

Dawn of Tomorrow

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Editorial

The Death of John Macdonald

At the approach of the new year a great man passed away. The late John Macdonald was a great man, not only because he was a thorough-going business man, an ardent Christian, nor yet because he belonged to scores of organizations whose aims and objects were the betterment of humanity. But his greatness consisted in the fact that his big and generous heart responded to every need of his fellow-man. We have wondered why Providence did not spare him to see the dawning of the New Year. Perhaps it was because his God had decreed that he should have a happier New Year than it is possible for us poor human beings to conceive of as a fitting reward for true service and unselfish devotion.

Viewing the scores of organizations of which he was a member and to which he gave unstintedly of his means, his energy and his extraordinary ability, we find that by far the majority of them were societies for the betterment of living things—organizations which gave far more than they received. He had caught true vision and the right meaning of life, the vision which Christ brought to the world—that in order to find and to obtain real life and life in fullness and in abundance one must forget one's self in the service of others.

Mr. Macdonald was blessed by birth with station in life and with material wealth. This fact, however, instead of lifting him beyond the cares of his unfortunate brothers, seems to have drawn him closer to them. No class of people with him was too humble to work for nor to give his full measure of devotion.

The colored people of Toronto for generations to come will ever remember him. The A. M. E. church and its parsonage, free and uncumbered as they now are, stand as a lasting tribute to his genuine interest in the colored people. And not only this. His magnanimous spirit has taught hundreds of others that even black men and black women are also children of the living God and that Christ was concerned over human needs rather than over race or color.

As a member of the Executive Board of the Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People he was an indefatigable worker. It was through his efforts, as chairman of the finance committee, that a substantial sum was raised which so materially aided the work during the past year. Having been intimately connected with him in this work, we learned to admire him all the more for the earnest, simple and straightforward way in which he did his work. Several of his friends to whom he appealed for assistance would answer by saying that they saw no reason why colored people should be helped. His second letter to them, so full of the milk of human kindness, brimming over with the spirit that "there is one Father and all ye are my brethren"—this letter generally brought a generous response. To say we shall miss him greatly is stating it very mildly. We are hoping and praying that God will raise up someone to fill his vacant chair.

John Macdonald's life was a life of usefulness and service. He served with all his energy, not the chosen few, but so far as it was humanly possible, he served the whole human family. His life was a living echo of the beautiful poem written by his illustrious father, the late Hon. John Macdonald:

Call it not faith to trust in God
When ample is your store,
And when to barns already filled,
The Lord is adding more.

Call it not faith to give your tenth,
While yet nine-tenths remain;
And while your offering to the Lord
Is felt not from your gain.

'Tis when the fig-tree blossoms not,
Nor fruit is on the vine,
The labor of the olive fails,
Nor corn is there, nor wine.

'Tis when the flock fails from the field,
Nor herd is in the stall;
To trust in God then, that is faith—
The strongest faith of all.

STRATFORD

Miss Rebecca Brightwell spent her Christmas holidays in Ohio.

Miss Gertie Henderson and Mr. Robert Hesson are spending their holiday with Mr. Hesson's sister, Mrs. Reginald Moore, of Port Huron.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Brown and son, of Hamilton, spent Christmas with his mother, Mrs. Katy Brown.

Miss Elsie Duncan went to her home in Guelph for the holidays. Mr. Harold Duncan of Guelph, is visiting Miss Alice Harrison for the Christmas holiday.

Mr. Munroe Armstrong spent Friday with Mrs. Wesley, leaving with his sister Friday evening for his home in Listowel. Mr. Munroe Armstrong is visiting in Detroit.

Mrs. Hattie Butler was called to the bedside of her brother-in-law, Mr. Matthews, who is very ill.

Mrs. Grace Groat was called home to the bedside of her father who is in a critical condition. Mr. Lewis

Groat, her husband, is in Stratford for the holidays.

Mr. Garbot Jackson and Mr. Melvin Jackson are visiting their brother, Mr. Cecil Jackson, of Livelin.

Mrs. Wesley and daughter, Hazel, also her niece Winnifred Drayton, have returned home from attending the funeral of a relative in Detroit.

BRANTFORD

Rev. and Mrs. Wright report a delightful holiday visit at Columbus, O., with their son, grandson and daughter-in-law and other friends, motoring all the way, 850 miles without mishap. They brought back many beautiful presents they received while there.

January 2nd Rev. Wright spoke both morning and evening on prayer to large congregations.

We are holding a week of prayer this week as next week the services start, with Rev. Jackson from Toronto, in charge.

Mr. John McCurtis and Mrs. G. Johnson are very poorly at this writing.

The Christmas tree and entertainment of the 21st was a grand success. The children all did well, and especially those in the drill. A great deal of credit is due Miss Walker for the way in which she had trained the children. The tree was well filled with presents for the little folks.

We are sorry to report that Levern Jones left for Detroit December 25th and expects to remain. If everything is satisfactory. We all wish him Godspeed and success in his new field.

Thursday, Dec. 23, M. P. Delfish and C. Baldwin put on a dance in Moffat's hall. They had Holden's orchestra from Chatham and Prof. Murray of Chicago at the piano. All report a good time.

Miss Edna Johnson of Cleveland, is visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. Johnson, Park Ave., for the holidays.

Mr. Roy Anderson of London is in the city during the holidays.

Mr. John Lucas was home for Christmas visiting his parents, Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Lucas.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray were away for Christmas visiting his daughter, Mrs. Palmer, of Princeton.

Mrs. Mabel Wilson and husband of Toronto were Christmas guests of her father and Mother, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Walker.

December 15th the General Conference special committee which is the commission on church unification met in conjunction with the financial board at the B. M. E. church, Murray street and held a very successful two days meeting at which time a survey of the church's work in general was made. The subject of evangelism was taken up, along with a number of others of vital im-

portance. The meeting decided to inform the various churches of their work by circular letter. The ministers present were Rev. S. Drake, of London; Rev. H. F. Logan, St. Catharines; Rev. E. A. Richardson, Owen Sound; Rev. Jackson, Toronto; Rev. Dawson, Windsor; Mr. F. Edmons, Windsor; Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Johnson, Guelph; Mr. John Lucas, Brantford; Rev. S. A. Lucas, visitor, and Rev. H. D. Wright.

They were royally entertained at the parsonage and much credit is due Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Delfish for the manner in which they served them, also the ladies of the church aid in serving.

ST. CATHARINES

The temperance play and old folks' concert, held in the B. M. E. church December 13th, under the auspices of the stewards and Sunday school was a success.

We are sorry to report that one of our oldest members of the B. M. E. church, Mrs. Clarissa Cummings, is quite ill, suffering from a cold.

Misses Viola and Olive Williams, of Lockport, spent Christmas in the city, visiting at the home of their aunt, Mrs. Mary Leger.

Mr. James Mallory of Toronto, spent Christmas in the city, visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Bell, the guest of Miss Bessie Bell.

Miss Bessie Bell, of Buffalo, spent the holiday in the city with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bell, of Toronto spent the holiday in the city with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell, Geneva street.

Mrs. Georgina Ghee of Erie, Pa., is spending the holidays in the city visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Bell, Welland Ave.

Mr. Lawrence rant, of Buffalo, spent the holidays in the city.

Mrs. Mary Leger has been confined to her home through illness. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Logan were served to Christmas dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Brewster, North street.

We are sorry to report that Mr. Oliver Smith has been ill, suffering with rheumatism.

Mr. Chas. Bell, Geneva street, has been confined to his home with illness. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Only Enterprising People In Arkansas

Editorial from Corvallis, Ore., *Gazette-Times*: "A Negro memorial exhibit hall has been erected in Arkansas in honor of the Negroes who served in the war. It was paid for and dedicated by the Negroes themselves, they being the only enterprising people in Arkansas. The rest vote the Democratic ticket."