

Dawn of Tomorrow

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

J. F. JENKINS—Editor
335 Glenwood Ave., London
Phone Fairmont 357-W
F. O. Stewart, Business Manager
219 Augusta Ave., Toronto
Phone Trinity 0213
E. C. Jenkins, Advertising Manager.
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Editorial

HAITI AND THE UNITED STATES.

In the year 1914 the United States Government landed marines at Port-au-Prince and thereby took possession of the Republic of Haiti. That was fifteen years ago. To-day she is holding the subjects of Haiti in the iron grip of her hand. In other words, the seat of government of Haiti has in truth been shifted from Port-au-Prince to Washington in the District of Columbia, U.S.A. What justification the Washington government has found for this action, either on the basis of international law or on the basis of any decision of the Permanent Court of International Justice, is a point on which the world is still hazy and uncertain. International law knows no difference between States, large or small, powerful or weak, all having full sovereignty, enjoying the same rights and having the same obligations towards each other.

The Republic of Haiti has been, or rather should we say, was, self-governing since June 1, 1804, was officially recognized as an independent state in 1825, and by all the powers of the world a few years later. She is bound by treaties with the principle nations of Europe, America and Asia. She is represented at the Permanent Court of arbitration at the Hague. She is an original member of the League of Nations. She is signatory to the Treaty of Versailles and her vote counts as much in the League as that of any other nation.

President Wilson's government claimed that their intervention in Haiti was in the name of humanity, to end revolutions in that country. They failed to observe however, that Portugal had had 18 revolutions in the past 16 years and that Mexico has had so many in that period that the world has stopped counting them. But when Woodrow Wilson was advised to intervene in the affairs of Mexico his wise and timely reply was: "It is not my business to find out how much time the Mexicans will take to establish their own government. Mexico is their property. Their government belongs to them. Have not the European nations taken as much time as they needed and shed as much blood as they pleased in regulating their own affairs? And ought we to contest with Mexico the same right because she is weak?" These were noble sentiments expressed on behalf of Mexico but they serve to make Woodrow Wilson's actions all the more hateful and contemptible in dealing with Haiti. For the United States Government suppressed the right of suffrage in Hai-

ti. "The people have no part in the government of their country, no control of their affairs; they are paying taxes levied by 'The Advising Financial Receiver-General of Customs'." This gentleman is appointed by the Washington government. He also makes and unmakes the customs law. If this tariff hurts the business men and the workers of Haiti they must simply smile and endure and show, as Smuts says, that "Negroes, next to the ass, are the most patient of all animals." They have no recourse.

In stating the reason for the Washington government intervening in the affairs of Haiti Mr. Lansing, then Secretary of State, wrote the Committee on Foreign Relations stating that such an act was necessary "to prevent the occupation of Haiti by a European power." Let us see. On July 6, 1891, Admiral Rubalcava, in the name of Spain, menaced Port-au-Prince with his navy and exacted indemnity from Haiti for having given sisterly aid to the Dominicans, then fighting for their independence. June 11, 1892, a German captain afflicted a bloody affront to Haiti and obliged Haiti to pay indemnity for having shown her sympathy for France in the war of 1871. December 1, 1897, the German commander Thielsch insulted the Haitian people and ravished them, in the name of the Emperor, exacting \$20,000 because a German subject had beaten a Haitian policeman and was justly condemned by the ordinary courts. In each of the cases right and justice rested with Haiti. What did the United States do then "to prevent the occupation of Haiti by a European power?" Nothing that history records except abandon weak, struggling sympathizing little Haiti to her own fate. The MONROE DOCTRINE did not apply here. The larger republic even forgot that the sons of Haiti fought for American independence and that their victory at Savannah in 1804 did much to destroy Napoleon's army and to blast his fond hope of maintaining Louisiana as a French Colony in America. Haiti during her existence has contributed to the independence of many more of her neighbours.

"The United States has no object in view except to insure, establish and help to maintain Haitian independence and the re-establishment of a stable and firm government by the Haitian people in their attempt to secure these ends. It is the intention to retain United States' forces only so long as will be necessary for this purpose," was the statement sent to the Haitian people by the State Department. Judging from reports from competent persons closely in touch with the Island, spiritual unrest, anarchy and the spirit of revolution are stronger there today than they were prior to 1915. This condition, it is claimed, has come about through the despotic, brutal military rule of the American marines. Intercity among the great majority of the people has been reduced but little so it is claimed. If the State Department will acknowledge these claims as facts it has justifiable reason for withdrawing from Haiti on the grounds that it has made a bad situation all the worse by its interference, although its intentions were good. If the State Department is knowingly adding to the spiritual unrest of the

people of Haiti, and refuses to apply the only remedy—get out of Haiti—the world must take it for granted that spiritual unrest is what is desired by that Department, that there is an ulterior reason.

LONDON NOTES

The Sunday School children of the Baptist Church were entertained at the home of Mrs. Walter Cromwell. Songs and recitations were given by different pupils. Through the efforts of the City the children were given a rare treat.

The weekly prayer meetings conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. A. Richardson of the B.M.E. Church from different homes each evening are growing both spiritually and in numbers present.

When purchasing your goods say you saw it in The Dawn.

Out of town visitors during the holidays were Mr. Stanley Drake of Detroit, Mich.; Miss Payne of Brantford; Mr. Greenlaw of Detroit; Mrs. Myrtle Fields and Son Billy, Mrs. Carrie Gowens; Mrs. Beaver, Niagara Falls.

Mr. Chas. Cox is quite ill at his home on Clarence Street.

Mrs. Fred Fountain is sick with a severe cold.

Mrs. Nellie Coursey is suffering with a severe cold.

James and Fred Jenkins also are suffering from bad colds.

Mrs. Marguerite Ward and Mrs. Hazel Harris both of Detroit are visiting their mother, Mrs. Hannah Harris, of Ottawa Ave. who has been very ill for the past few weeks. Her condition is somewhat improved at the present.

Mr. Billy Mathewson of the Pall Mall Street Mission preached at the B.M.E. Church Sunday evening. Although carrying on revival services at his own mission he kindly consented to come to us and assist in our revival. His sermon was strong and to the point and it is believed that such a stirring sermon as his was will assist greatly in our present revival.

Mrs. Fred Harris has been very sick part time confined to her bed since the holidays.

Mrs. Eliza Groat is confined to her home with a very heavy cold.

The members and church goers were greatly impressed with the sermon preached at the B.M.E. Church by Mr. Sturgeon, a young Indian preacher a few Sundays ago and would like to have him come often.

On Thursday January 9th, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kelly, Marmora Street was the scene of a most delightful social event, when they entertained a few of their friends in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Myers, the Misses Baptist and Hortaul. It was an evening of music, games, mirth and humour that burrowed its way far into

the night, and when it was observed that the day was at hand, a dainty repast was served by the host and hostess. The guests left in the wee hours of the morning feeling that life's best days are those with which we can look back with gladness at the times of entering a truer and more loving relationship with our fellow men.

A very interesting and enthusiastic meeting of the Chrissie Charles Sewing Guild was held at the home of the President, Mrs. Irvine Berry, on Tuesday, January 27th, when plans and arrangements were made for the year work, and the transaction of other matters that came before the meeting. At the close of the meeting tea was served during a social hour.

Second Quarterly Meeting was observed at Beth-Emmanuel, Dec. 29th, when Rev. C. A. Johnson of Brantford was the speaker at both morning and evening services. The sermons brought us by Mr. Johnson were worthy of large congregations. Nevertheless he inspired his listeners with the fervor and clarity which characterizes his message.

Following the international Week of Prayer the Pastor has been conducting services for "Deepening of Life." These meetings which are being carried on from house to house are proving effective. Rev. Richardson and his workers are doing their best to establish a high standard among the people of London. We are sure you will pray for them.

Song Service is conducted by the pastor Sunday, 6.30 to 7.00. Rev. Wm. Mathewson Ex-Pugilis will be the special speaker at the seven o'clock service, January 26th.

"TIME" MAGAZINE COMMENTS ON N.A.A.C.P. L.A.E.O.F. CAMPAIGN

New York, Jan. 24.—In its account of the effort to be made by the American Federation of Labor to unionize workers in the southern states, TIME, the new magazine, comments as follows upon the campaign of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to obtain unionization for colored workers.

"A complication to unionizing the South: Last week the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People renewed its drive to get the A.F. of L. to adopt a blanket policy permitting Negroes to join unions. The A.F. of L. at present has no Negro policy."

The A.F. of L. has repeatedly at its annual meetings adopted general resolutions against exclusion of Negroes, but in practice Negroes are entirely excluded from many of the unions and discriminated against grossly in many others. Even these violations of the policy proclaimed the A.F. of L. has manifested no concern as far as can be learned. Several invitations from the N.A.A.C.P. to appoint a joint committee to investigate and report on the unionization of Negroes, have failed to bring any action from the A.F. of L.

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QUAKERS IN GIVE

New York, Association for Colored People Far and Near Society of Friends headquarters, feature of international entertainment. On Dec. 14 party included countries including India, C. well as the 1 Dec. 31st, a s