

Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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INFINITE GOOD IS BOUND TO SPRING FROM INTER-RACIAL COOPERATION PLAN

How a Southern Newspaper Views the Commission's Work

(Editorial from Birmingham (Ala.) News, June 8, 1926)

The Commission on Interracial Cooperation has pointed out the way of approach to the Negro question which, if followed, cannot fail to result in better understanding and a more real and sincere tolerance between the races.

Long since there has passed out of the minds of thoughtful Southerners that feeling of timidity and that false modesty which at first caused the South to look on the Commission on Interracial Cooperation as an organization treading on dangerous ground; as a body of altruists seeking to perform the impossible; as a group of short-haired women and long-haired men with impractical theories that would stir up unrest rather than prevent it, and lead to no end of fruitless discussion.

But if we turn to the records and read what that eminent and really great Negro, Dr. Booker T. Washington, pledged to his Southern neighbors during his lifetime, whatever suspicions may have been held that the interracial movement is a dangerous thing are dissipated. Dr. Washington said in part, addressing white Southerners:

"As we have proved our loyalty in the past, in nursing your children, watching by the sick-bed of your mothers and fathers, and often following them with tear-dimmed eyes to their graves, so in the future we shall stand by you with a devotion that no foreigner can approach, ready to lay down our lives if need be, in defense of yours, interlacing our industrial, commercial and religious life with yours in a way that shall make the interests of both races one. In all things that are purely social we can be as separate as the fingers, yet one as the hand in all things essential to mutual progress."

It is to the credit of the commission that it has published similar excerpts from the utterances of great-hearted, rational, calm-minded thinkers, both Whites and Negroes, ranging themselves on the side of tolerance, openmindedness, compassion, justice, and mercy and understanding.

Among these is a fine declaration by Henry W. Grady, that matchless Georgian who was ever ready to demand fair-play for the lowly and the oppressed. Years ago, before Booker T. Washington had established the Tuskegee School, but as if in answer to the prayer he would one day utter, Henry W. Grady wrote this for the Atlanta Constitution:

"Let us give the Negro his uttermost rights, and measure out justice to him in that fulness the strong should always give the weak. Let us educate him that he may be a better, a broader and more enlightened man. . . . And let us remember this—that whatever wrong we put on him shall return to punish us. Whatever we take from him in violence, that is unworthy and shall not endure. . . . But what we win from him in sympathy and affection, what we gain in his confiding allegiance and confirm in his awakening judgment, that is precious and shall endure—and out of it shall come healing peace."

But interracial cooperation has passed beyond the experimental stage. Its discussion and practicality are regarded favorably not merely by practical Christians and sociologists, but by all level-headed citizens as a matter of practical business, social and economic common sense. Great corporations such as the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company realize through practice that fair treatment of the Negro through

clean and decent housing makes him a better citizen and a better worker and means for him better health and a right and loyal frame of mind.

Because Negroes, being human beings, respond exactly to kind and fair treatment as their white neighbors are supposed to respond.

Such pleasant reflections along the line of justice and fairness are so trite and commonplace that they may seem to be stupidly insane. And yet if the South had exercised fairness and mercy, and if the Negroes had invariably received absolute fairness in our courts of justice, and if they had never been robbed and charged exorbitantly high rentals for the hovels they inhabit, probably no Southern city and no pleasant and fruitful farm worked by Negroes ever would have suffered from the exodus of thousands of Negroes to climates for which they were totally unfitted by training and heredity. Probably there would never have been an exodus of any importance, if our guarantee to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness had been kept, although this exodus doubtless has been hastened by secret organizations whose violent activities, whether directed against so-called "bad Negroes" or against the whole race, have caused a growing feeling of fear and insecurity amongst our black neighbors.

But light begins to appear. Thanks to these courageous men and women at the head of the Interracial Commission, with headquarters at Atlanta, the hopes and aims of enlightened Southerners have been set to practical working. Many conferences have been held for joint discussions of problems which formerly were regarded as too delicate for round table consideration: The matter of better housing, better schools, better conditions of labor, safer and more healthful means of ventilation in shops and factories, and so forth.

"How far that little candle throws its beams!
So shines a good deed in a naughty world."

The plan of interracial adjustment has even spread to Africa, whence came the ancestors of these Negro neighbors of ours. According to visitors to South Africa, committees patterned after the interracial plan adopted by Southern States are serving in Johannesburg, Capetown, Marianne Hill, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and other centers. These committees meet monthly and seek to influence public opinion and legislation in the interest of needed adjustments.

And what is being done here at home?

Committees have been set up in every Southern State and in 800 counties. In many communities their efforts have been notably successful. Assistance has been rendered in hundreds of educational enterprises for Negroes including millions of dollars; health campaigns have been promoted in every State, hospitals and tuberculosis camps established, clinics opened to colored children, public nurses employed; lynchings have been prevented, and in a few cases members of lynching mobs have been prosecuted and sent to the penitentiary; legal aid has been extended to Negroes in scores of cases in which they were intimidated, persecuted or exploited; sewers, street paving, water, lights, libraries, rest rooms and other civic advantages have been secured for Negro communities; parks, play-

SOUTH HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL, ANNISTON, ALABAMA.

Under the Control of the Division of Missions for Colored People of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

South Highland High School for Colored Boys and Girls at Anniston, Ala., will open Wednesday, September 1st, 1926.

The South Highland High School has two Departments—Grammar School, which consists of the grades (third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades with well regulated studies); and a High School with the highest possible ranking.

The completion of an accredited Grammar School Course is the requirement for the entrance to our First Year High School. This High School offers a first-class High School Course of four years. Our graduates are given high ranking by the Northern and Eastern Universities without examination.

Diplomas are given for completing the High School Course. Music, Cooking by Gas, Advanced Sewing and Dressmaking, Printing, Plumbing, Bricklaying are taught by well trained and experienced persons. The young men and women can fit themselves for life's

duties by taking advantage of the opportunities offered in the South Highland High School.

These trades will be offered to any person or persons at a reasonable rate of tuition. The Golden moment has come for young men and young women to prepare themselves for the duties of life. Seize the opportunity and learn a trade.

The school is well equipped with modern Single Desks and Chair Desks, Maps of all Countries, Printing Press, Latin and English Perception Cards, Sewing and Domestic Science Rooms, large Student Library and Scientific Laboratory for teaching Physics and Chemistry.

Six large rooms and hall have been opened in the last few years with Lavatories fitted with Shower Baths and the best Sewer connection. A large work shop was built and equipped during the month of March for teaching boys the Plumbing and Bricklaying trades. The work shop has been well equipped with masonry,

carpentry, and plumbing tools.

The building and grounds are located just a mile and a half from the business center of the city of Anniston. The campus is sufficiently elevated to give a commanding view of the City, has natural drainage on all sides, is beautifully shaded with trees—all these making it a beautiful and healthful place for School. A large play ground has been made in the rear of the building for tennis and other games.

Tuition and Entrance Fee.
Third and Fourth Grades—\$2.00 to enter and 30 cents per month in advance.

Fifth and Sixth Grades—\$3.00 to enter and 40c per month in advance.

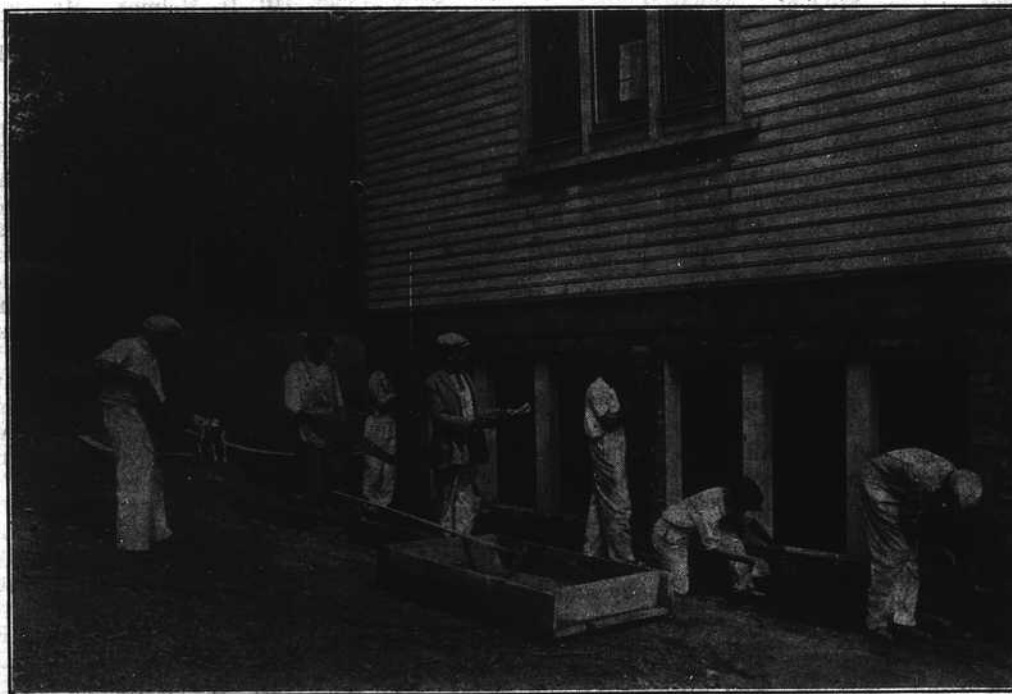
Seventh and Eighth Grades—\$6.00 to enter and 50c per month in advance.

High School or College Preparatory—\$8.00, and 75c per month in advance.

For further information write
REV. A. W. RICE, Principal,
Anniston, Alabama.



Principal's Residence, South Highland High School, now in course of construction, the work being done by the Students in Masonry.



The Science Laboratory. A teacher for the Science Department is wanted for the next term.

grounds, pools and other provisions for recreation have been established; Negro welfare agencies have been included in community chests; day nurseries and social centers have been conducted; colored probation officers secured—these are among a multitude of actual results achieved.

ONE THOUSAND AT INTER-RACIAL MEET IN TENNESSEE.

Encouraging Progress Reported and Many Prominent People on Program.

Nashville, Tenn., July 8.—More than one thousand people were in attendance at the annual meeting of the Interracial League of Tennessee, held last week at the A. & I. State Normal College. Among the prominent speakers were P. L. Har- ned, State Superintendent of Education, Judge Ligon and Dr. Phelps, members of the State

Educational Board, Mrs. Katherine Grimes, associate editor of the Southern Agriculturist, which has a circulation of 300,000, Dr. Edwin Mims of Vanderbilt University, Hon. J. C. Napier, former Registrar of the United States Treasury, President W. J. Hale, of A. & I. College, Bishop I. B. Scott, Mrs. F. M. Pierce, President of the State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, and Dr. R. T. Burt, of Clarksville.

transportation, the securing for colored people of parks, playgrounds and other public utilities, the clearing up of critical situations, and the improvement of interracial attitudes, through local and state-wide conferences.

The gratifying announcement was made that the State Board of Education had on that very day awarded contracts for new buildings for the State Normal to cost \$320,000, provided for by the last legislature largely through the efforts of the interracial organization. The work in the State is directed by Secretaries J. D. Burton and Robert E. Clay, whose reports were received with interest and appreciation.

HOXTER DEVELOPING MONSTER CHORUS.

Philadelphia, July 12.—The great festival Chorus of Colored Singers to appear in a Musical Exhibition August 23rd at the Stadium of the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition here is being rapidly developed by W. Frank Hoxter. Hundreds of choral singers are assembling in various sections of the city regularly for the rehearsals. Remarkable voices have been discovered in the response to the general invitation to choir, club and solo voices being built up and harmonized for the great chorus. The exhibition will include not only the huge chorus of several hundred voices, but also instrumental soloists.

Exhibits Unique
Exhibits of outstanding value are being assembled and many complete in the Palace of Agriculture of the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition. A valuable historic exhibit covering religious activities is being made. The development in the insurance field is also a prominent part of the composite show. The North Carolina Mutual has a health and general exhibit that is interesting and instructive.

Great Pageant
"Loyalty's Gift" was given great attention. The favorable publicity has exceeded expectations. One of the final rehearsals was broadcast by radio on July 7th and elicited much interest and comment. The choruses were most effective. The pageant under the direction of Dora Cole Norman of the Playground Association of America is the first Negro feature to be staged at the Sesqui-Centennial, credit is being given the Chairman of Negro Activities, J. C. Asbury, for selecting this vehicle to emphasize the ability and stress the high points in the history of the race.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM AMELIA C. H., VA.

The Russell Grove church, under the pastorate of the Rev. W. H. Freeland, is still alive and working. Also the Sabbath school connected therewith which has added 8 new members to its roll this season. Some of these persons were of great assistance in the Children's Day observance.

Children's Day was observed June 20th, at 4 P. M. The children rendered a program which was said by many to be second to none seen and heard this season. A large and appreciative crowd gathered with us.

Much of the success of the occasion is due to the training by Mrs. Mary Booker, Mrs. W. H. Freeland and Mrs. Kimmie Anderson.

The collection for the occasion amounted to \$32.00. We are very grateful to the children for their successful efforts on this occasion financially and otherwise, also for the financial support given by their friends.

On the following Sunday, June 27th, the writer was present with the Sabbath school at our sister church, Big Oak, un-

(Continued on page 3)