

Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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CONFERENCE ON SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS

A Presbyterian Conference on Spiritual Emphasis in the Church is to be held in the Seminary Church of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Belden Avenue and North Halsted Street, Chicago, February 9, opening at 9 A. M. and continuing through morning, afternoon and evening sessions. Delegates are expected from Chicago, Bloomington, Freeport, Mattoon, Ottawa, Quincy, Rock Island and Springfield, Illinois; from Crawfordsville, Indianapolis and Logansport, Indiana; from Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Dubuque, Iowa City and Waterloo, Iowa; from Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Lansing, Michigan; and from Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Conference is being arranged by the Presbyterian Board of Christian Education from its headquarters in Philadelphia under instructions of the Presbyterian General Assembly. The slogan of the Conference is: "An Awakened Church for an Expectant World."

One thousand churches within convenient distance of Chicago will be invited to send their strongest leaders to this Conference. The delegates will include pastors, church officers, Sunday school officers and teachers, leaders of women's and men's organizations, Synodical and Presbyterial leaders, and representatives of the staff and field forces of the official Boards.

Rev. Edward P. Westphal, of 423 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Director of Adult Education, who is in charge of the program for the Conference, announces that he expects addresses to be delivered by the following church leaders:

Professor Samuel M. Zwemer, D. D., of Princeton Theological Seminary, on "The Gospel and the Need of the World."

Rev. Joseph A. Vance, D. D., of Detroit, President of the Board of National Missions, on "Reviving the Spirit of Evangelism in the Churches."

Professor Norman E. Richardson, Ph. D., of Chicago.

Rev. Joseph R. Sizoo, D. D., pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian church, Washington, D. C.

A service of worship will be conducted by Rev. William Chalmers Covert, D. D., of Philadelphia, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Christian Education.

There will be special music by the Chicago Seminary Quartet and Glee Club.

The purpose of the Conference is stated by Mr. Westphal to be: To face squarely the need at home and abroad; to determine the church's share in meeting that need; to discover ways of discharging the responsibility of the church organization; to carry the enthusiasm and power and purpose of the Chicago Conference back into the local churches in terms of definite steps to be taken in deepening the spiritual life of every Christian and in carrying on a more spiritually significant life and work.

The Conference problem, as stated by Mr. Westphal, is: "How shall the Presbyterian Church, facing a new and expectant world, effectively relate to the spiritual power of Christ and His Gospel?"

The plan of the Conference is to divide the whole body, after the central presentations, into small discussion groups under skilled leadership, to consider the implications of the present world situation as they bear upon the life of individual Christians and upon the Church's life and program.

The Chicago Conference is the outgrowth of an overture

sent by several Presbyteries to the Presbyterian General Assembly at St. Paul in 1929. The overture was written by Dr. Benjamin M. Gemmill, of Hartsville, Pa., and stated the "need of a new call to service" based on the realization that "everywhere men are longing for a deeper experience of Christ; and the apparent low ideals and lack of enthusiasm for the spread of the teachings of Christ; the lack of an adequate number of students for the ministry and missionary service; and the absence of any great passion for Christ such as actuated the Church in its most glorious days." The overture, which was referred by the General Assembly to the General Council, urged that there be held in the great city centers of America such meetings as this initial Chicago Conference, with the object of "considering how best to secure the deepening of the Church's spiritual life and to lay the obligations to complete the task of winning the world for Christ in this day and generation, especially in view of the unprecedented opportunity now presented for giving the Gospel to the whole unevangelized world in our lifetime."

The main purpose and underlying principles of such meetings, as stated in the overture, are as follows:

"The Church faces the world's need and opportunities as never before, and yet the Church is scarcely able to maintain what is already gained, and no new work of advancement has been undertaken for some time. The great purpose of such conventions will be to face squarely the world's need and to determine our share in supplying it, and, also, to determine how best to accomplish the task undertaken, and to deepen the spiritual life of each Christian, and to do all that in us lies to complete the task of evangelization of the world to reward Christ for His sufferings."

"The way to raise budgets, quotas and money is not to talk about these, but to exalt the cause by giving the people an overmastering and overpowering task and vision of the world's desperate need. Then budgets will take care of themselves."

"A more complete reliance upon God rather than upon machinery or organization."

"The people will rally to a call such as 'The World for Christ in Our Lifetime,' as the students did 40 years ago to the call 'The Evangelization of the World in Our Day and Generation.'"

Local arrangements for the Conference are in the hands of Rev. R. H. Elliott, 77 West Washington Street, Chicago.

MARY POTTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL, OXFORD, N. C.



OLD WELLS HALL
Remodeled and an Addition Made to it.

MARY POTTER SCHOOL AND TIMOTHY DARLING CHURCH

By Rev. G. C. Shaw, D. D.

For some time we have been trying to find time to write you something about this field. Things are about normal with us regardless of the financial depression through which we are passing. It is true we feel the depression keenly but have set our sails accordingly and thus have been able to move on.

We made many improvements on our campus during last summer. Wells' Hall has been brick veneered and a brick addition made to it, 32x70 feet, three stories. A new heating plant has been installed and four up-to-date bath rooms added. Our dining room is now commodious and modern. Our guests could not ask for a more modern and comfortable home. An electric dish-washer has been installed in the kitchen and other modern and convenient improvements added.

Our Gym is completed though not yet fully equipped. The students are getting a lot of

Our church work, too, is moving along nicely. We have already more than met all our financial and benevolent obligations for the year, but hope to make other contributions before April.

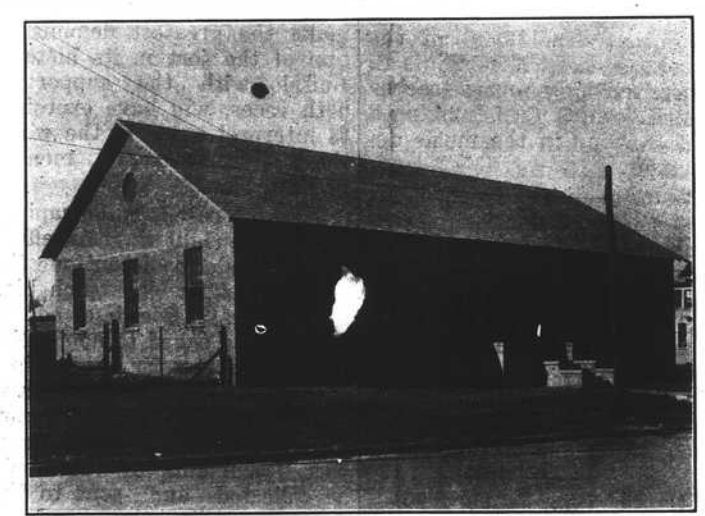
We just closed our rally a few Sundays ago. The church was divided into ten clubs, each headed by one of our faithful women with which the church is blessed. The following is a list of the clubs and those who contributed:

Receipts from Clubs

Club No. 9, Mrs. W. G. Anderson, Captain. By check \$14.31
Pie sale 1.85
Cash 4.75
Total \$20.91

Club No. 4, Mr. R. A. Carroll, Jr., Captain. Y. M. C. A. Members From play, Dec. 12 \$ 6.25
Members 7.50
Mr. R. A. Carroll, Jr. 3.00
Total \$10.00

Club No. 8, Mrs. C. M. Sanford, Captain. Rally at church \$16.75



ALUMNI GYMNASIUM

Built by Alumni and Students. Have not asked the Board for a cent. Will cost about \$10,000.

wholesome enjoyment out of it. Visiting teams and friends speak of it in the highest terms. Being the only building of its kind in the county, we often get requests from our white friends for its use, which, of course, we grant. This building is the gift of the Alumni. We have not yet asked the Board for a cent. The building is a brick veneer structure, 46x86 feet, with a gallery, and a fair imitation of our Johnson C. Smith University Gym. It represents not only student money but student labor. The concrete porch, built entirely by students, under the supervision of Prof. Hicks, our manual training teacher, is outstanding. It represents the gift of the class of 1930, and cost, or would cost if contracted out, at least \$500.

Mrs. Nettie Smith 50
Mrs. Alice Davis 25
Mrs. Mary Greene 25
Mr. Augustus Walker 1.00
Mr. William Epps 50
Mr. C. M. Sanford 10.00
Mrs. Meta Cooper 6.00
Mrs. Lena Sanford 8.00
Miss M. A. Tucker 25
Total \$43.75

Club No. 1, Mrs. Elijah Clements, Captain. Miss M. A. Tucker \$ 3.00
Prof. R. L. Smith 5.00
Miss Catherine Sanford 1.00
Miss Thalia Moore 11.15
Miss H. S. Barnes 5.00
Mr. Monroe Williamson 4.00
Mrs. Cheevers 3.85
Mrs. Elijah Clements 40.20
Total \$73.20

Club No. 5, Mrs. G. C. Shaw, Captain. Mrs. L. W. Anderson \$ 5.00

Mrs. Laura Kemp 1.50
Dr. George Branch 5.00
Mrs. and Mrs. T. Hicks 10.00
Mrs. G. C. Shaw 25.00
Prof. L. S. Cozart 2.50
Mrs. Magnolia Ridley 1.00
Prof. F. W. Jackson 1.50
Total \$51.50

Club No. 6, Mrs. Luster Thomas, Captain. Mr. Fisher Lockett \$ 2.00
Mr. Robert Peace 4.00
Mr. Luster Thomas 5.00
Mrs. Luster Thomas 5.00
Mrs. Scotia Peace .50
Dr. G. C. Shaw 1.00
Total \$17.50

Club No. 3, Mrs. E. E. Toney, Captain. Collection at church \$10.00
Dr. J. B. Davis, Louisburg 2.00
Dr. I. E. Turner, Durham 2.00
Miss A. E. Jenkins, Oxford 1.00
Mrs. J. N. Mills, Durham 1.00
Mrs. Lizzie Scott, Oxford 1.00
Mrs. M. J. Turner, Raleigh 1.00
Mrs. D. A. Hawkins 2.00
Mrs. Annie Toney 2.00
Dr. E. E. Toney 5.00
Mrs. Nora Hicks 2.00
Mr. Leslie Buie 1.00
Miss Dorothy Allen 1.00
Mr. Willie Barker 10.00
Total \$42.19

Club 11, Miss M. B. Sullivan, Captain. Entertainment \$11.05
Y. W. C. A. 1.50
Mr. and Mrs. Norman 5.00
Dr. G. C. Shaw 1.00
Miss M. B. Sullivan 1.00
Total \$19.55

Club 2, Mrs. Alice Pettiford, Captain. Mrs. Carrie Daniels \$ 3.00
Mrs. D. E. Peace 2.00
Mrs. Pattie Greene 2.00
Miss Catherine McGhee .25
Mrs. Martha Barker .25
Cornell Pettiford .25
Wiley Parker .25
Willie Pettiford .25
Mrs. Annie Hawkins .25
Mrs. Alice Pettiford 5.50
Total \$14.00

Club No. 7, Mrs. B. B. Greene, Captain. Miss C. C. Burton \$ 1.00
Edward Sanford 1.00
Mr. J. R. Greene 5.00
Mrs. Annie Hunt 2.00
Mrs. B. B. Greene 5.00
Pie Sales 8.25
Total \$22.25

Grand Total, \$315.35.

We are having evangelistic meetings this week. Pray for our success.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER AT SWIFT MEMORIAL COLLEGE

By Rev. I. H. Russell, D. D.

Accepting an invitation from Dr. C. E. Tucker, President of Swift Memorial College, to assist in a week of prayer, I left Friday, January 9, 1931, for Rogersville, Tenn. The weather was unusually cold, and about twenty-four inches of snow fell in the mountains of Tennessee, yet the trip was very pleasant.

We began the week of prayer Sunday, January 11. A survey of the student body revealed the fact that five students were not Christians. Services were held in the College Chapel every day at 11 o'clock in the morning, with the faculty and students, and conducted every evening at 7:30 o'clock in the church.

A large and appreciative audience attended each service. It was a glorious meeting from the beginning to the end. Three young ladies and one

(Continued on page 3)

BY THE WAY

By Uncle Billie

In a casual study of colonial history as it relates to the thirteen colonies and afterwards the United States of America, one finds that South Carolina, "George Washington's favorite triangle," took the initiative in many things that constitute the warp and woof of a stable commonwealth. This, of course, places Charleston, being South Carolina's oldest city, and the most historic city in America, in the forefront in regaling other cities of America with "firsts" in America. In the Columbia (S. C.) State's New Era edition Charleston tells the world without fear of successful contradiction—and bolsters her claims by authentic history from archives, perhaps, witnessed by the philosopher John Locke in its making—that the first prescription drug store is in Charleston, at the corner of King and Broad Streets; the first municipal college; the first chamber of commerce; the first insurance company was organized in Charleston, and a long, interesting list of America's "firsts."

It impels an alert man, one who does not concede to second-hand knowledge, to look at a person, place, or thing a second or third time with some degree of peculiar scrutiny, when these objects are placed in classes by themselves because of the distinction entailed.

Somehow or other people rejoice and pose with envied complacency when they are conscious of the fact that their priority in laudable efforts and achievements can not be disputed, but is affirmed by genuine past and present records to guide those of the on-coming centuries.

I read in the Africo-American Presbyterian a few weeks ago something that bade fair to make one of the two in an assertion prove or fail to prove his claim as to what woman has the distinction of being the first to be ordained as a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. The matter was started by Bro. Hector, I think; and another good brother brought forth his first woman ruling elder, and challenged Brother Hector to come forth with the date of ordination of his woman ruling elder that we might see who holds priority. I was anxious to see the finality of the whole matter; but it seems that it volatilized at its inception and conception. It went up into ether when it began to appear in the form of an argument; and it left the minds, perhaps, of many before it began to form and take hold to our desire for this knowledge. I am waiting yet; for it seems to be in the nature of man to honor the things that stand out as first.

In the Witherspoon Building, in Philadelphia, I was permitted, at my own request, to look into the files, by a very kind and willing lady, to satisfy myself as to the first or oldest Presbyterian church in America. Of course Philadelphia holds this claim; but the statement should be modified, or made to read: oldest continuous Presbyterian church in America; since Circular Congregational church on Meeting Street in Charleston antedates in organization and service the one in Philadelphia holding the claim of "first" by several years as a Presbyterian church.

In these "firsts," Charleston, above all other American cities, rejoices. And what city would

(Continued on page 4)