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OXFORD, N. C. SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 1912.

The initial number of the Southern Recorder, a sixteen-page semi-monthly farm journal, published at Durham, Mr. F. A. Moore, editor, is on our desk. The first number is neat and substantial.

An Easter Creed.

I trust in the living God, Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things and creatures visible and invisible. I trust in the kindness of his law and the goodness of his work. I will strive to love him and keep his law and see his work while I live. I trust in the nobleness of human nature, in the majesty of its faculties, the fulness of its mercy, and the joy of its love. And I will strive to love my neighbor as myself, and even when I cannot will act as if I did. I will not kill or hurt any living creature needlessly, nor destroy any beautiful thing, but will strive to save and comfort all gentle life and guard and perfect all natural beauty on earth. I will strive to raise my own body and soul daily into all the higher powers of duty and happiness, not in rivalry or contention with others, but for the help, delight and honor of others and for the joy and peace of my own life.

JOHN RUSKIN.

The Easter Festival.

"The world itself keeps Easter Day," begins an old carol in recognition that Easter is a festival of spring. While the Christian faith accepts it as a movable feast depending on the time of the Paschal moon, it is always within the period when nature is awakening from winter to a renewal of life. Each day the sun rises earlier, its warmth drawing the frost from the ground. As if by magic the dull fields are veiled in green and the flowers bud in the sheltered places.

The Christian church introduced the most beautiful celebrations of all. Easter is the inspiring feast of the year, and its celebration means a renewal of faith. Even in remote parts of the world, where preacher and their little flocks assemble, the Easter lights burn on the altars and faithful congregations sing Easter carols with joy.

The most solemn celebration of all is that held in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher at Jerusalem. Pilgrims assemble from every corner of Christendom and ascend the Via Dolorosa chanting prayers. Many attend the feet-washing ceremonies, and throngs haste to the church where devotion keeps them waiting from Good Friday until Saturday afternoon, when the Patriarch with unlighted torch enters the gloom of the sepulcher.

They watch with bated breath for his return. No light flickers in the darkness, then suddenly a blaze flames up, the torch is on fire and with a shout of thanksgiving the multitude breaks into singing a glorious hymn of thanksgiving. Those nearest the altar eagerly snatch fire from the torch, candle after candle is lighted until every taper in the church is burning. The worshippers rise, the gloom is dispelled and they go forth into the gray of the morning greeting one another, "Christ is arisen!" meeting the reply, "He is arisen indeed!"

A great deal of beautiful music has been written for the Easter services, which have become elaborate occasions in the churches. Many carols that are

sung have been handed down by tradition and repeated from father to son. They frequently tell the New Testament story of the first Christian Easter morning when Christ rose from the tomb, and gave all human beings faith in immortality.

The Philathea Convention.

The second State Baraca-Philathea convention will be held in Salisbury Saturday, Sunday and Monday, April 13, 14 and 15. A program of interest has been announced. The convention sermon will be preached by the Rev. Melton Clark, of Greensboro, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

The program follows:

SATURDAY, APRIL 13.

Registration and assignment of delegates.

SATURDAY EVENING.

8 p. m.—Welcome to delegates at armory hall. Short addresses by: J. C. Kesler (for the city); Mrs. F. F. Smith (for the Philatheas); E. W. Patum (for the Baracas). Response: J. D. Berry, Raleigh. Vocal selection by double quartet. Readings by Mrs. C. A. G. Thomas and Master George M. Jarvis. One minute messages from State officers and committees. The Man With a Banner, A. B. Salesby, of Salisbury. Reception and social hour.

SUNDAY MORNING.

9.30 a. m.—Delegates may attend various Sunday schools of the city. Visiting speakers in Baraca and Philathea classes.

11 a. m.—Special services in the churches of the city.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

2.45 p. m.—Assemble in front of Empire hotel for parade.

3.30—Convention mass meeting at Grubbs opera house. Music by double quartet. Address, "The Kind of Class I Believe In," Miss Henrietta Heron, of Elgin, Ill. Vocal solo (selected), by Miss Hazel Neff, of Greensboro. Sermon, by the Rev. Melton Clark, of Greensboro.

SUNDAY EVENING.

8 p. m.—Philatheas will meet in the First Baptist church, and the Baracas in the First Methodist church, and will be addressed alternately by Marshall A. Hudson on "Winning Them One by One," and by Miss Henrietta Heron, on "Does Your Class Measure Up to the Standard?" and "The Baraca's Responsibility for the Boy."

MONDAY MORNING.

9 to 9.45 a. m.—Joint conference of Baraca and Philathea teachers and class presidents, led by Miss Heron at First Methodist church.

9 to 9.45 a. m.—Joint conference of Junior Baracas and Philatheas at First Baptist church, led by Miss Kathleen Ware, national junior secretary.

10 a. m.—Philathea convention (First Baptist church). Devotional exercises. National Philathea hymn. Vocal solo, Miss Hazel Neff. Opening remarks by the president, Miss Mary G. Rowe. Minutes of last meeting, Miss Willie Lee Thomas. Treasurer's report, Miss Virginia Clinard. Appointment of committees. A Message from our General Secretary, Miss Flossie A. Byrd. "Aids to Beauty, Happiness and Character," Miss Lillian Taylor, of Asheville, "The Class Dollar," Miss Hettie W. Lyon, of Oxford. "City Unions—In Large Towns, by Mrs. T. B. Lee, of Charlotte; In Small Towns, by Miss Mary G. Rowe, of Tarboro. Round Table Discussion (Questions We Want Answered), led by Miss Heron.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

2.30 p. m.—Joint meeting of Baracas and Philathea, led by A. L. Smoot, Baraca president. Report of general secretary, Miss Flossie A. Byrd. Finances for next year. "Fifty Practical Class Plans That Have Been Tried and Proved Successful. Come and Take Your Choice," by Miss Henrietta Heron. "The Worldwide Convention at Norfolk," by the Rev. W. A. Smith, of Norfolk, Va.

4 p. m.—Adjourn for separate sessions. Reports of Philathea classes. Reports of committees and election of officers. Consecration service, "What Philathea Has Done for Me, Our Class, Our Sunday school," led by Miss Heron.

MONDAY MORNING.

10 a. m.—Baraca convention (First Methodist church). Devotional exercises. National Baraca hymn. Opening remarks by the president, A. L. Smoot. Minutes of last meeting. Secretary and treasurer's report, by W. M. Combs, of Greensboro. "Advertising the Class," W. Y. Preyer, of Greensboro. "The Baraca in the Home, in Business, and in Social Life," by Gen. B. S. Royster, of Oxford. "The Baraca and Prayer," by Sam M. Burritt, of Charlotte. Round Table Discussion (Questions we want answered), led by Miss Heron. "Stickers and Quitters," Gilbert T. Stephenson, Winston-Salem. "Our General Secretary's Message," Miss Flossie A. Byrd.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

2.30 to 4 p. m.—Joint meeting with Philatheas, led by A. L. Smoot. (See Philathea program for Monday afternoon).

4.05 p. m.—Baracas at First M. E. Church. Reports of Baraca classes. Reports of committees and elections of officers. Consecration service, led by Marshall A. Hudson, "What Baraca Has Done for Me, Our Class and Our Sunday-School."

MONDAY EVENING.

Union Meeting, Philatheas with Baracas, at First Presbyterian church. 8 p. m.—Special music. Address: Dr. W. L. Poteat, president of Wake Forest College.

FOR SALE—One 250 Egg Cypherg Incubator in good condition, including a Brooder. Apply to Wade H. Britt.

THE LONG CO.

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HENDERSON, N. C.

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