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The Dawn of Tomorrow

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PICKENS REVEALS PART PLAYED BY NEGRO IN AMERICA

SCHOOL BOOKS KEEP FACTS
FROM STUDENTS

COLUMBUS, S.C.—(ANP)—Colored citizens in South Carolina have been chuckling with glee over the addresses which are being delivered by William Pickens at the educational forums being held under the auspices of the U.S. Dept. of Education. Especially have they been delighted with the lecture on the place of the Negro in American history. The audiences have been chiefly white folk who have had all their preconceived ideas about Negroes' contribution to American life shattered. Negroes have learned a lot they did not know.

Among the things Pickens tells them are:

THE NEGRO IN OUR HISTORY Whites Were First Slaves

In this year 1938, the white people have been in the original United States for 331 years, and the black people of Africa for 319 years. The whites came into Jamestown Va., settlement to stay in 1607, the blacks in 1619. When the whites came, they brought with them their white slaves, or indentured servants; and the first blacks that were brought to the colony by the Dutch, in their good ship "Jesus" were sold to the settlers in the same sort of servitude as that which held the white workers. History especially the books taught in American public schools, doesn't make it clear that slavery was not invented for the blacks, but was an institution which the advantaged whites had made for the disadvantaged whites at least a thousand years before the Bantu blacks were known to the European whites. In the 15th century, Columbus discovered America; in that same century adventurers of Europe went for the first time in authentic history far enough south along the African coast to get acquainted with the South African blacks.

Those African blacks had had considerable civilization long before any

white Europeans could be called civilized; the blacks had worked in iron when Europe was using stone implements. The whole stretch of African slavery (of the Bantu peoples) was about 400 years, from the middle of the 15th to the middle of the 19th century. White workers, therefore, were slaves for a vastly longer period than were the Africans.

Negroes Led

And when the African was brought into Virginia, there was no color prejudice, and no "race problem;" slavery was an economic institution. When the blacks served out their time, they became freemen and slaveholders and traders, just as did the white slaves who served out their time. And it may be news for Virginia that the black slaveholders bought and sold either black or white slaves, just as did the white slaveholders. Virginia did not develop enough color prejudice to forbid black masters to buy and sell whites until 51 years after white and black slavery had gone its course there. South Carolina did not pass such a law until sometime after Virginia had passed it. Race prejudice was being awakened by the superior numbers of black slaves over white slaves. Blacks had increased fast than whites, because blacks paid better dividends to slavetraders: whites in Europe belonged to somebody and had to be bought; blacks in Africa belonged to nobody, and just had to be caught. If it had been economically more profitable to get white slaves from Europe than black slaves from Africa, the blacks never would have got into America in large numbers—the Negro was a slave in America for 246 years, and for 200 years (at least) of that time, there were also white slaves.

History books are racial and national propaganda, and do not make this clear. Most of them never mention the fact of white slavery, beyond the so-called "indentured servant" period. Whites were bought and sold in America until long after the Revolutionary war. Louisiana was the last state to pass a law forbidding black slaveowners to buy and sell whites (1820), just 43 years before the Emancipation Proclamation.

Histories Conceal Merits

Black Africans, who with shields and spears could not defend themselves

(Continued on Page 7)

AN ODE TO THE LONDON OLD BOYS

Ah! swiftly moves the steady hand
of time
No matter what the work or where
the clime

By mankind Chosen for the life long
tasks

Which economic law of each one asks
And all along the speed-way we call
life,

Where weakling trampled fall 'mid
surging strife

Bright resting places greet us as we
pause

To bask with ego in the throng's
applause.

No bright spot can man e'er hope
to find

Than that prepared by those who
stayed behind

To gaily deck the old home town
again

In welcome to the boys, now stalwart
men.

So here we gather free from business
care,

To smile with joy at good friends
everywhere

And boast again in reminiscent mirth
That London is the best old town on

earth.

As one by one we greet the old pals
here

With hearty clasp and jovial words
of cheer,

We realize that men from out this
town

On very side the globe have won
renown.

What greater honor can a city claim
Than that she turns out men who

climb to fame?

So though they call you London in
the Woods

We know full well that you have turned
out the goods.

Now as we mingle gaily in this scene
Bright mottled as it is with nature's

green,

We feel the thrill which only can be
known

By growing boys, who, feeling quite
alone,

Go back to mother's knee and by God's

DO LARGE BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Baltimore, fourth largest city in Negro population (142,106 in 1930) was in 1935 according to William L. Austin, Director of the Bureau of Census, fifth among the cities of the United States having a Negro population of 50,000 or more, in the number of retail stores operated by Negro proprietors. Three hundred eighty-three retail stores operated by Negroes in Baltimore — 101 more stores than were operated in the same city in '29, but 101 fewer stores than were operated in Detroit in 1935, 7th city in size of Negro population. Employees in Negro retail stores average for the year 1935, 257 and total pay roll amounted to \$94505.

Sales made by Negro retailers totaled 1893,000—\$169,946 (16 per cent) less than the sum realized in 1929 when Negro retailers in Baltimore sold goods valued at 1,062,946. Food stores, eating and drinking places, and enterprises classified as "other retail stores"—three of the ten classifications into which retail stores of Baltimore are divided—accounted for 788,000 (\$8.2 per cent. of total sales)—sales being distributed among these groups in the following amounts: Food stores, \$197,000 (22.1 per cent. of total sales); eating and drinking places, \$487,000 (54.5 per cent. of total sales); and "other retail stores, -104,000 (11.6 per cent. of total sales.)

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Are giving help which only mothers
can,
For as we come in answer to your call
We know you've been a mother to us
all.

But as the sounds of joy are rising
high,
A deeper reverent feeling seems to
cry
For silence, till we pay the homage
due

This glorious shrine as to fond mem-
ory's view
We call again the hardships bravely
met
By pioneers that they might firmly
set
Foundations here, on which there
stands today
The city of our birth in grand array.