

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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AFRICA TAKES PLACE IN THE VANGUARD OF WORLD PROGRESS

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec.— (By The Associated Negro Press)—South Africa, land of promise, haunting, mysterious and strangely compelling, is emerging from the shrouding mists which have enwrapped the Dark Continent for countless centuries, to take its place in the vanguard of the world's progress. This is the message of A. H. Tatlow, white, of the South African State Railway, who arrived in this city Wednesday, and who called the Dark Continent "their country."

"Africa ever has been the enigma of continents," he declared. "Although the first to appear in the history of mankind, it has been the last to be known and explored. Vast, strange and incredibly rich, it remains a lonely and distracting figure among the countries of the world, demanding the interest of many by virtue of its fascinating exoticism and brooding aloofness."

While there is stark, primal quality in the Heart of Darkness which may at first repel, he said, there arises even in the midst of that repulsion a vivid curiosity which soon expands into a reluctantly admitted consciousness of some undefined, deep and inexplicable charm.

Despite the fact that 58 per cent. of the world's gold supply comes from this portion of the earth, and 95 per cent. of all the diamonds, agriculture, is the chief industry of the country. Corn (or maize as it is called there) is grown in large quantities and much of it is exported to Europe. Wool, cotton, sugar, large amounts of fruits, ostrich feathers, mohair, hides and skins constitute the remainder of the constantly growing volume of exports. There is also and inexhaustible coal supply.

Travel is cheap and comfortable in South Africa, where the railways are State-owned. Three cents a mile is the average rate, which includes Pullman accommodations.

Mr. Tatlow invites visitors to "his country" in order, he says, that they may carry back with them "our" invitation to others to come and visit "us," together with a knowledge and appreciation of "our country."



F. O. STEWART, Chairman Committee on Local Welfare of The Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People.

Virginia's Race Purity Law Hits A Snag

(Special by N.A.A.C.P. Press Service)

Despite a law of the State of Virginia, forbidding marriage of whites with people of Negro ancestry, Robert Painter, white, and Miss Atha Sorrell whose grandmother was registered as "free colored," have by court action compelled the local court clerk to issue them a marriage license.

In his decision, Judge Henry S. Holt of the Rockbridge Circuit Court, while upholding the general purpose of the Virginia law, asserted that it went beyond the bounds of reason, since it empowered clerks to withhold marriage licenses if they had reasons to believe one of the applicants to be "not of pure white race."

Judge Holt pointed out that in 25 generations every person had 32 millions of grandfathers, not to speak of grandmothers, and that in his own case he could not prove the absence of other than Caucasian blood in his ancestry.

"Again," says Judge Holt, "the statute undertakes to define with accuracy who are white, and says they only are white who are of pure Caucasian blood. That is a definition which in the present state of ethnology has no certain meaning and no meaning upon which two authorities agree."

Questions and Answers Column

By George Wells Parker

(For the Associated Negro Press)

Where the Babylonians a black race? F.G., Frankfort, Ky.

The original inhabitants and builders of Babylon were black. Later other tribes poured in upon these inhabitants and hence the later Babylonians were a mixed race, and it is preferable to call them a Negro race rather than a black race, because the term black pre-supposes exceedingly dark.

Has King Tut's tomb been re-opened?—F.S.W., Boston, Mass.

Not yet. The latest dispatches inform us that Mr. Carter has made some sort of arrangement with Lady Carnarvon whereby operations will be resumed next year.

The Field Museum announces the arrival of many relics from the city of Kish. Have these any bearing upon Negro history?—P. U., Chicago.

They most certainly have. Kish is the name of the city supposed to have been builded by Cush, the son of Ham. The inhabitants were known as Cushites and were black and closely akin to the Ethiopians.

Where can I secure the history of the life of Hannibal?—F. D., Los Angeles, Calif.

Data is scarce. However, inquire at your public library for Charles Arnold's life of Hannibal. Also consult Livy's History of Rome wherein he treats of Hannibal as a soldier and strategist.

Who is William Stanley Braithwaite?—W.K.J., Omaha, Nebr.

He is the literary critic for the Boston Transcript and an author of a number of books. He also contributes to numerous magazines. He is a Negro.

Is the Negro the oldest of races?—R. T. W. Sedalia, Mo.

As far as we are able to determine the Negro is the oldest race. So many discoveries of pre-historic man have been made, however, that we cannot contend that this is a certainty, better to claim that the Negro is the oldest of civilized races.

Who was Mush?—F.H.J., Columbus, Ohio.

Musa was one of the most famous Mohammedan conquerors. He was of African descent and of Arabian nationality and probably most famous after Abu Bekr, the full blooded Negro Caliph and conqueror who succeeded Mohamet.

NEW LEAGUE IS PROGRESSING

A few weeks ago the Board of Directors of the Canadian League for the Advancement of Colored People in its initial meeting named the following committees: Finance, Managing, Membership, Publicity, Committee on Local Welfare, and a committee on The Dawn of Tomorrow. Each committee was given its respective work without any instructions as to time for meeting. However, two weeks after these committees were made each one had met, mapped out its programme and was fully prepared to report back to the Board of Directors. Each committee is composed of both white and colored men and the readiness, promptness and earnestness with which the white members responded has been most noticeable and it has drawn forth many favorable comments from the colored members.

Immediately following the next meeting of the Board of Directors, which body will review and pass upon the work of the several committees, it is expected that the general work of the League will begin. Mr. John M. Gunn of the firm of Murphy, Gunn and Murphy, solicitor for the League and who is also one of the Board of Directors, expects the charter to be in his hands by the first of the year. Following the arrival of the charter, steps will be taken immediately to organize branches of the League in other cities.

STRATFORD

We are glad to report that Madam Harrison and daughter have returned home after an absence of four months.

The services on Sunday evening were held at Mrs. J. D. Hall's. There was a good attendance.

Will you give the names of two or three ancient books of worth that were written by Africans. —T.L.K., Duluth, Minn.

Egyptian works are the most distinctly African. The Illiad, the Aeneid the Shah Nameh, etc., were by people of African descent. In fact all literature of the south and east previous to the twelfth century belongs to us by blood and descent.