

June 25th, 1927

Annual
In Session
Owen Sound

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H. D. Wright

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Official Organ of the Can. League for Advancement of Colored People



THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

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Report of Annual Conference Of B.M.E. Church

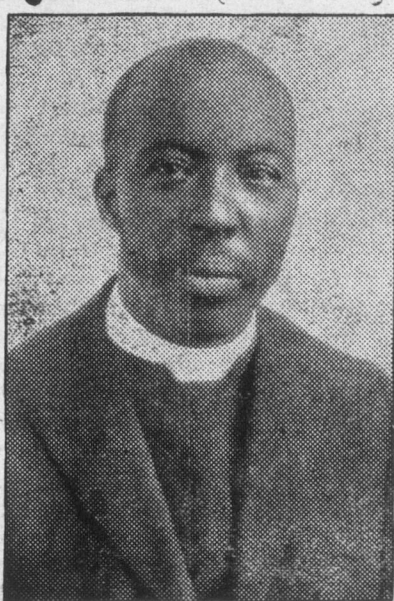
From June 21st to 27th inclusive the City of Owen Sound, Ontario, was the scene of much activity. The occasion was the gathering together of minister, delegates and friends for the seventy-first annual session of the Ontario Conference of the British Methodist Episcopal Church.

While the atmosphere was a bit gloomy, owing to the decease of the General Superintendent, Rev. Samuel R. Drake, just previous to the sitting of the Conference, nevertheless his good work continued and his name very much revered.

The Rev. H. D. Wright, having been given the oversight of the work for the remaining weeks of the closing year, called the seventy-first annual session to order at 8.30 p.m., on Tuesday, June 21st. After making a few preliminary remarks the acting general superintendent, Rev. H. D. Wright, introduced Brother Peter Harris, pastor of the Harrow Church, as the speaker for the evening. Bro. Harris, who is a Travelling Licentiate, and a candidate for the ministry, gave a very timely and interesting address, using as his subject, "The Sending Forth of His Disciples."

On Wednesday morning the presiding officer called the session to order at 9.30 a.m. A very spirited devotional service was carried on after which the presiding officer addressed the Conference from the topic, "How God calls men." The subject was full of thought and very helpful, especially to the clergy, who were very attentive to the speaker.

Organization for routine business was next in order, and the Rev. E. A. Richardson, of Owen Sound Church was elected as the recording Secretary and the Rev. F. O. Stewart, of Toronto, as the Statistical Secretary. The credentials of the delegates were received and being found regular, the delegates from the following churches were given a seat within the boundaries of the Conference: Windsor, Mr. W. Perkins; Toronto, Miss S. Stanfield; Brantford,



REV. H. D. WRIGHT,

The newly elected Superintendent of the B.M.E. Conference. He is the oldest minister in the B.M.E. Church in point of service.

Mrs. Brown; Owen Sound, Mr. T. Green; Stratford, Mrs. J. D. Hall; Harrow, Mrs. E. Talbert; Collingwood, Mr. Joseph Thomas; St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Guelph Woodstock, Fort Erie, North Buxton and Dresden were also represented at this session. The remainder of the second day was given over to appointing of committees and various other routine matters were discussed during the day. Thursday was another great day when the session was called to order by the presiding officer and the devotional period comprised a beautiful message from him on the subject, "The Need of a Revival." Conclusive evidence was given that there is a great need of a revival in the church. The afternoon session was given over to the receiving of reports, and despite the short year every church made a very fine impression on all who were present to hear what had been done on the different fields during the past nine months.

Each report showed that some real efforts had been put forth to sustain the work throughout the entire connexion. Before leaving this part of our narrative, permit us to say just a word concerning the reception tendered the entire conference on Wednesday night, June 22nd. We are not able to find adequate words to express what we would like to say con-

(Continued on Page 7)

ODE TO FREEDOM.

(By G. Heart Andrews)

(Inspired by the approach of the 94th anniversary of the abolition of Slavery in the British Empire.)

Sing we the freed-man's song of songs,
Under the flag that floats in the blue,
Realm of a race of kings—belongs
Sovereign and flag to the Negro, too.

Never the shackles' blistering bite,
Never the shameful whip on the back,
Upspringing truth honor and right
Gave us the freeman's track.

Wield we the whip on ourselves,
Let the mean shirker and sluggard
arise;
He is the master who masters his soul.
Virtue aieves, where dread violence
dies.

Take up the burden, hope makes us
strong,
Heart to the sun and eyes on the day,
Freedom had never a charter for
wrong.
Liberty treads not the libertine's way.

Sing we the freed-man's song,
Under the flag in the blue,
Liberty, birthright and flag belong
To the Negro, too.

Victory In Sweet Case Is Complete

New York, July 22.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, announced today that the case against all the defendants in the Sweet trial were dismissed July 21. It will be remembered that all eleven defendants in this case were tried together at the first trial beginning October 30, 1925, and continuing for three weeks. This trial resulted in a mistrial and on the next trial beginning April 19, 1926, and lasting until May 13, the State elected to try Henry Sweet against whom it felt it had the strongest evidence. This second trial resulted in the acquittal of Henry Sweet. But there still remained impending the indictments against the other ten defendants. The fact that the cases against these ten defendants have been dismissed completely closes the fight which was made by the N.A.A.C.P. in behalf of Dr. Osian H. Sweet and the co-defendants which began in October, 1925.

Whites Must Drop Absurd Illusions

• (From the Montreal Gazette)

Paris, July 25.—Matin will publish tomorrow an interview with Bernflot Moens, Dutch anthropologist, in which he predicts a great war of the races unless white men renounce their conception of the superiority of the white race. He says long study in the United States formed his convictions regarding the dangers of the situation.

"I have just spent 14 years in the United States," he says, "where I found a country forming a remarkable field of study. At New York I changed my place of living 30 times, lodging among Negroes, Armenians, Italians, Poles, Jews and Indians. I lived their lives and studied their institutions. The result is a warning to those who still nourish the absurd illusion of the supremacy of the white race.

"Supremacy of the whites is now 3,000 years old, but, 5,000 years ago, when there was already a remarkable Mongolian civilization, what was going on where Rue de la Paix now runs? Probably a man covered with hair was hiding behind a tree to knock down a fellow with his club.

"My own conclusion is that black and yellow men, after a long period of lethargy, have now shown their strength. I believe their awakening is near. A thousand symptoms indicate it. And since they are much more numerous than the whites, it is easy to imagine what may result. We are at the beginning of a new epoch for humanity.

"I am an optimist and like to believe that the time of national wars has passed. It is possible that the white men of Europe will agree among themselves. But we will perhaps fall into the greater disaster of a great war of the races.

"We must profit by the few years which remain to us to create an international spirit which, unfortunately, scarcely exists today and less in the United States and England than elsewhere.

"Besides our sentiment of supremacy, we cultivate the ugly prejudice of the hopeless inferiority of yellow and black men. We should not wait until they show us our mistake.