

crease the Efficiency of the Country Church.

Rev. W. A. Cade—Elements of a Live Epworth League.

Rev. E. L. Stack—How to Secure the Attendance of the Sunday-school Scholars on the Preaching Service.

Rev. J. L. Cuninggim—Some Modern Methods of the Sunday-school.

Friday morning was set apart as Laymen's Day and it was conceded to be the best session of the Conference. Addresses were delivered by Y. T. Ormond—The New Laymen for the New Times; W. I. Halstead, A Service in Every Church Every Sunday; C. R. Pugh, The Call of the Hour to Men.

The following addressed the Conference on Education: Prof. F. S. Aldridge, Headmaster of Trinity Park School; Dr. W. P. Few, President of Trinity College; Mrs. R. B. John, Dean of Carolina College, and Dr. S. B. Turrentine, President of Greensboro College for Women.

C. W. Morgan, C. R. Pugh, R. R. Taylor and H. T. Davenport were elected delegates to the Annual Conference.

Mann's Harbor was selected as the place for holding the next District Conference.

C. R. Pugh was elected District Lay Leader.

Eugene Chesson and Duard Jugurtha Spruill were licensed to preach. On recommendation of the Examining Committee the Conference voted unanimously to render these young men such financial aid as would be necessary for them to pursue their studies at Trinity Park and Trinity College.

John Alford Farrow was also licensed to preach.

William Robert Hardesty was recommended to the Annual Conference for admission on trial into the traveling connection.

J. B. Lugh, L. E. Old and P. H. Williams were appointed as trustees of the district parsonage.

The report of the Woman's Missionary Activities in the district was read by Mrs. C. W. Smith, of Pantego.

Revs. J. L. Cuninggim, C. B. Culbreth, E. L. Stack and Rufus Bradley were appointed as ad interim Examining Committee.

Revs. J. H. Miller and T. M. Grant were introduced to the Conference as visitors.

Reports on Evangelism and Lay Activities were ordered to the published in the Raleigh Christian Advocate.

The morning prayer and testimony service at 6:30, conducted by Revs. V. A. Royall and W. A. Cade proved to be a veritable dynamo for generating spiritual power.

We were royally entertained by the good people of Hertford. Not a thing was left undone to make our stay pleasant. We make our best bow to Rev. J. M. Ormond, pastor, and his people for their delightful hospitality.

RUFUS BRADLEY,
Secretary.

WASHINGTON DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

The District Conference of the Washington District met in annual session in Ayden on the evening of July 3, and continued through the evening of the fifth.

Rev. L. S. Massey, Editor of the Raleigh Christian Advocate, preached the opening sermon on Tuesday night from Genesis 4:9, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The speaker stated that he was afraid that we had not ceased to ask this question. Our duty is clear. Ours is a social religion, but its social expression must be based on the purity of the individ-

* * * * *

UNIFICATION OF AMERICAN METHODISM.
Official Statement of the Joint Commission.

To the Ministers and Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

The members of the Joint Commission on Unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in closing the labors of their second session, held at Traverse City, Michigan, June 27-July 3, 1917, send greetings to the people of the two branches of the one Church which they represent.

First of all, we give thanks to God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ for the full measure of grace which has been vouchsafed us in our labors, and for the evident tokens of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our assemblings, sweetening our fellowship, deepening our sense of oneness in Christ and strengthening our hope of a united Methodism throughout the reaches of our common country.

We do not seek in this message to diminish the general understanding of the difficulties which have attended our efforts to meet fully the task committed to our hands; but we have rejoiced greatly in Christ our divine Leader to see how many of these difficulties have dissolved away as we have approached them in a spirit of prayer and dedication to the end which the Church has set us to achieve. The results of our labors are not yet complete, but they are substantial and reassuring; and it is part of the purpose of this commission to inform the Connections which we represent of the fact that we have the unfinished details of our task under prayerful consideration and treatment, and it is our earnest desire to be able to make to our respective General Conferences a happy report upon the whole matter of unification.

That our people may have the means of determining for themselves the extent to which we have progressed, we beg to submit the following statement touching the conclusions reached at this sitting of the Commission:

The Joint Commission has reached tentative agreements upon the following matters:

1. The Church Conference.
2. The Quarterly Conference.
3. The Annual Conference, including lay representation therein.
4. The composition and powers of the white Regional Conferences.
5. The area boundaries and powers of the Missionary Regional Conferences.
6. The basis of representation in the General Conference and the powers of the same.
7. The method of election, assignment, and retirement of Bishops, together with a Constitutional provision for the defining and fixing the privileges, powers, and duties of the Episcopacy.

The foregoing tentative agreements are subject to further consideration and revision if necessary and their final approval and adoption is contingent upon agreement on the matters that are yet to be considered.

F. M. THOMAS,
Secretary, Commission on Unification, Methodist Episcopal Church, South.
A. W. HARRIS,
Secretary, Commission on Unification, Methodist Episcopal Church.

* * * * *

ual life. As is usual Dr. Massey was heard with pleasure and profit.

On Wednesday morning after the devotional exercises conducted by Rev. S. T. Moyle, of Farmville, the conference was called to order by Rev. C. L. Read, Presiding Elder of the district. The roll was called and matters pertaining to the organization of the conference received attention. The regular business of the conference was then taken up until the eleven o'clock hour which was the order each day. President W. P. Few, of Trinity College, addressed the conference at eleven o'clock. It was a stirring message emphasizing especially two thoughts, the importance of maintaining the Christian ideal in education and the duty of preparing our young people for the great period of world reconstruction which is to follow the present war.

The afternoon sessions were also devoted to the business phase of the conference, the devotional exercises being conducted by Rev. W. J. Covington, of Vanceboro, and Rev. B. B. Slaughter, of Rocky Mt. The reports from the Presiding Elder and the several charges on the district showed that we have had a year of progress and that the outlook is good.

This day of the conference was closed with a patriotic address by Col. J. F. Bruton, of Wilson. In his own way he held his audience with

the theme of the patriotic duty of conservation. It was a clear call, masterfully presented and by one whose own heart was astir with the message.

On Thursday morning after devotional exercises conducted by Rev. R. C. Craven, of Rocky Mount, the regular business of the conference was resumed. At eleven o'clock Rev. J. M. Daniel, of Greenville, preached a strong sermon from Isaiah 6:8, "Here am I, send me." At the afternoon session Col. J. F. Bruton, Capt. W. H. Newell, Supt. S. B. Underwood and Mr. J. Raymond Turnage were elected delegates to the Annual Conference and E. R. Mixon and J. T. Thorne alternates. The conference came to a close with the evening service which was conducted by Rev. W. A. Stanbury of Wilson. He brought to the conference a most stimulating and helpful message on the very appropriate theme of consecration, based on 2nd Corinthians 8:5.

The following were visitors at the conference and represented their respective interests; Rev. F. S. Love, Louisburg College, Dr. S. B. Turrentine, Greensboro College for Women, Mrs. R. B. John, Carolina College, Rev. F. S. Aldridge, Trinity Park School, Rev. H. E. Spence, the Sunday-school Work of the North Carolina Conference, Rev. A. S. Barnest, Supt. of the Methodist Or-

phanage at Raleigh, Rev. R. L. Davis, of the Anti-Saloon League, and Dr. L. S. Massey, Editor of the Raleigh Christian Advocate.

The conference was splendidly entertained and we are under many obligations to the good people of this thriving little town and to our genial host, Rev. Daniel Lane, Jr., for their unflinching attentions and many courtesies.

The next session of the conference will be held at Spring Hope.

MISSION BOARDS AND COLLEGES IN PERIL.

There is good authority for the statement that the Senate Finance Committee is opposed to the so-called Hollis Amendment to the War Revenue Bill which provides that deductions shall be made from taxable income for gifts and contributions for charitable, educational and religious purposes. The committee is understood also to be opposed to the Myers Amendment which provides that legacies and bequests for charitable, educational and religious purposes shall be exempt from the Federal Estate Tax, which is an inheritance tax.

The failure of these two amendments, which, it has been widely assumed, would pass without question, may bring serious consequences to religious, educational and charitable causes. Large givers are already delaying making their annual gifts or pledges because of uncertainty as to the operation of the New War Revenue measures.

The maintenance of religious, educational, philanthropic and scientific work is even more important during the war than in normal times. The needs are greater, the costs are higher and the resources from which gifts come are smaller.

The friends of all such causes should use their utmost endeavors to secure the adoption of the two amendments. Hon. F. M. Simmons is Chairman of the Finance Committee, Hon. Claude Kitchen is Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House. Strong representations should be made to these two chairmen by all interested individuals and agencies and also to other senators and representatives by their constituents.

The situation is critical. Telegrams are urgently suggested.

Dr. Samuel McCune Lindsay, of Columbia University, is chairman of the Committee on War Charity and Social Work which is urging the adoption of the Hollis and Myers Amendment. His address is Connecticut Avenue and 8th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Among agencies which have taken action in favor of such tax exemptions is the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, which at its special Washington meeting, May 8 and 9, concluded its action relating to War Finance with the following:

"We believe it to be just, whenever necessary, that income and profits should be taxed to the furthest possible point without checking production. We also believe it to be just and necessary to exempt that surplus income which is now dedicated to the maintenance of religious and social agencies, in order that the higher activities of civilization may not be impoverished."

RALEIGH DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

The Fifty-first Session of the Raleigh District Conference convened in Elizabeth Church, on the Four Oaks Circuit on Wednesday morning, July 11. Rev. J. E. Underwood, pre-

(Continued on page 10.)