

Our Candidate for President JOSEPH BENSON FORAKER Of Ohio

EDITORIAL

GOOD ADVICE.

Booker Washington continues to preach the gospel of hope and good cheer to the colored people, and advises them to turn away as much as possible from the disagreeable and disappointing side of their life and look upon the progress they have made. Such advantages and opportunities as they have, and the possibilities of continued and greater achievements. What he says is in fact good advice for any race or class of people, but it is his mission to speak especially to the people of whom he is one, and they with one accord should cheer him gladly and give heed to his good advice.

Mr. Washington addressed a large audience in Indianapolis one evening last week, and pointed out some of the opportunities open to colored people when he told them what the negro is doing in the Southern States as farmer, grocer, druggist, merchant and banker, and made the impressive statement that at a moderate estimate colored men are paying taxes upon over \$300,000,000 worth of property. They have not earned this property by operating in "high finance," but by the investment of small savings gained, as a rule, by manual labor.

Commenting on this the Indianapolis Star says:

"The lesson for the negro North and South lies right there—the lesson of industry and thrift. In the North, through no fault of his own, many avenues of employment are not open to him, but for all this there is no lack of work. No negro need be idle if he cares to be occupied at remunerative labor. Everywhere there is a demand for work that he can do. It is the time of prosperity and good wages and a share of the harvest may be his if he will take them. When he has saved his money and invested in land or other tangible property he acquires a standing in the community that he can get in no other way. One negro who succeeds is an inspiration to many.

"Mr. Washington urges them to set this example, but he also lays upon these stronger and more successful negroes the responsibility of uplifting and encouraging the weaker members of their race and keeping them from idle and vicious ways. It is a responsibility that they should take for their own sakes if for nothing else, for the weaker element of the colored population does the entire race harm. All are judged by it to a greater or less degree and however unjust this sweeping judgment may be the only sure escape from it is to work toward the betterment of the brethren, who can not stand alone."

IT DOESN'T PAY.

Ex-Governor W. J. Northern, of Georgia has always been one of the fairest and one of the most helpful men of the South to the negro race. He has labored indefatigably to teach the whites and blacks to live together in amity and tolerance under the law, and has wielded a powerful influence in behalf of "sane and safe" consideration of "the race question." For years he has been preaching humanity to his white neighbors and in public addresses pleading with them to give the negro "a square deal," he must be profoundly discouraged when he admits that he cannot cope with race hatred, and says the outlook for peace grows darker. "Just now," he laments, "we are lapsing into barbarism, and our civilization is

slipping from us. He takes this view because of the persistent exhibition of race hatred on the part of southern whites.

The New York Sun remarks that Atlanta's resolution to be good after the massacre of negroes there was a matter of the pocket rather than of the heart, saying:

The Atlanta Civic League was formed to insure the respectable negro a square deal, and the negroes organized the Colored Cooperative Civic League to suppress the bad negro. The public conscience had been mightily moved, and the pocket nerve was jumping again. For a time all went well in Atlanta—the sensational press developed a passion for exact statement, and the yellowest paper in town went into the hands of a receiver; and, mirabile dictu, a negro caught up for rape had a fair trial, was acquitted, and to make assurance doubly sure he was provided with funds to seek his fortune in Alabama. Religious movements were started to regenerate both races, and Mr. Clark Howell printed an uplifting editorial entitled "Shall We Blaze the Trail?" in his enterprising paper. Atlanta was touched—yes, touched in the material inner consciousness, the seat of self-interest. Far be it from us to deny that appeals to the moral nature will be helpful, but we maintain that they must be steadily reinforced by preaching the gospel that riot doesn't pay the great conservative middle class, the yeoman, the traders, the soil tillers, the bone and sinew of the white South.

TRUTH COMING OUT.

A dispatch from Washington this week says that evidence has come to light before the senate investigating committee showing the colored troops at Brownsville were not guilty of shooting up that town as charged, after all, and that the crime was falsely laid to their charge in order to get rid of them. Several witnesses, it is stated have finally concluded to tell the truth about the affair and it is expected that before the investigation is ended, some time next month it will be pretty well demonstrated that the president's conclusion in the matter was entirely wrong.

Another dispatch from Washington this week says:

Another officer who has changed his former belief that some of the colored soldiers of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth infantry who were discharged were engaged in the "shooting up" of Brownsville is Capt. Samuel P. Lyon, who was heard today by the Senate Military Committee. Capt. Lyon said that now he was convinced the shooting had been done by the rougher element of Brownsville, although there was no positive evidence so far to that effect.

Capt. Lyon was examined at length regarding his checking up the men of his company, their ammunition and their rifles and the examination of the rifles for evidence of powder stains, showing they were all accounted for except two men out that night on passes; that one man without ammunition had lost it at Fort Niobrara or on the way to Fort Brown, and that none of the rifles were dirty.

It looks as if Senator Foraker would fully justify the investigation he caused. The New Age has believed all along for reasons which it has heretofore stated, that these soldiers were not being given a square deal, and that the evidence against them was very likely trumped up by the negro haters of Brownsville, and these dispatches are strongly confirmatory of this opinion.

FORAKER'S SPEECH.

Senator Foraker in his great speech at Canton, O., Wednesday evening, showed that he had differed with the president on only three questions, as he certainly had a right conscientiously to differ. One of these was the Brownsville affair regarding which he said, in part:

"These men had been given no opportunity to be heard. It seemed to me that no man in this country was so humble that he should not be given a day in court somewhere or

some time or some place, to make his defense, to confront his accusers and refute their testimony against him, and especially should soldiers have the benefit of such a hearing. I believed that this was their right under the Constitution. I did not believe that even the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army had the power to deprive them of this right. It was with me simply a great, broad question of constitutional power on the one hand and constitutional right on the other. I have always upheld the negro rights under the Constitution and the laws. "The investigation has been in progress; it has not yet been completed; I would prefer not to speak of the results until they have been fully determined; but challenged testimony so far taken justifies the investigation. I cannot here and now analyze the testimony, but it is enough to say that the evidence already taken warrants the belief that not a man in that battalion fired a gun. I do not believe any testimony can be secured that will refute anything that has been established."

AN OLD BUT ABSURD PROPOSITION.

The governor of Florida, in an address to the legislature of that state, recommended "a resolution memorializing congress to purchase territory, either domestic or foreign, to provide means to purchase the property of the negroes at reasonable rates and to transport the negroes to the territory purchased by the United States to form a government thereon for the negro race, to prevent invasion and to prevent white people from living among them in the territory, and to prevent negroes from migrating back to the United States."

This is a repetition of the same nonsensical proposition that has been made at various times by various Southern people, but it will never be seriously considered by congress or the country. The colored people of this country have a right here. Their ancestors were brought here against their will, and for many generations their descendants were slaves, but this is their country nevertheless. They have no other. They are now citizens and, theoretically, political equals, no longer slaves. They cannot be deported without their consent. And where would they be sent? They have tolled here, and fought too for the country, and here they are going to stay, and "grow up with the country." The governor of Florida does not display good common sense in this recommendation.

PROBABLE NOMINEE FOR MAYOR

It is quite a prevailing opinion that the race for the republican nomination for mayor lies between Mr. J. B. Coffey and Councilman Dan J. Kellaheer. Mr. Devlin was first in the field, but seems to be losing ground. A good many voters are doubtful about his conduct of the auditor's office. Mr. Coffey will receive the support of most of the labor unions, and many business men, and Mr. Kellaheer will receive a very heavy support on the east side, and is backed quite generally by retail grocers and other business men. The nomination apparently lies between these two. As to Mr. Zimmerman, the New Age, after further information expressed its opinion of his candidacy last week, and it is manifest that he is not seriously in the race—or should not be. A little later it will be easier to guess whether the nominee will be Coffey or Kellaheer. Both will make big runs.

SURVEYOR GENERAL.

It is not known yet whether Surveyor-General Daly will be reappointed to his present position, but he will be if merit and the wishes of the people of Oregon are to count as much as they should in the matter. General Daley, so far as the public has ever been informed, has given the government entire satisfaction in the conduct of his office, and it is certain that he has pleased all the people of Oregon with whom he has had official relations. There was never any hint of graft or any other misconduct in connection with his of-

ice, and that he is an exceptionally capable man everyone concedes. Senators Fulton and Bourne, if General Daly would accept another term, could not do the government or the state a better service than to ask for his reappointment. He deserves it and the people without regard to faction or party hope he will be retained in it.

The Springfield, Mass., Republican says: "When it was announced that a negro had won a Rhodes scholarship some one must have asked how much white blood he has in his veins. This is the stock question whenever a negro does something, so excellent as to make the country sit up. A picture of this young student, Alain Leroy Locke, indicates that the negro race can fairly claim the whole of him. The blacker the better, in such a case, so that there may be no quibbling over racial inheritance."

Portland never had a better, if as good a police judge as Judge Cameron, and the people are going to keep him right where he is for another term. He carries on the business of that office exactly as it should be carried on, gives everybody a square deal, is without prejudice, has a keen insight into human nature and conduct, and in a word is a model city magistrate. It would be a great mistake to put anybody else in his place at this time.

Among the men to whom the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. are much indebted for a most generous contribution to the fund recently raised by them is Mr. Frederick A. Kribs, who though not a very rich man contributed several thousand dollars cheerfully without urging. It is such wide-awake, progressive and liberal men as Mr. Kribs that will cause Portland to grow and become great.

Saying nothing specifically against any of the men who have put themselves forward for mayor, does anybody honestly doubt that a convention of regularly elected delegates would not have nominated somebody at least as good as the best of these?

An Illinois negro was fined a thousand dollars for shoving a white woman off the sidewalk. Speaker Cannon may get even with Senator Foraker by ordering a Brownsville inquiry.

Still, the out-of-town democrats are right; a man elected as a democrat ought to show himself to be a democrat; else it looks like getting an office on false pretenses.

There isn't any democratic party in Portland and under the primary nominating law it isn't quite certain that there is any republican party either.

The McKenna ordinance is having a hard time trying to get on the ballot, but if it succeeds it will have a worse experience at the polls.

The world will perhaps never know who shot up Brownsville. Major Penrose has officially ascertained that he did not do it.

Senator Bourne is getting his name in the press dispatches quite frequently lately. Let him alone for having that attended to.

If the colored voters of Portland were to make their voting strength known, they would be more respected by the politicians.

No more enlistment of colored soldiers? And yet the black men in khaki fought bravely with the President in Cuba.

The few people who have given the Thomas machine any notice at all think that he takes himself too seriously.

Well, the mayor wouldn't lose much certainly, if he lost the Thomas contingent.

The railroad commission is doing very well so far—that is, nothing much.

Vote for the parks, boulevards and bridges. Portland needs to improve. Brother Rader is having a little more trouble, but he is used to it.

Few, if any of the best men for the offices will bother to seek them.

Mayor Lane is mum again, but may be doing a lot of thinking.

Devlin, Coffey, Kellaheer and Zimmerman—are these all?

Nobody wants free water at Mr. Wagon's price.

There will be a scrap for auditor, after all.

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