

The Star of Zion

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1921.

VOLUME FORTY-FIVE

BRATES ORGANIZATION OF OLDEST CONFERENCE.

LIVE PROBLEMS FOR THE NEW YORK AUGUST COUNCIL.

James Edw. Mason.

MAILED SECOND-CLASS MATTER
RETURNED TO PUBLISHER

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In every government whether despot or free, various and varied problems have arisen for consideration. This has been true throughout the centuries, and is re-emphasized today in the full blaze of the highest civilization.

We are facing as a denomination conditions of the greatest delicacy, and complexity, and a situation alike

New York Conference Centenary and Connecional Council

At Mother Church.

In Connection With the Council, in Mother Zion Church, New York.

The Centenary will be celebrated in New Mother Zion Church, 153-155 West 136th Street, New York City, in connection with the Council, August 2-7, 1921.

The Episcopal Address at the General Conference of 1920 at Knoxville, Tenn., recommended that the Centenary of the New York Conference with the Council of 1921 in Mother Zion Church in the City of New York, where it was organized and the General Conference approved the same. The Board of Bishops at their meeting in Richmond, Va., August 1920, took initiatory steps toward arranging for the observance of the Celebration, Bishop G. L. Blackwell has been appointed by the Board the Historian for the Connection and also asked to prepare a historic statement for the Celebration. Bishops L. W. Kyles, J. S. Caldwell, G. C. Clement, P. A. Wallace and Rev. E. D. W. Jones have been appointed a Committee of Review to pass upon the manuscript for History.

At a call meeting of the Bishops in Washington, D. C., March 4, 1921, and a special meeting at Livingstone College, May 24, Bishop Blackwell submitted a tentative Program of subjects and the Bishops assigned persons to write on those subjects. The Bishops also decided to call the Council on Tuesday August 2nd, instead of Wednesday, in order to have time for the Celebration.

In order, therefore, that we might be able to collaborate and marshal as much authentic historic data as possible, not only of the New York Conference, but of all the Conferences, Institutions and characters as a result of the organization of that Conference, quite an array of men and women are asked to accept assignments of subjects to be written upon so as to make the historic data as authentic and as complete as possible for the past one hundred years.

Exhibits.
It is hoped that none to whom subjects are assigned will fail to make an industrious effort to carry out the wishes of the committee. In addition to the subjects assigned, the Committee will welcome a copy of books, pamphlets, songs and ballads published by any minister or member of our Church; also the portraits of any and all of our present churches, schools or institutions in America, Canada, Africa or the West Indies. These will be returned if so desired.

Other Items of Information.
Aside from the subjects assigned, the Committee will be glad to have some of our poets to write songs and poems suitable for the occasion; other important bits of unwritten history about men and women who have figured conspicuously in the making of our Church, or some important incidents, will be welcomed so as to help us connect the missing links of history.

Instruction.
Those who may not be able to attend the Council and the Centenary might send their historic contributions to the Committee. All who write anything at all for the Centenary are asked to search every library and every home possible for historic data. They may have to write from one to one hundred letters or travel many miles to get the facts; even so, make the sacrifice, so the A. M. E. Zion Church can be put in the proper light before the public. Consult all the books, pamphlets, historic magazines, newspapers and persons necessary to get the facts. The historian and the

Committee want only correct and authentic information so that from it a correct and full history of the Church may be written.

Address all letters of inquiry up to July 30th to Bishop G. L. Blackwell, 420 S. 11th St., Philadelphia, Pa. From July 31 to August 6 address 153 West 136th Street, New York City, N. Y.

G. L. Blackwell, Historian.

Committee:

L. W. Kyles,
J. S. Caldwell,
G. C. Clement,
P. A. Wallace,
E. D. W. Jones.

SUBJECTS AND THE WRITERS.

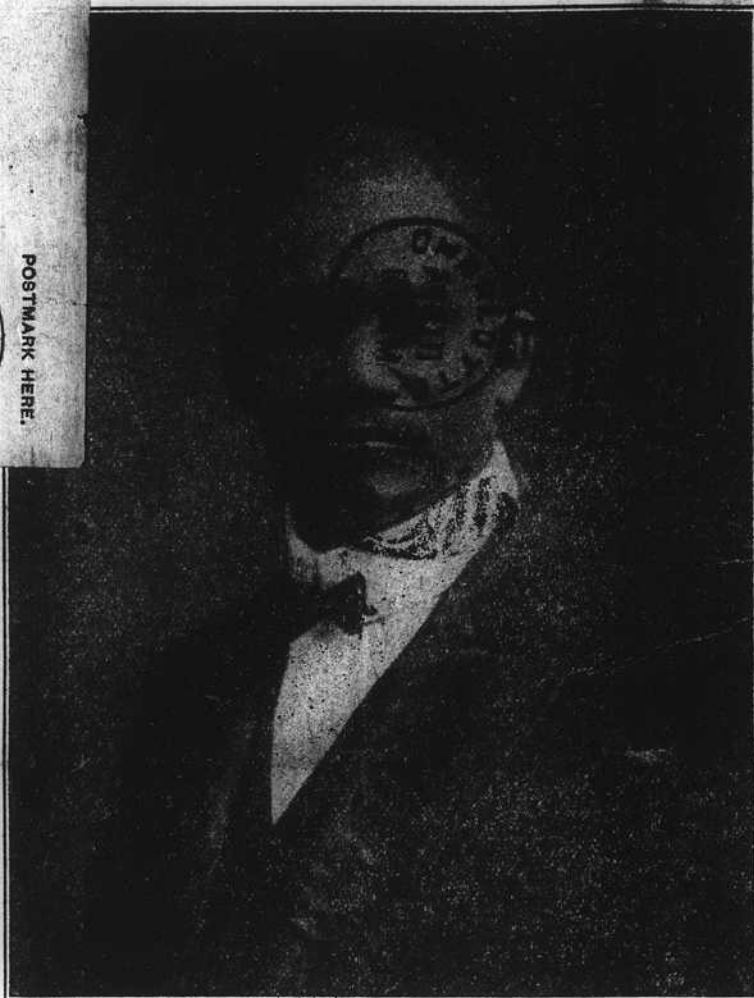
1. A Digest of the History of the A. M. E. Zion Church—Bishop G. L. Blackwell, D. D., LL. D.
2. The New York Conference—Rev. M. F. Jacobs, A. M., D. D., M. D.
3. The New England Conference—Rev. E. George Biddle, D. D.
4. The Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference—Rev. Logan Johnson, D. D.
5. The Allegheny and Ohio Conferences—Rev. B. F. Combach, B. D.
6. The New Jersey Conference—Rev. J. L. Rodgers, B. D.
7. North Carolina Conferences—Bishop G. C. Clement, A. M., D. D.
8. The Virginia and Albemarle—Rev. M. F. Gregory, D. D., Rev. H. B. Pettigrew, D. D.
9. The Alabama Conferences—Rev. W. L. Hamblin, D. D., Rev. L. D. Workman, D. D.
10. Tennessee, Blue Ridge, E. Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Conferences—Bishop P. A. Wallace, A. M., D. D.
11. The Florida—Rev. J. N. Clinton, Rev. W. W. Blair, D. D.
12. The Kentucky, Missouri and Indiana—Rev. H. C. Weeden, A. M., Rev. E. H. Curry, D. D.
13. The Michigan—Rev. H. J. Callis, D. D.
14. The Arkansas and N. Arkansas—Rev. C. W. P. Mitchell, D. D., Rev. D. S. Blackwell.
15. The South Mississippi, Louisiana, West Tennessee and Mississippi—Rev. D. J. Adams, D. D.
16. The California, Oregon and

SLAVERY REPORTED IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA, NEGROES FORCED TO WORK FOR 24 CENTS A MONTH.

Slavery is about to be legalized in Portuguese Africa, according to the Nation. The Portuguese government has "granted the Mozambique Company, a commercial concern, absolute power over 65,000 square miles of territory in East Africa... a district larger than England and Wales combined with a population of over 300,000."

The Nation for July 27 publishes the text of the law for conscription of labor which will be probably be enacted among other things soon. It provides, that Negroes can be forced to work at 24 cents a month, and punished if they do not work, even if they cannot find employment. Foreign missionary work has been prohibited.

In the same issue of The Nation appears a review of the thirteenth session of the League of Nations, by Robert Ball; a narticle by Willa Cather, by Carl Van Doren; and the fourth installment of Authur Warner's series on the American Legion. The Nation is published weekly at 20 Vesey Street, New York, and edited by Oswald Garrison Villard.



Bishop Geo. L. Blackwell, A. M. S. T. D., Church Historian, who supervises the historic collection at the Centenary of the New York Conference, next week. Mother Zion will be the scene of this mammoth celebration.

and denouncing an enterprise that we are supposed to favor. The Bible tells us that a house divided against itself cannot stand. Why men who are so anxious to see a good cause move upward will sow discord against such a cause is a mystery to me. Very true there are many things that we cannot understand about which we are deeply concerned and should know about, but should we not be more discreet and investigate these matters with less public criticism?

I think so far as my receipts and disbursements are concerned we are prepared to report accurately. If need be we can in a comparatively short time reproduce the return checks for disbursements.

See report.

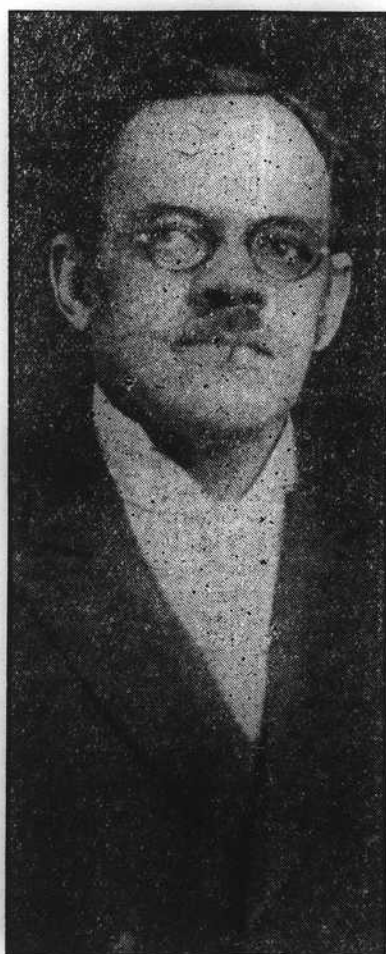
ANNUAL REPORT OF H. L. SIMMONS, TREASURER.

Receipts of Tercentenary Fund collected at the General Conference from each Episcopal District.

May 24, 1920,

Received of Second Episcopal District Bishop G. W. Clinton, \$1822.24; received of Third Episcopal District, Bishop J. W. Alstork, \$241.75; received of Fourth Episcopal District, Bishop Caldwell, \$3379.86; received of Fifth Episcopal District, Bishop Blackwell, \$8254.50; received of Sixth Episcopal District, Bishop Warner, \$1171.80; received of Seventh Episcopal District, Bishop Kyles, check, \$5,000.00; Figures, \$1500.00; received of Eighth Episcopal District, Bishop Bruce, no report; received of Ninth Episcopal District, Bishop Lee, \$1016.66; received of Tenth Episcopal District, Bishop Clement.

Receipts between May 24, 1920 and Continued to page 8



Bishop Geo. C. Clement, A. M., D. D., who presides over the historic occasion and Connecional Council at Mother Zion, New York City, August 2-9, 1921.

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central committee which part was that I give bond for the sum of \$20,000, (twenty thousand dollars) to hold the money.

The General Conference did not define my work. Had it have done so I might have been able to make some demands to carry out things for which I am now being criticised. As I understand we started out for the purpose of winning a hundred thousand souls for Christ and to raise a million dollars to function the Church and other like interests. It was further understood that one half of all the money should be left in the Annual Conference or appropriated for local purposes as dictated and that the remaining half be kept in the General Treasury for various purposes as aforementioned.

The amount remaining in the conferences has never been reported to me. The presumption however, is that the amount coming into the General Treasury is on ehalf of the whole amount raised. Now if that will satisfy the curious I am ready to make my report. I have been ready so far as receipts and expenditures are concerned. I must regret the fact that even of the amoumnts coming into the General Treasury from the several Episcopal Districts that the annual conference rarely gets the credit of its raisings, only as an Episcopa District. This is not my fault. The Bishops will bear me out in that I have asked them to give me a statement of amount raised by each conference in his District when remitting the funds. Wherever this request has been observed it may be shown in my report accordingly.

The greatest amount of receipts are turned over to me by the Bishops at their meetings by checks invariably on the last day and almost the last hour of that day. The appropriations and disbursements follows very soon thereafter.

The treasurer is therefore not responsible for the failure to get the names of all the conferences who pay the Tercentenary fund, notwithstanding the Episcopal District does get the credit.

It will be seen in my report especially at the close of the General Conference that disbursements and amounts were only named to the individual to whom paid, but now in almost every case it is stated for what the money is paid as well as to whom it is paid, all of which is dictated by the central committee.

I have not assumed any official prerogatives. I have simply obeyed orders. I was sought from childhood to obey those who had rule over me, and it is hard for me to depart from my raising. When authority is vested in me to carry out certain regulations