### Dawn of Tomorrow

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1925.

### Editorial

A DUAL SYSTEM OF ADMINISTERING JUSTICE

The story of rape and afterwards the murder of the wife of a peaceable and respected citizen (colored) of Anderson, S.C. has just reached us through the N.A.A.C.P. Press Service. The white man, Wright by name, not only killed the colored woman but accidentally wounded one of her chil-

About a year ago Wright had been accused by the husband of the crime of rape against his wife. Wright had been indicted on charges of such a crime and the case had been twice postponed. It was due to be heard before the court of general sessions during the present month. On Dec. 6th Wright and some of his frends motored to the home of the colored woman and according to his own story: "I generally drive my own car but I was a little too full and I got one of the boys to drive fore me. I was riding and telling them which way to go. I had the car stopped and they thought, I guess, that I had gone in there for some whiskey. I went in and did what I intended to do and came back out and got in the car and told them to drive on. I told 'em that I had kiilled a damn nigger woman." It is reported that when Wright burst into the house the family was seated at dinner. With the question: "Where is Rebecca?" he opened fire and continued shooting whle the woman jumped up and ran out of the front door. Wright, firing all the while, backed out of the door and joined his companions. What had he done? Simply killed a damn nigger woman and wounded one of her children.

Early in last December in Charleston, Mo., a colored youth of twenty years was accused of an attempted rape against a white girl on one of the main thoroughfares. He was apprehended by the mob and ushered into the presence of the white girl. She positively identified him of course. She would have identified me if I had been carried before her. The mob led him away, hanged him, riddled his body with bullets, cut his lifeless body down, tied it behind an automobile, dragged it around the streets and finally burned it to ashes.

These two cases illustrated well the double system which the Southern States have of meteing out justice. In the first instance a white ply of blubber and oil.

man had been regularly indicted for raping a colored woman, and althoug the crime of rape in consdered a more serious crime than murder there, he evidently was out on bail. More that that. His case had been twice postponed and perhaps it would have been thrown out of court altogether had he not decided, under the influence of whiskey, that the quickest way out of it was to "kill the damn nigger woman."

Had Wright been a Negro and his victim a white woman he would never have been given the opportunity to murder the woman he had raped. On the other hand had the youth of twenty years, who was accused of attempted rape been white, he would have been free today to terrorize as many colored women as might please his fancy. He would have been told with a wink to make a better job of his next attempt.

In discussing the lynching of the colored youth with one of our most prominent citizens he remarked: "Do not such atrocious deeds as this make you wonder that after all is there a just and all-powerful God?" I said not a word for I was thinking very deeply, and I felt at that very moment, as most of our people must feel at times, the need of the spirit of that venerable old woman, Harriette Tubman to remind us that God is not dead and that justice is still alive-"in days like these."

So far as the South is concerned, in her ignorance and her arogance, she really believes "the King can do no wrong." when he wishes to lynch Negroes, innocent o rguilty, and so, if we loose faith in God and faith in an unfaltering justice which will in the end make all things rightif we loose this faith we are a lost

#### TO THE WHITE FRIENDS.

Think you that I am not fiend and savage too?

Think you I could not arm me with a gun

And shoot down ten of you for every

Of my black brothers murdered, burnt by you?

Be not deceived, for every deed you could match-outmatch; am I not

Africa's son, Black of the black land where black

But the Almighty from the darkness

deed are done?

My soul and said: Even thou shalt be a light

Awhile to burn on benighted earth, Thy dusky face I set among the white

For thee to prove thyself of highest

Before the world is swallowed up in night,

To show thy little lamp: go forth, go forth.

-By Claud McKay, Negro Poet.

One of the most valuable creatures of the frozen north is the leopard seal, so called because of its spots. The Eskimos use the blown-up skins as fender on the prows of the boats of hunters for protection to the sides aainst jagged ice flows and rocks. On portages and going over rocks they act as rollers. The skins are used, also, to store away the family sup-

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Chicago, Ill., Dec.,— (By The As- sand Japanese are deprived of the sociated Negro Press)— Led by Al- farm interests in this state by a of derman Louis B. Anderson, a dele- cision of the United States Supreme gation of property owners appeared Court during the past week upholding before one of the park commissions the validity of the so-called of the city and protested against the cropping contract provision in creation of a park within the dis-state's anti-alien land law. These trict because it would cause a great persons must either quit their farm many persons to lose their homes ing altogether or remain onli in and, due to the difficulty Negroes capacity of wage earners. have in getting decent residences, make it almost impossible for them to replace what they would lose by having a park made.

San Francisco, Dec. 31st—(By The

What s the value of insurance po icies held by Negro companies the United States?-U.N.M.

The amount is estimated at Associated Negro Press)-Sixty thou- hundred million dollars.

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