

# The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

"Dedicated to the promotion of the cultural, social and spiritual life of a great people."

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**EDITORIALS**

The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

## Apostle of Freedom

By Effie Lockhart Clark

Story of Richard Allen  
"PART IV"

Our job in the world today is to destroy the myth of the "great" man: the giant of David's day, Pharaoh's army of Moses' day, Methodist bigotry of Allen's day and A.M.E. bigotry of today. Last but not least it is our duty to wipe out the myth of white supremacy which still shackles so many of our people—even 90 years after the Emancipation Proclamation which outlawed chattel slavery. It is good to see the laymen of our church at work today to tear down the last vestige of slavery and pave the way for a release of new energy. Salvation or freedom of the human mind and the human spirit.

All of these things are related. They dovetail each other. If the human race is to survive, we cannot enslave men's bodies, minds, nor spirits. Every man must have a chance to grow equal to his God-given endowments. Religion cannot grow and flourish in an organization which is overridden with class and caste discrimination—permitting those at the top to abuse their high offices at the expense of the genius of their success; that genius is the average layman. It is the expenditure of the layman's energies that hold the church together. On the other hand, we cannot continue using divisive tactics if we are to enter the realm of wider and greater freedoms. We must stop hating ourselves and realize that all men are brothers. Color is only a matter of pigmentation. It has nothing to do with superiority or inferiority of achievement. It is just as irrelevant to success as the size of a person or organization. And it is just as superficial.

Let us search ourselves daily to see if we are grasping the core of the thing for which we are working. Are we apostles of freedom and goodwill? Are we shouldering our responsibilities in the spirit of Allennites, in the spirit of all men who are dedicated to the good of their fellows?

THE END



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## N. Missouri Annual Conf.

Rev. H. W. Bletson

The North Missouri Annual Conference opened in Grant Chapel A.M.E., Moberly, Mo., Wednesday, October 11, 1950 with Bishop D. Ormonde Walker presiding.

The church made history at this session when it elected for the first time in its history a layman for the chairman of the finance committee. Mr. Joseph T. Ansell of Macon, Mo., was elected chairman and served with much credit to all. Everything was conducted efficiently and harmoniously, proving that Christian laymen can and will serve the church effectively when given an opportunity.

Bishop Walker praised the courts of our land generously for their just dealing with the rights of the people. He further stated that the great state of Missouri could not afford to practice segregation because of race, color or origin, and that Negroes should be integrated into all phases of life and endeavor for good. Other states would do well to follow this noble example for the good of the people everywhere in the world, he said.

Many church leaders visited the conference among whom were: Rev. Fred A. Hughes, editor of the Western Christian Recorder, Rev. I. H. Hunt, presiding elder of the San Francisco district of the California Conference, Rev. S. M. Pointer, pastor of Trinity A.M.E., Kansas City, Kansas, Rev. M. R. Dixon, pastor of St. Paul, St. Louis, Missouri, and Rev. Stephens.

Rev. A. G. Thurman is the presiding elder of the St. Joseph-Moberly district and Rev. J. L. Owens is the presiding elder of the Columbia-Hannibal district.

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## So. Calif. Conf. Laymen In 1st Conference

The 26th session of the Southern California annual conference, hailed by many as the greatest in the history of the A.M.E., is now history.

The meeting opened at the Bethel A.M.E.; the Rt. Rev. D. Ormonde Walker, flanked by their graces, Rt. Rev. W. R. Wilkes, Cary A. Gibbs, General Officers Rev. J. S. Brookens and Rev. Fred A. Hughes called the conference to order.

The organization of the conference took place with speed seldom if ever witnessed before. In the absence of the Bishop's secretary, Mrs. Evonne Roberts, Mrs. Artisha Jordan served the Bishop efficiently.

At 1 o'clock the Bishop presented the Rev. Therion Cobb, pastor of Riverside, to deliver the annual sermon. This brilliant young doctor and orator set the conference on fire and had them breathing with gasps of ohs and ahs! It was now apparent to all that youth had the day. Cobb was followed the next day by that young Demosthenes from Berkeley, the Rev. Alvia Shaw, who in turn passed the flame to that logician and scholar, Rev. H. Solomon Hill of Oakland.

Never in our history in California have we had such preaching. The thrill is heightened because of their scholarly preparation and deep spiritual power.

In the language of the late Major, R. R. Wright, "Tell them we African Methodists in California are rising."

## Mo. Supreme Court Upheld Ruling

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ANP) The state supreme court last week upheld a ruling by a lower bench that Negroes must be admitted to white schools for courses not offered in Negro schools.

The ruling was handed down in the case of Wesley H. and Wilburt Brewton, brothers, who sued the St. Louis board of education to admit them to Hadley Technical High school for a course in aero-mechanics. The youths had stated that the course was not offered at Wahsington Tech for Ne-

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C. R. MANNING

## Minister Praises Laymen's Support

The little church of 76 members in Rosedale, Kansas City, Kansas is numbered among those giving good account of its stewardship under the efficient leadership of the Rev. C. R. Manning, pastor. He pledges his loyalty and expresses gratitude to the members and friends, including Sunrise Baptist church for their loyal support and especially to Bishop Walker for returning him as pastor.

Rev. Mr. Manning cites a financial program for the year of near \$3,000 raised with less than half of the membership active. The greater portion of the funds were used for badly needed repair of the church. He is anxious for the public to know that New Bethel at Graystone Heights is doing a great work and that it is only through faith in God and a determination to give service to Christ and His church.

## Missouri Conference Gets New President

Attorney F. L. Martin of St. Louis, Mo., was elected president of the Missouri Conference at the annual meeting held in St. Louis November 29. President Martin told the members that he expects to have 1,000 members soon.

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