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

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CALVIN E. LIGHTNER, CHURCHMAN AND INDUSTRIAL LEADER

By Charles G. Irving

Raleigh, August 3.—When Mamie Haywood Blackman, in her Worth Street home, told Calvin E. Lightner that he would have to fix a place to carry her, she determined for once and for all time his position in life.

Calvin Lightner was then a young college professor who had worked his way through a great school, and won for himself a position on the teaching staff of his alma mater. He had distinguished himself in music, and had, he thought, charmed "Miss Mamie," as he then called her, to the extent that she was willing to take him as her wedded husband. But Mamie Blackman, beautiful, cultured and filled with the pride of the aristocratic Haywood family, loved home, and, in unmistakable language, told Calvin that his first consideration was "a place to carry her."

This curt statement of the slender music teacher and affable Raleigh girl could not despair Calvin Lightner. He had heaped his love upon her for ten years, he had eaten with her, he had sung with her, and now, as a college professor, he was determined to live with her.

Then, as now, he had a counselor, "a friend in the hour of trouble." This friend was Dr. Nicholas Franklin Roberts. The young man went to Dr. Roberts, who advised him during his college days, and told him that he wanted for himself and his would-be wife a home. He needed money, and Dr. Roberts consented to endorse his note for \$250 and recommend him at the Mechanics Savings Bank where he secured the loan and purchased his East Street home in which he now lives.

The voice of "Miss Mamie" which sent her friend of a decade to Frank Ellington, then Raleigh's leading realtor, and Dr. Roberts did more than secure for herself a happy and congenial home in which four fine issues of their bodies now live. It gave Calvin Lightner such a delight in fixing a place for "Miss Mamie" that he chose the profession of "fixing men and their places" for all time as his chief occupation.

With his home settled, and his first born named in honor of the man who had assisted him in Shaw and had endorsed his first note, he heard another voice calling him to "fix a place for Negro business," which was being forced from the business center of the city because of the apparent growing prejudices of that age. He secured a lot on Hargett Street, against the advice of the business men of the city, and with his own hands built what is now a monument to Negro foresight and industry, The Lightner Building.

Doing one thing was not the way of the Lightners. He was undertaker, citizen, realtor, churchman and a friend to man. He saw in the city a number of transients who wanted a place—a decent place—and set himself to the task of providing it. He did not seek some cheap spot, but, as he had done before, he sought Hargett Street property and built the Arcade which is the largest and best equipped hotel in the State. He planned a theatre and office arrangement sufficient for the needs of the city. His theatre project was halted in the crash of the depression, and because of the dwindling business of the city he sold the building to the Household of Ruth of the State.

Calvin Lightner, like all the children of Frank and Dabney Lightner, of which there are thirteen, is a churchman. He

lays no claim to business genius, although he has wrought well. He vies with no man in intellect. Though he is friendly and congenial he does not consider himself a diplomat. He does consider himself a churchman, and those who know him call him a cosmopolitan churchman. His membership is at the Davie St. Presbyterian church, in which he has held every office save that of pastor, but his place of worship is all Christendom.

Lightner began his service in the Presbyterian church in Raleigh when he arrived in the city forty years ago as a student two years below the high school department of Shaw. He joined the church and said in his South Carolina accented language, to the then chorister, and now venerable senior elder, Robert J. Jones, "I sing in the choir at Chester; I want to sing in the choir here." In a stern but dignified manner Chorister Jones said, "Well, what do you sing?" With that Lightner wit of which his sons have so much, and South Carolina jesting that seemed to him smart, he answered: "I sing botheration."

He was admitted to the choir and today his voice as then charms and delights the small audiences that frequent the "little church on the corner." His musical voice was no bother, but his strict adherence to the fundamentals of John Calvin, when his fellow churchmen would turn that institution from the institution of Reformation to that of conformation was more than botheration. In church, as in business, Calvin Lightner sought no expedient. The right way, to Calvin Lightner was the only way. His stand for what to him seemed right has lost him many friends; has placed in his path many obstacles, but has, he thinks, given him the courage and strength to "press on to the end."

He has contributed largely to his church and to all charities. His greatest contribution to the Davie Street church was when the new church was in process of erection. He drew the plans, supervised the work, contributed much of the material, and paid his pro-rata part on the edifice.

When the obligations of the church were pressing and threats of foreclosure were hurled, he took an officer of the church and went to Concord, N. C., where he met Dr. J. M. Gaston and placed before him the condition of the church and asked for a loan from the Board of Church Erection. So convincing was the argument of Lightner that when Dr. Gaston put the matter before the Board, the Board decided to give the church one thousand dollars on condition that the church raise one thousand.

Lightner organized the church into ten groups of beasts of which he was king and in thirty days had one thousand dollars. He has since resigned his place as chairman of the Trustee Board and his son Nicholas has been elected to the Board.

Clinging tenaciously to the tenets of the Presbyterian Church, Lightner believes that preparation for death should be made during life. He likewise thinks that preparation for an inexpensive and decent burial should be made by each individual. He has set himself again to the task of providing an institution in which it can be done.

The Wake County Burial League is the "child of his dream" and he is now giving much of his time to its develop-

ment. Experience during these years of plenty and famine has been to him a great teacher. He now realizes that the responsibility of his race can not be carried on his shoulders. The Wake County Burial League is so formed that the humblest man or woman can carry their own burdens and assure themselves of a decent and respectable burial at their demise.

Calvin Lightner, like his illustrious father, Frank Lightner, whose life was beautiful because of its fine finish, has passed the half-century mark in service—unselfish service to humanity, and in the words of his first born, Nicholas, "Proposes to carry on."

CANADIAN SCHOOL OF METHODS

It has been said that "Where there is no vision the people perish." But the School of Methods of Canadian Synod has not only vision, but character, courage, faith and color. Because of drought which has played havoc this summer in this section and the general depression many were pessimistic about our being able to hold our own this year, but with such field workers as the Revs. C. N. Shropshire and Thos. B. Hargrave at the controls you can always rest assured that the program will go over with a punch.

This year marks an epoch in the history of our Convention. Not only was the Convention larger numerically but there were many new faces, and new sections represented for the first time from as far as 500 miles away.

The school was also distinguished because of the large group of young people which shows that Canadian Synod has a great future.

We were delighted to have our distinguished director, Dr. A. B. McCoy, who always brings life and inspiration.

Our dear Mrs. Agnes B. Snively, of Pittsburgh, was with us this year and our hearts were filled with joy at her smiles; and the information that she brought will ever live in our memories. Dr. L. B. West and Miss Ethel Goins were also with us and we feel that they were a part of our Synod, for they make themselves at home with us.

On the opening night our President delivered his annual address. Rev. T. B. Hargrave was at his best as he spoke on the subject, "Our Task." His knowledge of the work and the presentation set the School off with a punch and this enthusiasm lasted throughout the week.

The work in the class rooms was on a higher order this year than before. All instructors had thoroughly prepared their work and they were not without wide awake pupils from all parts of the Synod.

Addresses
Each day "The Work of the Church" was discussed ably by Rev. W. E. Houston, D. D., of Camden, Ark. Dr. A. B. McCoy brought us an inspiring message at the devotional period.

Rev. H. C. Cousins had charge of the vesper services and it was a beautiful sight to see how the young people gathered around and took in the message.

Rev. Mark M. Gibson, of Oklahoma City, held the audience spellbound as he displayed a masterpiece on Thursday night. This young man has added much to our Synod the short time he has been a member and we are proud of him. He also had charge of one of the classes.

Mrs. Agnes B. Snively made a wonderful address on "The

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN

Chicago, Aug. 2.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Returns from the balloting by delegates of the National Association of Colored Women, in convention assembled, disclosed that Dr. Mary Waring, for thirty years a leader in civic, educational and professional fields, had been elected President to succeed Mrs. Sallie Stewart, of Evansville, Ind.

Seated upon the platform to greet the new President was Mrs. Mary Church Terrill, first President of the Association, elected thirty-seven years ago. Election of Dr. Waring and the defeat of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder and principal of Palmer Memorial Institute, Sedalia, N. C., brought to an end the most spirited and spectacular election campaign in the history of the Association.

Administration Choice
The new President was the choice of the outgoing administration and of the State of Illinois, signalized in the history of the Association by its manifold contributions for the development of the organization.

Succeeding Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, of Pittsburgh, Mrs. Lethia Fleming, of Ohio, was elected chairman of the executive committee and Mrs. Lampkin was elected Vice-President. Aspirants for the position won by Mrs. Fleming were Mrs. Grace Evans, Ind.; Mrs. Christine Smith, Detroit, widow of the late Bishop C. S. Smith, and Mrs. Lillian Jones Brown, of Indiana. Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook was defeated by Mrs. Lampkin. The practice of the organization has been to regard the Vice-President as an understood candidate for President at the next convention.

Pre-convention rumblings in the press had indicated that a fiery fight would be waged for the chief office in the gift of the Association. The lines were tightly drawn between Dr. Brown and Dr. Waring, Illinois, having given much and having been given little in the history of the Association, claimed its share of honor during this World Fair year. Although the issue between the candidates was not sectional, the heavy membership of Illinois gave its candidate a preponderant edge as the convention opened and one of the principal issues respecting the election was that of granting credentials to delegates of whom Illinois registered 119. Kentucky, Dr. Waring's native State, was the next heaviest registrant, with nearly 100 delegates. From the other States came delegations ranging from four to twenty in number. It was from some of these States that it was necessary for the defeated candidate to gather her strength.

Dr. Brown Withdraws—Re-enters
So dismal was the outlook when the delegates began to arrive that Dr. Brown decided for the good of the organization to withdraw from the contest and to throw her entire support to Dr. Waring. Mrs. Brown made a formal statement of withdrawal to the Associated Negro Press Friday before the convention opened. Some of Dr. Brown's supporters, however, among whom was Mrs. Robert R. Moton and Miss Nannie Burroughs, refused to yield to the suggestion of no contest and over the week-end worked to rally support to the North Carolinian.

As the issue finally worked out the representation of Illinois was challenged. It was disclosed that many of the delegates of Illinois represented a

membership which had only paid fifty cents in annual dues. Some of the State delegates represented memberships paying \$1.50, or fifty cents for three years in dues. Mrs. Brown's supporters demanded that Illinois pay \$1.50 for each voting delegate as each of these other States had done, but it was ruled that there was a variable stipulation in the constitution and that other States than Illinois had registered delegates according to the 50 cent provision. The Illinois delegation, therefore, remained intact.

Wednesday morning Mrs. Brown took the floor of the convention in her own behalf in a spectacular effort to ward off defeat. At times the action became acrimonious and older heads in the convention shook sadly as they noted the dominance of the political spirit in the convention.

Finally, Mrs. Moton arose and, with a poise of dignity and power, paraphrasing the final words of Lincoln's second inaugural address, she asked that the convention with malice toward none and charity toward all, move on to the completion of its business for the good of the organization. She indicated her willingness to yield to the claims of Illinois. This gesture on her part relieved the situation and action was swiftly speeded toward balloting.

Seek Truth, Facts
More like a seminar than a convention was this assemblage of the representatives of 50,000 clubwomen of America. Precisely and methodically they moved from one instructive address and discussion to the next upon the program. Little space was allowed to the eloquence of mere words and furbished thoughts, the wise leaders of the movement checking with dignity all digressions that distracted the attention of the delegates from the high duty of obtaining through the interchange of thought and information wisdom and knowledge with which they might return to their homes and disseminate messages of helpfulness that would serve to keep the members of the Association to their uttermost limits working intelligently toward the same common goal. If there was eloquence, it was that of truth, of the shining fact.

Cites Evil
Thus, upon one occasion, Madam Ezella Carter, addressing herself to the problem of the Negro woman who must work, moved the delegates with simple words, simply spoken, but charged with the sort of truth that was almost terrifying. Said she:

"The Negro woman in industry or in domestic service must face her responsibilities, too. The time has passed when the arrogant domestic servant can hold a job. We have had our women who would enter homes and try to run them according to their interest. They would have their afternoon off even if the President of the United States were to be entertained. Dinner time would catch them talking to their sweethearts over the telephone. They proudly announce that they are 'faste' cooks and renounce the book with distressing results.

"The Negro women in industry have in many instances made their own way hard. They are Sunday dressers with little thought given to tidiness and neatness upon the every day job. They are sassy. One large Chicago concern employed 500 Negro girls in clerical and semi-clerical positions. But many of these girls soon began to neglect their work for the rest

rooms. It was necessary to place monitors in the washrooms and limit these girls to eight minutes. Negro foreladies were selected, but the colored girls would avoid their colored foreladies and run to the whites. Soon all these girls were out of jobs.

"One of the curses of the Negro woman in the South is the double-duty husband. In the rural regions these wives slave from month to month, never seeing town, but the men seize the fruits of their labor and maintain girls in the towns. Our women must exercise greater care in the selection of their husbands.

Many Women Work
More than 1,800,000 Negro women are employed, or one woman out of each three Negro workers, Alonzo Thayer, industrial Secretary of the Chicago Urban League, told the delegates. He directed the attention of the assemblage to the necessity of women's leaders being on the alert to see that this large number of workers be aligned to share the benefits of the so-called "new deal" as expressed in the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Mr. Thayer emphasized the provision of that Act which protects employees in their right to bargain collectively in respect to their hours of labor, wages and other working conditions. This ideal of the labor unions, once restricted to so-called organized labor, is placed within the grasp of all workers within the code era.

Out of this thought developed the attitude that Negro women should regard their labor problems in the same light as other women workers, of whatever race or nationality. The delegates joined the National Council of Women and the International Congress of Women in establishing a united front for women workers.

President's Address
The President's address was made Wednesday morning. Mrs. Stewart described in detail the nature of her activities and the condition of the organization. She recommended:

That steps be taken to publish National Notes, the Association organ, as a bulletin containing information about the organization, to be made available to each financial member.

That a new plan for raising finances for the organization be put into operation and that the expenditures of the Association be so regulated that payment on the national headquarters at Washington might be completed by 1935.

That the organization join in the observance of Frederick Douglass Day and National Association Day each year.

That the Association reconsecrate itself to the completion of the scholarship fund, the landscaping of Douglass Home and the development of departmental work.

Send Telegrams
The following telegram was sent in the name of the Association to President Roosevelt, Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, Director of the National Recovery Act, and Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior:

"The National Association of Colored Women in Biennial session assembled, representing 50,000 club women, urge you to use your executive power under the National Industry Recovery Act codes to prevent discrimination in all contracts under the Public Works Act.

"To this end we request that specific clauses, prohibiting discrimination on account of color, creed or race, be included in contracts for employment of labor of all kinds.

We further request that qualified Negroes be appointed to ad-

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