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Questions And Answers In Negro History.

By GEORGE WELLS PARKER

Author of The Children of The Sun.

Questions pertaining to Negro History anywhere if of general interest and not too long, will be answered by Mr. Parker in this column. When space will not permit or the subject is not suitable letters will be personally answered, subject to limitations, and when a stamped envelope is enclosed. Address all communications to Geo. Wells Parker, The Associated Negro Press, 3423 Indiana Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

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Who was Sophonisba?—G. L. F., Pensacola, Fla.

Ans. Sophonisba was the daughter of Hasdrubal of Hannibal. She was reared to hate Rome. She was affianced to Masinissa, king of the Numidians, but was given by her father to Syphax. Scipio insisted that this marriage be annulled, but the Numidian sent her a bowl of poison, which she drank without hesitation. She has been the subject of many dramas in French, Italian and English.

WHAT city or town in the U. S. A. has the Negro made the greatest relative progress in industry, commerce and profession in?—T. C. A. Chicago, Ill.

This question can hardly be answered off hand. It would take considerable study and the data for such study is not to be had.

WHO was Prester John and where did he live?—G. M. I. Omaha, Nebraska.

Prester John is a character about which a great deal of fiction and mystery has been woven. He was said to have been a king of Ethiopia and richer than all the monarchs of the world. One legend claims him to have been the son of the Queen of Sheba by Solomon, another claims the name refers to a line of kings of Ethiopia, while still another claims he was the ruler of the Magi or wise men. During the Middle Ages much was said and written of prester John and of his wealth and many sought him, but he remained a mystery.

I have heard that one of the constellations was named after an Ethiopian queen. Is this true and which one is it?—T. R. J. Philadelphia, Pa.

A great number of the constellations have been named after African heroes and heroines, but I presume you refer to Cassiopea, Queen of Ethiopia. She is said to have boasted that the beauty of her daughter Andromeda surpassed that of the nereids of the sea. This angered Neptune, god of the waters, and he brought a deluge upon Ethiopia. The penalty was to chain Andromeda to a rock to be destroyed by a sea monster, but Perseus, the Grecian hero, freed her and married her and founded the royal house of Argos.

WHERE was Roland Hayes born?—G. F. D., Raahway, N. Y. He was born in Curryville, Ga. WERE the Egyptians acquainted with glass blowing?—H. P. O. Wheeling, W. Va.

Yes. Glass blowing was practiced in Thebes 3500 B. C., and in practically the identical manner in which it is practiced today.

HAVE the west Africans any universities?—S. S. W. Indianapolis, Ind.

No. There are many mission schools, but no university of the

name. The west Africans have been agitating for a university for some years. At present the wealthier of the natives send their children to Europe to be educated.

WHO was the African woman mentioned in history as the ruler of the island of Rhodes?—F. D. D. Corinth, Miss.

Polyxo. She was a native of Argos in Greece and a descendant of the Egyptian colonists.

WAS Tizhakah, the Cushite invader of Judah, a Negro?—K. L. P. Denyer, Colorado.

Cushite was a general term applied by the Jewish writers to black races, especially to Ethiopians. Tizhakah was probably the same person as Tearchon, the Ethiopian conqueror mentioned by Strabo and the same as Tarakos, the Ethiopian king of Egypt whose name appears in the list of Manetho.

WAS Caracalla, emperor of Rome, a full blooded Negro?—F. W. W. Cairo, Ill.

No. His father, Septimus Severus, was a native of Africa and his mother, a Syrian woman, wife of Severus. Severus as emperor proved a great and firm leader, but his son, Caracalla, was something of a tyrant and despot. He built the Caracallian baths which were one of the wonders of Rome.

Holly Hill Items.

We were indeed proud to have our District Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. L. W. White, with us Sunday morning and evening. Mr. White is the district superintendent of the Charleston District. While here, he explained fully the object of the district superintendent's work. After which we organized "A Yonug People's Movement" for the purpose of helping the Sunday School in anyway it can. The movement is thoroughly organized with the following named officers: Mr. Enoch Ball, Pres.; Mrs. Zadia Johnson, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Matilda Mack, Secty.; Mrs. Izora Griffith, Asst. Secty.; Miss Ollie Bunch, Treas.; Financial Committee, Mrs. Ollie Williams, Miss Mary J. Ellis, Miss Matilda Johnson.

We are expecting a very pleasant sail on the sea of hope for this movement. Everybody is much enthused and willing to work.

We also have a vrey wide-awake Sunday School here, led by Mr. A. D. McKelvie its superintendent. He has a deal of experience in Sunday School work, and is also a progressive church worker.

The entire cabinet is working harmoniously with him, and is putting things over. We are planning to make this a stron-

Becomes Certified Public Accountant In Louisiana.

(By The Associated Negro Press.) New Orleans, La., Jan.—B. B. Bratton, formerly of Chicago, but now employed as a book-keeper in the office of S. W. Green, supreme chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, has just been notified by Archie W. Smith president of the state board of certified public accountants of Louisiana, that he passed the examination recently conducted by the board and is now officially recognized as a certified public accountant in the state of Louisiana.

A part of the letter reads: "You are the first of your race to acquire the title of C. P. A. in the state of Louisiana, and, as far as I know, in the entire south. I congratulate you upon the result and wish you much success."

Judge George Highest Paid Official.

Judge Albert B. George, of the Municipal Court, Chicago, is the highest paid racial official in the country. The salary of Judge George is \$10,000 per year.

CHARACTER.

Dying, Horace Greeley exclaimed: "Fame is a vapor, popularity an accident, riches take wings, those who cheer today will curse tomorrow, only one thing endures—Character!"

These weighty words bid all remember that life's one task is the making of real manhood. Our world is a school, events our teachers, happiness the graduation point, character is the diploma God gives man. The forces that increase happiness are many, including money, friends, position; but one thing alone is indispensable to success, personal worth and genuine manhood. He who stands forth clothed with real weight of goodness can neither be feeble in life, nor forgotten in death. Society admires its scholar, but society reverses and loves its hero whose intellect is clothed with goodness. For character is not of the intellect but of the disposition. Its qualities strike thru and color the mind and heart even as the summer sun strikes the matured fruit through with juicy ripeness.

Milton said: "A good man is the ripe fruit our earth holds up to God." How many of us can this good old world hold up and say, this is a good man—a good character?—Henry D. Pearson.

ger Sunday School in the future than it has been in the past. We have the proper materials who are ready to work in any position they are placed.

Rev. R. H. Dunbar, the pastor is very energetic, and is willing to help put over any project for the betterment of the church. Our public school is supervised by the writer of this article. We have a very strong district and County Teachers' Association. We are planning to have "Field Day Exercises" or Feb. 27th, 1925 at Orangeburg.

J. M. Woodbury,

Reporter.

Coolidge Takes Stand On Ku-Klux.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Washington, D. C., Jan.—No member of the Ku Klux Klan is to be appointed to a federal position if President Coolidge knows anything about it. This is the inference taken in connection with the appointment of Robert C. Baltzell to a federal judgeship.

Baltzell was nominated by Senator James Watson of Indiana. When it was learned that his name had been given to the President, word was sent here that Baltzell was a member of the Klan. The president immediately directed the attorney general to have the prospective judge come to this city where he is reported to have been questioned regarding his klux affiliations. When he had convinced Mr. Coolidge that he was not connected with the organization his name was sent to the Senate.

This step of the President is the answer to the question as to how he stood on the hooded organization during the recent campaign. Those on the inside declare, now, as formerly, that a klansman hasn't got a chance.

DIOCESE WOULD BUY VOORHEES

Episcopalians Vote For Purchase of School—Would Also Buy Kanuga

Resolutions approving the taking over of the Voorhees Normal and Industrial school at Denmark by the two South Carolina dioceses of the Episcopal church and approving the purchase of the Lake Kanuga property in western North Carolina were adopted at the morning session Wednesday of the third annual convention of the diocese of upper South Carolina meeting in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Columbia. The morning business session following the celebration of the holy communion and morning prayer was consumed in discussing and adopting these resolutions and in the hearing of various reports.

Following a report of a special committee on the Voorhees school matter, read by Ex-Gov. R. I. Manning, chairman, the resolutions were adopted approving the taking over of this institute by the upper state diocese in conjunction with the diocese of South Carolina upon certain conditions. Among these conditions were that each diocese should elect an equal number of trustees on the board of the institute, and that the bishop of each diocese be allowed to appoint the chaplain of the school who shall have the general supervision of the religious training of the students and control of the religious services, that the American institute for Negroes pledge itself to contribute not less than \$5,000 annually to the support of the school, and that the diocese of South Carolina pledge itself to raise the sum of \$2,000 annually towards the support of the school.—The Record.

The first daily newspaper published by the colored people was the Cairo Gazette, owned, edited and published by Hon. W. S. Scott, of Cairo, Ill. The first issue came from the press April 23, 1882.

8th. Illinois Regiment May Attend Inaugural.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Ill., Jan.—The Eighth Illinois National Guard regiment Colonel Otis B. Duncan, commander, may be a feature of the great inaugural parade of President Calvin Coolidge in Washington, March 4th. The invitation is taken very seriously by Illinois leaders, including Honorable Edward H. Wright, the five racial members of the legislature, the aldermen, and leading business men of the community. Mr. Wright, a member of the Illinois State Commerce Commission, and the recognized leader of Illinois and Chicago politics, is taking a personal and active interest in the development of the idea, which was

first suggested by Hon. Emmett J. Scott, Secretary-Treasurer of Howard University, and followed up for action in Illinois by The Associated Negro Press.

The Eighth Illinois Regiment is the only national guard regiment in the United States entirely officered by racial men. It has an illustrious history, dating from the Spanish-American War, and including the World War, where under direct command of Colonel Duncan, the regiment was in actual battle and closest to Germany on Armistice day. An invitation has been extended, also, to the 15th regiment of New York, and the battalions of Washington, Massachusetts and Ohio.

Garvey's Ship Goes Sailing On.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

New York, Jan.—The steamship Booker T. Washington, purchased by the Black Cross Navigation company, one of the numerous organizations headed by Marcus Garvey, at a reported cost of \$100,000 was launched here Sunday before an admiring throng of 10,000 watchers and set sail at six o'clock for Philadelphia, from where it will go to Norfolk and thence to the West Indies. Garvey announced that most of the loan holders to the new company are American Negroes and that the ship is expected to make trips between the West Indies and New York very twenty-five days.

Made Poet Laureate Of Georgia.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., Jan.—Frank L. Stanton, author of "Mighty Lak A Rose," "Just A-Wearyin' For You" and a number of other works suggestive of the spirit of the Negro has been named poet laureate of the state of Georgia, according to a proclamation issued from the executive offices of Governor Walker.

Mr. Stanton conducts a column for a white daily. Two of his poems, "Lynched" and "They've Hung Bill Jones," once caused an Oklahoma governor to commute the sentence of a man who had been sentenced to be hanged.

State Officers for the Next Two Years.

The following officers, constituting the State administration, were sworn in last Tuesday to serve for two years:

Governor, T. G. McLeod, of Bishopville.

Lieutenant Governor, E. B. Jackson, of Wagner.

Attorney General, John M. Daniels, of Greenville.

Comptroller General, C. J. Beattie, of Camden.

Secretary of State, W. P. Blackwell, of Laurens.

Treasurer, S. T. Carter, of Columbia.

Adjutant and Inspector General, Robert E. Craig, of Columbia.

Superintendent of Education, James H. Hope, of Union.

Commissioner of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries, B. Harris, of Pendleton.

Richland County Teachers' Ass'n.

The first session of the Richland County Teachers' Association for 1925 was held at Booker Washington High School, Saturday, January 24, at 12 o'clock. The president Rev. R. W. Jenkins occupied his seat and presided with that usual dignity that is so becoming to such Divines. After going through the opening service, the teachers of the various groups repaired to their respective places for their usual group meetings. After spending one hour and a half in that capacity they reassembled for business.

The teachers of the upper grades were instructed in Mathematics and English by Mrs. M. E. Dunmore; too much cannot be said of her efficiency as an instructor. Mrs. Garrett, supervisor of Richland County Schools appointed Rev. E. E. Cornwell to give instructions in diagraming at the next regular meeting.

This being Registration Day for the County and State Teachers' Associations, Miss Modjeska Monteith collected fees for the county and Mrs. Garrett for the State.

Not having a chaplain for the ensuing year, the Association elected Rev. J. W. Neal.

The Association was favored with the presence of Profs. I. M. A. Myers and W. P. Dendy. The business having been finished, the meeting adjourned to meet the fourth Saturday in February.

"Little Bird Told Me."

In early days superstitious people paid considerable attention to the birds and their different cries, which were believed to foretell events. Thus comes the old saying, "A little bird told me," says the London Daily Mail.

Traces of this belief are to be found in our own Old Testament, where verse 20 of chapter 10 of Ecclesiastes speaks of "for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter." It is generally agreed that it is from this belief in the universal knowledge of birds—which, of course, are supposed to see everything from the sky—that we get this saynig.

The swan as a dinner dish has been seen within comparative recent times in England.