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IX. The Orphans' Home and Other Educational Institutions

The Regents and Trustees of these institutions shall continue to be elected by Synod as at present and shall have all the authority which they now possess.

X. Changes in Administration

The Committee on the Synod's Work shall have the authority to make any alterations in the matter of administration which do not change the vital principles involved, which vital principles shall be changed only by the Synod itself.

XI.

All contracts now binding upon any of the present Permanent Committees of Synod shall remain in force until their expiration.

XII.

For the Synodical year 1928-1929 only, the Committee on Synod's Work shall have the authority to elect its own Executive Secretary and Treasurer and also any paid officials of its sub-committees whom it may deem necessary, and to fix their salaries; and, furthermore, for this same year it shall have the authority to fix its own budget—all the above without the approval of the Synod.

A. D. P. GILMOUR, Chairman.

MEMORIALS OF DECEASED MINISTERS

REV. WILLIAM BLACK, D.D.

William Black came from the splendid strain of Highland Scotch that flocked into North Carolina through the port of Wilmington after the battle of Culloden. He was born near Maxton, N. C., July 2, 1856, of godly parentage, educated at Tuscaloosa Academy, and felt called to give his life to the study of law. He afterwards graduated from law school and practiced in this profession from 1881 to 1893. Dr. Black did not belong to that class who because of failure later changed his profession. He honored the law by carrying into it the principles of Christ, and his honesty and fidelity in these principles gave him a lucrative practice.

However, he was not satisfied with his success, but felt that the Master wanted him to preach the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ, and on January 17, 1893, he was licensed by Fayetteville Presbytery, and ordained as an evangelist May 9th of the same year, by Mecklenburg Presbytery, and for the years 1893 and 1894 was evangelist for Union and Anson Counties.

He was then elected Superintendent of Synodical Missions in North Carolina and held this position for three years, being elected general evangelist of the Synod of North Carolina in 1897. He held this position until the Savior called him into His presence to give an account of his faithful ministry on November 23, 1927.

These are simply the dates in the life of a great ministry, a ministry that was charged by passion and prayer and power, a ministry that was charged by an unswerving loyalty to the Gospel of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, a ministry that was used of God in building churches, in restoring waste places, and adding many hundreds, yea, thousands, to the Church of Christ.

Dr. Black was a natural leader of men, of very fine physical appearance. He had been captain of a militia company in his early life, and to many of his old friends he was still known as Captain Black. He carried into his ministry some of the gifts that made him a success as a lawyer. His preaching was direct and practical. He was always trying to provoke a crisis in a man's life, and argued with a directness that wanted a verdict then and there for an acceptance of his Lord whom he loved so devotedly and whose love and peace he wanted to share with those who crossed his path.

Dr. Black was constructive in his ministry, always looking for new ideas for the advancement of the Kingdom. He was the father of the movement towards an Elder and Deacon Conference in the State which had a tremendous influence as a forerunner of other movements of this kind. He was the promoter of the Bible Conference at Davidson in 1902, and to this conference some attribute the growth of larger conferences that have since become so popular in this Synod.

He was very active in the formation of the North Carolina Bible League, and in the semi-annual session of the League in the First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, N. C., a splendid recognition of his activity and service was made by a memorial service. His fine training in constitutional thinking made him resist to the fullest the anti-Bible teaching in tax-supported schools, and when he spoke on this theme it was with a passion born of earnest conviction that to teach evolution as a supported scientific theory with all of its adherent evils was a violation of the rights of the great mass of people in the State.

On Saturday, November 19, 1927, Dr. Black began evangelistic services in the Bluff Presbyterian Church, in Fayetteville Presbytery. He was suffering from physical infirmities when he began the meeting but was not willing to turn aside from the work of the Lord. He preached three heart-searching and inspiring sermons on that day and on Sunday morning he and his singer, Mr. Andrew Burr, sang together, "Eternity Is Near." The gates were unfolding for him as he sang it, and on November 23rd he was quickly and gloriously called into the presence of his Lord. For him the strife is o'er, the shadows have passed, and the consummation of all things has become a reality.

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Respectfully submitted,

A. S. JOHNSON.

ion with the Northern Church relations established with the school, started out... able to do before. To cut heart of our work. No money he school, no money with which mate, isn't it simple foolishness work in that way? Will you cut? destroying vigorous life. Do because of our lack of thought

AUXILIARY

d from page 7) selves treasures upon earth—rears in heaven." On the any difference what kind of kind of car you have, but asurs are Your early treas-heavenly treasures will endure

is wise." "They that turn hall shine as the stars forever Crucified" rt like thine; ove ls of men art h with thee; e ost to thee.

S SYNODICAL

convention of the Women's cal of Arkansas convened at November 30th and Decem-

d to order by the president, l by a devotional led by Mrs. The theme for the meeting 'roof of Your Love." Mrs. emblage from time to time inspiring and very spiritual greetings were given by Mrs. enting the Ouachita Presby-etings by Mrs. Donald Mc-lirty, response by Miss Mc-

zed a splendid attendance of on all parts of the state. The retaries, the educational in-in general showed a marked

and communion service were by Rev. F. R. Dudley, D.D., theme being: "The Voice of

rkansas College, gave a very f the extensive work of ex-taken by his school. Mr. H. Crest School (the Synodical's ouaging report of the work in school; a very fine report was very ably presented by eautiful and touching report e for Orphan Children, at Mrs. J. G. Williamson in her

e first day, a tea at the lovely ny gave all an opportunity d in the afternoon of the ve over the beautiful "over and a visit to the still more ells, was greatly enjoyed by

assage of our highly esteemed g president, Mrs. E. S. Scott, ars of untiring labor for the work was both beautiful and th done what she could." In ott's work she was, at the sumptuous meals, presented lot Springs, a beautiful wrist ir esteem and appreciation d, of Little Rock, in a few-presented Mrs. Scott, in the s Auxiliary, a life member-ivory Council.

given over to Mr. W. K. ligious Education, and Miss sident of Christian Endeav- of young people, put on a

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We are printing several appreciations and resolutions on the life and work of Rev. William Black, who died at Wade, N. C., November 23, 1927, while he was conducting a meeting in the Presbyterian Church.

At the meeting of the North Carolina Bible League, in Charlotte, January 11-12, an hour was devoted to a memorial of Dr. Black. Mr. Joe H. Robinson, president of the Mecklenburg County Bible League, spoke of the life and work of Dr. Black, while Dr. A. R. Shaw dwelt on his long and successful ministry in the work of an evangelist. Dr. Black was evangelist of the Synod for over 30 years.

REV. WILLIAM BLACK—AN APPRECIATION

Rev. Donald McIver

Those who knew Mr. Black as far back as '97 will recall a tall, erect, soldierly man, slightly above six feet, known as Captain Black, and he looked every inch a soldier, full of power and energy. His elastic, alert carriage was always touched with gentleness. This manly figure embodied a sympathetic, affable, lovable disposition. He was also progressive, direct. To some he may have seemed almost restless in the zeal of his young manhood for the one passion of his life, namely, evangelism.

His enthusiasm, his gift of leadership, his simplicity and directness, his faith in the sufficiency of the Gospel, together with the fact that he was Scotch, and the majority of the Presbyterian people to whom he preached were Scotch, and that he knew the path to their hearts, qualified him and enabled him to do more for the Presbyterian Church in North Carolina than any other man has been able to do.

In his long and strenuous ministry of 30 years he conducted meetings in practically every church in the Synod, in city, village, country churches and mission points, where thousands were reached directly by him.

Incidentally, his service will be hard to measure, for this service was deep as well as wide. When Mr. Black began his ministry, the church was not fully awake to the need of aggressive extension; orderliness was more in evidence than evangelism. It is easy now to see the changed attitude of the Church on the importance of evangelism. Home Missions has become the objective of the Church. This change can be traced in large measure to the successful ministry of William Black.

Great numbers of our young preachers serving weaker churches were helped in meetings by Mr. Black and caught the vision and enthusiasm of his dominating personality, and their ministries were directed toward evangelic preaching.

There was a directness in his preaching that came as a surprise. The sermon was not an end in itself. He preached for results. He was a lawyer and wanted a verdict then and there. He preached a great, complete Gospel, and made a bold, manly appeal for a decision of the case.

In connection with his evangelistic work the introduction of the evangelistic singer should be noted. The experiment was new in our Church. The appeal of Gospel song went to the hearts of the people who were waiting for a chance to express their praise. They needed a leader, and they responded. The influence of Mr. Black in developing the people in singing under a consecrated director would alone endear him to the people of his denomination.

This estimate of his services would not be complete without some reference to his work in connection with summer conferences. Strange as it may sound, he was the pioneer and sponsor of what we have today, The Elders and Deacons' Institute at Red Springs, in which he was the prime mover, exerted a tremendous influence over a large portion of the state. Mr. Black was a layman then and recognized their need of development and expression. The value of this idea is recognized and other Presbyteries are making use of it.

The next development of this idea was the Bible Conference at Davidson in 1902. That was a great conference of men and women from all over North Carolina, and a great program. How Mr. Black got the money and the men to make the program is a tribute to his personal influence and the confidence in which he was held.

If we are not misled, this conference at Davidson was the first session of the Montreat movement. They did not adjourn to meet at Montreat, but this conference opened the minds of the people to the need of such a conference for instruction and inspiration.

Mr. Black was never on the platform at Montreat, so far as I know, but he was the originator and builder of the conference idea. Not that other men would not have seen it, but he was the pioneer.

Recognizing with gratitude the great services of many faithful men, we yet believe the Presbyterian Church in North Carolina owes more to William Black than to any other.

Central Church, Bristol, Va.

DR. BLACK'S LAST MEETING

Resolutions of the Session, Bluff Presbyterian Church, Wade, N. C., concerning the death of Rev. Wm. Black, D.D.

Dr. Black came to us on Saturday, November 19, 1927. He was ill when he came, but not willing to lay down the work of his Lord, he preached three heartsearching and inspiring sermons. On Sunday morning he and Mr. Andrew Burr sang together, "Eternity Is Near." To us who heard it the song still rings in our ears. Before the meeting was ended Dr. Black was called to his reward. Eternity is near to most of us.

Whereas, Dr. Black, having ended the work God called him to do at our church; and whereas, his humble, consecrated life, his exemplary deeds, like his Lord, who went about doing good, will always commend the Gospel of our Lord to those who knew him;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the officers of Bluff Presbyterian Church:

- 1. That we bow in humble submission to our Heavenly Father's sovereign will and thank Him for this long, useful and consecrated life, and memory of such an exalted character.
2. That we have lost a most faithful brother, a most cultured, Christian gentleman, and a true and faithful servant of Christ.
3. That we honor and keep his memory, and dedicate ourselves more unreservedly to the cause of his Master whom he loved and served.
4. That we extend our love and sympathy to the bereaved family.
5. We direct that this action be recorded in the minutes of the session of the church and be published in the "Presbyterian Standard," and local papers, and a copy be sent to the family.

R. H. Poole, L. R. Parker, Robert Lee, Committee.

Approved by Session of Bluff Presbyterian Church, December 11, 1927.

HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE'S TESTIMONY TO REV. WILLIAM BLACK, D.D.

The keenest sorrow throughout this and other states was felt in the hearts of a vast multitude when the sad news was flashed over the wires, on November 23rd, that Rev. William Black was no longer with us on earth. For over 35 years he labored most earnestly and efficiently in soul-winning within the bounds of this Synod and in many churches in other states. Eternity alone will be able to measure the influence for good he has exerted in the salvation of souls and the building up of Christian character. The Synodical Home Mission Committee, under whose direction Dr. Black labored during the most of his ministry, is deeply grieved by his death and would place on record its appreciation of one so noble and Christ-like, in the form of the following resolutions:

Whereas, God, in His all-wise providence, has called to Himself, Rev. William Black, to serve in broader spheres of service on high, therefore be it resolved:

- 1. That though in the passing of Brother Black the Church at large and especially the Synod of North Carolina sustain a great loss, yet we humbly submit to the will of Him who makes no mistakes and who assures us that all things work together for good to them that love Him.
2. That our deepest and most sincere sympathy be extended to the members of his family, and that they be assured of our abiding interest, love and prayers.
3. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, that they be spread upon the minutes of Synod's Home Mission Committee, and that a copy be sent to each of our Church papers.

On behalf of Synod's Committee of Home Missions, E. P. Wharton, Chairman, E. E. Gillespie, Secretary.