

1st, 1926.

SIGNAL
TO SERVICE

April 21.—The
l invented by
o St., has been
ials and pro-
ns are already
one of the
als at one of
ns of the city.
on display in
, Sunday and
d by hundreds

AN'S

Reliable

OS

FERTILIZERS

OLS

ALOGS

DU MONEY

HOUSE LTD.

and
d Ball

rate

mpire Day

1926

to

HALL

hurst Streets

tes invited

FREE

oducts Co.

ee, etc.

an's

ffer!

re giving

E

ubberset Brush

of a quart of

nts or Varnishes

's Jap-a-lac.

ardware
ted

London
61—3462

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



THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

Vol. III, No. 27.

LONDON, CANADA, MAY 15TH, 1926.

Price 5 Cents.

NEGRO SPIRITUALS ARE NOT LIKE "SHOUT" SONGS

The appearance in Toronto of the Fisk Jubilee Singers has prompted The Star Weekly to seek from a well-known authority here some new light on Negro spirituals, in which interest is growing so remarkably.

Miss Anne Elizabeth Wilson, a Toronto journalist who is the author of Negro stories which were syndicated by Doubleday, Page and Co., has made a special study of the spirituals.

"I love and admire the Negroes," she says. "I enjoy being with them and I believe I understand them. Once when I was doing settlement work in Washington, D.C., my office was in a house entirely occupied by Negroes, in a neighbourhood where, for twelve blocks either way there was no white population; and although it was during the worst time of the race riots I never experienced one untoward encounter and met with only courtesy and gentleness. Among the people I visited. The Negro women I came in contact with at that time so impressed me with their courage and resource in adversity that I have never ceased to remember them with admiration. Anyone who knows the nobility of the Negro as do the Southern families who have grown up and lived among them, must rejoice in the recognition that their talents are calling forth to-day.

"My interest in darky-music is ingrained. Darky talk, traditions and song were part of our family life, for on both sides of the house we are Southerners.

Miss Wilson has made a collection of spirituals. Among her songs are the following verses:

Keep a-inchin' along, keep a-inchin' along,

Massa Jesus is comin' by-an'-by, Keep a-inchin' along, like a po' inch-worm,

Massa Jesus is comin' by-and-by! Another is:

So glad I done done, Done-a what you tol' me to do.

Tol' me to pray—I done pray. Thank God I done done what you tol' me to do.

And this is another typical one:

African Prince to Study The American Negro

Lexington, Ky., May 5—Prince Bullamo, ruler over a great African tribe, the Zulus, is in this country studying the American Negro.

"My purpose is to study my people here along educational and vocational lines," he said. "When I return I will establish the same line of work among my people."

The Zulus, the most warlike tribe in the whole of South Africa, at the same time are the most refined and Christianized, the Prince declared.

He is the son of the war chief Catewayo of Zululand, who raised the insurrection against England in 1897. Catewayo died, a prisoner of war, after two years' imprisonment in England. Since his death there have been no chiefs.

Bullamo said "there is no class of people that will assimilate education and Christianity more quickly than his followers."

Until I reach my home
I nevah inten' to give de journey ovah
Until I reach my home.

(Oh true believer, Oh sisters; Oh, brethren!)

Some say gimme silver,
An' some say gimme gold,
But I say gimme Jesus
More precious to my soul.
They say that John the Baptist
Was nothin' but a Jew,
But de Holy Bible tells us
Dat he was a preacher too.

Another:
No hidin' place down dere,
I went to de rocks fo' to hide my face.

De rocks cried out no hidin' place,
Oh de rocks cried out "I'm burnin' too."

Miss Wilson says: "Notice the beautiful phraseology of 'come down, angel, trouble the water' and 'let my saints go home;' of 'Swing low, sweet chariot;' of 'Every time I feel the Spirit movin' ini my heart I pray.' I know nothing in English poetry that surpasses those lines for expression and feeling—actual handling of words for effect of diction. Here out of an alien and (at the time of the song's inception) absolutely illiterate race, we have these really divinely inspired accessions of expression.

"When you hear such songs as 'Steal Away to Jesus' sung in all

(Continued on Page 6)

Porters' Cause Goes Before Congress

Washington, D. C.—Congressman Celler of New York has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives asking for an investigation of labor conditions affecting employees rendering domestic service on railroads. The bill is aimed at the betterment of conditions for Pullman porters and maids from whose service much of the profit of the Pullman Company is derived. The bill was referred to the Department of Labor.

After setting forth the working conditions of the porters and maids, relative to hours, tips and expenses, the resolution mentions the gross earnings from the sleeping car department, \$85,927,749, the net profits of which was \$12,631,103.

It sums up as follows:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Committee on Labor, House of Representatives, be hereby empowered to investigate the wages, hours and conditions of employment of the Pullman Porters and Maids and to investigate the financial history and financial conditions of the Pullman Company as same may affect wages and conditions of employment to the end that exploitation of said Pullman employees might be prevented and that they might receive fair and adequate wages commensurate with their services. For this purpose said Committee on Labor will have the right to swear witnesses and take testimony in the District of Columbia as well as other parts of the country.

Los Angeles Student Proves An Orator

LOS ANGELES, California, May—William Middleton, 19 son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Middleton of 1477 West 35th street, won first place last week in the district elimination competition in the annual National Oratorical Contest at Jefferson High School, defeating five white contestants. He will represent Jefferson High School in May in the next elimination against representatives of Franklin, Hollywood, Lincoln, Los Angeles, Manual Arts and Polytechnic Highs. The seven winners in the National finals of the oratorical contest will be given a trip to Europe, besides medals and a gold prize.

FISH LASHES OPPONENTS TO MEMORIAL BILL

Measure Passed by House Now Up
To U.S. Senate

The Bill sponsored by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, providing for a \$30,000 monument to commemorate the valor of the four Negro regiments brigaded with the French Army during the world war, has been passed by the House of Representatives and is now up to the United States Senate, according to announcement today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

The N.A.A.C.P. has received copies of the Congressional Record containing reports of the debate in the House which show that Representative Fish lashed the opponents to the Bill. The bill was passed in the House over the determined opposition of Southern Representatives. Mr. Fish declaring on the floor that the colored soldiers, "were good enough to be accepted as volunteers in time of war; they were good enough to be drafted; they were good enough to be killed for their country; but they are not good enough to permit the consideration of a bill to commemorate their gallant services."

Only one Republican voted against the Bill, Representative Stephen G. Porter, of Pittsburgh.

Senator David Reed of Pennsylvania offered objections to the Bill which were met by amending it. Colored voters in Pennsylvania are urged to make their wishes regarding this measure known to Senator Reed and Senator George Wharton Pepper. Colored voters throughout the country must communicate with their Senators at once and urge immediate action on the measure if it is to be voted on in the present session of Congress.

Passage of the measure in the House is regarded as a decisive answer to the slanders on the record of colored soldiers in France published by General Bullard.