

# Africo-American Presbyterian

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE."—John viii, 32.

VOL. XLVII

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1926.

NO. 25.

## OBSERVATIONS OF THE SMITH UNIVERSITY ALUMNI REUNION.

By Pastors.

Yes, sir, the old "grads" were here and exhibiting such signs of prosperity as would indicate that Father Time has dealt kindly with them since leaving these walls some years ago. Even before our finals had begun they commenced to march in from all parts of the two Carolinas, Virginia and Georgia. Classes were represented all the way from the early seventies to the twenties. The men came in filial devotion to a noble institution and to rededicate themselves to the cause of their beloved Alma Mater, to re-live for a brief spell the days of young manhood and to renew the friendships formed during the most hopeful period of their lives.

The Rev. J. S. Williams, D. D., who was largely responsible for the idea of the re-union, was very much in evidence at most of the business sessions. He had some definite and distinct notions as to what should constitute a re-union program and all efforts to sidetrack him proved futile. Somehow we rather admire the man that has the courage of honest conviction, notwithstanding the fact that we may differ materially with him in regards to the same.

The business sessions became rather noisy at times and one could easily close his eyes and imagine that the fellows were staging an old time Mattoon or Clariosophic filibuster and that the political aspirants were once more sparring for "March X" honors.

But the Alumni did succeed in accomplishing some very helpful and practical things for the institution at this re-union. It is true that the athletic program was lost in the shuffle, but it was not due to any lack of appreciation for that phase of the work. There were other and more urgent needs just now to which the men thought it the part of wisdom to bend their energies.

Among the heavy weights in attendance might be mentioned the Drs. G. W. Long, J. M. Miller, I. D. Davis and T. J. Frierson. Measured by almost any yard stick these would size up as big men, and whenever they would rise to speak usually received an attentive hearing.

Some were inclined to think that Dr. McCrorey was too modest when he did not say a word in response to that beautiful presentation speech on commencement day. But a few evenings before, the President had expressed himself publicly in regard to that work of art, and, no doubt, thought his sentiments well known in reference to the same.

Evidently the women that were invited to make talks at the banquet did not think that all the food should be for the stomachs, but some should be for thought as well; for when their turn came they rose to the exigencies of the occasion in magnificent style. The addresses by both Mrs. McCrorey and Mrs. Darimer were well made and well received.

There came along to the reunion a bunch of dashing young physicians and dentists, some of whom are not yet a decade beyond their graduation day. They were bubbling over with the enthusiasm of youth and their presence added zest to the occasion.

We do not know how the undertakers are faring in the places

where these young fellows practice, but if stylish clothes and fine cars are signs, these young doctors are getting their share of the business.

Now, since the good ladies who accompanied their husbands to the re-union have seen the place that had such a large share in preparing these gentlemen for life, we hope they will be more tolerant when "hubby" begins to act important and shows signs of swelled-headedness. Most any fellow would feel an inordinate pride, occasionally when he remembers that he is the product of the magnificent plant here located.

We do not know whether or not Dr. Hollowell, the annual orator, was trying to conform to our expressed wishes that on this grand and glorious occasion he be brief, but we do know that it has been many a moon since on a similar event we have heard an address that was more appropriate and better delivered.

One objectionable feature that is often associated with reunions in some of our big colleges is the haecchanian revelations that are often brought upon the campus. How different was this one where the men in both speech and manner were a reverent attitude and at all times seemed exceedingly grateful to God for what had been accomplished for their Alma Mater.

We think the University Management handled the problem of caring for its guests in an excellent manner. The whole matter was evidently carefully planned for in advance, and those appointed to look after details did their work well, and while we have the floor, we move a vote of thanks to be given the University for the comfort and convenience afforded the Alumni while they were its guests.

The re-union services held in the chapel Tuesday over which Dr. Williams presided, were indeed impressive. It is a matter of regret that an overcrowded program prevented its being attended as largely as its importance demanded. The several addresses were brief and to the point, and the hymns selected were appropriate. A praise service it was, with reverence for the past, praise for the present, and joyous hopes in the future.

It was a matter of keen disappointment to all that Mrs. Smith, the great benefactress, could not be present; for many had come with the hope of seeing her who had done so much for the institution. However, we must say that it was the biggest and, perhaps, the best commencement that we have ever had.

### COULTER ACADEMY'S COMMENCEMENT.

Commencement exercises at Coulter Academy began Thursday, May 14, with Class Day Program. This program was exceptionally good and reflected great credit to the class of 1925. On Friday night the Primary Department presented an operetta, "The Little Folk Town." This Department is under the direction of Mrs. M. E. Spencer. Sunday, May 17th, at 4:30 P. M., the annual sermon was delivered by Dr. I. D. Davis of Columbia, N. C. His sermon was very impressive and full of inspiration. The sermon was

preached in the chapel of "Community Hall."

Sunday night the Catechism contest was held. At this exercise a very beautiful solo was rendered by Mrs. I. D. Davis of Columbia. Two young ladies, Patsie Harris, 27, and Trottie Moore, 25, recited the entire Catechism, winning the first and second prizes respectively. The first prize, five dollars in gold, was presented by Dr. C. M. Young, of Harbison College, and the second prize, two dollars and a half, by Dr. I. D. Davis, of Columbia. They also received Teachers' Bibles given by the Sunday School Missionary Department.

Monday night, May 18th, a Cantata, "The Jolly Picnic Party," was rendered by the Intermediate Department. This Department is in charge of Miss Mabel L. Shaw.

Tuesday night, May 19th, the Elementary Department very creditably presented a modern morality play, "The Quest for Happiness." The play was one of the best ever presented at Coulter and was greatly enjoyed by a very large audience. Miss Gladys Wilson directed the play.

Thursday night, May 21st, the Junior Prize contest was held. The contest was as usual, very good, and was under the able supervision of Mrs. G. W. Long. The first prize was won by Annie Mae Culbert, Cheraw, and the second by Mamie Pruitt, Due West. The judges were Dr. A. H. McCain, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Cheraw, and Hon. T. C. Wanamaker.

The graduating exercises were held Tuesday evening. Six representatives of the class had essays which were well prepared and read. The program was as follows:

- Processional. Senior Class Chorus, "Greetings to Spring."
- Prayer, Rev. J. S. Birch.
- Instrumental solo, "Con Anivre," Trottie Moore.
- Essay, "The Road to Success," Viola E. Funderburk.
- Oration, "Duty to our Posterity," Alphonso S. Poe.
- Solo, "Carmena," Thelma Marshall.
- Essay, "Music, the Compliment of the Soul," Trottie Moore.
- Essay, "Some Needs of the Negro," Jennie M. Sanders.
- Piano and violin duet, "Hosanna," Miss M. L. Gates and Mr. C. L. Lynch.
- Essay, "Acquisition Necessary for Appreciation," Blanche Sorvell.
- Essay, "Gentle Manners," Dottie R. Davis.
- Solo, "Love, Here Is My Heart," Edwin Emanuel.
- Presentation of Diplomas, by Dr. G. W. Long.
- Octet, "By the Waters of Minnetouka."
- Awarding Prizes, etc.
- Chorus, "A Glad May Morning."
- Benediction.

### BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

#### Miller Memorial Prebyterian Church Notes.

Rev. Wm. Sample has accepted this work and has served more than a month. Everything is being revived, new life taken on and new activities engaged in. Every one is doing his part to make things go and to make a success. Mrs. Sample and the children are valuable assets to the church and its program. The manse has been repaired and prepared and four rooms furnished—living room, dining room, bed room and kitchen—by the various organizations of the church. A Chicken Head Hunt, and a shower for the pastor were recently given. The chicken head was found by Mr. W. M. Parrish, for which he received the chicken. Credit is given Mrs. A. S. Tamer and J. J. Thompson for their selection in hiding the head. It was found in a bar of octagon soap. Many useful gifts were given in foods and other articles. The school has just closed a successful year. The commencement was largely attended. On Monday night, May 18th, the Primary Grade, with Mrs. K. Kennedy and Mrs. Beatrice White, teachers, gave an operetta, "The Brownies' Band."

### COMMENCEMENT AT KENDALL INSTITUTE, SUMMER, S. C.

Following a week of exercises by various grades, and the annual sermon on the 17th by Rev. C. J. Baker, D. D., of Atlanta, Ga., the commencement exercises were held Tuesday morning, May 19th, in the school auditorium before a very large and appreciative audience. The following program was carried out: Invocation by Dr. Rice, pastor of the First A. M. E. Zion church. Song by chorus, "Voice of the Woods." Oration by Miss Precious Tindall, subject, "Citizenship." Oration by Miss Helen Burgess, subject, "Forward." Oration by Miss Estelle Gregg, subject, "Climb Though the Rocks Be Rugged." Song, "Away to the Woods."

Class History, by Miss Bessie Seawright.

Oration by Miss Naomi Ramsey, "The End Crowns the Work."

Valedictory by Miss Mattie Peterson, subject, "Act Well Your Part."

Song, "Springtime," chorus.

Annual Address by Hon. R. D. Epps, Mayor of Sumter.

Song, "Bridal Chorus."

Awarding Diplomas by Rev. J. W. Manoney.

Presentation of Prizes by Rev. Rice.

Class Song.

Benediction by Rev. J. M. Harrison, D. D.

These exercises from beginning to end were well attended each night and were enjoyed by all. The Rev. C. J. Baker, D. D., of Atlanta, Ga., preached an eloquent sermon. The attendance was large. Every available seat was used and many could not be accommodated. The graduates from the High School were 22 in number.

The address of Mayor Epps was of an unusually high order. He said that the speeches, and in fact, the entire program, were as good as any high school commencement he had ever attended. Everybody seemed to be pleased. Rev. Foster and his faculty received many compliments for the fine showing made by the students in the several exercises of the week.

The school is indeed doing splendid work, and deserves the sympathy and support of the community. It has a great future before it. All it needs is better equipment. There were nearly six hundred students here the past year. There would be even more there were accommodation enough to care for them. It is situated in the center of the strongest Presbyterian belt in the South, and therefore fills a great need.

Dr. and Mrs. Foster, together with their faithful teachers, are doing a great work for the training of our youths, and truly deserve the help of all who are interested in the uplift of the race. J. W. MANONEY.

Hooks. "The Dance of the Wood Nymphs," a physical culture exercise by twelve girls, was directed by Mrs. E. F. Roberts, and a fashion show was directed by Mrs. L. A. Bolden, teacher of Domestic Art. The girls displayed dresses and hats which they had made in the Domestic Art room.

The Sunday School is increasing in membership under the supervision of its superintendent, Mr. U. S. Bryant. A Men's Bible Class has been organized and is largely attended. The class is being taught by the pastor, Rev. Wm. Sample.

The Sunday School will entertain its members who have just returned from school on the afternoon of June 11, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Roberts, 1126 Thomas Street. It is hoped to be an enjoyable affair.

The Sunday School is planning to conduct a Daily Vacation Bible School at an early date, with the help of Miss Williams, of Anniston, Ala., and local talent.

The Ladies' Missionary Society held its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. E. L. Jones, 1230 High Street. The monthly topic was discussed. Plans were laid for a public program for some time in June.

The Christian Endeavor Society has just furnished the church with new books which were very much appreciated.

The Lightbearers' organization gave a public program, and the singing of the Catechism was a new feature to the audience. They have assumed the responsibility of taking care of the telephone bill in the manse.

Rev. Sample has been conducting the prayer meetings on Wednesday nights in his own way. His topics are live and interesting and the meeting has increased in attendance.

Mr. Johnnie Wilhite is home, after having graduated from Talladega College, Talladega, Ala.

Mrs. Eva C. Greer has left the city to make her home in Chicago.

Mrs. Kate Kennedy has just returned from Talladega where she attended the commencement of Talladega College.

Miss Marie and Margaret and Mr. James E. Blackstrom are visiting their sister, Mrs. E. F. Roberts, 1126 Thomas St.

The sister of Mrs. Wm. Sample is here to spend the summer months. MRS. E. F. ROBERTS, Reporter. 1126 Thomas St.

### C. S. C. & S. M. NOTES

(From the office of the Dean.)

Watch this column each week for news about the Catawba Synodical Convention and School of Methods. And do not fail to register early.

Under the leadership of the efficient and energetic President, Rev. G. P. Watkins, the Executive Committee of the Convention and School of Methods met at Johnson C. Smith University on April 29th. The following items of business claimed the attention of the Committee: The Building of a Program; the Selection of a personnel to carry out the program; Making and Adoption of a Budget for the year's expense, and the adoption of a report of a Committee sent out to revise the report blanks from the District to the Synodical Convention.

In building the program several changes were made to increase the usefulness and efficiency of the Convention. One important change was the allotting of more time to Bible study. This year one-third of the entire classroom work will be devoted to Bible study, under the leadership of two experts in this particular.

(Continued on page 4)

### ARKADELPHIA ACADEMY, ARKADELPHIA, ARK.

Commencement Exercises May 10-15.—Rev. W. D. Feaster, D. D., Principal.

By Rev. E. C. Hames, D. D.

The 1925 commencement exercises of Arkadelphia Academy were the best in the history of this serviceable and progressive school. The campus and buildings were alive with enthusiastic and grateful patrons and friends. On May 10th the doors were thrown open to the public and even the most scrutinizing observations brought forth the highest praise for the exceptionally good work Dr. Feaster is doing in Arkansas towards the Negro's uplift and fitness for service. The Academy sets for the community the Christian standard of life and thrift and the results of Dr. Feaster's efforts are wonderful. Associated with Rev. Feaster is a corps of efficient teachers whose single aim and purpose is to assist in the development of worthwhile life. The school is made up of students from various parts of Arkansas and Mississippi; almost every denomination is represented, but the idea of belonging to a certain group or outside faction is lost in the feeling of a big family's loyalty and consecrated service towards lifting one's self to the best in life; and, joining hands, they pull together.

In the triangular contest between three counties for the best display in domestic science, the girls of this academy won the banner. The boys displayed skill in their work; they raised all the meat for the school, vegetables and fruit for canning and even the syrup came from the boys' labor. Printing for the school is done also by the students.

In the field of athletics it is difficult to beat the girls in basket ball. They won a game in basket-ball from Gibbs' High School, Little Rock, scoring 6-4. The only game they lost during school term was the second game with Shorter College, Little Rock. The score was 7 to 6.

Attesting the worth and thoroughness of Arkadelphia Academy, the State School Commissioner brought over the license and addressing the eight young men and women who had taken examination he said in connection with other things, "You have proved a great asset in the State of Arkansas, and it is with pleasure that I present a license to a group of young folk representing the same school; and never before have I seen an entire group of its kind where each member made A. Arkansas should be proud of you and Arkansas is proud. Had you applied for first grade license, I feel sure you would have made it; and the only mistake is that you applied for second instead of first grade."

With much anticipation we looked for commencement day, wondering how the day would overshadow the preceding days with things well done. The twelve graduates had given evidence during the week that their twelve years of school life had not been in vain; and on commencement day they left the thought with the crowded chapel that the end of their school days in Arkadelphia Academy was but the beginning of a new life of service—a beginning to acquire more knowledge. The graduating exercises were fine and in all things a touch of elegance was shown.

The return home of these 12 graduates is with a pure, high and noble purpose—a purpose to become a power for good in the cities, towns, and communities to which they go.