139,321,930.26 was paid out during the fiscal year just closed for pensions.

It is said that it will take China forty-three years to pay the total of her indemnity recently assessed by the different nations. The sum is the vast amount of \$643,000,000.

One of the finest organs in America is to be placed in the new Yale Memorial Hall when constructed. It will cost \$25,000, and is the gift of Mrs. John S. Newberry, of Detroit, Mich., in memory of a son in the class of '85.

Conducting a jail service an Omaha clergyman, says "The Congregationalist," gave out the hymn, "The dying thief rejoined to see," and the convicts resented forcibly the implication, and the clergyman had to retire.

We are getting along nicely here and had in our midst last Sunday Rev. I. S. Ingram, of Wadesboro, N. C., who preached a striking and enjoyable sermon at 11 a. m., from John 14:1. Come again.—Rev. G. W. Richardson, Durham, N. C.

During the past century 204,500 Jews were baptized, 72,240 of them being in the evangelical churches and the others in the Greek and Roman Catholic Churches. Schools for the training of Jewish missionaries will be established in America.

It is said that over 300 Negro teachers gathered at Hampton, Va., last month from all parts of the country for Summer work in academic and industrial courses. Hundreds of colored ministers, lawyers, doctors, editors and philanthropic women from the North and South were present.

Major General McArthur in his annual report, covering the operations in the Philippines up to July 4, 1901, says there have been 1,026 contacts between American troops and insurgents in the Philippines during the year, with the following casualties: Americans—killed, 245; wounded, 490; captured, 118; missing, 20; insurgents—killed, 2,854; wounded, 1,193; captured 6,572; surrendered, 23,095. There were also captured during that period, or surrendered by the insurgents, 15,693 rifles, 296,365 rounds of rifle ammunition, 868 revolvers, 3,516 bolos, 122 cannon, and 10,270 rounds of cannon ammunition.