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Rev. H. L. McCrory, D. D., LL. D., Editor.

W. E. Hill, Associate Editor.

Rev. C. P. Pitchford, Business Manager.

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All questions arising under the various subjects above indicated are discussed from a Christian point of view. Each number contains the freshest and best news from the Southern field, and from the Church at large. There is carefully selected reading matter suited to all classes of our people—the farmer, the mechanic, the artisan and the professional man.

The Sabbath School and Missionary causes will receive special attention.

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THURSDAY, OCT. 28, 1926

### DR. WEST AND BIDDLEVILLE CHURCH.

The celebration this week of the tenth anniversary of Dr. L. B. West as minister of the Biddleville church has given opportunity for his members and friends to express their appreciation of the worth and service of this talented young preacher. Dr. West is a man of high spirituality, a fine pastor, with exceptional gifts as a speaker, and with a lovable man. He is not only popular with his own people, but enjoys the admiration and friendship of other congregations who are delighted to have him preach for them.

The Biddleville church has made admirable progress under his ministry, and with the inspiration got from a review of the past ten years' accomplishments, the record of the next decade should show creditable advance in all departments of the church's work. Like most pastors whose lives are wrapped up in their work, Dr. West has ideals for his church which seem hard of attainment, but he believes that the Biddleville church, united, aggressive and functioning vigorously in all departments, is destined under the divine blessing to exert a larger influence for good in the immediate community as the years pass. In this faith he faces the future hopefully.

### ARE PRESBYTERIANS, U. S. A., IN THE SOUTH, TO ADVANCE OR RETREAT?

By Rev. Z. A. Dockery, D. D.

To some readers, this question may be a surprise, especially when it is known that one who has taught and preached in the Presbyterian Church for 18 or 20 years is asking it. But the writer is very much concerned about the apparent condition which is rapidly approaching and which is by no means encouraging. And, too, from past record, we do not seem to be sufficiently elastic to meet the requirements, but prefer retreat. All of our excuse-making is simply an evidence of a tendency to retreat, or a willingness to agree to an unmanly compromise.

We have not been loyal to the Church's missions. In years prior to the World War our greatest effort was to fill each space in our annual reports with one dollar. We often came short of doing that. After the World War our Church, like all other Churches, faced new responsibilities, which required a great deal more money to ac-

complish them. The Church decided to put on a drive that might reach every congregation to the extent that every member might share the great task. This drive caused the colored churches to multiply their contributions many times. But, in the first place, we have not yet measured up to our task by far.

Again, our multiplied gifts have not kept us even with our former records. For, while we have paid more since the war, our increased cost to the Church has been far more in proportion than our increased giving. Because of such dependence upon others and the shameful lack of interest in the missions of the Church we are now suffering. We should not allow others to do for us the things for which, through our doing, God plans to bless us.

The first evidence of our suffering is seen in our flat failure to build our churches into independent states. For, with few exceptions, they are weaklings and beggars. We seem to forget the fact that the secret of growth is systematized, personal effort. Also that the gifts of others may open the way into a great opportunity but when such gifts are such as to cause neglect of needed personal efforts and contributions, then such gifts cause paralysis—partial or total. Frankly, a lack of proper struggle for self-support has crippled our congregations.

Our first great mistake is our failure to put more of our prayers and money into missions. Jesus Christ accepts no compromise or excuse when he says, "Go ye . . . and teach all nations." This mission is the purpose for which the congregation has its authority for existence. Nor will prayers and preaching cause spiritual power when the congregation refuse to obey. So after all of our excuse-making we are rapidly facing a great dearth in our churches.

The second trouble is the ministry in the churches. The ministry is being cut off at both ends: at the first by a lack of inspiration to preach the gospel; at the latter end by dearth and feebleness.

One of the results is our vacant pulpits, with small congregations which are not willing to support missions, are multiplying. In most cases these pulpits must empty some other pulpit or they will remain vacant. But they have not much salary to offer and some of them have no manse. So the only hope to fill most of these pulpits is to appeal to the Board for more money with which to compete with some other church which the Board is supporting. Do all not see the accumulative and yet unnecessary burden which we are causing the Church to stagger under? And, in the meanwhile, we are suffering under the curse of robbing God, and why? Because we will not give, as we should, our means to support the Church.

At the last meeting of the Catawba Synod at Wilmington, N. C., it was brought out that in a single case the Synod had paid to a Board during the year \$800 but the Synod had drawn out from that Board \$11,000.

I fear very much that if candidates for the ministry are to be inspired by the spiritual life of the churches as it is shown by the support, they will be very few.

But there is another side—this increasing tension must be relieved or broken. We have asked the question, "Are Presbyterians, U. S. A., in the South, to advance or retreat?" This question is not to be evaded much longer. There is a stubborn fact staring us in the face, viz., how much longer will our increasing demands upon the Church for more money to keep us going be tolerated, in view of our present rate of giving, and our annual net result in membership?

Now, then, saying the above is not an indication of my discouragement. The necessary change must take place in the pulpit or there is no remedy.

### NOTICE

The Annual Workers' Conference is to be held at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, N. C., January 25-28, 1927.

JOHN M. GASTON,  
Secretary and Assist. Treas.

### COUNTEE CULLEN ON STAFF OF OPPORTUNITY.

Countee Cullen, poet and author of color, whose verse has charmed thousands and captured new friends for the race, has been added to the staff of Opportunity. Journal of Negro Life, published by the National Urban League.

Mr. Cullen's position will be that of assistant to the editor in that magazine's growing work and programs. He will select its poetry and counsel with the hundreds of young writers whose eager demands have long exceeded the magazine's means of attending them adequately. He will contribute occasional articles and conduct a monthly column of substantial discussion on books and personalities, social and literary trends significantly related to the Negro and race relations in general.

Aside from Mr. Cullen's extraordinary gifts which have carried him to the first ranks of American poets, he brings an unusual equipment for the deliberate programs of Opportunity. He is a graduate of New York University, a Phi Beta Kappa, a Master of Arts from Harvard University, a brilliant and successful competitor in several Negro poetry contests; editor of the special issue of Palms; one who, although young, has contributed to practically all the major literary magazines in this country, and is, perhaps, the best known of the younger Negro poets in European circles. He is a fortunate addition to the staff of a journal which already includes Eric Walrond, author of Tropic Death, the recently published volume of starkly realistic Caribbean stories, and Gwendolyn Bennett, whose Ebony Flute has drawn warm praise for its constant delights.

### "I WUZ DE KICKER"

Over in Johnston County they have a fine up-to-date county hospital with a colored charity ward for which the Negro people raised over a thousand dollars under the direction of Mrs. Laura J. King, Supervisor of Negro schools, who has been of great help to Mrs. D. J. Thurston, the county superintendent of public welfare.

Mrs. King was making her first visit to the ward, and as she entered a black face disappeared under the sheet. She walked to the bed and gently removed the cover to see who the first patient was.

"Miss King," came a small voice from the still patient. "I sho' is shame to see you, 'cause when you wuz axin' fer money to build dis place I wuz de kicker, and never gave nary cent. An' here I is—de fust to git de benefit. If de good Lord 'lows me to git out again, I sho' means to work out ten dollars and give to dis hospital."—N. C. Public Welfare Progress.

### NEGRO BAPTISTS OUTNUMBER WHITES IN NEW YORK AND CHICAGO.

New York, Oct. 23.—(AP)—The migration of Negroes from the South has been so great during the last few years, the board of missionary cooperation of the Northern Baptist Convention announced today that there are at the present time more Negro than white Baptists in both New York and Chicago.

The increase has been so great in Detroit that whereas there were only five Negro Baptist churches there in 1917 there now are 60.

The Northern influx of Negroes and the great increase throughout the country of widespread unchurched suburban belts were named as two outstanding problems to be met by a special \$1,000,000 fund to be raised next year by Northern Baptists for church building.

### RESPONDING TO DR. GASTON'S APPEAL.

Let us make Dr. Gaston smile. He asked all of his workers to send him from \$35.00 to \$40.00 soon. If we can't do it let us do it any way. I have sent \$5.00 and will send \$35.00 more this week.

N. BELL,  
Huntersville, N. C.,  
October 25.

### SCOTIA CHAPTER OF NEW YORK AND VICINITY.

The first fall meeting of the Scotia Chapter of New York and vicinity met at the home of Mrs. Emma Milledge Wise, 65 W. 140th St., New York City, September 26, 1926, at 3:30 P. M.

The chapter includes New Jersey, New York City and Brooklyn. The chapter is one of the most active clubs of this city and has many activities during the season.

The spacious living and dining rooms of the hostess were filled very early. Plans are nearing completion for the annual Hope Chest Contest. The contest, one of the chapter's outstanding events each year in the wintry season, is expected this year to surpass all former records. The object of this contest is to help swell the funds for our scholarships and charity activities. Any young lady not a member of the chapter is eligible to compete for the chest. The girl selling the highest number of votes gets the chest. There are three other prizes given.

After all outstanding business was transacted the business meeting adjourned. Our social hour then began which included a short program with short addresses by Mr. A. P. Allison, Mesdames Sanders and Allison. The hostess graciously served a delicious luncheon. Mrs. Spencer, of Montreal, Canada, was guest of the chapter. Mrs. Laura Pressly Williams, one of our members, who now resides in Chicago, was with us. After spending a profitable as well as enjoyable afternoon the meeting adjourned to meet with Misses Annie Henderson and Ella Saxon, 244 W. 63rd St., October 24th.

Officers of the chapter are Emma Milledge Wise, President; Daisy Everett Campbell, Vice-President; Carrie Snowden Jones, Recording Secretary; Rose Lowe, Social Secretary; Carrie Ward Moultrie, Treasurer.

Members present were Mrs. Jennie Hughes Allison of Newark, N. J.; Mrs. H. E. Bowers, Mrs. Willie Bowers Harris, Mrs. Carrie Ward Moultrie, Mrs. G. Williamson, Mrs. Daisy Everett Campbell, Englewood, N. J.; Miss Theo. Gibson, Miss Annie Henderson, Mrs. Hilton, Mrs. Daisy Judge, Miss Rose Lowe, Mrs. R. V. Lee, Mrs. Carlotta Willy, Mrs. V. Sneed Sherwood, Mrs. Ella Saxon, Mrs. Mattie Johnson Sitgraves, Mrs. D. J. Sanders, Miss Clara Twine, Mrs. Emma Milledge Wise, Mrs. Janie Ryals Williams, Mrs. Laura Pressley Williams, Mrs. Carrie Snowden Jones.

MRS. CARRIE S. JONES.

### HAUNTED BY HER PAST

After 15 years of happiness as wife and mother, a woman's conscience is asking her questions. Her father deserted his family when she was 5. As an unprotected girl in her teens she met with several unfortunate experiences. Later in life she met the man she married who frankly told her he had a past. This woman, a true and faithful wife and a good mother, is now tormented by the question whether she should keep silent and stay happy or tell her husband of her previous life and take the consequences. She finally submitted her problem to the Rev. S. Parkes Cadman, who answered:

"Your wisest course under the circumstances is to share your secret with none but God. Why destroy the happiness of your home? Both you and your husband have memories you would like to blot out. His candor apparently insured your forgiveness, but you are not certain your candor would insure his. The best plan for you is to forget the past so far as you and he are concerned. You should not allow a sad past to overshadow a future which your devoted children can brighten. They have a right to the love and reverence they feel toward you. The rest you can leave to One who is greater than your heart."

It is part of a preachers' duty to act as umpire over affairs in two worlds. Dr. Cadman seems equal to it.—Capper's Weekly.

If you would win a man to your cause, first convince him that you are his sincere friend.

### "THOU SHALT NOT STEAL."

By Rev. Yorke Jones, D. D.

"Alice, my life has been so lonely,"  
Breathed slick-haired Andrew,  
Hazel-brown, one morn  
As he took Alice, his wife,  
In his arms as he was going  
Out to his office and she  
To her school. He was a dentist—  
She a graded school-teacher.  
They were about the same age—  
Thirty-five—having wed a year ago.  
There was a reason Alice  
Had not wed sooner.  
Andrew Wright had been a widower.  
"I married early in life,  
My wife died leaving me a child;  
He died when he was six.  
I never saw anyone I wanted  
Until I saw you, Alice."

II  
That same balmy April day,  
Four-thirty, William Walsingham,  
A mailing clerk, who,  
Two days in the week  
Had a stop-over in Oakville,  
Occupied his long-time  
Acquaintance's dental chair.  
They had been brought up  
Together in a distant city.  
They had been rivals  
For the hand of Andrew's  
First wife, now deceased.  
Dr. Andrew Wright's winning  
Had made William Walsingham  
And the dentist friend-enemies—  
Friends in all seeming,  
But neither liking the other.  
Only six months had  
Mailing Clerk Walsingham  
Been having a stop-over  
In Oakville.

He had visited the home  
Of the Wrights.  
For Walsingham's wife,  
Muriel Andrienne,  
And Wright's second wife  
Had been brought up together  
In Belton—their families  
Being old citizens in Belton.  
Walsingham, when he visited  
The Wrights, had much talk  
With Alice about girlhood  
Incidents of Alice and Muriel,  
Told him by Muriel.  
Wright, enthusiastically in love  
With his wife, eagerly heard  
And enjoyed every incident  
Walsingham could recall.  
Alice, however, was often  
Confused and embarrassed  
By these reminiscences,  
And would change  
The conversation  
Whenever she could do so.

III  
"Alice, do you think it  
Makes you too old  
For Will Walsingham to talk  
About girlhood days of yours  
And his wife?"  
"Why do you ask that,  
Andrew?" replied Alice,  
In a voice even yet one  
Which suppressed emotion.  
"Nothing, except that  
I notice you usually  
Switch him off from talk  
About your life, when you  
And Muriel were growing up."

This talk took place  
Between the Wrights  
After Walsingham had  
Been running into Oakville  
About four months.

IV  
Walsingham was now  
In Doctor Wright's chair,  
Having dental work done,  
Engagement to do which  
Had been made three weeks  
Before that afternoon.  
Conversation between the two  
Touched the boyhood  
Of the two men, then  
Their social activities—  
Including Wright's  
Victory over Walsingham  
In Wright's first marriage.

V  
"I never dreamed, Will,  
That after Lulu's death and  
My boy Andrew's death,  
That I could ever be  
Happy again—happy  
As I am with Alice."  
Walsingham seemed  
To wince in the chair.  
Wright was naturally  
A great talker; and he  
Talked to distract the attention  
Of his patients—to distract  
Attention from their pain.  
A man likes to dilate  
To life-long acquaintances  
On his hard-won successes.  
This Wright was doing.

VI  
"Yes, I was happy with Lulu.  
But I am happier with Alice.  
The fact is, Will Walsingham—  
Heaven is just three doors  
From the corner of Beech  
and Eighth streets, where  
Alice and I live.  
I used to grieve over  
The death of my boy, Andrew;  
But God knows best."

VII  
Just then Walsingham  
Was allowed to spit.

Deliberately he did so;  
Then adjusted himself for  
Doctor Wright to go on.  
But before the dentist did so,  
The patient with closed eyes  
Asked nonchalantly:  
"Wright, speaking of your  
Dead boy, why don't you let  
Alice's boy come to you?"

VIII  
In blank astonishment  
Doctor Wright looked at  
His friend enemy, Walsingham.  
The dentist's hand trembled.  
He opened his mouth, then shut it.  
Then he stammered: "Alice's boy?  
Alice has no boy!"  
"O, yes she has! I know him!"

IX  
Doctor Wright's world fell  
In a resounding crash!  
His friend-enemy had violated this:  
"Thou shalt not steal."  
Walsingham had stolen  
Andrew Wright's happiness  
By destroying the husband's  
Confidence in his wife.

X  
Here is the story:  
In girlhood, Alice had loved  
Well but not wisely.  
She became a mother.  
The father of her child fled.  
The child was given away.  
Alice, thereafter, lived  
A spotless life, marrying  
When she was past thirty.  
Few knew of her mishap—  
Andrew Wright never knew  
Until her friend-enemy  
Told him, and, thereby,  
Stole Andrew Wright's happiness.  
"Thou shalt not steal."  
Aught material,  
Nor aught non-material.

### MT. TABOR CHURCH, BLACKSTOCK, S. C.

By Miss Cora Russell

On last Sunday morning, October 17, Dr. J. M. Miller, of Emerson Institute, Blackville, S. C., preached a soul-stirring sermon from Matt. 26:41, "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." His subject was "Watch."

Dr. Miller was also given a few minutes during the Sunday school hour to speak in the interest of his school. We hope by his coming some boy or girl may be inspired to go to Emerson. We have one student there this term.

We were glad to have two members, who have been away for some time, worship with us, Mrs. O. L. McCormick, of Chester, and daughter, Mrs. Sarah Green, of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Master has called to reward two of our faithful members, Elder J. E. Strong and Deacon T. Brown. They are greatly missed.

Our minister, Mr. R. N. Cowan, a member of the Senior class of the Theological Department at Johnson C. Smith University, preached a splendid sermon Sabbath evening.

The minister and congregation worshipped with the Methodist church last Sabbath at three o'clock.

### PLANNING TO RID NEW YORK OF SLUMS AND OLD SHACKS.

New York, Oct. 23.—August Hecksher, millionaire philanthropist, is planning to rid New York of its slum district on the lower east side. Proposals whereby the "old law" tenements would be demolished, to be replaced by model apartment buildings surrounded by parks and playgrounds have been furnished to Mayor Walker by Hecksher. The philanthropist has just returned from a tour to Europe, where he was Mayor Walker's "special emissary" to study methods now prevailing in Europe for proper housing relief in congested districts.

In this connection, it is understood by associates of Hecksher that he is willing to devote close to \$100,000,000 of his personal fortune toward the undertaking.

According to Hecksher's plan, the city and the State would be asked to add \$250,000,000 to a fund of a like amount collected from individual philanthropists. Present lower east side dwellers, Hecksher says, could be housed by the city in temporary quarters while their homes are being razed and rebuilt. The entire project, according to Hecksher, could be completed in from 10 to 15 years and it would do away with what he considers New York's most immediate problem.