THE AFRO-AMERICAN LEDGER

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY IN THE INTEREST OF THE RACE.

VOL. XX NO. 36. BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1912. PRICE THREE CENTS

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT IN GOOD CONDITION

Report Shows Over Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Raised During The Past Year

AN INCREASE OF $5000 OVER LAST YEAR

Financial Secretary, Dr. John Hurst, Urged For The Bishopric

Kansas City, May 3 -- Reports submitted here yesterday at the annual meeting of the financial board of the African Methodist Episcopal Church showed that $207,224.98 were raised during the fiscal year ending April 1, which is an increase of $5,000 in the "dollar money" collections reported last year. Dr. John Hurst, who has just completed his fourth year as financial secretary of the denomination explained in detail the workings of the financial department.

The "dollar money" collections for the pervious three years are as follows: 1908-9, $182,397.11; 1909-10, $197,540.28; 1910-11, $202,-663.17, a total of $790,825.17 for the quardrennium.

The amounts raised in each episcopal district during the past year follows:

First, $14,339.14; second, $16,-374.60; third, $6.705.46; fourth, $15,432.35; fifth, $30,588.45; sixth, $220,074.50; seventh, $16,-228.70; eighth, $15,205.55; ninth, $11,410.35; tenth, $16,408.35; eleventh, $25,367.30; twelfth (West Africa), $364; thirteenth (South Africa), $4,650.

Of the total amount raised during the quadrennium, 36 per cent, $284,697.18 were retained by the various annual confernces for the support of superannuated ministers, wdows and orphans; 10 per cent., $79,082.55, turned over to Church Extension; 8 percent., $63,266.04, used in aiding the educational work of the denomination, and the remainder retained in the general treasury of the denomination for the purpose of paying the salaries of the bishops, general officers and for other general denominational needs.

Bishop H. B. Parks, chairman of the board presided. Other members of the board are: Revs. A. L. Murray, Jersey City, N. J.; J. T. Jenifer, Chicago, Ill.; Charles Bundy, Cleveland;; J. R. Ransom, Topkea, Kan.; R. V. Branch, Atlanta, Ga.; N. I. Sterrett, Charleston, S. C.; W. T. Strong, Jackson, Miss.; J. M. Conner, Little Rock, Ark.; P. C. Hunt, Palestine,, Tex; A. J. Kershaw Tallahassee Fla.; C. H. Shelto, Memphis, Tenn.; Mr. C. H. Johnstone, Liberia, West Africa, and Mr. A. Fortune, Cape Town, South Africa.

Dr. Hurst is prominently mentioned in connection with the bishopric, and his fine record as financial secretary is regarded as making his elevation most probable.

New Orleans, La., May 2—Attorney Lyps Charbonnett, who made a study of separate car laws, says that it is unlawful for a person of either race to occupy the compartment assigned each race in the street cars of this city.

There are now two cases pending of violations of the local jim-crow law one on which a white man refused to vacate the colored peopl's compartment when told to do so, and another in which a colored an refused to have the white compartment.

COLORED BISHOP QUESTION AGAIN

General Conference of Methodist Episcopal Church Will Have To Decide

COLORED WORK NEEDS A CLOSER SUPERVISION

Prominent Colored Ministers Being Mentioned For The Episcopacy.

Minneapolis, Minn., May 2 — Men and women of very race and representing almost every nation are here to attend the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which opened here yesterday.

Besides taking up many questions of general import to the denomination, it is expected that the question of a bishop for the 300,000 colored members of the denomination in this country will occupy the minds of many of the delegates. The agitation for closer supervision of the work of the colored conferences has been debated among many of the most prominent thinkers of the church, and some of the most prominent white men of the church have said that they favor the election of a colored bishop. The same has for a number of years been advocated by some of the most influential colored members of the denomination, and some of the more radical have gone as far as to advocate segregation or autonomy for the colored membership of the church.

At the general conference held in Los Angeles Cal. eight years ago the question of an amendment to the law of the church so as to provide bishops for races was debated at considerable length but was finally defeated. It was at this time that Isaiah B. Scott now missionary bishop to Liberia was elected after John W. E. Bowen a teacher in Gammon Theological Seminary, had declined election as such. Dr. Bowen was a candidate for the episcopacy at several general conferences. His face will be missed among the delegates this time the Washington annual conference having failed to elect him again.

Prominent among the many colored delegates here are: Revs. M. C. B. Mason one of the secretaries of the Freedmen's Aid Society; S. S. Jolley of Cambridge Md.. C. A. Tindley of Philadelphia Pa.; C. C. Jacobs, of the Board of Sunday Schools; Robert E. Jones, editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate; I. Garland Penn, one of the assistant secretaries of the Epworth League; M. J. Naylor, of Baltimore, Md., R. S. Lovinggood, of Texas; M. W. Dogan of the same state; and John H. Reid, president of the College of West Africa, at Monrovia, Liberia, and an assistant consul general of the United States to Liberia.

Revs. M. J. Naylor, W. C. Thompson, E. S. Williams, Mr. A. J. Oliver, and Mr. George A. Owens are the Washington Conference delegates.

Snow Hill News.

Snow Hill, Md., May 1 — The funeral of Mrs. Hester Purnell, wife of Mr. Wiliam Purnell, was held Sunday.

Mr. Solomon Martin is very sick.

Mrs. Katie Cully has returned home from Baltimore, where she visited her husband and friends.

Mrs. Annie Beckett has returned from Baltimore.

TAFT ENDORSED BROWNSVILLE ACTION

In Report to Congress in 1906, he Upholds Roosevelt's Discharge of Soldiers.

DISCHARGE NOT SEVERE ENOUGH, HE SAID.

Some Interesting Reading For Those Who May Have Forgotten Facts In Case

To those who are endeavoring to accuse Colonel Roosevelt of all the blame for discharging the 167 colored soldiers stationed at Brownsville, Tex., it may be interesting to know that President Taft, who was then Secretary of War, heartily endorsed the action of President Roosevelt in discharging the soldiers.

Mr. Taft, in his annual report to Congress as Secretary of War, in December 1906, reviews the "shooting up" of Brownsville, and proceeds to fasten the blame upon the soldiers in these words:

"Under the circumstnces, the question, arises, is the government helpless? Must it continue in its service a battalion many of the membres of which show their willingness to condone a crime of a capital character committed by from ten to twenty of its members, and put on a foot of silence and ignorance which enables the criminals to escape just punishment?

"These enlisted men took the oath of allegiance to the government and were to be used under the law to maintain its supremacy. Can the government properly, therefore, keep in its employ for the purpose of maintaining law and order any longer a body of me from 5 to 10 percent of whom can plan and commit murder and rely upon the silence of their companions to escape detection?

SHOULD DISCHAGRE ALL.

"It may be that in the battalion are a number of men wholly innocent, who know neither who the guilty men are nor any circumstances which will aid in their detection, though this can not be true of many. Because there may be innocent men in the battalion, must the government continue to use it to guard communities of men, women, and children. Certainly not. The only means of ridding the military service of a band of would-be murderers of of women and children, and actual murderers of one man is the discharge of the entire battalion.

HINTS AT TREASON.

"Suppose a dozen men of a battalion stationed at Fort Brown in time of war with Mexico carried plans and ammunition to the enemy on the other side of the Rio Grande River, and then returned under circumstances which made it clear that a large number of men in the battalion must have known who they are, but that every man in the battalion denied all knowledge of it, and thus all means of detecting the guilty were lacking, would a competent general for one moment hesitate, in the interest of the public, to disband the entire battalion and discharge it from service in order to avoid a repetition of the danger? Can a real and logical distinction be made between the crime of treason under the circumstances supposed, and the crime of murder in this case?

"It is a mistake to suppose that this order in itself a punishment either of the innocent or the guilty. A discharge would be entirely inadequate punishment for those who are guilty, whether of committing the murder or of with holding or suppressing evidence which would disclose the perpetrators of such a crime. The use of the word penalty in the proceedings is a misnomer and is unfortunate. The dismissal from the service of the members of this battalion under the circumstances is not a punishment, however great the hardship."

THE "SOUTHERN POLICY" MADE FAMOUS BY ONE WM. H. TAFT

Missionary Secretary Honored By Foreign Conferences

New York, May 1 — Rev. Dr. W. W. Beckett, secretary of mission of the A. M. E. Church, left this week for Kansas City, Mo., where he will attend the annual meeting of the board of missions this Saturday and the General Conference of the African Methodist Church, which follows.

Dr. Beckett has ended a most successful quardrennium as missionary secretary. He is being strongly urged for the bishopric by influential churchmen in various sections of the country, and his election thereto is regarded as most probable. He is a native of South Carolina and was educated at Clark University, Atlanta, Ga. Before his election to his present position he filled some of the most prominent positions in the South Carolina Conference,

A delegation of ministers from the churches of the denomination in the West Indies and South America called at the missionary headquarters at 61 Bible House, last Saturday and presented Dr. Beckett resolutions extolling his work as missionary secretary and wishing his election to the episcopacy.

The resolutions were presented by the Rev. R. A. Sealy, a presiding elder in Barbadoes, West Indies; the Rev. A. T. Collins, Demerara, British Guiana, and the Rev. R. A. Butler, of Touschen, British Guiana.

REALTY COMPANY'S PRESIDENT JAILED

John H. Alkins Fined Five Hundred Dollars and Sentenced To One Year In Jail.

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 1 — After receiving a scathing rebuke from County Judge Moore, John H. Atkins, former president of the Metropolitan Mercantile and Realty Company, who was convicted a week ago of alleged fraudulent misrepresentations in the sale of building lots at Rahway, N. J., was sentenced Monday to a year in the jail at Blackwells Island and to pay a fine of $500. If he does not pay the fine, he will be incarcerated 500 days.

Though he vigorously protested, he was taken to the rogues' gallery immediately after his conviction, and his picture and measurements taken Instead of playing the role of a banker as formerly, he will be employed in the baking department of the jail.

The prosecution was conducted by Assistant Prosecutor Freshman and Attorney Rufus L. Perry. During the trial quite a number of witnesses were examined, and the fact was brought to light that a number of ministers had been employed on salary to invite the general public to invest their savings in the stock of the company. Llewellyn C. Collins, secretary of the defunct company, was convicted several weeks ago and sentenced to prison for a year on the charge of alleged crooked financial transactions. P. Sheridan Ball, another official of the concern is under indictment, but he left for parts unknown some months ago. There will be other prosecutions.

The Metropolitan Mercantile and Reality Company was organized a few years ago and the plausible an lurid appeals of the promoters attracted investors in the East and South The failure of their bank in Savannah and the foreclosure of a mechanic's lien on property at 247 W. 46th street, New York city, was the beginning of a series of troubles that ended the company's existence.

A. M. E. Zion General Conference

Presided Over By Oldest Methodist Prelate In The World

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Charlotte, N. C., May 3 — The twenty-fourth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church began Wednesday in Clinton Chapel, and will continue for the next three weeks. Bishop James W. Hood, whose forty years' service on the bench makes him the oldest Methodist prelate in the world, presided at the opening session.

The bishops of the church are opposed to the election of any more prelts, but there are a number of the ministers who declare that additional bishops should be elected. Those mentioned in connection with the honor include: Dr. George E. Clement, editor of the Star of Zion, Revs, S. L. Corrothers, of Washington; J. S. Jackson, financial secretary of the denomination; R. S. Rivers; J. B. Colbert; and C. D. Hazel.

Among those here from the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference are: Revs. J. A. S. Cole, E. D. W. Jones, both of Baltimore; W. H. Marshall, C. C. Alleyne; W. A. Ray; G. M. Oliver, W. H. Ferguson, S. L. Corrothers, P. A. Wallace, Mrs. J. W. Smith, Miss Nellie Johnson, Mrs. Mary F. Small, J. W. Poe, J. Ficklin.