

Palmetto Education Association To Hold Convention Meetings

The twenty-six departments of the Palmetto Education Association will hold their annual meetings during the 37th convention of the Association on Thursday and Friday, March 24-25, in Columbia.

These departments represent a distribution of the Association's membership from the colleges and the private and public schools of the State in their annual meeting they hold a short business session in which officers are elected. Following the business session a lecture, panel discussion, demonstration, contest, report, etc., identify with the common problems and interests of the particular group is presented.

The increase in attendance at these meetings in recent years is concurrent with the membership in the State Association. This is attributed to the keen interest in the development of professional growth evidenced in the Association's program.

CHANGES IN MEETING PLACES

Because of the increase in attendance the chairman of many departments have requested larger facilities for their meetings. In order to meet these requests we have had to add the facilities of C. A. Johnson and Booker T. Washington High Schools, Waverly Elementary School, and the USO to those of Allen University and Benedict College.

This year the meetings are scheduled as follows:

PROFESSIONAL GROUP MEETINGS

Thursday, March 24, 4:30-6:30 P. M.

DEPARTMENTS
 Jeanes Teachers, Mrs. J. W. Washington; Browsing Room-Library Allen University
 Higher Education, Howard Jordan; Browsing Rm.-Library Benedict College
 Friday, March 25, 10:00 A. M.-12:00
 Elementary Principals, James A. Miller; Antislidel Chapel Benedict College
 Secondary Principals, Gerard A.

Anderson; Chapel-Faith Hall-Allen University.
 Future Teachers of America, Edlie K. Poole; Gymnasium-Booker Washington High School.
 Friday, March 25, 11:30 A. M.
 American Vocational, W. F. Hickson; Gymnasium-C. A. Johnson High School.
 Friday, March 25, 10:00-12:00

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
 Primary Group, Miss Ruth Byrum; Cafeteria & Rm. 107-Waverly School.
 Intermediate Grades, Mrs. Dorothy Brown; Auditorium-Allen University, 4-5.
 Upper Grades, 6-7-8, E. W. Whittemberg; Science Lecture Rm.-Administration Bldg.-Allen Univ.

SECONDARY EDUCATION
 Agriculture, A. Greene; Gymnasium-C. A. Johnson High School.
 Audio-Visual Ed., W. H. Burton; Annex-Benedict College
 Business Education, Harry P. Conant; Library-Booker Washington High School.
 Bandmasters H. W. Daniels, Rm. 11-Science Hall-Benedict
 English, R. M. Franklin; Lecture Rm.-Library-Allen Univ.
 Home Economics, Mrs. W. C. McDuffie; Rms. 1-2 MB-Johnson High School.
 Librarians, Mrs. C. A. Ross
 Second Floor-Library-Allen, Jr. Elementary; Mrs. Marian Miller.
 Mathematics, Mrs. R. M. Robinson; Rm. 11-Reid Hall-Allen Univ.
 Music, D. Jack Moses; Lecture Rm.-Library-Benedict.
 Natural Science, I. C. Roach; Rm. 201-2 Science Hall-Benedict.
 Physical Ed., Health, W. C. Brown; Rm. 12-Science Hall-Benedict & Recreation.
 Religious Education, Rev. L. C. Jenkins; Starks School of Theology Benedict.

Social Studies, Mrs. A. D. Reuben; Rm. 3-Library Annex-Allen
 Trade & Industrial Ed. John Doran; Rm. 106-Johnson Hotel School.
 Friday, March 25, 1:30-3:00 P. M.
 Guidance, J. C. Tingman; USO-Taylor Street.

85th Founders Day At Allen University Eclipses All Previous Observances



Reading from Left to Right: Dr. Samuel R. Higgins, President, Allen University; Bishop Frank Madison Reid, 7th Episcopal District; Bishop I. H. Bonner, 9th Episcopal District and Bishop Carey A. Gibbs, 11th Episcopal District.



Reading from Left to Right: Rev. S. A. Brown, Aiken, S. C.; Rev. Bruce P. Williamson, Nassau, Bahamas; M. Alice LaSaine, Charleston, S. C.; Mr. Frank L. Stanley, Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. Madge P. Harper, Orangeburg and Columbia, S. C.; Bishop Carey A. Gibbs of the 11th Episcopal District.

Columbia, S. C. The 85th Founders Day at Allen University was one of the most outstanding events that the African Methodist Episcopal Church has experienced in South Carolina for many years. Students, alumni and members of the faculty contributed more than \$10,000 to highlight the celebration of the 85th Founders' Day Observance.

The celebration was presided over jointly by Bishop Frank Madison Reid and Dr. Samuel R. Higgins, President of the college and a candidate for the Bishopric. High churchmen, general officers and laymen of the A. M. E. Church, led by Bishop I. H. Bonner and Carey A. Gibbs, made the celebration one of the most noteworthy in the school's history.

Highlighting the sparkling observance was the awarding of honorary degrees to five outstanding leaders in religion, education and journalism.

Frank L. Stanley, Louisville, Kentucky, journalist and fraternal leader, was awarded the Doctor of Humanities Degree.

Receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws was Mrs. M. Alice LaSaine, who has served as supervisor of schools in Charleston, South Carolina for more than 35 years.

Mrs. Madge P. Harper was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws. She is the first woman ever elected president of the Palmetto Teachers Association.

Doctor of Divinity Degrees were awarded to the Rev. Bruce P. Williamson, Nassau, Bahamas and the Rev. Stephen A. Brown, Aiken, South Carolina.

At the conclusion of the five-day observance, Bishop Reid announced that the twin goals of \$100,000 each would be reached during the year.

Under the presidency of Dr. Higgins and the chancellorship of Bishop Reid, Allen University has made phenomenal progress. Bishop Reid asked the visitors not to judge the progress of Allen University by the achievements made under his and Dr. Higgins' tenure

but rather to trace the progress "from whence we came." Futuristic Drives are still being organized throughout the State in order to renovate Arnet and Coppin Halls and to build a new gymnasium. Funds are still being sent by alumni and friends for this drive.

President Higgins Challenges Ministers

The A. M. E. Ministerial Union of Columbia and Vicinity heard Dr. Samuel R. Higgins, President of Allen University, in a most striking and prophetic message at a recent meeting. "Something to Set Before Them" was the theme of his message. Everyone sat spellbound as the President, out of his rich experiences, presented his views of the Christian ministry.

To have "something to Set Before Them," the speaker said there things are necessary, study, decision and service.

"The ministry is a high calling," Dr. Higgins stated. "It is one that calls for preparation." He commended Bishop Frank Madison Reid, presiding Bishop of South Carolina and North Carolina and Virginia, for his insistence that ministers, who occupy our pulpits today, prepare themselves in order to have "Something to Set Before Them."

"Study is a habit," he stated. "Men will not read and apply themselves later in life if they have not cultivated the habit of reading as young ministers." A strong plea was made for the continuation of our theological seminaries which MUST train our ministers.

In his talk, Dr. Higgins said the ministers must read his Bible. If he does, he will always have a message. By so doing, he will not have to

quote what other individuals might have written, but will be able to say, "Thus saith the Lord." People come to church on Sundays, voluntarily, because they feel that the ministers has "Something to Set before them, a message from God." To know the WORD," he said, "one must study the WORD," as there is no substitution for the WORD of God. It is fine to know what others have written about the Bible, the President stated, but the effective minister is one who studies is Bible and is able to give an account of the revealed WORD.

Not only is it necessary to study, Dr. Higgins said, but "The minister must be dedicated. He must know what it means to retire from the busy routine of life long enough to get a message from the Lord still speaks through his prophets," he said, "but only those who live close to Him will be able to receive His message and know its meaning."

"The ministry," President Higgins said, is a vocation of service. The minister's greatest possession is "his voice." To speak for God, in a world this means that a man must sacrifice, if need be possessions. The minister cannot afford to be too materialistic but must keep before him the words of Him who said, "My Kingdom is not of this world." We preach One who gave all. It is impossible to give all and store an earthly kingdom at the same time.

The minister cannot offer what he does not have. As people are hungry for the hope of immortality, the minister must believe in it and preach this hope in such a way as will call sinners to repentance," the President said.

"The minister has a duty to God and man," President Higgins said, "to have something to set before hungry souls that are thirsty for Christ."

Dr. B. C. Cunningham, President of the Union, thanked President Higgins for his most profound talk.

Surviving are George Burns, Washington, D. C., Mrs. Ola Wells, Columbia, Mrs. Dorothy Scott, Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. Edith Robinson, Columbia and Golden Burns, Columbia.

Mitchell, founder of the Industrial Bank of Washington, died at his home after a few months illness.

The 73-year-old banker was chairman of the board of directors of the bank which he founded 21 years ago. He has served in this capacity since he resigned from bank president in December because of ill health.

Mr. Bunyan Burns Passes

Mr. Bunyan Burns, born in Jenkinsville, S. C., but lived most of his life in Columbia, S. C., passed Saturday, March 8, 1955 at his residence 2219 Senate street.

His wife, Mrs. Lula (Parnell) Burns preceded him to the grave in 1943. To this union were born eight children; three of whom have passed.

Mr. Burns was a faithful member of Bethel A. M. E. Church during his residence in Columbia. He was employed with the Standard Oil Co., for a number of years, and was a U. S. Mail Contractor until his retirement. He was a consistent Christian and highly respected by both white and colored.

Funeral services were held Tuesday March 8, 1955, at Bethel A. M. E. Church, Rev. J. A. Holmes officiating.

Surviving are George Burns, Washington, D. C., Mrs. Ola Wells, Columbia, Mrs. Dorothy Scott, Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. Edith Robinson, Columbia and Golden Burns, Columbia.

FINAL RITES FOR MITCHELL, D. C. BANKER

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Funeral services for Jessie H. Mitchell were held last week at Lincoln Temple Congregational church with interment at Lincoln Memorial cemetery.

Mitchell, founder of the Industrial Bank of Washington, died at his home after a few months illness.

The 73-year-old banker was chairman of the board of directors of the bank which he founded 21 years ago. He has served in this capacity since he resigned from bank president in December because of ill health.

The Industrial Bank which was organized during the time of a business depression began with assets of \$185,000 and grew in a score of years to assets of more than \$6 million.

Annual Message Board of Bishops African M. E. Zion Church

SALISBURY N. C.—Urging a continuing steadfastness in a way of life in keeping with the tenets of the A. M. E. Zion Church and its basic concern with the welfare of mankind and the practical application of Christian principles to every day living, the bishops of the denomination in their meeting at Salisbury, North Carolina have included in their annual message to their people and the country which is not only a blue print, but a interpretation of its tasks and policies.

Feeling that the present day, while it presents a multitude of problems, offers many challenges and opportunities, the bishops have re-examined the cause of the church's existence, reinterpreted the denomination's mission and rededicated themselves to God.

They call upon the ministers of the A. M. E. Zion Church to deepen their spirituality by prayer and to increase their vigilance and activity in defense of the holy faith.

They call on the denomination's laymen to draw closer to the Lord and even seek to build themselves up in faith with acknowledgment that all things work together for good to those who love God.

"Our international interest, our national concern, our community effort and our home teaching,"

insist the bishops, "must be woven out of common fabric—united action for our common good under God."

Praying and working toward a great revival and spiritual awakening within the church, the bishops are planning expansion on all fronts. They are intensely aware of the need of establishing churches across the American continent to serve A. M. E. Zionites who have moved into communities where the denomination is not established.

Facing the monetary problem of expansion and of commitments abroad, the bishops plan to appoint a commission to make a thorough study of the denomination's financial needs and potential for the next four years and recommend an adequate budget for the general church.

Looking back 160 years at the A. M. E. Zion Church's record of constant protesting and fighting segregation, the bishops realize that members of the connection must face the challenge of integration here and be fully aware of similar problems in the trouble spots around the world.

They counsel that every man in America should take his place in the fight to "straighten out the kinks of our civic life" and that every colored man must, whether

Continued on page 8

South Carolina State Colored Fair Association Elects Officers

Columbia—Stockholders of the South Carolina State Colored Fair Association re-elected all officers and directors except vacancies by death that occurred during 1954 at the annual meeting held at Benedict College Wednesday afternoon.

W. F. Hickson, State Itinerant teacher, Agricultural Education, was elected director to fill vacancy of a director.

Dr. A. J. Collins, elected president for the 28th year during Fair Week in 1954 presided at the annual sessions on Wednesday. In his report to the Association said that the Fair had operated under one motive: that was to pay all bills and have a surplus in the treasury to carry on affairs of the Association.

Further he stated that plans are complete for the 1956 Fair with the exception of Atlanta. A vote of appreciation was unanimous for the 28 year services of President Collins.

Before the close of the sessions a motion to appoint a committee to revise the constitution was approved. The committee appointed were: J. E. Dixon, Columbia, chairman, J. D. McGhee, Orangeburg, and Attorney Lincoln Jenkins, Columbia.

Officers of the Association re-elected were: Vive President, Rev. L. C. Jenkins, Columbia, Secretary, Mrs. H. G. Reese, Columbia; Superintendent, D. R. Starks, Columbia.

J. D. McGhee, Reporter

Hold Funeral For Henson, First Man To Reach The North Pole

NEW YORK (ANP)—Hundreds jammed Harlem's Abyssinia Baptist church last week for the funeral of Matthew Alexander Henson, the only American with Admiral Robert E. Peary on his final dash to the North Pole, and the man who actually reached the Pole ahead of Peary.

The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell eulogized Henson as one of the great men in American and world history who made a lasting contribution to the progress of the human race.

The 88-year-old explorer, who was a termed indispensable by Peary, succumbed to a cerebral hemorrhage last week at Saint Clare's hospital, where he had been confined for six weeks.

Henson was the last survivor of the expedition which made world history on a cold, bleak day in the spring of 1909.

For years the actual accomplishments of Henson were unknown, and the first reports said that Peary reached the Pole with a party of Eskimos. Later it was revealed that Henson was trail-breaker on the last dramatic spurt and that he actually hit the pole first but overran it about a mile.

Peary, who walked little because his toes had been frozen off in earlier expeditions, came up on a sled and located the pole.

Together the two men stood together in the bleak arctic air and planted a piece of the stars and stripes in a metal container, together with reports and records.

Henson was one of the most extraordinary explorers in the history of the nation and rise to fame was in the true fashion of the fictional Horatio Alger. In interviews after the completion of the mission on April 7, 1909, the admiral praised him highly as a sledge-maker, dogsled driver

and expedition companion. "This position I have given him," Peary said, "because of his adaptability and fitness for his work; secondly, on account of his loyalty. He has shared all the physical hardships of my arctic work."

Peary, perhaps the most well-known of polar explorers, said he could not have reached the pole without Henson.

Writing of his experiences in the arctic vastness, Henson said in his book, "The Negro at the North Pole."

"As I stood there at the top of the world and thought of the hundreds of men who had lost their lives in the effort to reach it, I felt profoundly grateful that I, as the personal attendant of the commander, had the honor of representing my race in the historic achievement."

Henson's life story was almost as amazing as his final dash to the top of the world. He was born on a small farm in Charles County Md., Aug 8, 1866. His mother died when he was six and at the age of 11 he ran away to Washington to become a ship's cabin boy. In the meantime, he received his formal education—6 years of schooling—while living with his uncle in the nation's capital.

Signing up as a ship's cabin boy, Henson ultimately became a highly-skilled navigator. Later he quit the sea and went to work in Washington where he met the then Lt. Robert E. Peary.

Prior to meeting Peary, Henson had travelled around the world and had visited China.

Henson visited Nicaragua in Central America with Peary and was thereafter with the explorer on his 22 years of exploration in

Continued on page 8

Palmetto State Voters Ass'n. Inc. Preparing For 1956 Elections

Special To Palmetto Leader

Darlington, S. C. At a recent session of the Palmetto State voters Association, a lengthy discussion was had concerning preparations made by the organization to make its presence felt during the 1956 elections. Since the organization is non-partisan discussion was directed to both the Democratic and Republican parties. Some of the committee visualized the development of a bitter battle within the State democratic party between the reactionaries and the so called liberal elements of the party; while others felt that the Republican party seeking to gain strength in the State might make a strong bid for the Negro vote. The present policies of the Association is to increase the existing Affiliation with county units; to foster an ever increasing percentage of voter registration; to help educate the masses on how to properly exercise the right of suffrage; and to arouse the Negro electorate as to its great political potentialities. State Chairman W. J. Hunter said that every effort is being made to make the Association known and acceptable to the masses of the people as what we need is numbers and right now we are primarily interested in establishing permanent precinct units within the various affiliated counties. This takes a lot of work and constant effort to get these precinct units to actually regular meeting and become active in doing the job of increasing registration withing the precinct. The day when one or two Negroes can assume to hold a meeting and considered themselves representative of the masses is past said Hunter; on Election day we have got to have the great majority of the voters so alerted and interested that they will actually go to the polls and vote intelligently. This he concluded can only be accomplished by starting at the grass roots in the precincts.

ELKS GRAND RULER VISITS COAST

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (ANP). Elkdom turned out in force to greet Robert H. Johnson, grand exalted ruler of the Elks, who arrived here last week for an eight-day visit.

A police escort led Johnson and his wife to the Statler hotel. The local grand lodge committee has planned an agenda of sightseeing dinners, public receptions, visits to motion picture studios, press conferences.

A special parade and mass meeting has also been scheduled.

HARBISON CHOIR TO APPEAR AT MAYESVILLE, MARCH 20

The Westminister Fellowship of Fairfield Presbytery in presenting the Harbison Junior College at the Mayesville, South Carolina, Sunday March 20th at 4 o'clock; and the Johnson C. Smith University Choir at the Herman Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, S. C. at 5 o'clock p.m.

These choirs are being sponsored as a project for cultural and spiritual enrichment. Westminister Fellowship is the youth organization of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Other leaders of the organiza