

# Africo-American Presbyterian

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

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## ATLANTIC SYNODICAL YOUNG PEOPLES CONFERENCE

By Mrs. M. V. Marion

The Atlantic Synodical Young People's Conference met at Haines Institute, Augusta, Ga., August 17-23. On the opening night it was clearly seen that it was a Young People's Conference, as they were the majority, yet the old reliable adults were there.

The Conference was largely attended and much interest and enthusiasm were shown to the last minute. Rev. Griggs made a very congenial host and the same evidence of cleanliness was seen from gate to gate. The buildings had been painted on the outside and the campus was beautiful with its attractive flowers in lovely beds. All of this added to the pleasure of our stay.

Each day's work began with a ten-minute individual devotion on the campus at the close of breakfast. The classes began promptly at 8:30 and continued until 12 noon. Each instructor expressed the interest that was being shown among his or her pupils and this in itself kept the instructors informed of the task that they were there to do.

Instead of the supervised study period, "missions" were ably discussed by Mrs. A. B. Snively in the auditorium. Dr. W. L. Metz, of Edisto Island, S. C., spoke each day at the assembly period on "Being a Church Member." His talks were interesting and helpful.

When the sun was closing each day's work, we gathered behind the pecan trees to feast on the vesper messages that were brought by Dr. W. Ralph Hall. They were inspiring and uplifting and they were summed up with five words: "Life, Light, Leadership, Love and Loyalty." Each message was a sermon, and we are sure they will linger long in the heart of each one.

After the "Taps" at ten-thirty each night the delegates assembled in six groups where they spent fifteen minutes of fellowship. These groups were an asset to the Conference and bound the members into closer contact with each other. The group leaders were Mesdames Lucinda Gregg, Mary V. Frazier and Marcia V. Marion, Miss Wilhelma Gillespie, Rev. S. H. Scott, and Dr. A. S. Clark.

The Student Council was a live wire under the leadership of Mr. W. J. Nelson, Jr., as President.

The Recreational Committee, composed of Messrs J. T. Jones, H. R. Pinckney, Mesdames H. L. Counts, U. L. Brewer and Miss Amanda James, kept up plenty of pep and enthusiasm in the dining hall and on the athletic field. The Reds and the Blues started the week off peppy and it ended peppy. The Blues were the winners. Dr. A. S. Clark was captain of the Reds and Rev. William T. Nelson was the captain of the "Blues." Several sermons were preached by both the captains in the dining hall which caused many shouts. We were all sorry that Dean H. M. Scott met with an accident on Thursday afternoon which kept him from playing in the finals on Friday.

The evenings were all inspiring. Greetings and remarks on Monday by Dr. A. B. McCoy were good as usual, for he is known as having something worth while to say on any occasion.

Tuesday evening's social was up to the standard and everybody looked their best and enjoyed a wonderful evening.

Wednesday evening brought us a masterful address from Dr. Hall, Thursday evening an interesting trip through Africa in pictures was had with a lecture by Mrs. Snively, Friday evening a wonderful pageant was presented by the young people un-

der the leadership of Mesdames H. L. Counts and J. B. Dungee, and also a short but forceful address by Rev. A. C. Griggs. Saturday evening the "Musical," under Rev. S. Q. Mitchell, was excellent.

Sunday was filled with the climax of the Conference. A Model Sunday school at 9:30 A. M., with Mr. J. T. Jones as general superintendent, was well attended. At 11 o'clock Dr. E. J. Gregg delivered a wonderful sermon which was followed by the Holy Communion and consecration service conducted by Dr. Hall. These services were very impressive and inspiring. Before the communion and consecration services the certificates were awarded. There were thirty-two who received the certificate card from the Board of Christian Education aside from the regular Conference certificate. The slogan is "On to Florida in 1937."

The members of the faculty were Revs. W. Ralph Hall, D.D.; A. S. Clark, D.D.; L. B. West, D.D.; O. M. McAdams, S. Q.; Mitchell, C. H. Richmond, Mesdames Agnes B. Snively, J. B. Dungee, Maggie Walker, U. L. Brewer, O. E. Counts, Eunice Allen, M. V. Marion and Mr. J. T. Jones.

The Board of Directors were: Dr. A. B. McCoy, General Director; Dr. E. J. Gregg, President; Rev. J. B. Dungee, Vice-President; Dr. G. W. Long, Registrar; Rev. S. Q. Mitchell, Auditor; Mrs. Marcia V. Marion, Secretary - Treasurer; Rev. Franklin Gregg, Rev. M. A. Sanders, Rev. McDaniel, Miss Tang L. Erickson, and the missionaries, Mr. J. T. Jones, Mr. H. R. Pinckney, Rev. A. A. Thompson, Rev. H. M. Scott, Rev. Warren Jones and Mr. U. L. Brewer. Rev. J. W. Manoney, D. D., served as Assistant Director.

### GOD'S STAR

Sir Harry Lauder, who lost his only son in the Great War, was visited in New York by a man who told him a beautiful and touching story. In American towns any household that had given a son to the war was entitled to place a star on the window pane. "Well," said Lauder, "a few nights before he came to see me, this man was walking down a certain avenue in New York City, accompanied by his wee boy. The lad became very interested in the lighted windows of the houses, and clapped his hands when he saw the star. As they passed houses after house, he would say, 'Oh, look, daddy, there's another house that has given a son to the war! And there's another! There's one with two stars! And, look, there's a house with no star at all!' At last they came to a break in the houses. Through the gap could be seen the evening star shining brightly in the sky. The little fellow caught his breath. 'Oh, look, daddy,' he cried, 'God must have given His Son, for He has got a star in his window.' 'He has indeed,' said Sir Harry, when he repeated the story.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." He gave—have we received? Do we, with all our heart and mind and life, believe on Him?—Our Fellowship Magazine.

### PUBLISH BOOKLET ON JOHN HOPE

Atlanta, Ga.—(C)—Atlanta University has just released The Atlanta University Bulletin which contains a record of the life and work of Dr. John Hope, late President of the institution.

## NEW YORK POST BARS DESIGNATION OF RACE IN CRIME STORIES

New York, August 28.—Hereafter "color or race" shall not be used in describing anyone connected with a crime unless color or race is an essential part of the story in the New York Evening Post, as a result of explicit written instructions issued by Harry Saylor, Editor of the Post. It is expected that this rule will be extended to other papers owned by J. David Stern which include the Philadelphia Record and the Camden (N. J.) Evening Courier.

Mr. Saylor's action promptly followed a protest from Walter White, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., against an eight-column headline over a story dealing with the murder of a white girl in Chicago which read: "Negro Gambler Surrenders in Chicago Woman's Murder." In his letter to the Post, the N. A. C. P. Secretary paid tribute to the very fair news and editorial treatment of the Negro by the Post and other Stern newspapers and asked if their fairness could not be further extended to exclude featuring of the race of Negroes in crime stories; especially when in so many cases it is later found that the accused Negroes are not guilty.

In replying Mr. Saylor said: "I thoroughly agree with everything you say in your letter. We have had an oral rule prohibiting treatment of news in this fashion but it was not observed in the case you mention. My answer to your criticism is to attach herewith copy of an order I have sent to our news room which I believe will cover the situation. I am glad you called this to our attention."

The full text of Mr. Saylor's order reads: "Please make it a rule hereafter that color or race shall not be used in describing anyone connected with a crime unless color or race is an essential part of the story."

"For instance: If Negroes end writes, working on the same job, engaged in a fight because of a quarrel due to race, then the fact should be brought out in the story. However, if they engage in a fight due to disagreement as the kind of tools they are to use or because of a political argument, leave race out of the story."

"If a criminal escapes and the police ask the newspapers to broadcast a description, then color and race are essentials of the story. If a crime is committed, the prisoner arrested, then I can not see how public interest is served by dragging in color or race."

Many editors would take action at least to lessen objectionable and harmful featuring of race in crime stories from which practice Negroes especially suffer, the N. A. A. C. P. pointed out, if courteous but firm protests are made. Much of the current belief that the Negro as a race is more criminal than other races is known to be due to featuring of race when Negroes are accused or suspected of crime. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has expressed its thanks to Mr. Saylor and Mr. Stern for their prompt and thorough action in this matter.

### YOUNG PEOPLES LEAGUE MEETING

The Young People's League of the Fairfield Presbyterian, District No. 2, will hold its next meeting Saturday, September 5, 1936, at Ebenezer Presbyterian church, Dalsell, So. Car. All members are urged to be present. All Presidents of Y. P. organizations are asked to see that their churches are represented with the full assessments, and those in arrears will please pay at this meeting. (BY EDIA TINDAL, Corresponding Secretary, Sumter, S. C.)

## A PASTOR MEDITATES

(From The Presbyterian)

It is not an easy task to guide, direct or lead any organization of people to success without becoming more or less of a "boss." One thing people do not endure for long without a protest is a "bossy" spirit on the part of the one at the head of the procession. Any man in politics knows that he must lead without being known as a hard boss. Years ago, a great politician had a reputation as a boss. He admitted the title and position, but added that he was an "easy boss." The adjective did not lessen the criticism.

The line between a leader and a boss is a delicate one. Some people can walk on it with no apparent effort, whereas another is frequently slipping off to one side or the other. One of the tests of a successful pastor is to so lead his people that they go his way heartily without making much fuss. He must have more than ordinary wisdom to do so for any length of time.

So many of us make our first blunder by forgetting that the church had honorable history prior to our arrival on the scene. One pastor just starting his ministry in a church had great and high ideals for his church. He was trained in the work and he wanted his church to be the very best that ever was in every department. That was a very laudable ambition, but it did not justify his serious criticism of everything that had been. The people were good people and had maintained a fairly successful church for years before he was born. They had their standards, habits, likes and dislikes, and while not considering them perfect, they thought them pretty good. The new pastor said, with a sweep of the hand, "All wrong!" Even if he were right, he made a break in unity. Because no one openly protests, he thinks he is right, whereas he has put in the ingredients of a large or small explosion.

So many questions have to be decided, often on short notice, but a pastor is foolish to make a drastic decision bluntly. Few things irritate good church workers more than to say that experts reject all their notions as "old fashioned." Pastors have to be careful—not scared, nor cringing, but careful. It is very harmful to be too swift and revolutionary in making improvements. Church workers are volunteers, they have ideals and experience, they know the community mind as no new pastor does. They will follow willingly a long way, but will resent being "bossed." A pastor must discern between essentials and non-essentials, have respect for the notions of good people, even though he thinks them wrong, and remember that he must gain his effective leadership very slowly. A pastor has great advantage in that the people have liked him and called him, and will try to go with him. They trust him and have pledged their support to him. The one thing a sound Presbyterian will not endure very long is a sharp-tongued dictator or boss who tramples too hard and quickly on the things that are and have been for years. People have to adjust themselves to the new pastor, but he must carefully, prayerfully and modestly adjust himself to them, not to one or a little coterie, but to the whole flock.

### ITALIAN COLONISTS GOING TO ETHIOPIA IN OCTOBER

Rome—(C)—At the end of the rainy season in October, several agricultural projects will be established in Ethiopia, necessitating a large number of colonists going there.

## PROF. GUY B. JOHNSON MAKES PLEA FOR NEW DEAL IN THE SOUTH

Chapel Hill, N. C.—(Calvin Service)—The plea of Prof. Guy B. Johnson, of the University of North Carolina, for a "New Deal" in the Southern educational set-up before the Institute on Regional Development here, continues as follows: "The constitutions of most of the Southern States provide that the public school system be separate and equal. We have done pretty well by the separate part but not so well with the equal part. Negroes are becoming greatly concerned over this question of graduate training, and we may be sure that they will continue to push us vigorously on the matter of equality in the school system. In fact the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has already determined to bring this thing to a show down."

"Several solutions of this problem have been proposed. 1. Providing tuition subsidies for graduate work outside the South. West Virginia and Missouri use this system, I believe. The outside tuition is based on the difference between what the Negro student would pay if he could go to his own State University and the tuition which he pays outside. When other factors such as cost of transportation, higher living costs in the North, and inconvenience, etc., are considered, it is easy to see that this is a poor substitute for justice. If the Southern States choose this as the way out, they may as well face the fact that Negroes will demand a larger and larger subsidy, so that as the number of graduate students increases we shall after a few years reach the point where it is really an extravagance to continue this method of subsidies."

"2. Adding graduate work to the present separate Negro colleges. This does not look very promising, that is, if we are really trying to provide first-class training for Negro students. I doubt if there is a single Negro institution in the South which is really prepared to undertake graduate work. There may be one or two private institutions which are qualified. Furthermore, the cost of providing graduate and professional training in every Southern State would be staggering, viewed from present standards of financial support for Negro colleges. North Carolina, for example, maintains five (Negro colleges)—a Liberal Arts College, an Agricultural and Technical College, and three Teachers' Colleges. The total support which the State gives these five schools would not be enough to operate one good graduate school. In recent years the State has been giving the Liberal Arts College for Negroes at Durham (and I presume this would be the logical place to establish graduate work in this State) only about \$25,000 a year. Even if the appropriation to this State were doubled, it would not be sufficient to maintain a creditable graduate school."

"3. Admission of Negro graduate students to existing white graduate schools in the South. It is certainly a violation of the usual etiquette in such matters to say this, but I should like to point out that this is in some ways the simplest and most economical solution to the problem. Whether it can happen in the near future is another matter. It might be workable in the upper and border States but the folkways and attitudes in the lower South probably preclude such a possibility there for a long time to come. The social implications are, of course, laden with dynamite and I doubt that it is worth our while to try to go ahead on the assumption that any such arrangement is going to prevail generally throughout the

South in the near future. But I will say this: the N. A. A. C. P. is pushing this question to a show down. It has succeeded in a law suit to compel the University of Maryland Law School to admit a Negro student. It lost by a slender technicality a suit to compel the University of North Carolina to admit a Negro to the School of Pharmacy. It has suits now pending in Virginia, Tennessee, and Missouri, and it is just a matter of time until every Southern State is forced to adopt some means of providing graduate and professional training for Negroes.

"The first and second possibilities, which I indicated above are makeshifts and are unfair. The third one, as I have said, is not likely to come to pass any time soon except in the border and upper States. I should suggest, therefore, that if we are going to do anything else about this problem we ought at least to try to take the inequality out of it. This leads me to a fourth possibility.

"4. Establishment of regional centers of graduate study in the South. Would it be possible for Southern States to form compacts to pool their resources and establish two or three centers for graduate work? Preferably these centers should be built up of existing State or private schools where a good quality of work is already being done. There might be some lines like medicine and law which would call for only one center of work. Of course, there would be endless argument as to which States would get these centers and as to tuition charges for students coming from outside the States in which the centers are located, but it ought to be possible for groups of States to agree finally on compacts which would be so clear cut that not even the Supreme Court could find fault with them.

"Another problem is that of the coordination of libraries. Our Southern libraries in general are below standard and our Negro college libraries are still lower. If we had a Southern regional planning board, it might well have as one of its functions the planning of library expansion and library use in the future. Such a planning board should by all means look out for the interests of Negro college libraries."

### MARYLAND BACKWOODS NEGROES WHO SPEAK PERFECT FRENCH

Kinston, N. C., August — One of the most surprising moments in the entire life of George Snyder, local architect, came last week when, in a visit to an elderly woman on the Eastern shore of Maryland, he heard two backwoods Negro servants speak "perfect French."

According to Snyder, the woman clapped her hands and a young colored lad appeared. She talked with him in French for five minutes as she ordered refreshments. Another was sent for and again French was spoken. "It was excellent French," Snyder added, "and I was astounded at the Negroes' fluency."

The architect later learned the woman was a large scale dealer in oysters and sent cargoes to Europe with a relative handling them. She taught both servants French so they could accompany this relative abroad and help him with the oysters as she did not want them handicapped by ignorance of the French language when they arrived in a French Belgian port.

Humility and quietness are two distinct signs of repentance and conversion.