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The Leader will publish brief and pertinent letters on subjects of general interest when they are accompanied by the names and addresses of the authors and are not of a defamatory nature. Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

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REMITTANCES

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Communications intended for the current issue must be very brief and should reach the editorial desk not later than Tuesday of each week. City news, locals Wednesday.

Telephone 4523

Saturday, May 18, 1940

STATE COLLEGE ALUMNI WORK

The State College Alumni should be praised for doing something, slowly, that has not been done by similar organization among the people in South Carolina. The eighty-thousand dollar library building recently erected at State college is the "alumni room." In this room are artistic paintings of Thos. E. Miller, former and first president; Robert Shaw Wilkinson, second president and for a quarter of a century one of the potential builders of State college.

The most unique piece of work is a collection of several hundred volumes of the best books written by Negro authors in the various fields which have been written by writers from remote days to the present.

The alumni of State college contributed around $1,200 to the library. Their room is a fine center with very modern accommodations for study and conferences. It is well equipped with all modern facilities.

The present scheme and the general program of development and expansion at State college not only reflect the skill of President M. F. Whittaker but in a big way, they show the ingenuity of an efficient college president who works faithfully and intelligently for the growth of a college which is among the best for Negroes in the south.

HOWARD GREGG

Dr. Howard D. Gregg of Richmond, Va., was elected editor of the A. M. E. Review last week by the General Conference in Detroit.

The Review is a magazine that is widely read and one of the oldest magazines published by colored churchmen. Dr. Gregg is professor of Sociology in Virginia Union university and pastor of one of the leading churches in Richmond.

Dr. Gregg was born in Sumter, grew to manhood on State college campus and is a graduate of Allen, State college and Columbia university.

South Carolina now has four General Officers and two Bishops in the General Council of the African Methodist church—Bishops Davis and D. Ward Nichols; General Officers—Adams, Gregg, Singleton and Hemmingway.

MR. GODEFROY WRITES Editorial Page

C. W. Godefroy, cosmetic manufacturer of St. Louis, Ma., has prepared for this paper the following editorial, which we reprint in full due to oits significance to us. Mr. Godefroy writes:

"Two weeks ago you glanced at the headlines and gasped at the story that 226 Negro men and women had met terrifying deaths in a flashing, gutting dance hall fire.

"Spellbound and entranced you read line after line of accounts by eye witnesses, of noble sacrifices or death defying rescues, and the anguish and terror of the burned and dying.

"A spark, a flash and a roaring blaze . . . and the merrymaking of hundreds turns into othe terror of consuming fear.

"But, what have you done about it?

"Have you asked your city government to investigate all meeting places in your city Asked hata similar death-traps be cleaned up . . . and, of more importance, perhaps, opened so that there are several means for rapid exit, rather than a lone exit which can become blocked with trampled, mangled bodies?

"All doors on all public gathering places should open outwards All dance floors, meeting halls, school houses, churches, etc should have several means for entrance and exit.

"Eliminate chance for repetition of such disasters in your own community by informing your city government that you expect it to take steps to "clean up" and "open up" the places where Negroes gather to work or to play."

WILLIAM H. GRAYSON, JR. TO ADDRESS LIBERTY HILL GRADUATES

Class of '40 Buys Gift For The School

North Charleston, S. C.—The commencement speaker at Liberty Hill school on Tuesday evening May 21st at 8:00 p.m. will be Professor William H. Grayson, Jr. A.B., A.M., principal Burke high school of Charleston, S. C. Prof. Grayson is known as one of the most progressive Negro school principals in the State of South Carolina.

The annual sermon will be delivered by the Rev. E. L. Tolbert, pastor of Royal Baptist church, North Charleston, on Sunday evening, May 19 at 3:30 p.m.

The annual primary play was held May 6th, and the 3rd A. and 4th grade play was held on Friday, May 10th. Both plays were enjoyed by a large audience. The 4th grade play "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfts" will be Wednesday evening, May 15 and on Thursday, May 16 the three hundred pupils of the school will be given a reception by the faculty.

The class of '40 constructed two large brick gate posts at the front of the school, with a corner stone inscribed with 'The Class of 1940', the name of the District Supt., Mr. Cordon H. Garrett, and Principal J. Thomas Wilson.

The class of '40 for the seventh grade consists of the following pupils: Thelma Sarah Bowens, Evelena Hamilton, Viola Estella Robinson, Dorothy Elizabeth Litton, Margaret Nellie Murray, Annabella Elizabeth Irving, Angeniena Sarah Jenkins, Maybell Onver, Anna Mae Price, Viola Leemia Wambright, Julian Henderson, Jr., David P. Stevens, Samuel Lee Mitchell, Henry Price, Custine Sellers, Beulah Belle Brown, Catherine Angelene McDowell, Louis Grant and S. Glover.

The public is invited to attend all of these exercises:

Monday, May 20, 8:00 p.m. WPA professional workers reception at Shaw Center, 22 Mary street.

Principal and faculty of Liberty Hill school visited Mrs. W. A. Barron of Lincolnville on Friday and enjoyed the May Day exercise at the Lincolnville school.

The school glee club were guest singers at Lincolnville, S. C., under the direction of Miss E. L. Winds and the principal rendered a musical concert at Ebenezer AME church Monday evening. This activity was sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Barron.

Professor David Hill, former principal of a number of schools in Charleston, and now a merchant of Lincolnville commended the directors and pupils on their fine singing. Professor Hill also gave a special reception for the group at his personal expense. After which they enjoyed another reception prepared by Mrs. Wilhelmenia Barron.

Mr. B. J. Barron also commended the group and delivered the address of welcome. Rev. Wm. Seele, and Mrs. Mance of Summerville school also made encouraging remarks.

WPA PROFESSIONAL WORKERS RECEPTION

Charleston, S. C.—The public is invited to attend a reception celebrating the WPA week of exhibits at Shaw center, 22 Mary St. Monday evening, May 20 at 8:00 p.m. Music and dancing will be enjoyed along with the reception. The refreshments will be free. A small admission fee of 25 cents will be asked. A radio address to the group will be heard by Mrs F. D. Roosevelt, and also an address will be delivered by Principal A. D. Greene of Simonton school. Prof. J. Thomas Wilson of the Liberty Hill school will serve as master of ceremonies.

This program was arranged by the WPA professional workers of Charleston.

MAYBE SO AND MAYBE NOT

(By W. H. Shackleford)

MR. AND MRS. AGITATOR

I'm not introducing Mr. and Mrs. Agitator. You are very well acquainted with them I think. I simply remind you that these people are still on the job the job of stirring up and keeping up trouble.

I have no statistics to prove anything, but I believe most of the troubles in this old world is due to agitators. The business of the agitators, as you know, is to disturb the peace, and to excite people to the point of seeing things and things.

Strikes, resulting in bloodshed can often be traced to agitators. Their job is to excite the laborers to the point of becoming dissatisfied with everything. The contagion spreads and spreads, and the strike is on.

Agitators are often the cause of trouble in the church. Disgruntled people, who do not like things, begin to excite others. Factions results, one which pulls out and starts another church.

Families suffer by reason of the agitator who may be a parent, a husband, wife or "friend." The agitator always speaks as "friend" you know. He is not meddling, O too much" and "your rights". Soon no, just advising about "taking it becomes black all over the place Somebody leaves home and another home is shattered to pieces.

The language of the agitator is familiar. "I wouldn't stand for that," and "You let everybody run over you." Well, somebody should run steamrollers over these agitators.

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LEESVILLE JR. HI SCHOOL

Prof. R. M. Walker, Principal

Friday night, May 10 the annual Declamation contest was held and each speaker was at his best. The decision of the judges were as follows: first prize, Willie M. Lytes, 9th grader; second, Henrietta Deffoat, 6th grade; third prize, H. B. Jackson, 8th grade.

On Sunday, May 19, at 3 o'clock the annual sermon will be delivered by President S. R. Lyles of Allen university, at St. Matthews C. M. E. church.

Monday night, May 20 the primary department will present an operetta entitled A Rose Dream under the direction of Mrs. V. L. Harris and Miss [illegible]

Thursday night, May 23 the graduation exercise will be held in the school auditorium. Prof. G. E. Nesbitt, of Benedict college, will deliver the commencement address. To these exercises the public is cordially invited.

Prof. and Mrs. R. M. Walker and family also Miss [illegible] R. Walker spent Mothers' Day with parents in Orangeburg.

Mrs. Joe Smith, [illegible] and Mrs Sarah E. Smith of Columbia were recent visitors of their aunt Mrs. S. E. Quattlebaum.

Misses M. E. Lee and L. J. Thompson were the Sunday guests of Mrs. Fenn Tompkins and family.

The Community Philharmonic chorus had its concert Friday night at 8:15 at St. Matthews C. M. E. church. We are hoping to present a program soon. We are waiting hope[illegible]

RIDGE SPRING NEWS

Mr. H. B. Coleman left for Bethel Hill Fair, Pa., Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Garrison, Mrs. Elizabeth Coleman and Mr. Barnwell spent a pleasant time visiting Mr. Coleman as far as Charlotte. They spent three nights and days with Mrs. L. C. Jones, the sister of Mrs. Elizabeth Coleman. They stopped in Chester to view the Finley high school and Prof. and Mrs. S. L. Finley. They reported an enjoyable trip. Mrs. Barfield is here visiting her parents and relatives. Her home is in Chicago, Ill.

The Pig Rally was quite a success. Mrs. Hattie Quattlebaum won the pig. She raised $[illegible]. Mrs. Regina Wigfall raised a second highest $11.56. All reports were fine.

Mrs. Mary Crawford is working hard to make her Calendar month May a success. Nothing else is on for this month, but the church contest. Don't forget the 4th Sunday, see what "May" will bring in for the Sunday school rooms.

DRUMS OF DEATH

A mystery play in three acts presented by the senior class of Allen university, Friday night, May 17 at 8 o'clock in the university auditorium. Admission 25 cents.

CHARLESTON DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Harleyville, S.C., April 17—The Charleston district conference of the South Carolina annual conference, convened on April 17th at St. Paul AME church. Rev. H. D. Brown, pastor, Dr. L. L. Farmer, presiding elder. The conference was called to order at 10:00 o'clock by the presiding elder. The devotional service was led by the Rev. P. L. Wells and others. After which the presiding elder gave a very helpful talk to the conference. The roll was called; organization and appointment of committees. At this point Dr. Farmer introduced Rev. B. C. Scott the pastor of Aiken station who delivered the Educational sermon. Rev. Scott preached a wonderful sermon which was enjoyed by all. Too much cannot be said about Rev. Brown and his good people for that fine entertainment.

The afternoon session was called at 3:00 p.m. with Dr. Farmer presiding. The roll was called and the ministers made their financial reports. All of the reports were good. After the financial reports were taken, we turned to the literary side of our program. The presiding elder in [illegible] Drs. L. E. Beard and L. [illegible] Wilborn of the Edisto and Charleston districts, who presided respectively.

[illegible] could not be given to the ministers and the good people of the Charleston district for their hard work in bringing up their claims as they did. I must say that peace and harmony prevailed throughout the conference. We can say the same for the district.

May God bless our presiding elder that he may live long and remain active in the church of our Master.

B. J. Hatchinson, reporter

WADMALAW ISLAND NEWS

Mothers' Day was highly observed in all churches here Sunday. A group of Marysville Church came over to St. John in the absence of the pastor, Rev. G. E. Wilson Jr., who was at Co[illegible]. Rev. E. Thompson spoke at St. John. At this time a short, but very impressive program was had.

The Helpful Aid held a splendid meeting at the parsonage Thursday night. Mrs. Mattie Reid entertained. Mrs. S. E. Washington [illegible] a home and garden talk. A talk with the president [illegible] of the 4-H club in [illegible] at home, Mount Pleasant. Some of the places of interest visited were State college and training school in Beaufort and many others.

Fine services were had at Mt. Zion Baptist church in the morning and a touching program at night. The girls trio composed of Misses Rose Browne, Ruth and Betty Bessellieu should be commended. Miss R. Bessellieu was in charge.

An extremely large crowd witnessed the Baccalaureate sermon of Faith Memorial school Sunday evening. Much was gleaned from the subject "Sharpen Your Axe on Good Stone", by Rev. McClarey, pastor of the Brook Greene church. He likened the principal Mr. W. E. Forsythe and his staff to stones upon which the pupils might sharpen their educational axe.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Burgess spent a happy week end with the latter's mother in Andrews.

Mesdames Albertha Singleton and Helen Gainey motored to Charleston Sunday and Miss A. Alston along with others of the City by the Sea, stopped by to say howdy to her mother.

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AIKEN NEWS

Second Baptist Church

We are now in the midst of the 36th anniversary of the church and the 20th anniversary of the Pastor, Rev. Jesse W. Miles. The closing services will be held Sunday, May 19th at 3 oeclock in the afternoon. Rev. A. W. Vincent will preach the closing sermon.

Spring revival will begin at the Second Baptist church Monday night after the first Sunday in June and will be directed by the Rev. Turner, a student at Morehouse college, Atlanta, Ga.

A singing contest was given at the Aiken graded school last Monday night and the auditorium was filled to its capacity, there was not even standing room. Three of the six quartets appeared and two were given prizes.

All services at Friendship were well attended. On Sunday nite Mrs. Carole, Miss Singleton and Mrs. Weaver of Bettis academy, were at Friendship.

The local branch of the NAACP presented a very inspiring program on Sunday afternoon at the Episcopal church. Their guest speaker was Dean Green of State college, Orangeburg.

Both the Aiken graded and the Schofield school are in the midst of their commencement preparation. The commencement week for Schofield is the last week in May, and for the Aiken graded, the first week in June.

Rev. M. M. Peace is conducting a revival for Rev. Trapp in Columbia this week. He and his wife and children spent last week end in Greenwood and went to his other church, Mt. Zion on Sunday morning.

BARNWELL NEWS

The musical recital at Barnwell high school the past Wednesday night was quite an enjoyable affair to the audience.

The operetta at Bethlehem high school auditorium was very pleasing to the ones present.

Don't miss "The Road Back" by the high school group at Bethlehem high school auditorium.

The annual sermon to the graduates of Barnwell high school on Sunday afternoon at Bethlehem Baptist church was delivered by Rev. J. D. Hudson, Augusta, Ga. The subject of his discourse was "Growth, Outward, Inward, Upward and Downward" which was very impressive, all enjoyed the message.

The Uplift club met at the home of Mrs. Lucretia Sanders on Tuesday afternoon. Meeting was called to order by the president. The delegates brought a very interesting report of the meeting in Columbia, S. C. After the business side the hostess served a chicken course with ice cream and cake. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. M. A. Duncan.

The Willie Thompson of Columbia, spent the week end with relatives and friends.

Mr. A. P. Williams and family spent Sunday afternoon with friends.

Mrs. Ogretta J. Hart and father, Mrs. Charlotte McCrady and Essie G. Holley attended the funeral of Mr. Will Chavis in Aiken on Friday at 4 o'clock.

Messrs J. W. McTeer and Gentry Sims accompanied Prof. and Mrs. LeRoy Myers to Camden, S. C.

The Bethlehem high school met in the auditorium Monday night. The meeting called to order by the president. Business of importance discussed, a neat sum was realized. The meeting adjourned until next meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hayward, Prof. John McDuffie as hostess.

A delicious course of ice cream and cake was served by Messrs Richard Odoms and M. Browne.

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