

METHODISTS IN DISCORD

CLASH ON LYNCHING AND WAR

Opening Day of the Ecumenical Conference in London Marked by Public Differences of Opinion on Two Vexed Subjects.

England—
[SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE CHICAGO RECORD-HERALD.]

LONDON, Sept. 4.—Discord among both Englishmen and Americans marked the opening of the ecumenical Methodist conference here to-day. Meeting in the Cathedral of Methodism, as the City Road Chapel built by John Wesley in 1760 is called, the delegates devoted a long session to prayers and sermons, and then the Boer war and lynchings in the southern American states more than ruffled the harmonious surface.

Bishop Walters, colored, of Jersey City, sprung the lynching issue. He denied that immorality rules the American negro, and as proof of his charge of oppression declared that though ninety negroes were lynched in the United States last year assaults upon white women had been proved in only eleven cases.

Southern Delegates Angry.

"The English people have always been our friends," he eloquently appealed. "You gave us a refuge, and now, when we are struggling to improve ourselves, we look to you, our old-time friends, to give us sympathy and encouragement, as you did in the past."

When he ascended the platform Bishop Walters received the heartiest welcome of any of the American delegates, but this favorable demonstration was cast into the shade by the loud cheers of the English part of his audience when he voiced this appeal. So marked was the occurrence that several of the southern delegates left the hall, while others more or less openly expressed their disapprobation.

Differ Upon the Boer War.

Discord over the Boer war developed into a platform clash. Sir Charles Skelton, former Mayor of Sheffield, and Rev. Joseph Odell were the critics of the conflict, while its defender came from across the Atlantic in the person of Dr. Potts of Toronto, who delivered a heated imperialistic speech in answer to the assertion that "Hell is let loose in South Africa." Preaching of the gospel of peace was urged in reply to him.

American and Canadian Methodists are represented by 300 delegates. The Methodist Episcopal church of the United States sent 29 representatives, among them Bishops Hurst, Vincent, Hamilton and Hartzell. The Methodist Episcopal church South is rep-

resented by seventy delegates, including Bishops Fitzgerald, Galloway, Granbery and Anderson. The colored Methodist churches of America are represented by fifty-eight delegates, including twenty colored bishops.

BLAMES SHERIFF FOR LYNCHING

Adjutant General of Missouri Upon Mob's Work at Pierce City.

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-HERALD.]
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Aug. 29.—Responsibility for the recent lynching of three innocent negroes at Pierce City is placed upon Sheriff Manlove of Lawrence County by Adjutant General Dameron. In his report to Governor Dockery, made public to-day, General Dameron says that despite the fact that threats of lynching were openly made, "the sheriff saw fit to leave for his home at Mount Vernon," and adds that it is the general belief that if he had remained at his post of duty during the crisis and asked for the militia the lynchings would have been prevented.

Earnest Protest Against Lynching.

In my inaugural address I referred to the general subject of lynching in these words: "Lynching must not be tolerated in a great and civilized country like the United States; courts, not mobs, must execute the penalties of the law. The preservation of public order, the right of discussion, the integrity of courts and the orderly administration of justice must continue forever the rock of safety upon which our government securely rests."

This I most urgently reiterate and again invite the attention of my countrymen to this reproach upon our civilization.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1901.

Unmerited Applause for Tillman.

Is it only under the influence of such great wrong as slavery that the northern conscience can be made to feel the manly cruelties of race discrimination?

The reception given to Senator TILLMAN's speech at Marinette, Wis., would seem to compel an affirmative answer to this question. For the orator had his auditors with him in his intemperate attack upon the negro, though its misleading inferences should have repelled sympathy.

If they had cared for the facts. While the abhorrence for the crime of criminal assault upon women is easily intelligible, everyone should know that the lynching of the blacks is not a punishment reserved for that crime. It is often visited upon common murderers and upon persons guilty of comparatively trivial offenses. Moreover, the executions are sometimes put through upon mere charges without proof.

Nothing, therefore, could be more unfair than a justification of lynching by reference to the one crime, and wherever it is accepted without protest we must suppose that the race prejudice exists. The same conclusion follows also when we consider the temper of the meeting at Marinette and other assumptions by the

Senator. If all men are not created equal we have always preached equality of opportunity in this country, and that is the great question at issue. There is no natural right of the white to rule the black such as Mr. TILLMAN imagines. If ignorance is to be made a bar to the elective franchise it should operate against ignorant whites as well as against ignorant blacks. If there is to be a property qualification it should tell against both races. No impassioned oratory would be effectual to confuse these truths before an impartial court.

But we have not yet arrived at the full measure of the Senator's intolerance which was so warmly applauded. It is said that "he condemned BOOKER WASHINGTON's scheme of educating the negro along industrial lines," as if any attempt at the development of the race were an impertinence. Surely such a contention can deserve no sympathy, and this is the more apparent when WASHINGTON's position is thoroughly understood. In a eulogistic notice of the man, his work and his "Autobiography" which Mr. HOWELL has written for *The North American Review* the writer says of the subject of his sketch:

By precept and by practice he counsels, not a base submission to the southern whites but a manly fortitude in bearing wrongs that cannot now be righted, and a patient faith in the final kindness and ultimate justice of the Anglo-Americans, with whom and by whom the Afro-Americans must live. He has seen the party which freed the slaves unable through forty years of interrupted power to keep them politically free or make them socially equal with their former masters, and his counsel, enforced by his eminent example, has been for the Afro-American to forego politics, at least for the present, and to put from him indefinitely the illusive hope of associating with the Anglo-American.

Before any audience, northern or southern, BOOKER WASHINGTON is entitled to greater sympathy than BENJAMIN TILLMAN, and nothing save a blind race prejudice could prevent a judgment in his favor.

ALABAMA LYNCHERS INDICTED.

First Instance of the Kind in That State for Many Years.

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-HERALD.]
MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 23.—The first indictments for lynching returned in the state for many years are reported from Elmore County, where Judge Enson called the grand jury in special session to investigate the hanging of a negro who was accused of attempted murder. Judge Enson gave evidence of the earnestness with which the inquiry was prosecuted by sentencing to jail for contempt of court several witnesses who refused to testify.

LEBANON, Ky., Aug. 23.—An unsuccessful

attempt was made early this morning to lynch Dan Hotten and Charles Shipp, who are confined in the Marion County jail, charged with murder. Officer Brent, who was secreted in a coal shed near the jail, opened fire on the mob, causing it to disperse.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Aug. 23.—Governor Dockery this afternoon ordered Adjutant General Damocen and Brigadier General Clark to go to Peirce City at once to protect the property of the state there against the mob. There is talk of disbanding the militia company at Peirce City, because its rifles were used by the mob that lynched three negroes.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma, Aug. 23.—William Favors, a negro, held here on the charge of being connected with the murder of Gazele Wild, at Peirce City, Mo., was released on a writ of habeas corpus this afternoon, but immediately rearrested. It is thought Governor Jenkins will not honor a requisition unless assured that the negro will be protected.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug. 23.—Mrs. Charles Williams, wife of a farmer of Franklin County, Tennessee, was shot and killed to-day by Henry Noles, a negro, who attempted to criminally assault her. After shooting Mrs. Williams the negro fired upon her little son, the bullet grazing his head. Sheriff Stewart and a posse with bloodhounds are in pursuit of the negro, who may be lynched if caught.

PLEA FOR LYNCHING CHEERED.

Wisconsin Audience Applauds Radical Views of Senator Tillman.

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-HERALD.]
MARINETTE, Wis., Aug. 4.—Senator Tillman was cheered by an audience here last night when he advocated lynching for negro ravishers. The senator addressed 4,000 persons, speaking on the race question from a southern view point. He began by saying that the North no longer believed that the negro is the equal of the white man, and his statement seemed to meet the approval of his hearers.

"In Wisconsin you have 5,000 black men," he said. "Why don't you try the bleaching process and exterminate them by intermarrying? The idea is repugnant to you. In South Carolina we have 750,000 blacks and 550,000 whites. All men are not created equal, and the negroes are not fit to vote. Come what may, the white people of the South will govern their own country."

Senator Tillman condemned Booker Washington's scheme of educating the negro along industrial lines.

"I don't want to uphold slavery," he continued. "I thank God there are no slaves to-day under the Stars and Stripes."

Mr. Tillman made a plea in justification of lynching, saying that "southern women could not be brought into court to testify to their shame and degradation before a jury for the purpose of convicting a beast." His reference to the sanctity of the southern household and the southern women and his remarks on lynching were heartily applauded. He closed with an impassioned statement to the effect that the white people of the South would remain on top, "in spite of the devil," and if necessary he and his brethren were ready to take down their shotguns again.

Bishop Turner on Negro Criminals.

The drastic remedies advocated by Bishop TURNER of the African Methodist Church for preventing the crime of assaulting white women is a shock to the country, not only because they are promulgated by a bishop but because they are so directly opposed to the intelligent judgment of the people who have given serious thought to this most important question growing out of the race problem in the South.

Deportation of the blacks to Africa has been dismissed long ago by those who have studied the race question as impracticable and inhumane. As a solution of the race question, even though it were practicable, it would be a reproach to our Christian civilization. The negroes came here in slavery, not of their own volition, and after freeing them from bondage and vesting them with the full privileges of citizenship it is now proposed to deport them to Africa. The word "deport," of course, is a misnomer in this instance, for the reason that the blacks who would be sent to Africa never resided there. They are citizens of the United States. If it is seriously proposed to found a colony of convicts and outcasts in some far off "Siberia" to which certain classes of offenders are to be exiled, the nation could not "draw the color line." White criminals would have to be exiled as well as negroes, and the statistics of criminology show that the whites would greatly outnumber the blacks in such a colony.

Anglo-Saxon civilization will not add to the blot of slavery the still blacker crime of branding them and exiling them after it has liberated them and elevated them to citizenship. We cannot now turn back. The black race must be lifted up. The negro who commits a crime must be lawfully punished as the white criminal is punished. There can be no color line in the penal code without national dishonor and reproach to our civilization.

Branding the cheek of the black man and exiling him to a convict colony is revolting and repugnant to our ideas of justice and humanity. What to do with the black race is being solved in such institutions as the Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., and in hundreds of similar institutions where the negroes are being trained and educated for citizenship.