

Dawn of Tomorrow

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER, 20th, 1924

Editorial

GARVEY'S BLACK GOD.

Marcus Garvey advises black men and women to teach their children that God Himself is black. While we believe such an idea to be foolish, grotesque and idolatrous, we believe we can see Garvey's reasons for advocating such teaching. He finds, as all black people do that the present color scheme of North America, at any rate, is calculated to humiliate and degrade the spirit of all black people. All things pure, grand and noble are attached to the white race; all standards of excellency are measured from the white race downward. The black race, by the present standard is consigned to the lower levels and to the humbler walks of life. Our children are unconsciously taught these standards in school. All fine emotions and pleasing sensations are expressed in terms of "white" while most disagreeable emotions are generally expressed in terms of "black". As for instance: "a black taste," "a yellow streak", a "blue Monday."

Surely it must have been Garvey's idea to correct this error rather than suggest we become a race of idolaters. A better thing to have suggested is to pay more attention to the essentials of character rather than the incident of color, for we are taught in His holy word that "God is a Spirit and they who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." The Episcopalian definition of God is that He is a being without body, parts or passion. "God is a spirit." Why should we then paint this spirit either white or black? A universal religion with a universal God must rise beyond the incident of color or race or any other physical difference. If we interpret religion in any other light we interpret it in terms of flesh and blood. When a race begins to visualize God in its own color it then begins to worship idols. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image; thou shalt not bow down unto them nor serve them." This commandment was meant to save the world from narrow national and racial isolation and from national and racial idolatry. It was meant to help the human spirit to reach the highest plain of endeavour for all people of every age. If other races and other people have made a graven image of color, if they bow down and worship it with even more reverence than that with which the worship the Spirit (God) that should be no reason

why we should make a similar blunder.

Yesterday my oldest boy, of ten years asked me: "Daddy, is God black like we are or is he white like white people?" At first I was nonplussed. I finally said: "Why son, God is a spirit and we shall be like him, but it doth not yet appear what we shall be." After serious reflection I called the child to my side again and endeavoured to impress upon him that neither did God or the world take any notice of the incident of color, but that what both God and the world were careful to distinguish is the essentials of character. But how long will this impression last, mingling daily as he does, with those who have made a graven image of, and who are daily worshipping this graven image of color?

LONDON NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. J. Booker were week end visitors of Mrs. Gladys Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Martin of Chatham, and Mrs. Albert Smith of Cayuga were the guests of Mrs. E. Gorat during Fair Week.

Mr. W. Martin's fast trotter came first in Monday's and second in Friday's races at the Fair.

On their return from Guelph where they attended the funeral of Mr. J. Malotte, Mrs. T. Duncan, Mrs. Brooks and Mr. Joe Malotte of Cleveland spent a few days in the city as the guests of Mrs. Nellie Washington.

The Dawn is very grateful to Miss Walker and Mrs. Murry, Miss Johnson and Mrs. Delfish of Brantford, Miss Selina Smith of Woodstock, Mrs. J. D. Hall and daughter and Miss Hazel Wesley of Stratford for coming to London to assist us on Tag Day.

Mrs. (Rev.) Drake and daughter, Florence are visiting relatives in Ann Arbor.

A complete report of the Baptist Association will appear in next week's issue of The Dawn. Hill St. Baptist and her many friends are making elaborate preparations for the many distinguished guests who are expected to be present.

Mrs. Ann Budd met with a painful accident last Monday evening when she sprained the ligaments in her right foot. Mrs. Budd was taken to Victoria Hospital where her foot was dressed. She was then taken to her home where she is doing nicely.

Tag Day Receipts, Dawn of Tomorrow

Receipts \$153.65	Expenditures \$77.79
To 36 Workers	\$53.95
To Railroad Fare for 6	12.05
To meals for 6	1.90
To Room Rent	2.40
To Use of House	1.00
To Printing Tags	4.50
To Newspaper Ads	1.49
To Hauling Boxes	50

Bal. from Tag Day \$75.86 applied on our account with the printer. Mr. Fielding donated \$75.86 which makes a grand total of \$151.72 applied on the account of the Dawn of Tomorrow. The editor and manager wish to thank the general public and all who assisted, especially those who gave their services gratis.

B.M.E. Church Notes

The usual services were held in the church on Sunday Sept. 14th with a fair attendance morning and evening.

Our Brotherhood held their first regular Sunday morning meeting on the 14th and will meet each Sunday morning hereafter at 10 a.m. All men are invited to attend.

The following visitors worshipped with us on Sunday: Mrs. Poindexter, Chatham; Mrs. R. Wilson, Guelph; Mrs. J. Anderson, Ingersoll and a lady guest of Mrs. E. Groat.

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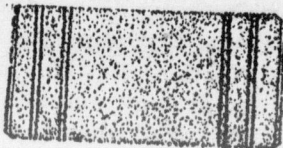
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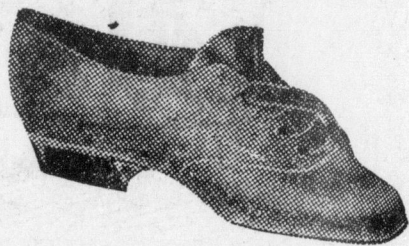
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