

# THE ASSEMBLY HERALD

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## “U—Rah—Rah!”

Mere noise? No, a reminder that the growth of State Universities is the most striking feature of our public educational system. \$12,000,000 a year are spent on 53,000 students. In 1888 there were seven college students per thousand of the population. Today there are sixteen! One in every seven a Presbyterian. That is *our* problem. Read Prof. Kelsey's article.

# THE ASSEMBLY HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
A. W. HALSEY, D.D., JOHN DIXON, D.D., WILLIAM H. SCOTT, Committee.

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**THE ASSEMBLY HERALD** is the Official Magazine of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and is published for the purpose of giving information as to the work of the Church carried on by the eight Boards and the Committee on Temperance.

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# The Assembly Herald

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## Ministerial Education and University Work

JOSEPH WILSON COCHRAN, D.D., SECRETARY.

### A Call from Kansas



REV. FRANCIS A. WILBER, D.D.  
University of Kansas.

Three hundred and fifty Presbyterian students at the University of Kansas experience the warm personal interest of the Rev. Dr. F. A. Wilber and Mrs. Wilber, whose home, "Westminster House," is the center of various activities, social and religious, calculated to reach and hold our Presbyterian boys and girls during these critical years.

"Westminster House" is not a club house, but the home of Dr. and Mrs. Wilber. The latch-string, however, is superfluous, for the doors are always open or ajar. Flocks of students pass in and out. Bible classes meet in the attractive study. Conferences, calls, receptions, personal interviews fill up the hours and the parlors of Westminster House.

But it is a rented house, and the facilities are pitifully inadequate.

A friend of the work, a wealthy gentleman of Kansas City, realizing how this splendid enterprise was being handicapped for want of better accommodations, has offered to the Synod of Kansas, through the trustees of Westminster House, a fully equipped building to cost fifteen or twenty thousand dollars provided an endowment for the maintenance of the work shall be secured of not less than thirty thousand dollars. This offer holds good for one year from this October.

The campaign for the endowment begins at once in Kansas. The synod will respond handsomely. But there are few wealthy churches in the state. Ten or fifteen thousand dollars must be raised outside. What beneficent givers will include this work of the Lord among their benevolences?

*The new building will not be started unless, within the year, the endowment is raised.*

# Board for Freedmen

EDWARD P. COWAN, D.D., SECRETARY.

## Reasons for Assisting the Negro

Extracts from Dr. Fisher's book, *The American Negro*.

1. The fact that we have had practically two hundred and fifty years of their unrequited labor. We have used their bodies and minds as stepping stones to our prosperity and wealth, and in some instances have used them as soldiers for our defence, without any adequate or just recompense. Mere justice makes us regard them as our wards.

2. Less than forty-five years ago they were ushered into their freedom for which they were unprepared by training, traditions or religion. Owing scarcely their clothes on their backs, without tool or house, an acre of ground or a dollar of savings, they were thrown upon the world almost as helpless as Romulus and Remus upon the site of Rome. Justice and pity should call out our assistance.

3. Neither the Negro nor the South is able to provide sufficient churches and schools: it is, of course, true that the South, impoverished by the war, has been unable to meet the ordinary demands upon her people. Yet she has done much, spending four dollars for every one contributed by the North.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Murphy in his "The Present South" says: "It is an utter impossibility to secure the Negroes educational development speedily in the South."

One reason for this is that the population of the South is so largely scattered and rural. As George S. Dickerman says: "The one State of Massachusetts has twenty cities of over twenty-five thousand inhabitants. The ten States south of Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, with an area eighty-five times as great, have only nineteen. Massachusetts has one hundred and ten communities of over four thousand inhabitants. These ten States have altogether only one hundred and forty-

six communities of this rank. Massachusetts people live in cities. Southern people live in the country and are to do so in the future. Only a small part live in communities of even one thousand inhabitants.

"Now it is a serious question in the North how to provide good schools for the country. But in the South this is the main question. Southern cities, like Northern cities, have institutions which are their pride; but the cities are few in the South and play a subordinate part. The multitude are widely scattered. The Nation has yet to open its eyes to the possibilities lying dormant in these great Southern States—seventeen million people in these stretches of territory, none of whom live in a village of one thousand inhabitants."

\* \* \* \* \*

It is therefore evident what a great work is to be accomplished by the parochial schools, such as are carried on in many hamlets by the Presbyterian Board of Missions for Freedmen, to which the children from the adjoining country for miles resort, and from which some of greater capacity pass to the seminaries and schools of higher learning, and yet there are hundreds and thousands of such rural communities, practically destitute, where such schools should be established, if the rising generation is to be made useful citizens and intelligent Christians.

4. Nor is the South by itself able to supply missionaries and religious teachers for this great multitude. They are not in towns or cities, and if they are to be reached by the Gospel, it must be brought to them in their little settlements. Unless the churches and philanthropists of the North unite in this great work of evangelizing the Negro, a large number of them must remain ignorant of the truth, and possessing only a superstition, which lends itself to immorality.

5. The Negro must be helped to education

and religion, for the ignorant and vicious class in every community is a constant menace to decency, and an influence for vice and crime. Vice has no consideration of color. The ignorant and debased Negro corrupts the white youth, just as the vicious whites lead the dependent Negro astray. For the protection of society, for the creation of a moral population in the future, the North must come to the help of the South with church and school, and workers in every good work. It will not do to say that if the past had been different, the necessity would be different, or that the South is reaping what it has sown.

at our very door. But it is Foreign Missions, plus the dangers and needs of our own population; all the claims of China and India added to souls who touch our own lives and safety, and upon whom something of our national existence will, in the future, depend. The example and command of the Lord Jesus Christ call us to such a good work.

### Fee Memorial Institute

Fee Memorial Institute, under the care of the Board, with Rev. J. A. Boyden, D.D., in charge, at Camp Nelson, Ky., is about twenty-



FEE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE, CAMP NELSON, KY.

This is not true. Those who sowed are long since dead, and the noble and earnest Southern citizens who to-day are facing these difficulties have no special responsibility for this condition of need. It belongs to us as a nation.

6. We should help the Negro because he is the heathen at our door. The command of Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature applies to these who, in the Providence of God, are so near us, and often become our neighbors. They must have a religion pure and undefiled—a true moral training—a true standard of upright living, and they cannot give it to themselves. This is Foreign Missions

five miles from Danville, Ky. There is a farm in connection with the school. Cooking, dress-making and printing, to a limited extent, are now taught in connection with a course of study aimed to qualify its graduates for public school teaching. The Board is very anxious to develop other industries in connection with this work, but is held back for the lack of the necessary means. There is also a Presbyterian church organized in connection with the school, and Dr. Boyden is struggling hard to secure a much needed church building. But further developments will have to wait, unless some kind friends come to our relief.