

Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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A NEGRO LOBBY

By Dr. Kelly Miller

To lobby means to influence legislation by bringing outside influence to bear upon members of the legislative body. The process is entirely legitimate and praiseworthy, if devoted to noble ends by noble means. But as lobbying is usually resorted to by selfish men for selfish purposes, the term has degenerated into a by-word of reproach.

Every great interest maintains a lobby in Washington to influence the passage of measures in which they are concerned. The Negro, most of all, needs a well sustained lobby at the national capital to watch legislation, which too often slips through Congress, detrimental to the welfare of the race. A seemingly harmless rider or amendment to an impending bill may carry provisions of vital racial concern if there is nobody whose duty and business it is to look out for and follow up such matters.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has done much good work in this direction in the past, especially in connection with the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill. But unfortunately it has to work at too great a distance. One can not live in New York and keep in intimate touch with the transactions of Congress without a representative on the spot.

The N. R. A. Codes have called into existence what promises to be the effective lobby which the race has needed for so long. A group of young Negroes schooled in economic and political science have formed an organization known as "Joint Committee on National Recovery." The agenda is limited to the economic factor, and especially as it affects and is affected by improved labor conditions. The organization grew out of the intellectual zeal of Mr. John P. Davis, a recent Harvard law graduate. Dr. George E. Haynes is put down as President; John P. Davis, Executive Secretary; Nannie H. Burroughs, Treasurer, and Robert C. Weaver, Technical Adviser. Dr. Haynes and Dr. Weaver are among the few colored men who have received their doctorate in economic science. The plan of organization is after the manner of the Negro Sanhedrin. The member organizations so far listed are: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Public Affairs Commission of the Y. W. C. A., the Race Relations Department of the Federal Council of Churches, the A. M. E. Church, the A. M. E. Zion Church, the Improved Benevolent Order of Elks of the World, the Woman's Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention, the National Business League, and the National Negro Bar Association. The leadership is finely educated and technically trained. This is essentially a youth movement, with the intelligentsia in the lead. Unlike other fanciful movements sponsored by the intelligentsia, this organization has undertaken a specific task, and keeps its gun level on the game. They have intelligently and measurably successfully combated race discrimination under the N. R. A. codes. They have appeared at each hearing and presented the claims of the Negro with an intelligence, persistency, courtesy and courage which has gained a respectful hearing. Indeed the N. R. A. officials welcome such representation. Most frequently our case is lost by default because there is present at the critical stage no one who is

prepared to represent our cause with adequate information and knowledge.

Lobbyists, in the generally accepted sense of the term, appeal to the legislative, rather than to the administrative side of the government. Federally speaking, the Negro suffers very little from the enactment of law but from its administration. The Civil Service Law is absolutely fair on its face, but the Negro competitor has no earthly chance of surviving the mechanism of the Civil Service machinery. We need a body of trained experts to keep their eyes peeled as to every feature of law or administration of law which can possibly have bearing on the race problem.

There have been several inadequate and abortive attempts to supply this need. But this is the first movement with intelligent and technical equipment that has yet been launched. In the language of the old familiar hymn,

"This is the way I long have sought,
And mourned because I found it not."

In order that this organization may succeed it must be adequately supported. I do not know whether reliance is placed wholly on membership tax or whether general contributions are solicited. But in any event the proposition should be sustained. It may be necessary to require it to broaden its functions and include civil and political rights, or a more comprehensive provision for the general welfare. But however this may be, the race has been asleep on its opportunities and rights and privileges long enough. Here is a concrete proposition on which the whole race may well unite on an intelligent and efficient program. Eternal vigilance is the price of opportunity.

COULTER ACADEMY

The faculty of Coulter Memorial Academy met September 9th for a business meeting; the work was outlined for the year by the Principal, Dr. G. W. Long. Many of the faculty members spent the summer studying in various colleges preparing themselves for the scholastic year.

The new teachers added to the faculty are: Miss Marjorie Hutchinson, B. S., Knoxville College; Mr. Wilton Robertson, B. S., Tuskegee Institute; and Rev. J. O. Stinson, A. B., B. D., Johnson C. Smith University. Other members of the faculty are: Mrs. E. P. Wilson, Mrs. J. V. Hanna, Mrs. E. C. White, Misses V. E. Funderburk, W. M. Gillespie, V. E. Lowery, A. H. Grier and O. E. Wilson; Messrs. J. G. Benson and H. L. Marshall.

School opened Monday morning with a large enrollment. Many patrons and friends were present. In addition to the other well equipped buildings on the campus, Coulter Memorial Academy is erecting an industrial building. This building will serve the purpose of the manual training department, sewing department, all basket ball games and other healthful recreations for the students of Coulter and the community.

V. E. LOWERY,

Cheraw, S. C.

"Brethren, if any one of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.—James 5:19-20.

BROOKLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DEDICATED

PROMINENT CHURCH LEADERS ON PROGRAM

The Brooklyn Presbyterian church, Charlotte, N. C., held its exercises in dedication, September 10-17. The Brooklyn church was organized April, 1911, by the Presbytery of Catawba. It has had seven ministers in its service since its organization. The present edifice, which was begun in 1925, has just been completed and the new pews and pulpit furnishings have been installed. The church building also has a commodious basement for Sunday school purposes, and provision for a kitchen, etc.

The Growth of the Church In the last five years the church has grown from a membership of 119 to 247. It gathered for its financial upkeep more than \$2,000 the last year, and has an organized unit of every department in the membership of the church. A strong unit of the young people's work has been developed to the point where spiritual values are easily recognized and considered by the young people of this church.



BROOKLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. A. H. Prince, Pastor

The great concern is the spiritual growth of the people. Special efforts are being constantly made to register a spiritual quality in the life and work of the people of the congregation. This, in a large measure, has served to increase the membership of the church. No less is there encouragement for the people to make their material well being as bountiful as possible, and to surround themselves with ample provision for living and for the education of their children and themselves.

Dedicatory Services

The services of dedication began Sunday morning, September 10, with the Rev. Lionel B. West, D. D., Field Representative of the Board of National Missions, preaching at the worship hour. Dr. West spoke from the text, Psalm 81:1. He magnified the church as a place where one can find the abundant life and live it free from worldly entanglements.

At 3:30 Sunday afternoon the church was formally dedicated. Dr. C. M. Boyd, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian church, U. S., Charlotte; Dr. H. L. McCrorey, President of Johnson C. Smith University; Rev. James H. Hardie, D. D., pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, U. S., Charlotte, and Dr. L. B. West participated in the services. Dr. Boyd in an inspiring message congratulated the people for dedicating the church at this time, declaring that we live in a world of confusion and to be able to present a structure for dedication at a time like this is commendable in any church.

Dr. H. L. McCrorey spoke in

M. E. church, assisted by Rev. Mr. Rush, of the Emanuel Congregational church, presented an inspiring service. The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Giles, with the choir from Bethel church rendering the music.

Friday evening a popular meeting was held with Professor Kenneth Diamond in charge of the music. Mr. Tom Jimison, local attorney and churchman, was the speaker for the evening. Mr. Jimison spoke on "The Value of a Church in the Life of a Community." Mr. Jimison declared that the poorest person in the world is he who has nothing but money, but he who has character impressed by the church is happy. The music for the evening, furnished by the Choral Club of the Recreation Department of the city, was inspiring.

Saturday afternoon from three to six o'clock the children were given an impressive service of helpful movies in the basement of the church. Many eager youngsters enjoyed an afternoon of wholesome entertainment.

Sunday, September 17, Worship Services

The morning services at eleven o'clock were uplifting. Dr. Charles H. Shute, Professor of Theology in the Seminary of Smith University, preached the sermon from Malachi 3:10. The sermon was ably and impressively delivered. Dr. Shute asserted in no uncertain terms that we are to bring, prove, and see to be made happy in the Church of the living God.

In the afternoon at three thirty o'clock, the final reports from the Pew Fund leaders were had, with the pastor presiding.

On Sunday evening at 8 o'clock the closing services were had. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Wilson, D. D., pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church, Concord, N. C. A note of optimism resounded through this message. The text was taken from the book of Isaiah, the sermon topic being: "The Glorious Prospect of the Church." We expect a better day as we sacrifice and live for the promotion of the Church in these days, said the speaker.

A large and appreciative audience was present at every service and the weather was conducive to pleasantness all the week. The inspiration gained from the fellowship and messages of this occasion must serve a very useful purpose in the lives of all who witnessed the services. Each evening a larger audience greeted the speakers, and showed appreciation in their response to the financial request. Many friends out of the city, and over the field sent messages of cheer and congratulations on this occasion. The local newspapers gave commendable comments on the services and the work of the church, for which the church is encouraged and expresses its appreciation.

We think of the world as our parish and extend to all persons visiting the city of Charlotte an invitation to visit the Brooklyn Presbyterian church, located on South McDowell near First St.

NOTICE

The Treasurers of the Presbyteries of Catawba, Yadkin, Cape Fear and Southern Virginia are earnestly requested to secure their Synodical assessments in full for the approaching meeting of Synod, October 11th. Last year, because of the lack of funds the Minutes could not be printed.

A. A. HECTOR,
Treasurer of Synod.

The man who works for nothing but pay generally gets very little of that.

AND PRESBYTERY FALL SESSION

By Rev. J. H. Boatley, S. C.

The McClelland Presbytery convened with Mt. Zion Presbyterian church, Due West, S. C., September 7, 1933. The Presbytery was opened with a sermon by Rev. J. G. Porter, D. D., text Daniel 12:3. The sermon of Dr. Porter, the retiring Moderator, was high class, well constructed and couched in the choicest diction.

The Rev. L. E. Ginn was chosen Moderator and Rev. H. Y. Kennedy was made Temporary Clerk.

Most cordial and timely words of welcome were extended to the Presbytery by the following persons: Elder C. W. Ellis for Mt. Zion; Rev. E. F. Johnson for the churches, and Dr. R. C. Grier, President of Erskine College, for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church and the town of Due West. Prof. R. W. Boulware, Dean of Harbison College, made a fitting response to the words of welcome for the Presbytery.

Revs. H. L. McCrorey, D. D., R. C. Grier, D. D., L. B. West, D. D., and Joseph Taylor; G. G. Parkinson, D. D., and D. H. Ralston, Ph. D., of the Second Presbytery (A. R. P.); J. D. Cowan, D. D., A. M. Jones, of the Western North Carolina A. M. E. Conference; S. J. Cowan, J. H. Burns, E. F. Johnson of the Piedmont A. M. E. Conference, and G. T. Dillard, D. D., of the Presbytery of Fairfield, were presented to the Presbytery and extended the courtesy of corresponding members. Dr. H. L. McCrorey spoke for the group of corresponding members. After having expressed his pleasure in meeting President Grier, Dr. McCrorey confined his address to the history and work of Johnson C. Smith University by request. He thrilled the audience in giving many interesting incidents of his and his family's trip abroad.

Chairmen of the Standing Committees on the various Boards—Revs. C. W. Francis, H. Y. Kennedy, L. E. Ginn and D. T. Murray—made splendid reports. Dr. H. L. McCrorey, a member of the Board of Christian Education, spoke to the report on Christian Education. He stressed the importance of the Board and the work it is doing in the field of Christian education and urged full co-operation on the part of the Presbytery and churches.

Dr. L. B. West, Field Representative of the Board of National Missions, took care of the interests of the Board of National Missions in his address to the report.

The Men's Work, under the chairmanship of Prof. R. W. Boulware, made a fine exhibition. The reports from the various churches showed constructive work and tangible results.

The report of the commissioners to the last General Assembly, Rev. P. A. Flack and Elder C. W. Jones, was very satisfactory and they merited a vote of thanks for their fidelity, which the Presbytery gave.

Rev. A. H. Reasoner and Elder E. W. Pitts were nominated commissioners, ministerial and lay, respectively, to the next General Assembly. Rev. H. Y. Kennedy and Elder A. P. Butler were made alternates, ministerial and lay, respectively, to the next General Assembly.

A commission was appointed, with plenary power, to dissolve and reorganize the Westminster church at Spartanburg, S. C.

At the close of the session Friday morning, Rev. D. H. Ralston, Ph. D., of Erskine College, delivered a very excellent sermon.

(Continued on page 4)