

Official Organ of the Can. League for Advancement of Colored People



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BARBER BILL ARRAIGNED AS RANK INJUSTICE

Atlanta, Ga.—Severely arraigning Atlanta's recently enacted barber ordinance which provides that Negro barbers shall not serve white women and children, the Wesleyan Christian Advocate, of this city, official organ of the white Southern Methodists of Georgia, demands the repeal of the law and calls upon all right minded citizens to busy themselves to that end. Among other arguments against the law, the Wesleyan says:

"It is an attempt of one class of men to capitalize prejudice to their own mater advantage. It is the rank-est kind of injustice. Every member of every white barbers' union that had any part in advocating this law ought to hang his head in crimson shame. A big newsboy who should browbeat a small cripple from the streets in order that he might have the whole business opportunity that they offered would be in the same class. In comparison with white people, the Negro is a disadvantaged race. That his competitors should seek to drive him from the field is an outrageous violation of human rights. If white barbers cannot meet black competition then they ought to retire from the field like men and confess themselves beaten. To call upon a white government to come to their rescue and drive from the field those who in fair competition are securing some of that trade that they covet is to take an unworthy advantage. Fight fairly, win honestly."

Reproducing this editorial in full, the Atlanta Constitution vigorously supports the demand for repeal of the law in a half-column editorial which concludes:

"It will be a happy day for Atlanta, and for this great State, founded upon the bedrock of individual justice, when the bigotry of ignorance and prejudice, and the designing capitalization of these destructive elements, shall have been driven from the life of the commonwealth."

The bill has been widely and vigorously denounced by the press of Georgia and the South.

Hamilton League Holds Debate

The meeting of the Canadian League held last Thursday was a lively one, the debate, "Resolved that man will go further for the love of woman than for the love of money," caused considerable discussion, the affirmative side being successful.

Toronto Lodge Royally Entertains Children and Parents

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent on Saturday, March 13th, at Occidental Hall when 250 children and their parents were the guests of the Independent Order of Scottish Mechanics, Solomon Temple, Lodge No. 38. This entertainment has become a yearly event. The officers and members of the order spare no pains in making the entertainment a glorious treat for the little ones.

In a short address the Worshipful Master told the children of their coming duty as citizens and as shapers of the destiny of the next generation. His address was a great inspiration to both children and adults.

Brothers Mathews and Jackson made the musical end of the program a decided success. Everybody showed their appreciation in "the old time way." The Mechanics are a progressive body of men. They endeavour to give the best there is in them to the world and especially to the world of children. They have shown skill and tact in handling a great number of children. On this special occasion every child went away with a bag filled with candies, fruits and nuts. Indeed it was an inspiring sight to observe the children sport and roam over the spacious hall. At the conclusion of the program the children sang the National Anthem and marched out in splendid order. Success to the Mechanics in their efforts to promote good will among all the people of the city.

Temporary Injunction Halts Anti-Barber Bill

ATLANTA, Ga., March 10—As the results of a petition filed against the modified anti-colored barber bill protesting its unconstitutionality, a temporary injunction restraining the city from putting the measure into effect has been granted. The petition was signed by thirteen colored barbers and two white barbers who employed colored help. It alleged that the measure violated the 14th amendment of the United States Constitution. Under the measure, colored barbers could not serve white women or white children under the age of 14. The petition was set for hearing.

Ancient and Holy Things

(Editorial from The Dearborn Independent, March 13th, 1926.)

We ought to keep them forever—ancient and beautiful things.

There are no songs being written in this Jaz Day that compare with the old songs that grew up out in our own country. What Jaz songs compare with the plaintive melancholy, and the deep moving melodies like, "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," "Nobody Know De Trouble I's Seen," "I Cant Hear Nobody Pray," "Singin' All Over God's Heaven?"

Just now there is a revival of interest in the Negro Spirituals. A dozen books have been published recently on these spirituals. We are beginning to put a proper valuation on our ancient and beautiful things.

There is a natural revival of the old American dances; they are finding their way back to their place in the heart of America.

He who saves for America the old music, the old songs, the old hymns, the old customs, the old recreations, the old wholesomeness and freedom, is making America his debtor.

Dark Skinned Races Not Inferior To Whites, Says Pope in Encyclical

Free Press, Mar. 6, 1926.

Rome, March 5—The belief that the dark skinned races are inferior to the white is a mistaken one, Pope Pius declared in an encyclical letter published today, vigorously urging an increase in the number of native Catholic clergymen in the so-called uncivilized regions of the world.

His Holiness says that long experience

proves that these peoples, erroneously termed inferior, can compete with the white races in mental acumen.

"If in the heart of barbarous lands," he writes, "there are found men who seem slow to learn this is explainable by the conditions of their life, of which the restricted needs do not allow them to make large use of their intelligence."

RACE OR COLOR LINE MUST NOT BE DRAWN

Judge Rules Hotels Are Not to Discriminate Against Travellers

Toronto—Holding that the plaintiffs had failed to prove that they had been definitely refused service by the Royal Connaught Hotel, of Hamilton, Mr. Justice Logie, in the Non-Jury Assize Court, yesterday dismissed without costs the action brought by Dr. Benjamin Cohen, and Dr. Geo. Wendel Morrison, against the hotel company, in which the plaintiffs claimed \$50,000. The decision does not in any way disturb the existing law governing the inn-keepers, nor does it give them the right to refuse service to any respectable guest who presents himself.

"In Canada, no race or color line is drawn against the traveler," said Mr. Justice Logie, "While there are such statutes in other countries, no such laws are recognized in Canada. Colored people and Hebrews have the right to go to a common inn and receive service, and there is no doubt in my mind that the hotel is such an inn."

Continuing, His Lordship pointed out that if the plaintiffs had proved that they had been refused service, then there would have been a good cause of action. He felt, however, that they had been sensitive, looking for trouble, and with a chip on their shoulders. The attitude of Alonzo Carter, the manager of the hotel, also failed to satisfy the court, it being stated that in his examination he had indicated that there was an objection to Negroes. This attitude was held to be sufficient to deprive the defendants of costs.

A CAUSE OF GROWTH

By C. M. DeWeever

Did you ever stop to reckon, friends,
As the years do come and go,
That we live and use our means
Because our mothers made it so.

Did you ever stop to wonder, friends,
Why blessings will ever flow,
Upon our business we attend,
Because our mothers made it so.

Did you ever count your treasures
And the cost that aren't so low,
While they fill our countless measures,
Because our mothers made it so.

If we live and grow in riches
Let our friends and enemies know
That our progress always stretches
Because our mothers made it so.