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

Vol. III, No. 27.

LONDON, CANADA, MAY 15TH, 1926.

Price 5 Cents.

NEGRO SPIRITUALS ARE NOT LIKE "SHOUT" SONGS

The appearance in Toronto of the Fisk Jubilee Singers has prompted The Star Weekly to seek from a well-known authority here some new light on Negro spirituals, in which interest is growing so remarkably.

Miss Anne Elizabeth Wilson, a Toronto journalist who is the author of Negro stories which were syndicated by Doubleday, Page and Co., has made a special study of the spirituals.

"I love and admire the Negroes," she says. "I enjoy being with them and I believe I understand them. Once when I was doing settlement work in Washington, D.C., my office was in a house entirely occupied by Negroes, in a neighbourhood where, for twelve blocks either way there was no white population; and although it was during the worst time of the race riots I never experienced one untoward encounter and met with only courtesy and gentleness. Among the people I visited. The Negro women I came in contact with at that time so impressed me with their courage and resource in adversity that I have never ceased to remember them with admiration. Anyone who knows the nobility of the Negro as do the Southern families who have grown up and lived among them, must rejoice in the recognition that their talents are calling forth to-day.

"My interest in darky-music is ingrained. Darky talk, traditions and song were part of our family life, for on both sides of the house we are Southerners.

Miss Wilson has made a collection of spirituals. Among her songs are the following verses:

Keep a-inchin' along, keep a-inchin' along,

Massa Jesus is comin' by-an'-by, Keep a-inchin' along, like a po' inch-worm,

Massa Jesus is comin' by-and-by! Another is:

So glad I done done, Done-a what you tol' me to do. Tol' me to pray—I done pray.

Thank God I done done what you tol' me to do.

And this is another typical one:

African Prince to Study The American Negro

Lexington, Ky., May 5—Prince Bullamo, ruler over a great African tribe, the Zulus, is in this country studying the American Negro.

"My purpose is to study my people here along educational and vocational lines," he said. "When I return I will establish the same line of work among my people."

The Zulus, the most warlike tribe in the whole of South Africa, at the same time are the most refined and Christianized, the Prince declared.

He is the son of the war chief Catewayo of Zululand, who raised the insurrection against England in 1897. Catewayo died, a prisoner of war, after two years' imprisonment in England. Since his death there have been no chiefs.

Bullamo said "there is no class of people that will assimilate education and Christianity more quickly than his followers."

Until I reach my home
I nevah inten' to give de journey ovah
Until I reach my home.

(Oh true believer, Oh sisters; Oh, brethren!)

Some say gimme silver,
An' some say gimme gold,
But I say gimme Jesus
More precious to my soul.

They say that John the Baptist
Was nothin' but a Jew,
But de Holy Bible tells us
Dat he was a preacher too.

Another:
No hidin' place down dere,
I went to de rocks fo' to hide my face.

De rocks cried out no hidin' place,
Oh de rocks cried out "I'm burnin' too."

Miss Wilson says: "Notice the beautiful phraseology of 'come down, angel, trouble the water . . . and let my saints go home;' of 'Swing low, sweet chariot;' of 'Every time I feel the Spirit movin' ini my heart I pray.' I know nothing in English poetry that surpasses those lines for expression and feeling—actual handling of words for effect of diction. Here out of an alien and (at the time of the song's inception) absolutely illiterate race, we have these really divinely inspired accessions of expression.

"When you hear such songs as 'Steal Away to Jesus' sung in all

(Continued on Page 6)

Porters' Cause Goes Before Congress

Washington, D. C.—Congressman Celler of New York has introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives asking for an investigation of labor conditions affecting employees rendering domestic service on railroads. The bill is aimed at the betterment of conditions for Pullman porters and maids from whose service much of the profit of the Pullman Company is derived. The bill was referred to the Department of Labor.

After setting forth the working conditions of the porters and maids, relative to hours, tips and expenses, the resolution mentions the gross earnings from the sleeping car department, \$85,927,749, the net profits of which was \$12,631,103.

It sums up as follows:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Committee on Labor, House of Representatives, be hereby empowered to investigate the wages, hours and conditions of employment of the Pullman Porters and Maids and to investigate the financial history and financial conditions of the Pullman Company as same may affect wages and conditions of employment to the end that exploitation of said Pullman employees might be prevented and that they might receive fair and adequate wages commensurate with their services. For this purpose said Committee on Labor will have the right to swear witnesses and take testimony in the District of Columbia as well as other parts of the country.

Los Angeles Student Proves An Orator

LOS ANGELES, California, May—William Middleton, 19 son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Middleton of 1477 West 35th street, won first place last week in the district elimination competition in the annual National Oratorical Contest at Jefferson High School, defeating five white contestants. He will represent Jefferson High School in May in the next elimination against representatives of Franklin, Hollywood, Lincoln, Los Angeles, Manual Arts and Polytechnic Highs. The seven winners in the National finals of the oratorical contest will be given a trip to Europe, besides medals and a gold prize.

FISH LASHES OPPONENTS TO MEMORIAL BILL

Measure Passed by House Now Up
To U.S. Senate

The Bill sponsored by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, providing for a \$30,000 monument to commemorate the valor of the four Negro regiments brigaded with the French Army during the world war, has been passed by the House of Representatives and is now up to the United States Senate, according to announcement today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

The N.A.A.C.P. has received copies of the Congressional Record containing reports of the debate in the House which show that Representative Fish lashed the opponents to the Bill. The bill was passed in the House over the determined opposition of Southern Representatives. Mr. Fish declaring on the floor that the colored soldiers, "were good enough to be accepted as volunteers in time of war; they were good enough to be drafted; they were good enough to be killed for their country; but they are not good enough to permit the consideration of a bill to commemorate their gallant services."

Only one Republican voted against the Bill, Representative Stephen G. Porter, of Pittsburgh.

Senator David Reed of Pennsylvania offered objections to the Bill which were met by amending it. Colored voters in Pennsylvania are urged to make their wishes regarding this measure known to Senator Reed and Senator George Wharton Pepper. Colored voters throughout the country must communicate with their Senators at once and urge immediate action on the measure if it is to be voted on in the present session of Congress.

Passage of the measure in the House is regarded as a decisive answer to the slanders on the record of colored soldiers in France published by General Bullard.

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CULTURE AND ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEGRO

(From the 16th Annual Report of the N.A.A.C.P.)

"One of the most significant changes that has taken place regarding the Negro in this country is the recent change of attitude, we might say, national change of attitude, toward Negro culture and art. Today American Negro culture and art have attained a tremendous vogue. Today the most important periodicals in the country are open to Negro writers. The greatest publishing houses bring out the books of Negro authors. Negro musicians and singers fill the finest concert halls in the country. Colored soloists are with some of the most famous orchestras.

The recognition of the Negro as a creative artist and a contribution to American culture might strike the casual observer as a sudden happening of the last two or three years; but in fact, it has taken a number of years to lay the foundation for it. In the development and recognition of the Negro as an artist the N.A.A.C.P. has been one of the most powerful influences. A vital influence has been the annual reward of the Spingarn Medal. Eleven awards have been made and gradually these awards have grown to the point where they make a definite impression upon American public opinion. The medal is now recognized in a national sense, as one of the highest badges of merit. The winners of the medal are listed in books that print and preserve such records. The award of the Spingarn Medal was the first established means of calling the country's attention that there were such things as Negro art and Negro artists and Negro achievement in the field on "noble endeavour." It still remains the most important means of accomplishing these ends.

Another factor in the Amy Springham Prize Awards, given through the Crisis.

In the awakening and recognition of Negro cultural achievement the national executive staff has also paid an important role. Within the past two years there have been published seven books by Negro writers that have widely affected national public opinion and been counted as achievements in the Negro "Literary Renaissance". Their titles are: "Cain" by Jean Toomer.

"There is Confusion" by Jessie Fauset
"The Fire in the Flint" by Walter White.

"The Gift of the Negro" by W. E. B. DuBois.

"The Book of American Negro Spirituals" edited with introduction by James Weldon Johnson.

"Color" by Countee Cullen.

"The New Negro" edited by Alain Lervy Locke.

Four of these seven books are the work of members of the N.A.A.C.P. official staff: "The New Negro" is a symposium and five persons connected with the National Office had a part in the making of the book.

Letters to the Editor

Owen Sound, April 19, 1926.

The Dawn of Tomorrow.

Dear Mr. Editor:
Kindly allow me space to correct an error in news submitted by Mr. Green which appears in the last issue dated April 17, 1926.

On Sunday, March 28, we did have special services, yet there was not the interest shown that might have been, at which service Mr. Green states "the proceeds amounted to something near \$70.00."

To be accurate, the total offering for the day was \$30.79. Not more than \$23.00 of this came through the rally envelope, and \$3.00 has been received since.

In the future it would be well for your agent to be sure of figures or else state no amount at all, as I desire that the public be not misled and fully intend that my officers are not misrepresented at any time.

Yours very truly,
E. Alph Richardson,
Pastor.

Young Painter's Art Shows Mastery

Works of O. Richard Reid Exhibited At Waldorf Astoria. Cloyd Boykin and Palmer Hayden Paintings Displayed

NEW YORK, May—Colored Americans are gaining recognition in the field of art. Several young painters have blossomed out recently and are bidding for a place among the country's leading artists. Among those who have attained prominence are three young men from the south: O. Richard Reed of Florida and Cloyd L. Boykin and Palmer C. Hayden, both of Virginia.

O. Richard Reed has completed two portraits for the exhibition of the Society of Independent Artists at the Waldorf-Astoria. He has worked his way through the Pennsylvania School of Fine Arts as a waiter, coming to Philadelphia to study from his native town of Jacksonville, Florida, twenty-eight years ago. His exhibits will be a portrait of Fannie Hurst, writer, and Lester Walton, journalist.

Reid's style is conservative and academic and his work is characterized by thorough technique with skillful brush work and modeling that has won the approval of outstanding artists. Pederewski was one of those to praise his works.

Cloyd L. Boykin and Palmer C. Hayden are at present giving an exhibition in the Civic Club. The for-

mer graduated from Hampton Institute and studied art in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts under Phillip Hale and at London University. "The Wood Chopper," "Spring in the Forest," and "The Bathers" are distinguished among his paintings for their style and original treatment. He has ten portraits of Walt Whitman, one of Dr. Hollis B. Frissell, a sketch of Dr. R. R. Moton and a portrait of John D. Rockefeller, Sr.

Palmer C. Hayden's landscapes "Boothbay Harbor," "Haverstraw" and "Up the River" are considered the best of his fifteen paintings.

Watchfulness

Yes, watch your lips, that all you say
May make for life's eternal day,
And watch your life, that Christ may see,
That life by Him from sin set free.

And watch your deeds, that you may be
On the blest side of angels, free
From stains of sin this world can give
To all who in this world do live.

And watch your fellows, that you may
Encourage faith in their hearts, pray
That they, with you, may faithful prove,
Disciples, where sin cannot move.

And watch the signs in your own times.
In Christ's increasing presence, crimes
In human life will disappear,
As Christ's own presence comes more near.

—by S. E. G. ALLEN.

Darrow Proves Crowd Menaced Sweet Home

A brilliant defense has been opened by Clarence Darrow, Chief Attorney retained by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the defense of Dr. and Mrs. Sweet and their nine co-defendants in Detroit from a charge of murder arising from the death of a man shot during a riotous demonstration outside the Sweet home. The stories told by police and members of the "Waterworks Improvement Association," to the effect that no mob menaced the Sweet home and that the shooting was unprovoked, have been riddled by witnesses for the defense, a number of whom have testified that from 400 to 500 people were about the house at the time.

Mrs. Mary Spaulding, a social worker testified that the street was like a parade and that there were 500 people there. James Smith testified he saw several hundred people around the Sweet home. Phillip Adler, a newspaper reporter said he saw 400 to 500 people there, and that he heard stones hit the Sweet house before the shooting. Ray Lorenzo, proprietor of an auto accessory shop was also among the numerous witnesses who testified to seeing a crowd of 500 people outside the Sweet house.

Mr. Darrow announced that it would not require more than two or three days for his defense to complete its testimony and rest its case.

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Mr. and Mrs. W. Halifax, Nova Scotia (Rev.) Perry, are we Buxton, at the parson as, who is an old vet preached last Sunda his message was mu hope to spend the su and Mrs. Perry befo Halifax.

Women's Day, whi been observed last St poned because of th es of the late Mr. H will be celebrated on A monster program

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NORTH BUXTON

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Thomas, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, parents of Mrs. (Rev.) Perry, are welcome visitors to Buxton, at the parsonage. Mr. Thomas, who is an old veteran of the Cross preached last Sunday morning, and his message was much enjoyed. They hope to spend the summer with Rev. and Mrs. Perry before returning to Halifax.

Women's Day, which was to have been observed last Sunday, was postponed because of the funeral services of the late Mr. Horace Black, but will be celebrated on the 23rd inst. A monster program is being pre-

pared for the evening of the 24th, which should not be missed by those who can make it possible to attend.

Mrs. Charles Garel and family of Windsor have removed to Buxton and are very comfortable residing in the home once occupied by Mr. Givins, father of Mrs. Garrel.

Mrs. Alice Drye of Chicago, is spending the summer with Mrs. Arnold Watts her sister. Mrs. Drye was in attendance at the funeral of her father the late Horace Black.

Mr. Percy Newby of Windsor is home helping his father on the farm. Percy is very considerate in this way and should be a pattern to other boys.

HAMILTON

Miss Medeline Barnes spent Sunday in Toronto, the guest of her sister, Miss Lola Barnes.

The Misses Olive Barnes, Beatrice and Inez Johnson, also Messrs Arthur Burke, Lorne Barnes, Harold Johnson and Isaac Lee of Cayuga, Ont., were visitors in town Sunday.

Mrs. T. C. Holland and daughter, Miss Elfreda, also Messrs. Howard Lewis, Charles Morton and Gerald Bell motored to Guelph Friday evening to attend the party given there in honor of Mr. John Bolten of Portland, Ore.

The Male Quartette of the Peerless Concert Co., which was in the city during the past week, attended service Sunday evening and rendered several selections which were highly appreciated by all.

Mr. Munroe and Mr. Bush of Sarnia were in town over the week end.

Mr. Fred Brooks of Toronto is at present residing in the city.

Rev. and Mrs. Townsend and family have left the city for Philadelphia where they will be the guests of the latter's parents.

Miss Fern Harrison has taken a position in the office of Dr. Barnes, Chiropodist. We wish her every success.

Miss Marjorie E. Lewis has accepted a position on the staff of Frea. D. Morden's electrical and Art Supply store.

Mrs. Ernest Johnson of Palermo, Ont., was in the city during the last week.

The meeting of the C.L.A.C.P. which was held Thursday evening proved to be a lively one, a success from various standpoints. The speaker, Mr. Lorne V. Johnson, chose as his subject "The Jew," but during his address brought in the Negro to a large extent. In so doing he brought out many fine points which allowed the Negro to see just how he was regarded by the other group and during the open discussion which followed we were able to let him, as a representative of the other group, see just what was really in us and our capabilities. Mr. Johnson who is an influential business man of the city departed with a promise to meet with other business men, etc. of the city and see what could be done along the line of bettering conditions of Negroes in Hamilton as far as employment is concerned. If this promise bears fruit the Negroes of Hamilton will surely feel that the Hamilton branch of the C.L.A.C.P. has accomplished a great work for its people.

Mrs. Price Carter and daughter, Miss Azhalia left for Buffalo last week.

Last Friday evening at the Capitol Theatre during the Hindoo Koosh Grotto, Father and Daughter night, Little Miss Barbara Berry entertained an audience of some 2500 people with songs and interpretations of the Charleston.

ST. CATHARINES

Prof. A. E. Greelaw and Mrs. Greenlaw of Detroit, Mich., gave a very pleasing recital Monday evening, May 3rd at the Memorial United Church. Prof. Greenlaw being a renowned singer and Mrs. Greenlaw an elocutionist. It was held under the auspices of the choir, in benefit of the B.M.E. Church.

A very pleasant evening was spent on Sunday at the home of Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Logan, when the latter served a dainty luncheon and entertained in honor of Prof. and Mrs. Greenlaw, the guests being Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Bell, Geneva St., and Mrs. B. Brewster and niece, Miss Verita Smith.

Mr. Gordon DeCoursey of Oakville, Ont., spent the week-end at the home of Mrs. B. Brewster, the guest of Miss Verita Smith.

TRUTH

Every day brings some regret,
And heartaches we can't forget.
But when we think of that glorious day
When all of our tears shall be wiped away,
Why shouldn't we smile and feel we're blest
When we know that someday we shall find rest?

VERITA SMITH,

BRANTFORD

Mothers' Day was fittingly observed on Sunday, May 9, Rev. H. D. Wright preaching in the morning, at which time he delivered a beautiful address, giving much credit to all mothers. The Stewardesses had charge of the evening service which was carried out in a most creditable manner. A program being carried out consisting of addresses, essays, recitations, readings, solos and duets. The church was beautifully decorated in purple and white and a profusion of flowers. Both services were well attended.

The first Sunday in May the Supt. Rev. S. R. Drake paid his annual visit to Brantford, delivering two beautiful sermons and leaving many encouraging thoughts with us.

The concert put on by the Canadian League for the benefit of the B.M.E. Church was a grand success, netting a neat little sum, and the parsonage is being beautifully redecorated as the result.

Mr. John Lucas has been confined to his home through illness for two weeks but has improved sufficiently to be out again.

Friends of Mrs. Clara Delfish will regret to learn that she is in the general hospital, having undergone an operation for appendicitis, but is improving favorably.

Master Freddie Johnson is also in the hospital suffering with rheumatic fever.

Mr. Ashby of Montreal was a week end visitor in the city, the guest of Rev. H. D. and Mrs. Wright.

Mr. Harry Johnson, Mr. Ed. and Chas. Johnson left for Buffalo where they secured situations.

Mr. Pophose Bowers has sold his property and gone with his family to the U.S.A. to reside.

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Jack Johnson Wins

Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, May 2—
Jack Johnson, former heavyweight
champion of the world, won a referee's
decision from Pat Lester of Tucson,
Ariz., in a fifteen-round bout here today.

Immediately after the fight, Johnson
announced he would accept a challenge
delivered at the ringside by a representative
of Luis Angel Firpo, for a bout between
the winner of to-day's bout and "the Wild
Bull of the Pampas."

The match was fast. Although Johnson,
who is 48 years old, out-boxed Lester in
every round, he never approached a
knockout over his young opponent.

Johnson, who weighed 218 pounds,
finished the bout in excellent condition.
His opponent, Lester, is 24 years old,
and weighs 225.

LONDON

On the 29th of April the Get Acquainted Club rendered a sacred concert over the Free Press radio. A great number of post cards have been received by the club expressing great admiration for the quality of the singing. These cards came from many points in Ontario as well as from several cities in the States. A striking peculiarity common in each card was a request that the club repeat the concert in the near future. An article appearing in the Free Press the following Monday stated that it was one of the best choruses which had ever broadcasted from that station.

Mr. George Workman who has been very ill is much improved.

We are glad to report that the condition of Miss Alice Drake shows a decided improvement. We expect to see Miss Drake up and around again very soon.

Rev. Thomas Woodcock will preach the anniversary sermon to the Get Acquainted Club. The Club expects to be at its best in rendering some of its musical selections.

On Tuesday evening, May 4th, Bishop G. C. Clement, A.M., D.D. of the 5th Episcopal Division of the A.M.E. Zion Church was a distinguished visitor of the B.M.E. Church of our city. A splendid program had been previously arranged which reflected much credit upon the church. The program consisted of addresses of welcome, numbers by the choir, duets, male and female quartets. Bishop Clement was introduced to the audience by Rev. Drake, our Supt., after which the Bishop preached a most powerful sermon.

Mrs. Grace De Groat and her infant son Louis are visiting their parents and grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mathews.

To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moxley of Trafalgar St., a fine baby boy, at Victoria Hospital on Saturday, May 1. Mother and baby are doing very well.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Fountaine was again the centre of great mirth last Tuesday evening when the Get-Acquainted Club met for the purpose of singing before Mr. A. D. Jordan of the Institute of Musical Art. The Club made a profound impression on Mr. Jordan. He gave the performers great encouragement for future possibilities. At the conclusion of the singing a very dainty luncheon was served by the hostess, Mrs. Fountaine.

The concert at Ingersoll, sponsored by the Misses Kelly and Berry was a tremendous success from a standpoint of production although it did not prove a financial success. All of the members of the cast as well as friends who accompanied them report a grand time.

OWEN SOUND

May 9th was Mothers' Day in the B.M.E. Church at Owen Sound. It was a beautiful day and the meetings were well attended all day. The pastor, Rev. E. A. Richardson had charge of all the services.

Mr. A. Patterson and L. Taylor left last week for their boat at Montreal. We are praying that they may have a prosperous season and a safe return home.

Mr. Daniel Green is back with us again. He is looking well after being absent for two years from our city. We are glad to see him again. He has been living in Toronto.

Our Pastor, Rev. E. A. Richardson is under the weather, suffering from a bad cold. We are praying for a speedy recovery.

The B.M.E. Church Choir is giving a Jubilee Concert in the Church on Wednesday night, May 12. Proceeds to pay on current debt which is over \$300.00.

Social Conditions Among Negroes Before 1865

(Continued from last issue)

By Fred. Landon, M.A.

"It would be impossible for us to state adequately the pecuniary condition of the people of color in Canada, but we should think they were worth not less than \$200,000. . . . Wild lands may be bought within five miles of the Detroit River at from \$3 to \$5 an acre, such as will produce from 25 to 40 bushels of wheat to the acre and on which anything will grow and do well that will do well in Ohio soil. There is no difficulty in selling any kind of produce here that the farmer can produce and that without traveling over a distance of 10 miles with it. Corn is worth 50 cents per bushel, wheat 65, oats 31, potatoes 50, butter 15, lard 10, pork \$4.50, beef \$3.50, eggs 20 cents per dozen and chickens \$1.50 per dozen the year round. The farmer who cannot live in Canada West with rich and fertile soil beneath his feet, with a mild climate and with an anti-slavery government over his head, possessing commercial advantages inferior to none in North America, must be a little too lazy to work and would die a pauper should he be placed in a country flowing with milk and honey."

A picture rather less favorable is presented in a letter from Isaac J. Rice, missionary at Amherstburg, appearing in The Liberator of November 23, 1849. He is concerned over the helplessness of the people coming in. "Whole families reach us," he says, "needing clothing, provisions, a home for a few days until arrangements can be made for life, and all this amid strangers, the prejudiced. They are driven from schools in the States, they are no better here. If they go in schools by themselves, their portion of public money is allowed; but Canadians will not teach them, so that your teachers from the States must do it and aid them also about getting land and various other ways. We have received at our house and clothed more than 50 from the South."

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Wilfred Lloyd Drake, who departed this life nine years ago. April 27th.

We know thou hast gone to the home of thy rest,
Then why should our souls be so sad.
We know thou hast gone where the weary are blest,
And the mourners look up and are glad.

Father, Mother, Sisters and Brothers.

.....

IN MEMORIAM

Our dear father, Mr. G. H. Baldwin, whom we loved so well, departed this life three years ago, May 6th, 1926.

Sadly missed by mother and family.

MRS. BALDWIN.



Geo. Boyd
I. A. S. P. N. S. O.

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TORONTO

It is rumoured one of our talented musicians is about to take unto himself a wife. Here's wishing him much success and happiness.

The Children's Entertainment given at the Alhambra Hall by the Home Comfort Club was a grand success, having many interesting things to occur during the evening. Little Arvin McCrae was the principal entertainer of the evening, coming from way behind, he got in just in time to will all the honours by a head.

The Queen of the evening had a beautiful voice and succeeded with her parts nicely as did all the other flowers.

Quite a number of new men are in town now and it is our duty to make it pleasant for them while they are in Toronto.

DAVIS-HAWKINS

A pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harris 410 Queen Street at 8.30 p.m. Wednesday April 28th when Pauline Coleman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hawkins, became the bride of Mr. Freeland Davis. The ceremony was performed by Rev. F. O. Stewart, pastor of the B.M.E. Church. The house was very beautifully decorated for the occasion. The bride entered the parlor which had been prepared for the affair, on the arm of her father, wearing a beautiful gown of white satin and carried in her arm a bouquet of Ophelia roses and carnations. Miss Edith Matthews was the bridesmaid and Mr. Herbert Green assisted the groom as the best man. After a reception held at the place of marriage the happy couple left for various points on their honeymoon. On their return they will reside in Toronto. About two hundred guests were in attendance.

The services at the B.M.E. Church continue to show much signs of interest to those who attend. Our pastor is giving us some very interesting messages on Sunday and also at our mid-week prayer meeting. We are now studying the Acts of the Apostles. This book has for its theme: "Putting into practice the religion of Jesus as recorded and taught in the four Gospels. The lessons each week are very helpful.

Rev. S. R. Drake, our General Superintendent, paid us his annual visit on Sunday, May 9th, which was observed as Mother's Day. His subject at 11 a.m. was, "Honor Your Mother." Many beautiful thoughts were brought out of this message taken from John 19: 27. In the evening at 7.30 our Superintendent again delivered a strong message, using as his text, Heb. 9: 26-27, Sub. "The Atonement, or the Efficacy of the Blood of Christ. A reception was held on Monday evening and a short program rendered and refreshments served. A good social time was enjoyed by all.

The three months rally will be brought to a close on Sunday May 16 with special services during the day and a special entertainment on Monday evening, May 17th.

Mrs. (Rev.) Stewart has been called to Windsor owing to the indisposition of her sister, Mrs. I. A. Buchanan.

Mr. Winn, of Buffalo is spending a few days in the city visiting his daughters, Mrs. A. Smith and Mrs. J. Howard.

Mrs. J. W. Montgomery of Osgoode Hall is quite indisposed at this writing. We trust she may soon recover.

The B.M.E. Church had a nice social last Monday evening at the Church in honor of Rev. Drake who is here on his annual visit. A great number of members and friends were present and everybody enjoyed themselves and left late in the evening.

Do you remember about eleven thousand hours ago when Doug Lewis was an amateur fighting for gold watches, stick pins and bon bons and gathering in the long green for the fight promoters, how very often we used to see him fight, what a drawing card he was, how often the papers had his pictures in and how they could get opponents for him then; but oh how different now that he is in a position to claim a little of the long green, it is impossible to find a suitable man to fight him; there are too many ahead of him, etc. Isn't it funny how time and conditions change?

Do you remember last spring when Woodbine opened how you flew in the front gate all full of pep, pockets full of money and a head full of information, and after the seventh race how you were looking all through your pockets trying to find a stray dime or looking for a friend to get car fare from and how hungry you got after you were broke? Well Woodbine opens again on the 22nd of May. I am reminding you lest you forget.

Rev. A. McEwen Williams will have a kind of getting to gether mee'ing next Sunday night at which time he hopes to welcome to and introduce the new visitors and railroad men that have recently landed in our midst. All come out and help give them the glad hand.

Sometimes I think its Spring and sometimes I think its a mistake or rather late fall but by and by we will know. Ine thing I am glad of, no human has control of the weather.

STRATFORD

Miss Mabee Harrison has returned to the city after a visit lasting ten weeks with friends in Ohio.

The Misses Hazel Wesley and Gladys Armstrong spent the week end in Mitchell.

Mrs. Harrison and family, accompanied by Mrs. Hesson and son, and Miss Henderson, motored to Ingersoll last Sunday.

Percy James and Robt. Blair of Woodstock spent the week end with the Harrison family.

Mr. Thos. Jackson spent a few days in the city with his son Robert.

Mrs. Louis Groat and son of London, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Matthews of Blake Street.

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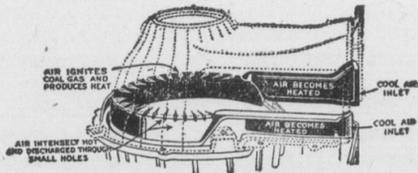


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Negro Spirituals Not Like "Shout" Songs

(Continued from page 1)

their simple pathos and exquisite variation you realize the tremendous significance of the Negro's contribution to world music. It is real. The Negro spiritual must be considered above the classification of folk music when it reaches such heights — as it does in this and several other songs, notably 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?'

Religion Their Outlet

"You can imagine the food for the Negro's drama-loving soul which the Bible would present. In the depths of his first night of ignorance the Bible was all he had, and he made the most of it. Its good fights were personal analogies to him, and he wove himself and the Bible character into his songs of religious adventure.

Then, too, for some years, especially on the big plantations, where uprisings might occur if too great an access of native African spirits arose, the reels and dances were often forbidden, and religious meetings were all the Negroes were allowed. Religion was their only outlet. Little wonder that they put into it notes that may seem to the unknowing, jubilant or even trite. Solace for discrimination of color is touchingly exemplified in "Git on board, little chillen," child-like in more than its exhortation.

Miss Wilson points out that the spirituals are not to be confused with "Shout songs," which are part and parcel of the business of "getting religion" among the Negroes. These outbursts were periodic revivals, culminating in excesses of religious ecstasy which left participants often unconscious and were most often held in connection with "baptisms," or the advent of some "hell-fire" preacher who stirred up religious excitement. "The spirituals," as Roland Hayes puts it, were the "deeply religious expression of his people," often quaint, often child-like, but always sincere. The shout songs were really a form of musical intoxicant withheld for special occasions.

"Then," says Miss Wilson, "entirely outside of the spirituals are the secular songs, which for humor and whimsicality of expression are simply incomparable. Many of them have so woven themselves into our knowledge that we take them as a matter of course, like 'Working on de railroad,' 'It ain't gonna rain no more,' 'Frankie and Albert,' etc. One of the best, and one which I am sending to the author of 'On the Trail of American Folk-Songs,' is 'Behime De Hen-House:'

Behime de hen-house on my knees
(Gwineta git a home bimeby),
Thought I heard dat chicken sneeze
(Gwineta git a home bimeby),

Oh, de watermillion!

Lamb o' Goodness, you must die—
Gwineta jine de Counterband Union
(Gwineta git a home bimeby),
"The tune of this is simply infectious. The words and melody I took down from my grandmother once, in the middle of the night, she being as enthusiastic about the preservation of the old songs as I. 'Coun-

terband Union' probably stands for 'Contraband Union' which was one of the ramifications of the 'underground railway,' by which certain anti-slavery factions in the North spirited away runaway Negroes. Many of them 'got a home bimeby' in Toronto.

"Another song which I have used in one of my Negro stories, but which so far, I have never found in any collection, is, 'Can't you live humble.' It refers to recreation in the hereafter, but is hardly a spiritual: 'Oh, every mornin' at break of day, I'll h'ist my wings an' fly away. Oh, can't you live humble every day? Oh, every mornin' so bright an' fair, I'll spread my wings an' fly in de air, Oh, can't you live humble every day? Den, every mornin' so bright an' clear, I'll h'ist my pinions an hover near. Oh, can't you live humble every day?' The air is delicious, full of swings and grace notes."

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Official

Vol. III, No. 28.

Leagi BRANT

On Monday, October 11th, the Executive Secretary, ... spoke on the aims of the C.L.A.C.P. He spoke ... about this organization. The branch league was ... Brantford.

On November the first meeting was held. Our membership then ... all were present and ... the organization has ... fully, which shows ... pressing and not ... membership has increased, 1925, from ten ... five at the present ... Our work has cons ... a spirit of union on ... We believe that if v ... people interested soci ... wonders, and with all ... ing women and no me ... and are going to with ...

On Monday, Nov. 30 ... successful box social wa ... purpose of starting o ... and raising money fo ... and a very neat sum ... start off with.

Feb. 26th, 1926 saw ... concert put on in E ... members of the C.L.A ... thought that Brantfor ... being one of Ontari ... and populated by so ... People, but this League ... that we have all the t ... with some practice.

This League to find th ... ore if it had not been ... C.P. we would not ha ... Brantford people could ... bert to please the pu ... own local talent and n ... siders. Also, we repe ... cert on May 4th, 1926 ... Church which was a d ... all our benefits going to ... Church Parsonage. Bot ... erts were absolutell a ... realizing splendid sums ... Although our league i ... re mighty, and we int ... great work in the future ... We are getting our y ...