

The Africo - American Presbyterian

CONSOLIDATED WITH
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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1936.

The report of the contributions of the churches of Catawba Synod to the Board of National Missions last year makes interesting reading. It would seem that the most of the churches fell below their quota. Every effort should be exerted to make 1936-1937 the record year for benevolence in the Synod.

Future years may justify the subjugation of Ethiopia, but viewed in the light of today it is the crime of the century. The rape and enslavement of the ancient nation is the shame of the Christian world.

Correspondents should note the change of the Street address of the Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Amos in New York City. He has moved from 795 St. Nicholas Avenue to 419 W. 148th Street.

"PIONEERING" AT SYRACUSE ASSEMBLY

Every day of the Syracuse General Assembly will emphasize Christian pioneering as an Assembly theme, with Spirituality. Adventuring as a sub-theme. The daily devotional periods the popular meetings, the many events of the Board of National Missions, the report of the General Council and other features of the Assembly sessions will stress the Pioneering note.

This pioneering emphasis is inspired primarily by the action of the 1935 Cincinnati Assembly in designating 1936 as Whitman - Spalding Centennial year. Some churches have already observed the Centennial others will do so before the Assembly convenes or in summer and fall, and Synods and Presbyteries will hold celebrations during the year.

Immediately after adjournment of the Syracuse Assembly a large number of its commissioners, officers and visitors will motor to Rushville, in Yates County, and to Prattsburg, in Steuben county, New York, to join in Centennial celebrations June 4 at these 1836 points of departure of the Whitmans and Spaldings for Oregon.

The Congregational-Christian Churches will unite with Presbyterians in these New York celebrations. The New York observances will be under auspices also of the Presbyteries of Steuben-Elmira and Geneva, and of the Board of National Missions.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Mary Allen Junior College, Crockett, Texas, April 14, 1936

Dear Friends:

In commemoration of the work of the missionaries of the Presbyterian Church who founded our institution and those who make possible its continuance, we shall observe, on the eighteenth of May, our Fiftieth Anniversary.

We believe that Mary Allen has a definite place in the social, educational and religious development of the Negroes of Texas, and that everything should be done to increase her opportunity for service.

There are definite improvements necessary in the physical plant of the school if the challenge for a larger service is to be met by the institution.

The most immediate of these needs are: a boys' dormitory, an annex to the library, and a community church near the campus. In an effort to secure money to make the above men-

tioned improvements, we plan to climax our anniversary celebration with a drive for \$10,000.

The Chamber of Commerce of Crockett has pledged itself to raise \$1,000 among the business houses and white citizens of the city. The Negroes of Crockett have set as their goal a second thousand dollars.

Our hope for the remaining portion of this money lies in our churches, missionary societies and friends who are interested in the institution and the progress of the group which it serves.

We take this opportunity to appeal to you for an anniversary gift for this very needed cause. May you help us to make possible this greater service to our patrons.

All contributions should be sent in before the eighteenth of May and all checks made payable to Mary Allen Junior College.

Very truly yours,
B. R. SMITH,
President.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL MINISTERS' INSTITUTE AT JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY

The Fifth Annual Ministers' Institute of the Theological Department of Johnson C. Smith University opened on May 8 with an attendance which surpassed all former records. The Institute met promptly in the University church where the devotional period was conducted by the Rev. Hercules Wilson, D. D., pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church, Concord, N. C.

Dr. Wilson was followed by President H. L. McCrorey, who stated the aims and objectives of the Institute. He expressed appreciation for the manifest interest in the Institute by the ministers, and solicited their continued support. He stated that the institution wanted to render whatever help it could to the ministers of this area.

President McCrorey then introduced the Rev. Thomas B. Hargrave, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, director of evangelism for the Synods of Canadian and Blue Ridge. Rev. Hargrave gave the first of a series of three lectures on Evangelism. Rev. Hargrave is one of the prominent evangelists of the Church and gave a strong presentation of "Personal Evangelism."

Dr. W. H. Davenport, Editor of the Star of Zion, official organ of the A. M. E. Zion Church, gave a rather unique address on "The Minister and the Religious Press." He pointed out that each could be of inestimable service to the other.

Dr. Thomas A. Long, A. G. O. organist of the University church, gave the first of a series of two lectures on "Church Music." He spoke on "Church Music and Congregational Singing."

In the afternoon, Dr. Z. A. Dockery, pastor of Broad St. Presbyterian church, Statesville, led a round table discussion on "Re-Thinking the Task of the Christian Church." Dr. Dockery's unique way in presenting his material provoked much thought and discussion.

Wednesday morning's session was opened with devotions by the Rev. Chas. W. Francis, of Anderson, S. C., Evangelist of the Synods of Atlantic and Catawba. The Rev. Hargrave gave the second of his series of lectures on Evangelism.

Prof. John L. Tilley, Dean of the School of Religion of Shaw University, delivered a lecture on "New Testament Interpretation." Dean Tilley has made a special study in this field and his voice was resonant with authority.

Dr. John M. Gaston delivered the first of a series of two lectures on "Interpreting Life Through the Bible." These lectures centered around certain Biblical passages and showed in a most striking way how the Bible could be geared into life. At 7:30 Wednesday evening, Dr. I. Harding Hughes, a member of the State Inter-Racial Commission, and pastor of the Episcopal church in Concord, N. C., delivered a most striking address on "An Approach to Inter-Racial Goodwill." The speaker treated his topic enthusiastically, and it was received

with an enthusiasm that was one of the high spots of the sessions.

Prof. A. O. Steele, of the School of Religion of Johnson C. Smith University, delivered two lectures on "Religious Education." The first was "Teaching Religion Creatively;" the second was "Leadership Training." Prof. Steele showed thoroughness in his presentation and challenged the ministers to teach with all their powers. He moved the audience in an unusual manner.

The Rev. C. F. Rush, of Emmanuel Congregational church of Charlotte, conducted the devotional hour on Thursday. His reverent attitude and transparent sincerity, as well as his incisive thoughts, left an impression on the audience.

No less striking was the address by the Rev. Frank C. Shirley, D. D., pastor of the Biddleville Presbyterian church, who spoke on "When the Minister Goes Calling." He spoke out of the well-springs of his own experience as a pastor and as a Sabbath School Missionary.

The Friday devotional hour was conducted by the Rev. J. H. Moore, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist church, Charlotte. This veteran minister made a passionate plea for a seriousness of purpose on the part of the ministry.

The closing address was made by Dr. W. C. Sommerville, of Queens-Chicora College, Charlotte. He spoke on "The Bible and Missions." He showed how the Bible had played a great part in civilizing the world.

A. H. GEORGE.

KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT

In the Africo of May 7th, 1936, the following from the pen of Rev. Herbert Spaugh with reference to Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa, the renowned Japanese, appears:

"He came from a wealthy family, but, orphaned at the age of four, his childhood and youth was a dreary procession of years."

Mrs. Smith and I attended the banquet given Kagawa recently at the Mayflower in this city and sat very near the speaker's platform. In the literature distributed at that time this statement is found:

"Born out of wedlock to a rich and renegade father and a geisha girl, July 10, 1888, Kagawa's early life was indeed a sad one."

The point is that if Kagawa was born out of wedlock it does no harm to his splendid record to say so. Indeed that very fact adds to the luster of his achievements.

Let us keep the record straight.

Sincerely yours,
JOHN EDGAR SMITH,
Washington, D. C.

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT PROGRAMME

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our wife and mother, Mrs. Mahala G. Harper, who was called to her heavenly home May 6, 1935. Though the Father of men To his home called you in, We pause at this time To honor your name sublime. Your patient, enduring smile Led us for many a mile, There is no earthly friend Who so sought our woes to mend As mother who stood to the end. May your smile from above Lead us on to the God of love.

Prof. J. W. HARPER, Husband;
WALTER, ALLEEN, JOSEPH, RENDALL, WILLIAM, JOHN, JAMES, CARRIE.

BY THE WAY

By Uncle Bilie

As I hurried down historic King Street Thursday morning by the news stands in aristocratic Charleston to Broad St. Post Office, I beheld in box-car letters and in flashing headlines: "Italy Wins the War. Last Black Kingdom Gone." But to my way of thinking, it should have read: "World Wins the War;" for it was the world against Ethiopia. Italy violated beyond question the stipulations of war in the bitter and unequal conflict by using inhumane deadly gas and air craft, while the referees (England and France) played hide and seek and "peep eye, I see you," in the hall of the "League of Nations." This, no doubt, was the end in view at the beginning. Italy, likely, has never felt that the "League of Nations" would turn a deadly weapon to protect Ethiopia against Italy's efforts, although Italy used deadly gas and air bombs. Italy knew that she would be given time to do all that she has done to defeat Ethiopia. She knew that deception and the overstepping of accepted belligerent principles and pacts are admissible in war and a scrap of paper when a man is mad—not angry, if you please. Especially is this true when it is white against black.

Although many students of anthropology—and I suspect of anthropology—dugged among their rich and valuable archives to prove that Ethiopians are Semitic and not Negro, the Ethiopians have been finally treated Negro. Perhaps they proved it to the satisfaction of the world: but the color of the Ethiopian's skin places this race alone amidst the multitude—like the American Negro, if you please. The phrase, "Last Black Kingdom Gone," settles this fact as obviously as the truth of the demonstration of the pens as sanorum.

But Ethiopia is not conquered. No man or race or nation is conquered if it surrenders against intellect, sensibility and will.

Forty years ago Ethiopia defeated Italy; but Italy was not conquered in her inner powers. She went back home and prepared for this day forty years ago. But the end is not yet. Who knows but that some day, down the centuries, an Il Duce may not walk over human principles and fight to the last man into France, or conquest. God has so constituted his earthly children in mind, soul and body that they can get sufficient but not enough. Man gets sufficient money to carry out his plans, but he is always reaching out for more money.

Yes, the day will come, although it may be many generations away, when the partial referees (England and France—you may include America) will be among things that used to be.

Same heads are asking, What next? They sense the "League of Nations" meeting to reorganize, to formulate and agree on pacts or compacts or laws to suit the case at hand, which are termed in bad, or incorrect Latin, by accepted Latin scholars, *expost facto laws*. The "League of Nations" knew at the very beginning that a mad man recognizes no prescribed rules in a fight. Il Duce disregarded all pacts and compacts of the League of Nations' and struck below the belt, which nullified his right to continue on the firing line. The great powers (England and France) looked on and agreed to disagree, while ethnologists of America attempted to prove what per cent of Ethiopian blood is Negro and what per cent is Semitic. All this, they well knew, would give air craft and deadly gas ample time to wipe Ethiopia off the map as the "last black kingdom,"—the objective.

"Gallia est omnis in partibus" is now modern France. And some day Italy may call for France to come under mandate or to be divided between her and Germany.

Now that Ethiopia is no more a "black kingdom;" that the last vestige of Ethiopia as a self-governing people has been crushed and ground between

the upper and nether stones of conquest.

Be it resolved that Christianity and civilization—if these forces be not dormant—be given an opportunity to keep these stones from grinding themselves.

SMITH UNIVERSITY FORUM

The Forum, the Faculty social organization of Johnson C. Smith University, held its last meeting for the present school year on the evening of April 29. There were no formal discussions as is customary. The evening was given altogether to relaxation and amusement. The program committee had provided for a moving picture by Prof. N. C. Crosby showing members of the faculty, groups of students and various scenes in connection with commencement and Founders' Day observances. This was followed by a mirth-provoking, story-telling contest, participated in by many of the men present. More than a dozen prizes had been provided for the contest. A committee of three ladies acted as judges. Mrs. McCrorey, President of the Club presented the awards. Prof. T. L. Gunn was given the first prize, and Mr. W. E. Hill the second.

Prof. R. L. Deuglass, an inmate raconteur, presided during the evening and led off with a couple of good stories.

Dr. A. B. McCoy, of Atlanta, Ga., was the guest of the Forum at this meeting and told two stories that were among the best of the evening.

As usual a dainty repast was served. Thus finis was written to the proceedings of the University Forum for the year 1935-1936.

BANQUET GIVEN BY RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE OF SMITH UNIVERSITY

More than a hundred students, teachers and visitors at the Ministers' Institute, attended a banquet given by the Committee on Religion at Johnson C. Smith University Thursday evening, May 7th.

The banquet, an annual affair, was one of the most delightful in the history of the institution. Dr. L. B. West, Field Representative of the Board of National Missions, offered the opening prayer. The musical renditions, under the direction of Prof. D. E. Carroll, were especially good. They consisted of a solo by Mr. Cortez Richardson, and several numbers by the Girls' Sextette, which included the Misses Ruth Hillsman, Claudia Hargrave, Ethelyn Wilson, Norene Bawless, Geneva Plair and Mary Benton.

The speaker for the occasion was Dr. P. H. Gwynn, Professor of Education at Davidson College. He spoke on the subject "The Church and Social Problems." Dr. Gwynn based his address on the idea of integrating the church more thoroughly into the lives of the people. Dr. Gwynn, a man with much experience and well prepared in his field, handled his subject in a masterly fashion.

Dr. McCrorey, President of the institution, gave words of commendation of the work done by the religious organizations during the year.

Prof. A. O. Steele, who has sponsored this function for several years, served as master of ceremonies.

GOING TO TEXAS AND TO NEW YORK

Dr. L. B. West will leave Charlotte Friday morning for Crockett, Texas, to deliver the baccalaureate sermon at Mary Allen Junior College next Sabbath. He will also participate in the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of that institution which is to take place on May 18th. Dr. John M. Gaston is to make the anniversary address. From Crockett Dr. West will go to the annual meeting of the Staff of the Board of National Missions to be held at Auburn, New York.

Dr. Frank C. Shirley, the other member of the National Missions Staff from Catawba Synod, is expecting to leave for Auburn some time next week.

NEGROES TO LOSE ON PROJECT SWING FROM U. S. TO STATES

Washington, May—(ANP)—Results of a nation-wide poll on relief and present tendencies of the administration to decentralize recovery projects and act only to supplement State and local governments following reversals of New Deal policies by the Supreme Court are taken by acute observers to indicate the Negro will, in those states where he exists in large numbers, again fare badly.

The nationwide poll was conducted along nonpartisan lines by the American Institute of Public Opinion with headquarters in New York. Returns showed 65 per cent of those voting considered politics played an important part in the handling of relief in the voter's own locality. Fifty-five per cent thought the responsibility of caring for all persons on relief should be returned now to State and local governments.

It was considered significant that of those on relief, only 41 per cent favored a return to local relief administration.

It is believed quite likely that the administration will heed the voices of the majority of all those who took part in the poll as it is of deep political significance, and failure to do so will provide Republican fodder in next fall's elections. Centralization of recovery processes, such as the NRA, AAA, etc., have been declared unconstitutional.

The federal housing administration is also undergoing a change. Court action brought against the government on the ground it was illegal to seize private property for the tearing down of slums and erection of low cost housing units, although the property owners were paid, caused the introduction of a bill in Congress which calls only for U. S. cooperation with State and city agencies in building such projects.

Under direct federal relief, Negroes in the South and in those sections of the country where they exist in large numbers, have, for the most part, fared better than ever before. Government aid has been of tremendous importance because of the large number made jobless through hard times. Although prejudice did creep into relief administration in many Dixie areas, the government attempted conscientiously to erase the color line and welcomed protests with facts and figures on discrimination. Under a local setup, the Negro family of Atlanta, for example, could turn to no higher authority than the Georgia officials.

Through the federal housing projects, colored citizens of Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis and other cities North and South have either received or will get modern apartment dwellings to replace unsanitary and outmoded slums. In a section which refuses educational parity, it is inconceivable that local white officials would erect housing projects for Negroes rivaling those for whites, and in many cases, surpassing them.

This steady withdrawal of federal domination and the reversion to State's rights, in line with Supreme Court decisions and the recently conducted poll, indicate that, following a brief period in which the Negro was in the main treated by the federal government as any other citizen, the race will return to its old status of eating only the crumbs from the administration table.

