

FOR COLORED WOMEN

Meeting of the National League to
Be Held Here.

WORK OF THE LOCAL ORGANIZATION

Preparations to Entertain the Af-
filiated Societies.

SOME LOCAL WORKERS

The evening of the farewell session of the big Endeavor convention will witness the opening of a very interesting convention of colored women in this city. The National League of Colored Women, the first national association of the kind ever organized in the United States, will hold its first convention here the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th of July, and from present indications it promises to be the most important gathering of colored women ever assembled on this continent. Representative colored women from all parts of the country will be in attendance, as the National League has

branches in nearly every state of the Union.

The convention will be held in the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church. At first the plan was to open the convention on Wednesday morning, the 14th instant, but at a recent meeting of the convention committee

it was decided to have the preliminary opening the evening of the 13th, when there will be a reception to the public. The program committee is arranging to make this the most enjoyable occasion of the convention. Addresses of welcome will be delivered by Commissioner Ross, Rev. F. J. Grimke, Rev. Alexander Crummell, D. D., and Mrs. Helen A. Cook, and a delightful musical program will be furnished by Mrs. Alloe



Mrs. A. J. Cooper.

Strange Davis, who will look after the music during the sessions of the convention.

The formal opening of the convention will take place the following morning, when Mrs. Helen A. Cook, national president, will deliver an address to the assembled delegates, after which the convention will settle down to business. The first day will be devoted to the question of education among the colored people, and especially the colored women. Papers will be read by Mrs. Fanny Jackson Coppin, principal of the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia; Mrs. Maria L. Baldwin of Cambridge, Mass., and Mrs. Mary Church Terrell of this



cial of the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia; Mrs. Maria L. Baldwin of Cambridge, Mass., and Mrs. Mary Church Terrell of this city. The second day will be devoted to the consideration of the professions as they relate to colored women. The principal address will be delivered by Miss Platt of Chicago, the only colored woman practicing law in the

United States. On the third day the convention will hold its session at Harper's Ferry, the delegates going to this historic town in the morning and returning in the afternoon to hold the evening session in this city.

The last day will be devoted to the election of officers and the consideration of the question of the home life of colored women. The principal addresses on this subject will be delivered by Mrs. Silone Yates of Kansas City, Mo., and Mrs. Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee, Ala.

The local branch of this organization, known as the Colored Women's League, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest and largest in the country, and it was mainly through its efforts

that similar societies were established elsewhere, and finally welded into a national



Mrs. B. K. Bruce.



Mary C. Terrell.

association.

It prides itself upon the practical and efficient work it has done in the District in the way of promoting the interests of colored women, and its members have been working diligently the past three months making preparations to receive and entertain the affiliated societies.

The movement for national organization having started in this city, it was but natural that when, last year, the national organization was perfected Washington should be made its headquarters and that the management was given largely to Washington women.

The president of both the national and local organization is Mrs. Helen A. Cook of this city. She has put her heart and soul in the work of building up, strengthening and extending the work of the league. She is the wife of John F. Cook of this city. Mrs. Cook is a remarkably energetic executive officer and a lady of culture and refinement.

Mrs. A. J. Cooper, the corresponding secretary, is the authoress of the book "A Voice From the South," and her culture

and intellectuality, as well as her sweet and gentle spirit, have impressed themselves upon the efforts of the association in a most permanent and beneficial manner. She is a native of North Carolina, a graduate of Oberlin College, and is teaching in the Colored High School of this city.

One of the most distinctive features of the work of the local organization is the success with



the success with which it has conducted evening industrial classes for the benefit of women who have no other time or opportunity to avail themselves of such training. These classes are under the personal supervision of Mrs. B. K. Bruce. She is one of the most zealous league workers, and is frequently spoken of in league circles as a "presidential possibility."

Among the other active league workers of the District are Mrs. F. J. Grimke, wife

of the pastor of the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church; Mrs. Ida Bailey, a native of Virginia; who has brought to the league work the energy and thoroughgoing enthusiasm characteristic of Virginians, and Mrs. Terrell, who is a member of the board of school trustees.

Among the most prominent of those who will attend the convention are Mrs. Fanny Jackson Coppin of Philadelphia, who stands at the head of the colored women educators in



Mrs. Washington.

head of the colored women educators in

Mrs. Thurman.

this country; Mrs. J. Silone Yates of Kansas City, Mo., the most active league worker outside of Washington; Mrs. Booker T. Washington of Alabama, and Mrs. Lucy Thurman, W. C. T. U. organizer among colored women in the United States, whose visit to this city a few weeks ago aroused so much interest in temperance circles. Mrs. Thurman is a lady of large experience and influence as an organizer, and will in all probability be the next president of the national association.
