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

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HAMPTON MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

By Rev. L. B. West, D. D.

On to Hampton! That was the cry of 358 ministers in 14 States representing several denominations. And to Hampton they came. The occasion was the Fourteenth Annual Ministers' Conference, sponsored by the authorities of Hampton Institute, with Chaplain Laurence Fenninger as executive secretary. The date was from the evening of June 20 to the afternoon of June 25. It was an interesting group of men. There were those who had turned gray in the service of the Master, and also those who were young in the cause, all manifesting an eagerness to gain knowledge to better fit them for usefulness in the building of the kingdom of God. And they were not disappointed, for the lectures delivered were full of instruction and inspiration.

The weather on the whole was good and interest in the conference was sustained from the opening sermon to the last lecture.

Lectures

The lectures dealt with such subjects as "The Institutional Church," "The Problems of Youth as Related to Religion, Race, Practical Morality, and Life Work," "Church Music," "The Problem of National Suffering as Viewed by a Prophet of Israel," and "Four Directions in Preaching." Each lecture was given by a man who had gained distinction in his particular field.

In discussing the Institutional Church Dr. William N. De Berry, pastor of St. John's Congregational church, Springfield, Mass., after giving the facts from Scripture which warrant such a church, made a vivid description of the founding of institutional work in his church, and the steady growth and development covering a period of 28 years. Dr. De Berry told his story in a simple, straightforward manner. He was sure that the hand of God had guided him. He clearly showed how St. John's church ministers to the religious and varied social needs of the community.

Dr. Nathaniel Dett, Director of vocal music at Hampton Institute, gave the conference much valuable information on "Church Music." He began with music in the early church, and showed the ministers how they can get the best results in dealing with their choirs today and in the proper selection of music.

The lectures on preaching were spoken by Rev. Gaius Glenn Atkins, D. D., L. H. D., Professor of Homiletics in Auburn Theological Seminary, Auburn, N. Y. Dr. Atkins captured the hearts and minds of the ministers. He said preachers should preach "out" of religion, experience, the Bible and other books. He declared preaching was big business and ministers need to keep their resources filled up. He said all preaching must have a purpose. The "out" and "at" must meet in a man's preaching. In preaching a minister should aim "at" the perfecting of the saints; the work of the ministry; the edifying of the body of Christ. "Christ," he said, "must be incarnated." The world must see Christ in the face of believers. The task of the minister is to so instruct the people.

Dr. Atkins said a preacher should preach "with" relationship to his church. He should know the needs of his congregation. The minister should preach with quenchless courage; with consistency of life—his life is to be an open book; with honesty, no deceitfulness; with positiveness, no negations; with self-effacement—he must preach Christ, not himself;

with a consciousness of the unseen and the eternal.

In his closing lecture Dr. Atkins declared that ministers should keep the gift with which God had blessed them kindled in a constant flame. Preaching "up" meant that ministers were not to be lazy and indolent, but to be ever and anon on the lookout to use to the best advantage the talents the Lord had given them—keep them "stirred up."

In no uncertain tones the Rev. Howard Thurman, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist church, Oberlin, Ohio, told the conference what the youth of the land was thinking about religion and morality. Rev. Thurman, although young, has had quite an extended experience with youth in schools and colleges and otherwise. He electrified the conference with his frankness and ability to offer thoughtful suggestions in dealing with the revolt of youth. It was clear to the conference that the Church must change its method of approach in dealing with the young people of today.

The problem of national suffering as viewed by the prophet Isaiah was presented in a scholarly and clear-cut way by Professor Kemper Fullerton, Professor of Old Testament in the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, Ohio. The conference received very helpful information on the Book of Isaiah.

The Opening Sermon

The Conference listened with deep interest to the opening sermon which was preached by Rev. Charles A. Tindley, D. D., pastor of East Calvary Methodist Episcopal church, Philadelphia, Pa. The text was: "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33. Subject: "The Dynamics of Christianity." Dr. Tindley said that some of the dynamics were: Faith in God; The love of God; Prayer; The peace of God and Meekness. In discussing these dynamics the preacher drew upon his imagination and upon his ripe experience as a pastor and a Christian and carried his audience to great spiritual heights.

Union Meetings

Union meetings of preachers and teachers were held in Ogden Hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights. On Tuesday night, Dr. J. H. Dillard, President of the Jeanes and Slater Funds, Charlottesville, Va., delivered a thoughtful address on reality. He urged the teachers to strive to be real in all their work. They were to guard against taking buildings and equipment for the real thing in education. He said the big thing was to train the children to think. He reminded the preachers that the great need of the day was justice, not sentimentality. Men needed to have reverence for God and love mercy. He closed by declaring that progress walks on two legs, viz., wisdom and courage. It is in this spirit preachers and teachers were to perform their work.

Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Secretary of the National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association, New York City, gave an illuminating account of the start and development of the Y. M. C. A. He delighted his audience as he related the noble part the colored men had played in the work.

On Wednesday night Dr. Atkins made a profound impression on the teachers and preachers in an able talk on "The Five Gifts of Good Books." The gifts are: 1. It gives a full and intelligent mind. 2. The mastery of our mother tongue. 3. The understanding and interpretation of life. 4. Inspiration

and vision. 5. Freedom and Happiness.

Devotion and Business

The devotional spirit pervaded the conference. Each session was opened with a season of prayer and Bible reading by some member of the conference.

Two business sessions were held. The conference elected a new President. Rev. L. L. Downing, D. D., of Roanoke, Va., succeeds Rev. M. E. Davis, D. D., who has been President for 8 years.

Several new members were added to the Executive Board. Resolutions of thanks were read.

Memorial resolutions on the death of those who had passed away during the year were read and prayer offered.

A daily news sheet of the conference was published giving interesting facts.

The conference made an offering for the flood sufferers in Arkansas after listening to an interesting letter from that section.

Entertainment

The entertainment was very good. Captain Brown met the men as usual with his quiet smile and gave them a comfortable bed to sleep in, in the different halls.

The dining room was full of good things to eat every time the preachers walked in. The service was excellent.

The annual executive dinner was greatly enjoyed by the executives. The annual reception for teachers and preachers was held on the lawn in front of Virginia Hall. Cake and cream were served.

A very profitable social hour was held in Clark Hall on Thursday night when the class in religious education, under Prof. Smith, asked the preachers some pertinent questions on religious education.

The exhibit in Clark Hall on religious education was very instructive and interesting.

Summary

Denominations Represented, 14	
Baptist	183
African Methodist Episcopal	38
African Methodist Episcopal Zion	27
Methodist Episcopal (North)	39
Colored Methodist Episcopal	5
Christian	18
Congregational	5
Disciples	3
Holiness	2
Lutheran	1
Presbyterian	18
Protestant Episcopal	12
Reformed Union Zion Apostolic	2
No Denomination Given	5
	358

States Represented, 14

Delaware	2
District of Columbia	3
Georgia	1
Kentucky	1
Maryland	29
Massachusetts	2
New Jersey	9
New York	7
North Carolina	118
Pennsylvania	3
South Carolina	2
Virginia	178
Tennessee	1
Ohio	2
	358

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND NEGRO BANKS

The recent announcement that the National Negro Insurance Association has worked out a plan whereby the various colored insurance companies will make their deposits and place their monies in Negro banks is the most important thing that has come from Negroes, perhaps, in the life of the race in America since its emancipation. The plan is all right if the officers of the various insurance companies can but see the im-

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DIRECTOR OF INTERRACIAL COMMISSION ADDRESSES RACE CONFERENCE

Dr. Will W. Alexander, of Atlanta, Tells of Rise of New South.

Indianapolis, June 25—Declaring that a new South has come into being, directed largely by business men, many of whom are turning to the Republican Party, Dr. Will W. Alexander, of Atlanta, Director of the Commission on Interracial Relations, last night addressed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 18th Annual Conference here.

"The new leaders of industry in the South are hardly conscious of the race question at all," said Dr. Alexander. "To them it is a labor question and an industrial question. They are preoccupied as the rest of the nation is in making money. With them the hot spot in their thinking is neither the race problem, politics, nor fundamentalism; it is business. They do not get excited over the race problem except as it might affect industry. They are willing to listen with minds open and go at least as far as the best interests of industry demand.

"The coming of industry and the new economic background is slowly working a change in the political philosophy of the South. Thousands of business men are Republican, nationally, and are yielding to the arguments that make the business section of this country favorable to the Republican party. They no longer respond to the old slogans in local politics. As a whole they are indifferent to local politics but ultimately that indifference must give way to an intelligent interest based upon what they conceive to be good business policy. This means a profound change in the politics of the South.

Colleges Studying Race Relations

"The most obvious change which is taking place in the South with relation to the race problem is the intelligent interest of many college teachers, college students and thoughtful people generally. In the old days there was much talk but little study. In nearly 100 colleges courses of study on various phases of the race problem are now in the regular curriculum. Thousands of students are working and writing on these themes and an exhaustive examination of these papers from all parts of the South reveals that they are thoughtful, honest and liberal.

"The churches in the South—I refer to white churches—have in the past been silent. This silence is being broken. Two great Southern denominations are today working out fairly liberal programs of education for their young people, to be used in young people's societies and Sunday schools.

Negro Test of American Democracy

"The nation must find some way to deal with the mob and mob violence. The fight is discouraging. Aiken was a slipping back on the part of South Carolina. The guiltiest States are now Mississippi and Florida where there is no effective opposition to mob violence and Arkansas where there is very little. These States have been the least influenced by the new economic and industrial development. They have particularly large populations of the poor white type. They have many isolated communities. Lynching must be looked upon by the whole nation as so horrible that these indifferent and backward States shall be forced to put an end to it.

"In closing may I say that I am not especially interested in Negroes or the race problem. Something very much larger than this is involved in the sit-

uation. It is a question of civilization. Can human beings be civilized and can they learn to meet the situations that they confront by civilized methods and a civilized spirit? This is the great question. The experiment of the human race in civilization is very interesting and important. The outcome of the democratic movement which gave birth to this nation is an important aspect of the experiment in civilization. Twelve million American Negroes and their future are a test as to the outcome of this experiment in democracy and free institutions.

"What chance has democracy? On every hand I am reminded by cynics and dogmatic industrialists that the whole idea of democracy is a failure to be distrusted. Aiken, Mississippi and Arkansas and Florida incline one to think so. But looking back over the past sixty years one sees that there have undoubtedly been some steps forward. In spite of handicaps Negroes have made great progress. My presence here tonight is evidence that at least one white man has made progress and I represent a type and that is the only significant thing about my presence.

"At the University of North Carolina last spring the distinguished Executive Secretary of this organization made a very moving statement, speaking to a great audience of students and faculty in the chapel of the institution:

"Negroes want full participation in American life and they expect to secure it."

That last clause has great power in it. If they continue in this intelligent expectation it will probably come, step by step even in the South—certainly in the South if anywhere in the Nation, for the South will go with the nation."

URBAN LEAGUE REPORTS ON INDUSTRY FOR MAY.

Bulletin No. 15 of the Industrial Department of the National Urban League summarizes employment conditions as follows:

While reports from New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Oregon, Michigan, Indiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Texas, Massachusetts and New York showed little change in the employment status of Negro wage earners—a situation not unlike others experienced throughout the country—some little advance was reported for both Negro women and men. The notable improvements were from Cleveland, Plainfield and Boston. The continuous rainfall interfered with the usual outdoor spring activities, but did not prevent the employment of many men in parts of the middle West which had experienced a long period of unemployment.

Favorable Conditions

In Cleveland there was a "slow but steady increase in opportunities offered men in skilled work." Two openings in positions formerly held by other workers were reported and placements showed a decided increase over those of the previous month. In Plainfield, N. J., a concern manufacturing metal toys gave employment to fifty colored girls, and reported that their work was very satisfactory. In Boston 25 new openings were obtained in hotels and 15 factory placements were secured in jobs that had not been filled by Negroes. From Texas came the word that Negro labor was regaining many places occupied by Mexicans, and many cities reported activity in the building trades.

Miscellaneous

The American Federation of Musicians protested against and thereby removed discriminatory practices against Negroes in dining rooms and hotels during its annual session in Baltimore.

Several years ago this same organization's insistence brought about similar results in St. Louis.

Running only three months, a local labor union of longshoremen in Newark, has a membership of 1,500. The industrial problems of Negroes living in Buffalo are promised attention by the newly formed Urban League of which William L. Evans, a former Industrial Secretary of the Chicago Urban League, is the Executive Secretary. Industry in the Pittsburgh district was enhanced when A. C. Thayer, formerly of the Atlanta Urban League, took charge of the Pittsburgh League which had been without an Executive almost a year.

ST. JAMES CHURCH GREENSBORO

By Mrs. G. A. Bridges

Sunday morning Rev. H. C. Miller spoke from Exodus 12: 13, "And when I see the blood I will pass over you," etc.

The speaker's subject was, "The Ground of our Salvation Typified in the Power of the Sprinkled Blood to Save the Israelites." By way of introduction he told of the two migrations from Egypt to Palestine, the first led by Moses and the second by General Allenby. The ancient people depended upon God for food and water, while the modern depended upon motor lorries for food and they piped water from the Nile.

God, said the speaker, will not do for us things we can do for ourselves.

Very vivid was the word picture of the busy day in camp as Israel got in shape for the journey. One almost heard the bleating lambs and saw the bloody hyssop striking the doorposts. It mattered not whether the blood was upon the house of Pharaoh or of Moses, results would have been the same, for safety was in the sight of the sprinkled blood, not the person within the house.

We are not saved because of our goodness but by application to our hearts of the blood of Christ.

Rev. S. L. Fulwood, of Waxhaw, preached an excellent sermon Sunday night from I Cor. 6: 19, 20, theme: "The Price Paid for Us."

The Sunday School was well attended. Up and Doing Class won the loving cup while Earnest Workers won the banner for attendance.

The Daily Vacation Bible School has an enrollment of 104 and unless more helpers are secured those in charge will be forced to refuse others who are anxious to attend. Friday at the close of the period Superintendent Burgin served all the children to cream and cake.

Mrs. L. A. Morrow, Mrs. W. J. Jones and Mrs. Georgia Harry have been added to the Daily Vacation Bible School Faculty.

Dr. and Mrs. W. L. McNair were called to Danville, Va., Saturday, on account of the death of Mrs. McNair's sister, Mrs. Lily Payne, who died at the Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D. C.

St. James Sunday school will carry their annual picnic to Charlotte, July 12th. Quite a crowd is expected to take in this the first out-of-town picnic in many years.

Elder Matt Burns has been confined to his home for the past week on account of illness. Elder Burns is called "The Whip of the Session." We hope for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. J. H. Wilkins has just completed a handsome two-story brick building on East Market Street which is a credit to the race. The People's Drug Store will move into this building, as well as many other race enterprises.