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M. E. CONFERENCE ON IN CAMBRIDGE, MD.

First Session of 54th Gathering Held, When Near East Is Topic

PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK

Cambridge, March 22—The initial session of the fifty-fourth annual Wilmington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held last evening in the Zion Methodist Church. Speakers told members of the conference of Near East Work.

The conference tonight voted to ask the Maryland legislature to pass the amendment to the state marriage laws now pending in that body.

The new law would stipulate a lapse of two days between issuance of the license and performance of the ceremony. It is designed to do away with the marriage mill at Elkton and other places in the State where, it is alleged marrying eloping couples has been commercialized into a business.

Church Sought Legislation

Amendment of the Maryland marriage law has been an object of the Methodist Episcopal Church since the agitation in the last few months that resulted in the unfrocking of the Rev. R. T. Westren by a Methodist Episcopal trial court. The Rev. Lockerbie, present marrying parson of Elkton, and a member of anothtr denomination, also has come in for criticism.

The conference to day was devoted mainly to anniversary exercises and to preparing for real work, which will begin tomorrow. At the roll call this morning, seven pastors failed to respond to their names, as did the wives of four others. Memorial services were held for these, Bishop William F. McDowell, who is presiding at the conference, being in charge.

Indications are that the present district superintendents, the Rev. W. R. Mowbray, the Rev. Robert Watt, the Rev. W. A. Wise and the Rev. Vaughn S. Collins, will be re-elected.

The fight to entertain the conference next year is between Scott Church, Wilmington, and Chincoteague Island, with bearings toward Scott Church.

On Sunday morning Bishop McDowell will preach in the Zion Church and the sermon in the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church South will be given by Bishop Theodore S. Henderson. Saturday evening will be held a temperance and reform jubilee. George W. Crabble, Dr. W. W. Davis and Prohibition Commissioner Haynes will be speakers.

The program for the remainder of the conference week follows:

Thursday, March 23

8:30 a. m.—Devotional service; address, Bishop W. F. McDowell. Conference session.

3 p. m.—Anniversary of the W. H. M. S. Mrs. J. Talley Smith, Wilmington, Del., presiding; Dr. Herbert F. Randolph, Foundry M. E. Church, of Washington, D. C., speaker.

7:30 p. m.—Annviersary of the Bd. of F. M. and C. E. Rev. T. R. Van Dyke, Cecilton, Md., chairman; Dr. David D. Forsythe, Cor. Sec. of the Board, Philadelphia, speaker.

Friday, March 24

8:30 a. m.—Devotional service. Address by Bishop McDowell. Conference session.

3 p. m. Anniversary of the W. F. M. S., Mrs. Wm. J. Pugh, conference secretary, North East, Md., presiding; Mrs. William Fraser McDowell, Washington, D. C., speaker.

7:30 p. m.—Anniversary of the Bd of Education. Dr. Henry G. Budd, Pres. Wesley Collegiate Institute, Dover, Del., chairman; Dr. Warren F. Sheldon, Asst. Cor. Sec. of Board, of New York, speaker.

Saturday, March 25

8:30 a. m.—Devotional service. Address, Bishop McDowell. Conference session.

3 p. m.—Committee on Conservation and Advance, Chicago, Ill. Hon. W. O. Hoffecker, Pres. Conf. Centenary Commission, Smyrna, Del., chairman; Bishop Theodore S. Henderson, Detroit, Mich., speaker.

7:30 p. m.—Temperance and reform jubilee. Dr. George W. Crabbe, Baltimore, chairman; Dr. W. W. Davis, Baltimore, Hon. Roy C. Haynes, Federal Prohibition Enforcement officer, speakers.

Sunday, March 26

9:30 a. m.—Conference Love Feast. Leader, F. F. Carpenter.

11 a. m.—Divine Worship with sermon.

2:30 p. m.—Ordination service.

7:30 p. m.—Anniversary of Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals. Rev. Alfred Smith, D. D., chairman; Dr. Clarence True Wilson, cor. sec. of the board, Washington, D. C., speaker.

Monday, March 27th

8:30 a. m.—Devotional service. Address, Bishop McDowell. Confernce session. Reading of appointments. Adjournment.

H. S. Principles Meet

High school principles of the county are meeting today at Centreville. State Superintendents, North and Fontaine are the principal speakers.

MRS. NEWCOMER RESIGNS FROM PRESIDENCY C. C.

The Denton Community Club held its regular meeting Friday of last week. The ladies made plans to do more sewing for the needy school children.

Three new members were added to the rolls.

Mrs. F. E. Yoeman was elected to the presidency to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Mrs. W. W. Newcomer. Miss Hattie Dukes was elected first vice president and Mrs. Dr. Summerfield second vice president.

Miss Virginia Davis and George Arthur McDaniel delighted the club with readings and the hostesses, Mesdames Hughes, Hirs, and W. C. Pastorfield and Miss Louise Dukes served dainty refreshments in keeping with St. Patrick's day, consisting of green and white brick ice cream and squares of white cake on which were tiny bows of green baby ribbon as favors. Music by the victrola was enjoyed during the social period.

St. Patrick's Social Pleasant Affair

A St. Patrick's social was given last Friday evening by the members of the M. P. Church in the Sunday school room. The room was prettily decorated in keeping with the occasion.

The program was as follows:

Singing by the choir "Come Back to Erin."

Solo by Mr. Robert Fleetwood, "Mother MaCree."

Recitation by Elizabeth Flowers, "Irish Coquetry."

Singing by choir, "Wearin' of the Green."

Solo by Esther Dunham "Where the River Shannon Flows."

Reading by Rev. J. A. Dudley, "Pat's Love Letter."

Singing by the choir, "It's a Long Way to Tipperary."

March, in which many present took part.

An Irish song was presented and those taking part were rewarded with little gifts.

Refreshments were served which consisted of cookies and ice cream. The ice cream was green. About 50 were present.

SHAD SEASON TO SOON OPEN HERE

The shad is reported as having made its appearance in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. This delicacy of the sea is one of the most important foods found on the Atlantic seaboard. There have been a few reported in the local market and the supply is expected to largely increase under present weather conditions. While the shad is not as plentiful as it was in former years, it is still a source of considerable revenue to the fishers of the State. Records show that for over 200 years the shad industry has played its part in our river trade.

Attending Post Master's School

Post Master-elect Samuel G. Nuttle left Monday morning to attend the post master's school in Baltimore for all second class post masters.

Mr. Nuttle's appointment was announced two weeks ago, but his papers confirming the appointment have not as yet been received.

However, the department ordered him to attend school and prepare himself and upon his return in about ten days it is likely he will take up his duties in the post office.

DO NOT BURN WEEDS FROM YOUR FIELDS

Later on, when the weather gets warmer, many farmers will be cleaning up in general around the farm. In so doing it has been observed, says County Agent Collins Thomas, that many of them burn over land they intend plowing. This may be advantageous on new ground, however, in many instances, it appears that the farmers are destroying valuable humus-organic material.

If there is any one thing which Caroline soil needs most, it is certainly organic material.

Perhaps there is some good reason for burning this tall grass and weeds. If there is, then he is willing to be convinced. At present, though, he thinks it is a very poor practice. It may make plowing a little easier. Very few weed seeds are destroyed in this way, as those which will grow are firmly in the soil by this time.

Teachers' Examination

All teachers of the county, both white and colored, who are desirous of applying for teachers' certificates, renewals and advancements are notified that the examination days will be Friday and Saturday, May 5-6.

OLDEST CITIZEN BURIED

Mr. James Henry Fisher, Denton's oldest resident, died Sunday evening, March 19th in his 91st year. He was the son of Jabes and Mary Fisher, born September 16, 1831. He was raised on a farm near Greenwood, Del.

In 1858 he married Miss Sarah Emily Smith and in 1905 married a second time, the bride being Mrs. Mary T. Hopkins, who survives him. The children surviving are: Mr. Ira Fisher, of Willow Grove, Pa., and Mrs. Fred Johnson and Mr. T. Pliny Fisher, of Denton, the latter being a prominent lawyer and business man of this place.

In 1884 he moved on a farm in Tuckahoe Neck, near Denton, and resided there until January, 1890, at which time he retired, coming to Denton to live.

Notwithstanding his advanced years, Mr. Fisher has been about town daily until about two months ago, since when he has been confined to his home on Main street. He used to go down town by himself each day to visit his son or daughter and last summer tilled and cared for a large garden, as he has done each year since retiring from active farming. His aculties, up to the end, have been very keen. He was a lifelong member of the M. E. Church.

Funeral services were held yesterday morning in the Methodist Episcopal Church, with interment in Denton Cemetery.

THIRTY-THREE STATES HAVE ACCEPTED PROVISIONS OF FEDERAL "MATERNITY ACT"

Washington. March 18— Although the Shephard-Towner Act, popularly known as the Maternity Bill, was signed by President Harding only the day before Thanksgiving last, 33, of 48 states have already acepted its provisions and made preparation to avail themselves of federal aid and cooperation in promoting the welfare of maternity and infancy. This bill was one of the measures passed by the special session of the Republican Congress. It was part of President Harding's program, being urged by him in his message opening the special session of Congress. It was one measure above all others that the women of the United States wished enacted.

The following six states have accepted the provisions of the bill by act of their state legislatures: Delaware, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Oregon, New Mexico and Virginia. Under the provisions of the act the governor of a state may, in so far as the laws of his state permit, administer the provisions of the act pending the next regular session of the legislature and may authorize a state agency to cooperate with the Federal Children's Bureau until the legislature has had opportunity to act. In accordance with this provision, governors of the following 27 states have accepted the provisions of the Maternity Bilk: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Okiahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The administration of the act will be undertaken in 28 states through a child hygiene or child welfare division of the state agency of health: two states will administer the act through the state department of public welfare; Delaware will administer the act through the State Child Welfare Commission; Iowa and Colorado, through their departments of education.

Under the provisions of the bill a total federal appropriation of $1,480-000 is authorized for the fiscal year and an appropriation of $1,240,000 for each of the five years thereafter. The allotment of this federal appropriation to the several states is as follows: Each state accepting the provisions of the act will receive federal appropriations in the sum of $10,000 for the first year thereafter. This allotment is made outright without any qualification. An additional $5,000 will be paid each state provided the state apportions $5,000 of its own. This makes a possible total of $15,000 the states will receive during the first year and $10,000 a year for each year thereafter. In addition the sum of $710,000 a year will be distributed among the states on a basis of population, providing the amounts thus apporationed are matched by state appropriations.

Condition Improved

Mrs. T. Frank Seward, of Ridgely, wife of the County Treasurer, is so much improved that she has been brought home from the hospital.

J. KEMP STEVENS PASSED AWAY SAT.

Mr. J. Kemp Stevens, one of the best known lawyers on the Eastern Shore and one who was most frequently called on for references by other lawyers, died last Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock. Born, March 31, 1872, son of the late Charles Stevens and Susan Kemp, he received his education at St. Johns College, Annapolis and was admitted to the bar in 1893.

Twenty years he worked as deputy and recording clerk in the Clerk's office at the Court House. In 1909 he ran for the clerkship and was elected, serving for six years. He was defeated in 1915 for re-election by Lawrence B. Towers, and retired from public life, except that of his profession.

Many persons during his life applied to him for legal advice and aid and received it gladly and many times without price.

Judges frequently would question him in the court room on legal questions or ask him where references could be found and he could always produce the answer, many times offhand.

Mr. Stevens was a past master of Temple Lodge 128 A. F. & A. M. and was also a member of the Jr. O. U. A. M. Council No. 175. His knowledge of Masonry was as great as that of his profession and he was seldom absent from a lodge meeting.

Miss Ethel Anderson became his wife in January, 1912 and survives him with his mother, and a niece, Miss Elizabeth Stevens.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the home on Franklin street and were conducted by the Rev. Mr. J. G. Gantt, of Solomon, Md., a former rector of Christ Episcopal Church, this place. Judge L. W. Wicks, of Chestertown was present, as was also Deputy Grand Lecturer Burns, ex-Congressman Thomas A. Smith.

Past Masters from other lodges on the Eastern Shore who attended the funeral Wednesday were: Messrs. Alvin C. Hubbert, J. R. Downes, J. F. Lednum, Harry B. Wright, James O. Wright, John W. Payne, Thomas Taylor, of Preston; George H. Jefferson, Rufus S. Noble, Ed E. Nuttle and Thomas R. Johnson, of Federalsburg; Thomas H. Taylor, Fred Wright, Clarence L. Saxton, Hampton Hicks, and George Hicks, of East New Market, and Clarence S. Colilson, of Easton.

Services at the grave were in charge of the Masons of Temple Lodge 128 A. F. & A. M. who assembled at the lodge room and marched to the house So well liked was Mr. Stevens, that his brother Masons from all over the county joined with his own lodge in the last rites, making the gathering a large one.

The floral tributes were many and beautiful.

LEGUMES ARE NEEDED ON CAROLINE FARMS

Many farmers in this county could increase their yields per acre 100 per cent. by using more legumes in their rotation. It is strange that so few farmers either do not realize this or if they know it they do not practice it. Green manures—legunes and other crops turned under—not only acts as a stimulant like expensive commercial fertilizers, but they will build the soil up to a much higher state of fertility. Legumes—clovers, soybeans, etc.—take nitrogen from the air and store it in the soil. Therefore it seems the use of legumes in a rotation is better economy than high priced fertilizer by far.

Two farmers at least in Caroline county have made good farms out of very poor land by this practice. None have permanently improved their land by the use of fertilizers exclusively.

Commercial fertilizers are all right in their place, but they cannot be compared to legumes when it comes to permanently improving the productivity of the soil.

ONE OLD MAN AND ANOTHER OLD MAN

By Blanche Elizabeth Wade

There was once an old man with a pout
Which he used both in season and out,
When his friends looked his way,
They forgot to be gay,
And their foreheads were wrinkled in doubt.

There was once an old man with a grin
Which he used out of season and in.
When his friends saw his smile,
They all copied his style,
And their foreheads were smooth as a pin.

—Epworth Herald

FARM LEADERS JOIN OPPONENTS OF HIGH DUTIES

Washington, March 21.—Organized farm leaders have joined openly with forces which are denouncing the Forney bill as legislation to mulct the public out of billions of dollars and as legislation to "buttress price fixing" and to make the consumer "the victim of excessive duties."

This is the first definite and tangible note from the organized farmers in opposition to such tariff legislation as will soon be reported from the Senate Committee on Finance. It is, in various respects, the most important development in many months, in so far as tariff policy is concerned.

With the announcement that the farm leaders had joined the opposition to a tariff wall, other developments of importance were as follows:

The names of Charles A. Lyman and B. C. Marsh appear on the literature of the Fair Tariff League. Announcement was made the Gray Silver's name would appear later That would mean the representatives of every purely economic farm organization had joined the league.

The Fair Tariff League is out denouncing excessive protection, and in particular the Fordney Tariff bill, and is carrying on the most vigorous propaganda for a tariff which will "give adequate but not excessive protection, lower the cost of living and give consideration to our changed position in world affairs."

Senator Capper, chairman of the farm bloc, declared he would support exceedingly high rates on farm commodities now in the Senate bill. Organaized farm leaders intimated they had not approved these rates, insisting that the "tariff bloc," and not the "farm bloc," was behind the schedules, and adding that the first announcement of opposition would be heard soon.

The question is raised now whether arm leaders will succeed in converting the farmers to their position, whether the Senators will prevail or will abandon the high tariff policy.

Bill Denounced as Robbery

Whatever may be the genesis of the Fair Tariff League, the fact is that it is carrying on the most vigorous opposition to the high tariff bill. It has denounced the Fordney bill in terms of robbery. It has declared for "adequate but not excessive protection." It is charging daily that the consumer would become a victim of "excessive duties" in the Fordney bil. It is publishing one volume of statistics after another to show, as the league sees it, that the tariff is being used to mulct the consumers.

"Congress must not make these prices higher," the league insists. "It must not at the same time declare against price-fixing by anti-trust laws and by the elimination of foreign competition offer billions of dollars to manufactures as a reward for price fixing. Congress must keep out of the price-fixing business.

"Competition used to be the protector of the consumer. As competition diminishes or disappears, the consumer becomes the victim of excessive duties, not the beneficiary, as contemplated as the sole ultimate justification of protection."

"But where and how do the farmers get off?" is the question which arises. "The farmers demanded and got excessive duties in the emergency tariff bill. They have advocated as high and even higher duties on farm commodities for the permarent tariff bill. And the farmer is sold on high protection."

"We are going to support the tariff schedules as put before the committee. As a matter of fact, I have not heard of any change in policy on the part of farm representatives. And we had a representative of each of those organizations with us when we agreed on the tariff rates."

"To explain this situation, farm leaders point out that the "farm bloc" is not committed to a high tariff. It has not approved the tariff program. So far as farm leaders could keep the bloc disassociated from the tariff program they have done so. It is a "tariff bloc" which has advocated and is pushing the high rates on farm commodities. To be sure, the members of the tariff bloc are, as a rule, members of the farm bloc, but the farm bloc is not going to be compromised if farm leaders have their way.

It is contended by some of those associated with the farm leaders that the average farmer is opposed to a high tariff. H. E. Miles, secretary of the Fair Tariff League, insists that not one farmer in 100 will support the rates in the bill now proposed. On the other hand, it is the contention of some Republican Senators that the farmers have been "sold" on the high tariff; that they remain "sold," and that they demand the high rates.

Leaders Against High Rates

If the farm leaders succeed in having the farmers return to their position of 1908 and 1909 on the tariff a most interesting situation will develop. The rates on farm commodities are the reason or excuse for the bill. The farmer was given high rates, and then rates on manufacturred commodities were raised, to be in harmony with farm rates. If the farmer breaks away from this arrangement, then there is every possibility that this session of Congress will continue throughout most of the summer months or that it will adjourn without adopting a new tariff bill.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

HENDERSON TO GET 3-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL

Three bids were opened Tuesday at the meeting of the Board of Education for the erection of the new school building at Harmony, Mr. S. E. Douglas, of Preston, being the lowest bidder. The contract has not as yet been awarded as the state superintendent must authorize the awarding of the contract.

Building this school will take more money than anticipated and the county commissioners have granted an additional $2,500 to the levy laid for this purpose.

Henderson citizens gathered at the meeting to ask for an additional room to be added to the schools at that place and the inauguration of a three-year high school, beginning next year. Over 30 students are eligible for entrance next year in the high school, who have no near school to attend. The county commissioners when seen agreed to the use of $1,000 toward the erection of the school building and same will entered in next year's budget.

White schools of the county will close on June 16 and the colored schools on May 5th. These dates are later than usual, due to the schools being closed so much during the winter on account of bad weather.

Mrs. Pearl Scott presented her resignation from the Lidens school, which was accepted.

Friday May 19th was accepted by the Board of Education as the day for the county athletic meet which is to be held at Federalsburg this year.

WIFE OF LOUIS J. KNOTTS SUCCUMBS TUESDAY EVE.

Mrs. Agnes Knotts, wife of Louis J. Knotts, prominent merchant of West Denton, was stricken early Tuesday evening with an attack of heart trouble and died within an hour. Mrs. Knotts was the daughter of the late Anne Kelly and Owen Lynch, the latter was a prominent resident of the 7th district in this county some years ago.

She was born in Summitville, N. Y. in 1868, moving to this county, near Ridgely with her parents, when she was but 4 years old, where she lived until about 8 years ago, when she moved to Denton.

Mrs. Knotts was married to Mr. Louis J. Knotts in 1891, living in the western part of the county until eight years ago.

Mr. Knotts is a prominent merchant of this section, having a large grocery, feed and hardware store in West Denton and survives with three sons: Mr. J. Owen Knotts, a prominent attorney and member of the Caroline County Bar Association; Dr. E. Paul Knotts, county health officer in Orangeburg county, S. C., and Louis J. Knotts, Jr., who is associated in business with his father.

Funeral services will be held in St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church Friday morning at 10 o'clock. Requiem mass will be celebrated.

HOBBS CITIZENS RECEIVING NOON MAIL SINCE 16TH

Through the efforts of Congressman T. Alan Goldsborough the post office department issued orders that beginning last Thursday, the 16th, the noon mail received by bus from Ridgely, in Denton, should also be carried to Hobbs, giving them three mails each day, the bus continuing on through Denton to Hobbs.

In order to serve all the Hobbs patrons, the rural mail carrier is also instructed to wait until the mail is received at Hobbs at noon before going on his route.

Patrons of this office are very much pleased with this new service.

L. of W. V. to Elect

The Caroline County League of Women Voters will hold their annual election of officers at the Denton Court House next Tuesday, March 28. Every member is urged to be present.

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