

## Dawn of Tomorrow

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## Editorial

### A TIMELY PROTEST

It is indeed inspiring to observe the growing spirit of racial pride among colored Canadians. The injustice done to the colored waiters on the C.N.R., our government-owned road, has given occasion for this spirit to assert itself. The Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People has led the fight and other organizations have fallen in line. Our Executive Board was the first to write to the railway officials demanding an explanation of the whole situation. Since then it has maintained a ceaseless flow of correspondence with those in authority. Below is printed a copy of the resolution which was drafted by the London local unit. This resolution is very similar to the ones drafted by the branches in Windsor, Toronto, Dresden, Brantford and other cities.

We trust that the actions of the colored people in these cities will serve to convince our government that although we are few in number we are unafraid and we have the courage to take a stand for what is right and just. Our petition does not ask for special favors but it does ask for the same privileges accorded to other citizens.

Last Saturday in a most outstanding editorial the Free Press began by relating the legend of a man who built his house on what he thought was a huge rock; but later the foundation began to move and move rapidly. So swift was its movement that the house toppled over and was dashed asunder against the gigantic monster on which the house had been built. The solid rock turned out to be a living, sleeping thing, which finally awoke. In building our civilization upon the labor, the lands, the rights of black, brown and yellow people let us be aware lest this sleeping monster shall some day awaken and begin to move. And then our house of civilization will be rent asunder.

The resolution referred to reads as follows:

"Whereas the colored waiters have been for many years faithfully engaged in serving thousands of travelers on the lines operated by the Canadian National Railways System, and whereas these waiters were skilled

and exercised courtesy at all times, and whereas these colored waiters were, several months ago, removed from the International Limited and other trains and the officials claim they removed said waiters on the grounds of inefficiency and whereas the traveling public is of the opinion that colored men are most dependable employees, serving in the capacity of waiters, and whereas the economic condition of the colored people is unequal to that of any other race in the Dominion, and whereas said conditions has been made more acute by the moving of these waiters. Whereas, in view of the fact that more than 300 colored people have been directly affected by the policy of the officials of the C.N.R. in removing colored waiters from the diners, and whereas the remaining colored waiters and cooks have been made to feel uncertain of their future in spite of promises by the officials that they would be taken care of if they can be made to "fit in."

"We the Colored citizens of the City of London, through the Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People, voice protest against this injustice.

"We further resolve to send copies of this resolution to Sir Henry Thornton, president of the road; to Walter Pratt, general manager of dining cars to the Minister of Railways, to the Minister of Labor, and to the London Free Press, The London Advertiser and to The Dawn of Tomorrow."

The resolution was moved by Paul Lewis and seconded by Fred Ball.

### SHERWOOD ANDERSON WRITES ON SOUTH

#### N.A.A.C.P. Press Service.

Sherwood Anderson, novelist and author of "Dark Laughter," contributes a discussion of race relations as he has observed them in the South to the September number of "Vanity Fair."

"The Southern problem—that of a race living so intimately with the white race—not living with it at all—fear of race mixture—is the hardest problem any section of the country has to face," declares Mr. Anderson. "Having lived in the South, I believe Southern white men handle it as well as Northern men ever could—perhaps better."

What the South needs, declares Mr. Anderson, is to face itself and to find self-expression. He says:

"It seems to me that what the South needs most now is the artist—not visiting artists—its own, but there is a difficulty.

"The South needs Southern expression of all phases of Southern life in song, prose, painting music. To get that it needs acceptance of itself—more frankness.

"It needs to begin to escape the nonsense about spotless white womanhood, insisting too much upon a kind of purity that is humanly impossible. It needs most of all to wipe out fear of ugly Puritanical Northern judgments.

The South has got to clean itself of the fear of facing itself."

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