

The Possibilities Of Negro Womanhood

SPEECH OF MRS. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE, IN SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

AT THE TIME SHE WAS PRESIDENT OF DAYTONA NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE

(By The Associated Negro Press.) One of the most significant incidents affecting Negroes in '24 was the speech of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, at the time president of Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute, before the annual conference of the Method-



MARY McLEOD BETHUNE

ist Episcopal church, in Springfield, Massachusetts. It was one of those notices to the world such as was expressed by Booker T. Washington in Atlanta, in 1895. The four thousand delegates to the conference were electrified. The hard-working, brilliant woman from Florida literally brought the vast assemblage to its feet. The daily press told the story of the story she told, using such words as "unprecedented," "for the first time," "marvelous," and kindred glowing terms. Colored delegates had a vision of a new champion who would be heard. The editor-in-chief of the Associated Negro Press, wired the home office that quite by surprise this colored wo-

man had taken the hugh dignified convention by storm.

And she had come to that from a log cabin, one of seventeen children.

In a short story of that life and work, prepared by Rev. F.K. Stratton, Medford Hillside, Mass. it is written that at an early age she had a vision of the great needs of her people and that she became intensely loyal to that vision.

A kindly Providence opened her a way for specific training for the work which she had in mind. A white woman interested in Negro education, having learned of the young girl's ambition, furnished the scholarships necessary as a work of charity. A prominent educator describes the preparation of Mary McLeod Bethune for the work she has accomplished, in this way: "A childhood of hard labor with ex-slave parents on a little cotton and rice farm in South Carolina where she was born in a three room log cabin July 10, 1873. Then walking six miles a day through the winter to attend the Mission school in Mayesville; later, seven years in Scotia Seminary for girls in North Carolina, and one year in the Moody Bible School in Chicago. Then a few terms of teaching in mission and public schools in Georgia and Florida; then marriage, motherhood, sorrow and loss."

Patiently, but eagerly she followed the way of her vision and the yearning of heart to aid in the uplift of her people. At the adventitious hour, as though by divine appointment, Mrs. Beth-

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MUTUAL RELIEF AND BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION WAS ORGANIZED HERE

Twenty Years Ago The Lamented Dr. A. P. Dunbar then, Pastor of Second Baptist Church Here, Organized It

The Mutual Relief and Benevolent Association, an insurance company of South Carolina, origin and confine to South Carolina inclusively in its operation, is holding the State Annual Conference in Columbia this week, marking the twentieth anniversary of its existence in South Carolina.

Head of this Company is Jas. H. Goode, who has served for years as General Manager. Mr. Goode has a record with the company that is enviable and one that any man should feel proud to read. He worked his way up from an ordinary agent through the ranks to General Manager, and today is directing one of the best and most reliable business concerns of its kind that South Carolina Negroes ever built. Columbia is proud of Mr. Goode, and this week we join him in welcoming to the city the men and women from every county in the state who sell insurance for the Mutual Relief.

Twenty years ago the lamented Dr. A. P. Dunbar, then pastor of the Second Baptist church of the city, and one of Columbia's intellectual men, founded

the Mutual Relief and Benevolent Insurance Company with headquarters in Columbia. Dr. Dunbar occupied the office of General Manager and created a board of managers with such noted men as Major J. H. Fordham, W. H. Thomas and others. He also appointed a group of men and women as insurance writers who could command the attention of the masses, with this group was Mr. George Forrest, of Columbia and Mr. Goode now manager of the company. It was said that even 20 years ago it was to be seen that there was something in Mr. Goode that impressed the group that he was born to lead, and that Dr. Dunbar had sufficient vision to see in Goode the future leadership and development of the company.

At the public meetings Thursday and Friday nights big and appreciative crowds attended, and every one there was highly pleased with the showing made by Manager Goode in his annual address and in the dignified manner in which he conducted the programs as Master of Ceremonies.

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THE LIBERTY LIFE FOUNDER DIES

Colored People Of Chicago Greatly Shocked

DIES FROM HEMORRHAGE

A Pioneer Negro Business Man Intrepid, Keen and Resourceful "Passes Away."

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

The city was shocked at half-past twelve Friday afternoon when the news was cried out that Frank L. Gillespie, founder and president of the Liberty Life Insurance Company, of Illinois, had succumbed at his residence, 4524 Grand Boulevard, to an attack of hemorrhage. He had been ailing slightly, but not enough to give the slightest suspicion that his end was near. He is survived by his wife and two children, a boy of 20, and a girl of 17.

It is doubtful if any single event could have produced the effect on colored Chicago that the death of Frank L. Gillespie did. In the last five years of his life, he had promoted a business which was the pride of Chicago and had come to be regarded as one of the new and salutary influences in Negro business. He was a bold pioneer, intrepid, keen and resourceful. When his aids in the beautiful Liberty Life's building, heard of their leader's death, they were stunned. The girls in the office cried. The men were sad. Asked as to who their new leader might be, they couldn't say. It was as hard for them, it is hard for anybody to think of a successor to Frank, as he was familiarly called by those who knew him. Only one name had so far been mentioned, that of R. R. Taylor, vice-principal of Tuskegee, as a possible man to take up the reins where Gillespie left off. Mr. Taylor is a member of the board of directors Frank L. Gillespie was born in Osceola, Arkansas, November 8, 1876. The early years of his life were spent in Memphis, Tenn., where he received his grammar school education. Later, when his family moved to St. Louis, Mo., he attended Sumner High School for three years. However, as young Gillespie was a violinist of rare talent, his parents planned to give him a musical education. With this intention, they sent him to study at the Boston Conservatory of Music. The opportunity to finish high school was gained while he studied music in that city. Then instead of completing his musical career, young Gillespie entered the law school of Howard university. For a while all went well, but difficulties came and he was forced to abandon his formal education.

Once out of school Gillespie began his fight for a place in the world of business and large affairs. First he returned to Chicago where he secured employment as private secretary to Mr. J. C. Yeager, a prominent Chicago capitalist. At the death of his employer he sought other activities. Positions followed one another in rapid succession. He became the first colored employee of the Automatic Telephone Company and afterwards

for their purpose the financing of members who desire to go into business. When money has

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NEGROES START AN ORGANIZATION

North Carolina Backs The Finance Corporation

\$100,000.00 IS SUBSCRIBED

\$12,000.00 Of Which Came From the State of Texas. Others Apply By Mail

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Durham, N. C., May.—In a state-wide meeting here this week attended by about one hundred business men gathered from all sections of the state, the O. K. of these representatives of the commercial life in the state was given enthusiastically to the Negro Finance Corporation. All of the officials of the organization were present including Dr. Robert R. Moton, C. C. Spaulding, chairman of the Board, W. Gomez, Secretary-Manager and J. M. Avery, Treas. W. Gomez, in his report to the conference, announced that already more than \$100,000 had been subscribed, \$12,000.00 of which came from the state of Texas, showing how widespread was the interest in the movement. He also stated that many applications for stock had come in by mail unsolicited.

Bishop L. W. Kyles of the A. M. E. Zion Church, Winston-Salem, stated that with men like Dr. Moton and C. C. Spaulding behind the corporation, he believed in the corporation and would support it. Bishop Kyles demonstrated his belief in the corporation by taking \$3,000.00 worth of stock.

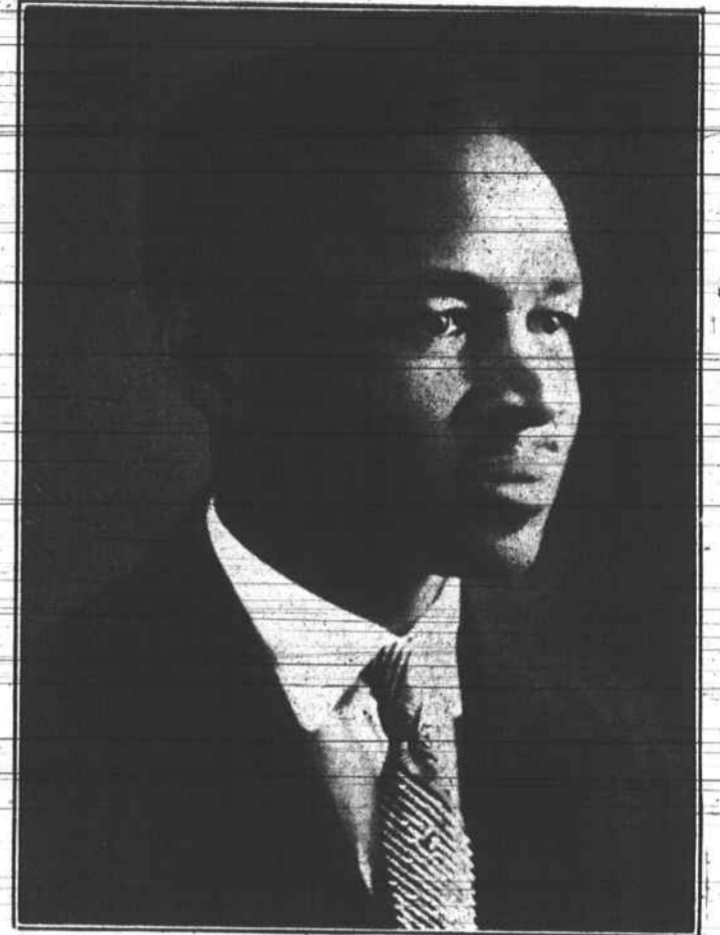
Dr. James E. Shepard, State Grand Master of Masons and President of the Durham State College for Negroes, who is one of the stockholders of the corporation, was unable to be present, but signified his interest by stating in a message that he was backing the program of service which the organization offers.

Dr. Moton Believes in Business. When Dr. Moton was present, the men gave him a rousing ovation. He spoke in part as follows:

"Twenty-five years ago the National Negro Business League was founded by the late Booker T. Washington to promote the financial and commercial development of the Negro race and I attended every meeting. I did not go because I thought I could give anything to the sessions, but I went regularly because of my faith in Booker T. Washington and the organization which he had founded. I believed then and I believe now that the forces of our people should be directed toward business."

"After Dr. Washington's death when I was elected as president of the League as his successor, I determined if the League would survive and continue to serve, it should undertake a very definite purpose. On one of my trips abroad I had the opportunity to study the financing methods of the Irish Organization Society; and sometime later, it was my privilege to look into some of the Jewish organizations of this country, which have for their purpose the financing of members who desire to go into business. When money has

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DR. J. E. WATTS, D. D. S. Vice-President of the Palmetto Medical Association. First Dentist to hold the position in the history of the Association.

George R. Smith College Burns.

Chicago, Ill., May.—The George R. Smith College, Sedalia, Miss., was destroyed by fire early Sunday morning, according to a telegram received from the president of the school by the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with headquarters at 740 Rush street, this city.

The building was valued at \$60,000 and took care of 250 young men and women. It is the colored school for the Central Missouri and Lincoln conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church, and accommodates students west of the Mississippi River and north of Arkansas. The original property was given by Mrs. Cotton in honor of her father, General George R. Smith, a leading young general in the Civil War, who was interested in the uplift of the emancipated slaves.

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Block Bill Inimical To Lodges.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Springfield, Ill., May.—Intelligent fighting on the part of Representative Charles A. Griffin, one of Chicago's four colored assemblymen, sent to death today the Barbour Bill which had passed the state senate and which had it passed the house would have made it impossible for many of the colored lodges who have the same names as similar white organizations to

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PALMETTO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HAS GREATEST SESSION IN HISTORY

Closes With A Brilliant Reception Given By Omega Psi Phi At State A. & M. College.

Palmetto Medical Association. Orangeburg, S. C., April 30.—Doctors in attendance here for their thirtieth annual conclave ended tonight their stay in a brilliant reception given by the Local Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

The greatest meeting in the history of the organization occasioned the presence of many eminent visitors from all parts of the State of South Carolina.

The opening session, Tuesday evening, provided welcome addresses, responses and the annual address of the Association President, Dr. J. G. Stuart, of Columbia, S. C. Mayor R. H. Jennings of Orangeburg was present to turn over the keys of the "City on the Edisto" to these distinguished guests. Dr. L. C. Street, representative of the local white Medical Association also extended his brothers in black a hearty welcome. Dr. N. C. Mix, Dean of the State College and Attorney Jacob Moore completed the welcome addresses in a masterly manner and received an enthusiastic response from Dr. J. A. McFall, of Charleston, S. C.

On Wednesday morning a discussion session was held when many interesting papers were read, namely: "Early Pulmonary Tuberculosis" by R. K. Gordon, M. D., of Dillon, S. C.; "Systematic Effect of Chronic Infection" by L. B. Anthony, one of the female Physicians from Sumter, S. C.; "The Relation of Heart Disease and Pregnancy" by M. M. Conliffe, M. D., Mullins, S. C.; "Novocain" by H. U. Seabrook, M. D., of Charleston, S. C.; "Hypertension" by Dr. L. M. Daniels, M. D., of Columbia, S. C.; "Granuloma Inguinale" by D. J. Dixon, M. D., of Spartanburg, S. C.; "Ileo Colitis" by C. E. Stephenson, M. D., of Columbia, S. C.; "Enclampsia" by William Thorne, M. D., of Charleston, S. C. Many of the advanced students of Clafin and College listened and took notes of these interesting and informing lectures.

On Wednesday evening in the chapel of Clafin College an address, preceded by beautiful music rendered by the Clafin Mixed Quartette and Mrs. Marion Coprich, Violinist, was delivered by M. O. Dumas of Wash-

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