

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

VOL. XXXVII. NO. 25.

GASTONIA, N. C. THURSDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 23, 1916.

\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

## LARGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP IS SHOWN

### REPORTS OF ELEVEN PRESIDING ELDERS SHOW PAST YEAR ONE OF GROWTH

Conference Got Down to Business This Morning—Character of Presiding Elders and Pastors Passed With One Exception—Committee Appointed to Investigate Character of B. M. Jackson of Charlotte District—Bishop Kilgo Made Plea for a Church Distinctly Separated from the World.

The twenty-seventh annual session of the Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was called to order at 9:10 o'clock this morning by Bishop John C. Kilgo, of Charlotte. After singing Hymn No. 453, "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken," the bishop read a portion of the sixteenth chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. The bishop then offered a fervent prayer of thanksgiving for the providence that has been with us and around us since the last conference.

Basing his remarks on the chapter read Bishop Kilgo made a brief address in which he pleaded fervently for a preservation of the purity and integrity of the church. All this thing of trying to adjust the church to the world, he said, is wrong. There is a great difference between carrying Christ to the world and bringing the world to Christ. "The world was born face backward," he said, "it deserves a great compassion perhaps but it also deserves an awful condemnation. The world wants us to bring Christ down from his high and exalted position to their low level. Never a step will I take in that direction."

The church has gotten so busy trying to pet and coddle the sinners that it hasn't time to serve the saints.

Rev. W. L. Sherrill was re-elected secretary of the conference.

Nine-thirty a. m. was fixed as the meeting hour and 12:30 as the hour for adjournment.

It was moved and carried that the presiding elders nominate the standing committees. These committees were nominated and confirmed as follows:

Board of Education: A. W. Plyler in place of B. M. Jackson; Dred Peacock in place of Dr. W. G. Bradshaw.

Board of Missions: T. G. Ogburn in place of J. P. Rodgers; J. A. Bell in place of J. W. Gullledge.

Board of Church Extension: E. M. Hoyle in place of W. M. Byles; Epworth League Board: E. O. Cole in place of R. B. Miller.

Joint Board of Finance: T. J. Rogers in place of T. E. Wagg; Bible Cause: R. C. Kirk, J. C. Mock, C. R. Allison.

STANDING COMMITTEES. Books and Periodicals: J. E. Thompson, T. J. Finch, W. A. Newell, R. P. Walker, M. B. Clegg, L. H. Miller, G. D. Herman, W. R. Lynch, S. B. Hayes, W. H. Worth, P. W. Tucker, J. F. Shinn, Z. Paris, C. D. Gray, A. G. Loftin, Dorman Thompson, R. H. Dougherty, J. R. Long, P. L. Shore, O. V. Woosley, W. B. West, A. H. McLarty.

Church Property: R. M. Hoyle, J. C. Ripple, J. W. Campbell, J. A. Peeler, J. A. Sharpe, W. L. Hales, H. B. Baffley, E. C. Stabler, W. M. Boring, Albert Sherrill, P. H. Williamson, M. T. Steel, J. A. J. Farrington.

District Conference Records: C. M. Short, E. O. Cole, R. L. Snow, E. M. Avett, W. M. Smith, D. F. Waters, J. S. Bell, J. B. Carpenter, J. A. Clindard, A. Burgess, J. T. Stover.

Remoires: J. C. Rowe, E. L. Bain, J. R. Walker, W. L. Hutcheson, O. P. Ader, J. W. Jones.

Sabbath Observance: J. H. Bennett, K. N. Crowder, B. F. Fincher, J. C. Harmon, Zeb Deaton, B. Whitson, G. E. Gardner, R. S. Howie, O. P. Routh, E. E. Yates, J. D. Moore, R. M. Taylor, C. G. Voss, W. B. Shinn, M. P. Harrelson, J. C. Keever, J. W. Hoyle, T. J. Ogburn, R. I. Rowe, D. C. Ballard, J. E. McSwain, J. H. Bradley.

Spiritual State of the Church: G. T. Rowe, C. F. Sherrill, L. T. Cordell, F. S. Wetmer, Seymour Taylor, W. E. Cunningham, J. A. Bowles, Noah Pitts, T. B. Johnson, J. R. Paddison, D. P. Waters, D. L. Park, J. H. Brendall, M. L. Jackson, A. J. Burris, T. A. Jonas, E. M. Hoyle, Ira Irvin, L. H. Griffith, J. M. Boone, C. L. McCain, C. W. Snider.

Temperance: J. E. Abernethy, J. L. Suttle, D. R. Proffitt, T. A. Groce, C. E. Steadman, W. L. Dawson, A. C. Swafford, W. H. Swafford, A. L. Aycock, W. A. Branson, E. B. Stabler, W. H. Worth, P. L. Terrell, N. L. Jackson, N. C. Williams, F. F. Cline, J. T. Ratledge, L. H. Phillips, J. L. Teague, C. B. Abernethy, J. B. Taber, J. W. Vestal.

Resolutions and Resolutions: W. E. Abernethy, G. D. Herman, C. S. Kirkpatrick, A. W. Plyler, H. C. Byrum.

Public Worship: J. R. Scroggs, H. H. Jordan, H. M. Wellman, W. A. Jenkins, C. D. Gray.

In answer to question 22 as to the character of the pastors, reports were had from the presiding elders as follows:

Presiding Elder C. A. Wood of the Asheville district said that the work in his district had had considerable hindrance because of sickness of several pastors and members of their families. One pastor died and two had to surrender their work during the year because of the failure of their health. The financial reports are good and the number of professions large.

Charlotte district, reported Presiding Elder L. T. Mann, has had a fine year with splendid revivals and a large number of accessions on profession of faith. Two churches have been built and eight remodeled. Debts have been paid on others. Pastor's salaries paid in full. Missionary collections paid in full and between 90 per cent and 100 per cent on conference collections.

Dr. J. H. Weaver, presiding elder of the Greensboro district, reported a good year with 1400 conversions and 1100 additions to the church. Good revivals on every charge and in nearly every church. Preachers have all been faithful and have done good work.

Morganton district, of which Rev. J. E. Gay is presiding elder, stated that his district was in the midst of the food district and hence suffered greatly. Notwithstanding the food many charges paid out that were not expected to. Over 1500 professions during the year. Salaries of pastors paid up about as well as last year.

Presiding Elder H. C. Sprinkle of the Mount Airy district reported many good revivals with many accessions to the church. Financial report better than usual especially as to pastor's salaries. Have had splendid love feasts at quarterly conference.

Presiding Elder T. E. Wagg of the North Wilkesboro district reported five new churches built this year. One new parsonage built and debt of \$5,000 paid off on Jefferson school with \$10,000 in view for a new school building.

A large number of professions and accessions were reported for the year in Salisbury district by the presiding elder, Rev. J. C. Rowe. A good revival was held by the bishop in Salisbury. Reports from all charges in the district are better than last year.

Many extensive revivals were held in the Shelby district as reported by Presiding Elder J. B. Scroggs. There were between 1100 and 1200 conversions and between 900 and 1000 additions to the church. Two churches and three parsonages were built during the year. One of these was built at a cost of \$9,000. Most of the pastor's salaries paid in full.

Six churches were dedicated in the Statesville district during the year as reported by Presiding Elder W. R. Ware. At Lenoir efforts to secure a new church have borne fruit in that the sum of \$18,000 was subscribed last Sunday for a new church. He reported about 800 accessions on profession of faith with between 1500 and 1800 reclamations.

Presiding Elder J. R. Rodgers of the Waynesville district reported a good year. He reported good revivals and progress along all lines.

Presiding Elder H. K. Boyer of the Winston district stated that the Lord had greatly blessed the district during the year. Good revivals were held and there were between 1200 and 1300 conversions and over 1,300 additions from all sources.

Presiding Elder L. T. Mann of the Charlotte district reported that B. M. Jackson had left his charge without notifying the presiding elder and under circumstances not altogether favorable. He asked for an investigation and the bishop appointed Revs. E. L. Bain, A. W. Plyler and M. H. Vestal as an investigating committee to take up this matter and report.

Rev. Dr. R. S. Stout, colored, of Pine Bluff, Ark., secretary of the church extension board of the C. M. E. church, was introduced and made a plea for financial assistance for church building for his race. He took a collection in the old-time negro way while the congregation sang some old-time hymns. The collection amounted to \$166.

Dr. S. S. McKinney, representing the building committee of the national church which the M. E. Church, South, is to build in Washington City, addressed the conference, urging a systematic way of collecting the subscriptions to this fund made by this conference. This conference pledged \$5,000 to this fund. Of this amount \$1,295.59 has been paid, leaving \$3,704.41 yet to be paid. The contract has been let for this church which is to cost \$300,000.

Dr. H. N. Snyder Speaks Tonight. Tonight's session of the Western North Carolina Conference at Main Street Methodist church will be featured by an address by Dr. H. N. Snyder, president of Wofford College, at Spartanburg, S. C., his subject being "Education." An interesting musical program has been arranged as follows: Prelude by orchestra; anthem, "Hallelujah," vocal solo; orchestra; anthem, "We Laud and Magnify," vocal solo; "By the Waters of Babylon," Miss Jane Morris.

Monroe Wants Conference. Central church, Monroe, will invite the Western North Carolina Conference, now in session here, to meet there in 1918. The pastor, Rev. J. E. Abernethy, has invitations from the Monroe Methodists, the mayor and board of aldermen, the Chamber of Commerce and the Monroe Pastors Association. There will probably be other invitations but if so nothing has been made public regarding them so far.

## SAVING THE YOUNG LIFE

### VALUE OF LEAGUE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rev. E. L. Bain Delivered Strong Address Last Night, Filling Place of Dr. Parker Who Was Kept Away—Epworth League and Sunday School Two Greatest Agencies in Saving Young Life of Church.

Substituting for Dr. F. S. Parker, of Nashville, Tenn., who was prevented from getting here by the delayed arrival of No. 38 last night, Rev. Dr. E. L. Bain, pastor of Tryon Street church, Charlotte, and president of the Epworth League Conference of the Western North Carolina Conference, delivered a splendid address on the Epworth League work of the church. He was heard by a large and appreciative audience.

Mr. Bain said in part: "I represent the Epworth League which has the best interests of the young people of the church at heart. That's the reason I've taken such an interest in the Epworth League and have consented to head its conference for several years. I have given my life to this work for the sake of the young life of the church, which is its greatest hope for the future. Any church that neglects the young life will rue the day that it did so.

"Some people think the Epworth League is only a social organization. There is no harm in social gatherings but that is not the object of the league. It is only one of the side features. The social feature does not enter into the work of the league any more than it does into the work of the Sunday school. It is an injustice to the league to assume that the social feature is by any means its leading feature. The real work of the league is done by the first vice-president's department, the devotional. In the Sunday evening services where the Scriptures are read and studied and where songs and testimonials are heard will be found the real purpose of the league.

"Some idea of the vast influence of the league on the young life of the church may be had when we remember that 7,000 Southern Methodist preachers, more than 1,500 were trained and saved to the church by the Epworth League. It's ratio to the church is incalculable.

Dr. Bain urged the pastors to see to it that their congregations had live working leagues in them.

Turning to the subject of the Sunday school Dr. Bain declared that it was, without question, the greatest single organization in the church.

"If we could have only one organization in the church in addition to the regular church organization, he said, "we should have the Sunday school. It's influence in saving the young people to the church cannot be estimated."

The speaker bewailed the fact that the average congregation and preacher knew so little about building churches properly arranged to house Sunday schools.

The model Sunday school as it exists today in the most up-to-date churches was described by the speaker who urged the pastors to adopt the model graded Sunday school system.

Space forbids a detailed report of Dr. Bain's address but it is sufficient to add that he was heard with great interest and profit not only by the preachers but by a great many Gastonians. The church was crowded to its capacity.

Boy Accidentally Killed by Brother, Cleveland Star, 17th.

The body of the nine-year-old son of Mr. Frank Towery was brought to Shelby on Saturday night from Chase City, Va., and buried at Mt. Mariah church in upper Cleveland last Sunday. The Towery boy was killed by his older brother, about 13 years of age, by the accidental discharge of a shotgun near Chase City last week where the Towery family had been living since leaving this county. The top of the boy's head was blown off.

Some men are about as important as a thermometer on a pleasant day.—Exchange.

## MANY IMPROVEMENTS

### BELMONT NOW TAKING ON NEW LIFE

Movement to Properly Equip and Endow Greensboro College for Women, Only A-grade Methodist College for Women in State—Is Thriving But Must Broaden Its Field—Report of Board of Trustees as Submitted to Conference.

BELMONT, Nov. 23.—At the meeting of the Belmont Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night that body went on record as desiring certain municipal improvements, including permanent pavement of a number of blocks of streets, sewerage system and water works. A committee will be named by the president, George W. Stowe, in a day or so to ascertain the cost of making certain improvements and then the chamber will take hold of the work with the intention of having the work done at the earliest possible date. That Belmont is to have these much-needed improvements is now assured and President Stowe says the work will be done just as soon as the committee decides just what the work will consist of and the cost. They wish to receive bids and specifications from contractors just as soon as the data is in hand.

The body also authorized the erection of two advertising signs, one to be placed at the Belmont junction of the P. & N. line and the other at the Southern depot.

A cash prize will be offered the person living in Belmont who will submit the best slogan for the city. These slogans are to be turned over to secretary D. P. Stowe at the post-office and will be opened on December 1st and the officers of the association will decide on the best slogan. The contest is open to the entire town, especially to the school children.

The matter of improving street car service to Belmont was referred to proper committee for action. An effort also will be made to have a watchman placed on the Southern crossing in the business section.

It was decided to issue a supply of advertising inserts about the town and the secretary was authorized to have them printed at once.

Another important matter to receive the attention of the meeting was the building of a city hall building. All members went on record as desiring this improvement and the matter will be taken up with the city officials at once with a view of having the building erected with as little delay as possible.

Many other matters were taken up and Belmont has demonstrated by action that she will become a town of the best kind in a short while, if she is not so already.

C. W. Roberts, general secretary of the Greater Gaston County Association, attended the meeting.

HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK.

White Star Liner Torpedoed in Aegean Sea—More Than 1,000 Saved—Loss of Life Not Known.

London, Nov. 22.—The hospital ship Britannic was sunk by a mine or torpedo yesterday morning in the Aegean Sea according to an official statement issued here today. It is stated there were 1,106 survivors of whom 28 were injured.

Athens, via London, Nov. 22.—The White Star Line steamship Britannic, serving as a hospital ship for wounded soldiers of the Entente Allies, has been torpedoed and sunk, according to an official announcement made here today.

The Britannic was sunk off the island of Kea, Keos, southeast of Attica in the Aegean. She carried 1,000 British sick and wounded men.

The Britannic was equipped with 35 life-boats and the loss of life incident to the sinking is supposed to have been small.

Compulsory Sport. "So you've joined a golf club." "Had to do it," replied Mr. Crowcher. "The only chance of seeing some of the men I have to do business with is to meet 'em on the golf links."—Life.

## A. R. P. SYNOD CLOSED

### ANNUAL SESSION FULL OF INTEREST

People of York Entertained Large Religious Gathering Royally—Many Matters of Vital Importance Taken up and Disposed of—To Fayetteville, Tenn., Next Year—Every Phase of Church Work Given Consideration.

Yorkville Enquirer, 21st. At a business meeting of the 113th annual convention of the A. R. P. Synod of the South here Friday afternoon, the church at Fayetteville, Tenn., was selected as the place of the next annual meeting and the Rev. I. N. Kennedy, of Ora, Laurens county, was elected moderator. Synod adjourned Saturday afternoon and many of the delegates left for their respective homes on the afternoon trains although the majority remained over until yesterday to be present at services here Sabbath. It was the consensus of opinion of all that the meeting of Synod with the Yorkville church was one of the most pleasant and profitable meetings of the highest church court ever held. "I have never attended a meeting of Synod where there was so large an attendance as at Yorkville, where business was carried on with such dispatch, where the convenience of delegates was attended to with so little confusion and where there was such lavish and hospitable entertainment on the part of all the people," was the comment of Rev. Oliver Johnson, D. D. of Winnsboro, who returned home Saturday afternoon, and his statement seemed to have the endorsement of all those ministers and elders present.

Business coming before the four day session of Synod here was carried on with precision and dispatch, and the moderator, Hon. A. G. Brice, of Chester, impressed all who attended the deliberations of the church court as being a presiding officer of unusual efficiency and ability. Numerous matters of vital importance to the growth and prosperity of the denomination were threshed out on the floor of Synod and it was done without the slightest unnecessary waste of time.

In executive session at a late hour Thursday night Synod by a large majority sustained the appeal of the Rev. Ira Caldwell, pastor of Salem church in Tennessee from the Memphis-Louisville Presbytery, the Presbyterial court having recommended that he resign his charge following a division among the members of his church over the question of his being installed pastor. Forty-two members of the Salem church objected to the installation of Mr. Caldwell as pastor and the quarrel has been a subject of considerable interest in the denomination for some time past. In resolutions adopted Thursday night Synod ordered the Louisville-Knoxville Presbytery to appoint a commission for the installation of Rev. Caldwell without unnecessary delay.

The cause of the Dunlap Orphanage of Atoka, Tenn., the official orphanage of the denomination was presented to Synod Friday morning by Miss Macie Stephenson who is connected with the orphanage. Miss Stephenson's report showed that the orphan home was steadily growing in its ability to care for the fatherless children of the denomination.

Rev. Boyce H. Grier, of Camden, Ala., for a number of years pastor of Tirzah and Yorkville A. R. P. churches delivered an impressive sermon Friday morning which was heard by many of the members of his former charges.

At the session Friday afternoon representatives of the Fayetteville, Tenn., church, went to work in earnest to secure the next meeting of the church court and by a unanimous vote it was decided to hold the 1917 meeting there. It has been about 20 years since Synod met with the Tennessee church.

Rev. I. N. Kennedy, of Ora, was elected moderator Friday afternoon. Other nominees for the honor were Rev. T. H. McDill, of New Albany, Miss.; Rev. J. P. Knox, of Columbia, and Rev. J. Walter Simpson, of Charlotte. The moderator-elect is one of the most eminent divines of the denomination.

Rev. B. Frank White, of Jersey City, N. J., brought Synod fraternal greetings from the United Presbyterian Church Friday afternoon and his message of greeting was fittingly replied to by Moderator Brice.

In the presence of an unusually large congregation Friday night, Rev. T. H. McDill, of New Albany, Miss., spoke on the subject of "Home Missions." Rev. J. G. Dale, for 15 years a missionary of the Associate Reformed Church in Mexico, spoke of "Foreign Missions," following Rev. McDill.

Saturday morning Synod reversed its former resolution that a student of Erskine College who desires to play football must obtain the written consent of his parents. The ruling will be received with interest by students of the college.

Rev. W. S. Patterson, of Lancaster, presided over a conference Saturday morning at which time Sabbath School and Young People's Christian Union work was discussed. "The Place of the Sabbath School in the Future Program of the A. R. P. Church," was the subject of an address by the Rev. W. B. Lindsay, of Charlotte, and the Rev. W. P. Grier, of Clover, addressed the conference on "The Young People's Christian Union as a Recruiting Agency for Christian Workers."

## CONGRATULATES WILSON

### HUGHES SENDS TELEGRAM AT LAST

Hope of Carrying California Having Finally Vanished, Republican Candidate for Presidency Sends Congratulatory Message to Mr. Wilson—Wilcox at Last Convinced—President Makes no Comment.

Lakewood, N. J., Nov. 22.—Charles E. Hughes, Republican candidate for President in the recent election; tonight sent to President Wilson a telegram congratulating him upon his reelection.

In his telegram Mr. Hughes said: "Because of the closeness of the vote I have awaited the official count in California and now that it has been virtually completed, permit me to extend to you my congratulations upon your re-election. I desire also to express my best wishes for a successful Administration."

President Makes no Comment on Message. Washington, Nov. 22.—President Wilson was at a theater with Mrs. Wilson when the telegram from Mr. Hughes reached the White House and did not know of it until he returned. There was no comment.

Some of the hundreds of messages of congratulations received during the past 10 days and withheld from publication until Mr. Hughes should be heard from probably will be given out tomorrow.

Chairman Wilcox is Convinced of Result. New York, Nov. 22.—William R. Wilcox, chairman of the Republican National Committee, tonight issued the following statement in reference to Mr. Hughes' telegram to President Wilson:

"Having conferred by telephone during the day and late this afternoon with the Republican State Committee and the Republican National Committee in California, I am informed that official canvass of the vote has been so nearly completed that no change will result from the few precincts not counted in the returns thus far compiled.

"This means that the majority for the Wilson electors in California ranges from about 1,200 to 3,800 votes and that this is the final result of the canvass for which we have been waiting. So far as any recount is concerned the National Committee is not advised that there are sufficient grounds to call for such an application."

REV. W. R. WARE, D. D.

Presiding Elder of the Statesville District.

Was born and reared in Shelby, educated in the schools of Shelby, King's Mountain and Newton, graduated at Vanderbilt University and was class and faculty representative in 1894. Joined the North Carolina Conference at Wilmington, 1894, has

filled stations for twenty years and the rest of the time has served districts. Served on conference examining committees 15 years, was member of the board of education and president of the board of missions during two quadrenniums and for 18 years has been a trustee of Rutherford College. He is now closing his first year on the Statesville district. During the year now closing about 800 members have been added to the church on profession of faith; perhaps 18 of the 23 charges will pay the pastors' salaries in full and nine or ten charges may pay out on every thing. Six churches have been dedicated during the year, plans projected for four or five new ones, and in some charges the pastors' salaries will be increased next year.

Mr. Ware is well-known in Gastonia. He was presiding elder of this district when conference met here in 1901 and laid the corner stone of Main Street church, which he also served as pastor. He dedicated the old West End church and helped to project the present West End church. Both as pastor and presiding elder he has been eminently successful.

Announcement has just been sent out from Washington to the effect that Judge James E. Boyd, of Greensboro, intends to retire from active duty as a federal judge for the western district of North Carolina some time in the early spring of 1917. Representative E. Y. Webb, of Shelby, and E. J. Justice, of Greensboro, are both being mentioned as his successor.

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Who Addressed the Conference Last Night on the Work of the Epworth League and the Sunday School.

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