

Dawn of Tomorrow

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Editorial

THE SOUTH-AFRICAN MENACE.

The people of South Africa have again handed the reigns of government to Hertzog and his followers. This leaves him free to carry out his plan to humiliate and rob the natives of their rights as citizens. He may enact more such laws, such laws as the Color Bar Bill, which was meant to reduce the natives to economic subservience and he may also restrict or even take away the franchise from them in order to make white rule for ever safe. All of these things he is now free to do and in doing such he may stay the hand of fate temporarily but not forever. And even so, in his frantic, ruthless and unjust methods of seeking to avert one menace he is fast bringing upon the people of his country a more serious one than that of native rule. This is the menace of the "poor whites" of European descent.

Referring to the situation in South Africa The London New Statesman has the following to say: "In every considerable community there are those who are not fitted for skilled work. In Europe such men become dockers or porters or navvies—humble but honorable toilers. But in South Africa these labourers' jobs are regarded as 'Kafirs' work; no white man would dream of undertaking them. The result is that if the European is incapable of skilled work, he cannot enter the ranks of unskilled labor, but falls below the level and becomes a 'poor white' social parasite, a loafer, hanging on to the skirts of white society, a decadent, slowly sinking into the morass of degeneration, a reckless, hopeless figure. ONE WHITE MAN IN EVERY DOZEN IS IN THIS CATEGORY IN S. AFRICA TO-DAY! It is the greatest social problem with which the country has to deal."

Hertzog and the Nationalist party are now adding fresh fuel to a flame which was started by the first white settlers who landed in South Africa, centuries ago. They regarded the natives as less than human. The aboriginals were enslaved and when they refused to be slaves they were shot like dogs. First the Bushman was wiped out and the Hottentots were reduced to economic slavery and now for a hundred years the people of South Africa have tried to reduce the Bantu or Kafirs to the same status, failing to do this com-

pletely she has labelled all the drudgery work of the community as 'Kafirs' work' which now no white man will do. These natives not only did all the rough work but showed a great aptitude to become skilled mechanics and therefore through fear lest the white mechanic be supplanted entirely by the natives the Color Bar Bill, which prohibits the natives doing skilled labor has been placed upon the statute books.

Turning again to the 'poor whites', a twelfth of the South Africa's white population who are neither mentally or physically fit to do skilled labor. With him there is no first rung of the ladder to which he might cling if unable to go higher. From social usages, even if not from desire, he must become a loafer and a parasite. With the native there is no top rung, only the first. Which of the two offers a greater menace to the social, economic and industrial world? Perhaps Hertzog will overcome this threatening menace by decreeing that South Africa's 12th white citizen shall be drowned. This would be just retribution for having introduced slavery in South Africa two centuries ago and for their present biggotted attitude towards manual labour.

We recall here the valiant fight which Dr. John Philips made along this line more than a hundred years ago. He then told the settlers that there could be no progress for them so long as the natives were regarded as something inferior, as merely a worker, a servant and a producer, and that prosperity would come when the native was recognized as the consumer with money to spend and free to sell his labor where he would; in a world as a man with a man's rights.

In concluding his remarks in the Statesman upon "The Black Continent's White Problem," Mr. (W. L. Speight says: The attempt to keep the Negro in his place industrially, in other words, to restrict him to unskilled work, cannot go on indefinitely. A vigorous and virile people cannot be repressed. The day will come when the Bantu will enter into his own. But in the meantime there is the 'poor whites' whose number is steadily increasing."

KNOCKERS.

Judging from reports which have reached us recently there are certain dignitaries going about the City of Toronto attempting to discredit the work which the C.L.A.C.P. is doing for the colored people of Ontario. It is evident that such attempts are being made for personal gain, such men are trying to mount the ladder of fame not by dint of their worth and achievements, but by trying to crush other people and other organizations.

As for the C.L.A.C.P. it is willing to stand or fall on its own record. This is an obvious fact since a statement is issued annually concerning its activities, its finance and its disbursements. This statement is published through the Dawn and it is also sent direct to persons who have shown interest in the movement. Its accounts are audited by accredited auditors and an annual report is made to the federal government from which the League holds a Dominion Wide charter. Each year, so far, it has received an O.K. from the government.

Furthermore, if these knockers had been interested in the work of the League, if they had wanted to know what is being done they could have received a statement of the League's activities by writing to either the Secretary or the Treasurer.

One charge they bring against the league is that its influence is not felt in Toronto. Listen to this: within the past ten weeks the League has secured employment for fourteen colored men. They are still working and supporting their families. We are willing to wager our right arm that these knockers have never secured 14 colored men positions in their whole selfish lives. The biggest interest they have shown in the race is an interest in themselves.

Now, let us advise these dignitaries to wash their own garments before they sling mud at other people. We know who they are and we also know that their records will not bear uncovering. One of them, a former citizen of the U.S.A., dare not cross the border and re-enter that country. Another has been asked to leave a certain city because of an offence against a young girl. It is also reported on god authority that another received a commission of \$1500 for a certain sale and pocketed this money instead of applying it to its proper source. None of these charges is guess work and they can be proven if need be. And now we challenge these gentlemen to bring forth any such derogatory charges against any officer of the League or against the League itself.

STRATFORD NOTES

Mr. Cecil Miller has gone home for the week end in Drayton.

Mr. John D. Hall is visiting his family in Stratford.

Mr. H. Brown of Buffalo has accepted a position in this city.

Mr. Lewis Groat of London has accepted a position in this city.

John Thomson and family of Kitchener spent the Sunday in Stratford visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Duncan of Guelph spent the holiday with her mother, Mrs. M. E. Harrison.

Mrs. E. Hesson, after visiting her daughter the past six weeks in Port Huron has returned home to Stratford.

LONDON

The death of Mrs. Mildred Smith occurred last Saturday, June 24th, at 2:15 a.m. at her late residence, 755 Eglar Street. Mrs. Smith had been ill since January and had borne her illness with marked patience. She was survived by one daughter, Mrs. Frank Brown of this city. Mrs. Smith was a faithful member of the Hill Street Baptist Church from which she was buried last Tuesday evening at 4 o'clock after a brief service was conducted by Rev. E. A. Richardson. Interment was made at Mt. Pleasant cemetery.

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