

General Race News

VOTE DOWN BILL FOR COLORED BISHOPS

Philadelphia, Pa., March 31.—By a vote of 157 to 69 the Philadelphia Conference of the M. E. church, March 18, defeated the amendment to the organic law of the denomination, paving the way for the election of Negro bishops.

The amendment, known as the "Bishops for Races and Languages" proposal, has already been adopted by a number of white conferences, as well as all Colored ones that have met so far this year. It is expected that the Washington Conference at its session in Richmond, Va., and the Delaware Conference, which meets in this city this week, will vote for its ratification.

The discussion at the Philadelphia Conference was a long and animated one. "Do we draw the color line?" asked the Rev. Dr. Frank F. Parkin, in voicing his opposition. "Yes, we do draw the color line. We want no 'Jim Crow' bishop, a term that has frequently been used in such discussions as this in the last few years.

"I am a friend of the Colored man, but we cannot deny or conceal that racial prejudice exists. We know that there is no possibility of a Colored man's being elected a bishop by our General Conference, nor of a Colored bishop presiding over the deliberations of our own conference. I say, let's stop playing the hypocrite, let's stop playing double and tell our Colored brethren the truth. If there comes a day when we can find a Colored man big and broad enough to become the equal of a white man, then let's have a Colored bishop, but not until then." He also said that the time must come when the Colored churches must form an organization of their own.

"We are satisfied with white supervision," said the Rev. George H. Bickey, "and we assume that the Colored people are also satisfied with it. But just as we have racial ambitions and pride, so has the Colored man. I am

in favor of waiting until a man of sufficient calibre to lead his race is found, and then making him a leader of his own kind." The Revs. David Lord, Cornelius Hudson and Mr. Bickey were among those who favored the proposed amendment as a step towards church democracy.

KILL JIM CROW BILL IN KENTUCKY HOUSE

Louisville, Ky., March 31.—The legislature adjourned, and the infamous Knight Separate Car Bill died in committee of the House. The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 18 to 12, and it was feared that the House would also pass it.

Strong opposition was developed by two of Louisville's strongest white papers, the Courier-Journal and the Evening Post. The mayor spoke against the bill but a number of the commercial organizations favored it.

NEW CITY COUNCILMAN BEGINS OFFICIAL DUTY

Cambridge, Md., March 31.—H. M. St. Clair, who was elected to the City Council from the Second Ward to succeed the late Nehemiah Henry, has assumed his duties. He served in the same body a few years ago.

He is well known in Maryland, being grand master of exchequer for the Knights of Pythias.

Maryland has two other Colored Councilmen, Harry S. Cummings, of Baltimore, and J. Albert Adams, of Annapolis.

FAITHFUL EMPLOYEE

Birmingham, Ala., March 31.—Heading the list of 146 employes of the Birmingham and Mobile division of the Southern Railway, personally presented medals for loyalty by President Fairfax Harrison March 22 was Taylor Parkman, Colored, hammerman in the Selma shops. His service dates from 1858, when as a slave he was owned by the Alabama and Tennessee River Company.

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