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

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CONFERENCE OF BIBLE TEACHERS

By Rev. Chas. H. Shute, D. D.

The Conference held at Western College for Women (white) June 19-21, Oxford, O., was the first of its kind in the history of the Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

The Call

The call for that gathering was issued by Rev. William G. Covert, D. D., LL. D., General Secretary. Response to the call on the part of Bible teachers and leaders in Departments of Religious Education in colleges and universities, together with university pastors was prompt. Representatives came from as far West as California. The only colored school represented was Johnson C. Smith University.

The three representatives of the Board were Drs. Covert, Robinson and Stockwell. Drs. Boyd and Upham, Presidents of Western College and Miami University, respectively; Dr. McCracken, Dr. Richards, President of the Theological Seminary, Reformed Church, Lancaster, Pa., and Miss Genevieve Chace, college pastor for women, Iowa University, were among the outstanding persons of the conference.

The Background

The whole-hearted welcome address by President Boyd, the informal method of acquaintance at the first meeting in the dining hall, the most delightful lodging quarters in the dormitories, the genuine spirit of fellowship and religious services formed a splendid background for the work of the Conference.

The Purpose

1. To meet more effectively the opportunity offered in our Presbyterian colleges and State Universities for training Christian leadership for the Church of tomorrow.

2. To evaluate the present work of our Bible Chairs, Departments of Religious Education and University Pastors in preparing for practical leadership in the Church the present generation of students.

3. To arouse a deeper interest in the part of the present generation of teachers and students in the promotion through well prepared leadership of the life and program of the Church in local communities and throughout the world.

4. To make clearly evident to the entire Presbyterian Church that the colleges and university centers are supremely concerned in the task of safeguarding the spiritual life and developing efficient Christian character of our present-day students on their way to larger service through the Church to the world.

In carrying out this purpose the Conference was divided into three commissions. The following general inquiries were made by the three commissions:

1. An inquiry as to situations in the intellectual, moral and spiritual life of present-day students that teachers of Christianity must be prepared to meet.

2. An inquiry into the present objectives and procedures in the courses at present offered in departments of Bible and Departments of Religious Education in our Presbyterian colleges, and an evaluation of their outcomes in the lives of students.

3. An inquiry into the present objectives and procedures in tax-supported institutions of university pastors and teachers in departments of Religion and an evaluation of their outcome in the lives of students.

General sessions of the Conference held in the college chapel each day at 9:00 o'clock A. M., and at 2:00 P. M. were be-

gun with brief but fervent, heart-searching services. The popular meeting held at 7:00 P. M., Thursday, first day of the Conference, was of a recreational nature. The Lord's Supper was celebrated at 9:00 the same evening. Two women, according to the custom of the college, assisted in passing the elements. The entire service was marked with deep solemnity and a holy spirit of reverence.

The three commissions or groups worked in class rooms from 9 to 12 A. M., and from 2:15 to 5:00 P. M. The findings of the commissions were reported to the general conference each day. A summary of the work done by each group was presented for final adoption by the Conference as a whole, on the final day.

"Bewildered" was the term used to express the condition in present day student life.

"Definite objectives" was emphasized as absolutely necessary in the solution of problems in present-day student life.

In the future definite steps will be taken in an effort to standardize the curricula in the departments of Bible and Religious Education. The end sought is the proper evaluation of work done in these departments.

Just how great and glorious will be the results of the Oxford, Ohio, Conference time alone can tell.

COLORED WOMEN HELP FINANCE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Munich, Germany, June.—(Special Correspondence to The Associated Negro Press.) The International Council of Women composed of women of every nationality closed its annual conference here last week after a most successful meeting. Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart was a delegate from the National Council of Women of the U. S. A., and she was accompanied by a group of members of the National Association of Colored Women, among whom were Mrs. Cora Allen, Louisiana; Miss Jane Hunter, Ohio; Mrs. S. Joe Brown, Iowa; Mrs. Lucy Jefferson, Mississippi; Mrs. L. T. Miller, Mississippi; Mrs. Nellie Weaver Greene, Oklahoma; Miss Meta Pelham, Michigan; Miss Hallie Q. Brown, Ohio.

The main issues raised during the conference were World Peace, the nationality of women, child welfare, race betterment, the political status of women, co-operative committees to be appointed for League of Nations on Peace and Child Welfare.

In financing the council, the United States Clubs have been paying four hundred pounds (\$2,000) per year. The United States Council wished to reduce its pledge to \$1,000 per year for the next five years. To prevent embarrassment, the ten United States delegates, nine white women, and Mrs. Stewart, personally assumed the additional \$1,000. Mrs. Stewart pledged \$300 for a life membership for herself in the name of international peace.

The general depression in Europe is so great that many small countries must give all surplus to rebuilding their countries. Some small countries contribute as small an amount as fourteen pounds (\$70).

This action was given special mention to the convention. Mrs. Stewart was brought forth and introduced as a great contribution to the International Council.

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BITS OF HAITIAN LIFE VIEWED BY AN AT-TACHE OF THE MOTON COMMISSION

By P. L. Prattis

Staff Correspondent of The Associated Negro Press

Port au Prince, June 25.—The only way you can realize how far this is from the United States of America is to come here and realize that you are cut off from most of the things which mean the most to you. That is not to say that we do not get news from home. We do every day. But it is white news. The radio dispatches don't touch upon les affaires de couleur. But we know how the stock market is acting, the base ball scores, what congress is doing, what movie stars are getting married, what the gangsters in Chicago are doing, and how Albert is trying to have the chief of police and Stege suspended, if only for sixty days, of the newspaper man who was slain, of the prison break at Joliet. All these things we know, but we have no other means of learning that Townsend is arrested, or that Hunt has won a Spingarn medal, for what nobody knows but the service of the Associated Negro Press.

We are busy here and time does not divide itself as it does at home. It has been my disposition to go to bed when I felt like it and to get up when I wake up, whether I have slept long or not. For example, I retired last night at about eleven. It is now six o'clock in the morning, and I am up writing this letter, waiting for others to come out of the bathroom. I have not had as much sleep as I would have at home, but I am not tired. Maybe I shall be later.

Our personal program is usually to arise about six o'clock and have our bath, either a tub or shower, but always in cold water. There is no such thing as hot water. There are no such things as window panes. They have shutters, but not windows. Doors are of the French kind, wide and high. We keep ours open all the time and get the benefit of the cooling breezes that blow throughout the night. Sleeping is a real pleasure. After we have cleaned up in the morning we have breakfast which may consist of fruit, mango, melon, (cantaloupe), papaille, one of the fruits of which Haiti is most proud, orange juice, oranges, bananas, etc. Then we have bacon and eggs, ro ham and eggs, potatoes, bread, coffee, etc. We have lunch at one o'clock. It seems to be the chief meal of the day. It is a long-drawn out ceremony. Only one dish at a time is usually brought in. Thus the waitress will enter the dining room with a large bowl or crock of soup and will visit each diner who will take what he or she pleases. The girl then goes back and when you have finished, she will bring an entre, maybe fried bananas, then a vegetable, then another vegetable, and another vegetable, and a salad, then dessert, then coffee. We did not know what on earth we were doing our first meal. The dinner meal is somewhat like the lunch, only there does not seem to be so many dishes. The meat consist of beef, turkey, chicken, tongue, veal. The vegetables are potatoes, rice, kidney beans, which they raise in large quantities in Haiti, lima beans, small succulent ones, avoque, an insipid Haitian melon rind, etc.

There is so much to do that the commission has not been able to get its work well organized yet. The members must divide their time between hearings here, and visits to other places. This week hearings have been made by appointment, and

some places have been visited, the schools here and the one at Damien, about five miles distant. A great many wonderful things are being learned, many of which I am not writing.

You cannot help but feel proud of these people and this New York in your mind when you look at Port au Prince, the comparison is odious. But if you just think of this city itself and realize that it belongs to black men, you get an idea of the direction your race would take if it were left alone. One of the thoughts that would come to you would be that wherever it makes sufficient economic progress, the race reaches out for beauty and the grand thing. The White House of the President of the United States is neither as large or as beautiful as the palace of the President of Haiti, a truly regal building, which is but one of several magnificent buildings here, such as the cathedral, the palace. Most of these buildings are in ace of justice, and such others, a blazing white, and are dazingly conspicuous in the face of the tropical sun. But the private residences are in the grand style now. Many of the best villas with all modern appointments, are now occupied by Americans, but one has to remember that they were built by the Haitians, for themselves, and that they are now just rented to the Americans. These villas are large and imposing, with their pillars, piazzas, great doors, cupolas and everything. They are in many colors and designs.

The people dress well and their manners are the finest I have ever seen. French courtesy here finds exemplary flowering. And the manners are not in any sense put on. You see poise, kindness, thoughtfulness, understanding, restraint, modesty, the most delicate shading of emotions, and minute changes of disposition. Almost everybody wears white duck, clean, clean, white duck. They look very smart in such suits. They are well educated, from the schools of France and from America. Most of those of the better class speak English.

They, those of the mulatto class, are a beautiful people. The women are beautiful, and the men are almost as beautiful as the women. I have not noticed that the women dress as well as our women, but they are of that New Orleans type, with soft, fine manners, liquid voices, and way that confound time, I have not been able to you. Of course, is so short a see many of the best of them. They stay secluded in their villas the Haitians or foreigners and have nothing to do with either unless you are of the very best class. Down here they make much out of who your ancestors were. I understand from a white man, that the daughter of the President is the most beautiful woman he has ever seen anywhere, and he has been everywhere. For a nature which responds as aptly as yours does tone and courteous treatment this would just one wonderful place. It seems just like the place to live—and to die—if you've got money enough.

There are servants cheap, there is food to be obtained, there is always congenial company, and cosmopolitan, there is music in the air, always, from phonographs and from radios, there a sweet and gentle evening breeze, there are shady parks

where lovers chat in musical French, there are the boulevard cafes, where they sit out in the open and drink and talk and wat.

But most of what I have been writing has referred to the mulatto class. There are distinguished black persons, but most of the blacks are the hewers of wood and drawers of water. Most of the people, mulatto and black, are poor, and in the city and outside, they live in huts and hovels. Whether they are worse off, essentially, than the people of our slums, I do not know. I do not think they are, even though they are poorer. I do not know just how they make ends meet. They seem to have nothing.

Are you interested to know that it is more difficult here to keep from being run over by an automobile than it is in Chicago, or that they have one street car line, upon which dinky little cars operate, or that they have a bus line, that there are many narrow, paved streets; that there is telegraph and that Port au Prince has practically 1,500 telephones and that the American public utility companies here refuse to employ Haitians, just as they refuse to employ us? They use either Americans or Dominicans.

I should not omit that the Haitians are sore like everything with the Americans, and, as you've heard, they look down on them. But they have all said that they like us, and they show the greatest respect for Dr. Moton.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT SALEM HIGH SCHOOL

Another successful year has been added to the history of Salem High School. The baccalaureate sermon was preached by Rev. C. W. Francis, Principal. The subject of the inspiring and prophetic sermon was: "Foretelling the Future," based on the text, "Be not deceived. God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." The speaker impressed upon his audience the fact that as they sow intellectually, morally and spiritually, so would they reap. He seemed at his best, driving home the truth with telling effect.

Monday, May 26th, the small folk gave a beautiful playette, entitled "Shepherd." The dainty costumes and woodland scenery formed a very attractive combination. The entertainment by these little folks under the direction of their efficient teachers, Misses E. V. Gunn and E. Reynolds, is always a high spot of the commencement.

Wednesday, May 28th, the High School Department presented an Indian play, entitled, "Lelewala." Real dramatic ability was displayed. The scenery was very picturesque with tepees and majestic pines. This was truly a high class play well rendered and graciously received.

Friday, May 30th, the graduating exercise was held in the school auditorium, which was artistically decorated with the class colors, Garnet and Gold. The graduates marched upon the stage by the strain of an overture. The girls were lovely in their white dresses with bouquets of American lilies and fern. The speakers were presented by Rev. C. W. Francis. Essay with salutatory, "To Thine Own Self Be True," Hatie E. Pressley; Essay with valedictory, "The Goal of a Useful Life Must Be Won," Marjorie Tucker.

The graduating address was given by Rev. B. F. Kirkpatrick, D. D., of the First Presbyterian church (white), from the subject, "A Beautiful Life." It was thought-provoking and full of

good advice. Dr. Kirkpatrick is a very pleasing speaker.

The certificates were presented by a former graduate, Mr. Claude McAdams, now of Johnson C. Smith University.

Miss Marjorie Tucker was the winner of Lyons Bros. Prize, the G. H. Gales and Co.'s Prize and also the prize given from the sewing room to the one doing all required there. The exhibits given from this department were up to the standard. Each girl of the Senior Class made her graduating dress as usual, and received each a sterling silver thimble. An added feature to the industrial exhibits was the hand work of the boys under the direction of Miss S. E. Cooper, and was creditable indeed. During the school term just ended, there were twelve young folks who recited the Shorter Catechism and received Bibles on Commencement Day.

Miss Reynolds seemed to have excelled herself with the good music on all the occasions of the entire commencement. Rev. and Mrs. Francis, with the untiring efforts of their co-workers, brought to a close another successful school year. There were four girls in the graduating class. With continued effort by such a capable force, we can truly see that the day for "a bigger and better Salem" is not far off. As a graduate of the school I do hope that the authorities will soon find their way clear to make Salem an A class High School. She is worthy of any and all consideration along that line.

The wonder is that the school does so much and does it so well with its limited means and equipment. Better any must come, Rev. Francis. Keep up your courage and toil on. Merit will win.

JOHNSIE SUE DAVIS.

TO DISCUSS WOMAN'S PART IN NEGRO BUSINESS

New York, June 23.—Women will play a very conspicuous part in the discussions of support of Negro business when the National Negro Business League assemblies in Detroit, Michigan, August 20th, 21st and 22nd for the Thirty-first Annual Convention.

The entire session Friday morning, August 22nd, will be devoted to a discussion of the subject, "Woman's Part in the Negro's Economic Program." The arrangements for this discussion and the selection of speakers are being handled by Miss Eva D. Bowles and Mrs. Roscoe C. Bruce, both of whom are officers of the League.

"Women spend eighty-five per cent of the family purse," said Mrs. Bruce, in commenting upon the program, "and surely the women can do much to help and encourage this effort to improve Negro business." Miss Bowles has been very active with the League in helping to promote the Coffee Contest for the C. M. A. Stores.

Among the other women who have been active in the League's work this year are Mrs. T. J. Nevins, who heads the Business Promotion Work of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs; Mrs. Sallie W. Stewart, President of the Association; Mrs. A. E. Malone of Poro College, and Mrs. C. S. Smith, of Detroit, who is Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for the Entertainment of the National Negro Business League.

The general subject for the entire League meeting will be, "After the College, What?" and all the topics and papers will deal with possible opportunities in business for the trained Negro youth.

One of the most powerful ways to preach the gospel of Christ is to sing.