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## BISHOP COKE SMITH IS LIKE A VETERAN

### Splendid Impression at His First Conference.

## HIS CHARGE TO THE CLASS

### Full of Wisdom and Sound Sense it Pleascd all --A Prosperous Conference Year Closes--The Circuit Riders are Flagantly Entertained.

(Editorial Correspondence.)

Monroe, N. C., Nov. 22.—I verily believe the high, stiff hats, called "beavers" in North Carolina, are going out of fashion. At the Methodist Conference here this week I saw fewer than in a dozen years. Whether it is because the people paid up the preachers what they owed this year, and didn't feel it necessary to make them presents of unbecoming hats, or whether it is good seed I have been sowing, I cannot tell, but it is a good change. Ten years ago, in a letter from a Methodist Conference, I told the story of how a beaver hat was an obstruction in the way of a preacher's doing good. It was this way: A woman was in deep trouble and the preacher came to see her. He had a shiny beaver hat. She lived in an humble cottage and kept no servant. When he came in she was so afraid that she couldn't hear a word he said, and while they were at prayers she got up from her knees and dusted it. A "beaver" doesn't look right on a meek and lowly preacher anyhow, it looks too "fixy," and while some of the very best stick to them for one cause or another, they are growing fewer and fewer every year. The same thing is true of gold-headed canes. I am sure John Wesley would regard it as a good change to see both going into innocuous desuetude.

Apropos, a preacher's dress, it is noted that the members of the conference now in session here do not look like they are wearing their best. They look like a body of well-dressed gentlemen, without the look of brand new clothes. This is also another evidence that the people are paying the preachers better so that they don't need to be saving their best suits for conference, as in yore olden time. "I remember," said an old circuit rider, "the time when a salary of \$400 was considered large, and if had one real good suit to keep for conference I felt all right. Now I can have a real good suit to wear every day in the week."

The preachers are setting a good example of good taste in dress. The old-fashioned Methodists put too much emphasis on simplicity and plainness, but latterly the tendency has been in the other direction. Now the pendulum has swung back to the idea of better taste and greater simplicity.

The first impression upon entering conference is the number of young and fine looking men who make up its membership. It is a body of progressive, looking-forward, militant preachers, full of faith and full of courage. There are not a few old men still in the active ministry, some of them who set an example of abundant labors to the younger men. "I have enjoyed better health the past year than at any period of my life," said the veteran Rev. J. J. Renn, presiding elder of the Mount Airy district, "and I have been much of my times in the mountains. Last winter I travelled hundreds of miles in the snow and ice and it did me good. That is a glorious country in Surry, Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga and the mountain region. In the East the tendency has been for the enterprising young men to go to the towns. Here they stay in the country and nowhere in the world will you find better people and a finer climate. The truth is that Dr. Renn has renewed his youth in the altitudes and no wonder he is enthusiastic about the country."

There is no body of men where the comradeship is sweeter than among the circuit-riders. The old man recalls his youth when he sees the young men coming into conference, and the young man sees his own last days when he looks upon the superannuated preachers. Time deals gently with the older men, but they are admonished that they have not the strength of other days. Among the older men here, who receive the warm greeting of all, are Revs. John R. Brooks, Frank H. Wood, and Paul J. Caraway. For nearly half a century they have been in the harness and have held the most important positions in the gift of the conference. The first two have been forced, at least for awhile, to retire from active work. Mr. Caraway, the oldest of the trio, continues in the pastorate, but not in the more burdensome offices which he filled a few years ago. Go where you will and you will not find a trinity of men who in their day and generation have done more for North Carolina. They are North Carolinians to the bone, they love their State and their church, and their lives and characters and usefulness are an inspiration to the younger men. There are others among the older men here as worthy. I mention these three as types of a class and because I have known them for many years and been helped by their ministrations.

"Reserve the front pews for the older men," said Bishop Coke Smith yesterday morning. "Their hearing is not so good as it once was and we want to give them the seats where they can hear the best." That expresses the spirit manifested toward the older men. It is beau-

tiful to see the young men, ready to carry the heaviest loads, deferring to those whose strength is well nigh spent.

Talk about your heroes! The circuit-riders of America, braving hardships and perils, went with the pioneer and where the early settler pitched his tent there the militant circuit-rider stopped to preach the gospel. With no earthly honors and no reward this side the grave, the itinerant preacher laid the foundations of a healthy Christian civilization in this Republic.

This is the first conference over which Bishop Smith presides. He is fortunate in having a short name, and he is generally called "Bishop Coke Smith." The name sounds not unlike Hoke Smith, who is nearly always given his full name. It is a good thing for a man named Smith to have a distinguishing handle. A rather amusing thing happened in the conference yesterday morning. The Bishop could not catch the name of a preacher who was addressing him and several times said "I cannot understand the brother's name." The congregation thought the name must be a jaw-breaker. It turned out to be Smith, and when the Bishop recognized "Brother Smith" a smile went round the church.

Bishop Coke Smith, as I said, is a freshman among bishops. This is his first conference, but he is holding it like a veteran. He is rather small of size and belongs to the large company of men of small build who have come into great places in spite of short stature. He has none of the helps that come from a commanding presence or an authoritative voice. He has been elevated to the bishopric because of his scholarship, his abundant labors, his sweet spirit, his all-round capacity and equipoise. He is the soul of courtesy and consideration. He illustrates his doctrine that a Christian should be first of all a gentleman—kind, considerate of the feelings of others, courteous and agreeable. On Friday at 11 o'clock, the Bishop delivered an address to the class of young preachers who were received into full connection. It was a solemn hour. It is the most important service at a Methodist Conference. It is the Appi Forum in the progress of the young minister. He has been preaching on trial. Now, after passing his examinations, he is to take his place as a life long itinerant. The obligations he takes are of the most sacred character, and no man can sit and hear them without a feeling of solemnity. It is the custom of the bishops to impress these obligations with an exhortation, an admonition, a solemn recounting of the vows. It is in this address that the Bishop can be best judged himself. It is on a much larger scale than the charge of the upright judge to the grand jury, an exposition of the law to the crowded court house as well as to the men to whom it is particularly addressed. Upright judges, who regard this charge as a solemn duty to teach the people, perform a great duty and bless the people wherever they go.

The class of young preachers received this year is said to be composed of men of approved worth and usefulness and of great promise. The bore themselves as men called of God to preach His word. Bishop Smith delivered his charge with seriousness and with power. It was sound, it was practical, it was full of sense and every-day deligion. I wish it could be printed in full. Here are a few of the sentences:

"I have seen some men who professed such great love for God that they seemed to be mad at everybody else, but this is not the true idea."

"You can build high on an emotional religion, but you can't build broad on it. I believe in an emotional religion, but I believe in an intelligent religion as well. The heart won't go where the intellect will not follow."

"God has no place in this world for a lazy man."

"Don't scold people from the pulpit, but win them by personal contact. Never give a man up as long as there is a chance to save him. Remember that never until the betrayal did our Lord give up Judas Iscariot."

"You can't rule other people if you are not willing to be ruled yourself. If you are not willing to submit to authority yourself you are not fit to use authority yourself."

"Don't think to save men by prohibition or denunciation. Preach on lofty themes, on the great essentials and don't waste your time preaching on little things."

He was particularly effective his condemnation of judging men by appearances, of measuring every man by the same rule, of demanding a sameness in bearing, in dress, in giving up. He gave several striking incidents illustrating and enforcing his admonitions that were particularly fine.

The best part of his address was one for which he apologized. He was speaking to the young men about marriage, about the importance of a minister marrying a woman who would be a true and helpful preacher's wife, and he made a tender and beautiful allusion to his own wife—"the little woman who all these years has walked by my side and shared my work. Every honor that has come to me I have taken and said at her feet, for I owe it all to her helpfulness." That was all—but that was enough to give a glimpse into the soul of the devoted husband and the man! It was in excellent taste and spirit, and touched every heart.

He inveighed against the narrow spirit that withheld conformity in outward ways, against the spirit of lecturing the people for doing those things not in themselves, wrong instead of seeking to lead them upon such planes that would make them find happiness only in the higher realms of pleasure.

But I took no notes and did not start out to do the Bishop the wrong of reporting his exquisite exhortation.

This is a fine body of men and conference is proceeding without a jar. The year just closed has been one of success.

(Continued on Page Five.)

## THE MILL MERGER PLAN OF FRIES GOES

### To be Incorporated Under New Jersey Laws.

## COMMITTEE ADJOURNS

### The Work of Passing Upon all Properties Thus far Submitted Practically Completed--Over a Hundred Plants Have Been Accepted.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Nov. 22.—The cotton mill merger committee practically completed its work here last night, having finally passed upon all properties offered them, and there will be another meeting here in about three weeks to pass upon properties that were accepted in every respect, except that some formalities, such as affixing seal, etc., to papers submitted had been omitted.

At this adjournment meeting, new options, which are constantly coming in, will be examined and passed upon by the committee. A leading member of the committee gives the information that over a hundred plants have so far been accepted, and that several, which are all right, except for defects in preparation above alluded to will, upon supplying these defects, be admitted. He also says that while not a single "rattle trap" plant was seriously considered, there were many rejected, whose physical and financial condition was all right, but the price asked was considered too high. Many of these may also be included in the merger at the next meeting upon the amendment of option price.

"The merger plan is now an accomplished fact," said he. "In every instance we have allowed just about the price for each they would have brought if new. The papers have been forwarded to the underwriters in New York, or will be in a few days, and the incorporation articles will be taken out in New Jersey in the course of a few days."

## FOR M. P. COLLEGE

### Over Thirty-five Thousand Dollars Now Pledged.

### The Sessions of the Methodist Protestant Conference Grow in Interest--Enthusiasm Among the Delegates.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Asheboro, N. C., Nov. 22.—The sessions of the Methodist Protestant Conference are growing in interest.

Nearly all the delegates want to take part in advocating and advancing the work in the various lines.

The large church building is filled to overflowing at the night sessions.

Rev. C. E. Porlines delivered a very interesting address last night on Methodist Protestantism in America. Committee on Education reported about \$30,000 pledged for the Methodist Protestant College. This amount was increased last night by about \$5,000.

The different pulpits will be filled tomorrow by ministers of the Methodist Protestant Conference.

## FISSENDEN AT ROANOKE.

### Will Sell His Invention to the Government--Station to be at Hatteras.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Washington, N. C., Nov. 22.—Reginald A. Fessenden is again on Roanoke Island testing his wireless telegraph system. He has received a new instrument from a Philadelphia electrical firm, which they had been under rush orders to finish and since its arrival Prof. Fessenden has much improved his method by daily wireless conversation with Washington, D. C. Prof. Fessenden will sell his invention to the government and not go into a private company. There will be a station at Hatteras, in this State.

M. F. Watson, of the Washington Soap Company stole \$65 from a man in Kinston Wednesday, while the man was drunk. Watson got out a money order for \$40 to his wife in this town and mailed it. It is a queer coincidence that Watson was also drunk when he took the money from the other man. A telegram from the postmistress here to hold up the order upon order from the government, so that part restitution may be made to the loser.

## Lynching Story a Fake.

### (Special to News and Observer.)

Wilmington, N. C., Nov. 22.—Information comes from Bladen county that there was no lynching there this week as was reported in an Associated Press dispatch. The white man, Ed. Davis, and his son, whom it was thought were lynched, disappeared from home to escape arrest.

Greensboro, N. C., Nov. 22.—A derailed freight o'rtho Winston track at Pomona delayed the passenger train two hours tonight. No one was injured and the damage was slight.

## YALE KICKS HARVARD CLEAN OFF THE EARTH

### And Twenty-three to Nothing Stands the Score.

## THE GAME NEVER INDOUBT

### Nothing of Spectacular Brilliancy is in the Playing--The Redskins Bite the Dust Before the Cavaliers of Virginia.

(By the Associated Press.)

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 22.—Yale University established her supremacy in the East on Yale field this afternoon by defeating Harvard in the annual game in unmistakable style. When time was called in the darkness of the early evening the score stood 23 to 0, and Yale's shouting thousands overwhelmed their victorious heroes while Harvard partisans with cheer after cheer encouraged their defeated but plucky fighters.

Nearly thirty thousand spectators witnessed the great game, under weather conditions that could not be improved from the standpoint of the onlookers. It was a trifle too warm for the players, but the temperature did not cause the contestants to let up a moment during the game.

It took the Yale men five minutes or more to get their football stride. After that the outcome never was in doubt, for the New Haven collegians demonstrated that it was Yale's day. In strength, in resources, generalship and versatility, the Yale men had a big advantage over their Harvard rivals. Four times Harvard's goal line was crossed for Yale touchdowns. Three of the touchdowns were converted into goals. Yale's play was consistent throughout and of the highest order.

The scoring was divided almost equally between the halves, two touchdowns coming in each period. The Yale victory was the result rather of straight football than of spectacular brilliancy. Three of the touchdowns came after heart-breaking plunges of the Yale men through Harvard's defence. Practically the only play of the day was witnessed when Metcalf, the Yale half back, duplicated the work of captain Chadwick at Princeton last week, and leaping through a yawning gap in Harvard's line ran twenty-seven yards for the second touchdown of the game. He did not find a clear field, but he was given superb interference until he was able to clear all Harvard tacklers except Mills, whom he eluded by clever dodging. Yale's other three scores were made by Chadwick, Kinney and Hogan, all of whom were pushed over the line in mass plays directed at the center of Harvard's line.

Only twice during the game did Harvard have a chance to score. Once by magnificent line breaking the Cambridge players forced Yale back from Eli's forty-yard line to a point within eight yards of the goal line. A fumble by Captain Kernan in a play that started viciously and gave promise of success was followed by a Yale stand, which took the ball from Harvard on downs. In the second half Harvard succeeded in reaching Yale's twenty-two-yard line, but Yale here developed a stone wall defence and a kick was Harvard's only hope. Marshall tried for a goal from the field, and missed by yards. Otherwise the play was almost entirely in Harvard's territory and the Yale advance was consistent. Except at long intervals the Cambridge players were constantly on the defence. Now and then a crimson brace would come, and for the moment the Harvard enthusiasts were encouraged, but the strength of Yale was too great and the spectators early began to discuss the probable size of Yale's score.

The game was one of the cleanest ever seen in New Haven.

## DOWN GO THE INDIANS.

### The Virginians Win by a Score of Six to Five.

(By the Associated Press.)

Norfolk Va., Nov. 22.—In an intensely interesting game this afternoon, the Carlisle Indians met defeat at the hands of the University of Virginia team. The results was a gratifying surprise to the Virginians' most enthusiastic admirers. Although the betting as 5 to 1 that Virginia would be defeated and even money that she would not score, the University boys defeated Carlisle by a score of 6 to 5 and the rooters for the college lads went wild. Virginia made 6 in the first half and failed to score in the second, when Carlisle scored 5.

Virginia's touch-down was made by Johnson and Harris kicked goal. Yale scored for Carlisle and Charles, who had succeeded Captain Williams as full back, missed the goal, the ball striking an upright and bounding back.

## COFFIN AGAIN TESTIFIES.

### Damaging Testimony Against Breese by Col Burgwyn, C B Leonard, and Others.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Charlotte, N. C., Nov. 22.—Mr. George M. Coffin, deputy comptroller of the currency, who was on the stand yesterday evening at the time for adjournment, was again the main witness in the Breese's trial today.

Mr. Coffin testified that shortly before the First National Bank of Asheville went under, Major Breese came to Washington and had a long talk with him.

He said at that time Major Breese was very anxious to convert the bank into a State bank. At one time he thought his plans had matured, but a bank in Baltimore, a creditor of the Asheville bank, refused to consider the proposition. The Government's contention along this line was that Major Breese sought to change the bank into a State institution in order to escape the prosecution of the government. Mr. Coffin also testified as to a lot of worthless paper that was included in the solvent credits of the institution.

Col. W. H. S. Burgwyn, of Henderson, formerly a bank examiner, was placed on the stand by the government. Colonel Burgwyn testified to substantially the same facts as were related by Mr. George M. Coffin. He corroborated the witness at all material points.

Mr. C. B. Leonard, of Chattanooga, Tenn., followed Colonel Burgwyn for the government. It was on account of this witness that the government asked for continuance, because of his not appearing on Tuesday. Mr. Leonard testified that he had been given several papers by Major Breese asking that signatures be obtained in order that certain banking rules might be carried out. Leonard admitted that he secured the endorsement of several names to these papers.

The government intends to establish the fact that Leonard was employed by Major Breese to secure these endorsements for the purpose of defrauding those who had entrusted their money to the bank.

J. Frank Aldrich, of Buffalo, New York, receiver of the defunct bank, testified that out of \$240,000 of papers supposed to be assets of the First National Bank, he had only been able to realize something over \$4,000. The witness regarded the balance of the notes and other papers as absolutely worthless.

## THE ELEGTRIC LINE

### To Connect High Point, Winston, Greensboro.

### Franchises Obtained at Greensboro and High Point--Rail Laying to Begin on Durham and Charlotte Road.

(Special to the News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Nov. 22.—The Board of Aldermen, at a special session last night, granted a franchise for sixty years to the High Point Electric Railway Company, on application of King & Kimball, attorneys for the incorporators, Green Cohen, F. W. Darlington, D. A. Waters and E. D. Steele. With the exception of the latter, who is a local capitalist, these gentlemen represent an immense Philadelphia syndicate, Mr. Waters himself being a millionaire manufacturer of wood-working machinery of all kinds.

Ex-Mayor Z. V. Taylor as general manager and attorney for the Greensboro Electric Company, appeared before the council and made a fine argument against granting the proposed franchise for a term of sixty years, when only twenty years were given the company which had just put in a splendid street car and electric service for the city.

A franchise for this road has already been obtained at High Point, and the purpose of the company now is to secure one at Winston-Salem, thus connecting these three important manufacturing centers, giving freight competition between the Southern and the Norfolk and Western Railroad at Winston-Salem, and at Greensboro with the Southern and Seaboard Air Line, soon to have connection here through the coming Durham and Charlotte Road from Pittsboro.

Superintendent F. D. Jones, of the proposed Durham and Charlotte Railway, is in the city, and assures this correspondent that next month his force will begin laying rails at Pittsboro, at S. A. L. point, for the Pittsboro-Greensboro extension of fifty miles. He says the line will strike Haw River, going to Graham, Burlington, thence north, leaving the Southern at this point, to Ossipee Mills in Alamance, thence to the new Cone Whit Oak Mills, near Greensboro, and to Revolution and Proximity, having its termination on the immediate northern corporation limit of the city, near the Empire Steel and Iron Company's plant. When this charter was granted a clause was specially inserted, prohibiting it from crossing, transferring, assigning or selling to the Richmond and Danville Railroad. Its assigns, lessees or successors. This, it would seem, will prevent the Southern Railway from scooping this splendid competing property.

This line will traverse the very heart of the cotton mill industry of the State, and in connection with the proposed electric line to High Point and Winston-Salem, will have a feeder in competition with the Norfolk and Western and the Southern, for the immense furniture manufacturing output of High Point and Winston, as well as the tremendous cotton mill, flour mill, knitting mill, mercantile and tobacco manufacturing industries of Winston-Salem.

## Mother of Famous Actress Dead.

### (By the Associated Press.)

London, Nov. 21.—Mrs. Le Breton, mother of Mrs. Langley (Mrs. De Bathe) the actress, died today at her residence on the Island of Jersey.

## An Infant's Death.

On Saturday evening, November 22, 1902, at 4:45 o'clock, Kate Miller the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bon Young, passed away. Services will be held at 3:30 this afternoon in Oakwood.

## DR. F. H. LAW PLEADS FOR MORE BIBLES

### The Conference Hears Several Reports.

## SERMON BY A JAPANESE

### Free Will Offering That Will Enable Him to Complete His Course at Trinity--Col-

### lection for Colored Church--

### Trials Proceed Slowly.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Monroe, N. C., Nov. 22.—Rev. F. L. Townsend, of Waynesville, conducted the opening exercises of the fourth day's session of the Western North Carolina Conference this morning. Bishop A. Coke Smith announced the transfer of T. E. Weaver from the Holston Conference. The report of the trustees of Davenport college was read and referred.

Considerable time was given to routine business under the call of questions three, ten, twelve and twenty. Dr. L. W. Crawford, of Greensboro, made a statement as to the wedding property lately bequeathed to the conference in Mecklenburg. Greetings were received from the Methodist Protestant Conference in session at Asheville.

J. S. Martin, treasurer of the joint board of finance submitted his report and distributed checks for conference claimants.

Rev. T. N. Ivey, D. D., editor of the Raleigh Christian Advocate, was introduced to the conference. Rev. Dr. T. H. Law of the American Bible Society, was introduced and spoke in behalf of larger collections that Bibles may be more liberally distributed.

The Committee on Conference Relations reported through Rev. W. H. Vestal, recommending the granting of superannuated and supernumerary relations as asked in all cases except Reverends James Wilson and R. G. Abernethy, and the same was adopted. Resolutions of sympathy for Dr. and Mrs. James Atkins, whose son lies critically ill in Nashville, were passed.

A letter from the Sabbath Observance League of America was received and referred to a special committee. Reverends J. W. Roberts and J. M. Stanton, fraternal messengers from the colored Methodist Episcopal Conference, also in session here, were introduced and made short talks, to which Bishop Smith and others responded, and a collection of \$60.00 was raised for the colored church located here.

Dr. H. M. Harrill, of Nashville, spoke briefly of the Sunday school interest.

The Conference adjourned at one o'clock with benediction by Rev. F. H. Wood, D. D.

Rev. T. K. Kugimiga, of Japan, preached an earnest sermon this afternoon, which made a deep impression and the meeting wound up in old fashioned camp meeting style. A free will offering was made to Mr. Kugimiga, which will enable him to complete his course at Trinity College.

Tonight a meeting was held in the interest of Sunday school work and addresses made by Rev. H. M. Harrill and others. Visiting ministers will fill all the local pulpits here tomorrow and nearby towns and villages.

The trials of two suspended members of the conference proceed slowly, and the conference may not adjourn as a result before Tuesday or Wednesday next.

## POISON IN A MINERAL WATER BOTTLE NEARLY CAUSES DEATH.

### Miss Marjorie Lyon Drank From the Bottle and Was Only Saved by Prompt Medical Attention.

### (Special to the News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Nov. 22.—At 2 o'clock today this city was startled by the intelligence that Miss Marjorie Lyon, the beautiful and popular young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Lyon, was dead from the effects of poison. Investigation proved that while Miss Lyon had swallowed poison, and was thought to be dying, the early arrival of physicians, and prompt use of antidotes had resuscitated her. At nine o'clock she is reported out of danger, but as being restless and in great pain.

Miss Lyon had been taking a mineral water for indigestion and one of the empty bottles had been converted into a receptacle for wood alcohol used in a chafing dish. Without noticing she poured out a glass of this and drank it. Dr. Michaux, fortunately, was passing the residence when the dreadful mistake was discovered, and by prompt attention, in which he was assisted by Dr. Battle, who was hastily summoned, fatal results were averted.

"Yes," remarked Col. Carr, to a Washington Post reporter, "I am a candidate for the seat in the United States Senate now held by Senator Fritchard. I have had a pretty busy career and have tried to be of some service to my countrymen, and am willing to admit that if the people should choose me Senator a cherished ambition would be realized. I know nothing of machine politics, and my sole aim would be to promote the welfare of my State and of the whole country."

The result of the football game between Guilford and Davidson yesterday was nothing to nothing.