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# The Dawn of Tomorrow

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

VOL. VI, NO. 2

LONDON, CANADA, MAY 26th, 1932.

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## A SCHOOL'S VISION FOR THE NEGRO

(by permission of Christian Science)  
The Piney Woods Country Life School (a school for Negro boys and girls) has grown from a "mustard seed" start to a group of eight well-arranged brick buildings and a number of neat frame cottages for teachers, with 400 students—300 of them boarders, 30 teachers, 8 academic, located on a tract of 1500 acres of pine-clad hills. And thereby hangs an epitale; It is a story of courage, endurance, faith and heroism on the part of a colored man from Iowa, Lawrence Jones, who 22 years ago—driven by the vision of the need of his own people and the full realization of the motto "Noblesse oblige"—left his comfortable situation and cast his lot with those needy ones of his race "way down in the Black Belt," near Braxton, about 20 miles south of Jackson, the State's capital.

There are two trends in Mississippi in regard to Negro education; one that the Negro should know only how to labor—that book learning is hurtful; the other is more humanitarian, that the Negro should be educated, fitted for life—made a good citizen. The Piney Woods School and its founders have won the respect and appreciation of both groups, and have shown to all that the Negro, capable, contented, owning his own home, is an asset to the community, a creator of wealth and of good will. In the last few years more than 6000 acres, of land have been sold for homes in the vicinity of the school, many of the humble cottages have been white-washed, painted, and glass windows put in—a great luxury for many.

In this school there are three main courses of training with various branches: agriculture, mechanical arts and trades, and domestic science, with an academic course equivalent to a high school course. The purpose of the courses is to "carry the gospel of better farming, better living, better schools and churches to those who live back from the main traveled roads." The fireside, the kitchen and the farms make up the triangular foundation upon which the instruction is based.

### Leader in Humanitarian Work.

This school leads in all humanitarian work for the Negroes in Mississippi. Until a short time ago nothing was done for the blind of the Negro race in the state. Recently in connection with the Piney Woods School

## IN MEMORIAM



To the general public as well as the Negro Race the news of the passing of Editor James F. Jenkins meant that a kindly, efficient public servant had laid his burden down. To his co-workers and friends, his death meant the loss of a just and sympathizing friend from whose keen intelligence no sham could be hidden, but upon whose helpful assistance reliance could unfailingly be placed. To those whose privilege it was to work with him, his parting meant the going of an unselfish spirit, and the loss of a personal friend. To have known him is to have loved him. None will ever forget him, and that memory will be a constant incentive, never to rest satisfied, with our work till our best has been given.

a teach of Braille has been employed by the State, and one now sees around the campus one child, less blind than the others, serving them as a pilot to their places of instruction. The Julius Rosenwald public school serves the local elementary students and through the Smith-Hughes fund, vocational agricultural work is carried on at the Piney Woods School.

A boy wrote to Professor Jones that his father had intended to send a cow to pay for the boy's schooling, but he had lost the cow, and could offer only molasses. The boy said he would have to be a work boy because he had no money. The boy who was coming with him was bringing a helper. This is the kind of boy who makes good at Piney Woods.

## LAWYER AND FRIEND

—By Leo M. Dorsey—

I have been questioned often in my visits to various American cities, concerning the attitude of white Canadians of the upper realm toward the Negro who has achieved professional success; the question reverts to the old idiosyncratic social equality issue, which of course, to my mind is an individual right to select one's own companions and accept invitations according to one's better judgment. I usually refer my inquirers to eminent Canadian professional men of this astonishing race who are worthy of a seat among their representative white contemporaries. Of course our Canadian professional men are few in number, but mighty in intellect. Notable among these is B. J. Spencer Pitt, LL.G., Toronto Barrister, organizer and counsel general of the B.M.E. Conference. A highly esteemed by both jurist and layman, a broad-minded thinker who has accomplished much in Toronto for the benefit of the race, an understanding between the groups, and has made his name almost a country-wide "slogan" by his winning of difficult cases, while opposed by the foremost lawyers of other groups. I believe in holding up the achievements of the worthy and letting the "holier than thou" type of man measure himself. Invariably he is found wanting and the knowledge of his own incompetence and narrow-mindedness defeats his ingratiating arguments. There are those who should get in touch with this capable and unassuming man named Pitt and help him put Toronto on the map as one of the most progressive centres for Negroes; also let us forget whether we are Americans, Canadians or West Indians, forget denominational strife in our churches, compromise and advance.

### OF THEM I CALL "MY PLEA TO MY PEOPLE."

Negroes bitterly afflicted  
With a weakness for complaining,  
Realize you're unrestricted  
And your race is truly gaining.

Pull together, plow and harrow,  
Cultivate your sons and daughters,  
Not along a channel narrow,  
But on many peaceful waters.

Slay the superstitious vulture,  
Let race progress interest you,  
Rise and in the name of culture  
Use the gifts with which God blest you.

## PHYLLIS WHEATLEY ROSE AS POETESS

Handicap of Slavery was Surmounted  
By Courageous Girl.

One of the most interesting poets of Colonial days was Phyllis Wheatley. This truly remarkable colored woman was born in Africa about 1775 brought to Boston and sold as a shivering, ragged slave girl to a kind and cultivated woman by the name of Mrs. John Wheatley. Mrs. Wheatley gave the girl the best possible education of that day, and she was taught even Latin and astronomy.

### Went to London

Phyllis was an excellent pupil and when very young began to write good verse. In 1773 she accompanied the Wheatleys to England. In London she was received with honor, and while there published her first book of poems. This she dedicated to the Countess of Huntingdon, who was kind and helpful to her. Shortly after her return from England Mrs. Wheatley died, followed shortly by other members of the family who had been kind to Phyllis. From this time on her life became one of great trial and she produced no more work of importance. She married a colored man who was worthless in every way; her three children died in infancy and Phyllis herself died in poverty in 1784. Had she lived longer and under happier conditions Phyllis Wheatley would no doubt have produced many worthy books, for she showed great promise in her youth.

## Homes and Hotel Burn

Greenville, S.C.—Two hundred and twenty-five persons are homeless as a result of a fire which destroyed 48 homes in a colored suburb. The property loss is estimated at \$200,000. Firemen were able to do but little with the blaze until it had burned for a distance of half a mile and approached the city limits where water was available.

You have souls refined and able  
Broad and worthy, keen of vision  
Do not stand afar and label  
Them with undeserved derision.

Stop imagining abuses  
And forget the pangs of sorrow  
Bury deep the old excuses,  
Plan for those who rise tomorrow.

—LEO M. DORSEY



## Dawn of Tomorrow

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### EDITORIAL

The United States is this year celebrating the bicentennial of the birth of George Washington and public effort has been made to link up the memory of the first president with all classes of the population. The politicians who directed the celebration appear to have made obvious efforts, however, to eliminate the Negro from the scene as far as possible and to mention only the contribution of slaves to Washington's times.

Negro History Week, however, came at an opportune time and the Association for the study of Negro Life and History, even with its limited resources was able to arouse to action a sufficient number of persons of both races to protest against such a glazed and unhistoric attitude. It was kept before the public mind that while the large majority of Negroes in Washington's time were slaves there were others who had shown sufficient enterprise to become free and to take their places on a higher level in the social order. Furthermore, if such a celebration was intended to stimulate the public to nobler deeds, certainly there should be held up before Negroes the examples of those who had gone upward rather than those of the race who had remained on the last rung of the social ladder.

The Director of the Association pointed out publicly certain characters neglected by the Bicentennial Commission who during Washington's time impressed their worth upon the public. Jupiter Hammon and Phyllis Wheatley in poetry; James Derham in medicine; Benjamin Banneker and Thomas Fuller in science and mathematics; and Richard Allen, Lemuel Haynes, George Liele and Andrew Bryan in religion.

These men by superior attainments had demonstrated to Washington and to his contemporaries that they were capable of a mental development and social amelioration to qualify as functionaries in a higher sphere than that to which they had been assigned in a country settled by men seeking an asylum from the oppression of Europe.

The Director went on to point out the services of Negroes in the War of the Revolution. To ignore black men who sacrificed their lives and to dramatize the Negro merely as a servant or slave leading Washington's horse was, he contended, a distortion of history and a reflection upon the intelligence of the country. To popularize the record of the Ne-

gro, therefore, a large supply of literature was distributed and speakers were sent to strategic points to give a correct and liberal interpretation of race history. Probably the most impressive of these demonstrations of interest was the meeting in the caucus room of the National Capitol at Washington, addressed by Congressman Oscar De Priest of Illinois, Congressman Luce of Massachusetts and President Mordecai W. Johnson of Howard University. Pupils, teachers federal employees and business men listened with interest to inspiring and informing discourses on the history of the Negro and the status of the race in the modern world.

Other speakers were equally as successful elsewhere. Professor Benjamin Brawley spoke with great success to audiences in Rochester and Washington. Dr. Charles H. Wesley did likewise in Philadelphia and at Hampton. Mr. Walter H. Mazick, author of "George Washington and the Negro," spoke at several places near home but also reached groups as far South as Greensboro, Columbia and Charleston.

### A BIG JOB

(by Leo M. Dorsey)

Having met the late Mr. Jenkins former editor of The Dawn of Tomorrow a few days before his untimely death, I was greatly impressed with his powerful and pleasing personality inspired by his hopefulness and unselfish devotion to his cause. After reading of his demise and overcoming the shock of his passing brought to all privileged to know him, my mind drifted to his noble enterprise, medium of expression for the Negroes of Canada. I enjoyed in retrospect his truthful and clever editorials, appreciated his vast influence for good, his keen knowledge of events as concerning the Negro, his thorough qualifications as a diplomatic journalist which had made him beloved among men of both groups. I realized his job, (especially in Canada) was a big job. Battling against the odds of indifference and backwardness of the self-satisfied, for the advancement of his race. I thought, "Who can fill the shoes of such a man?" Shall the Dawn of Tomorrow pass on among the attempts of others who could not rise nor stand against the wind? Some time later my questions were answered by the presence of Mrs. C. Jenkins at the helm, filled with the genial fighting spirit of her late husband, swinging her forces into action like an experienced general; burning the midnight oil of determination that Canada might retain her wonderful little Negro mouthpiece. Mrs. Jenkins possesses those fine qualities expected of a lady in her unique position, that of being perhaps the only lady editor, if not the only editor of standing of our race in Canada, her writings bristle with confidence and she is a keen student of current events. To meet her is to discern a deep wealth of refinement; to dwell on cultural topics and enjoy her personal charm which adds to a capable administrator—the gift of making friends of those who have the interest of the race at heart and feel it their duty to appreciate a lady of the race who is successfully running a big job.

### WHERE DUTY CALLS WE CAN

We're none so poor, whate'er our plight,  
That we've no help to give  
To those who would be poorer quite  
Should we not nobly live.  
The way we face the tasks we find  
May aid our brother man  
To fondly treasure in his mind  
The gladsome thought "I Can!"  
Not in a proud and boastful way,  
But glad indeed in heart  
That in the duties of our day  
We each may share a part.

Amazing things we sometimes see,  
For instance there's the ant;  
Almost as small as small can be,  
Yet, scorns the thought "I Can't!"  
Far more in weight than is his own  
He carries here and there;  
His lifting oft is done alone,  
Nor seems he that to care.  
Bravely he climbs the steepest hill  
With strong and steady tread;  
We, too, shall win if we've the will  
And plod right on ahead.

Let us from ants a lesson take,  
Nor seek our task to shift;  
An honest "try" is ours to make  
When we've great loads to lift.  
The God Who formed the busy ant  
Is our Creator too,  
And therefore we should ne'er say  
"Can't!"

When His command is "Do!"  
So near is greatness to our dust,  
And strength so close to man,  
When "Duty" calls to those who trust,  
Our Faith replies, "We Can!"

—MACK

### THE DAWN OF TOMORROW

(by Leo M. Dorsey)

To-day with its joy and its sorrow  
Has blessed us with sunshine and rain

We look to the dawn of to-morrow  
Thru keen disappointments and pain  
For each dawn has found us much nearer

More hopeful of reaching our goal  
Our love for advancement grows dearer

Sincerity stirs every soul.  
The voice of the next generation  
Demands our best effort to-day  
We're building a solid foundation  
For those little children at play.  
Let's use all the timber about us,  
And rally to those in the lead,  
That all who are tempted to doubt us  
Might find us progressive indeed.  
Have faith in the Negro, your brother

Support him in business, be wise  
For all of us need one another  
The hand-writing bears no disguise,  
From whom shall we seek aid or borrow

If all the world marches by?  
Prepare for the dawn of to-morrow  
Don't stand on the highway and cry.

### Juvenile Acting Good

(Copied from Mayfair)

Produced under the direction of Mr. Walter Dixon, Booth Tarkington's inimitable Penrod, the London Drama League's offering, was notable for the discovery of juvenile leads of unusual talent. Mr. Dixon developed a cast of unique interest, including the two colored children Kathleen and Freddy Jenkins, children of the

late J. F. Jenkins of London, who until his recent death edited The Dawn of Tomorrow. It may be something more than coincidence that London has produced these two juvenile actors from the colored race. The youngsters also played a leading part in the Show Boat, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club and later entertaining at a banquet given by the London Life Insurance Co. Executive.

Richard B. Harrison, who created the role of the Lord Jehovah in the New York production of The Green Pastures, too, came from London, where he was born. Richard Harrison was the son of one-time slaves, who escaped to Canada via the famous "underground". Last spring he was honored with the Spingairn medal which is awarded each year for the outstanding achievement by a member of his race.

Critical reviews of London Drama League's Penrod emphasize that no better work has been done by the League in London.

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## INGERSOL NOTES

Mrs. Henderson and daughter Ruth paid a visit to their daughter and son Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hollingsworth in London for a few days.

## LONDON NOTES

A musical contest given by the East and West Side of London's young people at the home of Mrs. M. Harris was a great success with musical numbers of all descriptions. The house voted a tie, so keep your eyes and ears open for the next episode.

An entertainment given by Mrs. Budd to raise funds toward the Taxes on the Church was a success.

The Mother's Day services were well attended at the B.M.E. Church. The Stewardesses took charge of the whole day. The evening service under Mrs. B. Fountain as chair-lady was as follows:

Doxology; Prayer, Mrs. B. Fountaine, Hymn 707; Prayer, Frs. M. Drake; Selection by choir; Scripture lesson, Mrs. Richardson; Hymn 82; Reading Mrs. M. Malott; Violin, Miss Irma Richardson; Paper, Mrs. C. Jenkins; Vocal Duet, Mrs. C. Jenkins, Mrs. L. Richardson; Address, Mrs. A. Budd; Chorus, The Old Rugged Cross, Misses G. Stafford, E. Jenkins, B. Fountaine, D. Moxley, L. Duncan; Selection, choir; offering; Instrumental Duet, Messrs. N. Duncan, S. Drake; Vocal Duet, Messrs. J. Brooks, H. Miller; Remarks, Rev. E. A. Richardson; Instrumental, Miss F. Drake; Closing Hymn No. 817; Benediction, Rev. E. A. Richardson.

Mrs. Bertha Moxley is able to be up and about after a severe relapse of heart trouble.

Mrs. Eliza Groat is improving nicely; her niece Miss R. Smith of Cayuga is visiting with her at present.

Rev. Richardson inspired the congregation somewhat by being able to attend the service last Sunday. He has been quite ill for the past 4 months.

Mrs. Grace Groat and children visited in the city for a few days.

Mrs. Alice Fountain is unable to be about. She is suffering with a slight stroke.

Mr. W. Fountain has been transferred to the General Steel Wares in Toronto where he is the only colored man holding a position as foreman in that company. We wish him luck.

## TORONTO NOTES

A very good concert was given at the First Baptist Church under the direction of Mr. W. H. Crowley.

Peter Ogden Lodge No. 812, G.V.O. of O.O.F.F. will attend Grant A.M.E. Church for their Thanksgiving Day services. Rev. Bro. J. A. Dyer, B.A., P.N.F., of McMaster University will deliver the sermon.

The West Indian Cricket Club will begin their Council games Saturday, May 14th.

The U.N.I.A. choir, Dudley Marshall director, will give a programme, Sunday, evening, May 15th. A. Knight will be solo pianist.

A tanning factory has been opened under the management of Messrs. Davis and Levine.

## WOODSTOCK NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Smith and family visited for the Sunday in London at the B.M.E. Church.

Mr. Harold Morton was the guest of James Jenkins for a few hours.

Messrs. Wallace, Harold and Arthur Marshall of Toronto visited their mother for a few days.

Mr. Fred Smith visited friends and relatives in Toronto for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Smith and family motored to London where they visited their daughter, Miss Leta and some friends

Mrs. Horace Marshall who has been very ill in bed is improving nicely.

Rev. Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lucas, Mrs. Logan, Mrs. Brown of Brantford visited friends and relatives for a while.

Miss Mildred Smith visited friends and relatives for a few days in Toronto. She was entertained at a lovely party by her cousin, Mr. Gordon Smith. Many were present and the evening was spent beautifully.

Miss Mildred Smith entertained Mrs. Wallace Blair and daughter Betty at a dainty tea at her home.

Rev. Mr. Crawford of Toronto took charge of the service at the B.M.E. Church on Sunday afternoon at 3.00 o'clock.

Mr. Percy Evan has arrived home after spending a few days in Toronto.

## BOOM NEGRO FILM ACTOR

Five new films are in final preparation that are expected to use large casts of Negro players, two of them necessitating nearly an all colored personnel. One of these is "Zombie" weird drama of the walking dead, whose stage cast, starring Pauline Starke, famous white movie star, and Etta Moten, latest colored stage sensation, are to film the story here after a successful run in New York and Chicago Theatres. Another is "Harlem," which will be made at the First National Studio. Both Robert Levy, who managed the Lafayette players for ten years or more, and Earl Dancer, who co-staged the recent sensation, "Lucky Day," have been in consultation with the powers that be the last few days, as to the technical direction of these talkies.

Two hundred men and seventy women are said to be needed for three days or more at Catalina Island to make a new picture that will also include seventy-five well drilled "colonial" soldiers. Still another that is said to need a lot of colored atmosphere is Richard Barthelmess' new rural story "Cabin in the Cotton." Except for the locale of "deep south" the homespun drama will be like his former success "Tolerable David."

3th, 1932.

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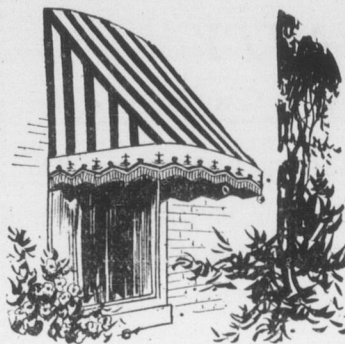
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## Saved from Death

JACKSON, Miss. —Trvin Pruitt, sentenced three times to hang, got a commutation to-day to life imprisonment.

Pruitt was convicted on a charge of murder something over a year ago and sentenced to be hanged. It was charged that Pruitt was the father of a child by a married white woman, and that after a mob was said to be about to lynch Pruitt that Pruitt went to the woman's house one night and drew a gun on the white woman and threatened to kill her if she did not give the baby a certain dose of strychnine alleged to have been brought the woman by Pruitt, but Pruitt's counsel showed that Pruitt was in jail at the time the woman poisoned the baby, and that the child died from a dose of Devil Ly instead of strychnine.

This was the first commutation of a death sentence by the present Governor of Mississippi.

Two Judges of the Supreme Court of Mississippi held that the judgment against Pruitt should not only be reversed, but that he should be liberated.

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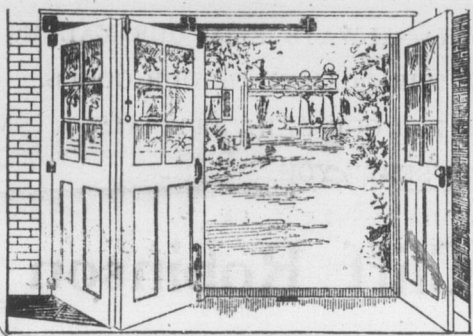
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## TEN SERMONS IN DAY

Brooklyn, N.Y.—Marathons have been conducted in many fields of endeavour including dancing, drinking, eating, running and numerous other events, but the field of theology will witness its first when the Rev. Thomas Samuel Harten will preach ten sermons during one day, running through twenty-two hours of continuous service at the Holy Trinity Baptist Church, DeKalb and Franklin Avenues, Sunday, February 21st, celebrating his tenth anniversary as a pastor of the Church.

Elaborate preparations have been made, including facilities for the cooking and serving of meals, telephone extensions, and the attendance of a physician and several nurses. Loud speakers have been arranged throughout the building in order to accommodate the overflow of worshippers.

Rev. Harten, whose church has one of the largest followings here, will begin the services at 4 o'clock Sunday morning and continue through to 2 a.m. the next day. Participants in this event will include educators, religious leaders, congressmen, senators, judges and other representatives of the community and state.

In reply to an invitation to be present, Senator William Lathrop Love said in part, "I have so many invitations that I cannot accept one-quarter of them, but I always believe in giving preference to those whose warm friendship for me has been so markedly shown. I will be present as you request." Others who have accepted the invitation to come include Congressman Emanuel Collars; James A. McQuade, Sheriff of King's County; Judge Jacob S. Strahl; Alderman Joseph Reich; Magistrate G. M. Curtis and Aaron L. Jacoby, Registrar of King's County. In accepting Mr. Jacoby said, "You, personally, have been an instrumentality for the good work among your people and Church of which you are the spiritual leader. You have been a veritable 'Rock of Refuge' for those who constitute your congregation. I shall be pleased to be present on the occasion."

The climax of the service will take place when three thousand members of the congregation will assemble in the block of Lefferts Place, between Classon and Franklin Avenues, and march to the church with the Rev. Harten at the head of the group, riding in an open car. While the parade is in session, services will be continued at the church, with speakers monopolizing the time between the delivery of the sermons.

This dynamic little man, who is vice-president of the National Baptist Convention and President of the National Afro Protective League, showed his power to attract crowds when sixteen years ago he was conducting evangelical services in a stable in Cambridge, Mass. Here was where the mayor of the city and ex-president Calvin Coolidge came to hear and see what qualities he possessed that made him such an organizer. After a short while in these undesirable conditions Rev. Harten renovated the building and bought chairs to substitute for plank benches. The opening services attracted no small number of local residents as well as people from near

by communities.

After six years in the pastorate of the mission in Cambridge, Rev. Harten was called to take the leadership of the Holy Trinity Baptist Church, succeeding the late Rev. C. D. Patterson. At that time the membership was less than one hundred and to-day numbers over three thousand members. His work has extended into welfare and civic circles extending through all the courts of New York State.

### LONDON NOTES

Mr. Lewis Groat took charge of the services for the Sunday of the 15th in the B.M.E. Church. The attendance was good and all present seemed to enjoy the message given.

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VOL. VI.

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