

The New York Amsterdam News

Established by James H. Anderson.

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STAFF: Editor-Manager: J. M. KELLEY; Associate Editor: C. BROWN; Advertising Manager: J. L. DOUGHERTY; Sports and Dramatic Editor: J. L. DOUGHERTY; Assistant Advertising Manager: J. L. DOUGHERTY; Assistant Advertising Manager: J. L. DOUGHERTY.

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January 3, 1923

GOVERNOR "AL" SMITH

Supported by thousands of colored citizens of N. Y., Al Smith has again taken up the reins of government in the Empire State. No doubt, he will as squarely with us during his second term as he did during his first term. If all the colored people lived in this state we would have elected him for election.

If we felt that he could change the sentiment of the southern element of his party, we would support him for president of the United States in the next presidential election when he, in all probability, will be the logical candidate of the Democratic Party.

But when Al Smith steps out of New York State politics into national politics, he will be dominated by that same rabid anti-Negro group of Senators and Congressmen from the Southern states who oppose every piece of legislation favorable to us. Al Smith will not be able to change them. Then, and only then, will the citizens of Harlem who supported him for Governor see their mistake in helping a Democrat reach the White House.

IF WE MUST FOLLOW

("Quo Vadis"—No. 2)

In an editorial several weeks ago under the heading "Quo Vadis," we expressed the hope that the colored man in America would retain his racial identity and not go the downward road with the Caucasian. We regret that it is necessary to raise such a question. But there are so many among us who believe in the supremacy and infallibility of the Caucasian in America; so many among us who believe that he was created by God to rule the earth; so many among us who believe that we were to hew wood and draw water, that any messenger who dares to confute such beliefs ought to be both beneficial and welcome.

White men rule the so-called civilized world today not because of any divine right but because they have forced upon themselves the belief that they are superior to the other races of mankind. They have brought their children up in this belief and have succeeded in forcing it upon too large a number of Negroes.

There is too much truth in the assertion that Negroes are getting more like "white folks" every day, like them in both their vices and virtues. Like them in speech and manner. Like them in their belief that they were ordained by God to rule. Like them in religion, music, art and literature.

Just as Rene Maran says in his introduction to "Batouala," the white man's civilization is built upon lies and the time is now ripe for us to open our eyes to them. We must open our eyes to his lies in politics, history and religion.

Take, for instance, the Christian religion, which is admittedly the greatest force for good in the world, and which is embraced, more or less, by most of us. The American white man sought to justify slavery by it; he justified the World War by it—Christian against Christian; the Ku Klux Klan is supported by men who profess to be its ministers and a few days ago a prayer under its tenets was used in filibustering a bill in the Senate to prevent lynching. This is the same religion which was taught to us by the Caucasian. The only difference is that it is practiced in two divergent ways. It is all right to place special emphasis upon passages from the Bible like: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth," but if we are good followers we will also read, "eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."

If we must follow, let us go all the way. If faith in one's self and in one's own kind has helped the white man to succeed, it will help us to succeed. We must renew our faith in ourselves and in God. The man who believes in God must necessarily believe in himself and in his own kind. If we would succeed as followers we must dignify the color of our skin instead of trying to change it, just as the white man has dignified the color of his skin. We must solidify ourselves in everything that concerns mutual welfare. We must cast aside those who are traitors to our cause and usher in a new day and a new year for the Negro in America.

KLAN 150,000 STRONG

Ku Klux Klan organizers and leaders in New York City have had and are having the benefit of publicity which millions of dollars could not have bought outright, and they are making the best of it.

They are capitalizing the stupidity of officials of the city administration and of the courts, and they are not trying to hide their satisfaction at the atrocious manner in which the mayor, the police, and judges are attempting to show them away.

All that Mayor Hylan has been able to think of stop the operations of the Ku Klux hate-purveyors is his instruction to Police Commissioner Enright use against the Kluxers the same illegal terror-methods which are part of the Klan's own procedure. In brief, the mayor ordered the police to use the same illegal terror-methods which are part of the Klan's own procedure. In brief, the mayor ordered the police to use the same illegal terror-methods which are part of the Klan's own procedure.

All that Judge Mancuso, who has set two grand juries to investigate Klan activities here, has been able to do is to repeat the same sort of "law and order" oratory which he aimed at "radicals" in his court—and to dig up a law which makes it merely a misdemeanor for three or more persons to assemble "disguised by having their faces painted, discolored or concealed."

All that the police have done, as this is written, is to supply the District Attorney, and through him the Grand Jury, with a list of 800 alleged members of the Klan here, together with some copies of the Kluxers' official organ published in Atlanta.

Government and local detectives for a long time have boasted that they know all about everything; said and done and planned by communist and other radical groups here and elsewhere.

If it has occurred to the authorities to use the same methods against the Ku Klux Klan, nothing has come of it. In the meantime, the local Klan is effectively capitalizing the stupidity of the city officials and is said to be 150,000 strong.

Expressed by Our Contemporaries

WHY SHOULD NEGROES DIVIDE THEIR VOTES?

(By Edward David Caffee, St. Luke Herald.) "The Negroes should stop voting the Republican ticket," you often hear, "and should begin to divide their votes." The St. Luke Herald is no politician, neither the son of a politician. Yet we reserve a right to our honest convictions in matters of civic and citizenship.

Why, we raise the question, should Negroes divide "up" their votes? We have received all the argument and evidence available before passing upon this popular question especially at the failure of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. We have heard the pros and cons on all sides.

With all the evidence in, we are of the opinion that Negroes should stand by their inherited political party without making the fraction of an apology. Nobody else, except Negroes, is asked to shift and dodge about from party to party. Why should Negroes feel it necessary for such nonsensical action? Frankly we have felt, with all our bowels, the keenest resentment for an suggestion of a special "Negro" kind of duty or conduct as American citizens.

Nobody asks white men to shift their party alliances merely for the sake of changing parties. Nobody asks long-standing Northern white Republicans to become Southern Democrats. Nobody asks Socialists as a body to become another party. Without doubt the Republican party freed and enfranchised Negro citizens. We have not voted the Republican ticket merely to oblige the party. We have voted it from a standpoint of principles. If we cannot secure our best interests from and through our hereditary friends, God knows we cannot receive anything from our hereditary enemies. We should remain loyal to the party, fight out our differences with the party with sense and logical arguments, and, in the long run, win by sheer honor, and service and brains. The pawn and bargain method of political gambling should not supersede our principles.

But somebody says that if the Republican party is always certain of us it will not do what it might. Those who remain loyal to a cause will sooner or later receive what they merit and deserve from that cause. As long as the white South remains solid Democrats, the black Americans had better remain solid Republicans. For the Democratic South is not solid for nothing. It is not dodging, either, to keep people from judging the probable way it shall cast its votes. But in the open, above board, they prohibit or veto any legislation of the country. They do not change their party alliances either. Why should Negroes change?

THE NEW NEGRO

REVERDY C. RANSOM.

HE IS NEW, he is old as the forests primeval. Stark in their nakedness of limb. His forebears roamed the jungle and led the chase. Crystallized by the heat of Oriental suns. God made him a rock of undecaying power. To become at last the nation's corner stone. Rough hewn from the jungle and the desert's sands. Slavery was the chisel that fashioned him to form. And gave him all the arts and sciences had won. The lyncher, mob, and stake have been his emery wheel.

TO MAKE A POLISHED MAN of strength and power in him, the latest birth of freedom. God hath again made all things new. Europe and Asia with ebbing tides recede. America's unfinished arch of freedom waits. Till he, the corner stone of strength.

Is lifted into place and power. Behold him! dauntless and unafraid he stands. He comes with laden arms. Bearing rich gifts to science, religion, poetry and song.

Labor and capital through him shall find The equal heritage of common brotherhood. And statecraft shall keep the stewardship Of justice with equal rights and privileges for all. HE KNOWS HIS PLACE, to keep it As a sacred trust and heritage for all.

To wear God's image in the ranks of man. And walk as princes of the royal blood divine. ON EQUAL FOOTING everywhere with all mankind. With ever-fading color on these shores. The Oriental sunshine in his blood. Shall give the warning touch of brotherhood. And love, to all the fused races in our land. He is the last reserve of God on earth. Who, in the godly fellowship of love, Will rule the world with peace.

In San Diego, Calif., Chas. Harris, a young colored chemist has developed a successful method of fighting the germs of tuberculosis.

Ex-President William S. Scarborough of Wilberforce University is right. No monument is needed for the "black mammoths" of the south.

Negroes own the famous Santa Clara warm Sulphur Springs in Lower California, Mexico. An offer of \$30,000 was recently made the owners by a group of white capitalists, but was refused.

Local Necrology For The Year 1922

Frank Wheaton, January 11; Dr. York Russell, February 14; "Bert" Williams March 4; Edward L. Walker, March 15; James C. Thomas, Sr., May 20; Ella H. Thomas, July 3; Rufus M. Meroney, September 29; attorney Robert L. Waring, November 7.

"Alabama; a Study in Ultra-Violet"

Nation Magazine Will Have Article by Clement Wood January 10th.

"The Negro problem effects the sex life of the whole South. White women shiver at its feline menace, white men arm and clan against it, even while its alien voice hums a constant invitation; Negro women smile with satisfaction at it, or, more rarely, shrink from it; Negro men watch it, sometimes reach an arm over the wall for its forbidden fruit, and sometimes burn for it," writes Clement Wood in The Nation for January 10th.

Mr. Wood is a native of Alabama, a graduate of the State University and author of "Glad of Earth," "Nigger," and other poems and novels. His article "Alabama; a Study in Ultra-Violet" is the twelfth in The Nation's series "These United States," and his theme is the great problem of what he calls "the story of Romulus and Uncle Remus, the white man and his darker brother."

With details that only a Southerner could know, Clement Wood tells a frank story of the constant intermingling of the races, a practice which was openly permitted in slave days, has shrunk, he says, from an accepted custom to a "wild cat." Yet the double family is recognized openly enough so that a candidate for Governor can make a campaign boast of the education he has given his "black bastards," and be elected. After quoting an Alabama congressman in favor of amalgamation, Mr. Wood concludes: "The great misfortune is not that there are multi-racial children in Alabama; it is that Alabama, the state itself, is the offspring of two races, united so blunderingly that she is immeasurably the loser by her joint parentage."

T. B. Williams Making Survey

Result May Give Island Republic Industrial School.

(Preston News Service).

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—Prof. T. B. Williams, field secretary of the Jeanes-Slater Foundation, with headquarters here, is making an educational survey of Haiti at the request of the United States Government as well as the Haytian Government.

It is said that the purpose of this survey is based on the idea of establishing in the island a system based upon the plan of Tuskegee Institute. Officials in Washington think that by inculcating into the youth of Haiti the principles and ideals taught at Tuskegee, future of the island will be made more secure.

It is believed that Prof. Williams is the best qualified man in this country to perform his intricate mission for the government inasmuch as he is a graduate of Hampton Institute and then rounded out his education in preparation at Harvard University. He has been a successful teacher for a number of years and is regarded as an authority on educational problems. This step by the United States Government is based upon the report of the commission headed by Senator McCormick, whose report recommended that this government still occupy the island.

LECTURES ON HAITI AND NEGRO POETS

Under the auspices of the Board of Education, Miss Gracie Goller will lecture on Haiti, at Public School 157, St. Nicholas avenue, at 127th street, tonight.

"Negro Poet of Note," will be the subject of a lecture by Hubert H. Harrison, at Public School 89, Lenox avenue and 125th street, Saturday night.

REV. PERCY WALLACE DIES IN NORFOLK

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 1.—Rev. Percy Wallace, pastor of the leading Baptist church here and formerly pastor of the St. Paul Baptist Church in New York City, died suddenly last Thursday.

Dr. George H. Sims, pastor of the Union Baptist Church, New York City, will officiate at the funeral.

"Progress of the American Negro"

To be Discussed by Former Assemblyman Before Appomattox Club.

The "Progress of the American Negro" will be the subject of an address before the Appomattox Republican Club on Thursday night by former assemblyman William Amos. Mr. Amos has made an exhaustive study of the Negro problem and holds pronounced views as to the best means of adjusting relations between the white and colored races.

In accepting the invitation to address the organization Mr. Amos took occasion to refer to some of the unAmerican restrictions practiced not alone against the Negro but against other racial groups, making particular reference to the Ku Klux Klan, which he declared would uproot the orderly progress of centuries and substitute a government of fear and oppression for the present processes under which this Nation has become the greatest on earth.

The Negro, he declared, has fully earned the right to go forward in company with his fellow Americans, and those who would obstruct his path should consider the great achievement of a people who in a scant half century have accomplished achievements beyond parallel in the annals of history.

A musical program, in which a number of colored artists will appear, will precede the address. The meetings of the Appomattox Republican Club are held in the Association of Trade and Commerce, 2370 Seventh Ave.

Men Anxious to Leave the South

League Secretary Advises That Definite Arrangements Be Made Before Leaving.

(Preston News Service.) Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 2.—The large number of men from the southland arriving in this city daily indicates that men are dissatisfied with living conditions in the south. In discussing the influx of newcomers to this section last Friday afternoon John T. Clark, executive secretary of the Pittsburgh Urban League said: "The Urban League of Pittsburgh, while anxious to serve industries in this district who need men, is most anxious to serve the best interests of the colored workmen who desire to come to this district. There is plenty of work to be had in the coal mines, steel mills, electric plants, machine shops and foundries. The prevailing wage will net a man about \$4 per day. More can be made by overtime and night work. New men cannot expect to make more than a beginner's wage, but he can rapidly increase his earnings."

"Separate houses are very difficult to obtain in this section. Rooms can be had in private families at from \$2.50 to \$4 per week. Accommodations can be secured in company boarding houses and camps for about \$1 to \$1.25 per day, giving excellent board and good single warm beds. "Few, if any, firms are interested in securing men in wholesale lots through furnishing transportation. Firms here are objecting to coming to them for work without enough money in their pockets to keep them until a pay day, which is every two weeks. "Men coming here from warm southern states should have heavy winter underwear and overcoats, and heavy work shoes."

"Do not come to Pittsburgh now as this is a dangerous season of the year for men to change from a warm climate to this cold and changeable climate. Men easily catch cold and are easily affected by these changes in the weather. Already many newcomers are sick in hospitals and camps here, who came to this section unprepared to stand the rigors of this climate. Men should not bring their families with them now, because of the congested housing conditions in this section."

"All men who plan to come to the Pittsburgh district should wait until we put them in direct touch with some industrial concern and have a definite job awaiting them when they arrive."

The Pittsburgh Urban League, 518 Wylie avenue, is receiving hundreds of letters from all parts of the southland from men desiring to bring their families to this section. Mr. Clarke says that he is glad to know that men are anxious to come to the Pittsburgh district, but believes the best interests of all concerned can be best served by allowing him to make definite arrangements between the newcomer and an industrial firm before the man leaves his southern home.

Klux Spirit Will Rule, Says Wizard

Invisible Empire on Way to Engulf Thought of Land.

Washington, Jan. 2.—(Crusader service.) In a statement issued last week Dr. W. H. Evans, the new Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, virtually confirmed reports which startled Washington early in the day to the effect that his real mission in visiting the capital is to lay the ground

work for an ambitious scheme seeking ultimate control of national legislation.

The Imperial Wizard's entourage continued to throw the element of mystery about their visit here that has marked it from the outset.

It is reported that Evans had a secret meeting with President Harding following a call which Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor who brought about the meeting between the Klan head and Gov. Allen, paid at the White House. Commenting on his interview with Gov. Allen in which he was rebuffed by that State Executive, Evans issued an official statement in which the following was included:

"It makes little or no difference what Gov. Allen says, and what he means even less. The Klan is here and America has accepted it as the militant spirit of operative patriotism. The spirit of Klan-kraft has enwrapped the United States in a mantle of love for country which designing and ambitious politicians cannot break. In a few brief years the influence of the Klan will have so engorged the thought of the country that we can expect intelligent legislation from the Congress of the United States which will drag down the white flag of supine inertia from our legislative halls and raise in its place the militant flag of red, white and blue, which means the thing nearest the heart of every real American."

"We are profoundly grateful to Mr. Allen for the sacrifice he has made in relegating himself to political oblivion in the stand he has taken to oppose those men of America who have pledged their votes, their money, their sacred honor and their lives, if necessary, to maintain our national honor unimpaired, unstained, untainted and unsullied by the foul breath of alien influences."

These excerpts from the statement issued two weeks ago, it will be remembered to the effect that the Klan sought to conquer political power and emulate the example of the Fascist in Italy.

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