

M. P. Conference Will Meet In Albermarle November 4-9

State Organization Expected To Endorse Methodist Union; Reading of Appointments Stationing Ministers for Coming Year Will Be Last Business

REV. J. L. TROLLINGER,
Reporter.

Albemarle, Oct. 23.—The 109th session of the North Carolina Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, which meets here at the First Methodist Protestant church November 4-9 is destined to be the most epoch-making gathering this particular branch of Methodism has ever held in this State. This is true from the standpoint of important questions to come before the conference.

The major question before the annual conference at this time is the vote on the plan of union of the three major branches of Methodism, namely, the Methodist Protestant Church, The Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the Methodist Episcopal Church. This question must be settled at this session, because the General Conference held in High Point last May ordered the vote taken at the next session of the Annual Conference. Sixteen of the twenty-six Conferences of the Methodist Protestant church have voted, with those favoring the Union being in the majority, the last to vote on this plan will be the Tennessee Conference in session this week.

Rev. R. M. Andrews, D. D., High Point, who is serving the fourth year of a second term as president of the North Carolina Conference, said this week that he was in receipt of a letter from the Rev. Jas. H. Straughn, D. D., Baltimore, president of the General Conference, in which he made the following statement: "There are still one or two uncertain spots as to the union, but it looks to me from reports coming in from the field as if the church will very decisively endorse the union." The president will arrive at the seat of the North Carolina Conference on Saturday morning of Conference week, and deliver his first message as General Conference president, and it is quite likely that the major emphasis of this address will have to do with the matter of Methodist union.

Superannuate Endowment.
Another item outstanding interest and importance is that of the superannuate endowment fund for superannuate ministers and their widows. A new program was instituted last year at the Henderson conference, when an assessment equal to three percent of pastor's salary was levied upon each church, or charge. This amount to be collected each year and to be applied to the distributive fund now in force. The conference in session this year will receive the results of that advanced step, and study the reaction it has had upon the church throughout the state.

In addition to the clause relative to the individual church paying a three percent levy to the fund, another clause requiring the individual pastor or ministerial member of the con-

ference, in the pastorate or otherwise employed by the conference, to pay a three per cent assessment from his salary to the invested fund of the superannuate endowment fund. This clause was left in the hands of a special committee who will make final report to the conference this year.

The president of the conference is of the opinion that if these two clauses are adopted and carried out as directed, there will be a brighter day for superannuates of this conference.

Committees To Meet.

According to the custom of the conference, there will be preliminary meetings of standing committees and boards at the conference church on Tuesday afternoon and evening Nov. 3rd. Prominent among these meetings will be that of the conference faculty, Rev. S. W. Taylor, D. D., Asheboro, presiding, and Dr. N. G. Bethel, Greensboro, secretary. President R. M. Andrews will preside at the meeting of the boundary committee, while the conference council of religious education will be under the chairmanship of the Rev. T. J. Whitehead, Burlington, who is the State president.

Opening Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The conference proper will open promptly at 10 o'clock on the morning of November 4, with President R. M. Andrews presiding and conducting the devotional services. The Rev. J. Clyde Auman, pastor Community M. P. Church, Thomasville, will preach the annual conference sermon. Following the sermon Rev. C. W. Bates, D. D., Winston-Salem, secretary of the conference, will call the roll of honored dead, and the conference communion service under the direction of the president will close the morning session.

After lunch, which will be served in the dining room of the church, the conference will reassemble for the afternoon session, and in the case of all afternoon sessions, Rev. E. Lester Ballard will lead in a song service. These afternoon song services have become most enjoyable to those in attendance upon the conference, and Mr. Ballard will keep them to their usual high level of inspiration and helpfulness.

President To Report.

The program calls for the president's message at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. He will bring a complete survey of the entire annual conference district, giving a report of official acts during the year and outline a comprehensive program for the coming year.

Elections To Be Held.

Following the president's message officers will be elected. Each election is for a period of a year, and if one man serves over a period of years, his election must be made annually. The following officers will be re-elected,



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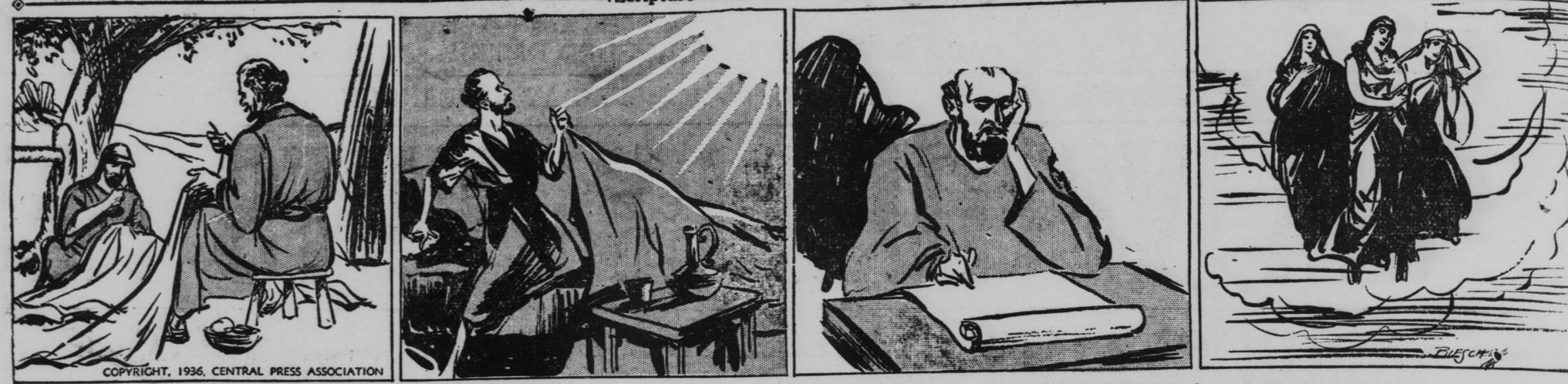
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Christianity as Love

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Scripture—Acts 18:1-17; I Cor. 13:1-18.

By the Rev. Alvin E. Bell
And Alfred J. Buescher



Christian love drew Paul to the home of Aquila and Priscilla in Corinth where they worked together as tentmakers while Paul preached the gospel to the people.

Paul was discouraged and ready to quit Corinth when the Lord Jesus came by night in a vision to Paul, saying, "Be not afraid, I am with thee, and I have much people in this city."

Paul spent a year and a half in Corinth. Later he wrote to leaders there. They were quarreling over whose work was most important in the church. Paul told them love was the greatest of all gifts.

Without love eloquence is mere noise, knowledge and faith are profitless and even sacrifice meaningless. Love will outlive all other gifts.

(GOLDEN TEXT—I Cor. 13:13.)

Christianity As Love

THE WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Golden Text



I Corinthians 13:13—"Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

By DR. ALVIN E. BELL

(The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for Oct. 25 is Acts 18:1-17 and I Corinthians 13:1-13. The Golden Text being I Corinthians 13:13, "Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

came down from Macedonia and joined Paul at Corinth. Thus love between friends does more than increase their respective talents by addition, it multiplies each by all the others and then some!

But in an hour of despondency over the exceeding wickedness of Corinth and the immensity of the task of evangelizing such a city, Paul was overwhelmed with fears for his own safety and the futility of continuing his mission in Corinth when the Lord Jesus appeared to him in a vision saying, "Be not afraid, but speak and hold not thy peace; for I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to harm thee; for I have much people in this city." It was the love of Christ not only for his servant Paul but for the great throngs of lost souls in Corinth that brought Paul this heavenly Visitor and the vision of a great task yet to be done. And this "love of Christ constrained" Paul to "dwell there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them" and building up the church in Corinth to which Paul wrote at least

five letters. In one there is included the most beautiful treatise on love in all literature.

"The Greatest Thing in the World"

To Christians quarreling among themselves over the relative greatness of their several gifts. Paul commanded love as a gift more earnestly to be desired, and "a most excellent way." Truly it is "the greatest thing in the world" as Henry Drummond says.

Love is the one absolutely essential gift without which every other gift is valueless. Eloquence without love is mere noise: "If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal."

Knowledge and faith without love are profitless: "If I have the gift of prophecy...knowledge...faith...but have not love, I am nothing." Sa-

cifice is meaningless without love: "If I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing."

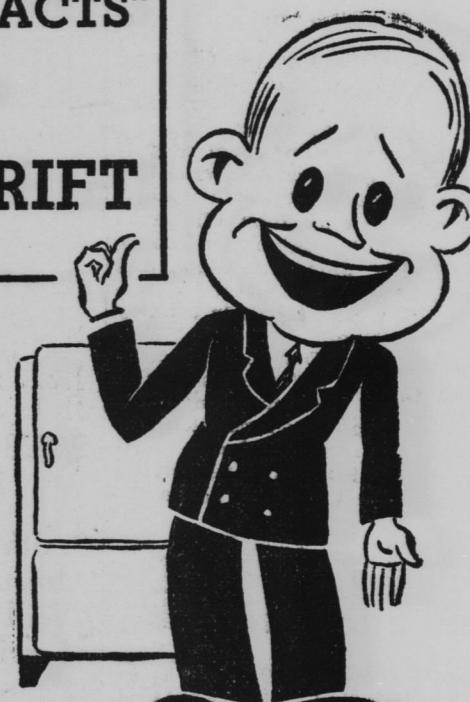
The Nature of Love

"Love is patient, kind, humble; etc." Love is courteous and unselfish: "Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own." Love is slow to expose, eager to believe the best, hopeful, patient: "beareth (literally 'covereth') all things, believeth, hopeth...endureth all things." Love outlasts everything else: "Love never faileth." It will outlive prophecy, tongues know, and every other gift. We shall never outgrow love; it will still abide when we no longer see in a mirror darkly but face to face and know even as we are known. Now abideth faith, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

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Pastors Submit Reports
Rev. C. E. Ridge, Lexington, will conduct the devotions on Thursday morning, the pastors will submit personal reports, the afternoon will be given entirely to routine business, and the day will close with a missionary rally under the direction of Mrs. W. C. Hammer, Asheboro.

High Point College and the Children's Home will claim the attention of the conference on Friday following the devotional service led by Rev. G. H. Hendry, Dr. G. I. Humphreys, president of the college, will preside during time allotted to that institution, and Dr. A. G. Dixon, superintendent of the Children's Home, will direct the activities of that pri-

riest.
Henry Powell To Preside
General Conference agents and representatives, representatives of Westminster Theological Seminary, and the publishing agents will bring messages to the conference in the afternoon of Friday. At the evening service, Henry T. Powell, Henderson, president of the Conference Laymen's Fellowship, will preside during the

Young People's Rally
The conference memorial service will be held at 2:30 Sunday afternoon. One member of the conference, Rev. W. F. Kennett, died during the year but there were no deaths among wives or widows of ministers.

According to the custom of the conference, Sunday evening is set aside as Young People's Rally. Rev. T. J. Whitehead, Burlington, president