

THE RISING SON

It Pays to Advertise in the Rising Son for It Reaches More Homes of Colored People than any other Paper in the State.

VOLUME XI.

KANSAS CITY, MO., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1906.

NUMBER 12

THE MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

The 52nd annual session of the Missouri conference of the African M. E. church is being held in this city at Allen chapel, and is presided over by that remarkable leader of his race, Bishop Abram Grant, D. D., of Kansas City, Kans. It is composed of a fine body of representative men, and the addresses, and reports have been of a high order, accomplishing much for the people.

The conference opened Wednesday morning, and the choir was on hand and furnished the music. "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" was the opening hymn, and the Rev. Mr. Collins, made the opening prayer. Bishop A. Grant, read scripture lesson and the Rev. Dr. H. Blanton Parks, former pastor of Allen chapel, but who is now serving as Missionary Secretary, being now on his third term conducted the ritual services. Dr. Parks, is now on his way to the bishopric. "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone," was the hymn used before the administration of Holy Communion by Bishop Grant. Mrs. Ophelia Jackson presided at the organ.

Roll was called, at the conclusion of which the following transfers were announced: Toney Perry, from the Illinois conference; F. L. Scott, from Colorado conference; J. B. Holmes, from California conference; C. L. Holly, from Kansas conference. Following this Rev. Charles Williams was elected chief secretary; L. P. Dukes, recording secretary; J. T. Smith, statistical secretary; Charles Stewart, official reporter; W. D. Cook, D. D., reporter for the Christian Recorder, Philadelphia; J. W. Wiley, to the Voice of Missions, New York; S. L. Bean, to the Southern Christian Recorder, Columbus, Ga.; L. H. Harris, W. Christian Recorder, Kansas City.

The hours of meeting and closing were fixed, the conference boundary, and G. W. Pettigrew, Chas. Cummins, and F. J. Everett, were elected marshals, and advised to "let none pass or re-pass without permission from the presiding officer."

A list of committees were appointed, and following this Bishop Grant introduced the following visitors: J. R. Ransom, D. D., J. W. Braxton, D. D., W. W. Fisher, L. W. McCormack, H. W. King, from the Kansas conference; G. W. Guy, D. W. Oakes, C. R. Runyon, J. R. Monroe, from North Missouri conference; W. T. Biggers, Lincoln, Neb., J. F. Sage, Parsons, Kans., H. Blanton Parks, New York; W. A. Lewis, D. D., Memphis, Tenn.; secretary of People's Benefit Association; W. H. Heard, D. D., of Atlanta, Ga., secretary of the Connectional Preachers' Aid Association; W. W. Allen, of the Southern Christian Recorder, Columbus, Ga.; Mrs. Ruth M. Collett, of Philadelphia, representing the A. M. E. Book Concern; Miss E. Marie Carter, of New Orleans, La., representing the A. M. E. Church Review; R. H. Hackley, Washington, Iowa.



Bishop A. Grant, D. D., after giving the conference a recess of 8 minutes delivered an address. He was proud to see the ministers present at the opening, and felt sure that much good would be accomplished during the week. He said in part:

"I have been very busy since August 2. I have been required to travel a few thousand miles in order to get over my district. The Puget Sound conference was indeed a success. It was one of the most beneficial sessions ever held in the history of the conference. Many souls were reported saved and the increase in dollar money was \$136 over the previous year.

"We thought that the California conference would fall behind but the men were here on time looking hopeful. Bethel church, San Francisco, which cost \$9,000 was destroyed, but it was the first congregation to rebuild, and one session of the conference was held in the temporary building. The increase in that conference was \$146.35. The Colorado conference is always up, and this year was no exception. The conference reported \$1.15 for each member in it. The increase was one hundred dollars. The Kansas conference increased in membership 768, and dollar money \$189. North Missouri conference which was held last week rolled up an increase in members 656 and \$201 increase in dollar money. There are great possibilities out West.

"Our people are making wonderful progress in the West, and they are going out there. I believe that every man owes it to himself to live in that part of the world where life and property are safe. Where he can exercise the rights given by the country unmolested. Where he can cast a ballot and

have it counted. Feel that if he should be so unfortunate as to get into trouble, justice will be meted out to him. We owe it to ourselves, to our church, and to our God, to be true to each.

"Any man who will stir up bad blood in either race, or who will deliver speeches which will tend to stir up bad blood will do his race untold harm. At the same time any man who advises our people to arm themselves and fight, is no friend to the race, for to attempt to fight would mean complete annihilation. What can 10,000,000 do with 60,000,000 the latter having all the guns and ammunition and the army and navy in their hands. I plead with you my brethren to preach the gospel of peace. Hold up to the people the cross of Christ."

At this point the conference joined in singing "When the Mists Have Rolled Away."

Bishop Grant announced the death of Bishop B. W. Arnett, and spoke of him as one of the greatest men of his race. He touchingly referred to the work of Bishop Arnett, and appointed a committee to arrange a program for memorial services which took place Thursday at noon. After singing "Shall We Meet Beyond the River?" The pastors proceeded to report the result of their years labor and to pay in their conference claims.

Promptly at noon the conference took a recess for dinner.

The afternoon was spent in hearing reports of pastors. A feature of the session was the arrival of Rev. J. I. Lowe, D. D., of Pine Bluff, Ark. Dr. Lowe was given an ovation, and business was suspended to introduce him to the conference. He made a few remarks.

Among the prominent members of the conference who is taking an active part and who is on some of the most important committees on the conference is Rev. W. T. Vernon, D. D., register of the United States treasury. Dr. Vernon's elevation to the position which he occupies in the government did not take him away from his duty to his church. He is mingling with his brethren and assisting them as he did during his presidency of Western University. He is the same W. T. Vernon, having a friendly feeling for his fellowmen. Such a man is a leader, and is worthy of any position in the gift of church or state.

The citizens of Kansas City turned out in large numbers Wednesday to extend a cordial welcome to the Bishop, general officers, and members of the Missouri conference. Bishop A. Grant presided, and seated by his side was Rev. H. Blanton Parks, who will no doubt make one of the successors to the able prelate. He is now in line of promotion.

The exercises opened with music by the choir. There is much credit due Miss Marie Lucas, for the excellent music rendered by the choir. Mrs. Ophelia Jackson presided at the organ.

Rev. F. Jesse Peck, D. D., the able pastor of Allen chapel had arranged to entertain his guests and he is a royal entertainer. Some day the general church will recognize his worth and ability by appointing or electing him to a higher place.

Dr. W. Thompkins rendered a solo, and the Rev. J. Frank McDonald delivered an eloquent address of welcome to the ministers, and Rev. J. M. Harris, of the M. E. church, said that he would extend a welcome to the ministers of the conference as men. The conference was charmed by the address delivered by Miss Ida M. Godfrey, of the public schools. Solo by James J. Craw, and the matchless orator, Nelson C. Crews, delivered an address of welcome.

The presence of Prof. W. T. Vernon, of the treasury department of the National government, and Prof. Shelton French, of Western university, was the occasion of an outburst of applause.

Dr. H. Blanton Parks is an active worker in the conference and is making many friends. Be it remembered that ten years ago Dr. Parks was pastor of Allen chapel, and was elected from this church to his present position, Secretary of Missions. He has made many friends throughout the country and nation. He is a fine orator, and his editor of the Voice of Missions his ability is also shown, and the people of Missouri will hail with delight "Bishop" H. B. Parks.

Rev. J. D. Barksdale, presiding elder of the St. Louis district showed that he had been faithful in the discharge of his duty. He is an able minister and a leader of men. Rev. M. Collins, D. D., and N. C. Buren, presiding elders also made a good showing. They are men of ability.

A large amount of business was transacted in the morning session, (Thursday.) Bishop Grant made a short address in which he commended the work of Gov. Folk in seeing that the law was put into execution and the closing of the saloons on Sunday.

The representatives of the general church departments made short addresses.

Rev. J. H. Allen preached the annual sermon Thursday morning.

At noon memorial services were held in respect to Bishop B. W. Arnett, D. D. Bishop Grant, who was elected at the same time Bishop Arnett was, presided. The services were sad, and while the addresses were being delivered and the music rendered by the choir many of the men and women wept. The following program was rendered:

Music by the choir; prayer, Rev. B. W. Stewart; music by the choir; "Arnett as a Bishop," H. B. Parks; "As a General Officer," Rev. N. C. Buren; music by the choir; "As a Humanitarian," Rev. M. S. Bryant; "As a Statesman," Rev. J. R. Ransom; solo, "My Jesus as Thou Wilt," Rev. J. E. Edwards; "As a Historian," Rev. W. H. Heard; remarks by Bishop Grant.

The afternoon on Thursday was spent in routine business. A missionary mass meeting was held Thursday night. Rev. H. B. Parks, D. D., missionary secretary made the address.

Missionary Mass Meeting.

Thursday night Allen chapel was crowded from altar to door. The missionary mass meeting was presided over by Bishop Grant. The missionary committee made an able report and addresses were delivered by Rev. H. B. Parks, L. H. Harris, W. D. Cook, D. D., and J. I. Lowe, D. D., of Pine Bluff, Ark.

Friday morning, promptly at 9 o'clock, Bishop Grant called the conference to order, and after impressive song and prayer service the journal was read and approved.

The disciplinary questions were asked and answered. In answer to the question, "Where shall our next conference be held?" St. Paul A. M. E. church, St. Louis was selected.

A number of committees reported during the morning session. At night the educational mass meeting of the conference was held. Bishop Grant presided. He said in his opening remarks, "That the biggest battle the American people had to fight was ignorance." He urged the ministers to prepare for their work and to spend their idle time in study instead of sitting around on street corners.

Addresses were delivered by Rev. W. T. Vernon, D. D., of Washington, D. C., Prof. Shelton French and others.

Friday afternoon the conference visited Western university, in a body, and a session was held out there. The committee on the state of the country reported at this session.

The appointments will be made Monday. The people will be very much disappointed if Dr. Peck is not returned to Allen chapel. Bishop Grant refused to discuss the matter with a reporter for THE RISING SON.

"I never discuss my appointments before they are made," he said, "and I am sorry that I cannot let you know in advance. All the churches of the city will receive as their pastors the best men I have, or at least some of them. We have a strong set of men in our conference now."

"Have you had a good session?"

"I am highly pleased with the result. The public will be invited to our closing."

Bishop Grant will preach Sunday morning. He is an able speaker and the church should be crowded to hear him.

Rev. A. A. Gilbert is among his friends here once more. There is no minister of the Gospel with more loyal friends and supporters than Rev. Gilbert. Twenty-four years of his life

ing him as a delegate to the last general conference and he holds the cue for a successful candidacy for the next one.

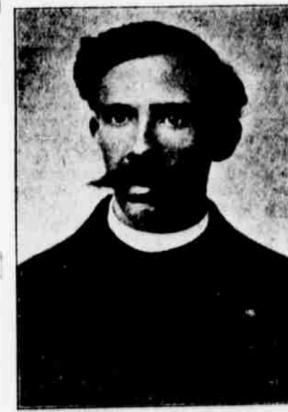
Rev. Gilbert has pastored the church in Lexington, Mo., 4 years, where he



have been spent in the ministry in the Missouri conference, 10 of them here among us, where he successfully pastored Ebenezer Chapel, bringing her from a fourth rate charge to a first class one. His brothers ministers at tested their faith and loyalty by send

greater financial and spiritual gain than in previous years. Considering all his adversities, Rev. Peck has made a remarkably tremendous stride to place Allen chapel in the front ranks. The citizens of Kansas City, including both races, are very proud of his achievements toward the uplifting of humanity, and of his great and good influence upon the young people.

Particularly at this period of development, Allen chapel, the foremost power among us, can not afford to take one step backward. It seems the hue and cry of all the people, as well as the congregations plea, that Dr. Peck be returned for another year.



stands for itself in results too great to be overlooked by anyone. He rebuilt Allen chapel, which today stands among others, he has erected for his denomination, in this section. The services at Allen chapel now excel any of past years. The work has improved, in every respect and shows

To Vote You Must Be Registered.

If you are not registered from the place you now live at you must register on next Tuesday, October 16, 1906, between 8 a. m. and 9 p. m.