

Africo-American Presbyterian

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

VOL. XLIX.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1927.

NO. 28.

NEGRO PROBLEM IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Dr. Morse, of University Faculty, Delivers Address to Students in Series on "Know South Carolina."

"The Negro is the only colored man who has been able to look the white man in the face and live," said Dr. Josiah Morse in the course of a talk in the University chapel Sunday night. He was speaking on the Negro problem in South Carolina. His talk was one of a series of eight on "Know South Carolina."

"There are many approaches to the Negro problem, all of them more or less hard, repelling and dangerous," he said. "It is probably the most difficult problem in the world, not because of any inherent difficulty, but because, although man has solved many more difficult problems, having weighed the most distant star and picked the invisible atom to pieces, the difficulties of the Negro problem are not of the intellect.

"It is rather a problem of deeper seated prejudices, biases, conventions, traditions and attitudes which have come down through the centuries.

"Inasmuch as we are compelled to view the problem through these many facted glasses, it is not surprising that we do not see it in its true light and true form. We see it through our discolored and misshapen lenses. This is not only true in South Carolina, it is true the world over in inter-racial problems.

"The problem is easy. You and I and all the human beings on the planet make the difficulty. But one avenue is less offensive than the others, the avenue of economics, dealing with bread and meat and the assurance against poverty. The economic motif cuts across all other human interests. If you understand the economic aspect you will understand almost any other aspect. It is fundamental.

"Everywhere in the world you will find combinations of individuals for welfare and comfort. One race enslaves another to insure comfort for themselves and for future generations. Sometimes this slave race combines and in turn becomes an enslaving race. Here and there one comes across the routed ones far away from the fertile fields, the wells and the rivers. From the earliest times to the present day, human beings have been driven by the economic urge.

"Today every individual is going where he thinks he can do best for himself and his loved ones. Up to recently, vast hordes of foreigners poured into this country because of the hope of better conditions and greater freedom. That is what we South Carolinians are doing when we leave the State and go elsewhere.

"These vast laws apply to the Negro; he is no exception. His history has been motivated by the same needs, desires, and impulses. He adjusted and adapted himself to his environment as a slave, and prospered and multiplied. He is the only colored man who has been able to look the white man in the face and live. All the time he has been smiling, bowing and scraping, back in his consciousness has been the aspiration, the hope and the prayer for a greater opportunity and a desire for a better condition.

"We can not blame him for hoping and praying. Probably no other enslaved people has made so great a progress as the Negro in the last fifty years. He has had the advantage of the white man's civilization, but he certainly deserves credit for taking advantage of it.

"Now we have come upon a new time in history. New immigration laws have been passed. Capital has sought labor south of Mason and Dixon's line and found the Negro able, ready and

strong. They took the Negro from the corn and cotton fields by trainloads.

"This has been going on for the last three years and we may well expect it to continue. You may hear of some of them coming back, but that is true to a very small degree. By no means all of them come back, and those who have come back have been drawn away again by the larger wages and better living conditions of other places.

"This immigration from South Carolina is destined to continue. The better and more intelligent Negroes who have felt their handicaps and limitations have left. The chances are that in the not distant future we will be left with the dregs of the Negro race, unless we compete with other sections of the country to hold them.

"The economic wall against the Negro has been torn down and they are now bidding for his labor, because his is the only labor that remains. We have an advantage. This is his home land. He likes the climate and the people. He does not like other climes, but there are compensations.

"Within the next quarter century there will be a new situation when the bulk of the Negroes will be in the Middle Atlantic and Central States. It may be good for the Negro to spread out. In a quarter century we may usurp New England's place in industrial supremacy and our whole mode of living may be transformed.

"We may be glad to see the Negro go. But granting that it would be desirable for them to leave, what about our duty at the present time? Should we hasten his departure and continue to deny him justice in our courts and safety and security in his property?

"Should we make it so uncomfortable for him here that he speeds his departure? If I did believe this, and I am inclined to believe it, I should fear to do anything that was not fair and just. If you believe in a God who molds the destinies of nations and who loves justice, you will find that injustice, envy and wrong have not prevailed in the long run.

"I would not dare to make the black man's burden any harder to bear. I would not withhold him justice, a word of cheer, and the hand of fellowship, as I fear the God of justice, knowing history as I do. You and I are reaping the rewards and punishments of past generations and we would not wish to burden future generations with the burden of our hates and prejudices.

"Twenty centuries ago Jesus gave us the solution to this problem. Ask yourself, 'What would Jesus do?'"

WOMEN ADOPT PROGRESSIVE RACE PROGRAM.

Jackson, Miss., June 25.—Meeting here last week in annual session, the Mississippi Woman's Committee on Race Relations pledged themselves to the most progressive program of interracial justice ever adopted by any group in this State. Beginning with a terrific broadside against lynching and mob violence, they promised to seek better school advantages for the colored people of the State, offered their cooperation to the Negro club women in their efforts for a home for delinquent boys, and then gave proof of their sincerity by inviting Negro women of the State to membership on their committee.

Among the specific improvements in school conditions to which they pledged themselves were better facilities for teacher-training, better school build-

ings, and a more equitable distribution of school funds.

Mrs. David M. Key, wife of the President of Millsaps College, was elected President of the State Committee, which includes a score of the most prominent women in Mississippi, all of them leaders in one or more of the great religious or civic groups. The meeting was convened by Mrs. Maud P. Henderson, of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, who reports a much more active interest in the movement than was apparent in earlier meetings.

SOUTH HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL, ANNISTON, ALA.

The South Highland High School will open September the first, 1927. The school is installing a biological laboratory with all the equipment for teaching biology. Two scientific laboratories were installed last year for teaching physics and chemistry, and many other improvements were made in the school. Among the improvements are a library with more than three thousand volumes of good library books both for references and reading, a student report steel file, and a full line of carpentry and masonry tools for teaching the trades. Prof. W. T. Jackson will instruct the boys in masonry for six days in the week.

We are using for the high school only standard college graduates with degrees. Some have taken post graduate courses.

Faculty:

Prof. A. W. Rice, A. B., A. M., S. T. B., Lincoln University, Pa., Professor of Mathematics.

Prof. J. W. Holloway, A. B., B. D., Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., Professor of English, History, and Modern Languages.

Prof. W. V. Joyner, A. B., Lincoln University, Pa., Professor of Sciences.

Prof. Milton Alexander Yongue, A. B., Lincoln University, Pa., Professor of Education and Latin.

Prof. W. T. Jackson, instructor in brick masonry, bricklaying and cement finishing.

Miss G. R. Merlalla, Spelman College, Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Carrie Meredith, Swift Memorial College, Rogersville, Tenn.

Miss Mary J. Mack, Scotia College, Concord, N. C.

Mrs. M. M. Rice, Scotia College, Concord, N. C.

Credits will be given for extension of teacher's certificates, if the course in Education or Teacher's Training is taken.

REV. A. W. RICE,

Principal.

Anniston, Ala.

COLORED RETAIL GROCERS

Washington, D. C.—The nearly 6,500 colored retail grocers throughout the United States will be interested to learn that at the convention of the National Association of Retail Grocers (white), recently held at Omaha, improved and modern merchandising was stressed as the most effective method of competition to be used. A closer cooperation between the wholesale distributors and the retail merchant was also suggested.

NOTICE.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Sunday school convention of the Rogersville Presbytery will be held in New Hope Presbyterian church, Tusculum, Tenn., August 5 to 7, 1927.

Delegates will go from there to Knoxville to the School of Methods, August 8th to 14th. Those expecting to attend the convention should notify Rev. J. H. Fort, pastor, Greeneville, Tenn.

J. J. SHEPPERSON.

PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA—ALUMNAE REUNION—INGLESIDE

By Mrs. Mary Beverly Marks

The Presbytery of Southern Virginia will not soon forget the royal entertainment by Rev. Fowlkes' congregation of Henry church, Randolph, Va. Those tables, heavily laden with ham, chicken, cake of all varieties, completed by cake and ice cream the last night will form the mind's picture, while sweet memory of same and that impressive meeting of the Presbytery will linger long.

Rev. Fowlkes had our sympathy in the loss of his mother. Elder Jefferson Jackson had the Presbytery to meet there, but sickness prevented his attending. By the tender care of Mrs. Jackson and the family prayers, conducted by Drs. E. L. Downing and A. A. Hector, he revived. Mrs. Jackson and hers cared well for their delegates.

It was pleasing to meet our schoolmate, Mrs. Seppie Scott Mann and others.

In the Woman's Popular meeting, presided over by Mrs. M. L. Kendrick, a program was rendered, concluded by an interesting pageant, conducted by Misses Gann and Reynolds.

The visit to Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Shepperson, whose daughter, Miss Marcia V., is among the graduates of 1927, and Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Wilkerson, whose daughter, Miss Viola, is a bright music student of Ingleside; to the school of Mrs. Sarah Paige Brown and coworkers at Jetersville, Mrs. Sallie J. Cralle, Clara T. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Carter Miller, of Christ Church, Burkeville, were a source of pleasure, as was the visit to Mr. and Mrs. T. L. and Mrs. A. Beverley and Mrs. M. E. Harding, Richmond, Va. Mr. Beverly is making his mark at Union.

While worshipping with Bethany Presbyterian church, Norfolk, at the request of Rev. and Mrs. F. D. Nance, the writer addressed the Sunday school and the Teacher-Training class, of which Rev. Nance is the able instructor; and also the Woman's Missionary Society. Mrs. Barrett and Mrs. Hendricks were also speakers. It is a pleasure to note that Mrs. Lomax's Westminster Guild and Mrs. Moore's Light Bearers are alive. Dr. Moore would make a fine Director of Stewardship. Well might Elder and Mrs. Brown feel that their efforts for a choir were not in vain. Mrs. Nance is useful with her music, etc.

Prof. and Mrs. Dungee are to be congratulated on the mark their children are making. This church and these parents, in the words of their pastor, are already reaping some of the fruits from the seeds sown. In compliance with Mrs. Dr. Moore's request, the writer addressed the girls of the Y. W. C. A. Such an interesting program rendered, in which the young people performed so well bespeaks much for the good that others are doing. With these faithful workers and Miss Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, loyal Rev. Haskins and others to hold up the pastor's arms, Bethany bids fair for a promising future and a glorious harvest. In addition to royal entertainment by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Knight the writer owes gratitude to the aforementioned, and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lomax, Mr. and Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Mary E. Moore, A. Beverly and others for a delightful stay in Norfolk.

Central Presbyterian church, May 22nd was a full day for Petersburg. Rev. and Mrs. Tice, Mrs. Susie Harris, Mrs. Lofton, Mrs. Diana Bailey and other good people of the church are putting forth efforts to build. They lifted a collection for the Circle. May God bless them and raise up men and means that

the work may go on for God and humanity.

At Hopewell Rev. Davis' heart was saddened by the illness of Mrs. Davis who had been sick a year or more. We assure him of our sympathy.

At Nottoway the writer is debtor to the good families of the Lomaxes and Rev. and Mrs. Stitt. (Miss Stitt is making good at Ingleside) and Dr. and Mrs. Harris. Miss Alma M. Harris is a graduate of 1927 and was the happy recipient of many presents, among them being a ten dollar present, a token of Bethesda church, through Mrs. Alex. Lomax, for her valuable service as organist. They, too, are making efforts to rebuild. May a marvelous success attend their every effort for good.

Through the kindness of Dr. and Mrs. Harris, May 23rd to 25th, we were at Ingleside commencement exercises and Alumnae Reunion, drinking from the fountain.

The business meeting of the Reunion opened with the recitation of the 23rd Psalm in unison, followed by prayer by Mrs. Jennie Johnson. The President explained the object of the meeting and was followed by Mrs. R. B. Miller, who urged that the annual fee be \$2.50. Each member was enjoined by the President to see that another pays an equal amount or be responsible for five dollars and that they organize chapters. Mrs. Smith, Assistant Treasurer, read the report in the absence of Mrs. Charles Miller. The report was received and adopted.

Mrs. Wingo's motions to retain present officers, elect an assistant secretary and that Alumnae's husbands become honorary members were carried. A program committee was appointed by the chair. After reciting Mizpah, led by Mrs. Martha Thompson, we adjourned to render the program.

Mrs. Alter gave a hearty, welcome greeting, responded to by Mrs. Wingo, who also spoke of the Training School at Chula, Va. Mrs. Alter also donated to the fund. The President gave a warm welcome to the class of '27. Dr. Alter and Rev. Henry did double duty in the absence of Rev. Shepperson, Drs. Harris and Taylor. In the oration Dr. Alter was at his best. We can not soon forget his wholesome instructions.

"Class Representation" was interesting. The class of 1927 and the Quartette furnished us music. Miss Alma M. Harris presided at the piano. Throughout the program Mrs. Wilkerson, the Recording Secretary, was in place.

Mrs. G. C. Campbell, though absent, was present in her long and very interesting letter, read by the President of the Alumnae, following which was the benediction by Rev. D. A. Henry, preceded by the song, "Blest be the tie that binds." After the program we repaired to the dining room. The appearance of the table was inviting and displayed the knowledge and art of the domestic science teacher, Miss Lois Talls, in preparing and serving food. This repast was enjoyed by all, and afterward termed a banquet. Following the toasts by Dr. Alter and Rev. Henry were remarks by Mother Wright, during which she presented a book—Testament and Psalms—of excellent finish and large print, to the President of the Association, who expressed her pleasure at being the happy recipient and would treasure the same much and long in honor of the donor. A rising vote of thanks was extended and the class of 1927 led in singing, "God be with you 'till we meet again," followed by benediction

by Dr. Alter.

In the evening and Wednesday morning we witnessed the interesting exercises in which three of our girls received certificates for reciting Bible chapters. Mr. Jno. Marks Boyd and Mrs. Boyd were present. It looked at one time as if Rev. Shirley was going to take the silver cup away. But when he extended it and Mrs. Alter stepped forth, the happy recipient for Ingleside, a thrill of joy ran high and hearts gave vent to a prolonged applause. And it was music to the ear. We bade adieu to dear Ingleside, feeling that ours had been a feast of joy.

After interesting meetings at Bethesda, through the kindness of Dr. and Mrs. Harris the writer was conveyed to Mrs. Bettie and Lavinia Bridgeforth's, who have for nineteen years, in their cafe work, enjoyed the confidence and patronage of the best people of Blackstone. She arrived in Bracey Whit Monday and found Great Creek's people holding their annual feast and Rev. and Mrs. James out for a recreation, after a term of work in school at Hopewell.

Mrs. M. J. Wright, of Amelia, Passed Away.

P. S.—Just as I had laid down the pen the sad news came that Mother Wright had passed to her reward June 9th, for which intelligence we thank Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Lackland.

Mother Wright was so cheerful and spry at the Reunion, little we thought that the end would be so soon. The first and last reunion she witnessed. Not only the family and churches in that section, but the Presbyterial of So. Va., the Alumnae Association and the church at large will miss a faithful and loyal member.

"Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep, From which none ever wake to weep."

Bracey, Va.

A SUCCESSFUL D. V. B. SCHOOL AT STATESVILLE.

The Daily Vacation Bible School, conducted at the Tradd Street Presbyterian church, was brought to a successful close Friday night, July 1, with an excellent program rendered by the different departments.

Everyone who knows about this work knows that it is no small task. It takes experienced teachers to bring out and carry out everything that a school of this kind means. Our school was fortunate to have as instructors teachers who have had class room experience. These teachers are Mrs. Maggie Cowan, Mrs. Bessie Abernathy, Miss Martha Smith, Mrs. M. B. Hollowell and Dr. J. L. Hollowell. Mr. J. H. Smith acted as the principal, assisted by Dr. Hollowell.

The enrollment was 148 bona-fide students and an average attendance of 73 for the term.

Too much cannot be said of the faithfulness of the teachers and their task. Much good has been accomplished with these young people which we hope will bear fruit in after years. It is hoped also that the children from the different schools of the churches will carry their new found stimulus into their Sunday schools.

We hope that the Daily Vacation Schools everywhere will have a prosperous session.

CORRESPONDENT.

"SINGING SOLDIERS."

Washington, D. C.—"Singing Soldiers" is the name of a new book by John J. Niles, illustrated by Margaret Thornley Williamson, and published by Charles Scribner's Sons, which essays to describe the colored songsters of the American Expeditionary Forces of the World War. The author says: "In France the Negro troops supplied what melody there was."