

Africo-American Presbyterian

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE."—John viii, 35.

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BUILDING MERITORIOUSLY IN YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

By Rev. A. H. Prince

A recent visit to the city of Youngstown, Ohio, revealed the fact that the Reverend Charles B. Dusenbury is building up meritoriously a solid stronghold for all people and Presbyterians especially. This stronghold had its beginning in August, 1923, when Rev. Mr. Dusenbury at the request of the Mahoning Presbytery came to this city to make investigation as to prospects for the establishment of a Presbyterian church there. Having carefully investigated the conditions and outlook, in the following December the St. Stephen's church was organized in Youngstown with a membership of forty.

The greater part of the number was composed of persons who came from the Cumberland wing of the Presbyterian Church. Soon these Cumberlandites ceased to tolerate the Calvinistic air, and the representative form of conduct, (desiring an immediate disintegration of the active service and support in the advancement of the church. Again, the church had to start anew in spirit and in its body of its constituency. This was done and the progress of the work came to such a point that the need for a church building at a cost of \$16,000, building was obviously necessary. To meet this need a church fully equipped was purchased at the corner of Rayon Avenue and Walnut Street, leading thoroughfares in the city. Of this amount over \$10,000 now stands cancelled. This was made possible through the efforts of the Rev. Charles B. Dusenbury and his good wife. A balance of less than \$6,000 now remains and it is the hope of the present members that they will enter the church in August next. Although not large in numbers at present, yet those who compose the present membership are possessed of large and hopeful hearts together with a genuine spirit of love and harmony. Some are of ripe experience in Christian movements and young in physical strength for progress. Among them are: Edw. Baskin, once an elder in the church at Rock Hill, S. C.; S. L. Snyder, of Capital church, Harburg, Penn.; E. W. Manley, an Undertaker; William Tucker and Dr. T. L. Lander. The church has its various auxiliaries such as Woman's Missionary Society, Westminster Guild, Brotherhood Service Club, etc. Plans are already completed for a Daily Vacation Bible School this summer.

The prospect for a great work in Youngstown is bright. There are many people from the South who are constantly flocking to this steel center city to find work, and money there is plentiful, but, of course, one not far from Youngstown are many small villages which also have large colored populations. Youngstown itself has a colored population of about 50,000. Girard and Niles have perhaps from 4,000 to 5,000, while Warren, a city fourteen miles away, has about 6,000. Warren has many good Presbyterians who are clamoring for a church. These are worthy members who served well while in the South. Among them are Mr. and Mrs. McFadden Edwards, who were once good members at Good Will church, Mayesville, S. C., and a host of others are there.

Reverend and Mrs. Dusenbury have a lovely home out on the Sharon Line and they are doing

all they can to build up a good work in Youngstown. The First Presbyterian church, of Youngstown, (white) of which Dr. Hudson is pastor, has thrown open its doors to Rev. Mr. Dusenbury and his congregation to worship every Sabbath in one of its chapels.

This is simply to give an idea of some of the men who are laboring in this section, as they sometimes seem foreign to us.

SOUTHERN VIRGINIA PRESBYTERIAL

By Mrs. S. J. H. Dillard

Owing to the illness of Mrs. C. P. Hedric, Recording Secretary, who meant to give a report from Southern Virginia, this report is late reaching the Africo-American Presbyterian paper.

The annual meeting of Southern Virginia Presbyterial was with the Presbytery of Southern Virginia at Holmes Memorial church, of which Rev. C. M. Dusenbury is minister, April 3-5. The Presbytery opened as usual with a sermon by the retiring Moderator, Rev. A. A. Hector.

Two days, Wednesday and Thursday and Thursday evening were the women's time for their executive and general business meetings. There was a splendid representation of the field. There were reports from 25 contributing locals and 80 women representing the locals.

The State of Virginia is very large and in it the Presbyterian work is sparsely located and in some places is represented by very small groups.

All of the meetings were held in the public school building, save the popular meeting which was held in Holmes Memorial church with the presence of the Presbytery and a large assembly of people from Martinsville, Ridgeway, Spencer and the community around.

The executive meetings were held with Mrs. M. S. Kendrick, presiding. Mrs. Kendrick was very much indisposed during the whole meeting, but kept up at her task. "The Call to Spiritual Advance," the special topic for service and duty, was emphasized in the devotionals each day by the prayer leaders and the women who are carrying on the work on their respective fields. Encouraging reports from the different fields showed progress along the lines of resources for information and organization. Our locals are readers of the printed pages and by that means they can better know what to do and where duty lies. Some of our locals are hard to understand how the women's and Young People's money must be contributed, and through what sources for the women to get the proper credit for it on their quota or apportionment. The ministers sometimes demand the money that has been raised by the women for missionary work, and send it for the church's demands. While that aids the church it does not aid the women on the quota of missionary gifts.

We regret very much that for the first time in the record of Southern Virginia Presbyterial there was a shortage in her apportionment for the year 1927-28.

The delegation of local societies present accepted the apportionment for 1928-'29 from Mrs. Kendrick with a pledge and hope to measure up to it.

A report by Mrs. M. H. Burrell, our Southern Virginia Presbyterial Society at the Biennial in San Francisco, Calif., was a fine one. Mrs. Burrell gave us a splendid account of the trip and told of many interesting scenes in San Francisco. She spoke with great enthusiasm of

the spirit of the Biennial. She told of the interesting reports and talks of the different executive women who were speakers, and also of the messages from returned missionaries who were and are laboring on foreign fields. She brought some instruction to the women on how to carry on their local work better in order to measure up to and enlarge our work.

God, in His Providence, saw fit to call away from service to reward our dear "Mother," Mrs. M. J. Wright, last June, after a service of forty years in Virginia, having served with her husband, Rev. J. A. Wright, in Catawba Presbytery before coming to Virginia. A short memorial service was held to her memory. Those who took special part and spoke upon her life and service in Southern Virginia Presbyterial which she organized and of which she was the first President, were Mrs. S. V. Thompkins, Mannboro, Va.; and Mrs. S. J. H. Dillard.

Thursday evening was the time of the Women's popular meeting. A splendid program was rendered. Some of the ministers and elders left before the meeting, but we were favored by them leaving their dollars with us. Dev. G. P. Watkins, D. D., and Dr. E. B. Harris, of Crewe, Va., lifted the offering, after a very impressive talk by Mrs. Burrell, our Treasurer. The offering was \$50.50. The Presbytery agreed to give the women Wednesday evening hereafter, so that the ministers might not get their leave of absence before the adjournment of Presbytery.

A session of pleasure and happiness throughout was enjoyed by all. The good people of Holmes Memorial church and their friends made our stay there a happy one. They were happy to have had the Presbytery of Southern Virginia meet with them for the first time. This church was the scene of the activities of the sainted Rev. H. M. Holmes, whose body sleeps at the rear of the church. From that church and school have gone some of the beacon lights as leaders, occupying different walks of life. Mrs. Sarah Whittico Clark, who now resides in Canada, was one of the first members of Ebenezer Presbyterian church (now Holmes Memorial). She desired to be present during the Presbytery.

Our entertainment was grand. Those who reside in Newport News and Norfolk were delighted to get up on the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and all enjoyed their homes and entertainment. Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hereford made their home a retreat for quite a few persons, bearing near the church. Good water and a plenty of pure food were served in the basement of the church twice a day, and once each day in the homes.

Mrs. Estelle Wingo, Supervisor of Amelia County public schools, received a painful accident on her return home to Amelia as she passed through South Boston. She is confined in the hospital there.

Mr. M. Lassiter, of Newport News, Va., was elected principal delegate to our Women's Synodical meeting in October. Mrs. L. Lomax, of Norfolk, is the alternate.

Miss Roberta C. Barr, of the Board of National Missions, is making a survey of the Presbyterial Societies and locals as far as possible this month. She made her first visit to Grace Presbyterian church of Martinsville. She held two services in which she gave splendid instruction, and encouraged the women and young people concerning our tasks. She said there should be no discouragement if we have faith. What is your budget in

the church? Life is your life budget of life. Industrious life brings results. More prayers, and more money will bring better results.

The following officers were elected for 1928-1929.

Mrs. A. Kendrick, President, South Boston, Va.
Mrs. W. B. Stitt, Vice-President, Nottoway, Va.
Mrs. S. J. H. Dillard, Corresponding Secretary, Martinsville, Va.
Mrs. C. P. Hedric, Recording Secretary, 2810 Marshall Ave., Newport News, Va.
Mrs. M. H. Burrell, Treasurer, 117 Patton Ave., N. W., Roanoke, Va.
Mrs. M. Lassiter, Secretary of Literature, 2411 Marshall Ave., Newport News, Va.
Mrs. M. K. James, Secretary of Missionary Education, 30 Ross Court, Petersburg, Va.
Mrs. Estelle Wingo, Secretary of Stewardship, Amelia, Va.
Mrs. L. Lomax, Secretary Overseas and White Cross Sewing.

Miss E. Reynolds, Secretary of Associate Members, 302 S. Main Street, Danville, Va.
Miss E. V. Gunn, Secretary of Young People's Work, 302 S. Main Street, Danville, Va.
Mrs. S. V. Thompkins, Secretary of Children's Work, Mannboro, Va.

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM WALTERBORO, S. C.

Hopewell Presbyterian Church

By Miss M. E. Wright

We were delighted to have in our midst on Wednesday night, May 2nd, Dr. C. J. Baker, who, in a very impressive manner, spoke on "Unity and What God is Accomplished by Uniting." His talk was inspiring as well as helpful, and was greatly enjoyed by all.

On Wednesday night, May 9, Rev. Johnson, in a very interesting way, gave us a talk on "The Life of Samuel." He conveyed to our minds a vivid picture of the life of this noble character. We were loftier in spirit and greatly benefited after leaving our prayer services.

Quite a number of young folks enjoyed the hospitality of Miss Wright at her home on Chaplin Street Monday afternoon, May 13, at a party given in honor of a few worthy school pupils. Little Marjorie, the attractive little daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Johnson, was the honor guest, and this being her first attendance at a party, she did not know what it was all about, but seemed to enjoy herself along with the others. The children while, after which refreshments played music and games for a while. Toward evening the little ones departed for their homes, having expressed to the hostess their happiness and appreciation for a pleasant afternoon.

On Sunday afternoon, May 20, at 3:30 o'clock, our pastor, Rev. P. P. Johnson, preached the annual school closing sermon from the Colleton Training School at Hopewell Presbyterian Church before a large and appreciative audience. His text for the occasion was St. Luke 2:40-52.

His theme was "Man's Life a Continued Growth." There are three stages of growth. 1. Physical, Jesus increased in Stature. 2. Intellectual. He increased in wisdom. 3. Spiritual. He waxed strong in spirit.

The speaker brought to us a very vivid picture of the life of Christ and His continued growth and to be like Him we should endeavor to walk in His footsteps. He also emphasized the

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ARKADELPHIA ACADEMY

ARKADELPHIA (ARK.)

Beginning with the Home Economics Demonstration under the direction of Miss Mattie J. Flannigan, Tuesday, May 1st, at 8 P. M., and going to a brilliant close May 11th, the exercises of Arkadelphia Presbyterian Academy were a credit for which any institution could be justly elated. Everything moved smoothly and without the least discord and the large crowds were orderly, appreciative and sympathetic. In entertainment the literary productions of orations, recitations and addresses were of the highest standard and in musical numbers the renditions of spirituals and classical selections were timely, vivacious and delightful in chorus or individual work.

Sunday, May 6th, 11 A. M.
Promptly at the hour Mrs. T. L. Hilliard with nimble dexterity called forth harmonious strains of music while the student-body marched in processional steps to their seats before the presence of a crowded church. After appropriate ceremonies, Rev. L. W. Davis, principal, presented Rev. C. H. Uggams, D. D., of Hot Springs, Ark., whom the graduating class had selected to deliver the baccalaureate sermon. The audience will ever feel the impression of the eloquent appeals, forceful presentation, and exangelical setting of that sermon, which held it under a charming spell throughout its delivery, from John 4:34. The

theme was "Life's Noblest Mission—Finishing God's Work." He lucidly described three necessary determinatives for the task: I ought—I can—I must.

3:00 P. M.
Responding again to the call of praise service a large assemblage gathered at the church to hear the annual address to the Christian Endeavor Society. Rev. S. J. Grier, of Camden, Ark., was chosen for this duty. The address, delivered with power and strong convictions, was replete with sound admonitions, practical thoughts and exalting spiritualities. The message was particularly timely and pertinent for those just embarking upon the Christian life. This service closed a beautiful day of devotional and inspirational worship.

Monday, May 7th, 8 P. M.
The annual musicale, under the skilful management of Mrs. Hilliard was a very pleasant hour of sweet communion with the masters of fascinating compositions. Generally such exhibitions are tiresome after four or five numbers, but not so with this program. There was a sustained and increasing interest as each performance was rendered.

Tuesday, May 8th, 8 P. M.
The graduating class of the 8th grade, 15 bright-eyed, promising youths—9 girls and 6 boys—was the center of attraction of an overflowing crowd. The speakers, two girls and two boys, acquitted themselves with distinguished honor in the delivery of their orations. Address to the class was delivered by Prof. J. S. Hunter, of Little Rock, Ark., on the theme, "What is in Thine Hand?" The speaker, in a burning message, evincing scholarly research, careful study and thoughtful reflection, clearly showed the fine possibilities of moral purity, mental development and spiritual ennoblement within the reach of the ordinary normal individual.

Wednesday, May 9th, 8 P. M.
The Primary grade in charge of Mesdames Lillie E. Kennedy and Christine T. Hunter, presented a beautiful pageant—"Old Fashioned Garden of Mem-

ory"—in an almost faultless manner. The order, stage action, expressive play and steady precision of these little folks truly reflected the remarkable patience and ability in training of their teachers.

Thursday, May 10, 10:30 A. M.
Seated upon the rostrum in simple, attractive dress amid artistic decorations of choice flowers and festooned ribbons of class colors tastily arranged, were the graduates, Misses Viola Gray, Annabel T. Smith, Melrose Neal, of Camden, and Jewel Robinson, of Stamps, Ark.—just four young maidens, but they could easily challenge any quartet of their rank for a more commendable display of sweet, harmonious music and excellent compositions of literary worth. It would be no misapplication to call them "Harmony Queens."

8 P. M.
Under the direction of Miss Roosevelt P. Lee, representatives of the 8th grade presented a comedy, "Deacon Dubbs," in very praiseworthy manner.

Friday, May 11th, 10:30 A. M.
This was the crowning day—the Commencement. At the scheduled hour a procession led by the teachers, who were immediately followed by the graduates and Choral Club, marched by their respective places, while Mrs. Hilliard with her accustomed ease and skill played a processional of rare beauty. The pretty decorations of the chapel in choicest flowers and long, spiral entwinings of class ribbons and the large number of visitors gave the scene an atmosphere of college life. The graduates, dressed in immaculate

and each wearing a corsage of white carnations, were virgins of beauty and rhythmic grace. The situation was more charming and delightful by the splendid presentation and delivery of the salutatory and valedictory by Misses Neal and Gray, respectively. The commencement address by Rev. Hugh Robertson, local minister of the Presbyterian church (U. S.), was closing masterpiece of lofty ideals, inspiring thoughts and fruitful discoveries of nuggets of gold in the Holy Scriptures. He spoke and impressively elaborated upon the theme, "Jesus Christ, the Unchanging in Human History," urging upon the class members and hearers the importance of devout allegiance to Him. Besides many choice gifts to the class three girls received Bibles from the Board of Christian Education for perfect recitation of the Shorter Catechism. The class gave the school a very nice library table.

8:00 P. M.
A drama, "The Path Across the Hills," in three acts was performed with exceptional brilliancy by its nine characters. This play, which was made so successful by the competent and painstaking of Miss Odessa Curry, was a fitting climax of a most remarkable commencement.

Too much credit cannot be given Rev. Levi W. Davis for his wise and eminently Christian leadership, for the most valuable assistance of a devoted, dependable wife and for the possession of a splendid corps of teachers, young women of high attainments and literary education and Christian refinement. In the hearty cooperation of these earnest, sincere workers Arkadelphia Presbyterian Academy has closed a year of commendable success and achievement. This is in evidence from its enrollment of 175 pupils, about three-fifths of whom are day scholars, and the orderly and representative gatherings which follow the school's activities. It is not difficult to

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