

# The Palmetto Leader

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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The Leader will publish brief and rational letters on subjects of general interest when they are accompanied by the names and addresses of the authors and are not of a defamatory nature. Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

## REMITTANCES

Checks, Drafts and Postal or Express Money Orders should be made payable to the order of the Palmetto Leader.

N. J. FREDERICK

Editor

H. W. BAUMGARDNER

Acting Editor

Communications intended for the current issue must be very brief and should reach the editorial desk of the Palmetto Leader not later than Tuesday of each week. City news, locals, personals and social news, by Wednesday night.

Business and Editorial Phone 4523

COLUMBIA, S. C., SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1930.

## THE RECORD SPEAKS.

The editor of The Columbia Record merits our word of approval for his fine bit of editorial writing in the issue of Saturday, December 13. The editorial "Good! Good! Good!" discusses the fixing of a minimum wage scale for unskilled labor in the building of the public highways. It is called "one of the most forward looking acts ever done in the history of the state."

The Record interprets it as meaning "the raising of the standard of living of both whites and blacks." A further statement that shows courage and common sense is the following: "Unless the standard of living of the Negro be raised it is hopeless to expect that the standard of living of those white men who have to compete will ever be raised. It is an immutable law of God that cheap labor drives out better labor. It is just as true that scarlet fever, and small pox among the Negroes will infect the whites as that if the price of the labor of Negroes be at starvation rates the same will be true of the whites. The only hope for South Carolina is to fix a standard at which either race can live."

No stronger words than these have been written by any white man to our knowledge. They are words that betoken an awakening sense of human kinship: "Maybe the sooner it be realized that before God the day has come when the Negro race should no longer be exploited, and used in a worse manner than mules are permitted to be used. . . . It is a strange complex of our laws that the Negro, a human being, of different skin but no microscope does not reveal difference of blood from the whites, should not at least be considered 'an animal' in the same construction of the law."

We hail with delight this emancipated view of existing conditions on the part of The Record. We feel that much good will be done in bringing about a complete understanding among different types of people when our newspaper editors use their organs without fear in the promotion of amicable relations among men.

## FOOTBALL FOR UNEMPLOYED.

This afternoon at two-thirty Allen and Benedict will contribute towards the relieving of the unemployment situation by playing a game of football. There are several significant features that surround this game. Contrary to football orthodoxy these teams have met twice already. Three football games a season between the same schools will no doubt establish an intercollegiate record—at least among Negro colleges. The game will be played at Melton Field, the Athletic Stadium of the University of South Carolina. This will be the first game of football played by Negro Colleges at the State University.

Those colored boys should prove beyond the peradventure of a doubt to the many white spectators who will doubtless be present that football is a game played by 22 men at a time and that such considerations as color and hair texture have nothing much to do with football playing. Unless we miss our guess football games between Negro Colleges will be more largely attended by white patrons as a result of their seeing these fine Negro teams play this afternoon.

Players to surpass Leroy Scott, "White Horse" Dicks, "Bus" Williams, Lipscomb, Dannelly, and "Hooks" Nelson are not to be found every day whether they be white or black. These schools have a splendid opportunity to achieve worthily for their people. In keeping with the spirit of Christmas they are giving something to those who are less fortunate. It is a good thing to be a giver. It bolsters one's self-respect. These young men will demonstrate that Negroes can display a fine type of sportsmanship. They will play a first class brand of football. Hampton and Lincoln played such a game at Philadelphia lately. It has meant much to the game; much to the participating schools; much to the unemployed and much to the cause of humanity. It is just such occasions as this that tend toward the hastening of fraternal relations among all men. Our schools are to be commended for having received the opportunity of rendering this type of service.

## BETWEEN THE LINES

BY GORDON B. HANCOCK

Some New Negroes Also!

In spite of some of the so called champions and exponents of the New Negro this writer has some respect for the ideal in this term. Like most of us who profess to love it and advance its cause, for instance, some months ago the Negro papers were carrying an account of some young Negro who claimed to be "obsessed with hatred for white people." He person calling himself intelligent and rather boasted of the fact that his addressing himself to the deliverance dominant passion in life was hatred of his race from economic and social for the white man and the Negro slavery. It was a case of a man having papers in some cases played up such an opportunity to say something nonsense as if its news value were without something to say. He called really important. Some call our mis-himself a New Negro. I repeat, I guided friend a New Negro. We re-spite of some of the so-called, recently read an article, written by a Negroes and their fool-making supposed Christian gentleman and ties, I have a large measure of respect for the ideal connected in the

term!

Some weeks ago there was in Richmond a not much heralded, but a vastly important meeting. It was called by one more than 400 workers in one of the industries and these workers were Negroes who deeply appreciated their jobs. The meeting was very largely attended and the white employers were invited and were present. In the course of the program a very touching address was made in which the Negro workers expressed their profound appreciation of the kindness and cooperation they had received from their employers and they appreciated most of all that, since had been no lay-off neither had Negroes been supplanted in any case. They pledged to their employers then cooperation and interest in the future as in the past. A white woman arose and in a most fitting way expressed a good will respect on the part of the employers and further the appreciation of the employees interest in the business which has grown at the hands of the Negro workers. The manager spoke with earnestness and to the point. This writer spoke in "The Economics of Good-will." The meeting adjourned and it was apparent that those Negro men and women had sensed the challenge the adversities of this depression has brought and both whites and Negroes present were unanimous in the belief that the meeting got some where! These are also New Negroes, let us not forget! The new white man is a job hunter and job taker and unless there is a job-consciousness among the New Negroes, the Negro's economic road leads up hill and into the dark. What these Richmond New Negroes did on that memorable occasion may not amount to a great deal, but the spirit manifested holds promises of a large measure of the Negro's economic salvation. It was great old Milton who said that "they also serve who only stand and wait!" Those are also new Negroes who realize that jobs are jobs these days!

## Down at the Station

Knute Rockne, coach extraordinary of the Notre Dame Ramblers, and without doubt football's master mind, has turned out another unbeatable eleven at South Bend. It is said that South Bend turns out at the station when the team is leaving and turns out again when the team returns with or without victory. Once upon a time Notre Dame lost a football game!

Rain or shine, day or night, win or lose South Bend turns out to meet the world-famed Ramblers and gives them not only a rousing send off but just as rousing a welcome. It would not be far wrong to say that much of the fighting spirit of Notre Dame is made "down at the station." To know that a warm reception awaits win or lose is a prophylactic against loss. Notre Dame even won the game dedicating a new stadium. This was unusual as most teams concentrate on losing dedicatory games. It was about Rockne's strategy that I set out to write. Rockne seeks to feed down any overconfidence on the part of his men. There are some games harder than others but even the less hard games Rockne's men are made to face with not too much confidence. The football season's "upsets" are largely penalties on fine teams for over confidence. On the eve of the mighty Army game, Rockne was gloomy and apprehensive and so on the eve of the great Northwestern game. But it was on the eve of the Southern California game that Rockne told his men and the press that Notre Dame would be beaten not decisively however, but surely.

Notwithstanding, Rockne succeeded in inculcating into his team the under-dog psychology and this is one of the most unbeatable things in the life of mankind. Rockne might have told of the long string of victories and the might of their vanquished foes; he might have spoken slightly or even usually about the strength of the opposing team; he might have underestimated the task his men had to perform. Not so with the wise Knute Rockne! It is said that he purposely held down the Northwestern and Army scores in order that the sports press would under rate his team and over rate Southern California. His strategy worked wonderfully for last Saturday morning the press of the country averred that it was a Southern California day and that ere the sun had set on that eventful day in the golden west, Notre Dame would have met at last its Waterloo. That was just what Rockne wanted. He knew quite well when he got his men feeling like under-dogs they were going to play football. They did! They smothered their opponents most decisively. Rockne knows as every other intelligent person knows that human nature is so constituted that it cannot do its best without great pressure. It has been said that Napoleon could never do his best on the field of battle until he found that the odds were against him; and then he would rise like a mighty colossus, and opposing armies would be vanquished as if some mighty magic. It takes adversity in some measure to make a mighty man or race! This writer has for many months been trying to do for the Negro race what Rockne has done for the Notre Dame "Ramblers"; the difference is, Rockne has to make his men believe they are under-dogs, while the Negro is surrounded by multitudes of evidences that his is an under-dog fight in this country and the world. It we are a great race we will rise to meet the challenge; if we are not, we will quail before it!

## POINTED POINTS

George A. Singleton

Some of the new Negroes who are good-will. The song of the Christmas Angels.

serve my authority, I took Justice in one hand and Equity in the other; and by the knight of these twin I kept the palace of Royalty illumined.

Most people are mortally afraid of the truth. They have a right to be for truth will upset and overthrow. Yet it matters not how the truth is opposed, the eyes of the people will be gradually opened, and when they are opened they will see.

From all accounts the Reverend Lawrence, pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church is winning his way o mastery in his new field of labor. He is a gentleman of culture, refinement and splendid literary attainments. The city of Columbia is fortunate to have such a person come to dwell in her midst. The Reverend Lawrence has served some of the most outstanding churches in the state. Few months ago his daughter was crowned Queen in the Home-Coming Exercises at Wilberforce University, where she is a collegian.

Speaking about ministers, this minister joins the ranks of Columbians who lament the departure from the city of the Reverend J. B. Wallace of Sidney Park. Here is a real citizen in every sense of the word. Cultured, refined, courageous, fearless, non-pussyfooting when it came to the rights of his people. The Wallace type of prophetic leadership is what the group needs in such a time as this. But such leadership will be opposed and fought by those who need it mostly. His place will remain vacant for a long time. This writer wishes him well in his new field of labor.

A vital, silent, dynamic force in the field of education in Columbia, and throughout the state of South Carolina is Professor C. A. Johnson, Supervisor of Schools. Men are known on the level of ideas. One does not come to properly assess or evaluate Professor Johnson until one converses with him. This writer has known him for a long time but came to know him to greater advantage recently when associated with him at a Teachers' Institute in Anderson.

The teachers in Anderson County are wide awake and eager to better prepare themselves for more efficient service. They were there one hundred strong Friday and Saturday. The time was spent in actual institute work. It was a laboratory of methods, plans and procedure. Principal Perry is the leading spirit, assisted by Mrs. Webb, the County Supervisor. Professor Johnson was the key man, assisted by Miss Alston Head of the Department of Education, State College. Your scribe was taken along to complete the party.

Similar institutes will be held very shortly in Greenville, and Charleston. It would be fine were the other counties to follow suit. It must not be forgotten that education is the most powerful lever in the elevation of the race. Education of the proper type is impossible without trained teachers. Even there the training must be of the right sort.

Anderson is a name to conjure with in the city are two of the most successful business men in the race group: Messrs. Davis, and Peek. The former is a grocer, and the latter is an undertaker. Their homes are landmarks in the advance of the race. Professor Johnson, and the writer were guests in the home of the former. It is an inspiration to see what Mr. Davis has done and is doing. His store is just as nice and well stocked as any store in Columbia. A few years ago he did as much as \$75,000 worth of business a year. He is patronized by citizens of all races.

More will be said about Anderson later. Mr. Stuart, the father of Dr. J. C. Stuart, of Columbia, is very ill at this writing. The scribe stopt in Greenwood to see him, and spent the weekend with Mr. James E. Hunt and family. On Sunday morning he was shippt with the fine people of Mt. Pisgah. He was happy to return to the only people he has ever served in the state. Dr. M. G. Williams is moving forward nicely. The writer predicts that this year will be the greatest in the history of Mt. Pisgah.

Dr. J. M. Jackson is a Weston Chapel. He is an experience, pastor, a good teacher and sweet singer. His daughter is one of the most brilliant students at Allen University. Williams, and Jackson are destined to make Greenwood stand at the head of the column this year.

When the writer boarded the train for his return trip to Columbia on Sunday evening he met with Presiding Elder S. B. Nance, and Reverend Johnson, Secretary of the Piedmont Conference and Rock, of the Piedmont Conference. Rev. J. B. Smith, and S. B. Nance are the newly-appointed Presiding Elders in the Piedmont and are already bringing things to pass. On Sunday at Cokesbury Reverend Nance had fifteen converts. He is an asset.

The Christmas season is here. Hundreds of dollars will be wasted needlessly by children going home to their parents to spend the holidays. Times are too hard for such needless expense. President Wilkinson, of State College, takes the lead in discouraging uneconomic expenditure during the holidays.

## THE FAILURE OF NEGRO LEADERSHIP.

Miss Nannie Burroughs has recently, in a striking way, called attention to the ineptness of Negro leadership. It is too painfully apparent that the Negro is falling below the level of his possibilities by virtue of the fact that the masses lack wise and efficient guidance and direction. One might aptly liken the Negroes' undeveloped capacities to the potentiality of the mighty waters that for ages have wasted their power in unutilized down-pour over Niagara Falls because they have not been harnessed and geared to efficient machinery for useful work. There is possibility no similar group of people anywhere within the pales of the civilized world whose innate capacities are less efficient.

ently organized, coordinated and geared to efficient social machinery. It would require an essay or a volume to unfold the full meaning and significance of the thesis here outlined. I must in the limited space allotted touch upon the more obvious features and phrases of the general proposition. Phrases has not seen nor heard scarcely has the imagination conceived the vast and boundless possibilities wrapped up in the human estate of twelve million American Negroes. It only awaits stimulation, organization and coordinated and efficient expression under wise, courageous and fearless leadership, to give effective assertion and power. Up to the present time failure of Negro leadership has been due largely to a lack of character. This is a serious indictment, and I make it seriously. I am dealing with individuals or unusual instances due to human frailty but in broader and more general terms. I am willing, rather than unwilling to say, that the majority of Negro leaders in the several fields of endeavor have been unright, sincere and well meaning. But it will not do to say that the majority of the apples in a barrel are sound. The integrity of efficient leadership must approximate one hundred per cent.

Let me now descend into details. All will agree that the religious estate of the race is at low ebb. It is not necessary to look beyond the wide by proclaimed scandal, corruption and rumors of corruption in high and low ecclesiastical circles to account for this lamentable religious debacle. Much of the loss of political power and prestige can easily be traced to the graft, venality and duplicity of too many of our political leaders. The Negro lawyer presents far too many instances of taking advantage of the unsophisticated clients who place their interests in their keeping. One can scarcely pick up a Negro newspaper but that it carries sensational disclosures of some Negro doctor who has violated the ethics and integrity of the medical profession. The lamentable failure of Negro banks, insurance companies and associated business ventures is too often traceable to down right rascality of the managers and manipulators. Such facts are painfully apparent. They make a sad picture for white people to look at. Those who do not believe in the capacity of the Negro for self leadership are faithfully recording every instance of failure to cast into our teeth to confound our boasted claims and pretensions. Indeed our best friends among the white race are seriously shaking their heads as to the wisdom of allowing the Negro to assume leadership even in his own affairs. Careful observation will disclose that white philanthropists are gradually and cautiously assuming broad control over every feature of Negro life and welfare where it is found feasible to do so. Self government depends upon the ability of the people to select and uphold men of character, ability and nobility in stations of leadership and direction. Haiti, and I hate to say, Liberia, seem to be deficient in this capacity. Their ill and woes grow out of this seeming deficiency. Much of this is undoubtedly due to inevitable circumstances and conditions. In the historical development of the human race all peoples have had to fight their way upward from corruption to righteousness. Selfishness is perhaps the most dynamic human urge. The strong, the forceful, the fearless, without moral restraint, will fight and force their way to leadership and dominance. Right has always lagged behind might as a conregulating factor in human affairs. But might has never produced endurance and stability unless it has been sustained by right.

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