

The Star of Zion

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Battle Wharf, Alabama

To the Editor of The Star of Zion:

Please give space to say the W. H. and F. M. S. Convention and the B. of P., of the Brewton District, South Alabama Conference, met in session at Chief Corner Stone A. M. E. Zion Church, Brewton, Ala., April 11, 1920. Dr. J. V. Catledge, Presiding Elder of the Brewton District, Mrs. Susan Page, Vice President and Mrs. Annie Lenzie, Secretary, Y's, Mrs. Elia Ivory, Superintendent of the B. of P., Rev. J. S. Ash, pastor in charge. At 5:30 the Vice President opened the meeting by singing: "My Soul Be On Thy Guard," etc. Prayer by Mrs. Annie Lindsay. After some encouraging remarks by the Vice President the meeting was organized. Mrs. M. P. Williams, Secretary, Miss S. J. Dean, Assistant, Mrs. A. B. Moore, Lula Baker, marshals, Mrs. O. B. Morse, Reporter to The Star of Zion, Mrs. Bessie Baker, Reporter to The Missionary Seer; Mrs. A. B. Allen, Timist, Rev. J. S. Ashe, Post Office Messenger, Committee on Rules, Rev. F. W. Ward, Mesdames T. Berk, Bessie Baker, Committee on Finance, Mrs. A. B. Moore, Rev. T. C. Hilson, W. M. Ricks. The Marshall introduced Rev. Champion, F. W. Ward and J. S. Ash, who gave some very wholesome words along the line of missionary work. Dr. J. V. Catledge responded in a very able manner. Committee on lay delegates made their report which was received. A glorious love feast was conducted by Rev. G. C. Champion and Rev. Wm. Ricks. Rev. T. C. Hilson led the convention in a fervent prayer. Rev. A. W. Thomas lined hymn: "O For A Heart To Praise My God," etc. Rev. J. V. Catledge, Presiding Elder, read for a Scripture Lesson 15 verses from the third chapter of St. John. The speaker of the hour, Rev. F. W. Ward, was introduced. He preached a strong sermon and many were the amens. Duet by Mrs. T. Berk, and Miss J. Montgomery. Finance Committee took a collection of \$3.25. The hour having arrived we had the following welcome addresses in behalf of Chief Corner Stone Church, Mrs. Cook. In behalf of Brewton A. M. E. Zion Church, Mrs. S. Gaston. Response by Mrs. A. B. Moore. Remarks by Dr. J. V. Catledge, assignment of homes, Benediction by Rev. F. W. Ward.

Friday, Second day's Session. 9:00 A. M., Praise service conducted by Mrs. Carrie Evans, T. Berk. Scripture Reading by the Vice President. Roll called and corrected. Many answered to their names. Absentees marked. Minutes read, received and adopted. After which assessments from local Presidents, Ministers, delegates, and Missionary workers were paid. The Marshall introduced Miss Ida Ingraham, Martha Noble, Prof. Buoy, and Rev. H. Warner. They were made honorary members of the Convention.

Prof. Buoy spoke very encouragingly of the work of the Convention, and donated fifty cents. Response by Dr. J. V. Catledge.

Receipts of the morning, \$50.90. The hour having arrived for the Missionary sermon, Rev. W. A. Thomas lined hymn no. 710, "Prayer Is The Soul's Sincere Desire." This hymn was sweetly sung by the Convention. Prayer by Rev. H. Warner. Second song: "Hark The Voice of Jesus Crying, etc." Then the speaker of the hour Rev. C. W. Thomas, was introduced. He chose for a text 3rd chapter of Proverbs 5th and 6th verses. From this text Rev. Thomas preached a great sermon. Trio, Rev. T. C. Hilson, Mrs. A. B. Allen and Mrs. O. B. Morse. The Finance Committee took a Collection of \$1.51. Recess. 2:30, P. M., reassembled.

Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. Amanda Carlie, Miss S. J. Dean, Dr. J. V. Catledge, Presiding Elder

Brewton District, introduced Mrs. Susan Page, Vice President of the W. H. and F. M. Society. She delivered her annual address in a wonderful manner. This was responded to by Rev. J. V. Catledge, Rev. G. C. Champion and Prof. Buoy.

It was then motioned and seconded that a copy of this grand address be sent to The Star of Zion for publication. Papers were read by Mrs. A. B. Moore, Amanda Carlie and O. B. Morse. The Finance Committee took a collection of \$14. Dismissal for recess. 7:30, P. M. A glorious praise service was conducted by Mrs. Jefferson, and Miss J. Montgomery. Prayer by Miss Amanda Carlie. Rev. T. C. Hilson lined hymn no. 391, "Show Pity, Lord," etc. Rev. G. C. Champion read for a lesson a part of the 37th Division of the Psalms. Prayer by Rev. H. Warner. Dr. Catledge introduced the speaker of the hour, Rev. G. C. Champion, who took for a text, the 9th chapter of Joshua and the 1st verse. From this text he preached a great sermon. Solo, Mrs. Elia Ivory, "No Night There. Recitation, Miss S. J. Dean. The Finance Committee took a collection of \$3.00. The Marshall introduced Prof. and Mrs. Jas. Dooley, Principal of the Southern Normal Industrial Institute of Brewton, Alabama. Prof. Dooley gave some very encouraging remarks and invited the convention to visit the school. Benediction by Rev. G. C. Champion.

9:00 A. M., Third Day Session.

Praise Service conducted by Mrs. Carrie Evans and Mary Howard. Scripture Reading by Mrs. Annie Linzie. Prayer was offered by Mrs. Amanda Carlie. Then the secretary called the roll. Minutes were read received and adopted with the necessary correction. After a few remarks from the Vice President, Mrs. Susan Page. Then the Secretary of the Y's Mrs. Annie Linzie was introduced. She came forward and delivered her annual report which was a grand report. It was responded to by Rev. F. W. Ward. Then Dr. J. V. Catledge gave some very encouraging advices to Mrs. Linzie and complimented her very highly for her grand report and good works on the Brewton District.

The superintendent of the B. of P., Mrs. Elia Ivory, rendered her report which was responded to by Rev. T. C. Hilson. Dr. J. V. Catledge Reports of local missionary societies were read, received and adopted.

Rev. C. W. Wilson, pastor of Silloom Baptist Church, Brewton, Ala. was introduced and made an honorary member of the convention. He made a few brief remarks and donated \$1.00 to the convention. Receipts of the morning, \$36.50. Solo by Mrs. A. B. Allen. Reports of Obituary Committee were read, received and adopted. Then we adjourned to meet at Stockton, Alabama, April, 1921.

Fourth day's Session. At 11 A. M., we reassembled to eulogize Mrs. M. M. Alstork, Vice President of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Third Episcopal District, who departed this life Jan. 12, 1920.

Mrs. M. P. Williams, was mistress of ceremony. The service was opened by singing: "What Are They Doing there," led by Miss S. J. Dean. Mrs. Susan page read the 22nd chapter of Revelations. Mrs. Amanda Carlie led in a fervent prayer. Second selection, "A Charge To Keep I Have," led by Mrs. A. B. Allen, was sweetly sung by the congregation. Paper by Mrs. Carrie Evans. Solo, Mrs. Elia Ivory, "No Night There." Paper by Mrs. A. B. Moore; Duet, Mrs. A. B. Allen, O. B. Morse. Practical talk, Mrs. Annie Linzie. Trio, Mrs. S. Gaston, B. Baker and Miss Ida Ingraham.

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DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Ma'am Secretary of the Y's, Superintendent of the B. of P., Presiding Elder, Pastor and members and friends of the 7th annual convention of the Brewton District, South Alabama Conference, Greeting:

It is again that we have been permitted to meet in another W. H. and F. Missionary Convention to tell the doings of the Brewton District, the past 12 months, to rejoice in the God of our salvation, to give glory and honor and praise to him for his long forbearance, loving kindness, tender mercies and the guardian angel who has kept watch over us since we assembled last.

"Thus assembled at the great command,

Before thy face dread King we stand,
The Voice that marshalled every star,
Has called thy people from afar.

We meet through desert lands to spread,

The truth for which the martyrs bled
Along the line to either pole,
The anthem of thy praise to roll.

Our prayers assist; accept our praise;

Our hopes revive; our courage raise;
Our councils aid; to each impart;
The single eye, the faithful heart.

We feel under many obligations to our Maker for this privilege and willingly surrender ourselves to him for actual service feeling that it is our Christian duty to unite ourselves together at this appointed place hoping to gain more wisdom and knowledge and to better understand our duty as missionaries. We feel that our year's travel has been a very pleasant one, considering everything. We are glad to feel that we have played an active part in both home and foreign Mission fields. While we have in no wise extended the hand of charity as far as we could have extended it. But we are trying each year to do more and more for the cause of missions.

We are hoping and praying for the day to come when we women not only of the A. M. E. Zion Church, but of the Christian Church, will consider that they are an important link in the great missionary chain and make a great effort to win the world for Christ.

Well might the poet say:

"Ye Christian Heralds, go proclaim,
Salvation in Immanuel's name,
To distant climes the tidings bear,
And plant the rose of Sharon there."

When such steps can be taken great results will be sure to follow. We are indeed glad to say that the missionary spirit exists on the Brewton District among the women, and too, too much praise cannot be given to these our hard working, self-sacrificing Presiding Elder and pastors of this District who stand by us nobly with their much appreciated support. We feel that success will be ours.

We are pleased to say that peace and harmony exists between the pastors and missionaries. We learned some time ago that you Presiding Elder and pastors were the head of every department in the Church and we try to the best of our ability to recognize you as such. We were able to pay our full assessment in the Woman's Convocation, held in Birmingham last April. Through the help of the missionary societies and an effort put forth by this your humble servant and strongly supported by Presiding Elder and pastors, members of the Methodist Church, Missionary Baptist, white friends and sinner friends, we were able to make the best report in the Annual Conference at Battle Wharf that we have ever made since being in the missionary work. On woman's night we did our best to make the program interesting. The presentation made to the Bishop and wife was a quilt called a missionary quilt presented by the ladies of the Brewton District. After having collected \$40. Whole amount paid \$81.00 on Bishop's tax.

The Strength of the West African Methodist Episcopal Zion Work.

By Rev. Jno. Kwesi-Okvir.

LETTER FROM AFRICA.

Viewing from the oppositions and hardships from which the African work has suffered, especially on the West Gold Coast and still is robust in her spiritual conditions, we find that the Rev. F. A. Osam Pinanko, M. A., who is himself an African of an indefatigable ability and who has led the work with great ictat, planted this work with good understanding to the people in the Gold Coast; and that he may be elected an African Bishop. The Reverend F. A. Osam Pinanko, Presiding Elder, was trained in America, at Livingstone College. He is not of a pestalozzian education, but a well-bred college man, and is capable for any responsibility. And if the General Conference fails to elect him as an African Bishop the work's prosperity will cease, and the hard sacrifices will be in vain.

These are the words cited from the Gold Coast Leader which is the cry of Africa.

"Rev. F. A. Osam Pinanko, M. A., Presiding Elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Gold Coast, a prominent member of the Central Province Conference committee is about proceeding to America on leave of absence. We trust the various efforts of the Presiding Elder in founding in various parts of the Colony flourishing Churches of the Denomination will commend him to the heads of the Church in America the importance of his being appointed to the vacant post of Bishop for West Africa. The idea appears not to be confined to European circles that the West Africa is not ripe for responsibility. Our own brethren in America seem to have the same lazy views of West Africa conditions. It is about time such a wrong view-point were corrected. In any case West Africa cannot tolerate Rev. Osam Pinanko being passed over in favor of any other pastor not familiar with the local conditions."

From these words we see that a man who will always require an Interpreter before he speaks will not suit for Africa. We trust the Lord will pour the same idea on the minds of the people that will meet at the General Conference in Knoxville, Tenn. How the Lord has so willed that Reverend Pinanko to be elected an African Bishop, and has struck everybody's attention in Africa. Dr. Crooke's vision to be elected Bishop for Africa might be only a nightmare and a curse to Africa to oppose her progress.

ble. Amount raised all told \$328.27.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have the honor of making the last presentation to our highly respected Bishop's wife, Mrs. M. M. Alstork, Vice President of the Third Episcopal District who desired to hold the Fourth Convocation, but was called from labor to reward Monday January 12, 1920. Her presence will be missed among us. She was known as an ideal Bishop's wife, and a living monument in the Church of God, a guide post for the Presiding Elders and pastors, a mother for the missionary ladies, an organizer of great ability and a great friend for ministers wives throughout Montgomery, an educator for native African boys. Her home was a shelter for those who were without shelter. She could be seen from time to time in rain or shine going from door to door leaving a bowl of soup in every sick home. So much so that the market man knew to save the soup bones for her, and often times would give them to her, helping her on her mission. Great was our Mrs. Alstork and we certainly shall miss her. Thou art gone to the grave, but we will not deplore thee, since God will

To The Star of Zion:

Allow me to acknowledge receipt of the splendid output of the Publication House in the form of the Cradle Roll and picture of the Bishops. Both are much appreciated and highly serviceable here. Since my arrival I have baptized about thirty who will have entered on the Roll and when this letter reaches you as many more will have been baptized. I assure you such records are very useful here as it is the only way the children have or tracing their age, hence we are always very careful with such statistics.

The pictures are of historic value to us here helping us to bring the past of the Church near to our people as well as intimately linking them up with the present.

We are hoping soon to see The Star of Zion itself in our midst again and because we know the question of postage may be a consideration we are begging some of our friends to help out in this way.

It does not seem possible that one year ago we were in your midst and now we are twelve thousand miles away back at our chosen field of labor. There is much of interest to write you about the trip. Rev. Davis, Miss Tshubalala and myself took forty-two days before we landed at our station. I have seen in "The Seer" that our experiences in Freetown, Sierra Leone, have been vividly described by Rev. Davis. I am sure you felt that we had left such things as trouble between labor and capital far behind us and thought that you were the only country that could have the restriction of riots. Hungry oppressed people anywhere in the world will some day cry aloud.

Prices here are terrible on the staples of life. I have given up salt as it is 50 cents a bottle here as much as your 5 cent bags, so I use the common, rough salt taken from the lagoon, something like your ice-cream or rock salt. We grind it up on stones here, because European things are high and people have to buy such things as kerosene, sugar, etc. This makes native things high. We are all praying that we may have sufficient rain to make a good harvest that we may not have native starvation in the midst of these things. However, our work is going on well. We are trying to complete a new school house at Quittah. We have many more children than we have accommodation for or even money to provide school supplies for them. As to the interior Miss Tshabalala and I have just returned from a hammock trip, holding out-door meetings and visiting heathen homes. Our members are scattered all around in many villages miles apart. Next time I want to write of that trip, but I am hard at teaching school now, preparing for government inspection. Again thanking you and love to all the enquiring friends,

From your servant,
Henrietta Peters.

thy Ransom, thy guardian, thy guide
He gave thee, He took thee, and he
will restore thee, And death has no
sting since the Saviour hath died.
My Dear co-workers in the missionary
cause, let us in honor of our great
chieftain, Mrs. M. M. Alstork, and
in the name of Christ our Lord, look
forward to the much needed Trades'
Building of Lomanx-Hannon College
Greenville, Alabama, and to the Missionary
Convocation of which the
sainted Mrs. Alstork was so anxious
to see completed. Let us as missionaries
join in one accord and try to
take the world for Christ.

Yours for the cause of missions,
Susan Page, Vice President