

Dawn of Tomorrow

Published weekly in the interests of, and for the advancement of the colored people of Canada.

Subscription Rates

One year \$2.00
Six months 1.25
Three months75
Single copy05

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Entered in the post office at London, Ont., as second class matter.

The Dawn of Tomorrow Publishing Co.
London, Ont.

Editorial

A MONUMENT TO

JOSIAH HENSON

We call the attention of each branch of the League and of every reader of The Dawn to the letter which appears in this issue from the Dresden Branch. The letter tells of their intention to erect a monument to the immortal Josiah Henson. Of the many great things which the Leagues are doing and are planning to do we consider this movement from Dresden the greatest of them all.

In what more fitting manner could a people show its gratitude and its racial pride than by duly honoring one who was both one of its greatest benefactors and one of its great men?

Two events stand out pre-eminently as causes which precipitated the Civil War in the United States, which brought freedom to the slaves. One was the martyrdom of John Brown and the other was the appearance of Uncle Tom's Cabin. It is claimed that before she wrote this famous book Harriette Beecher Stowe visited the South where she formed the acquaintance of Josiah Henson. Henson was then a slave, but his many sterling qualities, his humanitarian spirit, his deeply religious nature, his dignified mien, his devotion to duty, deep regard for all human and living things, so impressed Mrs. Stowe that she was convinced of the great evil of human slavery. As she said herself: "A race which can produce such a noble character as this deserves a better fate than that of bondage."

And thus, this and like sentiments so gripped the heart and conscience of Harriet Beecher Stowe that she was inspired to write her immortal Uncle Tom's Cabin. While the book deals with many characters, even Simon Legree, yet it is centered around that grand old Uncle Tom. It was from Josiah Henson that she took her character of Uncle Tom. He it was who inspired the writing of the book and, therefore, when we shall honour him, an honour far too long withheld, we shall honour one of our first and foremost benefactors. White citizens of the United States Canada, and England held him in the highest esteem. He was granted an audience by the King in Buckingham Palace. Surely, for whom he did so much, surely we will not let his final resting place go unmarked and unknown.

When the Dresden Branch shall have completed its plans every colored citizen, as well as other people will have been given the honour and the privilege of assisting in erecting a monument to Josiah Henson. Not only should the colored people in Canada feel responsible for this movement but the people of the United States as well. For it was there where slavery existed. It was for the liberation of their forefathers that Uncle Tom's Cabin was written.

We have only words of praise and encouragement for the Dresden Branch of the League. If it had done nothing else, this one act alone would mark them worthy of existing. When their plans are complete and ready to present to the public we feel certain that their appeal will meet with a hearty and a generous response from the other branches of the League as well as from the general public.

JOIN THE UNION

It is reported that many waiters, cooks and porters in the employ of the Canadian National Railways do not belong to the Brotherhood Union. This indeed is a very sad and a most regrettable circumstance. We are informed by good authority that there is ABSOLUTELY NO COLOR LINE in the Union and that the white railway workers have made repeated efforts to induce their colored brethren to come into the Union. More than that, we understand that the grievance committee will take up, that they have taken up the cases of colored men with as much earnestness as they have fought cases of the white union members.

Even to join the union is a privilege which the Colored Canadian enjoys over the Colored Railway workers of the United States. It is something they should appreciate. Every railroad man should take the advantage of this golden opportunity and become a Union man. Even the most stupid worker knows the good results which follow any labor union which is properly conducted. It is also easy to conjecture the bad results which will overtake disorganized, non-union workers.

We are in no way connected with the railroads or the brotherhood of railroad men. Our advice therefore is not biased or influenced by either side. But, we are passing along this friendly suggestion to the Colored boys. Join the Union. Do it now.

Letters to the Editor

Appeal to Justice and British Fair Play

During the past few days letters have been circulated from the main offices of the C.N.R. to the effect that on July 1st all colored waiters on the International Limited will be replaced by white waiters.

The motive for such action, as stated by the General Superintendent is: The Colored waiter does not give efficient or satisfactory service.

I ask you, why has this service become all at once unsatisfactory? I can give you an answer. About six weeks ago the Colored waiters asked for equal pay and conditions given the white waiters. Ever since that time their services have been unsatisfactory.

A general manager of the West is said to have made this statement: "A Colored man is not fit to serve food in the dining room", and has also gone so far as to spread propaganda to prejudice the minds of others against the Colored waiters.

According to the revenue derived from the different divisions it is very evident that the Grand Trunk Division far exceeds the others divisions. Does this show inefficiency?

We sufferers do not feel that we are getting a fair play. We are taxpayers and the majority have been brought here by the C.N.R. Does it seem at all fair, after having done this to deprive us of the only way to gain our livelihood? Is it fair to turn us loose without one moment's notice?

We appeal to the public for judgment in this case since this railway, is operated by the citizens of Canada.

The watchword of the Canadian Government is Justice and Fair Play. We ask you, is this a case of Justice and Fair Play?

From One of the Deposed Waiters

HARRISON—MILLER

A very pretty but quiet wedding was solemnized at the B.M.E. Church parsonage, Owen Sound, on Wednesday, June 16th, at 7.30 p.m. when Maud, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Miller of Holand Centre became the wife of Mr. Geo. Harrison of Owen Sound, Rev. E. Alph Richardson officiating.

After the ceremony the party motored to their residence 1769 8th Ave. East.

The bride looked charming in a dress of Rosewood Crepe with shoes and hat to match and wearing Ophelia roses. The bride's maid, Miss Eliza Harrison, sister of the groom, wore embroidered steel grey crepe.

A dainty wedding tea was served in the spacious dining room under the direction of Misses Martha Harrison, Louise Green and Mrs. N. Green.

Leaves for Centennial

Los Angeles, Calif., June 9th—According to relatives of Mme. Florence Cole Talbert, leading soprano of the race who has been in Italy for over a year pursuing studies in music and training, the singer will be a special soloist at the Sesquicentennial in Philadelphia in August.

Mme. Talbert accepted an invitation from the Centennial committee on music. She has already departed from Italy for this country. She will spend a brief stay in Paris with Mrs. Harold Browning.

Wins \$100 Scholarship

San Francisco, Calif. June 9—Miss Tabythia Anderson of this city, at present a student in the University of California, is one of the proudest race girls in the country. As a result of her outstanding scholastic and social accomplishments, she has been named winner of the annual Mme C. J. Waler's \$100 scholarship. Miss Anderson was second in the Pacific Coast Semi-Final of the National Oratorical Contest in 1924.

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