

THE MONITOR

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America, Nebraska and the West

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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The Lincoln Annual Conference to Meet

Clerical and Lay Deputations From
Five States Will Attend Fifteenth
Annual Session.

BISHOP STUNTZ WILL PRESIDE

Many Influential Religious Leaders
Members of Conference. Sessions
at Grove M. E. Church.

The fifteenth annual session of the Lincoln Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church will be formally and officially opened at the Grove Methodist Episcopal Church, Twenty-second and Seward streets, at 10 o'clock next Wednesday morning by the Rt. Rev. Homer C. Stuntz, D.D., who will preside at all sessions.

The membership of this conference includes the Colored work in five states, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming. Clerical and lay deputies to the number of one hundred are expected to be in attendance. This will bring to the city some of the ablest religious leaders and educators in the country.

The Rev. G. G. Logan, pastor of Grove Methodist Episcopal Church, and his congregation have been planning for several weeks to entertain the conference.

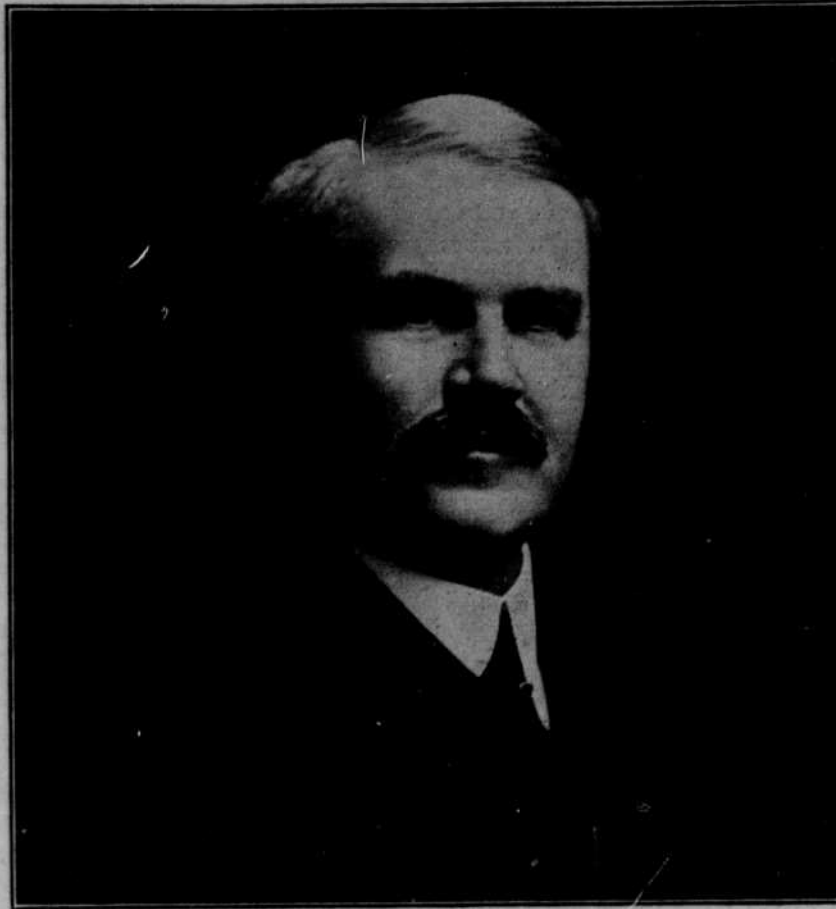
While the conference does not formally open until Wednesday morning, as a matter of fact it practically opens at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, March 25 with a sermon by the Rev. Dr. J. C. Sherrill, of New Orleans, Secretary of the Foreign Missionary Society, and one of the most eloquent men in the denomination. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the Rev. Dr. Titus Lowe, pastor of the First Methodist Church of this city, will be the speaker; and at 8 p. m. the Rev. Dr. R. E. Jones, of New Orleans, editor of The Southwestern Christian Advocate, will preach.

Monday there is to be a sunrise prayer meeting at 6 a. m., and at 8 o'clock at night the Rev. Dr. Sherrill, who was a missionary in Africa for many years, will speak on a subject for which he is well qualified, "Twelve Years in the Heart of Africa."

Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock the examination of candidates for the ministry will be held. This will be followed at noon by an informal reception to ministers and visiting delegates. At 8 p. m. the Rev. Dr. E. D. Hull, pastor of Hanscom Park Methodist Church, will deliver a lecture on "The Boy," for which there will be an admission fee of fifteen cents for the benefit of the Church.

Wednesday's program begins with the examination of candidates for the ministry at 10 o'clock, followed by evangelistic services and sermon at 3 p. m. In the evening at 8 o'clock will be one of the most interesting sessions of the conference, being devoted to the work of the Freedmen's Aid Society and the Board of Religious

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THE RT. REV. HOMER C. STUNTZ, D.D.

Who Presides at Annual Conference at Grove Methodist Church March 28 to April 1.

Justice In South Carolina

(By James Weldon Johnson in New York Age)

The following despatch clipped from the Columbia State is self-explanatory:

Special to The State.

Abbeville, Feb. 27.—Court of general sessions convened here Monday with Judge Puerifoy presiding. The grand jury failed to find a true bill against the eight men charged with lynching the Negro, Anthony Crawford, last October. Also the 18 men charged with riot on the streets of Abbeville. The men were dismissed. C. B. Thomas, charged with murder, was found not guilty. Mr. Thomas shot and killed R. C. Fields, a white tenant on his farm. The shooting occurred about two years ago. Thomas claimed in self-defense.

The readers of The Age are, no doubt, familiar with the Crawford case. Anthony Crawford was a prosperous Colored farmer near Abbeville, S.C., a man who had accumulated some \$25,000 worth of property. He went into town one day to sell some cotton or cotton seed and got into a dispute with the merchant over the price. Hard words were passed and the roughneck element hearing that Crawford had "insulted a white man" started out to punish him for his offense. Crawford retreated into a cotton gin, picked up a club, and declared he would let the first man that came through the door have it; and he did. The mob then seized the Colored man, beat him almost to death, stamped his features into a jelly, put a rope around his neck and dragged him through the streets, and finally

strung him up and filled his body with two or three hundred bullets. These mad men then decided to go out to Crawford's place and clean up his whole family, but later compromised on serving notice upon them to leave the state within fifteen days. The whole occurrence took place in broad daylight and in a small community where everybody knows everybody else.

If the sheer brutality and blood-thirst of a lynching mob was ever shown it was shown in the case of Anthony Crawford. Here was a man, not an ignorant, depraved "nigger" charged with a terrible crime, but a well-to-do farmer, a creditable citizen of the county and state, whose only crime was that of having the independence and self-respect which naturally belonged to a man such as he was. And a man like this was lynched for passing the lie to a white man!

When this crime was committed, the better white element of Abbeville and the Governor of South Carolina declared that the guilty persons would be sought out and punished. The above despatch shows what that declaration amounted to. The guilty men were not only not convicted, they were not even indicted. And they were not only not indicted for murder, they were not indicted even for rioting on the streets.

Members of the race sometimes suffer from a delusion. A Colored man in a Southern community, by being sober, honest, industrious and intelli-

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Sidelights On Alexander Dumas

Interesting Facts Concerning Negro
Novelist Furnished Monitor
Representative.

MR. GEORGE WELLS PARKER

Writes of Instructive Interview With
Rudolph L. Desdunes, an Author
of Note Now Omaha Resident.

Next greatest to the gift of being a scholar is the gift of being able to appreciate one. It was the delightful pleasure of one of The Monitor staff to call upon Hon. R. L. Desdunes, of New Orleans, who has recently come to Omaha to make his home among us. The evening was Sunday a week ago, always an ideal time for chat and converse upon the higher things of life. Mr. Desdunes already had one visitor in the person of an accomplished young woman of our race, Miss Ruth Seay, and to her he was talking of Alexander Dumas, the great French novelist. No topic, perhaps, could have inspired more interest. I apologized for taking out paper and pencil, not only that I wished to preserve the interview for my own use, but because I wanted to let The Monitor readers know of them too. Anything that helps us to better love our race, to inspire us with greater pride and more fervent hope, must always be worth while.

"The reason why Dumas will always be a miracle to Frenchmen," said Mr. Desdunes, "is because he was born without the means of procuring an education. He was truly an example of pure genius. His mother was a widow and both of them were hated by Napoleon. The reason for this hatred I have never been able to learn. His father, the elder Dumas, had become brigadier-general under Napoleon, and was greatly honored. Why actual dislike became the heritage of widow and son after the death of the general has always remained a secret."

"Early in life Dumas felt the call of the muses. He had the ambition and, I might say, the temerity, to ask for a place among the French Immortals while yet a young man and was refused. Years later the Immortals asked Dumas to become one of them and his reply was characteristic of him. 'When I needed the Academy, the Academy did not need me: now the Academy needs me and I do not need the Academy.' Dumas belonged to the great family of De Pellitierre through his father, and his reason for changing his name to Dumas is noteworthy. He wished to become a soldier of the revolutionary party and when he consulted his noble parent, he was told that if he joined with the revolutionists he could not bear the name of De Pellitierre. 'Then I will take the name of my mother,' replied the son. Thus the name of Dumas, which belonged to the black skinned mother of France's greatest novel-

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