

THE ADVOCATE

An Independent Paper Devoted to the Interests of the People

VOL. XXII. NO. 18

PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1924

PRICE 5 CENTS

∴ A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND ∴ A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Elwyn Bureau Presents Russian Singer

The fourth event on the Elwyn Artist Series is scheduled for January 2nd at the Auditorium. The artist is Isa Kremer, great Russian singer of folk songs who has created a veritable sensation wherever she has appeared during the past two seasons since coming to America fresh from European triumphs.

It has been many years since a foreign artist has come to our shores who has made such a pleasant appeal to



American concert goers. Miss Kremer is a singer understood by all. She can pantomime a song and everyone grasps its true meaning. Her audiences belong to every nationality. The Italians, the French, the Russians, the Jews all love her and she is singing some English this season. Already she has selected several songs by our own American composers, whose names will figure on her programs. Not long ago she met the celebrated Negro composer, Harry Burleigh, whose versions of spirituals have become favorites throughout the land, and he coached her in some of his works.

Last season, which was Miss Kremer's first in America, she sang forty concerts, six in Carnegie Hall in New York, four in Chicago and two each in Boston, Detroit, Milwaukee, Toronto, Cleveland. That the Elwyn Concert Bureau is bringing her to the Pacific Coast this season is one more evidence that this bureau is determined to have the new artists for their Portland patrons while they are still in the height of their career.

Value of Reading Negro Literature

By Alice M. Hansaker.

If I wish to know a man intimately, to interpret his thoughts and actions aright, I will, if possible, read his autobiography rather than a biography of him. For no matter how sympathetic the viewpoint of a biographer may be he cannot know so well the purposes and actuating motives of the man as does the man himself.

So if I would truly know the underlying purposes, thoughts and aspirations of the colored race I must get them from the writings of the colored authors, poets and musicians themselves. And it is a matter for congratulation, both to the colored race and to other Americans, that so large and worthy a literature is being produced by the colored people.

This should be read widely by other races because it is a setting forth of the ideals and purposes of the Negro race at first hand and therefore interprets the race rightly. And in the second place it should be read by the colored people themselves because the high ideals and aspirations set forth, and the noble emotions expressed, will be an incentive to better character building and larger achievement.

Again, negro literature should be read by all people because it affects our views concerning the rapidity of race progress. Who has not been thrilled at the possibilities wrapped up in an unlettered slave boy as he has read the autobiography of Booker T. Washington? Who can fail to be convinced by it that the uplift of human beings from the most primitive conditions to the highest type of civilized Christian citizens can be accomplished in the life of a single individual?

It need not be the work of centuries but can be consummated in a single generation if proper facilities for education and uplift are provided.

Then too, the works of our colored writers should be read for their own intrinsic value and beauty. Where can straighter thinking and clearer presentation of race problems and achievements be found than in the writing of William Pickens or James Weldon

Race Man's Election to Judgeship Seen As A Racial Hope

JUDGE GEORGE MEETS GENERAL FAVOR

(Reprint from Chicago Tribune)
In the life of Albert Bailey George, colored lawyer, who recently assumed the honor of a judgeship in the municipal court of Chicago, sociologists and students of the race problem in America may find a striking example of the evolution of the black race from their long night of wrong.

To the leaders and thinkers among the colored people in the great South side colony of Chicago, the election of George by a substantial majority and the quiet and friendly manner in which this news has been received by the rest of the city, is a matter of the utmost significance. It is considered a milestone in the journey of the Negro race out of the wilderness of slavery, an application of the principles of democracy which may point the way to better things for both races.

Blazes Trail for Race
The new judge is called the trail blazer. His ancestors were slaves in old Virginia. His success has sent a thrill of hope through the black belts, given a new incentive to study and work and decent living.

George is no superman even to his own people. He would be the first to admit that there are many others of his race just as well fitted, perhaps better, to sit in judgment on blacks and whites in a court of record. On casual inspection he might pass for a white man, but he does not effect the way of the "high yellow aristocracy," those who disdain the pure Africans. He is of the middle class, the bulwark and hope of Afro-American life, one of those who has always found time to help others, a Christian with the motto of service in his heart.

George was born in the shadow of the lovely dome of the national capitol, 51 years ago. He is tall and broad-shouldered, with a fine high forehead, deep eyes alight with intelligence and thought, straight hair now thinning and slightly gray at the temples. He speaks without a trace of Negro accent.

Father Is School Engineer.
His father is William M. George, now 77 years old and still working as an engineer and janitor in the Washington schools. William George is a man of mixed blood. Albert's mother was Delaphine Brown, who has been dead for ten years. She was born in Washington, a woman of light complexion, bright in intellect, energetic and well informed.

The new judge is not certain who his grandfather was. William George was brought to Washington from Virginia when he was 10 weeks old. The mother of William George was a slave and this son that was given her was in all probability the son of her old master, or of one of her master's sons or relatives. For some reason it was necessary to get mother and babe out of the way. Perhaps a jealous wife lurked in the background.

From theory and speculation it has almost become an established fact (Continued on page 6)

Johnson? What poetry appeals more to the heart of humanity than the underlying verse of Paul Lawrence Dunbar? Where can we find a finer example of English literature than in the writings of W. E. B. Dubois? Aside from his eloquent, scholarly presentation of the problems of his race we have in his writings a beauty of diction, a force that cannot be excelled and is rarely equalled in the realm of literature.

And I might multiply instances for the warm heart and intense feeling of the negro, coupled with his racial inheritance coming from centuries of bondage and oppression, have given him the power to portray the intensest human emotions in an unusual way. Through suffering he has been made a perfect interpreter of the deep things of the human heart.

In a word then, the study of the work of our colored writers will give to the colored reader an increased respect for the achievements of his race as well as a keener ambition toward noble living and higher thinking and in a white reader, such a study will awaken an admiration that leads to a respect for, and a better understanding of his brother in color. And when mutual respect and understanding come, ancient prejudices and hatred will pass away and the Christmas song of the angels becomes an accomplished fact through the reign of good-will among men.

The Christmas Spirit

Christmas time turns our minds to Him who is the center of historic Christianity—Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth.

There is no other name given among men whereby we may be saved, said the great Biblical writer Paul.

When we consider the career of Jesus Christ nineteen hundred and twenty-four years after his birth, his character stands out as the one great name of history. The humble Galilean founded no empire, amassed no wealth, wrote no books, but died the most ignominious death of his time for the convictions he held. He came simply living a life of service and teaching that the great things of the world are love, sympathy, faith and fellowship. He strove not for self exaltation. But he taught and lived humility. He was contemporaneous with the mighty Caesar and he was put to death by the Roman authority.

But today he lives in the hearts of millions of men, and a half billion bow down and call him Lord. Never was there a man who spoke as he; never man lived as he; none was ever so followed. No wonder they fall before him and say Lord. There is no explanation of him except to call him divine.

We celebrate his birth at this season. He was born in a manger; born of a virgin; He humbled himself, that he might be an inspiration to every man who comes into the world, even to you and me.

Jesus is the Light of the World.

He is the only hope of all mankind now. We need him. Just think. The world today is not the world of a century ago. It is closer to Hong Kong today than it was from New York to St. Louis when our grandfathers were boys. The wireless telegraph, telephone, radio, aeroplane, and numerous other modern inventions have brought us face to face with all nations. The big question is shall we live together in peace, or shall it be war? If hatreds, prejudices, competitions rule we will not have peace. That means, with present day scientific development, that we shall accomplish our own annihilation. Man is so well educated; has such control of the physical elements about him, that a war of extermination is not a hard thing. Only Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is the hope of the world. Only the ideals which made him great, and makes the human heart respond to him every where can save the world. Truly there is no other name whereby we shall be saved.

So today the practical man, the world statesman as well as the preacher, is looking to Jesus as the world's ideal and light and guide. If world peace shall be accomplished it will not be by fear, by self exaltation, by developing a super-nation, but by developing understanding, toleration, sympathy, co-operation and love for all humanity, by putting into practical operation the religion of Jesus Christ, the lowly man of Galilee. And this is our Christmas message to the world.

The Cold Spell

The weather still remains extremely cold. Street cars and other vehicles are moving but in the outlying sections it is with some difficulty. Portland will witness a white Christmas this year.

The Pullman Wizard

Ben Robinson, the fellow to whom do not give a job if it is not to be executed, but to whom give one if it is to be done according to "style." Mr. Robinson's greatest asset is his simple "activity"—moving right on while the other fellow sleeps, sits around, criticizes, and "stups." No worm is out to early to miss Robinson. He is a safe counselor on all Pullman Porter activities, and no sacrifice of time and energy to great to give to foster them. He has the honor of being chairman No. 2 of Local Lodge No. 26; 2nd time grand delegate to the P. P. B. A.



above cut of him (he calls it his "man-machine" or "Ford") is the first time it has appeared in a national news organ, and it is special to The Advocate.

Professor J. W. Botts

Recently The Advocate mentioned J. W. Botts as a "go-getter," now the



logical Seminary and College, Lynchburg, Va.; principal of normal department of Bowling Green Academy, Bowling Green, Kentucky; state lecturer for the C. P. church school on the sociological, biological, physical, philosophical and psychological aspects of education of Kentucky; professor of Pullman Porterism in Northwest division (Portland, Spokane and Seattle) of the Pullman Porter University; editor of the Pullman Porter Messenger; president of the P. P. B. A. club and the P. P. S. Council; ex-chairman and ex-grand delegate No. 1 of Local Lodge No. 26, of the P. P. B. A. of A., Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Botts is making friends as well as history in the Northwest, and The Advocate wishes him unbounded success.

Legion Post Opens Very Auspiciously

Levi P. Jones Post No. 118, American Legion, held its opening in gala fashion last Saturday night in their new home, 286 N. 17th St. Music and dancing were the diversions. Each lady who attended was presented a gift complimentary of the Post.

For rent—6-room house, 771 E. 6th St., North. Phone East 9530.—Adv.

For rent—5-room house and garage, Broadway 6213. Stanley & Minor.—Adv.

A Card of Thanks

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jackson wish to extend their sincere thanks to the employees of the Portland hotel for the beautiful floral piece presented on the death of their son, Robert Harry Allen Jackson, who died in Christ on December 17th, 1924. Also Rev. Robert Searee for his splendid conduct of the funeral services. Also to the many friends for their kindnesses and flowers during his illness and death.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jackson.

For Rent—6 room house. Call J. C. Logan, East 3625.—Adv.

RACE MAN HAD STRUGGLE

Perhaps No American Singer Ever Climbed to Fame So Little Press-Agented

He went From Stove Molding to Concert Earnings of \$100,000 a Year.

Perhaps no American singer has ever climbed to fame so little press-agented and so unpretentious in his own claims as Roland Hayes. This is the reason one must assume why in a special article on the colored tenor in the New York Times last Sunday, it is noted that to "get the facts for an adequate story of Hayes' career is not easy."

Yet the story of the Negro singer's struggle to victory from stove molding to concert earning of \$100,000 a year, as told in this article, is an entrancing one. "Through struggle to victory—and a great victory it has become this season—summarizes the career of Roland Hayes," is the introduction given, which points out that when he appears at the New Bedford Theater Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, he will be heard by New Bedford in his first season of indisputable inter-racial renown.

His early musical struggles and the efforts made by those who saw possibilities in his voice are reviewed in the Times perhaps as fully as has been done with Hayes the subject. His ambition and aspirations carried him through his music course at Fisk University and his Louisville, Ky., period when he paid his expenses by waiting on table, to Boston. The subsequent high-lights in his career are told as follows:

"Hayes gave his first concert at Symphony hall in Boston on November 15, 1917. He has since sung with the Boston Symphonny Orchestra and before many of that city's leading musical clubs, but at the 1917 concert he sang only for the officers and clerks of the organization for which he himself was working at the time. The tenor called this concert his first real shove-off. It was still hard sledding, and three years later, when he went to London, he found further obstacles in the shape of a coal famine when with the last of his savings he had rented a hall for his first concert.

"It was just at this time, while he was shivering in a bleak hotel room, that a 'command' came to sing before the King and queen at Buckingham Palace. Afterwards serious musical critics spoke of him as a tenor 'with whom few could compare.' Another foreign tour in 1921, followed since by two more, have added the approbation of most of Europe's musical centers to the work of an artist.

Last year Hayes sang in Germany. There had been a protest to the American Ambassador by a group of Germans against a "Negro dandy to make a public appearance in a country which was being outraged by the presence of France's Colonial troops on the Rhine." They would not have a man, they said, singing "the tunes of Georgia cotton pickers," in a German city. So there was marked hostility when Roland Hayes walked across the concert stage in Berlin. The next day no less than 130 newspapers joined in loud praise

Williams Avenue Y.W.C.A.

The Williams Ave. branch of the Young Women's Christian Association is located at 274 Tillamook St.

This branch has been organized for three years and has made rapid progress since that time. The increasing interest in the various activities has impressed upon all concerned the need of larger and better equipped quarters and it is the plan of the Committee of Management to work definitely toward that aim the coming year.

The branch has an excellent Com-



Margie L. Danley
Executive Secretary, Williams Ave. Branch Y. W. C. A.
Committee of Management composed of the following women: Mrs. C. A. Jenkins, Mrs. Elia Morton, Mrs. Hattie Redmond, Mrs. D. Paries, Mrs. R. Nichols, Mrs. J. W. Stanley, Mrs. B. Merriman, Mrs. E. F. Lancaster, Mrs. R. Flowers, Mrs. J. V. Grayson, Mrs. J. H. Duke and Mrs. K. Gray.

The various activities of the branch have had an attendance of 5500 for the year. Under the clubs, regular activities as well as special events have been presented to the public. Special events have included, the baby clinic, 10th annual National Negro Health Week program, special lectures, silver tea, Easter luncheon, Mother and Daughter team membership banquet, special vespers, parties, and the membership tea.

The branch sent four delegates to Gearhart Girl Reserve conference and one delegate to Seabeck community and student conference.

Miss Margie L. Danley is the executive secretary and Miss Ione Duke is the assistant secretary. Miss Danley has been in charge of the work since September, 1923.

of the tenor's art, music critics having come from all parts of Germany to attend the concert. "At Prague, Budapest and Vienna, that most exacting of musical capitals, a still more enthusiastic reception greeted the American singer. It was in the latter city that critics held him up 'as a model for their own singers in spirit, style and diction,' after hearing his group of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Wolf songs. Hayes sings in German, French, Italian and Japanese, and, according to a prima donna of note who heard him in Vienna, sings without an accent."

Stay off date, January 26th. A four-act drama, "Al Azar Temple"—Adv.



"ROLAND HAYES SINGING"
From the Painting of Glyn Phillip, London
ONE OF THE TEN EVENTS OFFERED ON THE ELWYN ARTIST SERIES
SEASON 1923-24