

NEGRO RACE ENTERING INTO BIG BUSINESS

RACIAL VIEWPOINT NOW UNDERGOING RADICAL CHANGE

Commercial and Economic Aspect Regarded As Important Agency in Race Prosperity in America.

ECONOMIC CONSCIOUSNESS

Prominent Group of Leaders Surrender Successful Professional Careers To Enter Field of Business.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 2.—Race progress along economic lines has so challenged the thought and attention of a group of prominent race leaders in the South that it has given birth to an economic viewpoint which bids fair to become a revolutionizing agent in raising the status of the Colored people in this country. The responsibility for the birth of this new viewpoint is credited to a group of men now engaged in the conduct of the affairs of three giant corporations in Atlanta, Georgia, having recently given up professional careers to help shape the industrial destiny of the Negro.

Among the important members of this group are: Dr. W. F. Boddie, who surrendered a medical career with a lucrative practice in a thriving Southern Georgia city to come to Atlanta to serve as cashier and treasurer of the Citizens Trust Company. Dr. Boddie was shortly followed by Dr. A. M. Wilkins, who after having for twenty-five years successfully pursued his dental profession in Griffin, Georgia, gave it up to enter the business world as vice-president of the same corporation. These men are now part of a notable group which includes a large number of young college-trained men who have abandoned the teaching and other professions in many of the large cities of the country so as to help put over the ambitious program of the Standard Citizens Service group in Atlanta.

Among these younger men may be mentioned John R. Pinkett and Joseph H. B. Evans, formerly teachers in the Summer High School of St. Louis, Missouri; David D. Jones, who recently gave up the work as Executive secretary of the St. Louis Y. M. C. A.; and Oscar C. Brown, who had just opened law offices in Indianapolis.

Dr. Boddie very forcefully sets forth this new viewpoint in a statement which discusses in detail what part a fundamental economic program will play in the progress of the Negro in America. In the opinion of Dr. Boddie, the fundamental weakness of the Colored people in America is the lack of an economic viewpoint. This is brought out very clearly in our relations with other groups. The most profound changes are taking place as a result of this fact. In the South, especially in the rural sections, whole areas are being depopulated and the resultant effect will be more far reaching than it is possible at this time to estimate.

"One cause of this condition," Dr. Boddie says, "is that as a group we have never been considered by other groups as an integral part of the economic life of this country. In the past it has been largely a matter of exploitation, due to our inability to see clearly that their manifest interest was mainly for personal gain. We have possibly never felt before so keenly the need of an economic viewpoint. OUR LEADERS HAVE GIVEN THEIR FIRST CONSIDERATION TO RELIGION, EDUCATION AND POLITICS, BUT LITTLE TO ECONOMICS."

"Today, our practical elimination in every phase of American life is due to the fact that we have failed to recognize that the economic group viewpoint is absolutely essential to recognition in the affairs of our country. WE HAVE BEEN SEGREGATED RELIGIOUSLY, EDUCATIONALLY, AND POLITICALLY, BUT NO DISCRIMINATION HAVE WE SHOWN FOR OURSELVES ECONOMICALLY. WE ARE THE ONLY GROUP IN AMERICAN LIFE WHOSE ECONOMIC RESERVES ARE GIVEN TO THE CONTROL OF OTHER GROUPS."

Dr. Boddie asserts that in America there is an economic group consciousness which is so rigid as to practically exclude every group which does not have one. Only groups which have this economic consciousness are maintaining their place in American civilization. Since the economic factor is so essential for other groups or races in their struggle for equal advantages

for the members of their group, it stands to reason that it would be equally advantageous for us to at least begin to ponder, confer and devise ways and means by which propaganda may be disseminated through our racial group that would, in the course of time, grow and crystallize into a concept that would become so embedded in the minds and actions of our people that an economic racial solidarity would result that would make us stand out on the horizon of races as do the Hebrew children of the world.

"In this country," according to Dr. Boddie, "every group save our own, controls its own economic reserves. The Jewish race in America, and as it is constituted in all sections of world civilization, is a concrete illustration of a racial group without a country, virtually dictating the affairs of the world economically, because of the mastery of their resources. We can only get and maintain a place in American economic life by and through our own efforts."

"To develop an economic viewpoint, the essential thing is that the leaders of the thought of our group should teach racial economic group consciousness. This should be taught to develop in us not a hatred of other races, but that we might forge for our group a weapon for our advantage to be added to our religious, educational and political armamentarium in furthering equality of opportunity for ourselves. We need to teach practical co-operation of the masses of our people, with each other, by each other and for each other."

"In laying the foundation for our economic development, insurance organizations, banks and trust companies, are the first institutions which should be built. The insurance organizations to gather the money reserves of our group and at the same time give them that protection which is essential to the buttressing of investments. The banks and trust companies to act as reservoirs for the accumulation of these reserves of capital, and for the proper safeguarding and intelligent care of our estates. Along with these, we should have grocery stores, meat markets, clothing stores, manufacturing establishments, and in fact all of those commercial enterprises which have made the Anglo-Saxon the predominant factor in the world today.

"The task of the co-operation of the masses of our group will not be easy to accomplish, due to the fact that our reserves of capital are all held by the opposite groups, and these groups have the bulk of our patronage. WE MUST LEARN AS A GROUP NOT TO EXPECT CONSIDERATION BECAUSE WE ARE BLACK, BUT FOR THE REASON THAT WE ARE RENDERING THE SAME SERVICE FOR THE SAME MONEY."

N. A. A. C. P. ARRANGES FOR PRINTING HOUSTON MARTYRS' PETITIONS

New York, November 3.—It is announced by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City, that the National Office will arrange for the printing of the petitions to be used in gathering signatures asking the release of the fifty-four men of the Twenty-fourth Infantry confined in Leavenworth prison for the use of individuals and those organizations which desire the petitions only in small quantities. This the National Office has arranged to do for reasons of economy. Therefore, those organizations which desire only limited quantities of the petitions may secure them at the rate of one cent a sheet, approximately one half the cost of printing and mailing, by sending an order and the amount necessary to cover the same to the N. A. A. C. P. These orders will be turned over to the printers at New York and filled as promptly as possible.

Larger organizations are following the original plan and having their petitions printed locally, but the N. A. A. C. P. feels that the above outlined plan will be a convenience to smaller organizations and to individuals.

The N. A. A. C. P. reports that there has never been any cause which has entered into with such wholehearted enthusiasm as the campaign to free these men. The Methodist Episcopal Church through Bishop R. E. Jones is distributing petitions among its churches; the Knights of Pythias of North America, etc., through their grand chancellors are circulating more than five thousand petitions (each petition having space for sixty signatures); the Citizens Club of Berkeley, Norfolk, Va., has unanimously

Big Events in the Lives of Little Men



passed a resolution pledging complete co-operation in this effort and, during the special meeting which it will hold on November 11, the audience will stand for five minutes in silent prayer for the release of the men. According to all present indications many more than the original goal of 100,000 signatures to the petition will be secured.

"BIRTH OF A NATION" AGAIN BANNED IN PARIS

Paris, Nov. 3.—The French authorities have again emphatically forbidden the showing of Thomas Dixon's infamous motion picture production,

"The Birth of a Nation," until all scenes containing Negroes or the Ku Klux Klan have been eliminated.

The action of the authorities in prohibiting the showing of the picture when it first came to France, aroused international comment. Film men declare that the picture would be robbed of its value, if the scenes objected to by the French censors are cut out.

The promoters of the picture stand to lose over 3,000,000 francs.

ST. LOUIS CITIZENS OPPOSE SEGREGATION

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 3.—Three hun-

dred and seventy-five members of the St. Louis Real Estate Exchange have approved a plan for the establishment of a Negro residential section of the city. The plan of segregation has for its fundamental force the refusal to sell property to colored people in other sections than those set aside for them. The claim has been made that the colored population of 65,000 in 1920 has increased through migration to more than 100,000, and that some action for housing of the colored is imperative. It is said that colored people will press their opposition to the new ruling in court, if necessary, even to the point of holding that the action of the real estate men is conspiracy.

SIGHTS, EXPERIENCES AND IMPRESSIONS OF A TRAVELLER WHO ATTENDED NATL. BAPTIST CONVENTION, LOS ANGELES

By Mrs. M. H. Wilkinson

LOS ANGELES. (Continued from last week.)

The intense heat that greeted us in Los Angeles was, indeed a disagreeable surprise! After crossing the scorching desert in Arizona many had assured us we would have relief in the charming climate of California. However, it was explained that this heat wave was very unusual and generally preceded an earthquake. This explanation made matters worse, for right then and there we experienced a fear quake!

But after the eclipse of the sun, which was very interesting, things cooled off or down, I can't say which. O, the joy and admiration experienced in seeing California is inexpressible. What serenity and sublimity possesses the traveler as he feels the balmy air, beholds the beauty of the flowers, the groves of oranges, lemons, grapefruit, prunes, olives and acres of bushes laden with grapes, inhaling the soothing and animating fragrance of them all.

Really, is this Los Angeles? "Yes," we were told, "the garden spot of the land, founded by a few Spanish soldiers as far back as 1781 and named Nuestra Senora La Reina de Los Angeles — The City of Our Lady, the Queen of the Angels—but the Angels was enough for the busy Americans who came later. So now we have Los Angeles, the city of the Angels. Its active life dates from 1885.

I can never tell you how delightfully strange I felt the first morning I walked the streets of Los Angeles, greeted by the glorious sun, shining so friendly and affectionately upon those graceful and historical palms that stood as sentinels on both sides of the streets, whose ancestors had exchanged greetings with this same sun and watched it rise and set for centuries in Jencho and along the banks of the Jordan, where John baptized the Christ.

The palm, it is said, will not be pressed or bound down, or grow crooked, though heavy weights be laid on it. This tree is one of the most famous of all the forest, and is the usual emblem of constancy, fruitfulness, patience, and victory, which the more it is oppressed, the more it

flourishes; the higher it grows, the stronger and prouder it is in the top. As a race and as individuals may strive to imbibe these winning virtues. David realized its endurance and perseverance and sang "The righteous shall flourish as the palm tree."

Los Angeles presents a unique and beautiful aspect; for while its public and business buildings are notably fine, the peculiarity of the place is its lovely homes; its many flowers and its picturesque shaded trees with its wonderful and varied palm trees, planted so effectively. First a tall, stately palm, then a short bunchy one. We get our palm fans from the palm that grows tall and bunchy at the top with fan-shaped leaves. Then, there is the palm tree that looks like a pine apple with the leaves branching out from the top of the seeming apple. Another species' leaves spring directly from the ground like the lilac bush. They are a distinguished and valuable group of plants, gratifying the eye by their adornment of landscape and ministering abundantly to the necessities and pleasures of man.

The mild climate allows the most delicate flowers and shrubbery to flourish all the year round. One sees hedges of calla lilies, great 10-foot geraniums, heliotrope covering the side of the house and trees that bloom in purple the year round, spreading their fragrance everywhere.

Speaking of Pasadena, surely it is the lost Eden recovered. It is beautifully located between the mountains and joined to Los Angeles by a strip of land. Pasadena is an exceptionally beautiful city. Its streets, too, are lined with a great variety of tropical trees such as the Eucalyptus and palm. I can never forget the ride through these streets, viewing those lovely mansions and attractively decorated landscapes, everything immaculate and idealistic. It was very quiet and scarcely a person was seen on the streets in the wealthy residential district. I remembered an old man who came from the country to Philadelphia, Pa., and when he saw the brilliant lights and paved streets with the fine mansions he was amazed and exclaimed, "If 'Heben' is any prettier than this I don't want to see it." My

thoughts were not as his in regard to the loveliness of Pasadena but thought I, really it seems to be a heaven on earth. This is seeing and enjoying life and the beautiful. Some think there are none of our group in Pasadena; but we had the pleasure of viewing their community and the homes were very pretty. Much could be said of Hollywood, the dreamland of the actors, that rivals in beauty with Pasadena. Coming back we saw the ostrich farm enclosed with a very high fence. Here is the largest of all living birds, standing from six to eight feet in height. It is an old bird from the deserts of Africa and Arabia. This bird reaches its prime at three years old. The first feathers are cut when it is eight months old. This process is renewal at the intervals of eight months. The long white feathers come from the male bird, the female plumes are not pure white but are flecked with gray.

The ostrich prefers an Alkaline soil on which to graze, and its introduction into Southern California in 1882 has proven quite a success.

Los Angeles is twenty miles from the beach. On our way we saw many oil wells and learned the oil production bids fair to become one of Los Angeles' greatest industries. Reaching the beach Sante Monica, we never experienced such a jam, nor heard so much noise, nor saw so many odd and entertaining things. Why, even the old Ark was there with Brother and Sister Noah peeping out of the windows, and their sons smiling and nodding at everyone passing. Goodness gracious, it was worse than the Vanity Fair in Pilgrim's Progress. Think of it, we paid to "see a Mother with the smallest baby, five weeks old and still alive." And to our disappointment, honey, it was a monkey with her offspring leaping about in a cage.

We elbowed our way to the beach where hundreds of people were resting in the sand under large umbrellas or jumping the foaming waves. Here we viewed the peaceful and majestic Pacific and watched Old Sol as he seemed to bury himself in the depths of the blue deeps leaving a glorious golden light lingering and dancing upon the waves.

POPULATION OF SOUTH

The population of the south as a whole forms 30.9 per cent. of the population of the United States. Of the 33,044,445 inhabitants of the seventeen Southern States, including the District of Columbia, a trifle more than one-fourth, or about 26.9 per cent., are colored. In other words, in each group of 1,000 persons living in the Southern States 731 are white and only 269 are colored, a condition that makes a joke out of the vicious cry of "Negro Domination" by ignorant politicians. Prior to the present migration, Mississippi and South Carolina were the only States in which the colored population constituted 50 per cent. or more of the total State populations. The colored population of Georgia was 41.7 per cent. of the total, that of Louisiana 38.9 per cent., Alabama, 38.4 per cent., and Florida 34.0 per cent. In no other Southern State, including the District of Columbia, does the colored population form as much as 30 per cent. of the State population.

BEWITCHING WITCHES DISPENSE WITCHES BREW AND DOUGHNUTS

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of St. Philip the Deacon, gave a Halloween party last Thursday night at the attractive and commodious home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hicks, 2530 Maple Street. The rooms were appropriately and artistically decorated. Among the many unique features was the "Witches Caldron" from which "witches brew," cider, was dispensed. The magic clock, fish pond and a fortune teller's booth all presided over by attractive and bewitching "witches" in regulation witches' costumes furnished fun for many, and funds for the organization. Games of various kinds gave ample amusement and entertainment for the large number who attended. It was a pleasant and successful social affair for the promotion of good fellowship among the members and friends of the congregation.

GIRLS FRIENDLY HAVE UNION HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Girls' Friendly Society of the various Episcopal Churches had a delightful Halloween Party, Wednesday night at Trinity Cathedral parish house. The party was preceded by a service at five o'clock in Trinity cathedral at which several associates were formally admitted by Bishop Shaylor, who also delivered an excellent address. Repairing to the parish house a picnic supper was served, after which a program and games occupied the evening. St. Philip's branch was represented by a large number who report a delightful time.

CHILDREN INCREASE ATTENDANCE IN EAST

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 3.—(By A. N. P.)—The school census for this year reveals that colored and Mongolian children have increased their attendance in the public schools and that the whites have fallen off in large numbers. There are 213,033 white children registered this year. This is a decrease of 34,944 under the registration of last year. Colored children have increased about 12 per cent. There are seventy more Japanese and Chinese children than were registered last year.

NEW YORK LEADS WITH 10,000 WIDOWS

New York, Nov. 3.—The city of New York has 10,238 colored widows and ranks first place in this respect among other cities of the country. Washington brings up an ambitious second with 9,051, and is followed in order named by Chicago, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Atlanta, Memphis, St. Louis and Birmingham. How many of these are widows indeed "by sod and not by grass" is not stated.

N. A. A. C. P. WILL ELECT OFFICERS SUNDAY

The Omaha Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold its regular meeting at Grove M. E. Church, Twenty-second and Seward streets, Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the annual election of officers. As this is a most important meeting all members of the Association are urged to be present to vote for such persons as they may prefer for officers for the ensuing year.

AN AFRICAN JEW INNOCENT CAUSE OF THEATRE RIOT

Resentment of Insulting Remarks By White Rowdies Alleged To Have Started the Trouble.

POLICE QUELL DISTURBANCE

David Kollseritta, Jewish Cantor, Said To Be Native of Abyssinia, Speaks Several Languages.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 2.—The Howard Theatre was the scene of a battle royal at a midnight show here recently, according to the Washington Eagle, of this city. The participants were all white, and the battle was waged in resentment to insulting remarks made concerning a black Jew.

David B. Kollseritta, the only colored Jewish cantor in the world, was rendering a number on the program when three white ruffians began to make insulting remarks. The Jews in the house immediately took it up and the fight followed. It lasted for about ten minutes. Policemen came in and quieted the melee. During all the fight Mr. Kollseritta continued to sing. At the conclusion, the Jews surrounded Mr. Kollseritta and all left the theater together singing the Jewish national anthem.

Native of Africa. The cantor is only 33 years old. He is a native of Abyssinia, Africa, and is a member of a Jewish tribe there which is called one of the "lost tribes." The members are of mixed Jewish and African descent, their origin, it is said, going back to the days of the Queen of Sheba and King Solomon, when a great number of Jews were taken to Africa. Inter-marriage perpetuated the Jewish strain and the following of the ancient religion.

When only a child, the cantor resolved to embark on the study of languages. He tells the story that in his early youth he was deformed because of a very large head and small body, and as a result drew the derision of members of other tribes whose tongues he did not know. The boy determined to learn their tongues to know what they were saying. He added many European and Oriental as well as ancient classical languages to his African list, in all twenty-eight languages.

Mr. Kollseritta pursued his earlier studies in Palestine and later went on a tour of the world with scientists searching for "lost tribes." He traveled for five years, and states that he has been in every civilized country.

A Linguist. The cantor reads and writes nine languages; can speak fourteen fluently. Here is but a part of the list: Spanish, French, Italian, German, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Dutch, ancient Hebrew, Yiddish, Targon, a language of Bible times; Bible Latin, in which he is well versed; Russian, Polish, Gaelic, Slavish, ancient Greek, the original Ethiopian of which he can write the script; Flemish, Manchu and Chinese; also Kaffir, Malay, Zulu, Zambesi and Hottentot, all African tongues, as well as Boer, which is similar to Dutch.

Kollseritta declares that the most difficult language he had to learn was English. "It has so many letters that say nothing," was his way of expressing his difficulty. During the war Kollseritta was eleven months in France. There he became acquainted with a Chinese cook who knew English and taught the cantor much Chinese. Kollseritta was an interpreter in the army during the war. Incidentally he is an American citizen.

PRINCIPAL GIRLS' SCHOOL VISITS OMAHA FRIENDS

Miss A. Bowden, principal of St. Philip's School for Girls at San Antonio, Texas, en route east from the Provincial Synod of the Seventh Province of the Episcopal Church, held in Kansas City, Mo., last week, spent three days here as the guest of the Rev. and Mrs. John Albert Williams at St. Philip's rectory. Miss Bowden is recognized as one of the prominent educators of the Episcopal Church in the South, her school ranking among the best. Miss Bowden who is a graduate of St. Augustine's School, Raleigh, N. C., was pleased to meet here a former classmate at St. Augustine's in the person of Mr. W. H. Robinson. She left Wednesday afternoon for Des Moines.