

The Dawn of Tomorrow

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. IV, NO. 25.

LONDON, CANADA, MAY 25th, 1931.

Price 5 cents

Race Produces Another Leader

The greatest colored artist since the days of Jim Europe and Paul Robeson has been looming upon the horizon during the last few years, and now he has burst forth into the bright sunlight of fame in unmistakable contours, for the whole world to appreciate and applaud—Duke Ellington, the leader of the greatest colored orchestra in the world.

At present on a tour of Paramount-Publix theatres throughout the Middle West, Duke Ellington and his Famous Orchestra, under the management of Mills Dance Orchestras, Inc. have created a veritable furor in the cities they have visited to date. Lines of "fans," who have heard the Duke over the National Broadcasting Company network when he was at the Cotton Club in Harlem, have waited for hours outside the theatre nightly in order to hear their idol in person. So phenomenal has been Ellington's power of "packing them in" that in many instances extra performances had to be given to accommodate the additional crowds.

A fair example of Ellington's fame may be cited in connection with the popularity contest recently inaugurated by the Orchestra World, a most influential publication in music circles. The poll of the initial month's balloting resulted in Duke being voted first as the most popular orchestra leader and first as the most popular player. When it is considered that he passed Rudy Vallee, Abe Lyman and Guy Lombardo, not to mention all the others, it becomes immediately apparent that Duke Ellington is a name that will go down on the tablets of orchestra history as a leader, musician, composer and shining light in the long list of Negroes who have brought glory to their race.

Death Falsely Reported

New York, March — Contrary to reports printed two weeks ago, Wilfred Bain, one of Harlem's est-known newspaper men in the past few years but who retired from the "game" recently, is not dead. Mr. Bain was reported found dead in his bed, a victim of gangsters or the numbers racket. In a heated letter to Romeo L. Daugherty, "Dean of sports writers" Mr. Bain states his side of the case in emphatic manner.



DUKE ELLINGTON

Toronto Art Comedy Ready for Compilation

First Musical Comedy of Bohemia—
Book by Lotti Rimmer

Toronto's first musical comedy of Bohemia (art) is now in script form from the pen of Lotti Rimmer who writes the book, and in collaboration with Leo Dorsey the lyrics. The music is yet to come.

The opus is in three acts: a studio in Paris, the Louvre; in Sicily at the beach.

Miss Rimmer has built her work upon a sound music basis. She is herself a professional teacher of singing.

The milieu is unusually colorful—art students, smocks, pictures, easels, all of to-day, as the text is. Gaiety prevails, with color. The musical mind studying the smart vernacular and idioms of today makes them a vehicle for gay scenes to be set to infectious music—in which the Viennese touch will be needed.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES COVER WHOLE NEW JERSEY STATE

Bordertown, New Jersey. — An extensive program of activities by W. R. Valentine, Principal, by the vocal quartet and by the track team of the Bordertown School for Colored Youth, is announced during the remainder of the month of May as follows:

1. Red Bank, May 14: Mr. Valentine accompanied by the glee club of the Bordertown School for Colored Youth is to speak before a meeting sponsored by the Women's Republican Club of New Jersey at Brookdale Farm, home of Mrs. Lewis Thompson.
2. Trenton, May : The Bordertown School's male quartet will sing before the Somerset County Christian Endeavour Convention at the Second Reformed Church, Somerville, delegates from all parts of the country being in attendance.
3. Bayonne, May 27: The quartet of the Bordertown School for Colored Youth will sing at the Bayonne Vocational School in the afternoon. This is the quartet's second appearance here, as a result of insistent demands of the students to hear the boys again. At 3.30 p.m. the quartet will sing at a meeting of the Bayonne Teachers' Association.
4. Washington, D.C. and Hampton, Va.: The Bordertown School's track team took part in the Howard University Relay Carnival on May 9th and won five first places, 3 second places and two third places, also winning the medley relay and the mile relay. They will take part in the Hampton Institute Relay Carnival on May 16th.

ical mind studying the smart vernacular and idioms of today makes them a vehicle for gay scenes to be set to infectious music—in which the Viennese touch will be needed.

Dialogue—all modern and peppy—runs into lyrics, for soprano, tenor, contralto, baritone; into duets, into choruses of art students. These are skilfully sequenced with due regard to the modern tempo in continuity. The author, from experience and a shrewd use of musical intelligence, knows exactly what effects she wants in the finished musical product and purposely works all the elements of text, character, color, plot, dialogue, lyrics and choruses to give the com-

FOREIGN-BORN INCLUDED IN CENSUS

Since the Confederation of Canada a Cesus of the people has been taken every ten years, the date of the first being 1871. The Census is provided for in the British North American Act which constituted the Dominion in 1867.

The Seventh Census of Canada will be taken during the month of June of the present year, when representatives of the Government will call at every home in Canada for the purpose of collecting the necessary information.

It is most important in the interests of each and every section and class in the Dominion that full and accurate information should be given by each individual.

Some of the questions that will be asked from each person are the following:

- Your name.
 - Your age on your last birthday.
 - Name of the country in which you were born.
 - Name of country in which your father was born.
 - Name of country in which your mother was born.
 - Year in which you first came to Canada.
 - The language which you spoke in your home in the country from which you came.
 - Whether you are a citizen of Canada.
 - If naturalized, the year of naturalization.
 - Your occupation.
 - Whether you have been unemployed during any part of the last year.
- No one need be afraid to answer all of these questions, for the Census schedules are absolutely confidential. They have nothing to do with taxation or military service or school attendance or the regulation of immigration or the enforcement of any law. The Government itself cannot use the information except for the purpose of making statistical compilations.

Every one should be ready to meet the Census man courteously and with full details on the points above mentioned. Failure to do so is not only punishable by prosecution but will delay and otherwise embarrass and increase the cost of the Census.

poser every possible chance to finish the work.

Dawn of Tomorrow

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1931 Conversion Loan

Premier Bennett has adopted a very practical and logical expedient for solving the problem of repaying the huge total of war and victory loans that mature before the end of 1934. A new loan of long term is being issued, and holders of maturing loans are being granted the opportunity of converting into the new loan on terms advantageous to themselves. The principle of the Conversion Loan is not new. It has been successfully applied by both the governments of the United States and Great Britain.

A total of \$1,082,000,000 of Canadian war and victory loans mature within the next three and one-half years, the greater part falling due in 1933 and 1934.

The Government has arranged an equitable bargain with investors. In exchange for short-term war and victory loan maturities is offered a twenty-five year government obligation carrying a coupon rate of 4½ per cent. The present status of the holders of bonds now being replaced will remain unimpaired during the short span of life remaining for these maturities.

The operation, however, has a deeper significance than mere investment opportunity. It has a patriotic appeal, no less vital than existed in war time, to show to the world at large that Canadians have confidence in Canada and that the Dominion's high credit rating ranks highest with her own people. Such a gesture of confidence and financial vitality has an economic implication of far-reaching influence.

The Government will secure no new money through this conversion program. It is a straight exchange of securities. Investors should welcome this unique opportunity. Ordinarily, the replacement of funds received from maturing investments is an operation of concern and expense. All this is eliminated, and investors can consolidate their position for another twenty-five years without effort on their part.

Government bonds represent our primary security. We have nothing finer to offer. The public has grown wearied with speculation. It is now seeking safe haven for its investment funds. No other medium has more proven attraction. Throughout this era of security deflation, government bonds have stood forth a tower of strength.

The overwhelming support of the Government's Conversion Loan will advertise to the world at large the faith of Canadians in Canada and

the economic solidity of the country at large.

STRATFORD NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. N. Morgan and Mr. E. L. Lamond motored over with Miss Hazel Wesley and Mr. A. B. Wingfield all of Detroit and spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wesley.

Mr. Jess Brown of Hamilton and Mr. Griffin and Miss Robertson and daughter motored up Sunday, spent a few hours with friends in the city.

Mrs. James Hesson and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hesson motored over to Port Huron accompanied by Mrs. R. Moore and three children on May 3rd. Mrs. Moore spent a couple of weeks with relatives.

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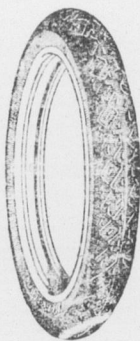
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CANADA

POPS OUT POINTS LIKE SLOT MACHINE

Writes 'Em While You Wait—St. Catharines Born, America Acclaimed, Toronto Adopted.

(From Toronto Star Weekly)

A Quebec writer recently declared that Toronto has more literary culture than Montreal. One proof of that is the fact that another poet has taken up residence among us.

He is Leo M. Dorsey, a member of the colored race and a native-born Canadian whose birthplace is St. Catharines. He says, "Toronto is a good place for a poet to live in."

Though a black poet he is not a gloomy one. His youthful, unwrinkled face is wreathed with smiles and mobile with expressionistic rhythm. He voices the joys as well as sorrows of his race and writes Negro comics as well as spirituals.

"I can't get altogether away from the jazz stuff," he remarked. "I guess it's in the blood."

He is only 31 but he already has to his credit 500 poems and 60 lyrics. Though his songs are not of war, he is a warrior poet, for he was three years in the Canadian army. After the war he became a wandering minstrel and, like Ulysses and Edgar Guest, has seen many cities.

Competent critics hearing his poetical readings and dramatic recitations have declared that he is the greatest living Negro poet on this continent. Southerners who know their Negro minstrelsy affirm that he is the equal of Paul Dunbar who was to the black people what Homer was to the Greeks.

Judge Roberts of Lockport, N.Y., was his Maecenas and launched him on his poetical career. This patron who lived to see his protege attain success, praised him for his vivid word pictures and characters true to Negro life.

KILLED SLEEPING IN OVEN

HAMMOND, Ind., May — Being chilly and tired Judge Thompson, 40 year-old foundry labourer, was attracted by the warm oven under which the fire had been turned out. He crawled inside to take a nap. Thompson overslept and fellow workmen, not knowing he was inside lighted the fire. His scorched body was discovered an hour later.

LAI D IT ON TO NEGROES.

MACON, Ga., May — After attempting for more than three weeks to fasten the crime on two Negroes, De Lois Clements, 19 year-old white boy, and the son of Telfair County's representative-elect in the state legislature confessed that he alone was responsible for the killing of L. J. Clegg, wealthy white citizen of McRae, Georgia.

The crime was committed on the night off April 8 and Clements was placed under arrest when he went to the police and told them that he took part in the killing. His first confession fastened the actual killing on two Negroes in McRae and named a prominent white man as the instigator of the crime.

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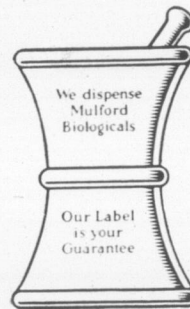
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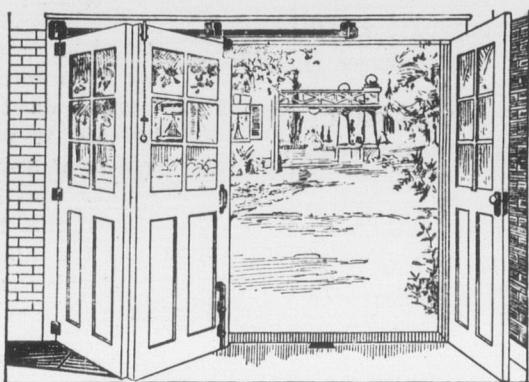
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GLORIFYING MOTHER.

This number has been dedicated to Mrs. Hoover, wife of President of the United States, also published in many newspapers.

If when Christ dwelt on this earth, He chose to be a master of the brush,

The very Lord who thought 'twas worth

His while to stoop, the crying babes to hush

Though every painting He'd release Would cause His glory to increase, I do believe His masterpiece, Would be of Mother.

If music was the medium Through which He sought to save the soul of man,

If through sweet tones His love did come

By voice or by the master touch of hand;

Though every song would cause to weep,

The angels at His wounded feet. The song He prized, the one most sweet

Would be of Mother.

If it had been His will to write Consoling verses, deep and rich with truth,

Like poets who sit through the night To bless old age, inspire the heart of youth,

This genius on whom Pilate frowned Who bade the silent leave the ground His crowning poem the most profound,

Would be of Mother.

If as a sculptor of our age Christ formed the things that lend long life to fame

Or if in history, on artists' page We marvelled at the works below His name,

Among the works He'd dedicate To God supreme on whom we wait, The image found most truly great Would be of Mother.

But Christ chose love above all arts, And to the art of love we must give place;

With love—He softened stony hearts And filled them with His free redeeming grace,

When we would reach for things divine,

With human love, like yours and mine,

The love found clinging to its shrine Would be of Mother.

—LEO M. DORSEY.

FIRST COLORED MUNICIPAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA READY!

Baltimore, Md., May — What it is believed will be the first appearance of a colored municipal symphony orchestra in this country will take place on Wednesday evening, May 21 in the auditorium of Douglass High School.

The orchestra, consisting of seventy-five pieces and conducted by Chas. L. Harris was founded last year thru the \$1000 gift of a wealthy Baltimorean. It was taken under municipal auspices this year when the city allowed \$1500 in the budget for its 1931 activities.

Ruth Lee McAbee, soprano and assistant supervisor of music in colored public schools, will be soloist on the opening program.

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The Census of Canada 1931



In the opening weeks of June every family and every home in Canada will be visited by a representative of the Government for the great national purpose of taking the seventh census of Canada.

The census is really a stocktaking. That is, it provides the information to enable the Government and others interested in the development of the country to formulate progressive policies for the happiness, comfort and prosperity of our people.

All the information supplied is strictly confidential, and the officers of the Government are subject to severe penalty if they disclose any of the information which is given to them by residents in the country, to any other than the Government.

Furthermore, it has nothing whatever to do with taxation, or military service, or compulsory school attendance, or immigration, or any such matter; and the Government itself cannot use it except for statistical totals.

The Government representative will put the same questions to all, and it is your duty as a resident of this country to answer promptly and truthfully. The Government is very anxious to avoid forcing anyone to answer these questions, but it is empowered to do so in the few cases where individuals may refuse.

Issued by

HON. H. H. STEVENS, Minister

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE — OTTAWA

LONDON NOTES

Mr. Geo. Ellerton Crawford, student pastor of Woodstock and Stratford paid a hurried visit to the parsonage and Byron Sanitorium on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Detroit visited our city for a few days the guests of his brother-in-law, Mr. Frank Pryor.

Mr. Wm. Taylor and Mrs. Chris. Brown are improving at this writing.

We are sorry to report the illness of Mrs. Stella Claybourne of Marquette, Mich. but are pleased to learn she is doing favourably.

Mr. Claybourne came to the city from his home to see his wife who is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Irons.

Mr. Gordon Johnson of Brantford was a week-end visitor with his uncle Mr. John Malott.

Sunday services last were encouraging in attendance. The pastor, E. Alph Richardson spoke at both services. Addressing a large congrega-

tion in the evening Rev. Richardson dealt with "Disarmament." using Mica 4: 3-4 and St. Luke 2. 14. He deplored the heathenish abuses which were now the basis of the science of war. He was sure however that as men and women gave themselves unto the Lord the impelling spirit would bring about a normal condition of peace within and then good will to all.

BRANTFORD NOTES.

The Ladies' Aid Society were very successful in holding their Semi-Annual Bazaar at the B.M.E. Church recently.

The Senior and Junior Art Club held their Semi-Annual fine arts display in conjunction with the Ladies' Aid Society, under the auspices of Mrs. J. Thomas Murray, president. Prizes awarded were as follows: Senior Division, First Prize Mrs. Thomas Murray, 187 Grey St.; Second Miss Bertha Johnson, 2 Park Ave.

Junior Division, Miss Winnifred McCurtis, 281 Nelson St., first; Miss Muriel Johnson of 2 Park Ave., 2nd.

We extend our deepest sympathy for the illness of Mrs. Seely Mallott and Mr. James Murray. Our prayers and wishes are for a speedy recovery.

Mr. Gordon C. Johnson, electrical contractor has returned home after a month's absence in conjunction with two successful electrical installations for light, heat and power.

B.M.E. CHURCH NOTES.

Superintendent H. D. Wright paid his annual visit on Sunday, May 3rd. Rev. Wright spoke at both services and his messages were very helpful.

Mr. Wm. Taylor is progressing favourably at this writing.

The School Anniversary Program is being prepared, and we are asking for the assistance of all to make it a real day of joy.

Mrs. Chris. Brown is on the mend after three weeks of illness.

To the Holders of WAR LOAN AND VICTORY BONDS

A Statement by the Minister of Finance

»«

IN THE dark days of the War, Canadians loaned to the Government of the Dominion many hundred millions of dollars to enable the operations of the Allies to be carried to a successful conclusion.

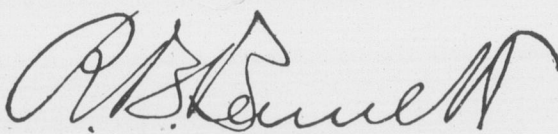
When Canadians loaned their money to the Government, they received bonds which were promises to repay them the sum loaned with interest at the rate of 5% or 5½% per annum. On the 1st of October next, \$53,000,000 of these bonds become due; on the 1st of November, 1932, the maturity will be \$73,000,000; on the 1st of November, 1933, \$446,000,000; and, in 1934, \$511,000,000 must be provided for.

It would not be prudent, either in the interest of the security holders or the country itself, to wait until these loans become due before providing for their payment or conversion. Action must be taken well in advance of the due dates to protect the credit of the country. The Government believes this an opportune time to afford Canadians the opportunity to exchange the bonds, which they own maturing in the next few years, for new bonds of the Dominion of Canada carrying interest at the rate of 4½% per annum, which is a very attractive return. Prior to the maturity date of the present bonds, those who accept this offer will, of course, continue to be paid interest at the rate as provided by the bonds they exchange.

Canadians who have always shown confidence in their country are earnestly invited to exchange the bonds they now own for bonds of the new issue. By so doing, they will render less difficult the task of providing for the future finances of the country, will enhance its credit and will greatly assist the Government in the present period of worldwide readjustments.

No money will be asked for and no new bonds will be sold at this time. It is proposed to limit the present conversion to \$250,000,000, but the Government has the right at its discretion to increase the amount if Canadians indicate a general desire to continue their investments in the securities of their Dominion. The subscription books will close on the 23rd of May.

I earnestly seek the active support of my fellow Canadians in making this conversion, which is one of the largest financial operations our country has undertaken in recent years, creditable alike to Canada and its citizens.



Minister of Finance.

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