

SALT LAKE CITY NEWS

(By Mr. Evans)

The Odd Fellows and Household of Ruth entertained the public with a very delightful program honoring Peter Ogden founder of Odd Fellowship in America. After the program refreshments were served all in Calvary's dining room.

Elke Lodge No. 407, will give a dance March 25th, following a big initiation of 8 men, who will take on the horns. Officers and trustees, under the leadership of Exalted Ruler H. E. Jackson, are putting forth every effort to establish an Elk's Rest during 1926. Let salt Laker rally and help the Elks reach their goal.

Mrs. Evelyn Hall is all smiles over the success of her playlet, last mon. night, at Trinity A. M. E. church.

One of the best musicals of the season was rendered at Trinity A. M. E. under the supervision of Mr. L. M. McGruder. Mrs. Stanley, our Prima Donna, added many laurels to her brow as an artist. Much praise is also due Mrs. Davis for her ability as a soloist. We hope to have more of these programs not yearly but monthly.

Pilgrim Baptist Church, of which Rev. Young is pastor, has really taken on new life, with the coming of Spring, watch them go over the top in their rally, May 1st.

Mrs. Helen Crop was hostess to the Self Improvement and Art Club on last Tues. The meeting proved very beneficial to its members. Plans were laid for the big Spring Revere, March 22nd, Mrs. Monplaisier and Mrs. Grayson will represent the Club in the Passing Show.

Mrs. H. M. Mitchell was a pleasant visitor at the club meeting. The hostess served a very palatable luncheon after which the club adjourned to meet with the President, Mrs. Mason for their next meeting.

BLACK PERSECUTION

(By Eugene V. Debs)

It took just fifteen-and-a-half minutes to try, convict, and sentence a Negro to the gallows down in Kentucky a few days ago.

It is the record for the swift execution of justice as administered by courts of law in the United States.

It is granted that the Negro thus summarily sentenced was guilty of a terrible crime.

The point we are making, though set like steel against capital punishment, is not that the punishment was too swift or too severe, but that the extraordinary trial and conviction in this case were due solely to the fact that the defendant was a Negro.

Had he been a white man instead of a Negro there would have been no such excitement as to give the case nation-wide attention; the governor would not have been required to order out the state militia; and all the resources of the state would not have been brought into play to prevent another lynching, a possible burning at the stake, followed perhaps by the gruesome sale of the victim's bones as souvenirs of the vendication of "white supremacy" and of the law as administered in our Christian civilization.

The Negro in this instance committed murder and was guilty, it is assumed, of rape, though this feture of the frightful affair is left to the inference in the press reports.

In any event it was, as we have said, a terrible crime.

But what made the crime infinitely more terrible in the eyes of the Christian citizens of Kentucky, where Nordic culture and white supremacy prevail, and where our vaunted civilization, based upon the golden rule and upon the precepts of charity and forgiveness taught by

the Master is made manifest in many thousands of churches established in His name, is that it was committed by a human being with a BLACK skin instead of a WHITE one.

That the mob of blood-thirsty Christians who surrounded the court house and were only held at bay by the armed forces of the state did not add another lynching to their Christian record was not at all their fault. They surged through the streets, these pious American citizens, with all their basest passions unleashed, thirsting for blood to glut their ferocious vengeance. Morally speaking, they lynched their victim and are guilty of that enormous crime, for in their hearts there seethed the blood-lust inherited from their remote ancestors in the primeval jungles.

Many a Negro girl, scarcely out of her childhood, has been seduced, raped, assaulted by a Nordic gentleman (!) with a white skin, but it has never been necessary to order out the state militia to protect him against the avenging wrath of his Christian fellow-citizens.

Times without number have white men committed crimes as monstrous as that of the Negro in this case, but there is no fifteen-and-a-half minute record in their trials, and in many cases they went scot free or were dismissed with light sentences.

It makes all the difference in the world in this "land of the free and the home of the brave"; this land of Christian civilization; this land of equal rights and equal opportunity, corner-stoned in the doctrine that all men are created equal; this land of Nordic culture that boasts of being the vanguard of intellectual, moral and spiritual progress, the herald of "peace on earth and good will to men"—it makes all the difference in the world whether God Almighty gave you a white skin or a black one, for the color of your skin determines the color of your soul.

It is a pathetic commentary on this tragic affair that what was in the feeble, flickering, benighted brain of that black wretch was infinitely less dangerous to society than was the blood-lust in the hearts of the "peace-loving and law-abiding" white citizen who madly strove to rend him and perhaps burn him at the stake and dance like fiends incarnate to the music of his agonizing shrieks.

Biological science has no difficulty in accounting for the black wretch who rapes a white woman, any more than it has in accounting for the white wretch who rapes a black woman.

But there is a clear-cut line of cleavage in the accounting. From first to last the white man has every advantage and the Negro is the victim of the most cruel and wicked discrimination and persecution.

Let it not be overlooked in this connection that the Negro was designedly kept in ignorance by statutory inaction in this country for more than two centuries; that it was forbidden by law, drastically enforced, that he be taught to read or write or that he be permitted to rise above the animal level; and that the Negro did not degenerate wholly into a brute is a fact for which Mr. White Man need lay no flattering unction to his guilty soul.

The whole history of the Negro race in America is one to make the white race blush scarlet with shame.

From the time the poor black man was seized in his native land by the brutal kidnaper of the slave-trader, loaded into a boat like a beast and on landing sold like one from the auction block; from that time to the

"Jim Crow" car has been one continuous shameless persecution of the Negro, and for the improvement he has been able to make under inhuman and degrading conditions he is certainly under no obligation to his former white slave-drivers—his present white persecutors.

The people of Kentucky are neither better nor worse in this regard than the people of any other state. If there is less cruelty in dealing with the Negro in the North than in the South the reason is not to be found in the humaner consideration of the Negro in the Northern states.

A study of the Kentucky mob held at bay by the state militia would have revealed the fact, in all probability, that the mob consisted wholly of people who pride themselves upon being "peaceable and law-abiding citizens." We doubt if one could have been found who was not strong for "equality before the law" and for the preservation of "law and order."

It is equally certain that without exception they were all one hundred per cent Americans. There were few, if any, "ignorant and vicious foreigners" milling around madly intent upon the feast of blood. They were chiefly, if not wholly, native to the soil, having from the beginning enjoyed all the advantages of Christian culture, and having never been, like the poor Negro, kept under the lash, exploited, robbed, degraded in every possible way to make possible the blessings of such culture and civilization for the white race.

No less certain is it that the mob consisted entirely of American patriots. Not one in it could be called a "traitor." Every one of them is long on "patriotism" and would fight at the drop of the hat to punish "traitors," especially Socialists and such who "have no respect for law" and who are bent upon "overthrowing the government by force."

I venture to say that there was not a Socialist in that mob of Christian citizens and American patriots.

This article has been written from the point of view that men are men and that human beings, irrespective of creed or color, and any civilization based upon the vicious fallacy that a race should be discriminated against on account of the color of its skin, is a false and pernicious civilization and a hypocritical one as well, if it dare avow itself Christian in the name of the Galilean carpenter he would today, were he here, scorn and lash the pharisees who profess to be his followers while they persecute and brutalize, rob and debase over whom they exercise their despotic and damnable dominion.

American Appeal.

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NOTICE

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HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Bits of Best News Items From Everywhere.

PUT IN CONCISE FORM

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest, and Other Things Worth Knowing.

An offering of \$500,000,000 in 30-year bonds was announced Sunday by Secretary Mellon in connection with the regular March financing program of the treasury.

Mrs. Blanche Dunbar, 32, screen actress, formerly associated with the American Film company at Santa Barbara, died at Hollywood, Cal., Sunday following an attack of heart disease.

Vera, countess of Cathcart, obtained free entry into this country Friday, when Federal Judge Bondy reversed a ruling under which hundreds of foreigners have been turned away on the ground of moral turpitude.

A 10 to 12 hours air service between Hamburg and New York is the aim of a newly formed scientific research society for aviation in higher altitudes, known as the "Gesellschaft fuer Hoehenflugforschung," established in Berlin.

When the Billings, Mont., municipal band started its weekly practice on the top floor of the city hall Sunday, a prisoner in the cell house in the basement became violently insane and had to be placed in a padded cell.

President Coolidge is convinced the country faces continued prosperity. The recent drop in security values on the stock market benefited conditions rather than forecast any slump in business and industry, is the White House view.

Forty-nine women, one from each of the states and the District of Columbia, have been invited to attend a mass meeting in their honor, to be held by the American Woman's association at Madison Square Garden on Thursday night, March 18.

A mass meeting at Poll's theater in Washington, D. C., Sunday under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus of the District of Columbia adopted resolutions protesting against "the policy of religious persecution being followed by the present government of Mexico."

Several hundred persons were marooned in drifted snow in various parts of Minnesota over the week end. At Milaca, hundreds of basketball fans and players were held imprisoned, while at Fergus Falls, 30 automobile loads of persons who attended an automobile show were detained by drifts.

Andrew Volstead Sunday said that non-alcoholic drinks tasted as good as the alcoholic beer and wine. He spoke at a forum discussion of the 18th amendment, of which he is the author. Heckling and applause met various statements made by the ex-member of congress. Several dry and wet leaders appeared on the same platform.

Run-proof stockings and frocks soon will be on the market. This was announced by Sir Nicholas Grattan Doyle at a luncheon of the textile industry in London. Samples of the new knit fabrics were distributed among the guests to take home to their wives. The inventor of the "run-proof" textile is A. Serra of Lyons, France.

On his 77th birthday, Luther Burbank, famous plant wizard, who recently proclaimed himself an infidel, Saturday sent out a message to the children of the world telling them that their happiness will be in direct proportion to their loving thoughts "toward any person and animal and even towards plants, stars, oceans, rivers and hills."

The senate was thrown into an uproar Saturday when Senator Heflin, democrat, Alabama, was assailed by half a dozen senators simultaneously for his position on Muscle Shoals. Standing at bay, the Alabama senator fought back in characteristic manner, and during the sharp repartee the galleries and senate floor rocked with laughter.

An enterprising student at the state agricultural college at Manhattan, Kan., is paying his way by arranging "dates" for students. Finding that competition had reduced the income to be had from all the ordinary student jobs, this student announced that he would undertake to obtain a date for any student of either sex. His commission is usually a quarter.

Remarkable improvement in operations of the United States Rubber company during 1925 compared with recent years was revealed Sunday in the annual report, which showed sales of \$206,473,737, an increase of \$34,259,354 over 1924, and net income of \$17,309,870, more than double the net income of \$8,268,025 in the preceding year. The figures are exclusive of any income from rubber plantations owned by the company, which cover 124,000 acres in the far east.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Sweet Home.—The frosty mornings of last week were bad for early peach blooms. Should a hard frost come there would be no peach crop. The peach plums are also in full bloom in this vicinity.

Salem.—The Northwestern College of Chiropractic and Physio-Therapy, with capital stock of \$10,000 and headquarters in Portland, has been incorporated by Dr. Harry R. Mannell, E. C. Dalton and Dr. David E. Long.

Mill City.—The Hammond Lumber company is making preparations for opening the logging camps at Larson and Mill City, which have been shut down all winter. Both camps probably will be in operation within two weeks.

Baker.—Members of the county courts of Grant and Wheeler counties are laying plans for building of the gap in the John Day highway between Dayville and Mitchell, a stretch of about 33 miles, according to word received here today.

Salem.—Members of the state board of control spent several hours at the state school for the deaf, where they considered a request of the superintendent for authority to spend additional funds to increase the efficiency of the teaching staff.

Klamath Falls.—Two masked men forced Dan Wann, merchant at Sprague River, to return to his store Friday night and open his safe. They took \$425 in cash and \$75 in checks and then demanded to know where the Indian money was kept.

Eugene.—The property of the estate of the late Prince L. Campbell, ex-president of the University of Oregon, is valued at \$5239.45, according to the inventory of the appraisers filed in probate court Friday. The estate consists entirely of personal property.

Condon.—Hugh Sprout, secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers' association, met Thursday with sheep men. Much interest was manifested in the program of the association for the ensuing year. The visiting wool growers were entertained in the evening in the Condon hotel by the Condon commercial club.

Eugene.—William T. Campbell, for 72 years a resident of Eugene and member of one of the most prominent pioneer families of Lane county, died suddenly at his home here Saturday. He was 73 years old. Mr. Campbell came across the plains with his parents from Iowa in 1853, and they settled here at that time.

Eugene.—The first case of an insanity commitment ever appealed to the circuit court in Lane county, as far as memory of county officials extends, is that of N. J. Cosner, Fall Creek farmer, who was committed to the state hospital at Salem last week. Saturday his attorney, H. E. Slattery, filed notice of appeal.

Brownsville.—There was a big turnout at the dance which was held here Friday night when the American Legion post and auxiliary dedicated their new hall and meeting rooms. The post has heretofore been without an adequate hall. The rooms include the entire second floor of the Howe store building on Spalding avenue.

Condon.—No longer will married women be hired to fill teaching positions in the Condon grade school. Against the recommendations of the chairman, the school board at a recent meeting took a definite stand against hiring married or inexperienced teachers. It also decided against hiring any applicants whose homes are in or near Condon.

Salem.—A committee of prominent Marion county residents appeared before Governor Pierce here Saturday and urged the appointment of Henry Crawford, rancher, as a member of the state fair board to succeed Wayne Stuart of Albany, who has left the state. Governor Pierce said that he would defer the appointment until Mr. Stuart has submitted his resignation.

Salem.—Railroads operating in the state of Oregon have notified the public service commission that the reduced freight rates on purebred livestock shipped in less than carload lots will be continued during the present year. The reduced rate was established early in the year 1925 and applies to all purebred livestock used for breeding purposes. The reduced rate was based on 50 per cent of the old charge.

Cottage Grove.—S. T. White of the agriculture department of the high school, who has been conducting study classes among farmers of Lane county, will hold a series of meetings in which he will attempt to get farmers interested in cultivating the Evergreen blackberry for eastern markets. Although the berry is native of this section and grows without care and under most unfavorable conditions, no attempt to commercialize it has been made.

Eugene.—Total sales in 1925 of the Eugene Fruit Growers' association, a co-operative farmers' marketing institution, operating three fruit and vegetable canneries and evaporating plants 974.53, according to the annual report in Lane county, amounted to \$1,036, of J. O. Holt, manager, read at the annual meeting of the stockholders here Sunday. The association in addition to its canneries and evaporators operates an ice manufacturing plant, ice cream plant, vinegar factory, box factory and machine shop.

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