

Dawn of Tomorrow

Published in the interests of and for the Advancement of the Colored people of Canada.

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Subscription Rates

One Year	\$2.00
Six Months	1.25
Three Months	.75
Single Copy	.05

The Dawn of Tomorrow
Publishing Co.

EDITORIAL**RACIAL MISUNDERSTANDING**

All too often people believe what they hear about people, or a race of people without really knowing the facts. This can cause the mind to become prejudiced without reason. In order to be able to form an opinion about anyone or any race of people have to have some personal contact. Listening to hear-say, is not worth deflating your intelligence. However, this very thing is the real reason for so much racial misunderstanding.

Babies are not born with racial prejudices, and dislikes for others, this is instilled in them as they grow. And until this is stopped, it will be a long time before races will be able to live together in harmony.

People for the most part, are basically alike, regardless of race, color, religion, or creed. They like sports, music, good food, clothing, nice homes and many, many other things in this life.

There are people who are ambitious, and want to make a place for themselves in the world, and there are those who care very little about what happens to them. There are people of good character, and those who are undesirable. There are the religious, and the non-religious. And in every race you will find people who fit every category mentioned.

Since it does take all kinds of people to make up the world, regardless of who they are, or what their race might be, it is up to all of us to accept each for what they are. We can never know exactly what kind of a person anyone is until we get to know him, or her.

It is common knowledge that most people are inclined to cling, or stick to their own particular type. For instance, in marriage, the professional man generally marries a woman who can be an asset to him with a similar educational background. A business man will want a wife who has good business sense, and so on. The same difference can be applied to interracial contact. People with the same kind of interest, and similar backgrounds will find something in common, regardless of their racial background.

For the most part, much of the racial conflict today is caused by people not taking the time out to really get acquainted with each other. They have preferred to live with old traditions and customs, and they have taught children these same old customs. Recently, a person told us that she had made friends with a wonderful white person. She said: "Do you know what this person told me? They said that I'm not at all like what they had been led to believe about Negroes. And that except for color, we are very much alike."

This is just one example of what happens when people take the time out to get acquainted.

It is said indeed when we hear of our churches, especially in the south teaching segregation, and trying to use the Bible as proof that races were not meant to mix. If the Bible is to be believed, and most of us do believe in the Bible, we are all offsprings from two people. So why must we have this racial trouble? Man's concept of the superior being and the inferior being was created in his own mind, and cannot be blamed on the good works of God. He put as here to live in peace, enjoy the earth, not to fight over it, or to decide who was to run it. It can be conceded that people on earth to do various

Songster Made Fortune In Religion, Not Jazz

There's a good buck to be made writing hit gospel songs, but thus far only a handful of composers know about it and aren't running to the microphones to tell others.

King of all the writers of religious music is veteran Thomas A. Dorsey, whose "Precious Lord Take My Hand," is heard and sung in churches around the world.

Although his hit songs aren't in the working repertoires of such popular singers as Johnny Mathis, Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole and Big Joe Williams, Dorsey gets just as big a thrill out of the knowledge that his songs are sung by such internationally famous gospel queens as Mahalia Jackson and Clara Ward. Several of his songs are standard in regular church services of various denominations.

Today, Dorsey, happy and living comfortably off his handsome royalties he receives through the Hill and Range Music Co. in New York and his own firm, Thomas A. Dorsey, Music Publisher, likes to stress how he deserted the "high life" of night clubs, jazz and blues for the more "satisfying" and less frantic status of a composer of "spiritual sounds."

He admits his switch from jazz to church music is not singular, since examples abound of night club and theatrical entertainers dropping the world of glitter, glamour, sex and sin for lives dedicated to serving God. But he believes few underwent the transformation that resulted in his being what he is today—for the last 26 years, director of Chicago's famed Pilgrim Baptist Church gospel choir and president of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses with more than 5,000 members in the United States and Canada.

"Life began for me just before the 20th century arrived," he recalls, "and it began in Atlanta, Ga., the Deep South. Our family was never rich. When I was a kid I had no shoes. I was so homely no girl would look at me, but my parents did provide me with two great advantages: A chance to learn music on our old-fashioned organ at home and a faith in God."

But he turned his knowledge of music to "interests that were hardly spiritual. I played the piano in dance-halls, theatres, at weddings and at society house parties in Atlanta."

Praised and almost hallowed in

London Notes

Mrs. Hattie Johnson is visiting with her sister, Mrs. Stricklin in Detroit, Mich., who went under a severe operation, her condition shows some improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kelly are visiting at the home of their son and family in Montreal, Que.

Our sympathy goes to the family of Mr. Clifford Miller in Hamilton; also Mrs. Myrtle Wayner, his mother, of London, Ont.

Mr. Hunter is still quite ill in Victoria Hospital.

Mr. Ross Jenkins has returned home after spending his holidays in Bermuda.

Members from Bethemannual Church joined in the mass choir at Metropolitan Church, Sunday evening Oct. 4.

things. If we all did the same things, and thought the exact way, there would scarcely be any progress. However, ability and talent was not limited to any one race of people. Every race of people has its share of the smart and the ignorant, the talented, and the average, the ambitious, and the sluggish. So let us consider these things, and try to live in peace, and let each have his, or her own happiness in his, or her own way, and stop putting pressure on one another.

such far away places as Monrovia, Liberia, Nairobi, Kenya, Cape Town, South Africa, London, Australia and New Zealand, Dorsey is fervently grateful that he escaped from the clutches of the underworld back in 1911-16 when it was pretty widely accepted that he was best suited for a life as a jazzman.

Looking back, Dorsey says he can now see clearly "the Lord's hand leading my life. Many of the incidents which He allowed to come my way. He later used to inspire many of my hymns. Even some experiences which seemed rather unfortunate or unpleasant at the time. He used for a message in song."

The Dorseys have two teenage children, Mickey and Doris, own considerable property in Chicago and bask in the limelight as one of the first families of sacred music. Most of his songs are standards, among them are "The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow," "When I've Sung My Last Song," "If We Never Needed the Lord Before," "Thy Kingdom Come," "I Don't Know Why I Have to Cry," "I Want to Go There," "Someday I'm Going to See My Jesus," "Let Us Go Back to God," and "There Is a God Somewhere."

All told, Thomas A. Dorsey has written more than 400 songs since that historic day when he turned his back on blues and jazz and began writing "God's music."

Say Old Time Religion Is Losing Its Appeal

'Tis the old time religion, and it's good enough for me.

—Gospel Hymn

For more and more U.S. churchgoers, that oldtime religion is losing its appeal. A trend toward more ritual and formality in church is on the rise, and it is now invading even the Bible Belt. Many a once plain Methodist church in Georgia, Alabama and other Southern states goes in for robed minister and choirs, stained-glass windows, sermons on theology and the life of Jesus rather than hellfire and repentance; a few even have acolytes. To some Southern Methodists, it is high time to make a stand against this creeping formalism. Said the Rev. Pierce Harris of Atlanta's First Methodist Church last week: "If this keeps up, it will soon be difficult to tell Methodists from Episcopalians!"

Blessed & Peaceful. Pastor Harris, who writes a religion column in the Atlanta Journal, has blown up a storm among his readers with the news that, at the recent Southeastern Methodist Conference, the Committee on Hymnology petitioned the Methodist General Conference to authorize a new hymnal that they hope will omit such oldtime gospel hymns as What a Friend We Have in Jesus and Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine. Musically, said the committee, they are difficult to sing; theologically they are inadequate.

Bellwether of the opposition to gospel hymns is the Rev. Bliss Wiant, 64, for 28 years a missionary in China (where he was on the faculty of Yenching University in Peking), and now director of music for the Methodist Church. In his Nashville (Tenn.) office last week, he stated his case. "We have to combat Communism with Christianity, and we just can't do it with gospel hymns. They dope us and they dupe us. The gospel hymn is a Victorian development—sentimental and good for nothing. Its message is that everything is blessed and peaceful. That's not the message of Christ. The message of Christ is: Are you able to endure all things as I endure them — even crucifixion?" If hymns must be sung, Wiant would prefer such Reformation hymns as A Mighty Fortress Is Our God and O God, Our Help in Ages Past.

White Or Black

MONROE, N.C.—In the courtroom where a white man was freed of the same charge just three months ago, a jury Wednesday sentenced 23-year old Alonzo Craig to serve from 40 to 50 years on the chain-gang for "illegally entering" a white woman's home.

A warrant for Craig was issued on Aug. 1, but remained unserved until Aug. 22. Craig, who had worked for the woman, denied the charges.

A Proclamation of Faith and Thanksgiving On the Occasion of The National BiCentenary of Canadian Jewry

THE year 1959 marks the 200th anniversary of Jewish settlement in Canada where the blessings of a free country have made possible a flourishing Jewish Community living in harmony with its fellow citizens.

FROM many lands, our people have come to these hospitable shores in search of religious and political freedom and economic opportunity. Thanks to these advantages, we have taken our place with our fellow citizens in the promotion of the economic, political, religious, social and cultural life of our country. We have come to the aid of the needy among us, and have brought relief to our brethren in countries of oppression and poverty. Our sons have responded to the call of patriotism in peace and war, some receiving coveted awards for their bravery and service, others making the supreme sacrifice.

IN this mosaic of Canada we have held fast to our ancient prophetic ideals. We have been motivated by our steadfast belief in human dignity and human welfare. In this hour of thanksgiving we recall that our generation was privileged to witness the creation of the State of Israel, and we express our profound gratitude for the leadership Canada demonstrated in the historic achievement.

THEREFORE, with humility, the CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS does hereby proclaim this year as one of Thanksgiving, Prayer and Celebrations to commemorate the NATIONAL BICENTENARY OF CANADIAN JEWRY.

LET us give thanks to the Almighty for granting us the freedom to practice our beliefs, to transmit to our children our cultural heritage, and to live in full equality with our fellow Canadians.

LET us pray, on this blessed occasion, for lasting peace in our country, indeed throughout the world, and for the happiness and prosperity for all that dwell therein.

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