

Dawn of Tomorrow

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J. F. JENKINS—Editor

95 Glenwood Ave., London

Phone 6783 W

F. O. Stewart, Business Manager,
424 Gray St., Phone 2822 M

E. C. Jenkins, Advertising Manager.

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Editorial

THE LEAGUE'S ACTIVITY IN THE CITY

A casual review of the League's activities in this city will at once convince the public that we are awake to our situation and that we are putting forth every effort to make conditions better for our people. Such a review will also show that we are making every effort to raise the standard of citizenship of the colored people.

Through our effort a class of some 30 people was organized to study English literature under the direction of the University of Western Ontario. This class still meets and every member of it will gladly testify that he or she has been wonderfully helped and enlightened by the course of instruction.

In our connection with the juvenile court we took in hand a certain youngster whose record both in school and in the court was considered extremely bad. Under our supervision he has made a remarkable improvement in both school and the juvenile court. So remarkable has been his improvement in scholarship and in conduct the juvenile court decided that he needed only encouragement and assistance in order to be made a real good boy. We, therefore (the court), decided to buy his clothes. To-day he is one of the most neatly dressed boys in the city. The pride he takes in his personal appearance and in his conduct is visibly noticeable.

One of our citizens, a lone woman with three children, was about to be dispossessed and thrown out in the streets. We interceded and had her placed in a house, had one month's rent paid and had fuel and provisions sent to her. We have her still under observation and if it is possible we shall do more for her. We believe the three children should have the proper chance to become good citizens rather than be pre-doomed to become paupers or bad citizens. Regardless of what the parents have been, we believe that all children should have the right kind of chance in this world, and so far as in our power lies we shall always work to that end.

Two cases in which our citizens have gotten themselves into court we have gone to the proper authorities, have asked for and have received leniency for them. We felt justified in doing because of the circumstances surrounding the two cases and because of the previous good character of the two offenders.

We have repeatedly offered to give

financial assistance to any worthy boy or girl with special talent who desired to cultivate such talent, but who was unable to do so without assistance. So far our offer has fallen on deaf ears. However, we are still hopeful, as we personally know of such boys and girls with such talents. They are all around us. Something will soon happen to arouse them to the fact that opportunities will some day knock at the doors of all good and worthy citizens, but that only those will be chosen who are prepared.

No, we have not performed miracles, as some people expected us to do. But we have builded slowly and surely. We have done our work conscientiously and right, as God has given us the power to see the right. Our work has entailed us much material loss, but the spiritual gain has by far outweighed the material loss. We have the consciousness that we have begun a work which is much needed and that we have done our duty to the best of our ability. Such a thing as failure we have never considered at all. We have been too deeply enwrapped in our purpose to success, although we have many times been told that we are bound to fail. So much do we hear this that we have been brought to a realization of such a possibility, and if failure ever does come we shall content ourselves to think with the poets: "'Tis better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all." Such will be our answer to the "I told you so's."

THE PRICE OF PROGRESS.

By W. A. Myers

The price of progress is the pain of struggle. It is having a vision and then putting forth effort to make real that which has been visioned. This applies to individuals, to nations, to races and to society in general. The principle is applicable to the development of Christianity, to education, to politics, to reform, to social advancement, or to the building of character, of a fortune, the accumulation of wealth, the winning of recognition in some specific vocation. Always it is essential that there be the vision, but the vision alone is not enough.

Christopher Columbus had a vision of land across the Atlantic, but only by putting forth earnest effort and giving himself wholeheartedly to the task was he enabled to discover a new world and open up new possibilities. Paul, the apostle, had a vision of the Gentile world being won to Christ, but only by painfully struggling on day by day was he able to make progress in Christianizing the world. Those who have followed him have been compelled to struggle to hold the ground won and to go on to other victories.

Christ came into the world to bring peace and good will. The peace ideal has been prominent through the centuries. It is the hope of humanity. That hope may be realized. Progress towards realization will be made in proportion to the effort of the followers of Christ to make His spirit a dominant factor in human affairs.

Progress in any line demands a vision—a goal—an objective. That is the inspiration that may lead to progress. The price paid is the effort put forth to reach the goal.

"AMERICAN NEGRO ENTERS LITERATURE"

Essay In Book Review Magazine.

New York, March 19.—Writing under the title, "The American Negro Enters Literature," Jim Tully in the

March number of The Literary Digest International Book Review, notices a number of new books either written by or about negroes. Of "The New Negro," edited by Alain L. Locke, Mr. Tully says: "It is a direct challenge to the young white writers of the nation. In it are more than two dozen names of negro authors, many of them showing splendid promise."

Of Countee Cullen, whose book of poems, "Color," is reviewed, Mr. Tully writes: "If there is a more promising poet in America I do not know his name." Mr. Tully names, among other books by negroes: Jean Toomer's "Cane," which he calls "a string of uneven pearls"; Jessie R. Fauset's "There Is Confusion," and Walter White's "The Fire in the Flint," of which Mr. Tully writes: "White is a master of emotion and pathos, that rarest of combinations when the heart is hot." A book by a white man with a negro theme, "Porgy," by Du Bose Heyward, also comes in for praise.

SEVENTY-SEVEN

And am I really seventy-seven,
And yet God keeps me here on earth?
Has He no place for me in heaven?
That I must wait this glorious birth.

"God moves in a mysterious way,"
Has long been said and longer thought.
What all His will, I cannot say,
But this I know, I'm His blood bought.

And when for me such price was paid
Can I not trust a love so deep?
When all my sins on Him were laid,
That a rich harvest I might reap.

But still there's work for me to do,
Before I reach the gates of heaven.
Unflinching that work I'll do,
E'en though I may be seventy-seven.
—S. E. G. Allen.

NORTH BUXTON, ONT.

Epworth League of B. M. E. Church
Presented Splendid Program at
Installation of Officers.

Last Sunday afternoon the Epworth League of the B. M. E. Church rendered a special program at a service set aside for the installation of officers which was carried out as prescribed in the Canadian Leaguer. As a precedence to the installation of the officers many contributed musically and oratorically to a nicely prepared program. In the absence of Mrs. (Rev.) Perry, who is indisposed, and by whom a paper was prepared entitled, "How to Interest Young People in the Church," the paper was read by Mrs. Maggie Brown. Several important points were brought out in the paper, namely, that the young people in order to be interested in the church should be given something to do; that they should be impressed with the fact that they are to be the church of tomorrow.

The installation of officers was carried out by the pastor. The league has opened up under very bright and favorable auspices, and it is the desire of each officer and member to do everything to make it a success.

Rev. Perry, who has been in Amherstburg assisting the Rev. C. A. Stewart of the A. M. E. Church, has returned home, and is suffering with a slight attack of pleurisy. He was, however, privileged to preach in the morning and attend to the league's meeting in the afternoon.

Services were held in the B. M. E. Church on Good Friday commencing

at 11.30 a.m.

On Easter Sunday special services were held, and in the afternoon the Sunday School children presented an Easter program. There was a similar service in the Baptist Church.

An event of singular importance for Easter was the cantata rendered on Easter Monday night under the auspices of the recently organized Choral Society. This cantata was given in the B. M. E. Church and a perfect treat was in store for everyone. The program consisted of anthems, pantomimes and tableaux.

During the past week Rev. Talbot was the recipient of a surprise box from the members of the Busy Bee Club. Rev. Talbot resides in Windsor, and must have been glad for the expression of appreciation from the club in this way. This is the second time that the club has shown its appreciation to Rev. Talbot in a tangible way. He has been here only six months.



Geo. Boyd

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