

The Star of Zion

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

NUMBER THIRTY-SIX.

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1921.

VOLUME FORTY-FIVE

Political Honors Forced Upon One of Zion's Foremost General Officers,

EDITORS, PULPITERS AND PASTORS, THE REV. C. C. ALLEYNE, A. M., D. D., EDITOR OF THE A. M. E. ZION QUARTERLY REVIEW AND PASTOR OF OUR ZION CHURCH AT NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK.

By Dr. J. F. Lee.

Dr. Alleyne is a very modest, unassuming, hard working A. M. E. Zion preacher. In a very quiet manner he has been unconsciously winning the hearts of his fellow citizens, both white and colored. About the middle of August he awoke to find himself pressed into service by his townsmen to be the standard bearer, indeed the political standard bearer in a great municipal contest in his home city, for even against his own vigorous protest he is being run for city councilman by the Republican party of his city. Says the Daily Star of New Rochelle, "But if appearances count for anything the colored people who have asked and received recognition in this section by the designation of the Rev. C. C. Alleyne from the regular ward Republican committee, are united and will wage a vigorous campaign for him as their choice for the city Council."

The call from his fellow citizens has forced Dr. Alleyne into the political limelight at a very opportune time, a time when strong and honorable men are needed. And the citizens have not honored Dr. Alleyne alone, but have honored themselves, the race and the church, for Dr. Alleyne is the embodiment of those qualities which characterize great men; and he is just the kind of man that should come into the forefront at such a time as this. Right leadership will never down; just such leadership as the men of his community have seen in the Rev. C. C. Alleyne, the men of Zion have long since seen in him; and as they are planning to use that leadership now, his church is purposed to use such productive leadership four years hence, and use it in a more exalted way. I do not want New Rochelle to claim to have discovered such leadership, for Zion has long since discovered it.

That the Rev. C. C. Alleyne is worthy of such leadership will be evinced by the service he will render and the balance and poise he will maintain throughout the days, the months or the years of his tenure of office, should he be elected, which we hope he will.

Three cheers for Dr. Alleyne, for his community and for our Zion, the church of his choice!

PROGRESS IS NEEDED TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

By B. F. Grant.

The pen is one of the potent factors to spread and advance the religious knowledge among the people. And do believe that the pen and the press are the world educators either in Church or State.

And the A. M. E. Zion Church has been one of the great Negro Keys that help to unlock the door of Negro education and the building up of the Christian religion on earth.

Yes, the A. M. E. Zion Church was among the first of the Methodist bodies to strike a blow, and a heavy blow too, when she said in her discipline against the damnable curse Negro slavery, that no one who owned slaves could be a member of the A. M. E. Zion Church.

And under the leadership of that determined and foresighted Gospel prelate, Bishop James Walker Hood, lead on the solid phalanx against that

demon of all demons of hell the intoxicating cup who did help to drive it to its nature den that is out of existence. Yes, it was the A. M. E. Zion Church that dealt them both powerful and crushing blows, from which they will never recover.

But the mission of the A. M. E. Zion Church is not ended yet. Yes, they have a great and mighty work before them, and the pen and the press the world's great Educators must be brought into play for they are the swift wing messengers, carrying intelligence throughout the land dragging down the power of darkness, and the works of the devil. Therefore, in these crises, the A. M. E. Zion Church should put on all her armor, and strengthen her borders through its great Christian official organ by enlarging her columns to a sixteen page paper.

Some say that cannot be done where there is no effort to do it. But we say where ever there is a will there is a way. We claim that we belong to the Lord, and this work is His work, that is of the Church. Also to carry on the work belonging unto the Lord.

And David said, I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor His seed begging bread.

And is it impossible that a great Connection like the A. M. E. Zion Church with her five hundred thousand membership cannot run a sixteen page paper.

We say that it is a grand mistake, and wanton fidelity, and Connectional pride and great the lack of confidence in the power of the Church. If our fathers way back in the dark days of slavery had that self-confidence in God and His power to make a fight on that old hellish devil slavery and intemperance, why should not we of today have that Christian faith to attack the ramparts of hell and its formidable powers and to do this the people must be educated in the Church up to that state of mind through their Church organ. Now, if there are five hundred thousand members in the A. M. E. Zion Church and if the one hundred per cent would subscribe for the paper that would give the organ five thousand five hundred dollars.

It seems to us there should be one member out of every one hundred members to subscribe for the paper Form themselves into a Zion Club to enlarge the paper.

When we consider and look at the A. M. E. Church organ. The Christian Record, we hang our head in shame, the oldest Negro Church of Methodism.

When we see and hear men and women singing, shouting, and hallowing saying how much they love the Church and the cause of Christ, always ready to go to heaven; and at the same time their hearts are so narrow and fist closed. We say there is no space for the Holy Ghost to abide in their hearts and their fist closed.

They are like an empty barrel going down a hill; nothing but noise.

The churches in the Washington Presiding Elder's district, of the Philadelphia and Baltimore annual conference are doing nicely.

TO FIGHT EXECUTION OF ARKANSAS NEGRO FARMERS.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York, today announced that efforts would be made to obtain from the Supreme Court of the United States a writ of certiorari in behalf of six Arkansas Negro farmers condemned to die on

September 23 for their connection with the Arkansas riots of 1919. It is then contemplated applying to a federal court for a writ of habeas corpus.

It was for appealing to the Governor of Arkansas in behalf of these men that Professor Robert T. Kerlin was handed a resolution of dismissal by the Board of Visitors of Virginia Military Institute.

Six other Negro farmers are to be tried at Marianna, Arkansas, in October.

Receipt was announced of a telegram from the National Association's counsel in Little Rock which said in part: "Have great confidence of victory in final outcome if given proper assistance."

CAMPAIGN TO REPEAL POST-OFFICE CAG. CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION TO ATTACK LAW IN CONGRESS.

An active campaign to repeal the one remaining section of the espionage act under which a number of publications are now barred from the mails will be undertaken by the American Civil Liberties Union, as soon as Congress reconvenes. That section makes non-mailable any publication which advocates "treason, insurrection or forcible resistance to any law of the United States." Although Postmaster General Hays has been liberal in his rulings, the law creates a censorship of political opinion and in practice interferes with expression which do not come within the actual definition of prohibited language. The interpretation put upon a phrase in the old obscenity statute by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia in the New York Call case shows how far the courts may stretch language which looks definite on its face. Senator Wm. E. Borah, who sponsored the repeal of the war laws, will probably take charge of the repeal of the section in the Senate.

Under this section and the old obscenity statute, one or more issues of 43 radical publications were barred by the Post Office Department from March 4, when Postmaster General Burleson left office up to Aug. 1. Of these all but 8 were foreign language publications, of which three were published in foreign countries. Of the eight in English three were Communist, two socialist, one I. W. W., and one presumably anarchist. On the other hand the Post Office Department re-admitted to second class privileges up to August 26 eleven periodicals whose privilege had been taken away under Burleson. All but one of the periodicals still published, whose privileges were taken away under Burleson for their political views, have now regained second class status. That one is Solidarity, the official I. W. W. weekly.

The elaborate machinery of censorship built up under Burleson has been dismantled. The forces of translators in New York have been reduced, and all but one of the special assistants to the Solicitor at Washington have been let out. Under Solicitor Lamar a roomful of clerks were occupied as censors. Under Solicitor Edwards since June 1, the work is done by him and an assistant, who with Postmaster General Hays, give personal attention to all complaints of unfairness in barring publications. There is now no secrecy about the decisions of the Department, the names of the publications nor the reasons for the action taken, as was the case under Burleson. The Postmaster General has publicly encouraged personal interviews with Editors of radical papers who think they have been unfairly treated.

The Situation in Korea.

Present conditions in Korea are clearly summarized by the president of the Union Christian College at Seoul, Rev. O. R. Avison, in a recent letter to the Commission on International Justice and Goodwill of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. It is of such wide interest to the churches that it is here printed in part:

"Seoul, Chosen
July 19, 1921

"Conditions on the whole are quiet. In a general way it may be said that while the Koreans have not given up the idea of independence, they do not look for it so soon as they did a couple of years ago, and they begin to realize the fact that the provisional government at Shanghai can do little more than propaganda. They are consequently trying to work out their own salvation by turning their attention to education, to participating in the rather limited measure of local self-government granted to them, and also, as the Seoul Press pointed out not long ago, to making representations to such a Commission as the Educational Investigating Commission as to reforms desired in the existing educational law. The chief obstacle to fuller cooperation is the distrust of the bona fide intentions of the Japanese felt by many influential people.

"It is a pleasure to testify to the more cordial feeling shown by the government officials as a whole towards the missionary body. The Governor General, Baron Saito, has invited the writer and other missionaries to his home several times since I returned from America in March. The Seoul Press announced that the policy of weeding out undesirable elements in the police force was being carried out, and we do know that the chiefs of police in Syenchun and Wonsan at least have been changed. At the former place the missionaries had complained bitterly of their treatment before the change was made. Several missionaries report as a result of complaint laid by them against the conduct of officials, dismissals have been made especially in the Tai-ku district. This corroborative evidence of what the Seoul Press says is the policy, is very gratifying. The government is also to be congratulated upon its appointment of Mr. Hirai as head of the Department of Education and religion for the province in which Pyengyang is located, Pyengyang, as you doubtless know, is a large center of Christianity in Korea, and the appointment of a Christian like Mr. Hirai is a piece of real statesmanship. Mr. Hirai represented the Governor of the Province before the annual meeting of the Northern Presbyterian Mission. He addressed the meeting at length in splendid English, and the cordiality, sympathy and insight of his words were finer even than his diction. He stated that the provincial government of which he is a member welcomed at all times the kind advice of the missionary body and aimed to co-operate with it. He also said that he already had, or was aiming at, putting a New Testament in the pocket of every policeman in the province, in order that the police might study Christianity and know what it is.

While reports of torture are not as common as heretofore, there is evidence that it is still being used in preliminary examinations. In March last, the congregation of a church near the Italian Consulate in Seoul were arrested because a man in prayer meeting was alleged to have prayed for unlawful things. All were released but three men. One of these was later released and he reported to the missionary in charge of his church, showing marks of torture on his body.

This missionary took this man up to the office of the Chief of Police in the Government General, let the officials there see the case themselves, with the result that the man was recalled twice to the suburban police station for re-examination, and later a policeman called at his home and apologized, and left a 10-yen bill as a peace offering. The other two men were not tortured apparently. At Pyengyang and Chulwon cases of torture are also reported. The authorities will, no doubt, take cognizance of these cases and continue the good work of weeding out the undesirable elements in the police who do not yet seem to have grasped the spirit of the new administration.

"Summing up, the country in general is getting back to normal. It is much to be hoped that the government will continue its good work in removing abuses in the police system, in giving the municipal councils more power and the right to meet as frequently as similar bodies do in Japan, and in giving employment to as many Koreans as possible in the various government services. I believe it would also be the part of wisdom that on important bodies like the Educational Investigating Commission some recognition is given to the important Christian constituency in Korea."

PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS GREAT SUCCESS.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York, today made public the text of a cablegram sent by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Secretary of the Pan African Congress, which stated that the sessions of the Congress were being attended by delegates from thirty countries, and that a permanent organization of the Congress had been effected.

The cablegram reads as follows:
J. W. Johnson, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Seven sessions successful. Thirty Countries. Audiences two thousand. Permanent organization.

Du Bois.

At the session in London, England, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois read the manifesto of the Congress which protests against colored people being treated as uncivilized, and argues that the experiments of Negro self-government in Haiti and Liberia, and of the mulatto democracies in South America have not been failures. The manifesto demands enfranchisement based on educational qualifications alone, and urges that it is the duty of the world to assist in every way the advancement of backward and suppressed groups of mankind.

NEWS NOTES.

The Southern Methodist Church has just held a week's institute at Birmingham, Ala., for colored ministers, Dr. W. W. Alexander, of Atlanta, director of the Inter-Racial Commission, was in charge; and the courses were given by leading men of the two churches, white and colored. Two hundred ministers from fourteen conferences attended. The expenses were met by the Southern Methodist Board of Missions.

Savannah, Ga., has a colored officer in its juvenile court to look after the colored children brought before it. The white Social Service Federation maintains a worker among the colored population; and the white school attendance officers work equally among the children of both races. The city provides a colored home demonstration agent and the county maintains a farm demonstration agent for work in the outlying districts.