

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 months	.75
Single copy	.05

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

The Dawn of Tomorrow Publishing Co.
London, Ont.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND, 1924.

Editorial

LISTENING IN.

Recently we visited one of our larger cities. We were there privileged to witness the gathering of several young ladies of our group, to sit quietly and listen to their conversation. Among the subjects discussed were: bobbed hair, the latest fashion in dresses, shoes and hats, preparation for the coming season's picnics, and so forth. We have nothing in particular against any part of their conversation, for nothing pleases us better than seeing our young women well dressed even though their apparel does not bespeak the height of fashion. Even their discussions of bobbed hair and picnics did not grate upon our nerves.

But, as we sat listening, how we strained our ears, how we hoped against hope to hear spoken just a few words upon the more serious side of life. At times we sat almost breathless with expectancy, waiting to hear some one turn the conversation into another channel, to speak of bettering their own conditions and the conditions of the race, to speak of encouraging their young men friends to begin a bank account with an eye to beginning business for themselves, to speak of pursuing further their education in order that they might become more useful to themselves and to the community at large, to talk of assisting the race to climb one notch higher in the scale of civilization. While we do not claim that discussions upon these subjects do not take place among our young ladies, we do assert that we did not hear it when we fervently hoped to hear it, and we do most certainly hope that they are beginning to think upon and to discuss the more serious side of life.

We also sat unobserved in the gathering places of our young men, fine looking, stalwart, well dressed and manly looking youngmen; young men whose forms would compare most favorably with the forms of the ancient athletes who participated in the Olympic games. I "listened in" on these young men. They talked of horse races, games of pool and billiards and their ability to play these games, dancing, their young lady friends, and one at least, of his splendid daily earning at honest toil.

Fully 95 per cent. of these young men are engaged in useful and gain-

ful occupation. By far the majority of them were unmarried, with no one depending upon them for support. As I sat there and viewed their handsome faces, bubbling over with youth and the vigor of young manhood, through whose veins flowed the germs of immortality, I could understand the Master's feelings when he viewed Jerusalem from the mountain top and said: "O Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not." How my heart yearned to speak to these young men, to encourage them to think more seriously upon the meaning of life, but lest I be considered an eccentric, or a lunatic I simply "listened in." However they could not stop me from thinking and so I thought of these young men thusly: What a tremendous force of energy, what mountains of strength, both physical and intellectual, what a great foundation on which to build a nation and most certainly a race—if only this great power were properly directed. Can we, the guardians of our people; can we see to it that this energy shall flow through the proper channel? WE CAN AND WE MUST. "What is that in thine hand?" asked Jehovah of Moses when he asked for water for his people. "A rod," was Moses reply. Our Creator replied in two simple words: "Use it."

Letters to the Editor

New Glasgow, N.S.

Dear Mr. Jenkins:—

Your correspondence inviting my opinion or suggestion on the question of Co-operation, is most timely, and I appreciate very much your effort along this line. The race needs men of unselfish minds, big enough to see the other fellows as they see themselves. No greater propaganda could be attempted in the interest of our race, than that of which points to Co-operation.

But before there can be real co-operation, there are some things that are essentially vital to be considered as obstacles in the way, which demand that such things be hurried. One of those things is prejudice, a subject on which you have very fairly mindedly written or commented on in a recent issue of this paper. Petty prejudices are taking the life out of anything that pertains to real progress among our people. The saying that one is a West Indian, an American, etc. is too frequently used, and is standing in the way of unity, love, fellowship, and under these circumstances, there cannot be any thing like co-operation. If the matter is considered psychologically as to racial antiquity, we are all foreigners and strangers in Canada.

Real co-operation requires the burial of race prejudice. A second thought is, that if there is to be co-operation, there must be more of race appreciation. This is one of the most vivid revelations of the failure of the colored race than any thing that one could think of. Is not the limited support that is being given to your paper an evidence to substantiate this? Why are the Chinese, the Jews, the Europeans and other races so successful? It is because of the appreciation that each person gives to a man of his own race. Of

B. M. E. Conference Notice

All members and delegates to the B.M.E. Conference, which is to be held in Windsor beginning June 24, are requested to be present at its first session next Tuesday evening at 8 p.m.

Supt. S. R. DRAKE

WELLAND NOTES

Mrs. W. J. Wilson and two daughters and son attended the concert at St. Kitts on the 5th.

Mr. George Burns and Mr. J. James of Buffalo lunched with the Misses Wilson on Sunday and attended the Baptist Sunday School.

The Philathea Bible Class of the Baptist Sunday School held a banquet in the Sunday School room on Saturday eve. in honour of two Baraca members, who are leaving for the summer months. They held their monthly business meeting on Tuesday evening the 10th at the home of Mrs. Ray Schram. Several items of interest were discussed to extend the work of the class. At the close of the business session the hostess served a luncheon.

course there is much consideration given our race by other races. Take a man of the medical profession of our race, by whom is he largely patronized? The people of other races, otherwise starvation is bound to stare him daily in the face. This is indeed a curse among our colored people in this country, and before there can be co-operation among our people to welcome an era of progress and race prosperity, there must be more of appreciation of one another. His position and ability must be recognized. Speaking of the Maritime Provinces, and particularly Nova Scotia, eleven ordained ministers. Of this number eight are foreigners. Three are what would be called natives. There are three lawyers, all of which are foreigners. There are 3 medical practitioners, they are also foreigners. There are at Dalhousie University, Halifax, about twelve or fourteen medical and law students. They are all foreigners. The so called foreigners, then are the ones who are the representatives of the race. These are therefore convincing evidences for forgetting ones nationality and let us all pull together for the betterment of the race. The story is told of a white man with whom seven colored men were employed. A piece of work was being done that needed the pulling together of all the men employed. They were watched by the overseer as the work was in progress. The result was, that as the men pulled together, progress in the work was made. The white man called out to another to come and see one of the wonders of the world. What was it? Seven colored men were pulling together. Before there can be real co-operation which will eventually bring prosperity and success to our race, there must be race appreciation, race unity, and a burying of race prejudices.

W. C. PERRY.

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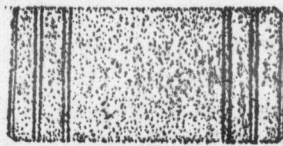
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