

# Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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## BLACK AND GOLD STARS

(From The Nation, New York.)

There is no record, so far as we know, that any officer in the late war refused a Negro soldier the inestimable privilege of dying for his country because of his color. "No, Mr. Johnson, you will not go over the top today; today is the day for the Randolphs of Virginia to make the supreme sacrifice." If remarks such as these, were ever uttered while the United States recall having seen them in the fight against the Germans, we do not print. But our government has not learned that such scenes did not actually take place. And as a result, when we get around to sending off to France the mothers and widows of men who were killed in the war, in order that they may visit the graves of their dead soldiers, we make the incredibly stupid and ungracious gesture of drawing attention to the Negro women, putting them in a group by themselves, providing for them a different sort of accommodation in hotels and on shipboard. Their black sons died as white men die. The mothers are not to visit the graves as do white mothers.

The War Department, of course, is full of explanations for the segregation of Negro mothers and for their lodging at different hotels and their passage on different steamships from those provided for white women. Secretary of War Hurley says: "After thorough study that the formation of white and colored groups of mothers and widows would best assure the contentment and comfort of the pilgrims themselves." However, he explained at length: "All groups will receive like accommodations in hotels and on tines of the War Department steamships, and the representative will at all times be as solicitous of the welfare of Negro mothers and widows as they will be of white ones." Fifty-five Negro women have canceled their reservations so far on the ground that they were not given like accommodations, either at hotels or on shipboard. A letter voicing the protest of the Negro women has been sent to President Hoover. The letter should have provided interesting reading for the Chief Executive, but his reply was a brief acknowledgement of the letter and a statement that it had been referred to the War Department. The letter said in part:

"As a Gold Star Mother who happens to be colored, I wish to protest against the gratuitous insult in the attitude of the War Department of the United States in segregating Gold Star Mothers who are entitled to go to France to visit the graves where our loved ones are buried. When the call to arms came in 1917 mothers, sisters, and wives, regardless of race, color or creed, were asked to give their loved ones. This call we answered freely and willingly. Ten years after the armistice we who gave, and who are colored, are insulted by the implication that we are not fit persons to travel with other bereaved ones. Instead of making up parties of Gold Star Mothers on the basis of geographical location, we are set aside in a separate group, jim-crowed, segregated and insulted."

The Negro women, therefore, are not so much concerned with Mr. Hurley's offer of "like accommodations" as they are with the simple and undeniable fact that they have been segregated, and surely there was no time in the history of our country when segregation was less

necessary and more cruel. If there were a few white women from any section of the country who were so delicately constituted that they could not endure to travel on the same ship with a black woman whose son or husband was killed in France, the War Department might with good grace have received cancellations of their passages. But we believe that such cancellations would have been few and far between. We believe that American white women are less prejudiced than the War Department itself. We believe that Negro women in a group would have been as welcome as Italian women or Jewish women or Polish women, for whom it was not thought necessary to provide separate accommodations. The government must learn that the Negroes are no longer property to be shunted around back alleys and smuggled in at side doors. They are American citizens with a vote. There are laws to insure them their rights as such. And it is altogether unlikely, if the Government of the United States had declared its intention of securing hotel rooms or steamship cabins for Negro women, that any hotel or steamship line would have refused the request, Mr. Hurley to the contrary notwithstanding.

But in the last analysis it is segregation that the Negroes object to first and most bitterly. And it is in segregation that the War Department made its worst and most unfortunate blunder. It is hinted by the administration that the protests were cooked up by a group of Negro agitators. It is good to note, therefore, that so far from this being the case, the first protests were made by white persons, and that, according to Walter White, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, not a ghost of an attempt was made to make one Negro woman cancel her passage. If governments will not learn, citizens will.

## FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RICHMOND CHURCH

The 40th anniversary of the First Presbyterian church and the 15th of the present pastor, Rev. A. A. Hector, was celebrated July 6th. Rev. Charles H. Shute, Prof. of English Bible at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, N. C., preached an able and interesting sermon Sunday morning, and the Senior choir redereed special music—Te Deum Laudamus.

At the evening service Rev. Hector gave the history of the church and the Junior choir sang.

The church was beautifully decorated with palms and cut flowers. Dr. J. W. Tinsley and Mrs. Alice Gullick were responsible for the decoration.

Then on Tuesday evening, July 8th, Circle No. 1 entertained Rev. Shute and Rev. Hector in the spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie C. Gullick on West Marshall Street. At 7:30 the guests were ushered into the dining room where a five-course dinner was served. Mrs. Laura Moore, the only living charter member of the church, acted as hostess. Miss Minnie Reekes, President of Circle No. 1, was responsible for the most excellent menu served.

After dinner an enjoyable program was rendered. Mrs. Janie E. Frazier was mistress of ceremonies. There were musical selections by Mrs. Lowndes and Mrs. Tyler.

The following guests were present: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lowndes, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. C. Tyler, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Frazier, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mann, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F.

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## ON TO FRANKLINTON!

Pastors, Officers, Superintendents and Members of the Catawba Synodical Sunday School Convention and School of Methods.

The hour is about to strike—the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of our present organization. The achievements of these ten years have been glorious; they have justified the vision and wisdom of the Old Guards.

Fellow workers, turn your faces toward Franklinton, N. C. ten years of glorious results; to come 300 strong to celebrate receive more inspiration, information and to set a new goal for the future. The stage is set for the most thrilling of all our gatherings. The future greatness may be born here; when the rising generation shall sing of the mighty works accomplished, you shall be able to say: "I was at the Tenth Anniversary celebration at Franklinton."

Workers of Cape Fear, Catawba, Yadkin and Southern Virginia, we are on the march. Come and join us. You are summoned to the honor of celebrating ten years of constructive work whose marvelousness is unsurpassed.

"On to Franklinton"—Our Watchword.

"There at the Beginning and there at the Close"—Our Motto.

H. C. MILLER, President.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS WORK

(From The Boston Transcript)

Every church school at some time or other seeks new methods. It feels the need of something to attract and stimulate. In Dr. W. Edward Raffety's problem shop recently, he outlined a large number of practical projects of this kind. Plowing land for sick farmers, taking care of routes, decorating church rooms and homes, working on flags for presentation to various organizations, installing a small movie outfit, working to secure land for a camp site, purchasing new maps and other equipment, providing a nursery room in the church plant with trained attendants, starting a discussion class in a factory, enrolling for special work street railway men and others who could not attend on Sunday, conducting in a gymnasium a half-hour of fun at noon during the week are some of the suggestions.

There are many other practical affairs in which young people may become interested, according to Dr. Raffety. Some of them are: Volunteer squads for singers and visitors for the summer; communicating with any camp or special meeting held near by during the summer; providing athletic field or equipment and schedule of summer activities; visiting homes of the shut-ins and others; providing scholarships or aid so that poor children or poor families may have a week or two of vacation; improvement of church property; supplying boarding houses, hotels, stations, etc., with literature from the church; automobile parades to stir up interest and to transport people to meetings, socials, picnics, etc.; purchasing wheel-chairs for invalids and hearing apparatus for the deaf; keeping an accurate religious census of the community; sponsoring a Boy Scout troop or similar activity; co-operating in a fellowship with probation officers and social workers to help deal with wayward delinquent and abnormal children; collecting data concerning family affairs (kept of course, in the strictest confidence) which would enable pastor, di-

rector of religious education, or social worker to understand certain problems better; caring for the lawns and property of people ill or on vacation; sawing and cutting wood for the winter for aged or ill folk; supplying information about schools, colleges, business opportunities and conditions, and amusement centers to parents and others; collecting milk fund for infants of the poor in summer; holding community song services, conferences, and outings; using sewing, handwork and other things for the benefit of missions and homeland institutions; supplying factory rest rooms with literature, musicians, or speakers; organizing a committee to deal with all questions or problems which may be presented to them, and being able to advise concerning employment, reading, vacations, etc.

## STUDY OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND OF CRIME

According to the report of the Department of Research and Investigations of the National Urban League, Ira De A. Reid, Director, is now actively engaged in two studies, both of which are of unusual importance. One study on The Care for Dependent Children in the United States is being made as the result of the White House Conference on Child and Mental Protection; the other, which is a study of Crime among Negroes, is being made for the Wickensham Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement. In this study Mr. Reid is associated with Miss Mary Kleck, who has charge of the study of the Industrial Causes for Crime for the Law Observance Commission.

The Departments of Research and Industrial Relations are co-operating at present with the Julius Rosenwald Fund in a study of Industrial and Occupational Trends of Negro Workers in connection with President Hoover's Commission on Social Trends.

In addition to these activities the Department of Research and Investigations has recently published the first authentic study of Negro Membership in American Trade Unions, a comprehensive and informative volume which should prove invaluable to students of labor problems.

The Vocational Opportunity Campaign for Negro workers, which was conducted throughout the nation by the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League, T. Arnold Hill, Director, attained a marvelous success despite nationwide unemployment. It served not only to direct the attention of employers to the Negroes' lack of opportunity, but also aroused Negro workers to make a fight to hold their jobs. Over 50,000 people were reached by speakers other than over the radio, and hundreds of employers were interviewed in behalf of Negro workers.

In the South Jesse O. Thomas, Southern Field Director, has completed several important surveys of the Negro population. The Houston survey, which is now on the press, will be ready in the early fall.

As the field of social work widens increasing numbers of college graduates are seeking the Urban League Fellowships. This year 74 candidates made application for the competitive examination by which the Fellowships are awarded. Two Ur-

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## HAPPENINGS AROUND SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ANDERSON, S. C.

By Mrs. M. V. Marion

During the month of July we have been listening to some inspiring and impressive sermons from our pastor, Rev. C. W. Francis. He was at his best on the first Sunday, preaching from the theme, "Self-Examination."

On the fifth Sunday in June the Woman's Missionary Society rendered a popular program and had for their speaker the Rev. Joe Carter, pastor of the Central church (white). "The Spirit of Missions" was his theme, and it was very uplifting and enjoyed by all present.

Master Clifton Hawthorne will represent Salem at the Sunday School Convention which will meet at Greer, S. C., this week. Also Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Francis, Mesdames Julia Burriss and M. V. Marion are expecting to attend.

The Woman's Missionary Society met Friday, July 11th, at the home of Mrs. Julia Burriss. We had a wonderful meeting and had as our guests, Mrs. J. H. Toatley, of Due West, S. C., and Mesdames Corrine Peek, Birdie L. Davis, Minnie Roundtree and Miss Georgia Sullivan, of our other churches. They all gave us encouraging remarks. The hostess served us a very delicious salad course and we adjourned to meet in August at the home of Mrs. Emma Martin, Bradley Ave.

For the benefit of the Missionary Society Mrs. Marion gave on July 2nd a beautiful "Gingham Dress Wedding" and a "Popular Musical Program," assisted by the "On-to-College Club." The first part of this program consisted of the following:

Chorus: "Happy Days Are Here Again."

Tenor banjo solo, "Pagan Bertrand Richie."

Solo, "Under the Texas Moon," Miss Martha B. Brown.

Chorus, "Chant the Jungles."

Solo, "Your Fate Is In Your Hands," Mr. Wm. Woolridge.

Duet, "All That I'm Asking Is Sympathy,"

Miss Martha B. Brown, Mr. Elliott McAdams.

Solo and Chorus, "Painting the Clouds," Miss G. Jefferson.

Saxophone solo, "Love Me," Mr. Julius Foster.

Solo, "At the End of the Road," Mr. B. Ritchie.

The coming of the grand wedding was announced. All girls taking part were beautifully dressed in different colors of checked gingham and the boys in full dress. The church was decorated in blue and orange paper and Queen Ann's lace and ferns. Miss Edmonia Johnson presided at the organ.

Messrs. Julius L. Foster and Elliott L. McAdams delighted an appreciative audience in recital Sunday afternoon, July 13. Mr. McAdams exhibited the qualities of his voice in singing and made for himself a name when he held the audience spell bound in reciting "The Raven."

Mr. Julius Foster in his pleasing manner showed a delicate artistry in the rendition of his pieces on the piano and carried us into a higher sphere when he played a saxophone solo, "Pansies for Thought," accompanied. To let my readers enjoy what they did I will give their program:

Vocal Solo, "Asleep in the Deep" (Lamb), Elliott L. McAdams.

Saxophone Solo, "Pansies for Thought" (Grey), Julius L. Foster.

Reading, "The Raven," (Poe), Elliott L. McAdams.

Piano Solo, "Serenata" (Moszkowske) Julius L. Foster.

Vocal Solo, "Water Boy,"

(Avery Robinson) Elliott McAdams.

Piano solo, "Polish Dance" (Sharwenka) Julius L. Foster.

Vocal solo, "On the Deep" (Loki) Elliott L. McAdams.

Mrs. Eloise Williams spent a few days at Fort Benning, Ga., with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mikell, the former her brother. She brought the little Misses Anna Elizabeth and Mary Starks Mikell to spend two months with her.

Miss Claudia Burriss who has been attending summer school at Greenville, S. C., has gone to Galuda, S. C., to spend the remaining part of the summer.

## HOLBROOK STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, the 6th of July, we had to preach for us Mr. Albright, of Shelton Memorial Presbyterian church (white). His text was: "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." It was a very instructive discourse, and we all enjoyed it. He showed how nations had reaped by forgetting God. The white Presbyterians of this city have been very good in helping us in our distress, and they tell us to call on them at any time, and they will do what they can for Holbrook Street Presbyterian church, which they have done with their money and otherwise. They know where the Holbrook Street Presbyterian church originated and they want it to prosper. By the help of God our Presbyterians are doing fine. We are looking forward to the coming of a pastor.

Dr. Price, of High Street church, preached for us Sunday, the 18th of July, at 3:30 o'clock P. M. from Ephesians 5:27. "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it shall be holy and without blemish." It was a very instructive discourse and all present seemed to enjoy it. The service was for our rally and we raised \$106.08. We are thankful for the way our colored and white friends have helped us in the time of our troubles. We are having these rallies for the purpose of fixing up our parsonage.

Rev. C. C. Harvey, pastor of Shiloh Baptist church, of Alamagro, Va., held his seventh anniversary, July 6-13. The different pastors of the city preached for him each night through the week.

Miss Evelena Allen is attending summer school at Hampton Institute.

JAMES A. GARLAND.

## ANOTHER SCHOOL PLANT PROVIDED FOR ATLANTA GROUP

Commodious Walker Street Plant Assigned to Colored Children—Welcome Relief of Congestion Anticipated

Atlanta, Ga., July—By unanimous vote of the City Board of Education, the valuable Walker Street school property has been designated for use hereafter as a Negro school, a step of great importance which will go far to relieve the present congestion in nearby colored schools. The plant is modern, commodious and in good repair and will provide for many hundreds of pupils.

The Board's action rewards long and persistent effort on the part of the local inter-racial Committee, the Christian Council, and other public-spirited groups and individuals. The transfer of the property was also recommended by the city superintendent of schools, Dr. Willis A. Sutton, who has shown himself at all times fair-minded and impartial in his administration of the city schools.