

Miss McMahan Outlines Work and Study for December Days.

Miss Annie McMahan, Supervisor of Rural Schools, has issued the following circular letter to the teachers of Oconee:

Richland, S. C., Dec. 1, 1914.
Dear Fellow Teachers:

Now that the Christmas season is drawing near, we are confronted with the problem of arousing the Christmas spirit, the joy of loving and giving.

Tell the children Christmas stories; read poems aloud to them; let them learn poems and memory gems. If your school has a library you will find material for this study, and there are excellent selections in the children's readers and language books. Have the children learn the beautiful story of the birth of Christ as told in Luke 2:8-20. This is not extra work, but should form a part of reading and language lessons. Teach some Christmas song and let the children sing every day.

Simple gifts that will be appreciated by the parents can be made by the children; Christmas poems copied; some neat number work; correct spelling lessons, etc., may be made into booklets. The covers can be made of coarse, gray wrapping paper that you can get at any store. Sprays of holly, bells, stars or anything suggestive of Christmas may be drawn on them. If the children have no crayolas and drawing paper, get two or three boxes yourself and let the children use them. Twenty-five cents will cover the cost of crayon and paper. If you cannot get this material conveniently, write to me at once and I will get it for you. Some of you may be able to help the older children at the noon-hour. Work bags, laundry bags, newspaper bags, needle books, pin-cushions, match scratchers, whisk-broom holders, calendar backs and baskets are a few things that are easily made. There is no waste of time for this work, and it instills in the children the Christmas spirit and the joy of giving.

By all means decorate your school rooms. I have been impressed by the absence of decoration in the schools that are surrounded by the beauties of nature. Encourage the children to bring to school every day something that they have gathered on the way. Evergreens may be used for blackboard borders, and nothing is more cheerful than holly. You will be teaching the children a great lesson when you open their eyes to the beauties that surround them.

A meeting of the Teachers' Association has been called to meet at Walhalla on Saturday, December 5th. I hope that every teacher in the county can attend. Ask the trustee who lives nearest you to help you get to this meeting and come himself.

Very sincerely,
Your fellow-worker,
ANNIE McMAHAN.

Yeggmen Rob Safe at Duncan.

Spartanburg, Nov. 26.—The post office safe in the store of A. M. Smith, at Duncan, S. C., a station on the main line of the Southern Railway, ten miles west of Spartanburg, was robbed last night by yeggmen, who made a clean job and have gotten away with their loot, amounting to \$365 in stamps and money approximating \$235. Nitroglycerine was used, and though two distinct explosions were heard during the night by citizens of the place, the robbers were not disturbed in their operation and nothing was known of the robbery until this morning, when Postmaster Smith opened his place of business. The post office authorities were promptly notified and have had the co-operation of the authorities of both Spartanburg and Greenville counties during the day in their efforts to get a trace of the robbers.

At noon to-day two men, giving their names as Charles Brown and J. C. Ross, were arrested by Spartanburg officers near Duncan, and are being held in the local jail under suspicion. The officers believe they may be "spotters" for the men who did the job.

"Portland Ned," the famous yeggman, blew open a safe in the same post office several years ago and was convicted of the crime.

Some Big Foreign Business.

St. Louis, Nov. 28.—Bids for 1,700,000 flannel army shirts for British army soldiers were submitted by several St. Louis firms to-day. The contract will amount to more than \$2,000,000, it is thought.

An order for 7,000 sets of artillery harness, costing \$175,000, was given to a St. Louis manufacturer to-day.

Another firm announced to-night it had just shipped 43,000 suits of underwear for army use to Amsterdam and 12,000 blankets to Mexico.

The European War Day by Day.

Sultan Proclaims "Holy War."

Constantinople, Nov. 27.—Proclamation of a "Holy War," which first was announced about ten days ago, was published here to-day. It is signed by the Sultan and 28 Moslem priests, and calls upon every Moslem in the world to participate in a "holy war" against England, Russia and France.

Russians Officially Claim Advantage. London, Nov. 29.—Latest official Russian announcements still claim advantage in the fighting in Northern Poland, but deprecate exaggerated reports of their successes. Germany declares officially that the Russian attacks have been repulsed and that German counter-attacks have been successful.

The German Emperor has joined Field Marshal von Hindenburg in the east to offer his advice and to encourage his troops.

Enormous losses have been inflicted on the Germans, according to the Russian statement, but no mention is made of the capture of German divisions, so freely claimed by the Petrograd correspondent of London and Paris papers.

Germans Fight to Escape Trap. Some days must elapse before this battle, which promises to prove the most decisive of the war, is concluded. So far, all that is definitely known is that the German advance has been stopped. Some of the German troops have been partly or wholly surrounded, but they still are fighting stubbornly to break their way through the Russian lines, apparently to the northward, where they hope to join reinforcements from Thorn.

In the battle before Cracow the Russians claim decisive success. During the last week they took 30,000 prisoners in that region, which is taken in Petrograd to mean that Cracow will not bar the Russian advance in Silesia from the south.

Nip and Tuck in West. In the west the Germans, although making an occasional infantry attack, seem content at present to bombard the allied positions with somewhat lighter guns than they have been using. This may mean either that they are sending troops and artillery to the east or that they are preparing a new attack against the allies.

That the enterprise that failed in Flanders will not be repeated for the present seems probable, as the allies have been allowed to capture some points of vantage around Ypres, previously considered necessary to the German plan. There has been a minor and insignificant attack near Arras.

An interesting report from Field Marshal Sir John French, covering the period of the battle in Flanders and the days immediately preceding it, shows that this battle was brought about, first by the allies' attempts to outflank the Germans, who countered, and then by their plans to move to the northeast to Ghent and Bruges, which also failed. After this the German offensive began, with the French coast ports as the objective, but this movement, like those of the allies, met with failure.

Says German Losses Treble. Field Marshal French gives it as his opinion that the German losses have been thrice as great as those of the allies, and speaks optimistically of the future.

To Be Taken With Salt. London, Nov. 29.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent sends an official statement which warns the public to observe caution in accepting rumors of a crushing Russian victory.

The statement says the retreating Germans are offering desperate resistance and the battle has not been finished.

The statement was issued by the Russian headquarters staff and deals with various rumors circulating on the scope of an alleged Russian victory between the Vistula and the Warta rivers.

War Resume November 30. London, Nov. 30.—Germany acknowledges that the Russian northern army has penetrated into East Prussia to a distance of 15 miles southwest of Gumbinnon, which is about 20 miles west of the German border.

In Belgium, says the French official statement, it is the allies, and not the Germans, who are on the offensive.

These two points stood out in today's news from the battlefields of Europe. The German official statement says that strong Russian forces attempted surprise attacks on the fortifications of Darkehmen, in East Prussia, and that they were repulsed.

Semi-official information from Petrograd is that operations along the Prussian front are turning to the advantage of the Russians, and that the Germans are retiring in disorder.

Siege of Cracow Begun.

Meanwhile the great battle in Russian Poland, between the Vistula and Warta rivers, continues without definite result. The German war office states that the Russians were defeated in a battle south of the Vistula and that 4,500 men were captured.

Further south, in Galicia, the Russians are said to have reached Cracow and to have begun the siege of the city. An Italian correspondent at the front states that Cracow is now being bombarded by heavy Russian siege guns, and that one of the suburbs is in flames. The capture of this fortress has been one of the main objectives of Russia's campaign against Austria, on the theory that its fall, together with that of Przemyśl, now under siege, would mean Russian ascendancy in that part of Austria which lies to the north of the Carpathian mountains.

Military critics in the capitals of the allies, according to dispatches reaching London, are convinced that the German invasion of Russian Poland has suffered a check which only the most strenuous efforts of the German commanders can save from degenerating into disaster.

A news report from Petrograd sets forth that the Germans, apparently ignorant of the extent of the Russian opposition along the Vistula, or holding this opposition in contempt, threw heavy forces against the Russian center, leaving very thin lines of communication between their wings. This created a situation said to be without precedent in the history of military strategy.

In the meantime the resumption of the Russian offensive resulted in a wedge, dominated by Lodz, being thrust into the German center. If the Germans can hold their lines of communication with their wings intact, the invaders may be able to withdraw, in the view of British observers, without suffering disaster.

Germans on Defensive. According to the French official statement, the German forces in Belgium are on the defensive, and the allies have made progress "at certain points." Fighting continues in the Argonne, where, the French statements assert, German attacks were repulsed.

Opinions differ sharply as to the intentions of Germany concerning operations in the west. It is reported that Germany is about to embark on a new offensive movement; that the German line has been weakened perceptibly, and that a new German army is being rushed into Flanders. In view of these conflicting statements it is impossible to discern even the probabilities of the near future.

Prisoners Are Badly Frozen. Petrograd, Dec. 1.—The condition of German prisoners captured in the region of Lodz is said to resemble that of the French troops during Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. Many of them have frozen hands and feet.

Reports from the front are that reinforcements sent for the army of Gen. Mackensen near Lodz are taking up positions along the Vistula river, where the German resistance seems to have been least effective. The apparent purpose of this move is to hinder the Russian enveloping movement until the main German column is extricated from the line which runs from Strykow through Gziesz to Szadek.

Semi-official reports from Galicia indicate that the Russian advance along the foothills of the Carpathian mountains has reached a point due south of Cracow, thus surrounding the city from the northeast and south.

Germans Resume Drive. Berlin, Dec. 1.—The following official announcement was given out in Berlin to-day:

"In East Prussia and Southern Poland it was generally quiet yesterday. In Northern Poland, south of the Vistula, our war booty was increased still further as a result of the successes announced yesterday.

"The number of prisoners taken by us has been increased by about 9,500 men, and we have taken 19 more cannon. In addition, 26 machine guns and numerous ammunition carts fell into our hands."

Latest reports from Russian Poland given out in Berlin indicate that the Germans have resumed the execution of their plan to encompass the Russian right flank and to force it back on the center, at the same time cutting off the Russians' communication with Warsaw.

Austrians Retreat. Lemberg, Galicia, Dec. 1.—The energetic Russian advance is persistently pushing back the Austrians into Cracow. Information reaching Lemberg from a trustworthy source is to the effect that the Austrians are evacuating position after position, with very large losses.

It is stated that the Austrians' line of retreat is strewn so thickly with the dead that the Russians have not time to bury them. The cold is so severe that the bodies are frozen.

German officers are in supreme command at Cracow. They are placing machine guns, light artillery and wireless apparatus, it is reported, on the cathedral and other historic edifices, drawing the fire of the Russians to these buildings.

German Sorties Are Repulsed. Paris, Dec. 1.—The following official communication was issued by the

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER.

Methodists Get Rev. D. O. Spires as Pastor—Other Items.

Westminster, Dec. 1.—Special: Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Stonecypher spent Thanksgiving with relatives at Cannon, Ga.

The Westminster High School closed down from Wednesday until Monday, so the teachers had the privilege of eating Thanksgiving dinner with home folks.

Mrs. E. G. Poore and children are spending several days with relatives at Hartwell, Lavonia and Royston, Georgia.

Mises Hortense and Carmen Cross spent a few days last week in Lavonia, Ga., as guests of Miss Josephine Hajej.

Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Moon, of Comer, Ga., are visiting their daughter, Mrs. J. H. Stonecypher, and their son, Dr. S. C. Moon.

Mrs. O. K. Poore and children, of Belton, are visiting Mrs. Poore's mother, Mrs. Clarissa Dickson.

Miss Marie Lesly, of Abbeville, is spending some time with her aunt, Mrs. C. L. Foster.

Miss Kate Ellis, of Honea Path, arrived Monday. She has accepted a position as saleslady in the store of her uncle, J. W. McGee.

Born, unto Mr. and Mrs. Lester Mills, on Tuesday, December 1st, a son.

Miss Mary Whisonant, of Blacksburg, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Reeder.

Mrs. J. F. Geer and children, of Anderson, spent last week with Mrs. Geer's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Poore.

Dr. E. R. Gilbert is spending a few days in North Carolina on business.

Rev. M. M. Brooks, pastor of the Westminster Methodist church for the past year, has been transferred to Inman, in Spartanburg District, while Rev. D. O. Spires comes as pastor of the Westminster Methodist church.

Oakway Locals.

(Received too late for last week.)

Oakway, Nov. 23.—Special: The Oakway High School opened Monday, November 2, under most favorable conditions. The following teachers are in charge: J. M. Truluck, Miss Vera White, Misses Cordelia and Ila Bearden.

Delightful in every feature was the surprise party given by Mrs. S. B. King on last Thursday evening in honor of her son Chester. An elegant dinner, in courses, was served. The greater part of the evening was devoted to music and ruck, after which the cutting of a fortune cake afforded much amusement. Those present were Misses Nellie Cole, Genora Tompkins, Irene Gibson, Vera White, Cordelia and Ila Bearden, Messrs. J. M. Truluck, Lesly King, Paul Martin, Robert Tompkins, Robert Williams and Chester King.

Miss Ethel Eubanks, who is teaching at Fairview, will spend Thanksgiving at home.

Winfred Bearden, of Camden, is expected to spend Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bearden.

Mr. and Mrs. Cephus Myers, of Danielsville, Ga., are visiting relatives in this community.

Walter Meares and Lonzo Martin, of Clemson College, are expected home for Thanksgiving.

Miss Ila Bearden visited friends in Greenwood recently.

A most interesting exhibition was given Saturday morning by Profs. Burgess and Watkins, of Clemson, demonstrating the cream separator. It is hoped that a creamery will be established here before very long. This section appears to be a most promising place for such, and people seem to be very deeply enthused. A day will be arranged for before long, for the benefit of the school children and patrons, to have the pleasure of seeing this cream separation work and to see if some method of beginning a creamery might be obtained.

Smyrna Incident is Closed.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The commander of the port of Smyrna lays all the responsibility for the recent shots fired from Turkish forts upon the cruiser Tennessee's launch while entering the harbor to the "indifference of the launch's helmsman," who, it is claimed, did not heed the warnings of the presence of mines. This is the report of Ambassador Morgenthau on the matter. Secretary Bryan said the incident is now closed.

war office at 11 o'clock to-night:

"In Belgium the German infantry has essayed, without success, a sortie against those trenches to the south of Bixchoote between Bethune and Lens. After a rather brisk affair we captured the chateau and the park of Vermeilles (south of the Lys river)."

"In the Argonne we have advanced appreciably in the wood of Lagurria. On the rest of the front there is nothing to report."

The official communication given out in the afternoon says that yesterday the enemy showed considerable activity north of Arras. In Belgium there was a lively exchange of artillery, but no infantry attacks.

Telegraphing from Amsterdam, the correspondent of the Central News says the German front before Dixmude has begun a general retirement.

159TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

(Continued from First Page.)

R. S. Truesdale, of Trinity church, Charleston, invited the next session of the South Carolina Conference to begin its new history in that original cradle of South Carolina Methodism. This invitation was also unanimously accepted.

"Conference Sunday."

Sumter, Nov. 29.—There always seems to be a more profound solemnity about the services of conference Sunday than is produced by any other day. Many of the Methodist preachers have trodden a thorny path of self-denial, of closest economy, of most intense spiritual struggle, and they have been all looking forward to the worship and services of this day. Each one longs for some signal expression of the Divine love.

Rev. P. S. Beasley conducted the love feast this morning at Trinity church. This unique service is rarely held elsewhere than at conference. One after another the brethren related incidents of their personal experience in the Christian life and warfare.

The fact that this is the last love-feast of the old conference caused the atmosphere to be charged with a tender pathos. But the fact of division has been accepted with that calm philosophy of Christian resignation, which usually marks the life of the Methodist preacher.

The Bishop Preaches.

At 10:45 Bishop Denny entered the pulpit, the love-feast adjourned, and the morning service was introduced with that well known hymn, "O Happy Day." The grand piano and the violin sweetly sounded the chords and a mighty volume of song, from more than 1,000 throats, went swelling up toward heaven. The bishop's theme was "Sowing and Reaping." (Gal. 6:7).

"I used to say that 'I have a soul.' But I have long since ceased to use that expression, because it is not true! I have learned that I must not confuse the terms 'I' and 'soul.' I 'have' a body; but I 'am' a soul. To body belong extension and impenetrability, but to the soul belongs consciousness. The soul is a unity with multiplied powers.

"We are free, whatever some folk may say. We are morally free. Our word 'whatsoever' indicates that freedom. You and I are to select the seed which we sow. We may select the seed of corruption, or of incorruption, and the harvest will be in harmony with the seed of our selection. Man has never made anything. He has simply used that which he found already made. We cannot make the seed. Man may combine the elements of corn and form it into the shape of a grain of corn. But he cannot make it grow. The moral quality of an act cannot be altered by the changing of a word."

The bishop simply and forcefully illustrated this truth. "Confiscation—stealing." "Diplomacy—lying." "Bridg whist for a prize—gambling." "We cannot change the moral quality of an act by juggling with the dictionary. Common divorce—legalized adultery. The Legislature may legalize that awful sin, but they cannot moralize it. We are not to determine whether we will sow. We are sowing every day. And there are no casualties which can affect the harvest. Neither drought nor flood can hinder its development.

"Some men say that the pardon of God removes all the disabilities and consequences of sin. But that is not so. A man gets on a debauch and in a brawl, loses an eye. He repents and God pardons him. Does divine pardon restore the lost eye? No. I do not think that even Christian Science undertakes that.

Last Day of Conference.

Sumter, Nov. 30.—The South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as it has existed for 129 years, concluded its last session here this afternoon.

There was little business to transact. The several committees made reports and new committees for the two conferences were named.

J. Fuller Lyon was elected treasurer of the Upper South Carolina Conference and Henry P. Williams, of Charleston, was elected treasurer for the South Carolina Conference.

Rev. E. O. Watson continues as secretary of the South Carolina conference and Rev. P. B. Wells was elected temporary secretary of the Upper Conference.

Rev. Nettles Located.

A matter which excited considerable interest was a motion by Rev. S. A. Best and others to locate Rev. S. A. Nettles, on the ground of unacceptability. Rev. S. F. Beatty and Rev. P. F. Kilgo and others defended Mr. Nettles, while Revs. A. H. Best, J. S. Harley and J. C. Chandler supported the motion for location. The motion prevailed and Mr. Nettles is no longer a member of the conference.

Appointments Are Made.

Below we give the appointments of presiding elders for each district and those of a number of the preachers well known in this section of the State:

Upper South Carolina Conference.

Anderson District—T. C. O'Dell, presiding elder, Anderson (St. John), J. W. Speake; Orrville and Toxaway, W. T. Belvin; Bethel, S. W. Daner, Antreville, B. M. Robertson; Calhoun Falls, George Gary-Lee; Clemson, J. M. Stearnam; Central, Elzie Myers; Honea Path, S. T. Blackman; Lowndesville, J. C. Chandler; McCormick, J. F. Anderson; Pelzer, J. H. Danner; Pendleton, W. M. Owings; Seneca Circuit, N. G. Ballenger; Starr, J. L. Singleton; Townville, R. H. Lupo; Walhalla, J. L. Stokes; Walhalla Circuit, H. A. Whitten; Westminster, D. O. Spires; Williamson and Belton, S. H. Booth; G. T. Harmon, supernumerary; W. S. Martin, supernumerary.

Cokesbury District—W. P. Meadors, presiding elder, Greenwood Circuit, G. F. Clarkson; Lander College, John O. Willson, president; assistant Sunday School editor, L. F. Beatty.

Columbia District—J. W. Kilgore, presiding elder, Aiken and Williston, A. E. Driggers; Green Street (Columbia), W. W. Kellar; Upper Richland, J. K. Inabinet; Columbia College, W. W. Daniel, president; Epworth Orphanage, W. B. Wharton, superintendent.

Greenville District—P. E. Kilgore, presiding elder, Easley, J. D. Holler; Greenville (Buncombe Street), M. L. Carlisle; Saint Paul's, A. E. Holler, (junior to be supplied); South Greenville, P. R. Kilgore, P. C., and A. M. Doggett, supply, junior preacher; Liberty, J. W. Elkins; Pickens, L. E. Wiggins; Pickens Circuit, L. W. Johnson; Piedmont, O. M. Abney; South Easley, W. L. Mullikin, supply; Conference secretary of education, J. R. T. Major.

Rock Hill District—R. L. Holroyd, presiding elder, Blacksburg, H. C. Mounson; Blackstock, W. M. Hardin; Chester Circuit, W. T. Duncan; Rock Hill Circuit, J. I. Spinks; Rock Hill (St. John's and W. Main Street), P. B. Wells; W. H. Polk, junior preacher; Missionary to Korea, L. Porter Anderson.

Spartanburg District—R. E. Stackhouse, presiding elder, Belmont, W. P. Meadors, Jr.; Carlisle, W. B. Duncan, Jr.; Cherokee, A. H. Best; Inman, M. M. Brooks; Spartanburg (Saxon and Grace), J. L. Daniel; South Union, J. W. Lewis; Saxon and Textile Institute, J. H. Brown, P. C., and field agent; Textile Industrial Institute, D. E. Camak, president; Superintendent Anti-Saloon League, J. L. Harley; Commissioner of Education, W. J. Herbert.

South Carolina Conference.

Charleston District—J. W. Daniel, presiding elder, Black Swamp, W. H. Aral; Charleston (Trinity), D. M. McLeod, S. A. Weber, supernumerary; Ehrhardt, B. J. Guess.

Florence District—W. A. Massabeau, presiding elder, Cheraw, G. T. Harmon, Jr.; Jefferson, J. A. White; Timmonsville and Pisgah, J. H. Graves, Conference Secretary of Education, Peter Stokes.

Kingstree District—H. B. Browne, presiding elder, Georgetown (Duncan Memorial), H. J. Cauthen; Jordan, J. C. Burnett; Rome, Philip A. Murray.

Marion District—R. H. Jones, presiding elder, Blenheim, J. S. Beasley; Centenary, R. R. Doyle; Clio, A. D. Betts; Dillon, A. J. Cauthen; Loris, H. L. Singleton, supernumerary; Mullins, E. S. Jones; Sunday School Field Secretary, W. C. Owen; Editor Southern Christian Advocate, W. C. Kirkland.

Orangeburg District—M. L. Banks, presiding elder, Bamberg and Bamberg Mills, E. O. Watson; Olar, Achille Sassard.

Sumter District—H. W. Bays, presiding elder, Camden, C. B. Smith; Elioree, J. L. Mullinix; Oswego, J. P. Inabinet; Pinewood, R. M. DuBose; Richland, W. S. Myers; St. John and Rembert, J. P. Attaway. Transferred, J. B. Mahaffey, to Tennessee Conference.

JAMES W. HARRISON, B. S.,
Mechanical and Electrical
ENGINEER,
(Superintendent Walhalla
Lighting Plant.)
Electrical and Plumbing
Contractor,
Phone No. 43, Walhalla, S. C.
All Work Guaranteed Strictly
First Class and According to In-
surance Rules.

Roofing - Repairing.

Kurfees Paints and Oil.
Gutter and Repair Work.
D. E. GOOD,
TINNER - WALHALLA, S. C.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS.

All persons indebted to the Estate of S. P. Barron, deceased, are hereby notified to make payment to the undersigned, and all persons having claims against said Estate will present the same duly attested within the time prescribed by law or be barred.

W. H. BARRON,
Administrator of the Estate of S. P. Barron, Deceased.
Nov. 11, 1914. 45-48

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND DISCHARGE.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make application to V. F. Martin, Judge of Probate for Oconee County, in the State of South Carolina, at his office at Walhalla Court House, on Saturday, the 12th day of December, 1914, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, or as soon thereafter as said application can be heard, for leave to make final settlement of the estate of S. P. Barron, deceased, and obtain final discharge as Administrator of said estate.

W. H. BARRON,
Administrator of the Estate of S. P. Barron, Deceased.
Nov. 11, 1914. 45-48