

EDITORIAL PAGE

THE ADVOCATE

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WHERE TO BUY THE ADVOCATE

Rutherford's Barber Shop, 340 Williams avenue, in Foster's Pool Hall.
The Elks building, 310 Williams avenue.
Medley Hotel Restaurant, Interstate Avenue (in Medley Hotel).
Friendship Pool Hall, Sixth, near Glisan (West Side).
Holliday and Holliday, 125 North Sixth street.

THE LOCAL ELKS

It has been a long time since Rose City Lodge of Elks has been in the limelight. The temporary loss of their valuable property has been largely the cause of their discouragement.

The hard times which caused the Elks to lose their property, has not effected them alone, but every other institution, private and public and all classes and kinds of business have also felt the effects of the depression. If all people, however, sat down on their duty and failed to do anything, it wouldn't be long until we would not have any business or anything else. Everything would be lost. Things cannot forever remain as they are. A change is inevitable and it will be for the better.

A committee has sent out a call to all Elks to attend a meeting next week. It is hoped that every red-blooded Elk will respond and that soon again, Elksdom will take its place in the life of Portland's colored citizenry. "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party" applies well to Portland colored Elks. Anybody can be a quitter but it takes strong-hearted, brave, loyal men to rescue a dying cause.

Hello Bill!

"TOM-TOM"

Shirley Graham-McCanns has written a Negro opera which has proven to be a mild sensation. It is said to be the first and only Negro opera that has been produced in this U. S. Shirley has accomplished her life's big dream. She could not fail for she is made of the stuff that spells success. The opera "Tom-Tom" had its premiere in Cleveland, the other day. It will go, this fall, to Madison Square Garden and Shirley will go to Africa for "atmosphere" in which to write her next great Negro opera.

The Advocate editor is proud of the fact that she gave a "lift" to Shirley, encouraged her when she needed it and urged her on to greater heights. Our big desire now is to witness the performance of "Tom-Tom" and to personally congratulate Shirley.

YOUTH AND AGE

Youth needs age; age needs youth. Youth needs the guidance and wisdom of age; age needs the sympathy and strength of youth. Youth needs the poise and conservatism of age; age needs the buoyant optimism and aggressiveness of youth. Youth and Age need each other. They can not walk alone. They must walk together if they would live. —STAR OF ZION.

BARGAIN COUNTER ROADS

Like many other commodities, roads are now on the bargain table. A fair quality road can be bought for as little as \$2,000 a mile. Prices range up to \$40,000 a mile for the magnificent super-highways designed to carry an excessive amount of traffic. For \$5,000 a mile a general utility road, of high quality, may be had.

These low cost roads are the answer to the farmer's social and transportation problems. They are suitable for all but the heaviest traffic and are as weatherproof, skidproof and generally useful as their more expensive brethren. According to an article in the New York Times, there is a crying need for 1,296,000 miles of such secondary roads—building them is a job equivalent in size and scope to the building of the Panama Canal.

The United States Bureau of Public Roads has published specifications for the ideal farm-to-market road designed to carry between 7,000 and 2,000 cars daily. The beginning is a properly graded and drained 26-foot bed. A foundation of broken rock, slag or gravel, six inches deep, is then laid. This is compacted by rolling, and a 3- to 6-inch layer of crushed stone is laid next. Traffic is allowed to hammer this for a time. It is then bituminously treated and smoothed. The final operation is to lay a top layer of stone chips, tied together by asphalt, which provides the skidproof, long wearing qualities required.

Money cannot buy a better secondary road than this—yet its cost varies, depending on the locality, from only

WHERE THERE is spiritual bankruptcy, there is financial bankruptcy in the church and nation. —STAR OF ZION.

\$3,000 to \$8,000 a mile. Such roads by stimulating tourist travel, put farms and small and isolated towns on the map.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION (By W. J. Wheaton)

The disciples of Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Grover Cleveland and Woodrow Wilson have met and selected their standard bearers for president and vice president of the United States and closed one of the most notable conventions in the annals of the party. As is usual in democratic conventions there was bitter debate and hotly contested rivalry. But with one exception, that of Albert E. Smith, candidate for the presidency in 1928, there was an unanimous endorsement of the choice of the convention; Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, N. Y. and his running mate the Hon. John N. Garner, speaker of the lower house of congress. It was not without dramatic moments, especially so when McAdoo, heading the California delegation broke the pending deadlock by casting the forty odd votes for Governor Roosevelt. The dramatic scene brought to memory the convention of 1924 when McAdoo was a candidate for the nomination and was blocked by former Governor Al Smith, who was also a candidate. Eight years was a long time to wait, but political revenge is sweet and political bitterness lasts for a long time. The party platform can be read easily and comprehended with out much effort. It is short and concise. It makes a clear cut definition of the stand of the party on the 18th Amendment. It makes an unequivocal plea for its repeal and gives the constitutional plan through which it should be placed before the people. The economic and planks referring to labor, industry and foreign relations, are plain and understandable. In all, there is no useless verbiage used for the purpose of deception.

SILVER

To most of us the silver problems seems very far away. But it hits every pocket-book. Depressed price of silver has deprived half the world of a large part of its buying power. It has caused decisive changes in the economic life of entire nations, thus depriving thousands of men of work and forcing drastic cuts on a multitude of related industries. "Bring silver back" is a good motto for the future.

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FOREMOST WRITER SUPPORTS COMMUNIST PARTY

(Continued from page one) and the basements crowded with those who have no other place to go. Idle factories, capable of producing all of the goods people need, yet idle. And idle because if they can not be run profitably for the few who control them, they shall not run at all. They shall decay first, and me lost to the present economic wealth of the country entirely."

Mr. Dreiser charged the American corporations "and their political henchmen of both parties" with being coldly unconcerned about the suffering of the millions whom they have exploited. "At this very moment," he added, "they are thinking only of protecting their profits taken in the past and insuring their return in the future. Their way out of the crisis is to bring poverty and misery to the workers and farmers the land over, as well as to the twelve million Negroes already greatly discriminated against, jim-crowed and lynched." And yet I am asked, "Mr. Dreiser, said, "why I favor the program of the Communist Party and advocate the election of Wm Z. Foster and James W. Ford. Do I really need to answer that? I shall vote the Communist ticket."



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Hoover At Howard

By KELLY MILLER

President Herbert Hoover delivered the commencement address to 356 graduates of Howard University at the Commencement on June 10th. This was not only his first appearance at this institution but his first formal address before a colored audience. Indeed, Mr. Hoover has evidenced less formal interest in the colored group than any president since James Buchanan. This seeming ignoring of one-tenth of the American

When it was first announced that President Hoover was to appear on the University Commencement, some speculated that the President was seeking to curry favor with the Negro in view of the approaching election; others opined that the University administration was thereby seeking to demonstrate to the public that it stood well in the estimation of the government. We would like to discard both of these imputed political motives. It is to be hoped that Presidents, in the future as in the past will delight in paying Howard University at least one visit during their respective administrations.

Mr. Hoover has the mind of the engineer and is practically devoid of political intuition. He practices the straight forwardness of his profession. There was not the slightest political implication in his address. He did not even follow the poor taste of Mr. Coolidge who it seems, utilized the Howard University platform as an occasion to indulge in flattering platitudes about the remarkable progress which the race has made since emancipation. He had undoubtedly had his clerk look up the recent issue of the Negro Year Book, with simple and unaffected dignity, Mr. Hoover expressed the greeting and good will of the Government, as a half dozen of his predecessors had done before him. His political status in the minds of black folks remains the same after his address as before. Education and politics will not mix. It will certainly be a bad day for the higher education of the Negro when Howard University becomes involved in the matrix of partisan politics.



KELLY MILLER

people does not necessarily grow out of lack of interest or sympathy or an attitude of calculated indifference and studied neglect, but is in harmony with his well-known policy of dealing with the people as a whole, and not in segments. The Jew, the Catholic and the women might file a similar bill of complaint against their president.

Howard University has come to typify the atonement of the American people for their ancient and present day sins against the Negro race. For fifty years Congress has been voting liberal grants to this institution as a sort of sin offering to appease the national conscience. Both Republicans and Democrats have adopted this view as payment in part his just due of which he has been deprived. The South as well as the North has agreed to adopt this institution as a step-child of the federal government. Only here and there is heard a feeble voice of dissent from an occasional die-hard Bourbon of the South. There is no human likelihood that Howard University will suffer loss of public approval and support unless its intended beneficiaries should frustrate the national purpose by everlasting bickering and wrangling which would make this national largess of no effect.

Every president since Grant has paid this institution the homage of a visit except Wilson and Harding. The press of national business must have caused Wilson to break the precedent. He did, however, deliver a commencement address at Hampton. The untimely taking off of Harding undoubtedly accounts for his non appearance at this national Negro institution. Mindful of the line of precedents, Mr. Hoover, in his address, expressed regrets that the press of public business had deprived him of the coveted opportunity of visiting Howard during the past three years of his administration.

In his brief address, Mr. Hoover simply brought the greeting of the federal government to Howard University and upheld the justification of federal grants for the same reason as sundry of his predecessors had done before him. Mr. Hoover was accompanied by Mrs. Hoover, the second time that the presence of the University has been honored by the presence of the lady of the White House. Listen now to a bit of unknown history. The first public grant to Howard University was secured under President Hayes, at a time when both branches of Congress were heavily Democratic. It so happened that Dr. W. W. Patton, then President of Howard University, was a cousin of President Hayes. On the occasion of his visit to the University he was accompanied by Mrs. Hayes. The President and his wife were dinner guests of President Patton. This may have had something to do with the original federal grant to this Negro institution. President Patton then lived next to the Honorable John M. Langston, the famous Negro lawyer and statesman. On his way back to the White House, the President and Mrs. Hayes paid a social visit to their distinguished fellow Okian. The writer now occupies the estate in which this visitation took place.

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