

ADVICE TO AFRO AMERICANS.

"I Care Nothing for the Color of a Man's Skin; It is Character That Makes Him"

[DALLAS NEWS.]

The West Texas conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, North (colored) is in session at the St. Paul Church, corner of Burford and Juliett streets, Bishop I. W. Joyce presiding. A great deal of important work has been accomplished and many interesting reports made respecting the work both religious and educational. Many prominent ministers and educators are present from this and other States.

A special feature of last night's meeting was an address by Prof. I. Garland Penn before the Young People's Epworth League. Prof. Penn said in part:

"What the young Negro wants is character and ability. Let him get character, get something in his head and always keep something in his pocket. Character and ability will win in the end. I am certain of one thing. God is always on the side of the man of character, and you need not doubt but that all good men are on the same side. Let us join hands with the good men of character of all races and let us build on a solid foundation. I am anxious about the young men and women of the race; I am anxious that they shall be raised up and to be useful along all lines. The Negro society has divisions that are very distinct, though those who decry the Negro, blinded by prejudice, may not be able to see it. The Negro is making great moral progress, a material and financial progress are marked by extremes, for while a part are on the hilltop others, the great majority are in the gutter. What I want those who are up to do is to extend their hands and assist those in the gutter to rise.

"I believe this country is the place for the Negro. We have not time to talk about taking the Negro to Africa, or anywhere else, but we want him to work here, to educate his children, buy homes, get property, be somebody have character, be a man, think as other men think. I am a Negro, and I am proud of the fact. I think, I reason, I act as other men act, and I am not disturbed about what the newspapers may call me. I know what I am. I know character will shine just as bright under a black skin as under a white skin. Character is the worth of the man. I would not have all the Negroes go to Africa if I could. There are some here that the Africans themselves do not need and would not have any use for over there.

"Some one has said the Negro is the only being that has been able to look the gray-eyed and the pale-faced race in the eyes and live. The Indian has heard his voice and has gone westward but the Negro remains and continues to buy homes and is being educated for a noble purpose, whatever that may be. Let us take fresh courage. A bright day is ahead. Put your ear to the ground and listen. The other day the fourth bank was organized by Negroes in Richmond, Va., and one in Philadelphia. This means industry, ability and honesty.

"What the Negroes needs is the kind of faith that the old mothers had on the plantations of the South before the war. They prayed and trusted God that all things would win for them in the end."

He closed by calling attention to the national Negro conference to be held in Atlanta next August.

Items From the Philippines

A letter from Captain W. C. Warmley, written in November from the "Wall d City" Manila, Philippine Islands, has been received at this office. He tells of his trip from San Francisco to Manila, which was made in 28 days. On the Transport Thomas he found many officers and quite a number of school teachers going to the Islands. Among the number of teachers there was only one colored. He says there are at present three colored teachers in the Philippine Islands, and while they are giving good account of themselves they are discouraged by the white officers most of whom are from the South and have taken their race prejudice to the Philippines. The outlook for colored people in the Philippines is very discouraging, he says, as long as American officers have control of the civil government. They are against the Negro at every stage of the game. Dr. Warmley has been elected President of the Provincial Board of Health in the Province of Cagayan at a salary of \$1,200 per annum with privilege of outside practice.

NEGRO YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN CONGRESS.

Assuming Mammoth Proportions.

The Negro Young People's Christian Congress—the first mammoth young people's Christian meeting in which all denominations have taken part—is to be the greatest meeting, so the leaders say, in the history of the race. It is the first union effort of all denominations looking to the Christian training of the Negro youth. The meeting will be held in Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 6-11, 1902. The railroads have already agreed upon a one fare for the round trip which will make the fare from Washington for the round trip about \$15.00. During the convention, or immediately after a side trip will be made to Tuskegee, Alabama, for the benefit of those who will want to see the great Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Prof. I. Garland Penn, A. M., of Atlanta, Ga., who has executive direction of this great movement, was in the city last week and called upon President Roosevelt who looks upon this movement with favor. Prof. Penn arranged for the call of a delegation of leading men of the race, of all denominations upon President Roosevelt on January 18. He invited him to attend the meeting. The delegation will be made up of the following men representing different churches and agencies participating: Booker T. Washington, Rev. M. C. B. Mason, D. D., Cincinnati; Bishop G. W. Clinton, D. D., Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. I. B. Scott, D. D., New Orleans, La.; Bishop W. J. Gaines, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. D. N. Vass, D. D., Raleigh, N. C.; Hon. H. A. Rucker, Atlanta, Ga.; Bishop B. W. Arnet, D. D., Wilberforce, Ohio; Rev. J. W. Bowen, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. D. J. Saunders, D. D., Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. E. W. D. Issacs, D. D., Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. G. W. Moore, D. D., Nashville, Tenn.; Prof. I. Garland Penn, A. M., Atlanta, Ga.; Prof. W. B. Matthews, Atlanta, Ga.; Bishop R. S. Williams, D. D., Augusta, Ga.; Rev. L. G. Jordan, D. D., Louisville, Ky.; Rev. E. R. Carter, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. W. H. Weaver, D. D., Baltimore, Md.; Rev. J. A. Rush, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.

While in the city the delegation will also meet the city preachers of Washington, D. C. on the afternoon of January 18th at half-past two o'clock at At-

bury M. E. Church, Cor. 11th & K Sts., Northwest. Secretary Penn has issued a call to that effect. All the preachers of all the churches in Washington are united to meet the delegation. They will likely scatter themselves among the churches of Washington on Sunday, January 19th and thus the interests of the great meeting will be carefully and eloquently brought before the Christian people of Washington.

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