

**The Afro - American Presbyterian**  
**CONSOLIDATED WITH**  
**THE SOUTHERN EVANGELIST**  
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Devoted to the Educational, Material, Moral and Religious interests of our people in the South, and published at Charlotte, N. C., every Thursday.

All questions arising under the various subjects above indicated are discussed from a Christian point of view. Each number contains the freshest and best news from the Southern field and from the Church at large. There is carefully selected reading matter suited to all classes of our people—the farmer, the mechanic, the artisan and the professional man.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 3, 1931.

**THE PRESBYTERIAN WORKERS' CONFERENCE**

Dr. J. M. Gaston announces that the Annual Workers' Conference will be held at the Johnson C. Smith University Church, February 2nd-5th, 1932, and that Dr. W. L. McEwan, pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., will conduct the devotional hour each day, and Rev. H. N. Morse, D. D., Clerk of the Board of National Missions, will deliver a lecture each day. Full program will be sent out.

**DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOL TERM**

The educational progress of colored children in the South is greatly retarded because of short school terms. Children in six months schools are two years of schooling behind children in eight months schools by the time the latter complete the eighth grade.

According to the November issue of the "State School Facts," at present 82.6 per cent of the white children of North Carolina are enrolled in schools operating eight months or more, while only 38.2 per cent of the colored children are enrolled in schools of eight months. Another way of putting it, there are 106,464 white children who attend schools that do not operate eight months, while 160,431 colored children attend schools of less than eight months notwithstanding the fact that the colored population of the State is only about one-third that of the white population. The average school term in all white schools is 159.6 days; in all colored schools 141.0 days.

**THE PRIMARY AIM OF THE CHURCH**

With the multiplying of auxiliaries and the increasing of departments in the effort to do more effective church work, we are in danger of forgetting the primary aim of the Church—the salvation of men's souls—so thinks Dr. Charles H. Nabers, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of High Point. In a recently published book on "Gladness in Christian Living," Dr. Nabers says:

"The reason for the existence of the Church is to win souls for Christ. It may indulge in activities which seem to be 'just things in general,' but all such activities are out of place unless each and every one of them makes a definite contribution to its main business—winning souls for Christ. In this supreme task lies God's big challenge to Christian believers who launch out in intensive service in response to this challenge and find gladness in Christian living.

"The foci of all our ecclesiastical activities, as I have already indicated, should be the winning of souls for the Master. It is God's aim for human lives. One of our Southern

Presbyterian preachers, a few years ago, compiled a sermon which showed that every part of the Old Testament was missionary. In gathering materials from all sections of the Bible he indicated clearly and positively that the winning of souls for God was a major challenge to believers from the beginning of religious history until the latest prophet in the ancient dispensation had spoken his final word.

"There was a national church gathering in Birmingham, Ala., several years ago. It was an efficiency conference. Dr. J. A. Bryan, pastor of the Third Presbyterian church, could not stand that conference. He sat through the morning session, hearing speeches, reports, surveys without end, then slipped out while the rest of the conference was eating lunch.

"As he told it to Dr. George Stuart: 'George, I could not stand it any longer in that conference on efficiency. It got too monotonous for me, so I slipped out and ate lunch with a working man I know in the mills. We sat on the curbstone and ate from his lunch pail; and I prayed with him and he gave his heart to the Lord. I have been laying for that racial for months. Now and then he drops into church. All morning in that slow conference I kept thinking of him. They were talking about saving men in mass movements, George; and that is all right. But I kept thinking about Jim Ruggles. I could not get him out of my mind. I knew where he sat to eat his lunch, so I slipped out and found him for the Lord. Now I think I can stand it to sit through another afternoon of that efficiency conference, with God's help.' Dr. Bryan looks upon soul winning as a divine aim.

"The question for all of us will be, what have we made of our life as a help towards carrying out God's aim to win souls for Christ?"

**PRESIDENT HOOVER INVITES MRS. McCROREY TO CONFERENCE**

Mrs. H. L. McCrorey left Charlotte Tuesday in response to an invitation from President Hoover to attend a conference on Home Building and Home Ownership, called to meet in Washington December 2-5.

**THE SUCCESS CONTEST**

Our "Success Contest" closed on November 25th. A number of very interesting stories have come to us. We hope the judges will be able to pass on these papers so we will be in position to give their decision within the next two weeks.

**IS GOD DEAF?**

By Algernon B. Jackson, M. D.  
 (For The Associated Negro Press.)

According to Mohammed, the seventh heaven is the place wherein each inhabitant is larger than the entire earth. And not only that, but each person there has 70,000 heads, each head has 70,000 mouths, each mouth has 70,000 tongues, and each tongue speaks 70,000 languages and all are forever chanting the praise of God.

The other Sunday night I walked down Seventh Street and from the noise several little store-front Negro churches were making I commenced to think I had run into that Mohammedan Seventh Heaven. Despite the fact I promised the Deacon to keep off the churches I just have to take this opportunity to ask a question or two. One of these churches had a jazz band which played as though it were a dance hall. The place was packed and the crowd overflowed into the street. But of all the noise, shouting, singing, stamping the feet, clapping the hands, groaning, moaning, I never heard the like before. I wonder if there folks think God is deaf.

In other streets I went and found these little store-front churches, all doing a big and noisy business. I wanted to go in, but the weather and atmosphere forbade. When winter comes it may be better and

their spiritual ardor may cool a bit and I shall attend services. Far be it from me to criticize any man's method of worshipping God. I like some emotionalism but I doubt if God wants so much noise made in praise of Him. Nevertheless, there is a sort of primitive interest which springs from these noisy manifestations. As a social study, they are wonderful but as to their religious value—well—well, I just don't know! Do you?

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SATURDAY CONFERENCES**

By Frank C. Shirley

On Saturday, December 12, in the Sunday school room of Seventh St. church there will begin a series of Saturday conferences that will continue till Saturday, January 30th, 1932.

The conferences will be divided into two sessions each Saturday. From 10 A. M. to 12 noon we will meet a select group of leaders and prospective leaders in Young People's Societies. The purpose of this session will be to drill leaders in the technique of group discussion. Each Young People's Society or Forum is asked to select from 1 to 3 of their best representatives for this session of the conference. We will not accept any more than three from any one church. This session of the conference is a project of the Young People's League.

The second session of the conference will be held in the afternoon from 1 to 3:30. This session is a project of the Sunday School Convention of Catawba Presbytery. It will be for Sunday school superintendents, officers and teachers. The aim of this session will be to help these workers in a practical solution of the problems they face in improving the present status of their local schools.

To help defray the expense incident to the conferences each person attending will be requested to pay a registration fee of 25 cents. Each session will begin promptly at the hour set and close promptly, and the record of attendance will be taken of all who enroll.

We hope each church, as far as practicable, will be represented in both sessions of the conferences.

**MONROE CHURCH NEWS**

By James C. Williams

Sunday morning, November 29th, the pastor and congregation of Black's Memorial Presbyterian church were delighted to have Rev. F. C. Shirley preach for us. Rev. Shirley brought to us a wonderful message which will not be forgotten. His text was taken from John 19:25-26. His subject was "Christian Certainty." He spoke of the necessity of the Christian being sure of God's love, protection and power and His personal interest in us. This will enable him to be a patient sufferer or a bold soldier for God.

In the evening at 6 o'clock Rev. Shirley addressed a large number of young people and some of the older people, using as his subject their topic for the evening, "The Christian's Armor."

Our pastor, Rev. C. N. Jenkins, held a Thanksgiving service at our church Thursday morning. A large number were present. All seemed to enjoy the service. At the suggestion of the pastor each person brought an offering to the church; peas, beans, potatoes, meal, fruit and many other things were laid on the pulpit. Dr. Jenkins' gift was a large collar from his own garden. After the service these gifts were taken to the homes of the sick.

Prayer meeting and church service are being well attended by the young people as well as the older ones.

**CARD OF THANKS**

I wish to thank the many ministers and other friends who called to see me and for their kind services during my confinement at my home.  
 REV. ELLIS E. GREGG.

**THANKSGIVING DAY AT COULTER MEMORIAL ACADEMY**

By Henri L. Marshall

It was a great day—a day of Thanksgiving and praise, for indeed there were many things to be thankful for and for which to render praise to the Almighty.

At the eleven o'clock service a large, enthusiastic and appreciative audience enjoyed immensely a masterly address delivered by Dr. Thomas A. Long. The practicability of the address, which was scholarly and well delivered, seemed to hold all in a kind of cantatory frame of mind. The thought, "What Do We Stand For?" was the dominant idea; in consequence of this we are identified with our association in society. The basis of the discourse was drawn from what is known in sociology as the person and his four wishes: (1) The desire for new experience; (2) The desire for security; (3) The desire for recognition; (4) The desire for response.

At three o'clock in the afternoon the Brainerd Institute team and the Coulter Crimson-Tide team met in their annual classic of foot ball. A hard fought game on both sides finally terminated in a scoreless tie.

In the evening Dr. Thos. A. Long spoke again and also the Rev. W. S. Thompson, pastor of the Wesley M. E. church, spoke in behalf of the community and school and expressed the appreciation for the services rendered by Dr. Long for the day.

For some years the school has been divided into "Reds" and "Greens," both sides having candidates, and on Thanksgiving evening the candidate receiving the higher number of votes would be selected "Miss Coulter." The evening culminated in the crowning of Miss Robbie L. Hammond, the "Green" candidate, as "Miss Coulter." Miss Virginia Lowery was the "Red" candidate.

Among visitors present were Rev. W. I. Roseborough, of Camden, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Grier, and Mrs. B. C. Grier, of Winston-Salem, N. C., and several students from Johnson C. Smith University.

**EBENEZER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREER, S. C.**

The Ebenezer Presbyterian church was dedicated November 22, 1931. Rev. W. J. Smith, the minister, and the session planned a week of predicator services beginning Monday, the 10th, which was quite a successful effort. The following ministers with their churches took an active part in these services:

Monday evening, November 16th, Rev. J. W. Wilburn, pastor of Maple Creek Baptist church, preached a noble gospel sermon. His congregation was in company with him.

Tuesday evening Rev. A. Knox, pastor of St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal church, preached to the edification of all present. His congregation was with him also.

Wednesday evening it rained so heavily that there was no service.

Thursday evening the Rev. W. A. Anderson, pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist church, preached a splendid sermon. His congregation attended.

Friday evening Rev. James Surratt, pastor of New Hope Baptist church, preached another great sermon. His congregation was in attendance.

All of the services were well attended and the meeting was a spiritual benediction.

Sunday evening, November 22nd, the Mount Zion Holiness church worshipped with us. Mrs. L. B. McLeese, one of the graded school teachers, worshipped with us throughout and officiated at the organ. She and Mrs. Daisy Loguen, another teacher, made encouraging remarks concerning our work. Rev. W. J. Smith, the minister, preached the dedication sermon from the text, II Chron. 2:1. "And Solomon determined to build a house for the name of the Lord." Theme, "A Man's Bold Undertaking." From the

above text and theme we enjoyed a great message.

The Rev. J. W. Wilburn, of Maple Creek Baptist church, returned in the afternoon and he and Mrs. Leese took part in the ritualistic exercise. Thus closed a great occasion.  
 REPORTER.

**AN EX-MISSIONARY TO AFRICA**

Mrs. C. J. Sloan, of Paw Creek, N. C., a former missionary to West Africa, had the pleasure of making a short talk to the young people of the white Methodist church, Paw Creek, a few weeks ago. In her talk she briefly told of her trip to Liberia, West Africa.

It seemed that they were very much touched with what she said. The meeting was closed by singing that beautiful hymn, "I Am Thine, O Lord."

About ten days later Mrs. Sloan saw the effect of her visit. The elements revealed a sign, but not of a storm. Looking up and down the road and before she had time to think, a bunch of boys and girls (white) were approaching, saying at the same time, "We are coming to your house." They were of the Junior and Senior Societies of their church. Walking as fast as she could back she opened her house and ran to the next door and beckoned for her sister, Mary Jane, who is a mute. By this time they all were in her humble home. She realized then that a storm from the hearts and hands of these people was on. These were some of the things that the stormers left on the dresser and on the floor: potatoes, beans, peas, apples, meats, etc. Seeing that she was at a loss at both what to say and do, the speaker for the young people made it plain to her that it was the Junior Christian Endeavor who invited her up to speak to them about Africa. Mrs. Sloan expressed her appreciation for the gifts. She was asked to sing the following songs: "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," and "Roll, Jordan, Roll." As they told her good bye and left her heart rejoiced as never before.

At 8 o'clock P. M. the members of the Senior Society gave her a surprise which added more joy to her heart.

May God bless those good people and may He help us to do as much good as we can to as many people as we can in all the ways we can and as often as we can.

A FRIEND.

**FROM FIRST CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA.**

Sunday, November 22, at 11 A. M., our pastor, Rev. Hector's text was "Why will ye go with me?" Theme, "Thankfulness." At 7:30 P. M. the text was "Why stand ye all the day idle?" Theme, "An Idler and a Worker." These sermons were very timely and gave the listeners new thoughts, and a new vision of thankfulness and a greater determination to begin work anew for the Master.

Sunday, November 29, the text was, "Why, what evil hath he done?" Matt. 25:27. The theme was "Condemnation Can Never Destroy the Goodness of Character." At this service we had with us Mrs. Arnetta Gravelly, of Martinsville, Va. Mrs. Gravelly sang a solo before and after the sermon. The audience was very much pleased to hear her.

Sunday evening at 6:30 the Junior Christian Endeavor Society met with the young people in charge. The topic, "How the Bible Helps Us," was discussed beautifully. Little Miss Annie Mae Jeter presided. At 7:30 Mrs. Gravelly gave a recital for half an hour which was enjoyed by all.

Rev. Hector closed the last of his series of sermons on "Why." On next Sunday, December 6th, he begins a series of sermons on "And" for the month of December.

On Wednesday night, December 2, the pastor, Rev. Hector, will preach at Osgood Memorial Episcopal church. The Junior choir will furnish music.

MRS. CORA L. JOHNSON.

**HARBISON INSTITUTE NEWS**

Last Sunday vesper service was conducted by Dean R. W. Boulware. In his usual way he admonished the young men to use well their time while in school.

The Y. M. C. A. gave a Wiener Roast last Thursday evening on the base ball field in honor of the new students. Mr. I. P. Pogue, Jr., of the Senior class, is President. He made a fine address showing the new students the vast importance of joining the "Y." Mr. L. W. Moore responded in behalf of the new students. Dean R. W. Boulware and Rev. D. T. Murray made short addresses. The Y. M. C. A. is making remarkable progress under the leadership of Mr. Pogue.

Prof. R. G. James made a flying trip to New York City last week on business.

Dean and Mrs. R. W. Boulware, Prof. and Mrs. J. P. Sartor and Mrs. A. P. Butler attended the Home-Coming Foot Ball game in Charlotte, November 20.

Miss Marion Hutchison, one of the National Board officials, was on the campus a few days ago looking over the work. Miss Hutchison made a wonderful address before the faculty and student body. This address will long be remembered. We hope she will soon come again.

Rev. I. P. Pogue, D. D., of Sumter, S. C., was on the campus last Tuesday and made a very fine talk at our chapel service.

**Book Week**

Last week was observed as "Book Week" under the direction of Mrs. A. P. Butler. The following program was rendered:

Monday morning, Magazines in our Library, by Mr. S. L. Hampton; play, "Robinson Crusoe," by the First Year Preparatory class.

Tuesday, Composition and Health Program, Fourth Preparatory.

Wednesday, Poems, by Second Year Preparatory, and Religious Education hints by Messrs. John I. Hall and S. L. Hampton, Senior class; characters in the field of mathematics were presented by Dean R. W. Boulware.

Thursday morning, English Literature and a play by Mrs. J. G. Porter.

Friday morning, Question Box, conducted by Mrs. R. W. Boulware. President Porter gave a summary of the week's programs showing the vast importance of books and their proper use and recommended the Library to each student.

**Omega Spirit**

On last Friday night President Porter, Dean R. W. Boulware and Rev. D. T. Murray entertained in the President's home in honor of the new brothers on the faculty: Bros. J. P. Sartor, R. G. Jones, Roy Thompson. The following brothers from Columbia were present: Drs. L. M. Daniels, D. K. Jenkins, N. A. Jenkins, H. H. Cooper, O. L. Champion, J. G. Stuart and Prof. A. P. Butler, of Harbison. Brother Porter gave warm words of welcome. Brother Daniels in a most fitting way responded, pointing out some of the outstanding men of the race as members of Omega fraternity. Drs. J. G. Stuart and N. A. Jenkins also made remarks impressing upon us that we should from this occasion catch the Omega spirit and get together more.

Coulter Academy foot ball team defeated Harbison last Thursday by a score of 6-2.

The Ministers' Wives' Alliance, of Columbia, met with Mrs. D. T. Murray in its regular monthly meeting, Thursday, November 19th. This club is doing a wonderful work for the unfortunate and orphans. After the business the hostess served delicious assorted sandwiches, Russian tea, pineapple pie and mints.

Mrs. Estelle Bomar Hines, sister of Mrs. J. G. Porter, was present and made a very interesting address to the club. Visitors are always warmly welcomed into our midst. Mrs. Hines is visiting President and Mrs. Porter.