

Raleigh Christian Advocate



FIFTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

ORGAN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

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RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1912.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

THE EIGHTEENTH annual meeting of the Board of Education, held at the Publishing House, closed April 3. The Board was in session two full days. The meeting was full of interest and enthusiasm throughout the entire session. Only three out of the eighteen members were absent, and these were providentially prevented from attending.

The members of the board are a unit in the position that the educational work of the Church must be pressed with earnestness, vigor and wisdom. It is not a time for the church to abate interest and efforts in education, but a time to go forward as never before. The Board made plans and provisions for such a forward movement. Below are some of the important actions of the Board:

1. A new set of by-laws were adopted. These will be published in full in the May number of the Bulletin of the Board of Education.

2. Provisions were made for standing quadrennial and annual committees. These committees were intrusted with important duties to be performed during the year in co-operation with the Secretary of Education, the Director of the Department of Ministerial Supply and Training, and other agencies.

3. The following statements and resolutions from the report of the Committee on Ministerial Supply and Training, which was unanimously adopted, will be of interest to the whole church:

"We cannot emphasize too strongly the primal importance of the matter of ministerial supply. It is vital. The power and success of our Church is dependent upon efficient, inspired, and therefore inspiring leaders. The church must lay hold of her choice young men to preach, to teach, and to organize, for service, the people of our Israel.

To this Board has been committed by the General Conference the responsibility of leadership, in a great effort to present to our young men the call to service in the pulpit and pastorate of the church of God. Such an effort does not minify in any sense the work of God in calling this ministry, any more than does the sending of missionaries to foreign lands minify the providence of God in the life of the individual. This Board has simply become an agency to perform the work which God wants done to secure laborers in His vineyard. This work is so important that your committee presents the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved 1. That the Director of the Department of Ministerial Supply and Training be and is hereby directed to so arrange the work of his department as to enable him to give at least three, and, if possible, four months in the year, to visitation of schools, colleges and universities, District Conferences, Sunday-school and Epworth League Conferences, and any other gatherings where the presentation of this great subject would be appropriate; and that in addition to be requested to preach on this subject during the coming year on as many Sundays as possible, in churches within reasonable range of his office.

2. That the Director is hereby authorized to request suitable men, in various sections of the church,—Bishops, connectional officers, college presidents, and professors, Presiding Elders, and pastors to prepare and to preach special sermons on the importance, dignity and claims of the Christian ministry."

The following resolutions from the Finance Committee, and adopted with enthusiasm, has an inspiring ring:

"Whereas, There has never been a time in the history of the church when it has been more important to maintain our denominational educational work, and the church has committed to this

Board the duty of leadership in this matter; therefore,

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this Board be instructed to plan for a systematic aggressive movement to strengthen our educational interests in every part of the church."

From the Report of the Committee on Plans and Policies, are the following statements and resolutions heartily adopted by the Board:

"We repeat most heartily our endorsement of a year ago anent Educational Conferences and Campaigns, and pledge the co-operation of the Board as a body, and of the individual members thereof in carrying them out, and in this connection call special attention to the Conference to be held at Wesley Hall on June 20-21, at which time, with representatives from various Annual Conference Boards, and preachers and teachers, there is to be a thorough discussion of the relation of the Annual Conference Boards to the General Board, and of the subject of Ministerial Supply and Training.

We recommend that our Corresponding Secretary keep in constant touch with our schools and colleges, and whenever any active canvass is being made for raising funds therefor that, upon their request, he give all encouragement by correspondence and personal presence and assistance in this work.

Resolved, That it is the sense of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, that the assessment made by the General Conference for Education and the Conference Educational assessment ought to be combined; that this combined assessment ought then to be apportioned to the several Presiding Elders' districts and thence to the several pastoral charges as the assessment for Education, and that the amount collected on this assessment ought to be divided pro rata between the General Conference and the Conference Education.

We recommend that the application for appropriations be placed in the future in the hands of the Committee on White and Colored Schools at least thirty days before the meeting of the Board; otherwise, the application will not be considered."

"OUR COUNTRY, GOD'S COUNTRY."

Home Mission Week—November 17-24, 1912.

IF IT could be demonstrated that America's greatest problems are fundamentally moral questions—and our wisest statesmen have said that they are—then it must be conceded that an unselfish agency which annually spends millions of dollars for the development of great moral ideals, and enlist thousands of workers to apply them to human life, is worthy of the respect and the support of the nation.

The American Home Mission Enterprise as represented in the various Mission Boards of our country is the biggest, broadest, bravest movement in the United States, because it stands for the physical, social, economical, intellectual and religious emancipation of all the people.

Home Mission Week is an attempt to impress upon every man and woman of every church of every evangelical denomination in this country the supreme importance of saving America for the Kingdom of God through the established agencies of the Church.

Co-operating in this campaign are the Home Missions Council, composed of twenty-seven general Boards engaged in national Home Mission work, and the Council of Women for Home Missions, which has nine constituent Women's Boards, national in their scope—indeed, these organizations represent practically the entire Protestant Home Mission forces of America, both men and women.

It is planned that during Home Mission Week America's moral and religious needs be presented

in and by every church in every community on every day of the week from November 17 to 24 inclusive, through specially prepared literature and programs which will be adapted to every constituency of our great denominations.

During the three months' period preliminary to Home Mission Week material for educational and inspirational use will be supplied to the religious press and to the denominational missionary magazines. A carefully thought out and extensive series of advertisements in religious papers and such other publications as are deemed wise will be employed, calling attention to Home Mission Week and its significance and to the great facts which demand Home Mission effort. Classes will be organized in the churches during the preliminary period for the study of outstanding American Social and religious problems.

It is proposed that on the opening Sunday of the week the pastors of the various churches will present Home Missions in a thorough and inspiring manner and the following five days will be devoted to conferences, women's missionary meetings, and church meetings, dealing with the largest problems confronting us in Home Mission work, a uniform program being adopted. Saturday is set apart as a day of prayer and fellowship, and it is expected that the second Sunday will be used for great interdenominational gatherings which will emphasize the unity of the work and give inspiration for renewed and increased service.

For those churches, towns and cities, which may not find it advisable to follow the above plan, an alternative program will be prepared, whereby various groups of persons, such as Men's Clubs, Women's Organizations, Chambers of Commerce, Civic Improvement Societies, Public School officials and teachers, groups of professional men and women, and similar organizations, may be gotten together during the week, for the purpose of indicating to them their special responsibilities in the matter of bettering the conditions and conserving the interests of all backward, depressed and suffering people in America.

Home Mission Week will therefore be the culmination of a campaign of education covering a period of three months, through the use of literature, the press, study classes and conferences. It is aimed to reach the men and women outside the church as well as those inside. It is intended for the country and the village church as well as the church in the town and the city. It is conducted in the confidence that the Home Mission Agencies of the Church are equal to the present situation, and in the belief that an awakened church, an intelligent church, an enthusiastic church, will result in a contributing church, which will make possible through the Home Mission Boards an American Missionary Enterprise which will truly make "Our Country God's County."

For detailed information and program, address Charles Stelzle, Executive Secretary, Home Mission Week, 156 Fifth Ave., New York.

SUNDAY BASEBALL.

WAS GOD well pleased when twenty students went from Wake Forest to Fayetteville on Sunday to have a game on Monday? Did the Chapel Hill boys go on Sunday? The sale of tickets, etc., met all expenses with a surplus of \$150. But if the forty students had stayed at their books, and if the Fayetteville people had put all that money at orphan homes and mission fields, would not God have been well pleased? This is a serious matter.

I hereby beg my good brothers, Dr. Poteat and Dr. Venerable to help their students to study Isaiah 58, and Jeremiah 17.

The fate of a man or a nation depends largely on Sabbath observance.

A. D. BETTS.