

The Palmetto Leader

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J. B. LEWIE President N. J. FREDERICK Editor W. FRANK WILLIAMS Contributing Editor GEO. H. HAMPTON, Manager

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CASH IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE 4523

Saturday, March 21, 1925.

Experiments made at the State boll weevil laboratory at Florence indicate a great number of boll weevils this year. Farmers should prepare for a successful battle with this pest.

And now we have with us a prohibition bible. In it all reference to wine is eliminated or changed save those references which hold up wine in an unfavorable light. That's Volsteadism "runnin' wild."

They certainly have some peculiar horses in Orangeburg Co. They don't mind jumping over the traces holding them to a loaded wagon, turn around and buck a Ford. This occurred last week according to reports. The Ford was as gentle as a lamb.

Ever now and then we read of a carload shipment of poultry to northern markets from various counties under the direction of County agents. We wonder to what extent are colored farmers contributing to these shipments. If they are not raising poultry, they are neglecting a profitable side line and their interest in this should be stimulated.

When some Senators were inclined to question the legality of President Coolidge resubmitting the name of Charles B. Warren to the Senate for Attorney General, precedents were looked up and lo and behold, it was found O. K., for did not President Harding resubmit the name of Hon. Walter L. Cohen for Customs Comptroller at New Orleans after he had been rejected? We are always there to help in a pinch.

The 18th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution seems to be the whole constitution, judging by the racket made about its enforcement—and yet it deals only with what man must or must not drink. Some other amendments dealing with the fundamental rights of American citizens, and just as much a part of the Constitution as the 18th, are given as much attention as a God-forsaken orphan. But, perhaps, that's Americanism.

SUBJECTS OR CITIZENS?

The inaugural address of President Coolidge is now history. Varying estimates as it hit or missed the pet theories or interests of those commenting. Certain truths however stated therein cannot be discounted or minimized, however much the vigorous though prejudiced thinker would have them. In the whole address, no part stands out more significantly than the following:

In a republic the first rule for the guidance of the citizen is obedience to the law. Under a despotism the law may be imposed upon the subject. He has no voice in its making, no influence in its administration, it does not represent him. Under a free government the citizen makes his own laws, chooses his own administrators, which do represent him. Those who want their rights respected under the constitution and the law ought to set the example themselves of observing the constitution and the law. While there may be those of high intelligence who violate the law

The Searchlight

By William Frank Williams.

OVERFED.

TEMPERANCE is a virtue in all human affairs which should be permitted to hold the prime position. Whether it be in pleasure, business, education or religion it is always the safest course to select.

Dr. John Roach Straton, eminent New York divine, is taking care of this subject as it deals with religion—especially in his denomination. He raps the Rockefellers for their excessive liberality in donations to the Baptist church. And he substantiates his attacks with a firm warning of the contamination which will inevitably occur in this great church if it continues to give the Rockefellers a "controlling interest," as it were.

On the other hand the Rockefeller interests come out in criticism of the general church through A. C. Bedford, chairman of the Standard Oil Company, President of the Board of Trustees of Emanuel Baptist church in Brooklyn, and director of the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. In an interview with certain papers recently he said:

"As a business proposition, the Church must keep abreast of the times, or be left behind. There has been a great change in the relationship between communities and their churches in the past fifteen years. The Church is no longer the center of social activity that it was before the coming of the motion picture and the automobile."

It is recorded that Mr. Bedford gives much of his time and money to religious activities and is, therefore, a friend of the church. He mentioned the enormous crime bill of 1924 and expressed his inability as to whether it should be charged to ineffective prohibition, post-war moral breakdown, or something else.

The point is, Mr. Bedford, of the Rockefeller interests, gives big money to the church.

The question is, does his philanthropy mean a real asset to the church—or does it make the church obligated to him in simple?

We think the Church could

at times, the barbarian and the defective always violate it. Those who disregard the rules of society are not exhibiting a superior intelligence, are not promoting freedom and independence, are not following the path of civilization, but are displaying the traits of ignorance, of servitude, of savagery and treading the way that leads back to the jungle.

There are about nine millions theoretical citizens in America, a most loyal and useful group. But this group—black people—is denied the most important privileges of American citizenship. It does not make or help in the making of the laws which he must obey, it has no voice in the choosing of the administrators of those laws, nor can it take a part in choosing the representatives who make laws. The doing of these things are the chief privileges of free citizens, the denial of them stamps the ones denied subjects; for the denial must come from some one who has the greater power.

It seems that black American just can't get away from slavery, and it never will until the American Constitution means what it says; until the American government enforces its own laws. The Constitution will have to get beyond the joke stage and be what it was intended to be. No American is honest who talks about observing one part and at the same time disregard another part.

make good again without entering a "business proposition." And we don't think the "poor business" being done by the Church is caused either by ineffective prohibition or post-war moral breakdown. We dare not match our wits with those of a millionaire oil king, but we do not regard the Church as a business proposition. Anyway, we agree that the Church must be progressive as all other phases of human uplift or business or entertainment. And overfeeding the Church does not solve the problem.

SIMILAR INTERESTS are doing our race a great injustice in the form of enormous gifts to schools that are already richly endowed, while others are allowed to suffer for the want of financial aid.

Why make a bridge over the noses of schools of higher learning to gorge the coffers of industrial schools? We agree that industrial schools are a great asset to our race and must continue with ample aid, but it is all for the good of our great country that our colleges and professional schools be reasonably improved and supported. The big interests owe as much to higher education among our people as to any other form. Howard, the first school of the race and the only university, is sacrificed to the whims of southern congressmen.

Fisk gets a fair endowment if her students acquiesce to the taunts of southern ideas as inculcated by its heads.

Morehouse, Benedict, Atlanta, and Knoxville must make their insufficient endowments stretch as stretch can.

Morris Brown and Allen must go unendowed at the cost of bleeding sacrifices made by the laborers and washerwomen of our race.

These, Mr. Philanthropist, are the institutions that really need your millions! Be temperate in your gifts so that you may reach a larger number of schools. They all need your assistance. And the future of your country largely depends on what you do for them.

RACIAL FAILURES

BUSINESS FAILURES of

Negro enterprises during the past few months are nothing less than astonishing. Brown and Stevens, Philadelphia bankers, recently closed two banks which they operated in the Quaker City. The Mechanics Savings Bank at Richmond closed last year. The Mississippi Life Insurance company lost itself in to the Southern Life (white) in 1924 and the Standard Life followed suit in 1925. It is said that Ben Davis' faction of Georgia Odd Fellows is down and out.

There's something wrong somewhere. Can it be incapability? Not hardly. Our men are competent because they get the best training that is offered in Southern and Northern colleges. It seems to be unfairness on one side and, of course, lack of confidence on the other. We do not say this is the cause of all failures, however.

But we have noticed that the "entrepreneur" of our race seems to stick well by continually observing the "laissez faire" policy. The "hands off" and "do for yourself" man seems to get along better.

As far as we know, the Hopkins Book Concern of Atlanta, is the sole property of Mr. J. A. Hopkins. And it is said to be the largest Negro book store in the country.

Again, as far as we know, Mr. I. S. Leevy is the sole owner of a big department store

in Columbia, S. C.

There are several successful enterprises in our race conducted by single owners.

Single ownership is not the best, so far as we can judge, but where men have nobody to fear, save themselves, things seem to do a deal better in the long run. This is a weakness that must

be overcome. We can only gain better treatment in this country by getting wealth and power. These will come only by unity and cooperation. The Jew has proven this. Let the Negro follow suit.

WHICH?

MAYBE you know O. O. McIntyre who writes "Bits of New York Life" for a number of daily newspapers throughout the country. We read his column every morning.

Recently he was in Atlanta and New Orleans on his first visit to the South. For a week or so he wrote "Bits of Southern Life" and gave the country interesting reading about this marvelous section of the country. In his writing about Atlanta he mentioned the aristocratic southern air that still exists in a tiny manner and of the chivalry of southern gentlemen. He also wrote about our race people having a monopoly on hotel and private home jobs and put especial stress on the contentment which the Negro seems to enjoy in the South. The whistling of Negroes on the streets while en route to work caught his attention and he made comment on that also. On a mere visit he saw that the Negro has no cause for complaint down here.

Mr. McIntyre is in Paris now and is writing "Bits of Paris Life." The other day he included Negro life in Paris in his report, and among the things he said are, that Negroes are allowed to dine in the leading cafes in Paris; American Negro men mix freely with white women and dance with them at the cafes and halls, and that most of the jazz orchestras that play for the big dances are composed of American Negroes.

Personally, we do not want to associate with whites neither here nor in Paris. But we are not exactly sure we would rather live in a place where we must wear a white coat to see grand opera, ride in a crowded half coach when we travel, ride freight elevators in certain buildings and be called "George" when we serve the white man and "Jack" when he serves us than to live SOMEWHERE else.

MOREHOUSE ORCHESTRA.

The writer is informed that the Morehouse College Glee Club and Orchestra of 25 singers and 35 musicians will include Columbia on its spring tour. The orchestra is said to be the best college orchestra of the race. The writer was business manager of this organization in 1921-22 and can vouch for the popularity it enjoys from Jacksonville to Memphis, on account of its rare quality. It is directed by Kemper Harrel, the famous violinist.

WHEN THE PEOPLE

PLE RULE.

BY JEAN JEW.

Some of us might wonder why the assertion, "the people want peace," is never enjoyed as a permanent reality in view of the fact that in this modern era the people are supposed to be the masters of their own fate. Even in many countries where monarchism prevails to the letter the spirit is republican and the palace a passive post.

Then, why is it that there is so much talk of peace and so

little of it? The fact is that though on the surface, government by the people is apparent it is more in truth government by a few or groups. And in this boasted American democracy the tendency is representatives of the people, and government by the representatives for the people.

Groups, factions, parties, all have their opinions of what should constitute peace and how it should be arrived at. Each endeavors to create sentiment in its favor and force their issues. They divide the people. Still the essential thing the people want is peace. They care not about the manner used to arrive at peace. Their cry is peace! And what is more, their cry has always been for peace.

War is a product of the classes high above the masses and seldom occurs in protection of the masses. In fact they more often lose.

Secret treaties made by the diplomatic jugglers of a people's destiny is no more the voice of the people than the voice of the people is the breath of war.

What more then can be expected than that treaties become mere scraps of paper when it is forced upon them, or revealed to them in times of crises.

I always will believe in the peoples' sincerity to end war, in spite of a belief to the contrary. Treaties have been made by the masters of might and the people have carried out the terms, but today they are demanding that the conditions which they are to observe must be known before hand and be in harmony with their will.

Now-a-days treaties are being made more slowly and more openly, and it is safe to say that such is much so because of the concern which the voice of the people is being given.

Why should it not be in harmony with democratic princi-

ples to have all "peace making" in open assembly where the newspaper reporters may sit unrestrained in their writings; galleries where the lawyer, the business man, the clerk, the garbage man, and the peanut vendor, may sit and see and hear, and applaud or hiss as they see fit. Some of them may have to be put out for over enthusiasm or annoyance, but their actions will at least serve as a key to what will be favorable to the masses.

But the people do not yet rule; when they do, then will be the day of peace.

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