

Dawn of Tomorrow

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

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Editorial

ON USING OUR VOTES

We hope to see the Colored people of the Dominion register a 100 per cent vote next Monday. It is not only our privilege to use the franchise but it is our sacred duty to do so. Every citizen, of whatever race or color, who refuses to vote, to use his or her franchise, is guilty of neglecting his or her duty. We cannot be loyal to our King or to our country, when we seek to evade the responsibility of full citizenship. It is our duty to seek to understand the issues which are before us in order that we may be able to vote intelligently and for the best interest of all the people.

In parts of the United States every trick and subterfuge is used to rob the colored citizens of their franchise. There is the grandfather clause, the property qualification, the educational qualification, the downright bullying and open robbing of the citizens for the purpose of nullifying the colored vote.

But withal, the Negro, as a political entity in that country is making himself felt. Their oneness of purpose and their concerted appeal recently caused the defeat of a Southerner as Associate Judge of the U.S. Supreme Court. More than one Senator who voted to confirm Parker over the protests of the Colored People, have themselves been defeated since that time. It is claimed that Negro influence defeated them. These folk have learned the use and the power of their franchise, and they are using it for all it is worth.

The power of the ballot is always with the minority groups, for too often their interest are overlooked by the majority groups. Often in elections the weight of a minority group can turn the scales one way or another. For instance, in cities like Toronto, Windsor, Chatham, Hamilton and London with a fair-sized colored population the colored vote could decide the issue. It is a fact too well known that the colored people are not receiving, on the basis of commercial strength or property owning qualifications, their share of positions from the provincial or federal government. If the colored people would vote together and for the party which would promise proper recognition in the distribution of these jobs they would soon come into their own. What is worth having is worth fighting for. The ways of politics are



Lupe Velez and John Holland in Henry King's Production "Hell Harbor", a dynamic love story at Loew's, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 31st, August 1 and 2.

cold and heartless and the situation must be met with the same tactics.

There is a chance, of course, that such promises might be made to be broken as soon as the election is over.

Be it so, a to-day is not an eternity, and elections come often. If promises are not kept in one election we should not forget the promise or the promiser in the next election; but rather we should summon all our strength to defeat the party or the persons who did not keep faith with us.

We are now preparing our boys and our girls to take their places beside the children and the future men and women of any race and it is right that we should use every means at our command to secure for them a proper chance under the flag which they are taught to honor and reverence and for which their fathers and brothers have fought and died.

Let us take courage from the splendid example which our brothers across the border have set before us. Their children are being given a chance because they (the parents) have learned the power of the ballot, because they have learned that in union there is strength. They can even defy and defeat a nominee of the President of the United States when they deem such a course to be in the best interests of their race.

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