

EDITORIALS

THE ADVOCATE

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How many of you would go into the darkest part of the southland and cast your lot with and make trying sacrifices to serve your less fortunate sister and brother?

Just thinking about it and telling ourselves that it would be a great thing to do, is one thing and going down there and devoting our whole life to it, is another.

But Arena Mallory did both. Seven years ago at the age of twenty-one, Miss Mallory left her comfortable home in Southern Illinois in answer to a call to serve in the capacity of president and general manager of the Santa Industrial-Literary School at Lexington, Miss.

On the train that sped from her home toward the little town of Lexington, she tried to obtain information from members of the train crew. She reasoned they could tell her of Lexington since they ran through there; but, they had never heard of the place until Miss Mallory started her journey there.

How well she has succeeded in placing Lexington, Mississippi on the map is attested by the fact that today seven buildings have been erected in as many years and 400 students attend there without cost.

A small capital of 85 cents and a great big faith in God possessed by a woman of vision with a desire to serve her race and mankind belie tell the story of the success of this noble adventure in education of Negro youth in the little place called Lexington in the Delta region of Mississippi.

THE FARMERS' DISCOVERIES

Perhaps the most encouraging phase of the farmer's troubles is that they have caused him to look with a new and inquiring mind on economic and social problems.

He has discovered that the world has changed much—that methods that were good thirty years ago are disastrous now. He is finding out that no one can prosper alone in a world in which the interests of every business, every producer, are inextricably intermingled.

He is finding that the cooperative ideal—whether in industry, or agriculture, or simply social relations—points the road to stability and permanence.

During the depression thousands of farmers have joined cooperatives. Thousands of others have redoubled their efforts in behalf of their cooperative, where before they simply held the "passive" memberships. These are the farmers that are applying real business methods to farming and that are in line to profit in the future.

FOREIGN TRADE MAKES FOR PEACE

Recent actions of the heads of all governments have called the attention of the peoples of the world to the infinite importance of good international relations—and their corollary, a sizeable and permanent volume of good international trade.

When President Roosevelt spoke a short time ago and demanded disarmament, he was asking for more than world peace—he was asking for world salvation. We are learning that no nation, no people, no class, can prosper in a world which is torn by old enmities, mutual distrusts, a multitude of fears. We see the results of those things now in Europe—where many of the great nations are enlarging and outfitting their armies, laying embargoes against the goods of other nations, obstructing each other at every turn. We see it in the East, in the Sino-Japanese imbroglio.

A short time from now there will be a World Economic Conference. Its purpose is just what the name implies—to restore the economic structure of the world. All principal nations will be represented. The groundwork has been prepared, largely by the informal conference held during April and May in Washington. The nations have agreed to an economic truce—which might better be called a tariff truce—to last until the conference has had a chance to iron out world difficulties.

It is to be hoped that truce goes on forever. There is nothing like trade, like a mutual commercial interest, to make friendliness and understanding among peoples.

And there is nothing like a decline in trade to make misunderstandings and anger. The future of the world depends to a great extent on what re-

sult the delegates to the conference are able to achieve.

The colored citizens of Portland were saddened upon learning of the death of Mrs. F. W. Swanton, general manager of the Oregon Humane Society, which occurred Tuesday, Memorial Day.

Mrs. Swanton never failed to respond when called upon to render a service, whether it was in her particular line as Humane Officer or not. She was happiest when she rendered a service.

She had close, warm friends amongst many different nationalities. She seemed especially fond of colored people and never missed an opportunity to let them know it.

She was particularly fond of Langston Hughes' poems and one time gave public readings of several of them. We still carry a mental picture of the sincerity with which she read, Hughes "I am a Negro—Black as My Africa."

There was something in her make-up and experience which made her universal and her complete understanding made her in reality a sister to all mankind and friend of every living thing.

Mrs. Swanton's official place will be easily filled but her sweet spirit and radiant life can never be exactly duplicated.

"THE MARK-DOWN OF MORTALITY"

"Are we to condone, and even officially encourage, the breaking of promises?... The essence of business and political and professional morality is in the kept word.... When a nation blandly declines to pay its obligations to another nation; when a government suggests to the citizens that he can repudiate without losing his good name, at that moment moral fibers become flabby, guide-posts vanish and national disintegration sets in.... No course could be too drastic which would preserve for this nation its time-honored conception of reliability and dependability, of the sacredness of the promised word."—Merle Thorpe in Nation's Business.

REMEDY FOR DEPRESSION

Here is an aged Negro's remedy for the depression: "All dat it takes to overcome de depression," he said, "am three putts. Putt your faith in God, putt yer Ford in de shed, and putt yer folks in de field." He is not so dumb. Oregon Daily Journal

FOOLING THE FOLKS

The lawyers and hired agents point to Mississippi as a shining example of the success of the sales tax.

Mississippi is predominantly an agricultural state with a minimum of industrial organizations and no large cities. Its major crop is cotton, which has suffered catastrophically in the depression. Such industry as exists there is textile. A wage of 50 cents a day is not uncommon for textile workers, as shown by a recent survey by the United States bureau of labor. Negroes compose nearly 50 per cent of the population. They are not a property-owning class in Mississippi.

The Negro is most frequently a crop-sharing tenant, receiving barely enough, even in good times, to support a mule, an old Ford and half a dozen children. Though he represents 55 per cent of the population, it is safe to say he owns less than 10 per cent of the wealth.

But the sales tax lands on Mississippi Negroes. That is why Mississippi legislators have a sales tax. And on a wage of 50 cents to \$1 a day, the poor whites, also of great numerical strength in the state, must take the sales tax in heavy doses. The plan taxes "the last rag from the back" of the parents and the "last bite from the mouth" of their children.

In Oregon, ownership of property is more widely diffused. But the principle and the aim of the tax are the same as in Mississippi. The home-owning farmer in Portland, it is declared by high authority, will pay more real property tax on his home to support city, county and schools. This will be caused by the exemption of millions of personal property from taxation by the sales tax act.

Why the exemption of personal property from taxation? Ask the power and light and other public utilities! It saves them from payment of \$450,000 to \$650,000 in personal property taxes.

And so we are called upon to copy Mississippi tax plans!

Oregon Daily Journal

WITH OUR 1933 LEGISLATURE

During the recent session of the legislature, 29 bills affecting Labor were introduced, and of this number 19 are, or will become the laws of our state:

COLLECTION OF WAGES

The wage earner has frequently had difficulty in collecting his or her wages from certain employers who know the financial difficulties of their help and try to take advantage of such situations. And to remedy those conditions, several members of both the House and Senate introduced the bills which I shall discuss.

House Bill number 29 had for its purpose the protection of the wage earner who meets with difficulties in collecting his earnings from unscrupulous employers, provided for a penalty upon the employer, and offered recourse for the employee who resigns or is discharged and cannot collect his wages. This, I think, was a good bill and should have passed, but it was postponed indefinitely in the House.

H. R. number 33 was for an act to amend the present law to provide a method whereby an employee may bring an action for wages where the claim is less than \$150. It simplified the present law to the extent the employee would not be unnecessarily delayed in having his claim tried in court. This bill was likewise killed in the House.

H. R. number 31 strengthened the present wage collecting law by giving the Labor Commissioner the authority to institute proceedings in court to collect wages where the employer fails or refuses to pay. This was a meritorious bill, and passed the House with only a few dissenting votes. The bill then went to the Senate and was defeated; however, its defeat was due to lack of understanding as to the purpose and intent of the bill, and was not considered and passed. This is a much needed law and should have passed many years ago. The labor commissioner reports the wage claims run into thousands of dollars, usually in small amounts not sufficient to warrant employing an attorney to go through the courts and yet of great importance to the wage earner. This bill will simplify matters and avoid heavy expense to the employee.

UTILITY REGULATION

Senate Bill number 19, introduced in the Senate, became known as the Thomas Bill. The bill had for its purpose the further regulating of public utilities, supervising the annual budget, assessing the cost of investigation against the utilities, investigating mergers, holding companies, and affiliated interest, and in general, to curb racketeering in Oregon by holding companies whereby they rob the investor of millions through stock and bond transactions.

In the original form in which it appeared, it was a meritorious measure and would have prevented some of the high pressure stock sales which the people of Oregon have experienced in the past. The utility interests used all of their available sources to emasculate the bill, and make it practically worthless. In this, they were successful to a great extent. However, toward the close of the session, the conference committee succeeded in restoring a number of good features of the bill, restoring the recapture clause and providing better control over the budgets, and limited the cost of investigation to one half of one per cent of the gross earnings for the utility for the prior fiscal year. The bill came out of the committee with a divided report, but finally passed the senate with no dissenting votes. It passed the House with only one dissenting vote. This vote, however, included many amendments and resulted in considerable discord in an attempt to have the House and Senate agree on the conference committee report. It wasn't until one A. M. March 10th, a few moments before final adjournment, that the differences were ironed out and the amended bill accepted. The governor did not sign the bill, and it became a law without his signature. The bill brought out clearly the lines between those close to the utilities and those who came to represent the people.

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Done at Random

—By—

RALPH L. LESTER
3802 Ashwood Avenue
W. Phila., Pa.

(Continued next week)

Most of this article will be devoted to various examples of cases that I know of men who would not be beaten by "The Depression". There are many more but we will content ourselves with the following:

A man who formerly held a splendid position, paying a large salary and was considered well fixed awake one morning to find his fortune, position, and in fact everything gone. Of course he was stunned by the blow, but did not cry, or commit suicide. No sir, not a bit of it. He firmly made up his mind that he would make a living some way and this is what he did. He bought a small supply of shoe strings, and canvassed the city. He went from door to door and at present he is doing fine. A few days ago he met one of his old business associates who pitied his new calling and turned it down with a laugh, after remarking that he was clearing at least forty bucks per week, went on his way. And the funny part is that he really is clearing that amount.

The next concerns two college graduates, who after receiving their sheepskins found that despite their ability there was no work to be had. After several attempts to get employment had failed, they got together and hit on a plan which to date has proven to be a success. They started in a very small way a Diaper Laundry. This type laundry is almost unique, there being only one other like it in this country, according to the information I have been able to gather. These two young men now have a modern plant and serve a weekly supply of fresh clean diapers. This service closely resembles that of various coat and apron laundries, which supply barber shops, beauty parlors, and other business concerns. The following can be said of many, yet, to my knowledge, it is the most outstanding of its kind. Around the Post Office at ninth and Chestnut Sts. here are no less than twenty men and boys of all ages, colors, and conditions with home-made shoe shine boxes of every description. For the small sum of five cents you can get a good quick shine.

This particular young man I have in mind is one who has known better days. His work, as well as his method, is superior to the rest. While most of these wandering bootblacks are content to just shine your shoes, this fellow gives you service that cannot be surpassed outside of a first-class Parlor. To begin with he seldom moves from his regular spot, which happens to be at the corner. The Post Office has a marble coping running around it. This coping is about thirty inches high. At this particular spot, our friend has placed a heavy but soft green tinted pillow. You sit on this, and place your foot on the shoe shine box. This box is painted green, decorated with large brass plugs, and has a raised metal foot rest. Our friend kneels on a green mat, and proceeds to shine your shoes. He wears a linen coat, and on his back is a green circle, announcing the best shoe shine for only five cents. This rig-up is novel and gets results. He told me the other day that on fair days, he averages three dollars.

These examples along with many others along with many others of my knowledge prove that: Within reason an individual who will not be beaten cannot be beaten.

RANDOM JOTTINGS:—John C. McKain, a Camden, S. C. boy who is making good in Phila. — The world's largest wrist watch is in the window of M. Simon and Co. It is an Illinois Master, weighs twenty pounds, and is driven by electricity. — The circus is in town, and am I full of pink lemonade, etc. — Despite arguments to the contrary, hogs can swim without cutting their throat with their front teeth. Who really cares? — I wonder if oth-

PROGRESS IN RACIAL AMITY

(By LOUIS G. GREGORY)
Portsmouth, N. H.

(Continued from last week)

The Title, Dean of Negro Poets, of right belongs to George Marion McClellan, both because of his age (he is well beyond the Psalmist's limit of three score and ten) and because of the ethereal and spiritual quality of his verse. Have you read "The Path of Dreams", "A Butterfly in Church", or "Christ Washed the Feet of Judas"? Well, here are sparks of divine fire which are fanned by the flame of one who has the spirit of song. This noble man is just starting on the road from his Kentucky home with the Apollo Club wherein Carl Barbour and Thomas Long are first and second tenors and Horatio C. Bannan and Dr. D. C. Thomas are first and second basses. All these are famous as radio artists. Two others formerly sang all over the world with the Fisk Jubilee Singers. The poet McClellan has been deemed worthy of being sketched by the latest edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica for his meritorious work. He is an alumnus of Fisk University and of the Hartford Theological Seminary and is a former student of the U. of California, with a long and fine record as educator. But his title to even greater fame is in the line of humanitarian service. All his life he has remained poor; yet despite this handicap he has been the means of educating more than five hundred Negro boys and girls in college. This great work he has done by spending his own slender means and by influencing others. The life of such a saintly man is beyond estimate and measurements. All these are facts. Doubtless he will be rightly appraised and valued in heavenly worlds. Yet while he is still here happiness directs that we help him all we can. His influence is a help to all to reach the desired goal.

Was Alexander Hamilton a Negro? Was Alexander Hamilton a Negro? Amazing Question? Way of course not! Was there anyone more enlightened than he among the great founders of this nation? He was the right hand man of George Washington. More than anyone else his ideas created and molded our federal system. His influence was paramount in the writing and adoption of our constitution. As first Secretary of the Treasury, he cleverly devised our fiscal plan. Read that eulogy of him by the first American orator, Daniel Webster. He moved among the learned, great and wise, all of whom he illumined. What the idea then of suggesting his connection with the American "unscrutinables", people dark in color, aggrrieved by bondage, at that early day having no rights which anyone was willing to admit? To begin with, Negro is defined by the dictionary as an African black. Surely Hamilton was not that. He was not even an Africaner. Yet softly, dear reader, stay for the moment that impudence which so often goes with lack of knowledge.

Now in the dictionary and Negro in American life, in appearance may be as far apart as the poles of the earth. In the popular and generally accepted sense, any trace of African blood in this country makes one a Negro, if known. We have frequently seen people with every sign and feature of an African classified as Negro. Was this great man a Negro in this sense? Did he have any appreciable admixture of African blood? Well it is generally known that he was born in the West Indies and was a natural son. Where African slavery existed those born out of wedlock were nearly always of mixed blood. We have never attempted to trace his descent, but there are those who have and can speak with authority. It is generally believed by the colored people of Washington, D. C. that in the popular sense this illustrious was one racially with themselves. This grows out of the fact that one of their number occupied a post from a time far back in the Library of Congress and made a specialty of hunting down and verifying the records of descent of celebrities of every land who have any ethnic connection with Africa. The question is now raised because of light thrown on it by our recent visit to Virginia.

In the mansion of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello, directly opposite the bust of Jefferson, is one of Alexander Hamilton. This bust is most interesting as a study. The facial features of the great Federalist as delineated therein may group him with eurus and there were not an issue, one might easily ascribe him on this basis as unmixt. Subjected to close scrutiny, however, there are colored people not a few who seem nearer the Caucasian type than the lineaments seen on this bust. On the other hand, there are whites who share what favor there is in being associated with the dominant race. The question, was Alexander Hamilton in the popular usage of American life a Negro. Let students of pedigree and ethnology answer. This bust is a most impressive argument.

Yet, what boots it whether he was white or colored? The question is important at this late day is important as showing that neither the flame of his genius nor his illustrious services to the nation had ill effect through humble origin or possible admixture of blood. Prejudices have no scientific basis. A few years ago a sociologist of Johns Hopkins University presented a series of studies showing the long and wide-spread admixture of races in that historic state under the title, "Monticello Virginia". Shocked by these evident facts, the state thereupon enacted very drastic legislation to prevent the intermarriage of races. Does it not seem strange that this bust with its most impressive argument for mixing, should stand in one of the principle shrines of a state controlled by such sentiments? For next to its reverence for Mount Vernon, home of Washington, nothing is so dear to the heart of Virginia as Monticello, the shrine of the author of the Declaration of Independence. More a-

ers get the same kick I do from wandering around in five and ten cent stores? — Bundy's Typewriter Co. have a machine with Jewish characters on the keyboard. The carrier runs from left to right — Also a Texas door man. — And thus ends my column.

"REVEALING"

YOUR
PAST PRESENT FUTURE

BY
ABBIE WALLACE

(Youngest Montalist on the American Stage Today)



R. M. T. — I am blue and broken hearted. Why didn't my boy friend call to see me Sunday night?

Ans. Don't be so unreasonable with W. K. He told you the truth as to where he was. You can believe him.

A. B. W. — Will I ever be healed? This is my first time writing to you.

Ans. Yes but I suggest that you don't pay out any money to this person who claims he is curing you by prayers. This man is a faker and I suggest that you seek the advice of a reliable physician.

E. A. F. — Will I have any success in what I am not undertaking without any kind of trouble?

Ans. Yes but the woman that you believe to be a friend will double cross you. She will "stink" you to the tune of a hundred and forty dollars.

A. L. C. — What is the matter with me? Everything does wrong with me all the time. Will my luck ever change?

Ans. It will and to prove this I hind prison bars. I also get the impression of cold gray walls. He certainly is not enjoying himself.

J. C. B. — Will you please tell me my lucky day?

Ans. Saturday is your lucky day. Your case is very interesting. I suggest that you send a quarter for my New Astrological Reading.

M. M. R. — What do you think is the best thing for me to do?

Ans. I advise you to follow up the plan that you have in mind, towards your career as a nurse. A marriage at the present time would not prove profitable. You will meet a boy in later life that will bring you more happiness to you.

T. E. F. — Will my husband ever get a job?

Ans. Your husband will secure a good paying job before the fourth of July. Your wish will also be fulfilled, this summer.

A. D. — Listen, I am so worried. Please tell me if my boy friend is on his way home?

Ans. I vision your boy friend before the end of the month. He certainly is not enjoying himself.

NOTE—Your question printed free in this column. For private reply send 25c and self-addressed envelope for my New Astrological Reading and receive by return mail my advice on three questions free. Sign your full name, birthdate, and correct address.

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bout this later. Meantime, Ecco homo! His image and likeness testify.

"THE MASTER"

When last in Charleston, S. C. a friend placed in my hands several relics of that historic city with the remark, "These are interesting. You may need them some day." One of the relics is a copy of "The Meteor", supplement to the daily paper known as "The News and Courier", bearing the late date of April sixth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five. It is written up entirely by the Colonial Dames of S. Carolina. The high literary tone of the articles may well give Charleston a station as one of the finest cultural centers of the South, or of all America for that matter. One spicy article treats of the two invasions of the South by New Englanders, the first in pursuit of arms and the second of trade, with deductions therefrom. Another notable article relates the agreement made between a woman and her servants by which she announced her annual budget for household expenses for the year, taking them entirely into her confidence, and then agreeing that all they might save through thrift and care would be divided among them at the end. This led to a fine spirit of cooperation in that household. Employer and employee took the liveliest interest in each other. How happiness results. What a wise policy for today.

And so this publication with the poetic name unfolds many phases of human interest and value. But by far the ablest and most eloquent of the contributions is from one who modestly subscribes herself, "Miss Stone", while she admits the artistic and literary charm of Teuloy, the most popular novel of a generation ago and written by Du Morier, an Englishman with a French name, in a very spirited way she takes the author to task for the moral lapse and decay which his work unfolds. What this gentle writer would think of the present day and its voluminous output of smut might well bring grief to the wise. Under the caption, "Like Mistress Like Maid", the sweet and wholesome influence which a noted woman of that city, unnamed, exerted over her entire household, the moral and spiritual training which she gave her helpers, is eloquently and beautifully told. Reproduction of such articles would be a notable contribution to the literature of movements.

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Leaves the hair soft and silky. Perfumed with a balm of a thousand flowers. The best known remedy for Heavy and Beautiful Black Eyebrows, also restores Gray Hair to its Natural Color. Can be used with Hot Iron for Straightening.

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