

OWEN SOUND

The people of the B.M.E. Church are preparing for a great celebration of the Seventieth Anniversary of the B.M.E. Church of Canada with a four days affair, commencing on the 29th with a concert on the opening day of Jubilee melodies which were sung by our forefathers and mothers in the days of their slavery. There will also be instrumental music and addresses by members of the church. The convener of the programme is our pastor, Rev. E. A. Richardson, assisted by the members of the official board and well wishers of the Church.

There is this announcement in the Daily Sun Times at Owen Sound, as follows:

The 70th Anniversary of the B.M.E. Church and Emancipation Celebration, July 29th to August 3rd. Thursday, 29th, grand concert of vocal and instrumental music. Friday, 30th, a sale of home made cooking under tent 11 St. West and 3rd Ave. W. Saturday, 31st, Emancipation tag day. Sunday, Augst 1st, all day devotional services. Special speakers and spirited singing. Rev. Logan of St. Catharines is expected to have charge of the speaking of the day. Monday 2nd picnic and celebration at Harrison Park. We are expecting a good crowd from Collingwood for the days' celebration. Tuesday, 3rd Annual Lawn fete at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Harrison, to whom we are indebted for the use of their home for the occasion. Proceeds to pay debt. Come over and help us if you can and make it a big day at Owen Sound.

Mrs. Mary Thomson of Stratford is here visiting her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Harrison. She brought two of her grand children with her

and we trust she will have a joyful time here with us.

Mr. Wm. Harrison jr. had a painful operation last week, his tonsils had to be attended to. He is able to be out again and is quite well at this writing.

Master Ray Talbert is going to camp at Vails Point with the Boy Scouts of the city we are glad that he was invited by the boys of the Y.M. C.A.

Mrs. T. Green is still indisposed with rheumatism. Pray for her speedy recovery.

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Hoxter Developing Monster Chorus

Eastern Negro News Agency

Philadelphia, July—The great festival chorus of Colored singers to appear in a musical exhibition August 23rd, at the stadium of the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition here is being rapidly developed by W. Franklin Hoxter. Hundreds of choral singers are assembling in various sections of the city regularly for the rehearsals. Remarkable voices have been discovered in the response to the general invitation to choir, club and solo voices being built up and harmonized for the great chorus. The Exhibition will include not only the huge chorus of several hundred voices, but also talented instrumental soloists.

Exhibits Unique.

Exhibits of outstanding value are being assembled and many complete in the Palace of Agriculture of the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition. A valuable historic exhibit covering religious activities is being made. The development in the insurance field is also a prominent part of the composite show. The North Carolina Mutual has a health and a general exhibit that is interesting and instructive.

Great Pageant

"Loyalty's Gift" was given great attention. The favorable publicity has exceeded expectations. One of the final rehearsals was broadcast by radio on July 7th and elicited much interest and comment. The choruses were most effective. The pageant under the direction of Dora Cole Norman of the Playground Association of America is the first Negro feature to be staged at the Sesqui-Centennial. Credit is being given the Chairman of Negro Activities, J. C. Asbury, for selecting this vehicle to emphasize the ability and stress the high points in the history of the race.

Poem to Countee Cullen

It matters not if your skin is dark
As the midnight jungle track,
I thrill to the beat of the song you
sing

Feeling the torture and rack
That Sundered the souls of your
brother slaves
For hundreds of dead years back.

Under the march of your musical
lines,
Under the tread of their feet,
I hear the wind in the jungle pines
And the drone of the tom-tom's
beat,
With ebon savages under the sun
In the shimmering tropic heat.

Chance gave you the soul of a minstrel fair

Housed in a blackamoor's frame,
With your heart tuned high to the
upper air

Though a scion of scorn and shame,
Refusing an outcast's usual lot
And turning it into fame!

—From Chicago Daily Tribune

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