

Dawn of Tomorrow

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

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Editorial

THE WRONG VIEW POINT

Some years ago we were asked to speak at a recruiting meeting. On this occasion the vast audience was two-thirds white. Among them were many officers of the Canadian Army accompanied by their wives and daughters. When we had finished speaking the wife of one of the officers turned to my mother, by whom she was sitting, and remarked: "My! what a remarkably brilliant young man. He evidently has a grand education. Canada is no place for him. He should go to the States where he belongs."

Recently during illness in our family we had one of the Victoria Nurses employed, a very intelligent, well-bred and efficient young woman. It was only yesterday that Mrs. J— was visiting the sick, when she found this same young lady there. She inquired of the children and then myself. Her final words were: "It is too bad that he wastes his time and his excellent education by remaining here in Canada. He should go to the States where he has a chance to use his education."

While we appreciate very highly the implied compliments in both cases and we are sure they mean well, still, we believe these two well-meaning women have the wrong view point, or have their observations taught them that the educated Colored man has little or no chance here in Canada? If we are well prepared for service here, does the mere changing of countries add to our efficiency? Or do we see in the statements of these two women a frank admission that Canada, the promised land, Canada, the haven of runaway slaves, Canada, the land that offered equal protection, equal rights and liberty for all of her citizens, is growing callous towards the highest development of our Race? We recall, with pride, Governor Simcoe's answer to a deputation sent to Canada on behalf of the Colored refugee slaves. "Tell the republicans on your side of the line that we know no men by the color of their skin. We shall gladly receive the refugees." Is Canada better or worse today than she was in the days of Governor Simcoe? Has her attitude changed? Does the United States offer our boys and our girls of talent and education a better chance than our own country offers them? If so, WHY?

However the case may be, we shall continue to educate our children, we shall continue to prepare them for service and for the highest service. Neither are we contemplating sending all of them to the States. So far as our own intentions go, we shall remain in Canada, always ready, and waiting to serve whenever the opportunity presents itself. We shall, we expect, live and die in Canada, and if we are never given a chance to serve before we shall have crossed into the great beyond, we should like this epitaph inscribed upon our head stone: "Here lies him who prepared himself for service but who, because of his color, was not allowed to serve."

OUR ADVERTISEMENTS

The Dawn of Tomorrow in calling your attention to the various advertisements, or news of businessmen, appearing upon its pages, wishes to remind you that many of these items were contracted for long before the genial printer set his frame, or the sprightly linotype operator whisked his nimble digits across the keys, to assist in giving birth to a paper devoted to the interests of the Darker Races.

This fact in itself serves to justify our conclusions that there are enough Colored people in Canada to support a Race paper, that they are ready for a Race paper; and that there is need for a Race paper; Else, what group of men or women schooled and continually being schooled in the intricacies of business; many of whose business acumen stood them in good stead during the faith-testing days of the great war, would contribute to an organ whose circulation would be obviously stunted because of insufficient numbers of a designated people who were unready for a newspaper, and who needed no medium of exchange of thought, word and deed?

Our advertisers recognize the fact that we are a progressive Race, and ready to support an enterprise similar to that which has proven a boon to all Races and Languages, since the Caveman gave birth to the first newspaper ad. by carving a list of his needs, in hieroglyphics, on the face of a stone.

All of our advertisers have something to sell, useful articles, food, clothing etc. They also sell service and they believe that our readers will appreciate this information.

The whole purpose of advertising is to show you ways in which you can live better, more comfortably and more happily.

The Dawn of Tomorrow is pleased to recommend to you its advertisers. Read their advertisements and find out how you may own many things that you have always felt were beyond your means.

Try their service. Get acquainted with them. Then consider; that profits for these firms means employment for our people, employment for our people means prosperity for our Race.

Even as a man is known by the class of company he keeps; so is The Dawn of Tomorrow willing to be known by the class of advertisements it carries, and the class of advertisers it retains.

When patronizing our advertisers, mention The Dawn of Tomorrow. It will assure you intelligent service, give us a boost, and encourage the businessman.

—Robert P. Edwards

EDUCATION IN AFRICA

One of the great Abolitionists, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, left two aphorisms for the guidance of all who work for the uplifting of the African. One is: "The deliverance of Africa is to be effected by calling out her own resources." The other we have placed at the head of the article. Fowell Buxton was perhaps the first to organize with the help of Gurneys of Norwich and other Quaker friends, a model farm in Africa, and although the Niger expedition of 1841 was a disastrous failure and the model farm came to naught, he pointed the way for his successors. An interesting essay could be written to show what a beneficently revolutionary implement the plough is when adopted by African tribesmen. But because the African is not a mere beast of burden, a revolution in industry cannot meet all his needs. The plough alone, and all that the plough represents, does not solve the problem. The African is naturally and eminently religious, of however low a type his native religion may be, and a higher religion than anything he knows in his pagan state must play its part in his regeneration. Bible and plough must go together.

This is the conclusion deliberately reached by a Commission from America which lately investigated educational conditions and opportunities in Africa. They advocate a great ex-

tension of the industrial training now given in many African schools, and put special emphasis upon agricultural training in view of the undoubted fact that the majority of Africans must live by, and on, the soil. They lay great stress upon the importance of hygiene in the school curriculum. In general, they urge that education should be more adapted to the immediate needs of Africans; and they see clearly that "The most important ends of education are the character development and religious life of the pupils." The simple virtues of perseverance, thoroughness, order, cleanliness, punctuality, thrift, temperance, self-control, reliability, and respect for parents, need to be inculcated. "Most fundamental of all," proceeds the Commission, "is the recognition of the power of religion in education and in life. The Native African is intensely religious according to his own ideas of religion. He has a vivid consciousness of unknown forces controlling his life. Unfortunately this consciousness is too frequently that of a terrible fear that limits his life and frequently compels him even to be cruel to himself and to those about him. Christian education must change this natural interest of the African so that he may understand that God has a fatherly interest in him and in every phase of his life and seeks to help him to the best of life. The Christian religion cannot therefore be limited to the Sunday services or the devotional exercises at the opening of school or even to the teaching of the Bible. Every school activity should contribute to a more real appreciation of God in life. The teaching of health is the teaching of a proper regard for the body, described by Paul as 'the temple of the Holy Spirit.' The cultivation of the soil is co-working with God. Thus every school act and every act in life should have a religious significance. Education is therefore not merely the imparting of facts but the interpretation of Divinity in human affairs. While the love of God can be understood even by the unlearned, there is no limit to the education required to understand the extent and variety of God's love in the world."

The Report of the Commission, which can be unhesitatingly described as the most important document ever published on the subject of education in Africa, refers in enthusiastic terms to the work of the missions, though it criticises some of their educational methods.

The contribution that the British and Foreign Bible Society, in strict collaboration with the missionary societies, has made towards the education of the African peoples cannot be ignored as the Report ignores it. Seventy five years ago some part of the Scriptures had been published by the B.F.B.S. in no more than thirteen indigenous African languages—and only one of these included the complete Bible. Now, out of the 550 languages represented on our Society's list, no fewer than 164 belong to Africa. The whole Bible is published in 23 of these tongues, and the complete New Testament in 36 more. With few exceptions all these languages were first reduced to written form by missionaries. This remarkable result has been accomplished in the lifetime of many who will read these lines, in whose young days the very existence of such languages was hardly known. In most of these African tongues the first book to be printed, other than a primer, was a Gospel. By publishing these translations and by keeping up a constant supply of copies at practically no cost to the missionary societies, the Bible Society has made a considerable contribution to the education of the African.

A SEX DISTINCTION

When a woman winds a towel around her head and calls for a bucket of water, it means the beginning of a big day; but when a man winds a towel around his head and calls for water it means the end of a big night.

—Farm and Fireside

WEGNER'S
Wholesale and retail dealers in
Overalls, Sweater Coats, Gloves,
Mitts and Raincoats.

London's Largest High-Class
Workingmen's Outfitters.

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for the best Canadian makes of
Overalls.

WEGNER, The Heart Of London
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MANDRO

a vegetable tonic and blood purifier. Once used you will be wonderfully benefited and wont be without it in your home.

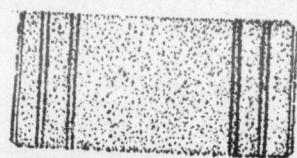
AGENTS WANTED

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Manufacturer

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No matter how old, how dirty, how dilapidated; have them made into the famous

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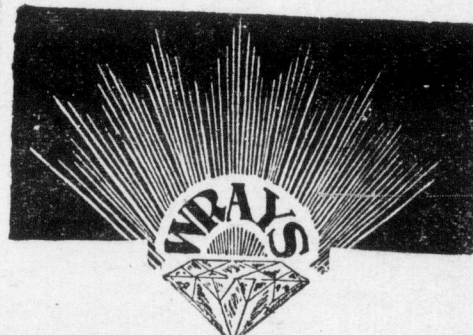
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