

# Africa-American Presbyterian

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

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## WHAT HAS THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE ACCOMPLISHED?

By Ruby M. Rhyme  
Brooklyn Presbyterian Church, Charlotte

(Read at the Young People's Meeting, held in connection with the Mid-Winter Session of the Presbytery of Catawba.)

We know that the aim of the Presbyterian Church is to train youth for Christian citizenship and leadership, and to relate them closer with Christ.

This being true, there has been established in this Synod several organizations known as the Young People's Leagues. In each Presbytery the Young People's Societies of the different churches unite to form a separate League. There are nine such organizations in this Synod, enrolling about two thousand and young people.

Although there are forty-nine churches in Catawba Presbytery, only eighteen of them participate in the Young People's League. Meetings of this organization are held once each quarter, and have been effective for eight years.

Now, the question arises: Just what influence has the League exerted upon the young people, or rather, what has the League accomplished? In attempting to answer this, I do of the League. They are: Worship, Instruction, Recreation and Service. How well we have reached or carried out these objectives determine the accomplishments gained.

At each meeting of the League considerable time is given each of these needs desired to be met.

First, comes Worship. It has been said that the worship period to any program is to that program as a pep meeting is to a foot ball game. I think you will agree that this is quite a fitting way to express its meaning. In order to get the intended results of any activity one must put himself wholly into it; that is, his body, mind and spirit. Thus, the purpose of a worship period is to arouse our spiritual emotions so that we might feel the greatness of God's presence and put ourselves in the mood for the religious procedure that is to follow.

Worship is followed by Instruction. This, I think, is the most significant phase of the meeting because it can be readily seen that we most likely practice that which we have been taught and that the results of any project depend on the instruction given. Various means have been used in carrying out this part of the program. The two most commonly used are group discussions and class discussions.

In the former, we assemble. Some one, usually an adult instructor, introduces and leads a topic, and an open forum discussion follows. Here problems of social and personal interest arise. We learn what the different young people's societies are doing, and we have a chance to approve or disapprove of any project that is being carried on. We also pick out the fault common to the societies as a whole and work towards its correction.

In class discussions we are divided and sent to different classes where a number of subjects have been taught. I might say that here quite a bit of time has been given to the study of Missions. We have found that the mission field is interesting and of vital importance. Each of us has an individual part to play no matter how small it may seem. Nevertheless, it is hoped that some of us will study it on a broader scale and become outstanding as a foreign missionary.

After Instruction comes Recreation. This is the life of the meeting. Through contact we become acquainted as individuals and a fine fellowship exists. As we join heartily in the games and yell the real

test of sportsmanship is given and we get the value of clean, straight, honest, fair play.

The program is concluded for the day with the closing worship period. We leave inspired and uplifted, having secured new ideals for the upbuilding of ourselves and those around us.

Through the Young People's League we have learned to be of service to ourselves, our church and our community. By its careful teachings we have learned that the Christian religion is both social and personal, and as individuals we must maintain a right relationship with Jesus Christ. It is clear that each of us must be concerned with the Christian welfare of others as well as for ourselves.

It is obvious that the Church stands out in civilization. What will the future Church bring forth? We, the youth of today, will be the Church of tomorrow. It will be just what we make it. It was with this thought in mind that the Young People's League began. It has created such an interest in us that we feel the responsibility that now rests upon us and realize that it will be greater as we grow older. Hence, we are working now so that we might be able to take over the situation, improve upon existing conditions and, perhaps, solve some of the problems that are now unsolved. In short, we are striving to live closer to Christ, because it is through him that all great things come.

Finally, I say that this organization, the Young People's League, has been quite an asset to us as individuals as well as a group; moreover, the churches that have availed themselves of this program are already wearing different personalities, and with the help of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ this worthy organization will continue to go forward and greater heights will be reached.

### SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MOCKSVILLE

The Week of Prayer was held in this church beginning Monday night, January 6th, with the Rev. Dr. C. J. Baker, of Holbrook Street Presbyterian church, Danville, Va., preaching. Dr. Baker brought us a message from St. John 6:37, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." He assured us that regardless of our condition, God is always ready to receive us if we are willing to accept him.

Tuesday night Dr. Baker preached from the 15th chapter of Luke and the 7th verse, on "The Lost Sheep." "I say unto you that likewise there shall be joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons that need no repentance." In this message Dr. Baker stressed the need of the Christian church to go out after its lost members and get them back into the fold.

Wednesday night Dr. Baker preached from the 10th verse of the 15th chapter of Luke on "The Lost Coin." "Likewise I say unto you there is joy in the presence of the angels over one sinner that repenteth." Dr. Baker said the sheep was lost because it left the fold, but the coin was lost right in the home. He showed how easy it is for us to be lost even though we stay in the church. After this sermon one young man who had strayed away rose up with tears in his eyes and said Dr.

Baker's sermon had brought him back.

Thursday night Dr. Baker preached from the Prodigal Son, using for his text the 10th chapter of St. Luke and the 24th verse: "For this my son was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found."

Friday night, the last night, Dr. Baker preached a special sermon to the young people, using for a theme, "Pursuing an Ideal," based upon II Kings, 2nd chapter, 9th verse: "Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee before I shall be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me." Dr. Baker told how Elisha continued to follow Elijah until his mantle fell on him and he was able to do the same things that Elijah did; but if he had tarried at Bethel or Jericho he would have lost his chance.

Dr. Onque was certainly fortunate in securing the service of this splendid minister. We are hoping that he will soon come to us again.

J. A. SMOOT.

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE NO. 1 OF FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERY MEETS CAMDEN, S. C.

The Young People's League of District No. 1 of Fairfield Presbytery held its regular meeting in Camden, S. C., Saturday, December 14, 1935.

We were highly entertained by the Camden Second Presbyterian church at Matthis Academy, from 11:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Miss Anna Belle LaZalla invited the League to Matthis Academy. Miss LaZalla is teaching there.

The meeting was largely attended by the adults as well as by the young people, with a number of over 75. After recreation and games, conducted by Miss Amanda James and Mr. Glover Torrence, we enjoyed the dinner which was served by the Camden Second church. We appreciate their hospitality. During the meal we were welcomed by Miss Lucile James, of Camden. Short talks were made by Mr. J. F. Henderson, Mr. Eugene Adair, Dr. and Mrs. L. B. West, Dr. C. H. Shute and others.

Our theme: "Christian Youth Building a New Home," was beautifully explained by the following: Miss Cecelia J. Richardson, Miss Margaret Dunbar, Rev. L. B. West, D. D., who spoke in place of Rev. Frank Glover who was absent, and Rev. A. H. George.

The Brainerd Quintette, of Chester, S. C., under the direction of Prof. Young, rendered several selections.

Rev. J. W. Manoney, of Chester, was to deliver the worship message. However, at the time for the message, Rev. Mr. Thorne, of New York, representative of the Board of National Missions, arrived for the purpose of making a moving picture of the group, and, due to the lateness of the hour, it was necessary to go outside at once for the picture. While on the grounds we were dismissed by Rev. Manoney.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are: Miss Louise James, of Camden, President; Miss Amanda James, of Ridgeway, Secretary; Miss Torrence, of Brainerd Junior College, Treasurer; Miss Zipporah Glenn, of Winstonsboro, Corresponding Secretary. The officers were duly installed by Rev. A. S. Powe, of Columbia, S. C.

MISS AMANDA JAMES.

It is a great blessing to have as our Lord and Saviour one who knows us so intimately and from whom is hid nothing that is in our heart, but all things are open to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.—Selected.

## THOUGHTS FROM RECENT EMANCIPATION DAY ADDRESSES

### FRITZ CANSLER SPEAKER DENVER EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION

Denver, Jan.—(By David N. Howell for ANP.)—Declaring that the Negro race in America must pay a higher price now than it has ever done before any kind of solution to the race problem in America can be reached, Fritz Cansler, rearing executive of the Glenarm Branch Y. M. C. A. of this city, delivered the main address at the annual Emancipation Proclamation Celebration at the Shorter A. M. E. church Wednesday night.

Speaking before an interested and enthusiastic audience, Mr. Cansler urged that Negroes must cease to take life easy, letting other people do all the fighting for them, but must learn to sacrifice and suffer themselves before great good can be accomplished.

"Many solutions that have been offered to the race problem in America are inadequate, such as the separate State, 'Back to Africa,' extinction through disease and death. One step toward the real solution, since the Negro is in America to stay, is that the Negro must fit himself for citizenship and must pay an even bigger price. It is a question whether any great good can be accomplished without suffering. The Negro has not suffered enough. Even the event we celebrate tonight, Emancipation, came too easy.

"Further, we must demand and use every right of citizenship. We must go to the very borderline of possibilities of these racial ambitions, and go through every door that is open. We must forget ourselves and run the risk of insult and humiliation in order to bring the masses of the people up."

Mr. Cansler told his audience that race prejudice has as its prime motive the establishing of shame in the minority groups, and challenged them to take more time in studying their background so that such a feeling would not come to them with such a wealth of historical fact to prove their worthiness.

Accompanied by his wife, Mr. Cansler left Denver early Thursday morning for Dallas, Texas, where he will assume the duties of Executive Secretary of the Moorland Branch Y. M. C. A. He has been Executive Secretary in Denver for eleven years.

### HARD WORK INSTEAD OF CRYING WILL WIN, SAYS

Macon, Ga., Jan.—(By Rev. A. Beall, for ANP.)—"Any race can win with hard work which is the best tonic for hard luck," said the Rev. Allen R. Cooper, pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. church, of Albany, Georgia, in an address delivered here last Wednesday before one of the largest audiences ever gathered in this city.

Rev. Cooper, who has been frequently mentioned as a candidate for the bishopric and one of the youngest leaders of the denomination, being on this side of "where life begins," continued: "Whining and crying have never conquered difficulties and if our race is expected to advance up the shining rails of human progress, we must resort to more honest-to-goodness hard work and less whining and forget about the progress we have made during the past seventy-three years and look to the future.

"Any man who looks out for his own welfare is generally respected and any race that seeks to work out its own salvation, in any section of the country, will gain the respect of all peoples. We in the South have a

real opportunity; what will we do with it is left to us. If we grasp the opportunity we can forge ahead and if we dissipate this chance we are just where we started. Therefore, let me exhort you to take hold of things and seek to find a way out, not through the dole, but through hard work."

### NEGRO'S PROGRESS "MOST REMARKABLE" SAYS ROOSEVELT

New York City, Jan.—(A. N. P.)—In a message read at the mass meeting celebrating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation here Wednesday at the St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal church, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt described the progress the Negro had made since freedom seventy-three years ago as "truly remarkable" and one of the highlights in the history of the United States.

The message was sent to the Reverend L. H. King, pastor of the church and chairman of the meeting and was as follows: "Few events in our history are of greater significance than the freeing of the slaves. As we go back to the date when the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by the great Lincoln and down through the years, decade by decade, we are profoundly impressed by the steady progress which the Negro has made since January 1, 1863.

"It is truly remarkable the things the Negro people have accomplished within living memory—their progress in agriculture and industry, their achievements in the field of education, their contributions to the arts and sciences, and in general to good citizenship. Inspired by the achievements of the race to date it is my hope and belief that the Negro will go forward to even greater things in the years to come."

The St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal church was packed to its capacity and the vast audience cheered lustily the message from the President of the United States, and the address commemorating the important event in the history of the racial group as well as the reading of the historical document which freed 4,000,000 slaves.

### COLORED DEMOCRATS HOLD JACKSON DAY DINNER

Washington, Jan.—(ANP.) While Postmaster General Farley, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, collected \$50 a plate, and President Roosevelt gave the principal address at the annual Jackson Day dinner held by Washington Democrats, the Colored National Democrats satisfied themselves with a dinner at \$1.50 per plate and made up the difference with speeches.

The Colored National Democrats held their first affair at the Crystal Caverns, 11th and You Streets, Wednesday night, January 8, with Armond W. Scott, municipal judge; Dr. William J. Tompkins, Recorder of Deeds; Lieutenant T. H. R. Clark, Deputy Recorder and Charles M. Thomas, newswriter, doing the programmed speaking. Dr. F. O. Williston is executive head of the organization, and Tecumseh Bradshaw, deputy marshal, local chairman.

Certified lists of the diners and the proceeds of the dinner, (if and as there are proceeds) will be forwarded to the Democratic National Committee, to be put on file with the more substantial collection taken at the regular Jackson Day Dinner, and with the more glitter-

ing program.

The stated purpose of the dinner is to commemorate an act of President Andrew Jackson 100 years ago, when he provided military protection to John B. Cook when he was driven from his home in Washington by a white mob which burned the churches and schools of free Negroes. Mr. Cook had founded, and also pastored, a school in a school of the fifteenth Street Presbyterian church.

### ST. JAMES CHURCH

NEW YORK CITY

Rev. Wm. L. Imes, D. D. Pastor

Sunday morning, January 12, was a beautiful day and the pastor, the Rev. Wm. L. Imes, was at his best. He preached an interesting six minute children's sermon on "A Child's Prayer," based on the response given by Samuel in the temple: "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth."

The regular sermon's text was Mark, 9:24, "Lord, I believe: help thou my unbelief." Theme, "The Life of Prayer in a World of Doubt."

The church school department of music held its usual service of worship through music with hymns of the Latin Church Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. This program was something that all music lovers should have heard.

The evening service of worship and the annual sermon for the Household of Ruth, Harriett Martineau chapter, No. 4090, was held at 8 P. M. The pastor preached on the theme: "Men ought always to pray and not to faint."

The mid-week services following the Week of Prayer will have as the monthly theme: "Prayer in Devotion and Practice."

The Six O'clock Circle is keeping up the great work among the young people. They are co-operating with the pastor and other auxiliaries of the church by doing all they can to help the growth of the Christian life in the church and community. They have as their monthly theme, "Prayer."

MARY L. COLEMAN.

### CALVARY CHURCH SHOWERS REV. AND MRS. O. E. SANDERS

On Tuesday evening, December 24, 1935, about 6:30 o'clock, several ladies of the Missionary Society of Calvary Presbyterian church, of Wilson, N. C., came to our home. Their coming was a most pleasant surprise. They brought with them fresh pork, a chicken, a cake, sugar, potatoes, eggs and various other articles of groceries, fruit and nuts, and canned goods in abundance. Included were two large balls for our boys.

These things did much to make our Christmas season one of plenty and great happiness. We wish to express our deep appreciation to the members and friends of Calvary Presbyterian church for their generous and sincere gifts.

May the Lord continue to bless us in our efforts here.

REV. AND MRS. O. E. SANDERS.

700 E. Green Street, Wilson, N. C.

Christ was particularly interested in people. He noticed them and saw their needs and their sorrows and sicknesses, and took steps to provide for their wants. He gave them comfort when they were in sorrow. He gave forgiveness to the penitent sinners. He gave health to the sick. He gave counsel to the troubled and bewildered. He knew what people needed and He was able and willing to help them in their minds and hearts and bodies.—Dr. E. P. Whallon.