

# The Star of Zion

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

NUMBER FIFTY-ONE

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1923.

VOLUME FORTY-SEVEN

## AN OBSERVER'S VIEWS.

Getting Church in Newspaper—  
Pastor—Candidates—Making  
the World Laugh—"Editorial  
Translation"—That Bishopric  
and One Wife Matter.

By Rev. H. T. Medford.

### Seeming Disadvantage of a Pastor-Candidate.

The Tennessee annual conference met at Logan Temple church, where we have the distinction of being the pastor, a few weeks ago. Several candidates wrote us expressing regrets that they could not visit the conference because of the exacting demands of their pastorate. The pastor-candidate seems to be put at a disadvantage in this regard. It is very hard for them to "walk about Zion," or even ride about Zion and see the brethren at the conferences. They must stay on the job at their posts of duty in these days of stiff competition in the pastorate, or something goes sorely lacking. Those of us who "crave" to see and talk with the men on the field must ask our brethren to please "take the will for the deed," and not forget us because we are forced to "hold the fort" at home, and can't well come among them.

### Getting the Church News in the Papers.

It seems that many Zion preachers in a number of large centers should wake up to the importance of getting their Church before the reading public more regularly and advantageously. We chance to read race papers from several localities where we know Zion is really on the map, but other denominations far outshine us when we read the church news from those centers. The value of newspaper publicity must not be overlooked. An old stale schedule of services run off somewhere in the corner of a paper, unchanged for a year or more is not sufficient notice that a church is in town. People know about Ivory soap and buy it because they see it in the papers, magazines and on bill boards. In almost like manner a man's church is known, respected and

(Continued to page 8)

## THINGS PICKED UP.

While Busy Here And There.

By Dr. J. H. Branner.

The Tennessee conference presided over by one of the most gifted sons of Zion, Bishop G. C. Clement, has grown to be one of the leading conferences of the great A. M. E. Zion Church under his eight years' administration.

The ministry of this conference will compare favorably with that of any other conference in our Church.

Quite a number of them are aspirants for honors in the Church, but none as yet desire the office of a bishop.

Rev. S. A. Chambers, of Etowah, is a scholar, a writer, a preacher and a poet. He desires the office of the editorship of The Star of Zion.

Dr. H. T. Medford is one of Livingstone College's brightest stars, and is one of the best church organizers and pastors in Zion. He is an able preacher, a good thinker and splendid writer.

His kind, amiable disposition shown to all men and his hospitable spirit in his home has lifted him high in the estimation of his large membership at Logan Temple and also of the citizens of Knoxville.

He has the confidence of all the ministers of the Tennessee conference, who will not forget that he, too, desires to edit either the Quarterly Review or The Star of Zion. Let it be ever remembered that he is fully capable of taking care of whichever one of these periodicals is committed to his care.

(Continued to page 8)

## Good Will To All.



## Everywhere Be Bethlehem

### EDITORIAL.

The world comes into the Lord's natal day this year, still bleeding and still striving. Once upon a time when Jesus said tearfully, "Ye shall not see me henceforth until ye shall say, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord," he was uttering a principle not to the Jews only, but to all nations.

Christmas is typical of "good will" and "peace on earth," but that will never obtain until men shall see the King of peace.

Bethlehem is in Jerusalem really. The event of Bethlehem can be enacted in every place. Actually the whole world can be made Bethlehem to those who have discovered the personal gift of the Christ child.

May He come anew into our city, our homes, our hearts on His natal day.

Christmas will be a day of reality in the midst of sorrow and suffering to countless thousands who make Christmas a practice, and Christmas joys their own.

But alas! for those who leave out the real Christmas gift, choke the day with selfish sating of themselves and their friends. Many will give presents the days before and get up Xmas morning, unwrap their presents and spend moments of selfish glee. Then after the morning meal will turn to the next engagements of the day. Fowl and fruits, nuts and sweet meats, friends, feathers and fussy music and rides, and rollicking, and their Christmas spent. But still something will be missing that will leave an aching void when the day is gone.

No gift made to the two-thirds of the world's people facing starvation in Russia, Germany, Asia and Africa, no little children without home or without parents, or

without food and gifts have shared their gifts, no alms to the poor at our gates. No church door darkened, no prayer prayed, no thoughtful word spoken to the soul in darkness. Hamlet was played with Hamlet left out. Christ did not get into their calculations and therefore was not born into their Christmas day.

But may he who reads these lines be-think himself upon these things. May your day have Jesus in it, your world be a Bethlehem, your visits, to those in cheerless gloom or blighting error, your gifts the offerings of your share to Christ's needy ones. "In as much as you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

In this way only will the Christ child be in our Christmas day.

It is said that Scarborough the great English resort was once a fishing station. It had a spring of crystal waters where travelers were refreshed. A man afflicted with rheumatism conceived that the spring would heal him. He accordingly drank the water for a time and was restored to health. He told others and they in turn told others until it became the haunt of many. A house was built to provide for the visitors and then a hotel, a store, a play house and on it grew until now from fifty to a hundred thousand go there each season. But it is discovered that one out of a hundred visitors knows that there is a spring there. So will tens of millions observe Christmas day in sordid sensual ways, with Christ left out.

Oh! let us see the face of our Lord and his brethren on His natal day and it will be Bethlehem everywhere.

## WATCHING THE BREAKERS

News And Nothing But News.

By W. H. Davenport.

It is said that President Coolidge in his first message to Congress said some things about the Negro. What was it?

Editor W. J. Walls, like many others, favors an orderly General Conference. It goes without saying that the noise and confusion, the clamor and total disregard for all orderly procedure which has characterized and disgraced us for twelve years will not be repeated at Indianapolis. Moreover orderliness can be helped by refraining to introduce strangers, visitors, friends, noted city pastors and passers-by who drop in if perchance they may ventilate their hobbies. Cut out the hot air; let's have order.

For the Quarterly Review: H. T. Medford, P. K. Fonvielle, E. M. Argyle, Prof. J. N. Tross.

Dr. A. G. Alstork, the brother of the late Bishop J. W. Alstork, who with many others has congratulated the Breakers upon coming out definitely for The Star of Zion, has announced himself as a candidate for the bishopric. Dr. Alstork is a conscientious, straightforward, dependable man and has many friends in Alabama and out of it.

A correspondent, who frankly states that the Breakers would be better suited to The Star of Zion than to the Quarterly Review, also writes: "It is generally conceded that R. Alexander Carrol, who gave us our best catechism, is the logical man for the V. C. E."

Dr. H. M. Reed, New Orleans, has done a monumental work in "The Creole City." In the erection of our magnificent church, there he had one of the hardest problems of his life. Our good Bishop Rt. Rev. Paris A. Wallace is enthusiastic over that great achievement.

(Continued to page 8)

## WHO WILL ANSWER?

By Walter Raleigh Lovell.

In a recent issue of the Southwestern Christian Advocate, the able editor, Dr. L. H. King, writing under the caption, "An Ominous Indictment," asks this question: "Do these indictments imply an admission that the purely Negro Church has fallen down?" Every Negro, especially churchmen, should read this article. It is very likely that the average person who belongs to a distinctly Negro church, will disagree with Dr. King's carefully drawn inferences which frankly border upon conclusions. But, even so, there is much food for serious thought in what he has to say anent the Negro church. Read it.

The article in question quotes at length from the Young Alliance, an A. M. E. Publication, edited by Dr. Ira T. Bryant, who, it appears, as a veritable "Flea in the collar" of the A. M. E. bishops. Another quotation from the Afro-American deals with the unpleasant happenings of the "Baptist Brethren," who apparently have troubles of their own, having conventions and conventions.

Since reading this highly significant article, we have been looking for a reply from some able writer who believes in the future of the Negro Church. And whatever we may say here is, as the subject indicates, merely a quest for an answer, and not conclusions.

(Continued to page 5)