

AN OPEN LETTER TO

J. FINLEY WILSON

(Continued from Page 2)

The few Negroes who are left in the classified service are subject to the insult of humiliating segregation and penned up in compartments as if afflicted with leprosy. Let us, however, give Mr. Hoover as much credit as he is willing to claim for giving orders to have such distinction removed from his department in the midst of the heated issue of a primary campaign. Very soon, however, there will be left in the departments no Negro clerks to segregate. If Mr. Hoover is elected and re-elected and allows the civil service commission to function as it has done under Harding and Coolidge, after eight years of his rule, there will hardly be left a Negro clerk in Washington.

I need not go further compounding a bill of particulars. Every Negro knows them like a book. They are as painfully familiar to Dr. John R. Hawkins and his co-operative committee as they are to you, Mr. Wilson. They feel them as deeply and as keenly. There is not a single understanding Negro in the United States who will not acknowledge the justice of the bill of indictment as here drawn. If so, let him stand up and say so.

Fundamental Question

The fundamental question arises: "What shall the Negro do in the midst of the emergency which is now upon us?" Some will support Al Smith for vindictive reasons, while others with slave-like fidelity, will say to the G. O. P., "Though you slay me, yet will I serve you." It was true when Frederick Douglass said: "The republican party is the ship; all else the sea." But this was a generation ago. Since then the old ark of safety has become unseaworthy. The Negro may as well seek passage on other crafts upon the sea of political uncertainty.

My dear Mr. Wilson, I am not sending you this open letter to give information upon topics already familiar to you, nor to indicate personal animosity against the republican party. I have stated the truth with soberness, with naught set down in malice. Immediately upon reading your letter in this morning's Post, I sat me down and took my pen in hand to write you these few lines for a very definite reason.

You will doubtless be influential in formulating the expression of revolt which is now running rampant. I am writing to urge that this new dynamic be turned into constructive instead of destructive channels. The Negro race should no longer continue to vote for the republicans because they do not like democrats, nor yet for democrats because they do not like republicans. Vindictive politics will get the race nowhere. The Negro should align himself with firm principles and sound politics independently of whichever party espouses them.

Principal Issue

There is but one fundamental principle involved in the present campaign, and that is the principle of prohibition. Tonight I expect to listen to Governor Smith deliver his acceptance address over the radio. It is perfectly safe to predict that on all features of the two platforms, save one, his address will be as much like Mr. Hoover's as Senator Curtis' was. Prohibition, and prohibition alone is the issue. This is neither a republican nor a democratic doctrine. President Nicholas Murray Butler is as wet as Senator Edwards and Senator Robinson is as dry as Senator Curtis. It is a sound, patriotic American doctrine, which political exigencies have forced the republican party to sponsor.

Intemperance Injures Race

The Negro race is the chief victim of intemperance and drunkenness. Free flowing liquor works its greatest havoc on the weaker man and the weaker race. The demon rum loves the black victim. The Negro reversely is the chief beneficiary of prohibition. It saves our sons and daughters from the lurings of temptation which they may lack the inhibition to resist. It makes for the building up of family, church and home. The rapid material progress of the race since prohibition, though imperfectly enforced indicates its great value and advantage. Return to rum would be a return to ruin.

Negro Beneficiary of Law

The Negro is the victim of lawlessness and the beneficiary of law. He must uphold the constitution. Though all men should forsake it, yet should not he. Because the republican and democratic parties join in nullifying the 14th and 15th amendments, yet the Negro should stand firmly by the constitution in all of its parts and provisions. If the country ever becomes accustomed to the nullification of the prohibition amendment, then there is little hope that it will ever return to the human rights amendments. Nullification is catching. Nullification of one portion leads to nullification of other portions. Let the Negro at least

maintain an attitude of moral consistency.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Hoover are two good men. Whichever of them is elected, the Negro may stand assured that farm relief, flood control, the foreign debt and international relations will be looked after. Let the Negro stand with Mr. Hoover because he stands for prohibition. But do not fail to let Mr. Hoover and the republican party know that our grievances are great and that we will not forget them nor hold them in abeyance, no, not even during the present campaign.

Yours truly,
KELLY MILLER.

PATENTS NEW LOCK INVENTION

New York City—Henry Charlemagne, a race man living in Anse-a-Vieux, Haiti, and a member of the Haitian Patriotic Union of America, has just received from Washington the patent rights on his most recent invention. It is a combination lock, and is said to be a great improvement over anything of this nature ever patented. Mr. Charlemagne is said to be the holder of numerous other patents on devices for automobiles and electrical equipment.

PASSES AT AGE OF 105

Nassau, Bahamas—The last survivor of slavery in the colony of Nassau, Martin Sawyer, aged 105 years, is dead. Sawyer was brought here from Africa as a boy. He enjoyed splendid health and spirits to the day of his death, and was in possession of all his faculties. He was still able to do a good day's work and support himself.

WAGE FIGHT AGAINST HOME SEGREGATION

New York, N. Y.—The national office of the N. A. A. C. P. has forwarded its check for \$180.75 to Attorney George E. Hayes of Washington, covering the costs of printing the briefs in the case of Cornish against O'Donoghue, in the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. This is the action brought to test whether or not white property owners may include in the deeds to property clauses which prohibit the sale by any future owner of that property to persons of Negro blood. This case marks another step in the battle which the N. A. A. C. P. has waged for upwards of ten years to checkmate and defeat each new move to segregate colored people.

DATES FOR TRIAL SET

Biloxi, Miss.—A sensation is expected in the trials of the prominent race politicians under indictment for the sale of federal patronage in the State of Mississippi. The dates of the trials have just been set. Ed. L. Patton will be tried at the September term of court. The trial of Perry W. Howard will not take place until the November term of court in Jackson.

PULLMAN CO. EMPLOYEES NUMBER 10,794

Washington, D. C.—According to an abstract which has just been published by the Interstate Commerce Commission of the report rendered by the Pullman company for 1927 the company had in its employ last year 10,794 porters and maids and their average salary was \$2.60 a day.

The revenue received by the Pullman company from the operation of sleeping cars in 1927 amounted to \$80,952,208. The total operating expenses were \$66,502,582.

ACTION TAKEN TO DISBAR REDMOND

Jackson, Miss.—Ex parte motion was entered on the docket of the chancery court by a special committee recently, seeking the disbarment of Attorney S. D. Redmond, republican political leader. Redmond was indicted for the sale of federal patronage in the recent republican patronage probe at Biloxi.

TAKE NOTICE

We take this method of informing the members and friends of Clair M. E. church and the public in general, that the Home Coming and Annual Visit of Bishop Clair, our Area Bishop, of Covington, Ky., will not be with us September 9th, the second Sunday, as previously announced, because that is the final rally of the A. M. E. churches of Omaha before leaving for their annual conference, and the other Methodist churches also. We have so written the Bishop, hoping that he may be able to come at another date. A. H. HIGGS.

A BIG EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION

to be held at

KRUG PARK—September 11

We are hereby calling the public's attention to this big event. We have heretofore, no doubt, witnessed this day of celebration in Omaha, but never before have we had it in this wise.

There is a big effort being made by the Committee to reach every organized group of race people in and around Omaha, in order that they may share in, or have a chance to share in this affair. We are hoping to have every church group, every fraternal society and the business and professional men to participate in this celebration.

We have heard from many sources, much criticism about a date for this celebration. To that we have only this to say: In the Slave States, the dates differ; in Nebraska, there is no fixed date for this occasion, for this was not a slave state. So, we use a date on which we can secure a place that furnishes such recreation and amusements as this day calls for, hence, the day and place this year is

September 11th, at Krug Park!

Another objection has been that it has been a single-handed effort. That objection this year is removed by reason of the fact that all groups are being approached to take part.

Still another objection has been because some have thought that the churches and pastors should not have the dance pavilion operating under church management. That objection this time is removed, for the Krug Park Amusement Co. had contracted with Mr. John Smith for the dance pavilion last March, so the churches will have no hand in the management of the hall.

Now let us all get together and have a big day of co-mingling one with another and at the same time celebrate in a large way our Race Freedom.

The following named brethren have been approached and have agreed to co-operate with the plan. From Fraternities:

A. M. HARROLD REV. D. McQUEEN
C. G. M. of U. K. T.'s State G. M. of M. T. of A's

DR. GOODEN
G. M. of U. B. F.'s

Churches approached through pastors:

REV. E. H. HILSON REV. A. H. HIGGS
Salem Baptist Clare Chapel M. E.

REV. WM. HALL REV. E. D. JOHNSON
Morning Star Baptist St. John's M. B., No. Side

REV. MR. STEVENSON REV. Z. E. MCGEE
Galilee M. B. Pleasant Green M. B.

REV. JNO. ADAMS REV. J. W. GARNER
Presiding Elder, Omaha Bethel A. M. E.
District, A. M. E.

REV. J. H. JACKSON L. E. HAMLETT
Bethel M. B., So. Side Cleaves Temple, C. M. E.

We hope this announcement will be clearly read and understood so that everyone will know that all groups can be benefited by plans offered if they will take part. At this writing the Committee has not been able to see all of the churches and pastors, neither have we had time to see all of the Fraternal Societies, but we will see them before the next issue comes out, so as to let the public know those participating in this grand affair. Watch for newspaper and circular announcements later. Anyone wishing to take part or to get further information call

L. E. HAMLETT
Secretary of Committee

1713 No. 25th Street Phone WE. 6855

Let us hope that all groups will do their best to make this a worth-while occasion.

JNO. ADAMS
Z. E. MCGEE
J. W. GARNER
J. H. JACKSON
L. E. HAMLETT
Committee.

—Adv.

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