

Dawn of Tomorrow

Published weekly in the interests of, and for the advancement of the colored people of Canada.

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Editorial

THE FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE C.L.A.C.P.

The first general conference of the Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People, held in London on the 10th of last month was perhaps the greatest spiritual success the colored people of Ontario have experienced. Although belated as it was (two years behind scheduled time) the good which will result from this conference will be felt thruout the Dominion. It was a forum in which white and colored citizens met face to face and spoke their minds freely. In the deliberations which took place, the strength and the weaknesses of both races were laid bare and the basis of a common understanding was reached. It was with a feeling mixed with pathos and joy, and yet not without a ray of inspiration, that possessed one as he sat and listened to the expressions of hope, ambitions and aspirations; the barriers, difficulties and trials as they were expressed by the delegates of the various branches. These men and women have been made to realize that their is a race problem here in Canada and although free from many of the most barbarous aspects with which the race problem is fought in the United States, but withal a problem which calls for all of our energy, our resources and our intelligence to solve; a problem which calls for all the assistance and co-operation which fair-minded Christ-like white citizens can give. That thinking negroes have set out to meet and to solve this problem is shown by the trend of discussion which resulted. His worship, acting Mayor James McCormick, A. E. Silverwood, chairman of the executive committee; David Ross, National treasurer, entered into the discussion with a spirit of real brotherhood and fraternalism. They not only pointed out the short-coming of their own people, but they told the colored people of their own failures. They believed that the colored people were among Canada's best citizens and should be given an opportunity with all other citizens to labor and to rise through their own intelligence, thought and industry. They pledged their unstinted support to any plans by

which this might be accomplished.

If Canada's colored citizenry has ever been inspired to begin an upward striving it is now. If they have neglected the opportunities that stand at their doors, if they have neglected to educate their children, if they have not demanded their rights as Canadian citizens, if they have not striven heretofore to banish petty prejudices which bars their success, if they have fallen short of the progress which they should have made we believe now a new day has dawned for the Canadian negro.

The three most important resolutions adopted by the conference are as follows:

1. That we seek with the assistance of fair-minded white citizens, to banish petty prejudices which bars the colored youth from positions for which he has prepared himself.

2. That we prepare our boys and girls for positions in life for which they are best fitted by nature and endowment, regardless of race or color.

3. That we seek, with the assistance of friendly white citizens, to stop the flow of our youths to the United States by finding employment for them here in Canada.

4. The success of these resolutions depends upon, not one organization alone, not one group, nor yet upon one race. But if they are to mean anything at all it means first of all that our own people must be possessed with a vision and again that assistance must come from all the people who believe in fair play and British justice.

The following letter, apparently from an escaped slave to his former master, appears in The Voice of the Fugitive, of January 29, 1852.

Sandwich, Jan. 12, 1852

J. A. Levy, Esq.,

Respected Sir: When you purchased me, you promised that whenever I paid you the sum of \$380, I should then be manumitted and set free. I should have staid with you, and paid the balance due you which is \$50; I was truly unwilling to leave you until you were paid in full; but, respected sir, liberty is ever watchful, and I got an impression that you were about to sell me. This induced me to leave you, unwillingly I confess, but security to myself demanded the sacrifice. I am now free and in a free country. Still I wish to pay you the fifty dollars due, and if you will place my freedom papers, properly executed, in the hands of anyone in the City of New York, I will send a person with the balance due you to them, the same to be paid on delivery of the proper papers.

You will please to address me, per mail, Post Office, Sandwich, Canada West.

With respectful regard, believe me, Sir, to be your sincere well-wisher.

J. Levy

THE FATAL DOCTRINE OF HATE.

(The Star of Zion)

Perhaps there is nothing in this country that is harming the Negro race more than the fatal doctrine or hate which our own newspapers and so-called "leaders" are instilling into the hearts of our people. There is no occasion for it. It makes us bitter

and savage and is turning twelve millions of people who are by nature, friendly and genial, into a mental mass that will work eternal injury to this race if it continues.

No "leader" ever talks to a group of our people but that he is condemning some individual or some section of our great country for what he calls "its treatment;" every race newspaper and every race magazine that reaches our homes has its major part taken up with vicious attacks upon the other race. And yet the Negro claims to want to follow in the footsteps of one by the name of Christ, and asks others to follow after Him. What can there be in this strange religion that preaches human love and fosters human hate?

Every man and woman in this world who thinks at all knows that there are wrongs and injustices on this earth that need to be righted, but can these be righted with hate? Need we manifest bitter dislike for every white man and woman because a few wrong some other few? Get some idea of perspective into these skulls of ours and let us stop hating and preaching hate.

CONQUEST FOR POETRY

The Negro is today singing himself into the respect of the world: not with the precious old slave spirituals, exciting compassion, but with new songs that win admiration and disarm prejudice.

More and more difficult is the task of evaluating or describing the literary output of the young Negro writers of the day. It is too various for easy generalizations. There are too many strongly differentiated artists. The time has therefore come for critical essays upon individual creators. This is to say a great deal, by implication, on the subject of recent Negro achievement in literature.

Braithwaite's "Anthology of Magazine Verse," an event of major importance in the literary annals of each year, an authoritative and unrivaled volume, contains in the 1926 issue, twenty-three poems by eleven Negro poets. Here, unsegregated, the Negro poet appears on his merit by the side of the white poet, competitor with him for the same honors. The fact is immensely significant. It is hostile to lynching, and to jim-crowing.

Not alone by farm holdings and bank accounts, nor by banks and insurance companies—though good; not alone by fulminating editorials and protesting memorials—though necessary; not alone by speeches and sermons, but by the poems may freedom be achieved—freedom and that respect for self and race which every living soul accounts the chief boon of life.

—"Southern Workman."

STRATFORD

Sunday visitors of Mrs. Harrison were Mr. and Mrs. W. Butler and family of Lucan, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kelly and family of London, Mr. and Mrs. Waldon and family of Guelph, Mrs. E. Hisson and daughter of Glenallan, also Munroe and Wallace Armstrong of Listowel.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Brightwell and son of Whitehall, Mich., were the visitors of Mrs. Harrison on their return visit from a trip through the States.

RUDDY CANADIAN APPLES FOR OVERSEAS.

"What shall I send the folks in the Old Country?" is a query heard as the Christmas season approaches but if the average Canadian realized how much our big, juicy, red apples are appreciated and enjoyed by people overseas the problem would be immediately solved.

Canadas luscious rosy apples are relished by young and old alike. They symbolize our brilliant sunshine and warm summer days and they do look Christmasy and cheerful. Northern Spies, McIntosh Reds and Baldwins are the best and the most popular to carry your kind thoughts and good wishes across the sea and standard boxes and barrels of choice hand picked and hand packed fruit, Government inspected, are procurable at reasonable prices from any grocer while the matter of shipment is as simple as the mailing of a card.

The Canadian National Express will call for your apples, transport and deliver them by quick service to any station in Great Britain, Ireland and most European countries.

The transportation charge from Montreal and Quebec up to November 15th or from St. John and Halifax thereafter, by direct steamer to points in Great Britain, Ireland and the Channel Islands is \$3.10 per standard box and \$6.20 per standard barrel, including refrigeration.

For rates to Canadian ports, through rates to Continental stations and other particulars, consult any Canadian National Express Agent.—Adv't.

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Thousands of satisfied customers use Wecie's Famous Kink Straightener. Guaranteed to straighten hair or return bottle and money will be refunded. Mary Martin writes: "My husband used your Kink Straightener three days, night and morning and his hair is perfectly straight. It does more than you claim for it." It's different; contains no grease; does not harm the hair or turn it red. J. C. Smith writes: "You can tell the world it's the best I ever used." I've tried them all. Send another bottle." Regular price \$2, special price if you order at once and send this advertisement, large bottle \$1.79, or two bottles \$2.87, sent C.O.D., postage paid. Order to-day. Try it and be convinced. Westport Supply Co., Sole Distributors Wecie's Famous Products, 3838 Main, Dept. D. Kansas City, Mo.—Adv't.

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