

Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1925

NO. 33.

A FUND FOR MINISTERIAL RELIEF

Ministers and Sessions of the Presbytery of Southern Virginia, Please take notice:

As a commissioner to the 137th General Assembly, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, in May, I was asked by the chairman of the Laymen's Committee to become identified with it in putting over its program in my Presbytery. I am, therefore, taking this method of reaching the ministers and sessions within the bounds of the Presbytery of Southern Virginia.

Realizing the inadequacy and uncertainty of the continued support of retired and disabled ministers and missionaries through the present Board of Relief and Sustentation, the General Assembly, meeting in Indianapolis, appointed the Laymen's Committee, of which Mr. Will H. Hays, ex-Postmaster General is chairman, to work out a plan by which every disabled and retired minister and missionary in the Presbyterian Church can be assured of an adequate and permanent support. With such a personnel as Will H. Hays, John W. Baer, E. J. Cooper, Robt. Lansing, William B. McKinley, Richard B. Mellon, Nathan G. Moore, A. H. Whitford and J. N. Jarvie the success of the plan is assured.

The object of this system is to raise \$15,000,000 by voluntary subscription among churchmen and churchwomen who are convinced that such a step will materially raise ministerial standards and lead eventually to a revival of interest in church activities.

Personally, I am highly in sympathy with the movement, and, as loyal and progressive Presbyterians, we can but feel that our ministers are poorly paid for their service, to say the least. Possibly nine-tenths of the ministers of Southern Virginia are fifty years or more of age. We have many vacant churches needing ministers. If the present state of affairs continue our supply will soon be exhausted.

I believe, as Mr. Hays says in his speech before the last General Assembly, that religion is the one essential industry of the world, and if we would have this industry endure; if we would have the Church of Jesus Christ preserved as the holding thread in our social, moral and commercial fabric, we simply must consider this matter of the underpaid minister.

We can consider nothing less than the present high standard of our ministers, for which the Presbyterian Church stands; and the preparation of a Presbyterian preacher means many years of the hardest sort of sacrifice and it is not fair to expect these men to come from our colleges and seminaries to enter a life of continuous sacrifice with no assurances of anything like an adequate remuneration for service rendered; with no assurance of a liberal education for their children or the comforts of their dependents after they are gone. This is not a matter of commercializing the gospel. It is simply a matter of enabling the minister to give himself wholly and solely to the needs of his congregation, and this is hardly possible unless the Church in turn will give him its support in something like a substantial way. You may say that the average church is too poor to supplement the support from the Boards sufficiently to give the minister adequate support. Granting this to be true under ordinary circumstances, the Laymen's Committee has very carefully worked out a plan by which the churches, though poor, can enhance that support. Providing still that the churches are too poor, there are possibly individuals in every church

who can subscribe to this program and I am especially asking that you will supply me with names and addresses of those who are likely to become contributors to this new system.

Under this new plan no retired or disabled minister will receive an annuity of less than \$600, which assurance in itself is an improvement over the present plan of Relief and Sustentation.

The committee does not advise a canvass of the churches in support of the plan. It simply asks for voluntary subscriptions from individuals, men and women, who are anxious to experience a revival of church activities.

Will every member and session in the Presbytery of Southern Virginia interest themselves in this matter to the extent that they will send me at the earliest possible date, the tabulation asked for?

Yours for the success of the Church,
EDWARD B. HARRIS,
Box 584, Crewe, Va.

GETTING WELL OF TUBERCULOSIS.

North Carolina Offers Unusual Facilities.

Sanatorium, N. C.—A person who has been told by a competent physician that he has tuberculosis, must give up work and take treatment, or soon he will have to stop work. Early discovery and the right kind of treatment taken at once are the most important factors in recovery from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis in the lungs is usually chronic, and long drawn out. Sanatorium treatment and proper home care after leaving the sanatorium, and intelligent selection of work, will cure the majority of light and medium cases, and some seemingly hopeless ones. Six months is generally the shortest time in which a patient may safely be returned to active life.

There is no medicine that will cure tuberculosis. Patent medicines claiming to cure the disease are fakes. Only right living will cure it.

If possible, a sanatorium is the place to go in order to get well. But it is not impossible to get well in the patient's own home, under a good doctor. The principles of the treatment at home are the same as in a well ordered sanatorium: rest persistently and systematically taken, fresh air, nourishing food, and careful supervision of exercise after the patient gets out of bed.

When the symptoms of tuberculosis have disappeared the patient must continue to take care of himself. His disease is not well, but what the doctors speak of as an "improved" case. In order to make his arrest a final cure, he must continue to take good care of himself for a number of years.

In climate and suitable sanatoria, a person becoming ill with tuberculosis in North Carolina has unusual opportunities for cure within his own State. The mountains and the sandhill country offer a wonderful climate for the cure of the disease. The State Sanatorium cares for 182 white patients and 60 colored ones. Guilford County has a modern, well-equipped county sanatorium; Mecklenburg is building one, and a number of other counties are planning to build sanatoria. In the mountains and the sandhill section there are a number of private sanatoria for the care of those cases who do not wish to go to State or county institutions. There is no need of any person ill with tuberculosis in North Carolina going West to seek a cure.

PRAY FOR AMERICA

(By Great Commission Prayer League.)

On the very day that these lines are being written (July 23, 1925), the following paragraph appeared editorially in one of the nation's most influential metropolitan dailies:

"The administration of criminal justice is flat on its back here and elsewhere in this country, and criminals are on top of it, sticking their fingers in its eyes. Our murderers, rapists, pickpockets and thugs walk out of court, out of jail, out of the penitentiary. . . . The police cannot hold them. The law cannot punish them. They are bosses in this state."

If the prevalence of crime is a true index of the moral state of the nation and of the spiritual state of the Church, America in all its history has never so needed a great religious upheaval as it needs today. Not outward restraint, but inward constraint, this alone can completely curb man's turbulent instincts, supplanting his baser nature with the Nature from above. And prayer in the Spirit is the only thing that can bring such a change about, whether in the few or in the many.

It is earnestly suggested that "Columbus Day" (Monday, October 12) be widely observed this year as a day of "fasting and prayer" for the people of this nation, who as evidenced in the following facts (all but the last of which were published recently in the Christian Herald of New York City) have been wandering farther and farther from God:

Family worship is observed in less than 20 per cent of America's professedly Christian homes, as against more than 70 per cent in former times.

The Bible is sadly discredited in many churches, and driven largely from the Nation's public schools.

Every seventh marriage in the country ends in divorce.

Petty pilfering has increased "five times over since 1910."

Crime has increased over 400 per cent during the same period. "Every fourth person," says the Chicago Health Institute, "has a 'social' disease." Social diseases kill 300,000 annually in the United States.

Neither life nor property is safe anywhere. And worse still, multitudes of souls are plunging to temporal and eternal ruin, with as yet scarcely a protest worthy of the name on the part of the Church.

Where is all this to end? A mighty revival checked the murderous reign of crime recently at Herrin, Ill., one of America's most notoriously bloody cities. A mighty revival would check it in the nation at large. Nothing else will do it effectually. When will the Church awake? It must awake soon, else America's doom is sealed. For neither this nor any nation, can go on in sin and escape unpunished. "The wages of sin is death." "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

The time is come that self-judgment must begin at the house of God, else the judgments of God will fall upon both house and nation, but upon the house first.

Pray for the Church! Pray for America. Pray for a revival.

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE ANNOUNCES FELLOWSHIPS.

Graduates of Springfield College, Fisk and Howard Universities are Successful Candidates.

The National Urban League announces the following successful candidates for its 1925-1926 Fellowships: Miss Miriam Atkins of Winston-Salem, N. C.; C. Glen Carrington of Richmond,

Va., and D. S. Yarbrough, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Miss Atkins, who is awarded the Ella Sachs Plotz Fellowship, is a graduate of Fisk University and studied for a summer at Columbia University. She has taught for three years at the State School and in the City High School of Winston-Salem, N. C. Mr. Carrington is a graduate of Howard University, class of 1925. He was very popular in connection with student activities, having served as editor-in-chief of the University Year Book, "The Bison." Mr. Yarbrough was an honor student at Springfield College where with very fine marks he received the Degree of Master of Humanities in June, 1925. Miss Atkins and Mr. Carrington are assigned to the New York School of Social Work. Mr. Yarbrough is assigned to the University of Pittsburgh.

These selections were made from a total of 39 applicants—26 of whom took the competitive examination. The scholarship award amounts to about \$900 which includes \$70 a month stipend and free tuition at the respective schools.

Applications for the 1926-'27 Fellowships may be filed through April 15th, 1926.

EUGENE KINCKLE JONES, Executive Secretary, 127 East 23rd Street, New York, N. Y.

MISSISSIPPI NOTES.

The Mississippi Presbyterial District S. S. Convention met in Trinity Presbyterian church, West Point, Miss., July 23-26.

The Thursday night program consisted mainly of welcome addresses from the local committee followed by addresses from Rev. Van Horn Murray, Sabbath School Missionary for the District, and Rev. J. B. Barber, Synodical Superintendent, on the following subjects respectively, "The Scope and Opportunity of the Presbyterial Sabbath School Convention," and "The Sabbath School Program of the Presbyterian Church." Both addresses were timely and to the point.

The sessions for each day and night were given over to addresses on the problems of the Sabbath School, Round Table discussions and exchanges. Many good things were given that will prove of value to all delegates present. While we did not have as large a delegation as in former years more work was accomplished.

Much credit is due the pastor and members of the church and community for the splendid entertainment given to the delegates.

Our Convention is headed by a new corps of officers under the leadership of Mrs. Walter Stith as President and Mrs. Van Horn Murray, Secretary. With these two workers it is hoped that our Convention will push forward.

We were favored on Friday night with two splendid addresses from Rev. G. W. Thomas, of the A. M. E. church, and Rev. C. H. Pearson, of the M. E. church, on the subjects, "The Opportunity of the Sabbath School for Teaching the Word of God and for Training in Christian Service," and Rev. D. S. Collier and Rev. T. B. Bailey on "Developing Christian Leadership" and "Evangelism" respectively.

On Sabbath morning a splendid sermon was delivered by Rev. J. B. Barber. Text, Acts 8:26. Our session closed Sabbath night with a very instructive sermon by Rev. T. B. Bailey and expressions from delegates. The session closed one of our very best meetings from the standpoint of work accomplished.

VAN HORN MURRAY, S. S. Missionary, West Point, Miss.

The thirty-five Negro churches of Harlem in New York City have contributed \$24,000 to the 1925 building fund of the Presbyterial-Columbia University medical center.

YADKIN WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The seventh annual district meeting of the National and Foreign Missionary Society of the Western District of Yadkin Presbytery, Synod of Catawba, was held in Mocksville Presbyterian church, Mocksville, N. C., July 30-31.

The meeting opened at 10:30 A. M., July 30. First was the devotional exercise led by the President, Mrs. B. F. Murray. Next was the enrollment of delegates and the reading of the minutes.

The following officers were elected for the year 1925-1926.

President, Mrs. B. F. Murray, Cleveland.
1st Vice-President, Mrs. A. P. White, Cleveland.
2nd Vice-President, Mrs. S. A. Chambers, Elmwood.
Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. A. Hawkins, Salisbury.
Asst. Secretary, Mrs. E. A. Abernethy, Statesville.
Cor. Secretary, Mrs. H. C. Cowan, Statesville.
Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Wood, Statesville.

Reports from the different churches were read and showed that all were alive and busy at work. All the churches of the Western District were represented save three. It is hoped that they will send at least one delegate to the next district meeting, the last Thursday in July, 1926. Forty-four delegates were enrolled from thirteen churches.

The amount of money collected during the meeting was \$17.56. Brought forward from last year, \$14.10. Total \$31.66. Money spent, \$15.50. To Missionary Society at Mocksville, \$5.00. Johnson C. Smith University Chime Clock Fund, \$10.00. Postage, 50 cents. Balance in Treasury, \$17.00.

Thursday Afternoon.

The meeting was opened with music, followed with prayer by Rev. Hawkins. Many interesting papers were read and discussed. Some that created much interest were: "Community Work," "A Christian Home," "Do Not Blame the Wrong One," "Great Women of the Bible," and "What Can We Do to Make the Work Successful?" All of the papers were well written and discussed.

Ministers present were Dr. B. F. Murray, Revs. W. T. Byrd, pastor of the church, W. A. Hawkins and J. M. Morton.

Mrs. Meares, our Presbyterial President, was present and spoke very commendably of the work. We were very much pleased to have her present. She gave much information concerning the work, and stated that each of the local societies is to pay \$1.04 per member. This is to be sent to the Presbyterial Treasurer quarterly, stating where you want the money to go. Information will be found in literature distributed by the Presbyterial President.

Thursday evening a popular meeting was held. Music was furnished by the Mocksville church choir. Much praise should be given to the choir for its excellent renditions. We were also favored with two solos, "Do Something for Somebody Every Day," Mrs. Meares, and "Thy Will Be Done In Me," Mrs. Bessie Cheshire, of Salisbury.

Welcome on behalf of the church was given by Rev. W. T. Byrd and welcome on behalf of the Missionary Society was by Mrs. Mary Steele. Both addresses were fine. They spared no means to say we were welcome and they along with Mrs. Doulin and the other ladies spared no means to make us welcome. These addresses were responded to by Mrs. A. D. Lord, of Statesville.

Friday Morning.

Devotionals were led by Mrs. Estelle Phifer and Mrs. S. A. Chambers. Then Memorial services were conducted by Mrs. J. A. McCorkle and Mrs. A. P.

White. These services were very impressive. The music was led by Dr. B. F. Murray. The deceased sisters memorialized were Mesdames Frances Morrison, Emmaline Hall, Hattie Knox, Millie Steele, Lydia Murdock, Maria Miller and Cecelia Fleming.

Miss Agers, of Shelby, was accorded a seat as a corresponding member of the Convention.

Cleveland is the next place of meeting. Resolutions were read by Miss McCorkle.

Young People's hour was conducted by Mrs. Bessie Waddell. The children spoke well. Much credit is due them, especially one little Light Bearer just 4 years old.

Report of the Presbyterial was made by Mrs. Doulin. Mrs. J. M. Morton is delegate to the Presbyterial meeting.

MRS. B. F. MURRAY, President.

MRS. H. C. COWAN, Cor. Sec.

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

(From the Office of the Dean.)

THE LAST CALL.

As you read these notes the meeting of the Catawba Synodical Sunday School Convention and School of Methods will be only one week off. If you have not registered and gotten your assignment you have only a short time to do so. To register and get your assignment before the convention meets will greatly help the office force in getting you located on your arrival.

We thank the patrons for the splendid response they have given to our appeals thus far. From indications this ought to be our best year, from the standpoint of attendance, and the president, officers and faculty desire, through the will of God, to make it our banner year most surely from the standpoint of service rendered.

At Johnson C. Smith University they are endeavoring to look out for the comfort of each delegate. The beautiful dormitories are being thoroughly cleaned and put in order, and the campus looks very inviting. So we may look forward to a week of solid comfort. As we said last week, let every one come prepared to enter into the spirit of the occasion.

Let us remind you again to bring a change of bed linen for each person, as all of the beds are single beds.

When the next issue of the paper comes out it will be on the eve of the opening of the Convention, so these are our last note for 1925. We want, therefore, to thank the management of the Africo-American Presbyterian for their kindness in printing our notes each week, and want to thank the constituents of the Synod for their interest in reading them.

Hoping to see a very large number present at the meeting on August 24th, we are,

Very cordially yours,
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

NOTICE — COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL BOARD OF CATAWBA SYNOD.

There will be a meeting of the Catawba Synod's Committee on the National Board of Missions at the Johnson C. Smith University on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 1925, at some convenient hour, not conflicting with program of School of Methods, then in session. Every member of the committee is asked to be present and assist in making out the program for the approaching meeting of the Synod. However, if any member finds that he cannot be present, he will greatly favor and assist by sending in a suggested program. J. D. MARTIN, Chairman Committee National Board, Catawba Synod.