



FIRST A. M. E. CHURCH, SEATTLE

Probably the greatest force for the moral and religious uplift of the colored people in the northwest is the Puget Sound Conference of the African M. E. Church, which has a score of organizations, and embraces the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. This conference was organized in Portland, Oregon, in 1892 by Bishop Benj. F. Lee with only six preachers. First Church, Seattle, is the oldest organization in the conference and the largest. This congregation has an excellent brick building, beautifully located and is pastored at present by the Rev. D. A. Graham, D. D., one of the leading ministers of the connection.

They have also strong churches at Tacoma and Spokane, Wash., Portland, Oregon; Helena, Great Falls, Billings and Butte, Mont., and Boise, Idaho, and smaller organizations wherever there are enough colored people.

The conference does much home missionary work and through this means supports the small organizations until they become self-supporting. Dr. Graham, the treasurer, pays out about \$600.00 during the year for the support of these missions, and several hundred more is added to this during the sessions of each conference.

The present presiding officer of the Puget Sound Conference is Bishop H. B. Parks, D. D., who is serving his second term over this episcopal district. The Rev. C. N. Douglas is the Presiding Elder.

The chief auxiliary of the conference is the Women's Mite Missionary Society of which Mrs. D. A. Graham of Seattle, is president; Mrs. Eliza Wilson, of Spokane, vice president; Mrs. Louise Tolliver of North Yakima, recording secretary; Mrs. W. H. Prince, of Portland, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Robert House of Anaconda, treasurer. The society raises several hundred dollars annually for missionary work, both home and foreign.

The following are the pastors of the Puget Sound annual conference as read out by Bishop Parks at the adjournment of the last conference:

Presiding Elder, Rev. C. N. Douglas.

Washington: Seattle, Rev. D. A. Graham; Tacoma, Rev. H. M. Collins; Bremerton, Rev. C. M. Knight; Everett, Rev. S. J. Collins; Ellensburg, Rev. C. B. Clemens; Yakima, Rev. S. E. Bailey; Spokane, Rev. I. S. Wilson. Rev. A. R. Little, missionary work in and about Ellensburg.

Montana: Helena, to be supplied; Butte, Rev. R. R. Brown; Havre, Rev. J. B. Coleman; Great Falls, Rev. D. H. Horsey; Missoula, Rev. G. T. Kinchen; Anaconda, Rev. R. Houser, Billings, Rev. F. G. Bar.

Idaho: Boise, Rev. W. J. Toliver; Lewiston, Rev. William Gaylard; Pocatella, Rev. Henry Mathews.

Oregon: Portland, Rev. W. H. Prince.

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