

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, NOVEMBER 15th, 1924.

Editorial

A VOICE FROM AFRICA

Last Thursday evening the Executive Board of the Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People held its initial meeting. We had a very distinguished visitor in the personage of the Right Reverend Father, a colored Catholic priest of Abyssinia who is at present residing in Detroit. He sat with rapt attention throughout the meeting listening to discussions of plans for the betterment of conditions of the race. No expression of his face gave evidence of the inward joy he was experiencing. However, as the meeting came to a close he came forward and said to us: "I have been profoundly impressed with the manner in which this whole committee has gone about the difficult task of laying plans for the improvement of conditions of my race. I am particularly impressed by the report of the editor of your official organ, The Dawn of Tomorrow. I like the appearance and the tone of your paper and, judging from the facts which have been brought out here tonight, it stands unequivocally for equal rights, equal opportunities, and for the advancement of our people along all lines. It was mentioned that the paper was not on a paying basis and that its officers are sacrificing their time and money in order to keep it afloat. I want to do something to help your paper, and you, Mr. Editor. If you will call on me tomorrow evening I shall try to arrange to help you in whatever way I can."

The next evening, according to our agreement we called on the Reverend Father. Not much time was lost on preliminary discussions. We soon began to discuss the thing for which we had met. Our distinguished visitor suggested many plans for increasing our circulation among our own people. Evidently he had given much thought to the subject. However we informed him that all the plans he suggested had been tried, and even more without success. Said he: "If you were conducting such a paper in Abyssinia, my native land, you would have no difficulty in getting the proper support, for there we know no law or no religion higher than that of race consciousness. When you, our cousins in this country, develop this kind of spirit you will become a self-respecting and a respected people."

He did not stop here. He said further: "I told you last evening I wanted to do something to help your paper, to help the cause for which you are struggling. Here is — dollars" (a very substantial sum.) "I shall send you that amount for twenty weeks. Now if you can get twenty more colored men to do as I have done your paper will soon be on a paying basis."

Now if Abyssinia, if Africa can come to us and bring us such lessons, if she is sending us men with such vision, it is time that we asked that missionaries be sent us from Africa. Let us cease our babbling about civilizing Africa, rather let us sit at the feet of the sages from Abyssinia and learn what is to us the most fundamental principle of civilization—the spirit of co-operation. "And Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands." As the ancients said, "Always from Africa comes something new."

THE VILLAGE PHILOSOPHER.

Last night, as oft I've done before,
I hie'd me to the village store,
And sat absorbing wise comments
From wrinkled-faced be-whiskered gents,
Who pointed out solutions, plain,
For problems which have taxed the brain
Of many a statesman, many a day,
And many a learned head, turned gray.

The question of Thanksgiving tide,
With which they soon were occupied,
Caused much discussion, much dissent,
And fists that clenched in argument.
Said one old crusty, crabbed crank:
"For what I have, myself I thank.
I toil all day. By night I sleep,
And as a man sows, he shall reap."

Then one who wore gray woolen sq.,
And had sat silent on a box,
Arose, and standing on the floor
Said: I thank God we have no war.
My two brave boys who took the chance,
Now 'twas not I who made war cease
So I thank God that we have peace.

I thank Him for the sunny days,
And for the many wondrous ways,
He shows His work on every hand
In blades of grass, or mountains grand.

The flowers bloom; the fruit matures;
The harvest-time our food insures.
When I view nature as a whole,
I thank my God. He has control.

'Twas thus he spoke, then walked away.

While no one there had aught to say,
Expression on each face was such,
'Twas easily seen they pondered much
As, coming home, I sensed the breeze—

And moonlight filtered through the trees,
Me thought—Oh, what a glorious night

Yon man's philosophy is right.

SEELY.

Hill Street Baptist Notes

On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, Mr. Fred. Kelly and Mr. Wm. Berry were baptised in the church pool by the pastor, Rev. E. M. Wood.

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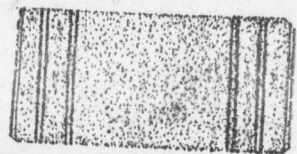
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B.M.E. Church Notes

Sunday, Nov. 9th, was observed in Beth-Emanuel Church with special services morning and evening in commemoration of both thanksgiving and Armistice day. The pastor conducted both services.