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## C. M. E. Religious Educational Council Holds Session

Dr. B. J. Smith, Gen. Sec., In Charge. Three Bishops Present Large Crowds

Jackson, Tenn., Jan. 25—(CP) Council of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church ended a two-day session here Friday in what has been called "the most forward looking meeting of its kind in the history of Negro churches."

The Religious Educational Council was called by Dr. B. J. Smith, General Secretary-Editor of the Board of Religious Education of the CME church, a position to which he was elected exactly one year ago on the very day, strangely coincidentally, from the day the Religious Educational Council held its first session.

The Council which served a two-fold purpose: a fact-finding and appraisal council, and a program outlining body for the Department of Religious Education, attracted many of the outstanding leaders of the CME church. Three bishops were present: Bishop J. A. Bray, A.M., D.D., LL.D., president of the Board of Religious Education and president bishop of the Eighth Episcopal District, Chicago; Bishop J. A. Hamlett, A.M., D.D., S.T.B., president of the General Board of Education and presiding bishop of the Fifth Episcopal district, Kansas City, Kansas, and Bishop J. C. Martin, president of the Board of Kingdom Extension Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. J. C. Colclough, Editor of the Christian Index, official organ of the CME church, Jackson, delivered a stirring address at the opening of the Council Wednesday morning on the subject, "Clearing the Ground for Kingdom Building." The scholarly Editor's message made a deep impression upon the assemblage. Dr. Colclough used Mathew 6:33 as the principal basis for his scholarly address.

At Thursday's devotional hour, the address was delivered by Rev. C. E. Chapman, president of the Kansas district, Kansas City, Missouri. "The Place of Prayer in the Life of Christ" was the subject of Rev. Chapman's address, having used Luke 11:1 and Luke 17:1 as the Scriptural basis for his discourse. He said it was impossible to study the record of the life of Christ without noticing how frequently He retired to prayer, how He intimately related His praying moments with His serving the people, in that He took the needs and interests of the people to God in His prayers and brought from His praying moments the inspiration, illumination and inspiration He received in His praying moments, and how that prayer was necessary to the meeting the needs of the people whom one is to serve.

Dr. J. W. Nicholson, Chicago, was elected secretary of the Religious Council and rendered invaluable service in that capacity and was highly commended by Dr. Smith and the Council for his service in that capacity. Other speakers at Thursday's sessions were: Drs. J. F. Lone, President of Lane College; Mattie E. Coleman, President of the Woman's Connectional Council; J. A. Ragan, General Secretary of Board of Conference Claimants; F. L. Lewis, Secretary of Kingdom Extension.

Among those here attending the Council sessions were: Bishops J. A. Bray, President of General Board of Religious Education, Chicago; J. C. Martin, Memphis, Tennessee; J. Arthur Hamlett, Kansas City, Kansas.

General Officers: Rev. F. L. Lewis, General Secretary of Kingdom Extension; Dr. Mattie E. Coleman, President of Woman's Connectional Council; Jackson, Tennessee; Rev. J. C. Colclough, Editor of Christian Index, Jackson, Tenn.; Prof. G. F. Porter, Financial Secretary, Jackson, Tenn.; Rev. W. P. Pipkins, Publishing Agent, Tenn.; Rev. J. A. Ragan, General Secretary of Conference Claimants Department, Americus, Ga.

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Murchison, Director of the Leadership Training Department, made illuminating address regarding their work to the delight of the scores of representatives from various parts of the church.

The agenda outlined in the program and which was rigidly adhered to in the various discussions by the various representatives included:

Religious Educational Organizations, International and Denominational Organizations; Denominational Boards, Church Schools, Week-day Religious Schools, Young People's Organizations, Leadership Training, Christian Social Action, the General Board of Religious Education, The Annual Conference Boards, the Local Boards, Regional Committees, Personnel of Organizations, Problems of Literature, Promotional Work in the home, urban center and rural centers, Young People's Meetings, (Epworth League) and the possibility of Inter-board Cooperation between the Religious Education Board of the CME church with other denominational boards of the church.

Fitting resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote of the Council lauding Bishop Bray, the president of the Board; Mrs. B. Julian Smith and E. P. Murchison, Jr., the two Staff members immediately charged with the duty of functioning and operating the Board's affairs for their great accomplishments. Particular emphasis was placed upon the great improvement made in the quality of the literature now being produced by the Board under their administration. The improvement in the literature was called "a complete transformation."

The Council also passed by unanimous vote approval of the idea of "holding a church-wide meeting of young people in 1937," under the auspices of the General Board of Religious Education. The resolution adopted urged Dr. Smith to memorialize the Bench of Bishops of the CME church and communicate with the presiding officers and the Annual Conference Boards of Religious Education soliciting their interest and support in the Young People's church-wide movement proposed for 1937.

A capacity audience was present Wednesday night at the Liberty Street church, scene of the "Mother Liberty" because of being the oldest church in the CME denomination, having been organized here in 1870. An elaborate program of Welcome was sponsored Wednesday night at Liberty Street church, with Rev. P. E. Brooks, master of ceremonies.

The welcome program included: Several numbers by Liberty Street Choir, Invocation, Rev. J. A. Adams, Selections by Lane College Glee club and the Merry high school glee club, address by J. S. Blaine who represented Bishop Hamlett, presentation of the program and personnel, Dr. B. Julian Smith, Offertory, Dr. E. A. Paul, Remarks by Dr. T. P. Murchison, Director of Leadership Training, Address by Dr. E. M. Pruet and response to the Welcome address by Bishop J. A. Bray, president of the Board of Religious Education.

Among those here attending the Council sessions were:

Bishops J. A. Bray, President of General Board of Religious Education, Chicago; J. C. Martin, Memphis, Tennessee; J. Arthur Hamlett, Kansas City, Kansas.

General Officers: Rev. F. L. Lewis, General Secretary of Kingdom Extension; Dr. Mattie E. Coleman, President of Woman's Connectional Council; Jackson, Tennessee; Rev. J. C. Colclough, Editor of Christian Index, Jackson, Tenn.; Prof. G. F. Porter, Financial Secretary, Jackson, Tenn.; Rev. W. P. Pipkins, Publishing Agent, Tenn.; Rev. J. A. Ragan, General Secretary of Conference Claimants Department, Americus, Ga.

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Greetings and words of regret for inability to be present were received from the following:

Bishops E. Cottrell, C. H. Phillips, R. A. Carter, H. P. Porter, J. H. Moore.

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Annual Conference Boards of Religious Education Presidents and Members: Rev. Henry C. Benton, East Florida; Rev. A. Hawk, Central Alabama; Rev. A. W. Womack, Ohio; Rev. W. R. Johnson, West Florida; Mr. J. M. Pettigrew, South Carolina.

## Kansas Magazine Includes Work of Colored Poet

Manhattan, Kan., Jan. 25 (ANP) The 1936 edition of the annual Kansas Magazine just published by the Kansas State college press, includes two new poems by Frank Marshall Davis, former journalism student, Davis, author of "Black Man's Verse," was the only Negro whose work is used. National known writers and artists among the contributors include: Edgar Lee Masters, Thomas Benton, Nelson Anrim Crawford, Dr. Birger Sandzon, and others.

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## Hitler Eyes Africa For Possessions

Johannesburg, S. A., Jan. 25—An official of the German Colonies Society, in a talk with a newspaper correspondent, admitted that Germany plans in the very near future to try to take over some of Britain's possessions in Africa. He said further that the entire colonial propaganda in Germany will be controlled by the Nazi party, which will then enter the imperialist field with her increased armed force.

Colonial possessions are an asset to any imperialist power and a liability to colonial people. Germany's threatened demand for redistribution of colonies cannot but result in a world war, to which end she is building a powerful air, sea and land force.

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