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Will YOU be One?

First Prize Essay On Co-Operation

(Continued from page 1)

To sell his stock it is not always necessary to employ stock salesmen unless the enterprise is to have a very large capital and a nation wide stock-selling campaign is anticipated. That considerable item of over-head expense can be dispensed with in promoting local enterprises such as grocery, drug, hardware, and dry goods stores by enlisting the aid of the pulpit and fraternal organizations in the work of selling the stock. The average Colored minister is a true booster for any meritorious Negro business undertaking. In most communities of colored people he is usually the first man it would pay the promoter to approach.

In my opinion it would be of great advantage to the enterprise to have as large a number of stockholders as possible, particularly in the case of a community business that depends upon local trade for support. Obviously people will support an enterprise in which their own money is invested. Possibly the proudest feeling of my life was the time when I received my first dividend from the two ten dollar shares of bank stock (of a colored bank) I held when a student in Nashville, Tennessee. Needless to say all of my small banking business was done with that bank.

The last chief point in my mind is concerning a thing we might call business morale. It can be suggested by a column of emphatic Don'ts. DON'T fail to have the many stockholders understand that all successful businesses must have one man in chief authority.

DON'T over capitalize. Too much money means that you have a surplus that you can't put to work although you must pay dividends upon it. It is dead wood and will, in time, decay the heart of the business with the fungi of extravagance and slothfulness.

DON'T make extravagant promises in order to sell stock. You can't live up to them and in so doing you only lay the faze of future enmities.

DON'T use the vaulting ambition and race pride of my people as a means for fraudulently enriching your own pockets. There is a great need in our race for honest, four-square business leaders. For such men the door is ever open. But for the fakir and the impractical dreamer we have no tolerance. Such men retard the progress of the race.

In conclusion it is the writer's humble opinion that any person or group of persons who contemplates the establishment of a co-operative enterprise among colored people has an excellent chance to succeed if such a business has an honest, experienced and capable manager, is a necessity, has a suitable location and sufficient capital. The promoting of such a business after above facts concerning it are made known to the people should not be very difficult if the promoter is a man of known ability and integrity and the price of the shares is made small enough. Personally I stand willing to invest of my small substance in a co-operative business of the above specifications at any time.

LOUIS F. TAYLOR

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It were but yesterday that Ethiopia had made a pilgrimage to the skies to light her candle from the altars of heaven, and had held it aloft throughout the dark ages to brighten the footsteps of all mankind. It were but yesterday that the Africans were a mighty people among all nations of antiquity, because they had contributed much to civilization in days of yore. Homer referred to the "pious black men" of Africa as the favorite people of the gods, as the most just of all men of all the world. But that were yesterday, and to-day we find her sons and daughters, not dead, nor dormant, but sleeping. But alas! in their slumber have the spirits of some of their illustrious forbears appeared to them; has the shade of some long since departed spirit visited them to disturb their peaceful slumber? Else what means this turning and tossing; what this simultaneous movement toward race consciousness by these swarthy sons of the sun? It means that black men and black women the world over are awakening and on the morrow, when they shall be fully awake, the world will see them doing things, striving in every way and using every fair means to reach the highest standard of citizenship.

JAS. F. JENKINS

Supreme Court Finds Color Bar Not Legal

South African Court Declares Bar Opposed to General Law of Land

Pretoria, S.A., Nov. 13.—An important decision on the question of drawing the color line in South Africa has been given by the Supreme Court, which declares that the color bar is opposed to the general law of the land.

The case arose on the application of the attorney-general for a ruling in an action against a mine manager, who had been charged with contravening the mining regulations by permitting a native to take charge of a locomotive. Justice Kiause, the presiding judge at the trial, asserted that there was no justification for differentiation among classes or colors in the absence of an express statutory provision, and it would be dangerous to hold that the governor-general had power to make such a regulation.

Celebrates His 65th Anniversary
of Service

(By the Associated Negro Press)
New York, N.Y., Nov.—George Watson, porter in the famous Washington market of this city, has just celebrated the anniversary of his sixty-five years of service. He has never missed a day, nor been late. He is 85 years old. He worked on his anniversary the same as any other day, declared he was feeling fine and that the only complaint he had to make was that he couldn't carry quite so much on his back as he used to, the larger packages being carried on his now, which retains its strength while his back weakens.

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Rev. Dr. W. H. Jones, Pastor

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