

The Star of Zion

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

VOLUME FORTY-EIGHT

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1924.

NUMBER TWENTY-ONE

General Conference Proceedings.

By Dr. W. H. Davenport.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE ENDORSED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

When the A. M. E. Zion General Conference was called to order yesterday morning by Bishop L. W. Kyles, of North Carolina, the delegates plunged into the serious business of the session. Dr. T. J. Moppins, of St. Louis; B. W. Swain, of Boston; Oscar W. Adams, of Birmingham, offered a resolution which was approved, that the administration of President Coolidge be endorsed; that an Anti-Lynching Bill be enacted; that the establishment of a World Court instituted by President Harding and supported by President Coolidge.

There was a favorable reaction to the resolution offered by Rev. I. B. Turner, of Trenton, N. J., who proposed that general officers seeking the office of a Bishop, and failing of election to that office shall not be a candidate for the office previously held by them.

Bishop L. W. Kyles urged in resolutions that a budget system and central treasury be provided and that the Home Mission and Church Extension Department be separate and that an executive secretary for the Mission Department be elected and all monies raised for that department be appropriated for the ministers on the mission fields.

Dr. E. D. W. Jones, of Washington, D. C. proposed that a committee of not less than three nor more than nine be appointed in the Annual Conference to look after the Brotherhood monies; that public acknowledgment be made before the Conference adjourns of the monies received and that the beneficiaries of the Department be paid within days of their death.

Dr. E. L. Madison, of Pittsburgh, Pa., insisted that the Connectional Board be full fledged and that the travelling expenses of the Executive Board of this department be paid and that provisions therefore shall be made by the General Conference.

Great excitement prevailed when Rev. B. W. Swain, of Boston, proposed equal representation in the Annual and General Conferences. It is said that the conferences are favorably disposed to an equal representation.

Missionary Study Course in preparation for missionary work, at Livingstone College, was urged by resolution presented by Mrs. Ida Wallace, and a printing press be sent to the Gold Coast office and a book store be opened there.

Dr. E. M. Argyle urged that members of the boards be nominated by the General Conference. Miss Missouri Moore, Brooklyn, would equalize representation, while R. F. Fisher, of Kansas City, wanted the Home Mission and Church Extension Department separated. Shouts of approval went up when it was proposed that the bishops be required to live in their districts.

"Jesus Christ or Chaos" was the challenge of J. W. Eichelberger, General Superintendent of Sunday Schools in his appeal for greater advance in Christian Education and the adoption of modern methods in Sunday School work.

Prof. Aaron Brown, Pensacola, Fla., reported a large increase in Christian Endeavor activities in the denomination and the general recognition which the society attained during the last quadrennium.

W. L. Hamblin, Connectional Auditor verified the reports of the fiscal agents of the Church.

Dr. J. E. Mason, Rochester, N. Y., financial agent of Livingstone College, rose to a question of personal privilege and briefly recounting his services to the Church complained

that no provision had been made for his travelling expenses. The presiding officer stated on behalf of the Board of Bishops that Dr. Mason was a full fledged general officer.

The Holy Hour devotions followed the stirring activities of the morning. Bishop Caldwell held these devotions and G. W. Maize with great devotion offered prayer.

F. D. Douglass, Wm. Witherspoon, Wm. Bascom, and E. M. Argyle were called to the platform and assisted in one of the most spiritual hours of the session.

The Devotional Committee announced at 11:00 A. M., J. W. Brown, D. D., New York.

3:00 P. M. R. J. Buckner, D. D., Knoxville, Tenn.

7:45 P. M. Rev. T. J. Houston, Asheville, N. C.

The Sunday Services at Tomlinson Hall.

Not within the memory of Watching the Breakers, who has been attending General Conferences for twenty-eight years, has there been such spiritual manifestations as has been joyously witnessed at this Conference. The results thus far have more than justified the spiritual program arranged by Bishop J. S. Caldwell. Old Tomlinson Hall fairly rang with jubilee singing and the shouting of the enraptured multitude. Bishop Paris A. Wallace, who had charge of the services, was in the best of form. At 9:30 a. m., a model Sunday School was conducted by Prof. J. W. Eichelberger, that master in Sunday School work. At 11 a. m., Sunday morning, May 11, Dr. J. W. Brown, pastor of Mother Zion New York City church, was called to the platform and the first Sunday service of the General Conference began by singing that devotional classic "Holy Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty," lined by Bishop G. C. Clement, which was followed by the reading of the 18th chapter of I Corinthians, by Bishop L. W. Kyles.

Bishop W. L. Lee offered prayer and the Beatitudes were recited by Bishop P. A. Wallace. The singing of "If Jesus Goes With Me I'll Go," lifted up the people and Dr. J. W. Brown, who was introduced to preach, asked the congregation to sing, "My in a mother's smile; power in a his text "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother" from which he preached an eloquent and effective sermon in observance of Mother's Day. Among other things he said, there is power in a Mother's smile; power in a mother's song; power in a mother's love. To honor our mothers we must cultivate habits of industry, honesty, and integrity. We should seek to better our homes. Bricks and mortar, fine carpets, and tapestries do not make homes. Christian character, the family altar, must be back of everything. The congregation was in tears when the preacher took his seat, and Dr. G. W. Maize moved, it to deeper tears and hallelujahs when in soft and tender notes warbled "Will Mother Meet Me There?" Bishop J. S. Caldwell was set on fire and shouted this is the thing we need.

The Afternoon Service.

Dr. S. T. Hawkins of the Western N. C. Conference, conducted the spiritual service, followed by singing "Amazing Grace," lined by Bishop Wallace and Dr. R. A. Morrissey read a part of the 101th Psalm for the Scripture lesson. The old veteran, J. H. Stone, of Louisville, Ky., addressed the throne of grace and Dr. R. J. Buckner, the eloquent presiding elder of the Tennessee Conference, selected for his text "Those that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters, these shall see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep."

The preacher said: "A man who has been given a fiery passion, is given a corresponding intelligence to control that passion. The foul weath-

BISHOPS.

Bishop J. S. Caldwell, D. D., First Episcopal District.

Bishop G. L. Blackwell, D. D., L. D., Second Episcopal District.

Bishop L. W. Kyles, A. M., D. D., Third Episcopal District.

Bishop W. L. Lee, D. D., Fourth Episcopal District.

Bishop G. C. Clement, A. M., D. D., Fifth Episcopal District.

Bishop J. W. Wood, D. D., Sixth Episcopal District.

Bishop P. A. Wallace, A. M., D. D., Seventh Episcopal District.

Bishop B. G. Shaw, D. D., Eighth Episcopal District.

Bishop E. D. W. Jones, D. D., Ninth Episcopal District.

Bishop W. J. Walls, D. D., Tenth Episcopal District.

Bishop J. W. Martin, D. D., Eleventh Episcopal District.

Bishop C. C. Alleyne, D. D., Twelfth Episcopal District.

GENERAL OFFICERS.

Rev. F. M. Jacobs, D. D., re-elected General Secretary.

Rev. W. H. Goler, D. D., re-elected Financial Secretary.

Rev. S. D. Watkins, D. D., re-elected Manager of Publishing House.

Rev. W. H. Davenport, D. D., Editor the Star of Zion.

Rev. J. Francis Lee, D. D., re-elected Editor Sunday School Literature.

Rev. W. O. Carrington, D. D., Editor Quarterly Review.

Rev. W. W. Matthews, D. D., re-elected Editor Missionary Seer.

Prof. J. W. Young, Secretary of Education.

Dr. C. S. Whitted, re-elected Corresponding Secretary Ministerial Brotherhood.

Prof. S. M. Dudley, Secretary of Church Extension.

Prof. J. W. Eichelberger, re-elected Superintendent of Sunday School Department.

Prof. Aaron Brown, re-elected President of Varick Christian Endeavor.

Mrs. Daisy Johnson, re-elected President of General Missionary Society.

Rev. W. L. Hamblin, re-elected Auditor.

Mrs. S. D. Davis, re-elected Vice-President of Missionary Society.

Miss Victoria Richardson, re-elected Secretary of Y. W. Department.

Mrs. Lizzie Pierce, re-elected Recording Secretary.

Mrs. Annie L. Anderson, Corresponding Secretary Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society.

Mrs. Ida V. Smith, re-elected Treasurer, W. H. and F. Missionary Society.

Mrs. Marie L. Clinton, re-elected Superintendent of Buds of Promise.

Mrs. Ada L. Hall, and Mrs. Ida Barber, re-elected National Organizers.

Mrs. J. W. Brown, re-elected President Supply Department.

Dr. H. L. Simmons, re-elected Treasurer of Tercentenary Fund.

er that many of us have we create ourselves. We must expect this work if we do not follow God's word. The old chart by which we navigate life's sea, the anchorage of this world, is unsafe.

The old familiar song, "The Old Ship of Zion," the rallying song of many a great revival, was sung, led by Bishop Caldwell.

Flurry in the General Conference.

The Uplifted Hour.

Like a bolt from the sky was the effect of a resolution offered by Rev. E. M. Argyle on Tuesday May 13th, proposing members of the committee on revising the discipline. Bishop

Caldwell thought that the committee was too large and that the conference should wait before appointing a committee to such a task. Dr. F. M. Jacobs insisted that the committee was not too large. The failure to publish promptly the General Conference minutes of 1920 was brought into the discussion and all disclaimed responsibility for their non-publication. Dr. Jacobs disclaimed responsibility. W. O. Carrington declared he would not be made a scapegoat. Bishop Geo. C. Clement was opposed to what he designated as one-man rule. This committee will put into the discipline what you want there, interjected one speaker and the final vote on resolutions as amended was as follows: Revision Committee: Bishop L. W. Kyles, Dr. W. H. Goler, Dr. W. J. Walls, Bishop Geo. C. Clement and Bishop J. S. Caldwell.

Dr. W. W. Blair of North Carolina, wanted the Rockingham Normal and Industrial School, merged into Livingstone College. Dr. S. W. Weller, of Massachusetts stood for a uniform order of service. The rules were suspended and the resolutions of Rev. W. M. Spaulding of Rockingham, N. C., expressing sympathy for Rev. W. J. Holmes, of Montgomery, Ala., who was injured in an automobile accident last Saturday, was unanimously passed.

Dr. A. C. Cook, (Ho, S. C., started the ball rolling when he proposed increased lay representation in the annual and General Conference. It is being said that the committee on revision will report favorably on the resolution for increased lay representation. The desire of the west and southwest for the re-establishment of the Western Star of Zion was realized in the resolution offered by Dr. E. M. Argyle, of Hickory, N. C., and supported by Dr. J. W. Carter, of Dermott, Arkansas, who is recovering from a painful accident to his foot a few days ago. Dr. Argyle also proposed that Prof. R. E. Clement, J. W. Young, Bishop L. W. Kyles and Dr. W. H. Davenport, be the compilers and publishers of the minutes of this General Conference. The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted.

The Union of the British Methodist Episcopal Church, colored, with the A. M. E. Zion Church, was urged in a resolution by Dr. R. R. Ball, of Connecticut and a prayer made that advances from that body with that end in view should be accorded a hearty welcome. Dr. E. U. A. Brooks Auburn, N. Y., desired the creation of a board for the governing of the Harriet Tubman Home, while Dr. D. C. Suggs, Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C., petitioned for a five hundred thousand dollars endowment fund which he will probably get for Livingstone College. He asked the appropriation committee for a grant of thirty thousand dollars a year. The resolution of Dr. R. A. Carroll, providing for adequate support for superannuated ministers elicited emphatic applause.

Prof. T. A. Wallace, Pittsburgh, Pa., offered resolutions urging equal lay representation in all the conferences proposing that all members of the annual conferences shall participate in these elections. At the conclusions of the resolution hour, the reports from schools were continued. Prof. J. V. Taylor, Madisonville, Ky., reporting for Atkinson College, stated that there were 396 students in the institution, five teachers and that the school had graduated 12 persons. It had raised for its maintenance and support, \$34,927.00. He asked for an increased appropriation that the teachers may be paid promptly.

Prof. R. J. Boulware, President of Clinton College, Rock Hill, S. C., reported, students 737; teachers, 38; graduates, 60, and receipts \$39,427.

Dixwiddle Normal and Industrial High School, Prof. J. E. Woodyard, principal, reported having raised \$69,291.00, with an enrollment of 733 students, with a faculty of 9 teachers; graduates, 100.

It was noon at the conclusion of

Continued to Page Four

Livingstone College Holds Brilliant Commencement Exercises.

DR. EMMETT J. SCOTT DELIVERS COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS.

Salisbury, N. C.—"Livingstone College is the natural offspring of the sturdy independence and virile self-respect nurtured by the illustrious pioneers of militant Christianity who gave force and effect to all that the great African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church means in the life of the Race," said Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Secretary-Treasurer, of Howard University, Washington, D. C., in his Commencement Address before the Hood and Garrison Literary Societies of the Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C., Monday evening, May 26th.

"Education, such as Livingstone College provides," continued Dr. Scott, "is worth all that it costs and more. Those who would show in a practical way their interests in the uplift of humanity and their desire to help the man farthest down may fittingly bestow upon this great institution the most generous benefactions. They will find that money invested in humanity is the best of all investments."

In discussing "The Contribution of the Negro to Art, Science, and Literature," which Dr. Scott chose as the subject of his Commencement Address, he explained that he was seeking to kindle in the hearts and minds of the young men and women to whom he was speaking an ambition and desire to enter cultural fields of endeavor and win successes such as have been won by hundreds of men and women of the Race. Mention was made of numbers of colored men and women of to-day who are winning, and who have won, high places in the field of serious scientific research and achievement and in the world of literature and art.

Regarding the contribution of the Negro to Art, Dr. Scott said: "The revelations of ancient Ethiopian Art which have come out of King Tutankhmen's tomb seem to prove that Negro peoples have always been artists, and have served to emphasize the truth of the statesmen that 'the Negro is primarily an artist.' The rich, tropical, emotional nature of the Negro peculiarly disposes him toward that artistry so much in evidence in his music, his painting, his sculpture, his oratory, and his literature."

The invitation to Dr. Scott was extended by Dr. D. C. Suggs, President of Livingstone College. Upon his visit to Livingstone College he was accompanied by Bishop E. D. W. Jones of the A. M. E. Zion Church, an honored graduate of Livingstone College, now residing in Washington, D. C.

Among the other prominent persons present at the Commencement Exercises, were the Bishops and General Officers of the A. M. E. Zion Church, which supports the school. The Commencement Exercises were considered the most brilliant ever held by the school.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16.