

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## THE ADVOCATE

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### WHERE TO BUY THE ADVOCATE

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 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.

### HOOVER BACKS UP

Colored voters throughout the nation will be interested in the announcement that President Herbert Hoover has withdrawn the name of R. B. Montgomery from nomination to the office of United States Marshal for the northern district of Mississippi.

This action of Mr. Hoover did not occur, however, until after pressure had been brought to bear on him by prominent Negro and White republican leaders, and by outstanding Negro organizations.

The specific charge against Montgomery was that he disparaged Negro womanhood in public utterances and for that reason, in which The Advocate concurs, he was considered unfit for public office.

Thinking colored people are not so sure that Mr. Hoover would have withdrawn the name of his nominee if it were not so close to the November election — in fact — too close for colored voters to have time to forget. They also recall that the President would not withdraw the name of Judge Parker of North Carolina of the "yellow dog contract" and anti-Negro fame, Hoover's nominee who was finally defeated for Judge of the United States Supreme Court by failure of the Senate to confirm the nomination.

Whatever Mr. Hoover's motive for withdrawing Montgomery's name, the fact remains that protest, intelligently made and properly directed, brings effective and many times the desired results. And it will also serve as a lesson in the future to other political aspirants, some of whom have never learned to regard the Negro woman nor the Negro in general as human beings, that the Negro is an integral and an important factor in our national life and history.

Much credit for Mr. Hoover's back up is due to the intelligent vigilance of Mrs. Mary C. Boozie, colored republican National Committeewoman of Mississippi; to Senator Shortridge of California and other colored and white individuals and organizations who lent their voice and influence.

### FOR THE FIRST TIME

Music circles are agog over press reports of the appearance of Jules Bledsoe as Amensero in Verdi's great opera, "Aida" at Cleveland, Ohio's second season of out-of-door opera which recently closed.

Bledsoe, who is best known as Old Man River in "Showboat", had sung the part before in London but his appearance as the captive king in the famous opera at Cleveland, is said to have been the first time that a Negro has ever sung the part on an American stage.

The growing tendency on the part of producers, promoters and the public in general to accept Negro artists just as any other, is certainly both heartening and encouraging to say the least and in time the Negro artist will "come into his own".

There is no gainsaying the fact that the Negro has great talent both as an actor and singer. He is born to be. All he needs is the opportunity for development and self-expression. The Negro's art will surely go a long way towards enriching America.

The Advocate commends the movement for an interracial tour of Europe. An interracial tour of America and all other countries would be still more effective. With the various interracial movements including the establishment of international houses, clubs and the like, it would be so long before one part of the human family will learn that the other is also human and soon men will learn to live together in friendship and good-will.

### NEGROES AND THE JURY

When, on July 3rd, the Maryland Court of Appeals handed down a decision reversing the death sentence of Euel Lee, aged Negro worker convicted of murder, on the chief ground that Negroes had been barred from the jury for the sole reason that they were Negroes, the race automatically achieved a great victory.

According to reports, only by bitter struggle on the part of his attorneys, Lee won elementary rights of change of venue and choice of attorney, when the case came up for trial in the first

instance. This in itself gives one not already acquainted, an insight into the ways of some southern courts when handling cases involving Negroes.

There is grave doubt in the minds of many familiar with the facts in the case of the guilt of Lee. Some feel that he was "framed" while others think he is simply a victim of circumstance. We are not in a position to pass intelligently an opinion as to his guilt or innocence as all the information we have been obtained through the medium of the press—some being highly colored. Be that as it may, the reversal and remand for trial won on the grounds as stated above, should come as encouraging information to Negroes everywhere.

It is the general practice in some sections of the south by some judges to bar Negroes from the jury for the sole reason that they are Negroes. Some judges even go so far as to boast that they would not hear a case with Negroes serving as jurors. This decision, won by the International Labor Defense whose lawyers are defending Euel Lee, most certainly take a little of the "starch" out of such judges.

No judge likes to have his decisions reversed. He knows that his future advancement and promotions depend largely upon the record he makes while serving as judge in his present position. This fact will cause judges in the future to abide by this ruling and hence, will insure the Negro his right to serve in the capacity of jurors in the south.

### THE PAUL ROBESON AFFAIR

(Reprint from the Palmetto Leader)  
 Quite a bit has been said recently about the contemplated divorce proceedings of the Paul Robesons. It is but natural that people who are prominent should cause the public to become greatly interested in their affairs.

That Paul and Eslande are about to come to the parting of the ways is especially interesting because of the biographical work written by Mrs. Robeson, PAUL ROBESON NEGRO. It is only to be hoped that the public will allow the Robesons to live their own lives without any interference; for after all, the two people who are parties to the marital contract are the only persons who know just how things are with them.

The writer is personally acquainted with Paul and Eslande. He is confident that whatever steps they are taking are being taken advisedly, and though they shall become separated as far as being husband and wife is concerned, they shall always remain friends.

It is our hope that the public will let the Robesons live their lives.

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# Repudlican Platform

By KELLY MILLER

The economic slump has given rise to a new degree—"Doctor of Depression." Messrs. Hoover and Roosevelt are vying with each other as to which of the two is best entitled to that degree. Of Mr. Hoover, it must be said that the patient was delivered to his hands in a well high perfect condition. When Mr. Coolidge turned the country over to his predecessor its condition was sound economically and financially as at any time during its existence. On taking charge of the patient, Mr. Hoover declared that he would improve existing good health to the pink of perfection. So sure were



KELLY MILLER

now, not unreasonably, aspires to be made ruler over many things. His nostrums have not the discredit of previous failure like those of Mr. Hoover. His diagnosis has not been proved palpably false. The patient has not fallen sick over his hands. Sometimes a mere change of treatment is desirable for the sake of change. The psychological effect is good. The patient gains fresh hope from the new remedy. Dr. Hoover claims that Dr. Roosevelt's offers quick remedies calculated to mislead and beguile the patient. Dr. Roosevelt rejoins that "your nostrums are antiquated and stale and have abundantly demonstrated their inefficacy."

And so the patient stands distraught between these two rival claimants for the title of Doctor of Depression. One or the other will be chosen according to the mood, the temper or the whim of the patient. Neither is infallible. The ultra cautious, the conservative, the reactionaries will advocate retaining the old family physician from sheer fear of change. The progressives with modernistic disposition will risk the change albeit it be somewhat experimental. During the ensuing campaign, we shall hear all sorts of extravagant claims put forth by both sides. Each will discount and discredit the merits of the adversaries claims and extol his own to the skies. We may as well discredit in advance all such campaign extravaganzas. The fact is the patient is sick nigh unto death. Neither of the contending Doctors of Depression knows of a certainty how to diagnose the disease or prescribe the remedy. And yet the choice must needs be made between these rival Doctors of Depression.

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