

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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

VOL. VIII—NO. 12

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BRINGING THE TRUTH TO LIGHT

By Romo L. Dougherty

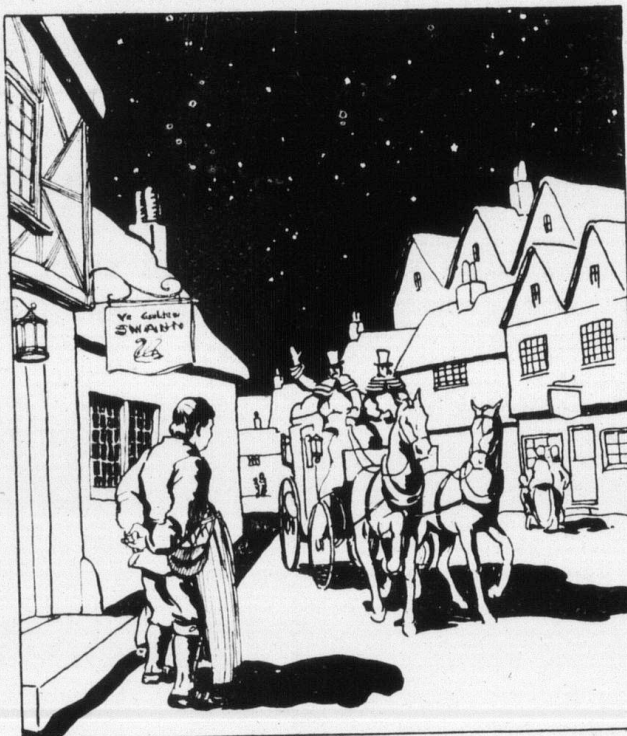
When recent cable despatches of the Associated Press to member papers, disclosed that Il Duce Mussolini had opened negotiations with the exiled Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, looking towards the return of the latter to his throne and people after an agreement whereby Il Duce would not 'lose face' with the people of Italy, it served to reawaken in the minds of Negroes thought of the part that colored people in foreign lands will be called upon to play in the present war in Europe.

In the invasion of Ethiopia by the Italians, Negroes learned much of the ancient Empire, which thousands among the religious feel is even now "stretching forth her hand," for they see in the turmoil in which France, Germany, England, Poland, Russia is embroiled, and which threatens the peace and security of other nations, the retribution for the failure of the League of white nations to keep faith with Abyssinia when men, women and children were being ruthlessly destroyed by gunpowder and gas.

With the desire of the colored people to learn more of the colored races of the world it is my opinion that those men who have devoted their lives to delving into the past and recording the history of what we know as the Negro, will come into their own and see their dream realized when they can reach this vast audience with the truth of the accomplishments and achievements of Africans and people of African descent.

And what better approach can there be to the fascinating history of Africa than through religion and art? It is this road that Professor Charles C. Seifert has taken on which to enter Africa and bring back that wealth of glorious information.

He has already completed a volume in two parts on the history of ancient Ethiopia with excursions into the



Merry Christmas

Bible that present proof conclusive of his discoveries

This brochure has sufficient meat on the subject of what Africa has contributed to the world of art and religion to draw the following comments from Professor William H. Ferris:

"P. of. Seifert is a racial philosopher who possesses both originality and the courage of his convictions. He is not merely reiterating what some Caucasian scholar has written. He is not writing what Caucasian leaders would desire him to write, he is giving the world the results of years of study and research of his reaction to such study and research.

"When Kepler, the astronomer, unravelled the laws of planetary motion and discovered that the trigonometry of the solar system corresponded with the trigonometry of his own brain, he cried, 'Oh God, I am thinking thy thoughts after thee.'

"Professor Seifert is not thinking the Caucasian's thoughts after him but is thinking his own thoughts. He has marshalled an army of facts and

SCHOOL FOR NEGRO PILOTS APPROVED BY WAR DEPT.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The United States Civil Aeronautics Authority announced that a school providing for the training of Negro air pilots has been designated at North Suburban Flying Field, Glenview, Ill. This action has been taken in accordance with Public Law No. 18, passed by the 76th Congress and signed by President Roosevelt.

quoted authorities. Whether one agrees with all of his deductions and generalizations or not, the results of his research will be of great value.

"Professor Seifert attempts to show that black men not only in Ethiopia but also in the heart of Africa laid the foundations for religion and art, which were later developed by Egypt and Greece. He also attempts to show that African art forms one of the elements of French and American art. The objective of the book is to make the black man hold up his head

CHRISTMAS AGAIN ?

Once more we approach the Sacred season of Christmas, this time with wars and rumors of wars. What changes have taken place since last Christmas and what prophet can foretell the changes which the near future may bring? In a world of changes, chaos and calamities, how eagerly should we grasp something unchangeable, something steady and reliable. Christmas never changes; year by year for 1900 years the peoples of the world have celebrated the birth of the Christ Child and have listened to the message of the Angels "Peace on earth, goodwill towards men;" year after year Christians of every race and creed still gather in their places of worship and hail Him Who was born in a manger and cradled in a stall. And now, after all these years, where is the Peace of which the Angels sang? Was it all a false proclamation which was issued forth from the ramparts of Heaven on that first Christmas Day? No! it is those to whom the good news was sent who have been false. The "Peace on Earth" has been crowded out, even as the Christ-Child has been crowded out. There is still "no room" for Him and His Peace. Oh that the Nations and the individuals in the nations would call Him back to His Throne on Earth, would hand over the reins of government to Him and would in contrition and sincerity utter those words of our Christmas hymn

"O come to my heart Lord Jesus
There is room in my heart for Thee"

O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Then His peace and goodwill will prevail.

That each one of you may enjoy a Happy Christmas, with the Blessing of the Christ Child overshadowing all that you do at this season, is the sincere wish of

THE DAWN OF TO-MORROW

Dawn of Tomorrow

Published in the interests of and for the Advancement of the colored people of Canada.

J. F. JENKINS—

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TO CELEBRATE EMANCIPATION

Program to be Staged at Old
Court House, January 1st

The Cooperative Civic Association of St. Louis Miss., is arranging a program of addressess and music for the celebration of the seventy-sixth

Anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln for New Years Day. The rotunda of the historic old court house at Broadway and Market Streets and the adjoining court rooms will be utilized for the meeting.

Building 100 Years Old

The Court House on whose east front steps slaves were sold as late as 77 years ago, is one of the historic landmarks west of the Mississippi River. It was built in 1839 and is now 100 years old. In the basement may be seen the old slave dungeon where slaves were kept in chains until they were brought to the auction block for sale. The iron bars, though rusted are still at the windows. In this building the famous Dred Scott case was tried, it is said, in the very room where Justice of the Peace Frank S. Bledsoe now hold his court. No fact in history more clearly proves the rapid march of time and the changes which it brings about than this court of justice, manned entirely by Negro officials who serve people of all races, being held in the same room where it was declared less than 100 years ago that "Negroes had no rights which a white man was bound to respect."

And the Light Shineth in Darkness

In all great music there is the element of timelessness. We cannot think of Bach or Handel or Wagner as belonging only to the period in which they lived and composed. Their music belongs to the ages. So the Christmas story which is a song of joy out of the heart of the world, comes to us each year just as fresh and new as when we first listened to it with the starry-eyed wonder of little children. It never grows old. It never loses its appeal. Where in all the world is there any story like that coming to us as it does on the wings of music, with angel faces in the background, all wrapped in the glamour and haze of ineffable beauty. Something deep within us recognizes that here is truth so profound that we can hope to understand it only as we lay aside our towering pride and look out again through the wondering, appreciative eyes of childhood. That is why the old familiar hymns and carols are so dear to us—they are a permanent part of the world's spiritual treasure. They defy the barriers of race and nationality. "Holy Night," whether it be sung in English or Chinese, still gives expression to the reverence we feel as we stand in the presence of Divine mystery with the light of another world shining in our faces.

Vast changes have come over this world since that humble birth in Bethlehem. But the voice of Christ still speaks with timeless and universal appeal. We sense the reality of his prophecy, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away." The Gospel which means literally "Good News" is still the most urgent and important news the world has ever heard. For at the heart of it is the assurance that this is God's world. A thousand ugly facts may seem to deny it—the throb of pain in our own experience often makes us wonder if there be any God. But Christmas comes and reveals to us divine possibilities both for ourselves and for this weary world. If suspicion and fear and intolerance seem to dominate the world situation, there is no occasion to despair when we remember that with God, "A thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday." When we get panicky at the trend of events it is comforting to stop and take a long look at things. Time is always fighting on behalf of what is true and beautiful and good. There are temporary set backs—like the trough of the ocean waves, but the current sweeps on. This does not suggest that progress is automatic—that we can stand still as if we were on an escalator, and let time carry us up to the next floor. On the contrary, there can be no progress without determined, persistent effort. God uses this poor humanity of ours to get His work done. This is not a fool proof world. The price of our freedom is that we can misuse it. We can blow ourselves to bits if we are silly enough to think that war can settle our problems. No, progress is not automatic. Nevertheless, this is God's world. The Christian religion stakes its life on that. And because it is God's world, even in our darkest hours we can dare to believe that the final chapter will record a victory for truth and right. Little men drunk with power can strut up and down the earth, rattling swords and threatening all who stand in their way, but in the long run, good will is more powerful than hatred and right will outlast wrong.



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LONDON NOTES

Mrs. Miller, who has been residing in London for a number of years has now taken up residence in Hamilton.

Miss Hesson who accepted position in London a few years ago and later returned to Guelph has again accepted another position in London.

Mr. Ken Moxley, a member of the younger set, has been in the hospital suffering from blood poisoning. He is now convalescing nicely at home.

Mr. F. Howson who has been in Victoria Hospital for some time is now progressing nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Howson and Marion Jenkins, were guests soloists at a concert at the Wesley United Fireside. Miss Kay Jenkins was the guest elocutionist.

The Sunday service under Mr. James Brookes was given over to a song service, Mrs. Kelly pianist.

The B.M.E. Church has been beautifully re-decorated. Members and friends gave freely of their time to help wherever possible, under the direction of Mr. Ball. A banquet will be given for these voluntary workers under the auspices of the 'En Sombre' club.

A very gay and unusual program was given at the B.M.E. by the Ladies' Missionary Society, it consisted of a "poor man's dinner" which was very tastefully prepared, and followed by a concert of old sacred and religious songs. Members of the society were dressed in old-fashioned costumes, bringing back memories of plumes and busses. The enthusiasm of the audience well repaid the members for their efforts.

The annual "Southern Dinner" given by the members of the B.M.E. Church was a very successful affair. Mr. T. Logan and Rev. C. Johnston were the very able chefs.

The Memorial Service held at B.M.E. was very touching program, with a marked reference for the members of the Church who have passed away.

Mrs. Daniels from Detroit visited with Mrs. Howson for a short time, while visiting a patient, the late Mrs. Pope at Victoria Hospital.

Mr. Bob Harrison of Stratford visited friends for a few hours on Sunday.

Miss E. Hall will spend her Xmas in Toronto with her mother and sisters.

Mr. K. White of Detroit was guest of Miss K. Jenkins over the week end.

The Junior and Senior choirs took over the program for Sunday. The Senior choir who is under the direction of Mr. F. Bull, and the Junior Choir under Miss Laura Harris. A lovely pantomime was given by the members of the Junior choir.

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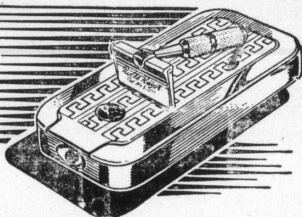
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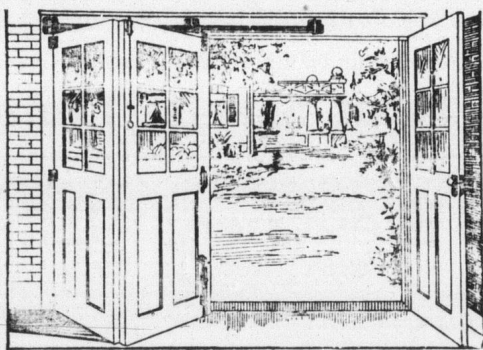
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From a kid named Joe."

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and it contains a world of philosophy
and common sense, as well as a striking
appeal.

Song-writers have long been moved
to poetic utterances by moonlight and
roses, the deep blue sea, the rolling
river, and even by some members of
the weaker sex.

My Gal Sal, Dinah, Annabelle, Rosa-
lee, Rose Marie, "Lindy" Lou, Sweet
Sue, and others have been extolled in
verse and music.

And now in 1939 a song writer
brings fame and fortune to a "Kid
Named Joe." Joe is a real life char-
acter and his name really is Joe. He
is a twelve-year old street-corner
newsboy in the great metropolis of
New York City.

The writer of the song, and the in-
spired of the song, Joe, made brief
talks over the radio. Joe shared in
the proceeds, which come rolling in,
due to the song's instant popularity
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There is really something appeal-
ing in these street-corner newsboys
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rain, snow or any type of weather,
calling out "papers!" They are usu-
ally poor boys, sometimes ragged. But
they are usually bright-eyed, alert and
very active. Many of them have heavy
home responsibilities, younger broth-
ers and sisters, disabled fathers, wid-
owed mothers!

"Every cent he earns goes to Mom."

Later in life, the majority of them
become good, worthwhile citizens.

The writer of "Just a Kid Named
Joe" has found something beautiful
and worthwhile in ordinary, every day
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May kind fortune smile on all of
the street-corner urchins, selling the
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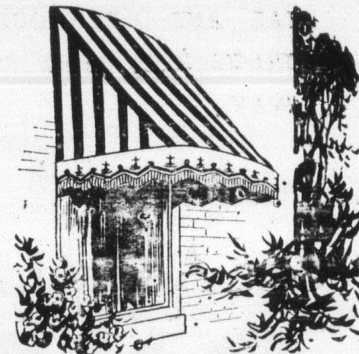
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cania and one of the most notable,
among Negroes, in the country.

The small energetic woman whose
name the school bears, has devoted
all her life to music, and though she
has become unusually successful in
her field, Mary Cardwell Dawson has
yet to let a year pass without spend-
ing some time in the actual formal
study of music or its allied subjects.

Mrs. Dawson was director of branch-
es for four years and a National Board
member for seven years of the N.A.A.
M. Inc. She was unanimously elected
president of the National Association

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A Happy New Year
To All who Read this



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THE CHRISTMAS SYMBOL
Only a manger cold and bare,
Only a maiden mild,
Only some shepherds kneeling there
Watching a little Child;
And yet that maiden's arms enfold
The King of Heaven above;
And in the Christ-Child we behold
The Lord of Life and Love.
Only an altar high and fair,
Only a white-robed priest,
Only Christ's children kneeling
there
Keeping the Christmas feast;
And yet beneath the outward sign
The inward Grace is given,—
His Presence, who is Lord Divine
And King of earth and heaven.
—Author Unknown

MAY INITIATE A MOVEMENT TO AID YOUTH
Eddie Mead Sings Praises of His Extraordinary Protege
Eddie Meade, manager of Henry Armstrong said Armstrong will retire within a year and a big nation-wide organization would be set up to develop Negro youth, both physically and morally.
The organization will set up training centres all over the country. However, full details have not been worked out. Meade says the attitude towards Negroes by whites, even in the South has changed and he feels that this organization will help to build still greater goodwill between the races.
Meade said, "Since I have been managing Armstrong, I have had the opportunity to meet thousands of the better class of Colored people, and I am convinced that they are millions of the Colored people whom the better class of whites do not get the opportunity to meet."
He also stated that Armstrong was one of the easiest men in the game to handle, "I get a real joy in being his manager," he continued.
It was Meade, who after seeing Armstrong fight in California, went to Al Jolson and Geo. Raft and got the finance. "When I saw him fight, I turned to my wife and if I can get that guy I will do so. I did not have the money at that time myself. So I immediately got Jolson and Raft and the deal was on."

JORDAN CHOIR
A brilliant record of appearances in most of the major cities of America was climaxed when the country's famous colored choir, Wings of Jordan, appeared in the most famous music hall in the United States, Symphony Hall.
The internationally-known choir is the one that began in Cleveland two years ago and since then has been heard in every radio receiver in the land. Headed by Rev. Glenn T. Settle, the choir has become endeared to hundreds of thousands over the air waves.

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