

The Presbyterian of the South

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CHURCH NEWS

VIRGINIA.

Union Theological Seminary: The Seminary began the new session last Wednesday with an overflowing attendance, one hundred and two students already on the ground and others still to come in. They represent thirteen States and foreign countries. Dr. Theron H. Rice made the opening address on "The Cry of the Devoted Heart." Schauffler Hall, the new model Sunday school building, was dedicated on Sunday morning, the following gentlemen taking part in the exercises: Rev. T. C. Johnson, D. D., pastor of the Ginter Park church; Mr. Owsley Sanders, superintendent of the Ginter Park Sunday school; Mr. William R. Miller, secretary and treasurer of the Building Committee; Mr. John S. Munce, president of the Board of Trustees; Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D., president of the Seminary, and Rev. W. T. Thompson, D. D., Professor of Sunday School Work in the Seminary.

Richmond: Rally Day was observed by the Sunday school of the Second church October 2d, and the exercises were interesting. Each department of the school, including the Primary, was represented by exercises appropriate to itself. An offering was taken up for Sunday School Extension with a generous response. Rev. John W. Moore, missionary from Japan, spoke at the evening service. His address was interesting and instructive, and enjoyed by all who heard him.

Fulton church has called Rev. B. O. Shannon, pastor of Thompson Valley and Liberty Hill churches in Tazewell County. He has accepted the call and expects to come to begin his work here in the near future.

Charlottesville: At the communion service October 2d thirty-one members were received into the Charlottesville church. This number represented twenty families not heretofore connected with this church. The congregations are very large. Many University students are attending the church services. The Sunday school and Bible classes are all prospering, and the Ladies' Auxiliary and other societies are renewing their work.

Bethesda Church, in Rockbridge County: The recent meeting of Lexington Presbytery celebrated with deep impressiveness the tenth anniversary of the present pastorate

as well as the hundredth anniversary of this church. The occasion was featured by fine sermons from the ministers on the theme of "Our Witness for Christ." Most kindly greetings were brought from the neighboring churches by their pastors. Drs. D. A. Penick and A. H. Hamilton and C. W. Humphreys, the only ex-pastor of this church, all sent their good words, besides the messages from prominent citizens voiced by the editor of the County News of Rockbridge. On Home-Coming Day a great company gathered, when Rev. W. C. White, D. D., Stated Clerk, conveyed the good wishes of Presbytery, after which addresses were made by Mr. A. M. Anderson, Sunday school superintendent for thirty years, and Mr. F. T. Snider, musical director for fifty years. The Centennial sermon was preached by Dr. A. M. Fraser. This sermon was marked for appropriateness and unusual vigor, as well as spirituality and scripturalness, and made a lasting impression. The people love the church, and at considerable expense have made extensive improvements, both to manse and church, besides installing a new organ. All of which make it a most attractive church property.

Cor.

Drake's Branch: This church has been without a regular pastor since the resignation of our beloved Rev. Cochran Preston, who labored so acceptably in our midst for about seven years. For the past year and more we have been supplied by Dr. B. F. Bedinger. On last Sunday he informed the session that he had accepted work elsewhere and felt that it was his duty to go. Our church will feel the loss of Dr. Bedinger very keenly in the fact that no man who ever filled this pulpit has preached the Word with more power and yet in such simplicity that the veriest child could understand. Also as pastor he has watched over the flock carefully, and the church has been strengthened by the addition of eleven on profession, one by renewal and one on certificate during the past year. Truly the Lord has been good to us! May He speedily send us an under-shepherd that the good work that has been done suffer no diminution, but under the impetus thus derived be prosecuted with renewed zeal and vigor.

J.

Radford: Rev. W. T. Newman, who has been recently called to the pastorate of this church, was installed on the fourth Sunday in September. The installation services were conducted by the Rev. T. P. Johnston, of Christiansburg, Va., and Rev. Fred S. McCorkle, of the Radford Central church. Mr. Johnston preached a splendid sermon, and delivered the charge to the congregation. Mr. McCorkle delivered the charge to the pastor. Elder C. I. Wade, of the Christiansburg church, was also in attendance. The Rev. W. McC. Miller, of Richmond, who is here visiting his native place and many relatives and friends, was in the congregation. Ex-Governor J. Hoge Tyler and several members of his family were in attendance. The many friends of the Governor were delighted to see him able to be out after a severe and protracted illness, which has kept him away from the services of the sanctuary for several months. The church music was much enjoyed by the large crowd in attendance, especially the solo rendered by the widely known soloist, Mr. Edmund S. Jones. Mr. Newman is from the famous blue-grass section of old Kentucky, which not only breeds famed horses and cattle, but, like Old

Virginia, there seems to be something in its atmosphere that breeds the best type of American manhood and womanhood. Mr. Newman comes to this church fresh from the schools of the prophets, Louisville, Ky., and Princeton University. His people here seem determined to stand by and hold up his hands while he labors for the furtherance of the gospel in his church and community. We pray that the fullest measure of success may crown the efforts of both pastor and people in Christ Jesus.

F. J. Harris, Elder.

New Monmouth Church: A number of things of interest have happened lately in this church. On the 18th of September, at 8 P. M., a band of men from Mt. Carmel church met with her men. They were accompanied by their pastor, Rev. J. L. Fairly. On invitation from New Monmouth, these brethren came to tell about the work of Mt. Carmel's men in their Bible class. A number of very inspiring and helpful talks were made, and the men of New Monmouth were inspired to undertake greater things for the Saviour. The fellowship enjoyed in that hour of worship was great and will long be remembered. At the morning hour on September 25th, Rev. J. M. Williams, of Crystal Springs, Miss., who was visiting the pastor, Rev. O. M. Anderson, delivered a very helpful sermon to the edification of the people. He also addressed the Christian Endeavor Society in the evening. The Sunday school held its Rally Day exercises on October 2d. A large audience was in attendance and a fine program was rendered by the school. The offering for Sunday School Extension amounted to \$60.

ALABAMA.

Birmingham: The autumn season, with its renewed life and activity, was emphasized by the Rally Day services of the South Highland church. As a fitting prelude "glad day" special letter-grams were sent out the day previous, for all appreciate the personal touch and invitation. The exercises were presided over by Elder McBrom, superintendent of the Sunday school. While young in years, his face reflects the "inner light" that draws all hearts to him. The program reflected careful training of the several grades, while the wee tots rejoiced in their Honor Roll certificate, as if older grown. A memorial service for three devoted workers concluded the devotions. Dr. Dobyns' appeal to all to work while it is day was timely, with lessons drawn from the three loved ones so suddenly taken. The pastor now occupies a commodious manse next to the church.

J. L. Brownlee.

Birmingham, Seventy-sixth Street Presbyterian church, Rev. J. P. Stevenson, pastor: On Sunday, at the close of the Rally Day exercises, one of the elders, Mr. R. C. Booth, stated that it was necessary to raise eighteen hundred dollars in order to meet the last payment on the manse. The opportunity was publicly given the congregation to subscribe, which was quickly done to the glory of "our Lord's work."

Greenville: The pastor of this church, Rev. E. M. Shepard, has just returned from a vacation trip to South Carolina. The women of the church have taken up the work with renewed vigor. They have recently organized a Bible Study class, which meets weekly. At present the class is studying the book of Acts. Great interest is being shown in this class. The men are also busy. We have five representatives in the local Busi-

ness Men's Evangelistic Club.

Anniston, Second Church: Our church has been greatly strengthened by a series of services, in which Rev. J. E. Hixson, of Birmingham, assisted our stated supply, Rev. R. T. Liston. Mr. Hixson was with us a week, conducting a children's service each day along with the regular services. There were twenty-four conversions, several of whom were heads of families, and have been added to the church. The Laymen's Association was reorganized September 27th with one of our choice young men, Mr. N. L. Summers, as president. Work on a new manse will be started at an early date.

Jasper church had thirty-one members five years ago. Now it has fifty. Its gifts to outside benevolence have been about the same as its own expenses. During the same time it has paid about \$2,500, leaving about \$450 yet due on the manse.

Carbon Hill church five years ago had twenty members. Now it has forty. Meanwhile it lost its church building in a cyclone, which has been replaced by a neat brick church at a cost of about \$3,000, all of which is paid, and the building will be dedicated the fourth Sabbath of October.

Fayette church had thirteen members five years ago. Now it has twenty-four. It has paid its original debt and made other church improvements, and could take more of its pastor's time if it was available.

Townley church was organized more than two years ago, but has never had any settled place of worship, and the conditions of the town under the strike have been such as to impede progress. It is to be hoped that this church will build soon. This group of churches is now becoming better able to do aggressive work. It subscribed a little more than \$5,000 to education, which amount is now being paid. Rev. T. J. Ponder, the pastor, has other points of mission work in connection with these churches.

Gabbett: Rev. F. E. Bagby held a week's meeting at this church recently, and was assisted for a few days by Rev. Charles H. Pratt, D. D., of Trinity church, Montgomery. There were good crowds in attendance and growing interest to the end, and one person joined the church by reaffirmation of faith. This congregation is very happy in having a new pastor, and the future of this church is very bright. The Sunday school is one of the special features of the work.

Woodland: Rev. E. L. Wilson, Supervisor of Home Missions, assisted the pastor, Rev. F. E. Bagby, at Woodland church recently. There were splendid crowds from the beginning and growing interest to the end. There were eight additions by profession and reaffirmation of faith, five of whom were baptized. Several others are expected to join soon by letter and by profession of faith. This is a fine community, and the church here has a bright future. This church is located in a splendid country community.

Alexander City: Rev. K. L. Whittington has been installed pastor of this church by a commission from East Alabama Presbytery consisting of Revs. E. L. Wilson and A. F. Laird and Elder Walter D. Shepherd, of First church, Montgomery. This church has been without a pastor for more than two years, and the congregation is delighted with Mr. Whittington. The church has been beautifully frescoed in recent months, the Ladies' Aid Society assuming the responsibility. A beautiful new piano has been purchased and installed by the congregation, which adds very much