

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

# The Dawn of Tomorrow

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

Vol. III, No. 24.

LONDON, CANADA, APRIL 3rd, 1926.

Price 5 Cents.

## MY MOTHER'S ESCAPE FROM SLAVERY WITH FIVE CHILDREN

(by Mrs. Charles Walker)

There's a little town in Virginia called Lusburgh, where lived a slave-trader by the name of William Giddings. He was tall and robust, not very handsome, but well liked by the few who visited him in his home which was the very picture of wealth, one of those old, very old fashioned houses.

Now Giddings owned slaves, bought slaves, sold and traded them. He was very good to the women and girls but a horror to the men and boys who positively hated him, not only one or two but practically every one out of seventy-five to one hundred slaves. The head foreman was named George Payne (who was quite a favorite with the Master) who was very obedient, but there came a time when he became restless and wanted to be away and be independent and when these moods were on George disliked being bullied and would try a little independence, which of course Giddings noticed at once and of course thought to himself that something must be done to prevent this restlessness in him. So the very next time when Payne showed signs of independence he received a whipping from Giddings, the first he had received from him since he was bought, although other slaves were in the habit of getting whipped for the most trivial things. This then made things worse for Payne which led to more whippings which grew gradually worse and which also he resented very much.

About this time there were rumors of war and this gave Payne more encouragement. As in the evenings when the work was done and the slaves were free to have a good time among themselves as is the custom in the South some of the slaves would talk over what they had heard of the Northern Soldiers fighting to free them. Several of them were quite unruly and through the encouragement and talks from George Payne became

## Young Colored Girl Pianist To Play For N. Y. Musical Club

Mrs. Carrie Overton, a young colored girl who has been studying in preparation for the career of concert pianist, is to appear on Wednesday evening, April 7th, as piano soloist for the Greater New York Musical and Dramatic Club according to news sent to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

P. W. Riesberg, who has for some months been giving Mrs. Overton instruction informs the N.A.A.C.P. that he believes her fully prepared for public appearances. For concert and professional purposes Mrs. Overton has adopted the name "Carova." Her recital before the Greater New York Musical and Dramatic Club will take place at the Ampico Art Studios, Knabe Building, Fifth Avenue and 39th Street.

quite unruly, so the next time Master Giddings went to give Payne a whipping he of course revolted and would not take it, as he said, "I have had my back cut open for the last time by you or any other Master," Giddings grew rather afraid of him as he was a big strong, husky fellow. So Marse Giddings thought he would sell him so he told him so and Payne said he would run away first. Now Giddings did not wish this as he was afraid Payne would get to the Northern Soldiers, who were camped two miles from Giddings' house and of whom he was scared to death of as he had heard tales of how these Northern Soldiers would do unmerciful things to the owners of slaves. Now Payne had a wife and five children, Emily his wife and Henry, Maria, Dolly, Jane, Rosie. His whole heart was set on his family and Marse Giddings was very considerate to them, also to show the regard he had for Payne he let him and his family live in the big house while the other slaves had apartments away off from the big house of which Payne was overseer. This of course created a little jealousy among the other slaves but still did them no good.

Emily, Payne's wife was very well liked by everyone, especially the mistress, she was her waiting maid and wet nurse and Maria the oldest girl was a housemaid, while Henry was carriage boy to the family.

For this reason Giddings did not want Payne to go, or do anything that

(Continued on Page 6)

## London Branch of League Holds Very Successful Meeting

On the 25th of March the London UKnit of the League held a very successful meeting in the B.M.E. Church on Grey St. C. H. Brown, chairman of the Membership Committee, presided. An interesting program was rendered consisting of choruses, trios and instrumental solos. The speakers were B. E. Fountaine, A. J. A. Butler and C. H. Brown. After stating the aims and objects of the League, each speaker emphasized the necessity for co-operation on the part of every colored citizen in the community in order to make the organization a thing worth-while. They spoke of the fact that the very best people of the Anglo-Saxons had joined hands with the forward thinking colored people to assist in elevating the colored citizens, and to make conditions better for them in every way. It was also pointed out that a few colored youths were at present receiving help in educating themselves and that the list would be considerably larger before the end of the present year.

The Dawn of Tomorrow, the official organ, came in for much consideration. The speakers affirmed that its educative value was potent, not only for colored people but for white people as well, in that it kept them informed concerning the progress and the upward striving of the colored people. The people were urged to support The Dawn financially as well as morally. Each speaker dwelt at great length upon the necessity of complete unity and harmony among all classes of colored citizens.

At the conclusion of the program a free luncheon was served.

## Death of W. J. Wray

The death of Mr. W. J. Wray atized in the death of Mr. W. J. Wray, which occurred in the city a few days ago, London lost one of her greatest citizens and Christianity lost one of its strongest advocates. He was a deeply religious temperament and his nature was extremely sympathetic. Perhaps not a single person in the city was ever more charitable towards the poor people than was Mr. Wray, and therefore, his death to them is a very great loss.

He was one of our big business men who would and did carry his

## GEN. HERTZOG'S SEGREGATION PLAN EXPLAINED

New York, March 26—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has received from England a clipping quoting the "Round Table" in explanation of the segregation policy inaugurated by General Hertzog against the natives of South Africa. The "Round Table" says in part:

"General Hertzog's policy of segregation, as expounded in general terms, was that areas should be set apart as native areas in which the native should live and develop along his own lines. He would have in these areas a gradually increasing amount of responsibility for the administration of his local affairs, and he would be subject to no restriction as to what occupation he might follow. If, however, he chose to come out to work in European areas, he would be prohibited from acquiring land and would be subject to restriction."

(Continued on Page 6)

religion into his business. We have often observed him make sales and with every sale he would somehow introduce the subject of the salvation of souls. In fact, he seemed far more interested in the souls of his patrons than he was in either their money or the goods which he offered. As he often expressed it, "if the soul right with God nothing else matters." The Wray Jewellery Business calendars, representing both the straight and narrow way and the broad way have caused countless numbers to begin to think and think deeply.

Many churches and missions and especially those of the poor, the lowly and the outcast, will long remember him for his straightforward messages and for his earnest pleadings to them to follow in the wake of the Master. He followed the straight and narrow path as God gave him the light to choose this path. He was zealous that his brethren might do likewise. He was never luke warm but rather he was for ever overflowing with enthusiasm for the Kingdom of his Lord and Master. The loss of such a character will be felt more and more as the years go by.