

The Star of Zion.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

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VOLUME FORTY-EIGHT

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE INVITED TO ZION CONFERENCE.

The Board of Bishops at Winston-Salem appointed a Committee to invite President Calvin Coolidge to address the General Conference at Indianapolis. The Committee visited the White House Monday, January 14. The following constituted the committee: Bishop J. S. Caldwell, Bishop G. L. Blackwell, Bishop G. C. Clement, Bishop P. A. Wallace, Rev. S. Q. Swann, Rev. E. D. W. Jones, Rev. W. O. Carrington, Rev. H. J. Callis, Rev. W. D. Battle, Rev. F. R. Killingsworth.

The invitation which was presented through its Secretary, Bishop Clement, was substantially as follows:

"To the President Greeting:

The General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church will convene in Indianapolis, Ind., May 7, 1924. It is the desire of the Bishops, General Officers and delegates that we have the distinguished honor of the presence of the President at this 24th Quadrennial session. As a Committee appointed by the Board of Bishops, January 10th at Winston-Salem, N. C., we most respectfully present this invitation."

Mr. Coolidge, who was surrounded by a number of the White House attaches made a felicitous statement in response. His speech which was taken by lawyer Dudley in part stated:

"I want to thank you for the invitation. I do not think it will be possible for me to accept. I have been asked to go out to some educational institutions the first of May. I have not been able to give them an affirmative answer, and cannot give you an affirmative answer. I will take the matter under consideration, but I do not want you to take this as an encouragement that I can accept. I want to thank you for the work in which you are engaged and its influence. If you succeed, the things which concern us all around here, will be easier, but if you fail I see no hope."



JOSEPH C. PRICE, A. M., D. D.

Minister, statesman, orator, educator, race advocate and founder of Livingstone College. Born February 10th, 1854 at Elizabeth City, N. C. Died 1893 at Salisbury, N. C. Famous on two hemispheres and dubbed the world's orator by British papers.

PRICE, NOT DEAD.

By R. W. Sherrill.

In lowly confines, thus, the Eastern plain did grace,
A son in meager youth, and yet a leader race,
Who bore in faith, the eager purpose of his breast;
A Race cast down, a Race cast out to bless.
In solemn vows, he oft his purpose did attend,
That wisdom's ways, his mind and soul would fondly lend,
As thus did smile, through gracious hearts a gift of Heaven,
And wisdom, speech, in mighty power to him was given.
Went he the world to face, a noble purpose bold,
As did the Hoary Seers, the gifted Saints of old;
Dispels the cloud of sin, and wisdom set in place,
Disdains relentless foes, of this a humble Race.
In far off land, though faint, resounds the matchless voice,
That fills anew, as wisdom's hope, a heart rejoice.
With what results do greet this ever-longing heart?
What untried victories won, what undimmed glories part?
In answered accents o'er the listening world has gone,
That near a path slave-trodden, marks a Livingstone.
A brief career enthralled his purpose from above,
Yet, gifts to man are beauty, wisdom, power and love.



When mental toil his mortal frame did eager test,
Obeyed the brief command, laid down to quiet rest;
But still he lives, in deed, in word, in action wroughts,
That gives the Negro Race a place for wisdom sought,
For Price, not dead but lives a countless ransom paid,
To wisdom fondly seek, and service eager made.
Through him too we perceive, a youthful Race is born,
Not worthy more to praise, nor worthy more to own,
Yet, in the youthful soul, who knows what slumbers there?
But that 'twill wake to give, a leader, gift more rare.
When one for all mankind, may face the mighty foes,
As nature in her course, one human family knows.
O dark-complexion Race, ye happy souls must be,
Who wisdom fain would seek, the captive mind set free;
Rejoice, the plan is laid, the path already trod,
The mind invites from sin and points the way to God.
Beneath the soil that bore, is laid the Peerless Will,
But in the hearts of men, his memory reigneth still.
For Price, not dead but lives a countless ransom paid,
To wisdom fondly seek, and service eager made.

Salisbury, N. C.

EDUCATION AND LOMAX-HANNON COLLEGE.

By Rev. J. T. McMillan,
Ex-Secretary V. C. E. Union.

Education must be closely related to the actual life of those who have to be taught. It must take account of their instinct, experiences and interests, as distinct from those of people living in quite different conditions.

Its aims must be to equip them for the life which they are to live. Hence the main emphasis must be put not on a purely literary curriculum, such as still prevail in many schools, but on training in such necessities of actual life as health, hygiene, the making and keeping of a home, the earning of a livelihood and civic knowledge and spirit.

Successful leadership requires the best lessons of economics, sociology and education. Really skilled and educated Negro physicians, clergymen and teachers are needed, with an adequate background to deal with the conflicting problems and many misunderstandings caused by race friction in America. Without such leaders, both white and colored, race problems will increase and multiply in menace to the nation.

In the schools of the middle ages subjects were introduced such as would meet the needs of one or more classes of people of that time have been retained for culture value. But these are not sufficient in this age of the world to meet the needs of the people in this day and time. The old curriculum must give room for the new. Democracy in the content of education demands that the new curriculum shall impart culture through knowledge and practice related to the farm, the shop, the office, and above all the home. Among our schools are some which have achieved international fame for pioneer service in the great religious and industrial fields of education. But the majority of the schools are

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REVOLUTIONIZING HUMAN NATURE.

By Rev. W. W. Evans.

Jesus Christ, the Immaculate Lamb, the Man without sin, stood up in the streets of Jerusalem and said: "Why callest thou me good, there is none good, save one, that is God." He stood again and said to the Pharisees who had brought to him the adulteress woman: "He that is without sin let him cast the first stone."

This idea of searching up the records of a man's career while it is a preservative measure exercised by society, by moral agencies, and by world authorities as a safeguard to protect the interests of all parties concerned, is not in conformity with Christian doctrine. How cruel it is to debar a good man from office because as a boy of eleven years, years

of indiscretion and inexperience, he was arrested for playing a crap game; to be punished in later years for having committed in the morning of his life an act for which he could not be held responsible.

Again, was it consistent and Christianity to pay a man a big salary in one position of the church and still debar him in another because of some gross immorality in the long years gone by? What is Christianity at all if we cannot define it properly and interpret it correctly? Shall we bring the methods of the world into the ranks of the Church and gauge our ideas of righteousness by our desire to revolutionize human nature? Did not God bring his purposes to a consummation by first passing his agents through a period of distress, trouble and hardships. And the only way to do it was to humiliate and bring them to a condition in

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THE KNOXVILLE DISTRICT AND ITS WORK.

By Rev. R. J. Buckner, P. E.

The Knoxville district has accomplished much this year in conversion of souls, church building and paying of old debts. Bishop Clement has been a source of great help to all on the district with his fatherly advice and careful episcopal supervision. No bishop in the Church can boast of a greater success along all lines than our good bishop.

Every year of the quadrennium has been marked with signal success. The cry comes from the ministry and membership that Bishop Clement should be returned to the Tennessee conference.

The Knoxville district has been blessed with the visitation this year

of Drs. E. D. W. Jones, C. C. Aleyne, F. M. Jacobs, J. L. Black, J. W. Martin, E. L. Madison, C. S. Whitted, H. B. Bennett, B. G. Shaw and very recently by W. J. Walls who is preaching and speaking as never before, and bringing forth such comment that those who desire the office of a bishop will have to reckon with him.

Dr. Matthews is soon to be with us with Africa on his heart and with splendid plans for the redemption of Africa if given a chance as a bishop.

The announcement of Dr. J. L. Black, our old true and tried friend, is heard on every hand. "I wish I could vote."

This district has some of the best men in the church as pastors; such as Dr. H. T. Medford, pastor of Logan Temple, Knoxville, who is a graduate of Hood Theological Seminary, and one among the best preachers. (Continued to page 8)

THE SAD PLIGHT OF THE PULPIT IN OUR ZION.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

By Rev. J. H. McMullen.

Bishop George L. Blackwell has aptly said, "Preaching seems to be the minister's vocation, the sermon his greatest asset, and the pulpit his greatest opportunity." Every true minister must realize the truthfulness of this wise statement. The good bishop goes a step further when he advises strong and successful young men in the ministry to take post graduate course in large pastorates, and get the experience of such contact and environment, so necessary in the great task of the ministry. Traveling as we did during the

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