

aturday, May 19th, 1928.

vention will sit here May 30 and 31, just prior to the celebration. Further details will be announced later.

RATFORD NEWS.

Harrison has gone on a trip.

Wesley has gone to the city.

Lazel Wesley has gone to the city.

last two months Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell, of Woodville, have had relations in the city.

Mathew has returned after being away for the last two months.

sorry to report the death of our race. within the last few weeks.

for wedding bells soon.

our people are on the move.

MY FRIEND.

call himself friend and I him much too talk long and well and promises make, promises, not words, tell me re our friends low his lead I could not make.

want me to dance, but I the thought, had taught me to shun from a child, numberless pleasures to enjoy could indulge and redefined.

that the dance in itself bad, people who led it were "my child," I to love pleasure higher thought I not do that without defined.

judgment matures then thankful we are discipline that we once so severe, w to be brought up in an home st of blessings that we ve here.

S KILLED IN 1927

n, May 9th.—Aviation during 1927 cost resulted in injuries persons. total deaths, twenty-reged to experimental planes of untested character.

Official Organ of the Can. League for Advancement of Colored People



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

VOLUME IV, NO. 16.

LONDON, ONTARIO, JUNE 23rd, 1928.

Price 5 Cents.

Interesting Report Of American Anti- Slavery Society

(Courtesy Prof. Fred London)

The fourth annual report of the American Anti-Slavery Society published in the Quarterly Anti-Slavery Magazine for July, 1837, gives the report of an agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society who was employed "to investigate the conditions and prospects of the colored people in Upper Canada, where he finds a population of about 10,000, almost entirely fugitives from American oppression. Having crossed the line with no other wealth than their own bodies and souls, many of them have made themselves quite comfortable, and some have become even wealthy. Several have sprung up among them by the efforts of the agent. Full and satisfactory evidence of their good behaviour and value as citizens has been given by the highest civil authorities and by men of standing of different sects and parties.

The following letters were received by the agent in reply to his enquiries from gentlemen in Toronto whose character is too well known to need any description:

1st from Hon. R. G. Dunlop, member of the Provincial Parliament.

"House of Assembly, Toronto, January 27th, 1837.

Dear Sir:—Permit me to assure you that I feel much pleasure in replying to your communication of yesterday, and in recording my testimony, whether in my private capacity as a subject, or in my public as a magistrate and representative of the people, it gives me infinite satisfaction to say that after much observation and some experience I have arrived at this conclusion, viz, that there are not in His Majesty's dominions, a more loyal, honest, industrious, temperate and independent class of citizens than the colored people of Upper Canada. Go on, therefore, my dear sir, in your work of charity, and let us pray fervently to the Most High, that He will look down with compassion on the degraded children of Africa, and lead them as He did the chosen



MRS. PEARL BROWN, Secretary
London Branch C.L.A.C.P.

people of old, from your modern Egypt of oppression.

Yours very sincerely,

R. G. Dunlop,
Captain of R.N., M.P. for the County of Huron."

"Toronto, Jan. 30, 1837.

Sir,—In reply to your inquiries, I beg to offer as my opinion, with much diffidence. 1st, that nearly all of them are opposed to every species of reform in the civil institutions of the colony—they are so extravagantly loyal to the Executive that to the utmost of their power they uphold all the abuses of government, and support those who profit by them. 2nd, As a people they are as well behaved as a majority of the whites and perhaps more temperate. 3rd, To your third question I would say, not 'more numerous.' 4th, Cases in which colored people ask public charity are rare, as far as I can recollect. I am opposed to slavery, whether of whites or blacks, in every form. I wish to live long enough to see the people of this continent, of the humblest classes educated and free, and held in respect, according to their conduct and attainments, without reference to country, color or worldly substance. But I regret that an unfounded fear of a union with the United States on the part of the colored population should have induced them to oppose reform and free institutions in this colony, wherever they have had the power to do so. The apology I make for them in this matter is that they have not been educated as freemen.

I am, your respectful, humble

(Continued on Page 6)

Righting a Wrong Devotes November Issue to the Negro

(Nashville Banner)

One of the most distressing situations in human experience comes when it is discovered that a man has been imprisoned for years on false charges, and the State of South Carolina is faced with it now. Thirteen years ago, Ben Bess, a Negro, was sent to the penitentiary for thirty years on the testimony of a white woman that he had attempted to attack her. The woman is nearing the end of her life from an incurable disease and has but lately relieved her conscience and admitted that she testified to falsehoods on the stand and sent Bess to prison for a crime of which he was innocent. Bess is now broken physically and absolutely destitute, and the injustice that has been done him is glaringly obvious. South Carolina was guilty of a grave wrong in the first place and is now apparently just as eager to do what is humanly possible to right it. The fault has been admitted and steps are being taken to apply what measure of remedy lies within the state's power.

Governor Richards of South Carolina has been exceedingly active in Bess' behalf. As soon as the case was presented to his attention he tried to have financial aid given Bess from the State's contingent fund, and when he was advised that such procedure was illegal, he started a public subscription for Bess' benefit. He has likewise announced that he will seek to have the next legislature do what it can to repay Bess for the almost irreparable damage that has been done him. All this is precisely as it should be. Society cannot make up to Ben Bess the thirteen years of freedom it has unjustly taken from him, but it can prove to him its genuine remorse for what has happened and make the rest of his life at least a partial recompense.

CHURCH PUTS END TO SEGREGATION

TULSA, Okla., June 13—Standing by a decision to meet in a city in which Negroes were not so likely to be segregated, the Presbyterian Church has designated St. Paul, Minn. as the meeting place of the 141st General Assembly of the church next year.

New York, June 15—The American Academy of Political and Social Science is devoting the November issue of its Annals to 'The American Negro' it was learned today, under the special editorship of Charles S. Johnson.

The number is to be made a comprehensive survey, both white and colored leaders in race relations being among the contributors. The list of contributors includes: Charles S. Johnson, on "Change in Educational Status of the Negro," Will W. Alexander, Secretary of the Inter-racial Committees, "The Negro in the New South," James Weldon Johnson, Secretary and Herbert J. Seligmann, Director of Publicity of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "Legal Aspects of the Negro Problem," R. R. Moton, "Organized Negro Effort for Racial Progress," J. H. Dillard, Director of Jeanes and Slater Funds; J. E. Gregg, C. H. Tobias, Kelley Miller, N. C. Newbold, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, George E. Haynes, Forrester Washington, E. K. Jones of the National Urban League, and others.

CHARLES W. CHESNUTT, SPINGARN MEDALIST, GOING TO LOS ANGELES

New York, June 15th—Charles W. Chesnutt, of Cleveland, winner of this year's award of the Spingarn Medal, has notified the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that he will attend the Los Angeles Conference of the Association and will be present to receive the Medal in person on the night of July 3rd.

The movement against segregation was provoked at the meeting of the assembly in this city recently, when the annual good will banquet of the church had to be abandoned because of segregation practices in the city, which would have prevented the Race delegates to the meeting from dining at the same table with the white delegates.

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Editorial

WILL THE B.M.E. CONFERENCE UNITE?

Much interest is centered on the approaching Annual Conference of the British Methodist Episcopal Church. The conference convenes in North Buxton on the 29th of June, lasting through the 4th of July. We understand that there will be representatives from the A.M.E., the A.M.E. Zion, both Colored Conferences of the United Church of Canada. Feeling the need of uniting with some stronger body the B.M.E. has asked these organizations to send representatives to its Conference, with the expectation of effecting an affiliation with some one of them. This procedure is both wise and necessary for it is an obvious fact that our churches in the cities, towns and rural districts are showing a decided decline. It must ever be so and will go from bad to worse so long as there remains such a small colored population and as long as we attempt to stand alone. In some cities and even some smaller towns, we have a Baptist church, an A.M.E. Church and a B.M.E. Church, when according to our population, we should have one, but never over two Churches. As weak in numbers and in finance as we are we will insist on having more churches than is necessary, thereby dividing our strength and failing to support properly any church.

As to forming an affiliation with the A.M.E. Church it might be argued that they are already established here in Canada and that it is one of the strongest, if not the most strongly entrenched colored conference among us. In the United States, its home, it is one of the strongest colored organizations in existence. The A.M.E. Zion, another strong Negro organization, has only a small foothold in Canada, though by no means a weak body in the States. But just how much real strength would accrue to the B.M.E. by uniting with either of these is a question. It is hinted that a bishopric has been offered to some Canadian should the union be effected. But surely we can not so easily be misled. Those of us who understand the running of

things know that it takes more political pull to land a bishopric in one of these conferences than it required to nominate Hoover as Presidential candidate. Even if ALL the Negroes in Ontario belonged to one of these Conferences we doubt very seriously that they could command enough influence to elect a Canadian as Bishop.

We have been told by very excellent authority that the United Church of Canada is ready and willing to accept the B.M.E. in its Conference. What would be gained by such a union? In the first place, the United Church of Canada has set an example which all of the churches of the world would do well to follow. When the churches of the one Christ cease quibbling over creeds and forms and rituals and unite their forces, then we may soon look forward to the day when His Kingdom will "come one earth as it is in heaven." The United Church probably will not offer and most certainly will not give the B.M.E. a bishopric, but it does offer and will pay a minimum salary to ministers, which salary is in nearly every instance, higher than that received by our present ministers.

Again, these salaries will not come through the route of solitars' subscription book, but they will come from monies raised by the Conference for that very purpose. All of which means that the Churches of the B.M.E. would have efficient, well trained Negro ministers, men who are real leaders, good speakers and fine pastors. There would then be some inducement for young colored ment of talent and ambition to enter the ministry, as it now is, few of our talented boys are looking toward the ministry as a life's work. Still, if there is any one profession that calls for the best which a race can produce, it is the high calling of the ministry.

But would an affiliation with the United Church of Canada eliminate our colored preachers? Most certainly not. We do not believe the United Church would dream of doing such, and more than that, the officers of the B.M.E. Conference would be dumbbells not to tie them down to an agreement touching this point. There is no conceivable reason why a colored church should not have a colored minister. More than that, we WILL have a colored minister.

But at all events let us have some kind of affiliation. For unless there is some kind of union, the handwriting on the wall is not propitious. We trust that personal ambitions, petty jealousies, petty likes and dislikes will be submerged by the one great thing—"Union". For without some kind of union we perish.

FROM MY NOTE BOOK

(By Mrs. S. E. G. Allen)

Ever since you have had a being a stream of influence, consciously or unconsciously, has been going from you with telling effect and influence on all those with whom you come in contact.

Man, in his proper calling, may expect help from on high.

No man can be so independent of all else, as he who is consciously and trustfully wholly dependent on God.

Our responsibility has to do with work, not with results.

The condition of a progressive soul is a hungry soul.

It is not in the power of the human will to trust any one. If we find any one worthy of trust, we trust that one without trying.

They are slaves who dare not be.

In the right with two are three. No higher honor can be put upon any man than to have it appear that God is with him, and works through him, and for him.

It is a good test of our Christian character to ask would it help or hinder a lowly believer to live beside us?

A good resolve "I will utter no word and convey no thought unworthy a Christian disciple."

Kepler said, "I think thy thoughts after Thee, O God"

A sense of wrong always makes us unjust, a most humiliating thought.

I know not one advanced Christian who tries to obey for the hope of heaven or the fear of hell.

By reading and reading only, to sit down and think with the greatest thinkers is the greatest privilege God has given us.

ONTARIO MAKES RAPID STRIDES AS POPULAR SUMMER PLAYGROUND

A ready answer to the question "Where shall we go for our holidays" is found to-day among the many attractive and pleasurable resorts that have made Ontario's highlands and lake districts the mecca of vacationists from all across the continent.

From the blue waters of Huron to the rock spattered streams of the Ottawa Valley, picturesque lakes and sparkling rivers vie with each other as popular resorts.

For the ardent fisherman the Kawartha Lakes, the Thirty Thousand Islands of Georgian Bay, the Maganatawan, Pickering and French River districts and inland lakes of Algonquin Park offer the best of bass, maskinonge and trout fishing.

For some, a holiday is not complete without a canoe trip. For these, Timagami, the Rideau Lakes and the upper streams and lakes of Algonquin Park offer a thousand delightful canoe trips with open-air camping and cooking thrown in for extra measure.

For general holidays, such resorts as Muskoka Lakes, Lake of Bays, Georgian Bay, Kawartha Lakes and Lakes Couchiching and Simcoe are recommended.

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Planning For Haiti Freedom

(St. Louis Argus)
Washington, D.C., June 13th—
Senator King Dem. of Utah, who
has long championed the cause of
freedom from United States mili-
tary occupation and absolute self-
government for the Negro Repub-
lic of Haiti, in a bold and out-
spoken statement here Friday, de-
clared American commercial in-
terests are getting possession of
the land of the country and the
people are showing a growing dis-
satisfaction with the state of af-
fairs. Senator King has said that
President L. Borno's favor of U.
S. military occupation has been
prompted by selfish political am-
bition.

Lauding the history of the
country from the victory of the
great General Toussant L'Ouvre-
ture, who out-generaled the migh-
ty French armies of Napoleon
Bonaparte, Senator King pleaded
for greater freedom for the pre-
sent Haiti.

Possession of Land Passing.
Under American occupation,
large areas of land have passed
under the control of American
corporations. The right to Hai-
tians to occupy lands which had
been occupied by them and their
forefathers for hundreds of years
has been assailed," Senator King
said.

"Thousands of Haitians, fear-
ing American rule, have left Haiti
and sought employment in Cuba
and other surrounding countries.
Political organizations which did
not believe in American occupa-
tion have been dissolved and a
situation developed which pro-
vokes resentment against an ill
will towards the United States,
and constitutes and obstacle to
genuine progress and to the poli-
tical development essential to the
maintenance of a free and inde-
pendent Government.

"When the United States took
possession of Haiti her obligation
did not exceed \$16,000,000. Un-
der American occupation a bond
issue of \$40,000,000 has been au-
thorized and bonds to the amount
of nearly \$30,000,000 have been
issued. These have been acquir-
ed largely, if not entirely, by fi-
nancial interests in New York City.

"The National City Bank un-
der American rule, is the fiscal
agent of the Government, and it
is claimed by some that the Un-
ited States will be required to re-
main in Haiti until all of the \$40,
000,000 bonds issue have matur-
ed and have been paid. These
bonds do not mature until 1956,
and under the agreement the Un-
ited States will be required to
continue its occupation of Haiti
until that date if not longer.

Brutal Murder of Innocent Negro

New York, June 15th,—The Na-
tional Association for the Ad-
vancement of Colored People, 69
Fifth Avenue, has just received a
detailed report casting new light

upon the brutal murder near Al-
exandria, Louisiana, of two inno-
cent colored men, Lee and Dave
Blackman, brothers of William
Blackman, who was shot to death
after allegedly killing a deputy
sheriff. No crime was charged
against the two Blackman broth-
ers lynched, except that of being
brothers to William Blackman.

The facts as recited in the re-
port sent to the N.A.A.C.P. and
vouched for by leading colored
citizens of the community, are as
follows:

"1. William Blackman was
wounded by unknown deputies
before he even attempted to de-
fend himself. He was called to
his door and shot twice. Closing
the door he crawled into another
room. Securing his gun he shot
and killed—alleged to have—de-
puty sheriff J. F. Phillips.

"2. The high sheriff went to
the scene of the alleged crime and
persuaded two brothers of the de-
ceased William Blackman to al-
low him to have them confined
in jail to keep down 'mob law'
and to afford them protection.
This they unwillingly agreed to,
even though they were over a mile
from the scene of the alleged kill-
ing and knew nothing of the
crime until informed by the sher-
iff.

"3. Upon the date of the lynch-
ing the high sheriff left the city
of Alexandria to convey two pris-
oners to the state penitentiary in
Baton Rouge, La., thus setting a
precedent as prisoners are usually
sonveyed to the penitentiary by
deputy sheriffs. The two pris-
oners larried to the penitentiary
were not so desperate that it was
nelessary for the high sheriff to
accompany them, as is shown by
the fact that one of them had re-
cently returned from Chicago
that he might surrender to a
charge of petty larceny, and had
he been desperate this act he
would not have performed.

"4. Practically one week after
the lynching only one newspaper
has had any comment to make
and no efforts have been put forth
by any parish or state officers to
even start an investigation, no ef-
fort has been made to replace the
burned homes or reimburse the
wives of the men.

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LONDON

Mr. James Thompson is slowly improving in Victoria Hospital.

Thursday evening, May 24th, the young people of London met together at the home of Mrs. M. Harris, 11 Maitland St., in honor of Miss Dorothy Shadd, student of the Normal School. Many amusing games were enjoyed by all present after which a dainty lunch was served. Out on the lawn was an array of fireworks which brought forth many shouts of glee from the younger set. All went home at a late hour happy and wishing Miss Shadd success in her studies.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Shadd, of Fletcher spent a few hours in the city last Friday afternoon. Miss Dorothy Shadd accompanied her brother home.

Sunday, June 10th was observed as Children's Day in the B.M. E. Church. At 11 o'clock the pastor, Rev. T. Woodcock gave the address to the boys and girls who attended and were in the choir. We were pleased to see the number who came out, only sorry that more of the parents did not enjoy the service with us. At 3 p.m. the program consisted of numbers by the Primary and Junior departments also a choir assisted by the orchestra. The little folk were quite proud of the part they played to make the afternoon of interest. At 7 p.m. a large and appreciative audience again assembled to hear the concluding programme of the day. Solos, trios, readings and choruses by the young choir and orchestra were thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Mr. J. W. Fountain, Superintendent of the Sunday School was chairman. Masters Norman Fountain and Javan Woodcock lifted the offering. Although it was not as large as we had hoped we were grateful to all who helped us out. The orchestra was Mr. Paul Lewis, Clarinet, Mr. Geo. Fountain, coronet; Alice Drake, violin; Jeanette Woodcock, piano.

Monday evening at 8.15 p.m. the Sunday School held their annual programme. The attendance was not as large as we expected but those present enjoyed themselves. Little Miss Vera Kelly sang very sweetly. Little Miss Kathleen Jenkins recited to the enjoyment of all, as did Master James Jenkins and sister Evelyn rendered their piano duet. Miss Jeanette Woodcock and sister Doris and brother Javan, gave a delightful little dialogue ending up with a vocal trio. The concluding number was drill by 20 girls which was well given and judging from the applause of the audience, was enjoyed. Each girl in a light dress wore a little green cap and sash trimmed with roses. We are grateful to all who assisted to make Sunday and Monday a success.

Mr. Stanley Drake spent the week end visiting his mother and sisters.

Rev. J. T. Dawson, Mr. F. Edmunds and Mr. W. Perkins, of Windsor, visited in the city for a few hours and stopped at the Headquarters.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Vincent of N. Buxton, Mr. and Mrs. D. Williams and little son, of Chatham, were guests in the city with Mrs. Vincent's brother, Mr. C. Brown and Mrs. Brown, Horton St.

Miss Jeanette Woodcock has been elected delegate to represent the Sunday School at the Convention at North Buxton, June 30—July 2nd.

LIKE AN ARABIAN KNIGHT'S ADVENTURE.

Have you ever wished to see with your own eyes, deep-caverned valleys, snow-topped mountains, rugged pathways that lead adventurous souls from the heart of forest lands up to rocky, misty heights?

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On the way there you can stop off at Jasper National Park—see the wonders of this greatest of Canadian playgrounds.

Then leave civilization behind for a day or two as you pass thru range after range of mighty forest-clad mountains. Taste again the joy of city life at beautiful Vancouver and Victoria. Then take the far-famed trip through the scenic seas of the North Pacific Coast to Alaska—the land of the Midnight Sun.

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MODERATE CHARGES

Interesting Report Of American Anti- Slavery Society

(Continued from page 1.)

servant.

W. L. MacKENZIE.

Sir.—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, containing certain inquiries relating to the people of color in this, I have much pleasure in affording my testimony for the information of the Society of which you state yourself to be the agent, begging you will consider my observations as strictly applicable to the people of color within this city and immediate neighborhood, to which alone my knowledge extends. In reply to your query No. 1, I believe them to be truly loyal subjects of the government. 2nd. As a people I have no reason to question their honesty or industry, and as far as my observation serves me they appear to be both temperate and well behaved. 3rd I am not aware that criminal cases are more numerous with them than with others in proportion to their numbers. But with respect to your 4th question I wish to be more explicit, that although I have been in the habit of daily contributing a vast number of destitute poor ever since my residence in this province, now seventeen years, I do not remember ever having been solicited for alms by more than one or two people of color during the whole course of that period.

I am, your respectful humble servant.

JOHN HE. DUNN.

Receiver-General, Upper Canada

INTER-RACIAL WORK ENDORSED BY METHODISTS

Kansas City, Mo., June 5—The work of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta and branches throughout the South was highly commended by the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church in their address to the General Conference in recent quadrennial session in this city. The section of the address referring to the commission was as follows:

"As illustrating the possibility of constructive effort in the correction of race prejudice, we would call attention to the remarkable work done by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation in a field of unusually delicate relationships and perplexing problems. It is one of the movements which has called constantly for self-restraint and that faith which inspires broad-minded endeavour. We would formally acknowledge our obligation to those who have given themselves to the promotion of this work, and we should not only encourage the Commission to continue effort in this particular field, but also should accept its accomplishment as suggestive of what may be done and ought to be done in bringing other racial groups together. The General

Conference has it in its power, by the promotion of such agencies, to strengthen in a significant way the bonds of interracial goodwill.

CONGRATULATIONS

The congratulations of the community are heartily extended to Miss L. Freer upon her success in a recent MacLeanogram of a new series as conducted by MacLean's "Canada's National" magazine. A substantial cheque has been received by Miss Freer as a reward for her attainment in this most pleasant and fascinating of competitions, a new one of which is announced in each issue of "MacLeans"—"Read by Canadians". We hope many of our other local residents will be equally successful in future MacLeanograms.

Lines to one who had been teaching in a Public School for Forty Years.

(By S. E. G. Allen)

Tell me dear friend, can it be true
Or is it but a dream, that you
For forty long years, as you say
Stood at your desk from day to day?
Day after day through all those years.
How much of joy, how much of tears
And what great numbers did you bless
With love in your unselfishness.
Faithful? No other way you knew
Than stand there to your duties true.
How much of good no human knows
Long years of labor, now repose.
Living for others, noble test
Of all true worth you've earned your rest.
Dear faithful friend, for such as you
Heaven's star filled crowns are surely due.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kelly, of 9 Marmora Street, celebrated their twelfth wedding anniversary on the evening of June 21st. There were more than fifty of their old friends present to shower congratulations upon them and to wish them all the happiness which life can bestow. Out of town guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Butler and family, Mrs. Theresa Duncan, all of Lucan; Miss Edna Butler, of Providence, R.I.; Mrs. Willock and her son, of Cleveland; Mrs. M. Harrison and her two daughters, June and Marguerite; Miss Gertrude Henderson, Mr. Robt. Hesson, all of Stratford, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly received many expensive and useful presents as a token of the high esteem in which they are held. After a dainty luncheon was served the guests lingered till after 1 a.m.

Our lives are written in the souls of others, as in the Book of God.

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