

THE ADVOCATE

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IMPORTANT!

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"Don't ask for rights. Take them. An don't let anny wan give them to ye. A right that is handed to ye fr sawthin' has somethin' the matter with it."—Mr. Dooley.

"They have rights who dare maintain them."—James Russell Lowell.

THE ELECTION

The election is now a thing of the past, and the candidates who were elected are an expression of a majority vote. While the results may not be satisfactory to every one, nevertheless all good citizens must submit to the principles of our government which says in effect, that a majority of the people must rule. With this thought in view and with the hopes that the best men were chosen at the polls last Tuesday, The Advocate extends sincere congratulations and best wishes to all.

LOCAL N. A. A. C. P.

We wonder when the local Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People voted to change its place of meeting from the churches to the Williams Avenue Branch of the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A.?

It has been the custom for the Branch to meet for three months at one of the churches then three at another, and so on, until the round was made and then repeat. This evidently did not please the present president for it is said that he has declared the Association would not meet in the Baptist church. Just what authority he has for ignoring the wishes of the members who go to make up the local Branch, we do not know. However, members are being notified to come out Monday night to the Y. and elect officers. What a paradox: the N. A. A. C. P. that great organization more than 200,000 strong, banded together to fight SEGREGATION, using as a meeting place a jim-crow place!

What can we expect of those of the white race who would keep us in slavery and prevent us from holding our heads up as men and women, the equal of other men and women, when our own would-be leaders, not only countenance segregation, but assist those who segregate and deny us equal opportunities and privileges?

What a laughing stock for the enemies of the N. A. A. C. P. ! What slight influence this local branch would have when it attempted to oppose segregation in public places for community service! What a great disappointment to our noble leaders for manhood rights: James Weldon Johnson, Dr. W. E. B. DuBios, and that great host of others, some of the white race such as Moorefield Storey, and J. E. Spingarn!

This organization is too precious to be subjected to such domination as to be hurtful to its great principles.

Scrapping amongst ourselves has always been one of the chief causes why we have made such slow progress in the economic and political life of the nation. When shall we learn better?

THE BROAD-AX

Among our most valued exchanges, is the Chicago Broad-Ax which celebrated its 31st birthday anniversary last week with a 16 page special edition. Each page was adorned with cuts of men, prominent in the civic life of the Wind cit.

The veteran editor of the Broad-Ax, Julius Taylor certainly "knows his stuff" when it comes to the newspaper profession.

We need in our local civic affairs an upstanding leadership, for it is plain that thro' that kind only, will we ever receive the recognition that should be accorded every red blooded American.

IF SOLOMON KNEW

A small girl, daughter of a San Antonio Mason, contributes the following essay on King Solomon: "King Solomon lived ever so many years ago, when long whiskers were all the rage. He was an awful wise man, and in the country which he governed was said to be the whole push.

Well, one day two women came before him, each one holding onto the same baby, and each saying it was hers. One woman said she sure was the mother of the baby, and the other said: 'You're a big liar!'

It was up to Solomon to decide which woman the baby belonged to, so he called for his sword, and was just going to cut the baby in two and give each woman half when one of them said: 'Nix on the sword stuff, Solomon; let the old hog have it. If I can't have the whole baby I don't want any.'

Then Solomon told the woman to take the baby and go home and wash its face, for he knew it was hers, and he told the other woman to go chase herself.

King Solomon built the Temple that has his name on it. Our groceryman whose name is Levi says Solomon's Temple was the nicest that ever was built, but Pa says it can't hold a candle to the new Elks Temple which they are going to build.

Solomon was the father of all Masons. He had 700 wives in good standing, and 200 more that were not quite as good. I suppose that is why there are so many Masons in the world."

We congratulate the Mt. Olivet Baptist church upon its forward looking leadership in arranging programs, practical as well as wholly of the spirit, for the benefit of its membership and the public in general. These educational programs certainly have a definite place in the life of any church. Through them, good citizenship is promoted.

COLORED PEOPLE'S PLACE

Following a tirade of a buse of the Jews and Catholics in a speech the other day down in Virginia, we are told a Ku Klux Klansman said that "above all we must keep the Negro in his place."

Now the thing that is puzzling the colored people in this country is where their place is in American life. The principle of a democracy like this of ours is that a man's place in the life of his country is limited by his own ability to meet the common problems of life. According to this principle, every man is on the same footing with every other man.

We thank God that ours is not a Kingdom nor an empire where one man has the authority to say to another man or to a race, that your place is here and no farther.

Where does the Ku Klux Klan get its super-power to prescribe the place of Negro Americans in their own country? What is its standard of citizenship?

THE PRICE OF SALVATION

A man wrote to a storekeeper as follows:

"Dear Sir: Last year I picked up a pair of gloves in your store and did not pay for them. Enclosed find one dollar. I couldn't let a thing like that stand between me and heaven."

The storekeeper replied: "Dear Sir: Thanks for the dollar and our confession; but there is still a dollar and a half between you and heaven as the gloves you describe as having were worth \$2.50."

Our government seems more concerned about arresting and punishing bootleggers and liquor possessors than it is about apprehending and punishing those who lynch and burn their fellowmen and women. Why is it like it is? Is it because the great majority of lynch law victims are of the black race?

ELKS' SCHOLARSHIPS

The Order of Elks of the World (Independent), which has recently awarded scholarships to some deserving young people of the Negro race, through its educational fund, has shown to the world by this action, if no other, that the Order of Elks stands for the ver highest ideals in racial cultural development. It is certainly not deserving of many of the hard things that have been said about it by some narrow-sighted individuals.

ISN'T IT AWFUL?

There are 47,000 either very ignorant or very prejudiced voters in the great state of Oregon who voted against the repeal of the "Free Negro and Mulatto" measure on the ballot. But thanks to the intelligent and justice-loving 89,000 voters who cast their ballot so that this over a half century old "black law" will no longer be printed in the codes and statute books of Oregon. It seems somewhat strange that in a Republican state that these old laws which were written so long ago, have not all before now been repealed.

THE N. A. A. C. P. FUND

So many people have asked us why we have not said anything about the N. A. A. C. P. "slush fund" charge against some of the association's national officials. Well to be truthful. We didn't take the matter seriously at all. We knew the Pittsburgh Courier was not telling the truth and we did not care to give it any free space in our columns. We also knew that James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. was a man above reproach whose honesty we would stake our lives on and therefore we knew that the accusation was the "tribute that mediocrity pays to greatness" and dismissed it from our minds and went to work with our faith renewed in Mr. Johnson and the noble work being done by him and his loyal co-workers in the National office.

BERKELEY NOTES

(By Arthur D. LeBon)
Mr. Dan Sykes, Jr., the roaming Romeo and his roaring Buick six were arrested for speeding by one "Dan Cupid" and found guilty by pretty Lucile Broom of San Diego, Calif. The wedding was kept "mums" for more than two weeks. And the gang was wondering why the "Swan Song". Well, Mr. Sykes bought a beautiful home and furniture, also secretly gave a party and the bride was introduced by Mrs. Ed Snelling of 37th St., Oakland. Mr. and Mrs. Sykes are at home at 1529 Stuart Street.

"Bye bye, Blackbird"—
Pay your subscription now!
Stay off Monday night, January 3, 1927 New Years Ball. Adv.

MORE ABOUT PRES. N. A. C. W. CLUBS' ARREST

Continued from page one

be worth upwards of \$300,000.00 in real estate holdings in West Palm Beach.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, a member of Mrs. Collier's party, is not only the president of the N. A. C. W. C. but is president of the Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Fla.; and she is the outstanding figure in the club life of the colored women of the United States. She spent a brief stay in Portland last Summer as the guest of the Oregon Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and was the houseguest of Mrs. Bonnie Bogle, Chairman of the Executive Committee of C. W. C. of Oregon state. Recently Mrs. Bethune addressed an appeal to the colored people of the U. S. to assist in the fund raised for the relief of sufferers in Miami and Florida, following in the wake of the great cyclone and storm that destroyed so much property and many lives of the people. Her appeal was conspicuous for its broad platform. She requested sums to be sent to the general relief committee and no designation be made for what race it was to be used as she said that whites lost and suffered more in comparison to population, than colored, and she felt it should be left to the discretion of the committee as to how and where the funds should be used.

MORE ABOUT WALTER WHITE'S INVESTIGATIONS

Continued from page one

Anonymous letter to the Sheriff, Sheriff H. H. Howard and Deputy Sheriffs Nollie Robinson, R. L. McElhaney, and A. D. Shepard went to the Lowman home on April 25, 1925. Two weeks earlier on a Sunday night, a crowd of Klansmen robed and hooded had called Demond Lowman, 22-year old son, from his home and whipped him.

Sheriffs Showed No Badges

"When the four white Sheriffs in plain clothes, and with no badges, approached the Lowman home, Mrs. Annie Lowman, the mother, 55 years old, was making soap in the back yard and her daughter Bertha, was sweeping the yard. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to the mill to have meal ground, while Demond Lowman and Clarence Lowman, 14 years of age and his cousin, who had been raised by Sam Lowman and his wife, were plowing in a field 100 ards away.

"When Mrs. Lowman and her daughters saw the white men approaching the house they thought it wisest to go inside until they had passed. The Sheriffs drew guns and started running towards the house to surround it. Bertha Lowman screamed. Demond and Clarence ran to the house as the Sheriffs rushed into it. Sheriff Howard and Bertha Lowman reached the back steps at the same time. The Sheriff knocked Bertha out of the way with his left fist, his pistol clutched in his right hand, shouting to her to stand back. In the melee Deputy Sheriff Robinson fired and killed Mrs. Annie Lowman. Bertha Lowman was shot twice in the left breast just above the heart and once through the abdomen. Clarence Lowman was also severely injured while Demond Lowman was shot but not wounded seriously. Sheriff Howard was killed by bullet went thro' his head. The Sheriffs had pistols. Clarence Lowman had a shotgun while Demond Lowman had a pistol but at no time was anywhere near sheriff Howard or at a point where he could have shot the Sheriff. In the trial it was brought out that the white men did not in any manner indicate they were officers of

Hasty Trial Amid High Tension

"Five of the Lowmans were arrested and moved hastily to the penitentiary at Columbia to avoid a lynching. According to the record of the South Carolina State Supreme Court, the shooting took place on Apr. 25, Howard's funeral on the 26th (at which were present more than 200 Klansmen in full regalia), inquest was held on the 27th, the court convened on May 4, the indictment of the Lowmans was had the same day, the defendants were arraigned on the 9th and placed on trial May 12. Feeling was so high in Aiken, according to the defense brief in the Supreme Court, it was published to the world that it would be difficult to obtain lawyers for the Lowmans in Aiken. Attorneys were appointed by the court, who merely went through the gestures of defending them. In his charge to the jury, Judge H. F. Rice, knowing of the danger to lawyers, even though appointed by the court, apologized for the formal defense made by them and impressed upon the jury the fact that 'none of them wanted to do it.'

"Bertha, Demond and Clarence were found guilty of murder with a recommendation of mercy in the case of Bertha. Demond and Clarence were sentenced to die on June 12, 1925 and Bertha to life imprisonment. It is worthy of note that Bertha and Clarence Lowman's lives were hanging in the balance from their wounds at the time they were placed on trial and they were taken from the hospital to the court room.

"The case was so outrageous that N. J. Frederick, a colored attorney of Columbia, on his own initiative, entered the case and filed an excellent appeal to the State Supreme Court for a review of the cases, resulting in a reversal of the convictions and the remanding of the defendants for a new trial.

"The three defendants were again placed on trial Oct. 5th at Aiken, Judge Lanham presiding. Mr. Frederick retained L. G. Southard, a white attorney of Spartanburg, paying him \$125 out of his own pocket. Messrs. Frederick and Southard put up a magnificent defense and completely demolished the State's case. On Oct. 7, a motion was made for a directed verdict of not guilty in the case of Demond Lowman. It was generally conceded in Aiken that Clarence and Bertha would be freed by the jury the next day. At 5 in the afternoon Judge Lanham granted the motion for the dismissal of the case against Demond. He was however immediately rearrested on a charge of assault and battery and recommitted to jail.

Lynching Planned by Klan

"Within one hour after the Judge's decision, news had been sent to as distant a point as Columbia that the 3 Lowmans were to be lynched that night. Within the same hour the Ku Klux Klan held a meeting in the office of a prominent white attorney of Aiken who had been recently elected to the State Legislature. At this meeting plans were perfected for the lynching and also plans were discussed, but abandoned, to tar and feather Mr. Frederick and to castrate Mr. Southard, the white attorney. A prominent and respectable white lawyer of Spartanburg warned Judge and Solicitor Bert Carter that a lynching was in the air. Despite this the Lowmans were committed to jail with only 1 guard whereas plans had been made to remove the defendants hastily should they be convicted.

"Shortly after midnight a police officer of Aiken forced automobilists to remove cars from around the jail so that

the lynchers would have a place to park their cars. According to reliable information, Sheriff Robinson, Deputy Sheriffs McElhaney and A. D. Shepard, and traffic policeman Salley dragged Bertha Lowman from her cell, got the other 2 defendants and handed them over to the mob. After the mob had secured the prisoners 2 shots were fired inside the jail and not, as Sheriff Robinson claimed, when he was trying 'to prevent entry' of the mob into the jail.

"The mob numbering between 30 and 40 started out York Street on the Dixie highway to a tourist camp about 2 miles from Aiken. On the way Clarence Lowman jumped from the car in which he was held. He was shot down and recaptured. In order to prevent telltale blood marks, a rope was tied to the back of the car and the other end of it around Clarence's body. In this manner he was dragged about a mile to the place of execution. The members of the mob stated that Bertha was the hardest one to kill. She was shot but not killed instantly. She dragged herself over the ground and, as one member of the mob put it, 'bleated like a goat.' Another member of the mob, slightly more decent, said that she begged so piteously for her life and squirmed about so that a number of shots had to be fired before one found a vital spot and ended her agony.

Facts Given S. C.'s Governor

"I have furnished Thomas G. McLeod, Governor of So. Carolina, in a 6 page letter, every detail regarding the lynching. I have given him the name of the member of the mob who was accorded 'the honor' of being executioner but whose nerve failed him. I have furnished him with the names of the 3 men who did act as executioners and of their 2 assistants. I have furnished him with the names and addresses and occupations of 22 members of the mob telling the Governor in detail of the part played by each one of them at the lynching. I have furnished him with the names of 11 other persons who were very close to the lynching as spectators but who did not actively participate in it.

"This list includes besides the Sheriff and his deputies other so-called law-enforcement officers, prominent business men and 3 men related to the Governor and the name of at least one member of the Grand Jury investigating the lynching. I also furnished the Governor with the names of 4 white men and one colored man incarcerated in the Aiken jail on the night of the lynching, and who saw the Sheriff and his deputies drag Bertha Lowman from her cell and turn her over to the mob. I have also stated to the Governor that I can furnish him with the names and addresses of most influential and respectable white citizens of the community who will testify to the correctness of the facts set forth, if the Governor will guarantee them protection from the vengeance of the Klan and the lynchers.

Attempt To Stage Race Riot

"Following the lynching an attempt was made to stage a race riot to cover the guilt of the murders. Agents of the Klan went around Aiken saying the Negroes were armed and were going to 'rise in the night and kill all the white people.' The same tactics were used as in the famous Phillips County, Arkansas, riots of 1919, which the N. A. A. C. P. exposed. Fortunately this dastardly attempt did not succeed.

"I learned that the inevitable aftermath of Klan activities is no where seen in S. Carolina. The element of membership which acted as a restraining influence in the Klan and which entered the movement believing it to be

a law-enforcement body as it claimed, has largely resigned. The local Klans are now in the hands of murders, bootleggers, operators of stills and other criminals. As I have said the law-abiding element of whites are living in a state of constant terror and indeed are more afraid of the Klan and of the lower order of whites than are Negroes.

White Men Armed For Defense Against Klan

"In the home of one white man, formerly a high officer in the Klan, and who resigned when he found out the nature of the movement, he showed me an automatic pistol which he carried in his trousers pocket and a 38 calibre revolver in a holster. He told me that if he went across the road in front of his house after nightfall, a distance of some 75 feet, he strapped on his person, in addition, a cartridge belt and two 45 calibre army revolvers.

"This man showed me a collection of 30 guns including rifles, shotguns and revolvers which he had in his home for self-protection. For 4 years the members of the Klan from which he has resigned have been attempting to kill him. The late sheriff Howard, the present Sheriff Robinson and the present deputy sheriffs were all expelled from the Klan some years ago for 'conduct unbecoming a Klansman.' But they were later readmitted. On the anniversary of Sheriff Howard's death, the Klan held a celebration at his grave in the Graniteville Cemetery at which, according to the Columbia State, more than 1,500 persons, many of them clad in Klan robes, were furnished with free lunches and lemonade and listened to eulogies of the late Sheriff. This celebration took place while the State Supreme Court was deliberating on the appeal for a new trial for the Lowmans.

"This makes the 41st lynching I have investigated, besides 8 race riots. In none of them have I seen the depravity, barbarity, and terrorism which exists in and near Aiken. One of the white men with whom I talked and who gave me much valuable information, put his hand on my shoulder as I was leaving and said: 'Mr. White, work into your story the fact that you were sent by God. For 7 weeks a group of white people has met here in my house every night and prayed that some man from out of the State be sent to open up this mass of corruption and to publish to the world the terrible state of affairs prevailing here. You are the answer to that prayer.'"

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OAKLAND NEWS JOTS

(By Arthur D. LeBon)
T. E. Smith, representative of the National Insurance Company, passed away suddenly at Elsinore, Cal. Monday, October 25, where he had gone on a vacation. Heart failure was the cause of his sudden demise. Mr. Smith was at one time leader and he also was the organizer of the Branch of the U. N. I. A. and was a speaker of great power and ability. His friends were many around the Bay district. He was a native of Jamaica.

Mrs. Elizabeth LeBonas, Thibodeaux, mother of Arthur LeBon and Mrs. Beulah Rogers, left for her home in Houston, Texas Sun., Oct., 31. Mrs. Thibodeaux spent four months in Oakland, having enjoyed a delightful sojourn. She is a great church worker and visited many of the churches in Oakland where she met friends from Texas and Louisiana.