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Bishop Clayborn Outlines Plans for Class A Colleges

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(ANP)— Bishop J. H. Clayborn of the AME church last week took another blast at AME operated schools of higher learning. He referred to many of the schools as being "excess baggage" which the church should unload because there is no hope for them ever becoming accredited.

Most of the 10 AME schools drew almost all their financial support from taxation from church congregations, he said. But, he added, the supporters are getting too little in return for what they give. Among other things, Bishop Clayborn said:

"In view of our national crisis, economic demands and keen competition in our academic circles, we believe that it is high time to appeal to our better thinking people, educators, leaders in the realm of education to re-think, revamp our entire present system of education.

"A committee should study our program, much of which is antiquated, outlived, outmoded, and recommend the merging of our 10 schools into say four or five standard four year 'A' colleges . . .

"If we expect continued loyalty, cooperation, guidance, and financial assistance from the people, we must better equip for maintenance, buildings, modern laboratories, libraries, more highly trained teaching personnel . . .

"In brief, we must not expect our children to go to college, to be taught by professors, whose degrees and experience place them below the educational level, just because they happen to be children of friends of some bishop or presiding elder."

In discussing connectional schools, Bishop Clayborn pointed out that the AME Church at present did not have any connectional educational institutions. We have some schools owned by the AME Church but they are not operated connectionally, he added.

As a means of connectionalizing the churches and preparing a connectional financial budget, Bishop Clayborn suggested the following plan:

"We have 1,066,000 members . . . Let the AME Church, through its pastors, stewards, class leaders college annually \$1,500,000 earmarked specifically for education . . . That would give us a Connectional budget where as at present we do not have a common amount per capita, per annum for education. . ."

"Funds received in this manner would allow the church to operate four or five class 'A' schools, the Bishop said.

Bishop Clayborn concluded by appealing to the AME Church to be big enough at its forthcoming General conference to stop traveling down a blind alley, and gear its schools to meet present day demands.

AME Ministers' Wives Alliance Entertains

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The residence of Mrs. Virginia Goff, 359 Rowland Avenue, Kansas City, Kas., was the scene of the annual holiday meeting of the AME Ministers' Wives Alliance of Greater Kansas City and vicinity. Mrs. Helen K. Newton, Mrs. Mary Kidd and Mrs. Goff were co-hostesses. Mrs. Bernie Childress directed the singing of carols and hymns appropriate for the season. After



BISHOP J. H. CLAYBORN

A Challenge

Let the Church search her own soul in penitence and confession. Let the Church make sure that her message rings with the reality of the living Christ.

Let the Church lead the world in thinking in terms of humanity—world-wide humanity for which Christ died.

Let the Church love again in the spirit of the Cross.

Above all else, let the Church have faith in its unfailing resources in Christ, and confidence in its glorious mission to save the world . . .

Town & Country.



ETTA MOTEN

Miss Etta Moten To Return Feb. 27

Miss Etta Moten, the nationally known radio, stage and screen artist, is scheduled to return to the states Feb. 27.

Miss Moten was invited by the Liberian government to sing during the week of celebrations incident to the inauguration of President William V. S. Tubman of Liberia, Jan. 4. Miss Moten was accompanied to Liberia by her husband, Mr. Claude Burnett, and her accompanist, Mr. George Pierson Jr.

Mr. Barnett has returned to his home in Chicago. Miss Moten and Mr. Pierson will give seven recitals in France, Germany and England before returning home.

Miss Moten is the daughter of Presiding Elder and Mrs. F. F. Moten of 2531 Michigan Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

several games, the hostesses served dinner to the members and their husbands, who were guests.

A gift exchange was a special feature.

Mrs. Myrtle L. Martin is president of the alliance.

Douglass Hospital Acknowledges Gift

Douglass Hospital received a Christmas gift from the lay people and friends of the fifth Episcopal district of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, during the month of December. Mr. George "Farmer" Jones, president of the Nebraska AME Conference Laymen's League transferred the initial gift of one hundred ten dollars (\$110.00) in the lobby of the Douglass State Bank. Mr. Jones read the following message during his presentation: "We have called you here to transfer a small gift fund deposited in this bank by the laymen of the district. It is to be used for the operations of the fine, service rendering institution known as Douglass Hospital. Although this number one gift fund has a small beginning; it is our hope that it carries the seeds of the season's spirit. We look forward to a continuance of this practice and hope you will make its benefits so outstanding; it will grow with interest and develop into a great mercy service. The laymen solicit the helpful appreciation of humanity and the inspirational benediction of God. We dedicate this act to the unparalleled loyalty of the African Methodist Laymen to this church.

Signed: The Committee

Clarence Owens, president of the Southwest Mo. Conference League; J. J. Parks; Henry H. Glass, Secretary of the District Organization; and George Jones, president of the fifth district lay organization.

Since the initial gift was received, supplemental gifts of forty-six dollars, twenty cents (\$46.20) have been added to the initial sum. Total amount received \$156.20. The interest of the lay people is acknowledged and appreciated by the staff of the hospital. EUGENE H. KELLY, JR.

Stamp Honors Founder of AME Church

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A commemorative stamp honoring Richard Allen, the founder of the AME church, the oldest Negro organization in America, was issued last week.

Designed by the General Conference Commission of the church, the seal heralds the 1952 conference to be held in Chicago, May 7-21.

Allen, a free man of color, founded the AME church in Philadelphia in 1783 after a group of Negro worshipers had been ejected from a white Methodist church where they went to worship. The original church was located at Six and Lombard streets in Philadelphia, the site of the present edifice, Mother Bethel AME church.

In honoring Allen with the commemorative seal, known as the "Richard Allen Stamp," Bishop D. Ward Nichols, chairman of the General Conference Commission, stated that the seals would be distributed throughout the entire church connection.

The project will be handled by the commission and the office of Dr. A. S. Jackson, chairman of the finance department of the AME church, Washington, D. C.

Christian Living require constant spiritual refreshment from our heavenly Father in order that we might effectively give forth ourselves to our fellowmen.

AME General Conference to Be Held in Chicago's Coliseum

25,000 Delegates, Visitors Expected

CHICAGO —(ANP)—Chicago's huge Coliseum will be the site of the 1952 General Conference of the AME Church which will meet May 7-21.

Seating capacity of the Coliseum is around 12,000. Exclusive use of the Auditorium and adjacent meeting rooms has been obtained by the church, and more than 25,000 delegates and visitors are expected to attend.

The 1952 General Conference will mark the 34th Quadrennium of the church which was founded in 1783 by Bishop Richard Allen. A special seal commemorating the founder and heralding the conference has been issued by a church commission.

Besides Bishop D. Ward Nichols, Chairman of the General Conference Commission and Bishop George W. Baber, Host Bishop. Other members of the General Conference Commission are: Bishop Frank Madison Reid, Bishop A. J. Allen, Bishop J. H. Clayborn, Bishop J. A. Gregg and Bishop W. A. Fountain, (Ex-officio).

Reverends Sheley Lynem, Lexington, Ky.; Frank R. Veal, Charleston, S. C., E. J. Davis, Atlanta, Roscoe Henderson, Philadelphia; R. E. Brogdon, Charleston, S. C., Wayman Ward, Chicago, W. F. Ball, Miami, Fla.; G. N. Davis, NYC; Russell S. Brown, St. Louis, (Ex-officio).

Laymen serving on the Commission are: Dr. R. W. Mance, Columbia, S. C., Dr. J. L. Leach, Flint, Mich., Dr. R. W. Tucker, Bogalusa, La., Dr. H. H. Rhinehart, Warren, Ark., Dr. A. S. Jackson, Washington, D. C., Financial Secretary.

Wright Voted To. So. America

CINCINNATI, Ohio.—At a special session of the Council of Bishops of the AME church held here on January 3, it was voted to transfer Bishop R. R. Wright to the 16th Episcopal district of the church which includes the West Indies and South America, it was learned this week.

The bishops voted at a meeting at the Brown Chapel AME church to transfer Bishop Wright out of the country and to bring Bishop William R. Wilkes to the 12th district which embraces Arkansas and Oklahoma over which Bishop Wright has been presiding.

Bishop John A. Gregg, president of the council, presided over the special session held here. Bishop S. L. Greene of Georgia served as secretary.

Bishops participating in the Cincinnati meeting were: Bishops W. A. Fountain Sr., R. C. Ransom, R. R. Wright, D. Ward Nichols, Frank M. Reid, A. J. Allen, G. W. Baber, John H. Clayborn; L. H. Hemmingway, D. O. Walker, I. H. Bonner, W. R. Wilkes, and by proxy, Bishops M. H. Davis, Noah W. Williams, Joseph Gomez and C. A. Gibbs.

The teachings of Jesus are better understood today by Christian living.

The parables of Jesus unfold daily in the life of Christians.

Christian living causes us to become christian helpers, we are blessed by our heavenly Father thereby we bless and help others.



POWERS G. PORTER, lay delegate from Nebraska Conference, was named vice chairman of the Fifth district delegation to assist The Rev. Fred A. Stephens. They are in charge of arrangements for the General conference in Chicago.

Mrs. Camille W. Briggs Is Dead

ATCHISON, Kas.—Mrs. Camille Wilson Briggs, one of the most prominent church women and civic leaders in the state of Kansas, died here Thursday afternoon, Jan. 10 at the Atchison hospital of a heart attack. She had entered the hospital on Monday, Jan. 7, for treatment as she had been ailing for several weeks. She was 63 years old.

Mrs. Briggs was the wife of Clyde L. Briggs, a postal employe here for the last 39 years.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon, Jan. 14, at the Campbell Chapel AME church with the Rev. S. J. Holly officiating. The Campbell Chapel choir sang. Mrs. Ada Smith read the obituary, resolutions and condolences. A large crowd of persons from Atchison and from out of the city attended.

Mrs. Briggs was born Nov. 22, 1888, in Effingham, Kas., one of the three children of Mr and Mrs. Frank Wilson. Her parents moved to Atchison when she was an infant and she had lived here all of her life. For many years, her father was a police officer in Atchison.

After attending the public schools here and graduating from the Atchison high school, Mrs. Briggs attended the University of Kansas. She was married to Mr. Briggs in 1910.

Mrs. Briggs was nationally-known for her activities with the National Association of Club Women. She was president emerita of the Kansas Association of College Women.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Briggs is survived by a son, Clyde Wilson Briggs, a teacher of social studies at the Central high school in Ypsilanti, Mich.; two grandchildren, Clyde Braynard Briggs, 7, and Pamela Leigh Briggs, 4, both of Ypsilanti; and two uncles, the Rev. Joseph Wilson, postmaster of Nicodemus, Kas., and Henry Wilson, also of Nicodemus.

Burial was in the family lot in the Mt. Vernon cemetery, J. T. Miles funeral home in charge.