

MINUTES  
of  
BERMUDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
FORTY-SIXTH SESSION  
African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Bethel A. M. E. Church  
Shelly Bay, Bermuda

REV. A. F. ROBERSON, PASTOR

Thursday, December 18th, 1929

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RT. REV. JOSHUA H. JONES, D.D. L.L.D.  
Presiding Bishop

REV. CHARLES H. BELL, B. A. D.D.  
Presiding Elder

REV. R. J. STOVELL, Secretary

REV. C. A. STEWART, Statistical Secretary

Rev. Bell spoke with a deal of enthusiasm, saying among many things, we have a magnificent task in changing Man's heart. It required a motive to hold us to our task. Love of Christ is the motive power of service.

A solo sung by Mrs. A. F. Roberson was impressively rendered.

Rev. Chas. H. Bell, P.E., in a few words, yet choice, introduced Bishop Jones to the large audience.

The Bishop prefaced his response to the welcome addresses, by paying tribute to two venerable mothers of Israel for their expressions of love and sympathy and a high sense of duty, these were Sisters Mary Burgess and Adelia Jones. The Bishop then spoke of the many pleasant courtesies extended him by the people of Bermuda. The audience was then treated to a wonderful address.

"Greatness depends not on race varieties, but on opportunities made use of," was one declaration of the sage of the Church. His address was super-excellent.

A duet by Misses Minors and Halleger, of North Shore Mission, was well sung.

## SECOND DAY

Thursday was the Women's Conference Branch day of the Missionary Society. The session closed after the offering taken—£1. 10. 10.

### Special Session

At 3 p.m. Thursday afternoon a special session was called to hear the report of the Committee to whom the Conference had given power to use money borrowed from Tucker's Town Church. Rev. Chas. H. Bell presented a detailed report covering every item used and every penny spent in the building campaign carried on in all of the churches during the years 1925 to 1928.

After the reading of the report a motion to adopt and a vote of thanks given Rev. Bell, was made by Rev. R. H. Tobitt, seconded by Rev. Jno. De Shield.

Discussion followed which was explained by the Bishop that adoption or rejection was the only business before the house. The motion was put after the count, the motion was declared carried. The Bishop then called for standing vote and again the motion was carried by five yeas and two nays.

Rev. R. H. Tobitt moved that the committee be discharged since they had done their work so well, seconded by Rev. Gault.

Rev. J.D. Smith asked if the matter of providing for the return of the money would be considered later, and on being told that the question was not germane, the motion was carried.

Bishop Jones then suggested that a resolution was in order and the following was passed.

Whereas the report of the committee on the expenditure of the Tucker's Town Loan has been received and adopted by the Annual Conference; be it resolved that the Churches benefitting therefrom be requested to give their notes for the amount and interest accruing at 3% according to the report of the committee as approved by the Annual Conference; and that the Presiding Elder and pastors to be appointed to these charges be required by order of the Bishop to attend to and adjust the matter within six months.

Motion to adopt was made by Rev. Tobitt seconded by Rev. De Shield. Carried.

The Bishop further remarked that while the Conference borrowed the money, that it was an error because the Conference was not a body of original jurisprudence. He felt that each church benefitting would recognise its moral obligation and adjust the matter.

Rev. Tobitt moved and Rev. De Shield seconded that the Trustees of Tucker's Town Church be written to, informing them of the decision of the Conference. Carried.

A motion by Rev. Chas. H. Bell, seconded by Rev. R. H. Tobitt, that the part of the minutes dealing with the Tucker's Town Loan be printed in the local newspapers and a copy sent to each of the interested parties. Motion carried.

Rev. Rufus J. Stovell, pastor of St. Phillips, expressed his gratefulness and happiness and satisfaction that the matter has been amicably settled.

Conference adjourned and the session of W.M.M. society was resumed.

#### FRIDAY

##### Third Day Morning Session

Devotionals conducted by Rev. Tobitt. Hymn 99. Prayer by Rev. J. D. Smith. After singing of Hymn No. 12, Rev. Tobitt read from first Cor. 13th chapter.

##### Literary Reports

Paper on the state of the Country by Rev. J S Johnson

Paper on Education was read by Rev. C. A. Stewart.

Rev. R. H. Tobitt who was now in the Chair called for the paper on Temperance which was read by Rev. A. F. Roberson.

Paper on State of the Church was read by Rev. Harvey L. Gault.

All papers were discussed with great profit to those attending the session.

Bishop Jones came in at this point and took the Chair, he called on Rev. J. D. Smith to come forward. The Bishop told of Rev. Smith's transfer saying that the place made vacant by Rev. H.L. Gault would be filled by Rev. Smith.