

Dawn of Tomorrow

Published weekly in the interests of, and for the advancement of the colored people of Canada.

Subscription Rates

One year	\$2.00
Six months	1.25
Three months	.75
Single copy	.05

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Entered in the post office at London, Ont., as second class matter.

The Dawn of Tomorrow Publishing Co.
London, Ont.

Editorial

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

As the Federal election approaches we feel it our duty to advise our people, as we have in the past, to use their franchise. It is not only our privilege, but it is our duty, our sacred duty to register our vote in the coming election. We have heard some of our good church folk say that Christians should stay out of politics and that they should stay away from the polls on election day. Such a view is both narrow and antiquate. It does not fit in with the modern scheme of things. We are all citizens, and as such we are responsible for the kind of government which prevails. We are the electors and we are therefore responsible for the type of men who are chosen to make our laws. It matters not, even if we be saints, so long as we must live in this material world, it is our duty to seek to live under the best possible conditions. We should see to it that the best men are elected to office and that just laws are made to govern our country. We can do this only by using both our brains and our franchise. To say that our laws and our government and our law makers are corrupt is not enough. We must see that they are made more perfect and we can do this in one way only—by registering our votes on election day.

But we have been asked: "How shall we, as colored people, how shall we cast our vote?" And therein comes the rub: We are just as patriotic as any other class of citizens. We are interested in the matter of free trade as well as in the question of high tariff and protection. Even the "custom scandal" is a matter which interests us greatly. Whatever effects the interest of Canada is a matter of deep concern to us as a group as well as individuals. But yet there is another matter—one which comes a little nearer our homes and firesides, a thing which concerns our very existence; a question not of our choosing but one which has been forced upon us by force of circumstances. That question is "What is our status as Canadian citizens and as British subjects?" Things have happened recently and are still happening, which lead us to suspect that this question has not

been definitely stilled in the estimation of those who are in control of either the Liberal or Conservative party. Not so long ago the C.N.R. replaced several colored men serving as menials. The C.N.R. is a government owned road. Both parties disclaim responsibility for the action of the officials of the road, yet neither party has made an attempt to see that this great injustice was righted. Each goes merrily on accusing the other and promising us what shall be done "after the election," if we vote for its candidates. Hold just a second, gentlemen! We are not as soft and spineless as you may think. The Dawn, the only Negro paper in Canada, has appealed to candidates and parties in the regular way for advertising matter. One party and one candidate in particular has answered very courteously but has refused to carry an advertisement with us. Both he and his party think it is not worth their while. Very well!! Some people are going to wake up on election day, (if not before) and to their surprise, find that the colored people were awake just a few days ahead of them. There is a movement under way in all of the larger centers of colored population to consolidate the colored vote for self-protection. The contest may or may not be close. Our few thousand votes may or may not mean much. But we shall teach some people that we are a factor to be reckoned with and that this "after the election" stuff is now effete. As the months and years go by we shall gain in strength and efficiency. We have the greatest faith in the ultimate results because we know our cause is just. Before many moons we shall have every colored person in the Dominion a member of one grand political unit and while we may not be able to elect our own candidate we shall be in a position to make our power felt and to demand fair play for Colored Canadians.

ST. CATHARINES

Mrs. N. Mohammed and family of Toronto spent two weeks in St. Catharines visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. F. Freeman.

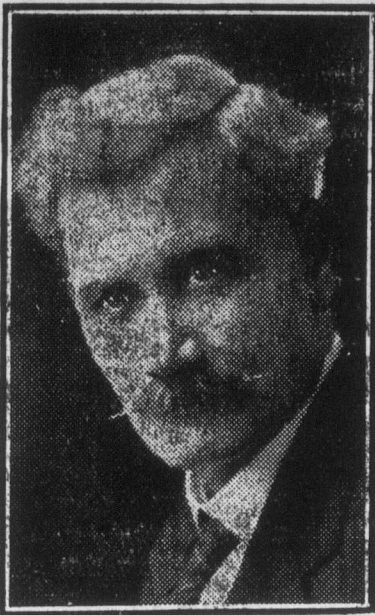
Mr. Hogan of Pittsburgh, Pa., spent a few days in the city visiting his brother, Mr. William Hogan.

Mr. N. Mohamed of Toronto spent the week end in the city with his family.

Mr. La Verne Jones of Brantford spent the holiday in the city, the guest of Miss Verita Smith.

Services in the B.M.E. Church were attended the same as usual the pastor, Rev. H. F. Logan being absent, assisting Rev. E. A. Richardson of Owen Sound. The morning service was conducted by Ivan H. Dorsey, speaking from Rev. 22:17. The evening service was well attended, Mr. Harris, formerly of London, Ont. spoke from the 37 Psalm, which was very uplifting.

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DR. C. C. ROSS, Liberal candidate for East Middlesex.

TO THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELECTORS OF EAST MIDDLESEX

On September 14 you will go to the polls to elect your representative to the House of Commons. It is a self-evident fact that the Government to be formed will be either Conservative or Liberal. The choice lies between these two. The Progressives cannot hope to govern. There is a marked difference in the political temperament of the leaders of these parties—Mr. Meighen, dictatorial, self-opinionated, a power lover (worshipper, in fact); Mr. King, the respecter of the constitution, who listens to the wishes and demands of the masses, who seeks to interpret their desires and implement them. How can the electors of East Middlesex have a voice in the Government if we continue to divide the forces of Liberalism? Look at the facts. On October 29th, 1925, 5,261 voters marked their ballots for the Meighen candidate and 5,700 voters were opposed. Yet Meighen had a supporter sitting in East Middlesex. I appeal to the Progressives of East Middlesex to join with the Liberals on the things we have in common, and they are many. Thus, we would give East Middlesex its proper voice in the affairs of this Dominion. How can this be done? My suggestion has been that the forces opposed to the present shadow Government, of constitutional violators, representatives of the big interests, should unite. I have been selected as the Liberal candidate. In the last Dominion election the Liberal candidate had 637 votes more than the Progressive. Under these circumstances I deem it my duty to stand for this election and I have determined to do so.

DR. C. C. ROSS.

(Advt.)

STRATFORD

Madame Harrison and family are spending their holidays in Port Huron, Mich.

Mr. Walter Morton is spending the week end with his brother Samuel Morton.

Mrs. J. D. Hall has been chosen as delegate to the General Conference in Toronto in September.

Bill Wesley and his sister Hilda

Hellem Hightalar are spending a week visiting in Brantford.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthews motored to Brantford to see his brother who is very sick in the hospital.

The pastor of Guelph Church, Rev. C. A. Johnston, spent a couple of days last week in the city on business.

Frank Wesley motored to Hamilton and Brantford for his holidays.

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