

The Palmetto Leader

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Since when has the Bible needed legislators to pass laws to protect it? When that day comes, it will cease to be the light that it is.

At any rate, the trial of the teacher, J. T. Scopes, in Tennessee has made more people read the 1st chapter of Genesis than ever before and has also made many think of evolution who heretofore had hardly heard of the term.

It is reported that there are 599 inmates of the State Penitentiary, the white prisoners greatly outnumbering the colored. But don't be misled by that. The great majority of colored prisoners are sent to the various county chain gangs.

Governor McLeod must undoubtedly thought that the "27th Annual Convention of the Negro Educational Congress" to be held in Kansas City August 25th-29th, was a meeting of teachers to discuss educational methods and policies, judging from the number of school teachers he named.

With the adoption of The Leader as the organ of the State Fair Association, Editor Frederick might now start out helping the twenty-five share holders to fool a new set of Negroes to make the State Fair a big thing. The Recorder-Indicator. Thanks, brother Roach, for your kind permission. We were in a little doubt but now that the chief and really only knocker of an Association that has carried on for the past 17 years and will still carry on, the Recorder-Indicator to the contrary notwithstanding, has kindly given its permission, we later on will have something to say. Not however "as the organ of the State Fair Association," but as the organ of fair minded people who are busy trying to build up and not taking every opportunity to nag a man who is trying to do something instead of bowing down and offering up burnt offerings to the Editor of the Recorder-Indicator.

THE ATLANTA INDEPENDENT

The twenty-third anniversary edition of the Independent made its appearance last week. The edition is in four sections with a total of 28 papers. It's mechanical get up is all that could be desired while it is brim full of news, special write ups and advertisements. Founded in 1903 by four men with a vision, only one of that number now live—the Editor B. J. Davis. Ben Davis, as he is widely and favorably known, has made the Atlanta Independent what it is to-day—one of the leading and strongest race organs in the country. Editorially, perhaps it would not be putting it too strongly to say that it is the leading race organ in the country. One may not

agree with all the redoubtable editor says nor the manner in which it is said, but be that as it may, none can doubt his honesty and courage. The Palmetto Leader congratulates the Atlanta Independent on its 23rd anniversary and wishes it many more years of usefulness.

INTOLERANCE AND INJUSTICE

Say what one may or will the spirit of intolerance is gaining headway in this country at an alarming rate, and in its trail injustice follows closely. In the past few years, there have been more organizations springing up whose object is to restrict one's neighbor and compel him to act as these organizations act, think as they think and conform in every way to their ways than there have been agencies to spread love, good will and brotherhood. America makes more ado about its Christianity than any country on the face of the globe, and yet there is as much intolerance, injustice and hypocrisy to the square inch as can be found in any civilized country. In spite of its fine churches, revivals, missionaries, the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God is yet but an empty phrase. In spite of its boasted democracy, its caste system is as hard, strict, cruel and unjust as that of India in all of its glory. In spite of its great profession for its Constitution and laws, nowhere are constitutions and laws less regarded. Of course, there is an excuse but excuses always have back and behind them some weakness, some falling down. The presence of a weak race in America's economy no doubt accounts largely for this peculiar trait but that can never justify it. Intolerance and injustice are by no means confined to the weaker race but by reason of the visitation of such on it without let or hindrance, these monsters have fastened themselves on individuals, groups and sects within the stronger race. There is now great effort to eradicate, but the task is now great and the fight will be long, because as long as it was all pointing one way nothing much was said or done. Surely, we reap what we sow.

"NOT SECTIONAL"

"From Chicago, the city where they have a bona fide colored judge, and where Negroes cut no small figure politically speaking, there comes a plaintive cry against the administration of justice in such manner, that it is only the black man who is the victim of capital punishment. In support of this claim the record is cited showing that in spite of the number of indictments for murder against members of both races, it has been many a moon since other than Negroes, have received the full penalty of the law for such offenses. There recently, a Negro youth was found guilty and executed, whose age was even younger than Leopold or Loeb, and while his crime may have been as revolting and heinous, yet their advantage was such as would make them less worthy of mercy at the hands of a jury than a poor ignorant Negro; yet no leniency was shown in the latter case. "All of which is ample proof that it is not only in the South that the fight for equal justice before the courts must be carried on, but throughout the length and breadth of the land." And we need not think of the South as the only section where there is need of reformation in the grinding of the wheels of justice, where the two groups are concerned."—Charleston Messenger.

The above is a very good statement of conditions as they exist. Contrary to the representations of newspapers in other sections of the country, there is as great a degree of justice in the courts of the South at the

present time as can be found anywhere, particularly in the superior courts. Certainly this is true of conditions in South Carolina. In saying this, it is not to be understood that we are saying there is absolute justice, or equality of justice. Under prevailing conditions, all things being taken into consideration, one could hardly expect that. But it is only just to say that great improvements have been made along these lines in the past few years, as every intelligent observer can testify to—and those with experience in such courts can assert.

HOUSTON BRANCH N. A. A. C. P. SAVES DEMONSTRATED NEGRO FROM THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

July 10—Elmer Williams, a colored man, has been saved from death by the Houston Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., after he had made full confession of the murder of a white woman, when the Branch brought to Houston the superintendent of the Insane Asylum of Nebraska, who testified that on the night the murder was committed Williams was confined in the Nebraska Asylum.

Early in the Spring, a white woman was killed in Houston. The woman and her husband conducted a grocery store. According to the husband's story, as he and his wife were closing the store for the night, the Negro entered to make a small purchase, offering a ten-dollar bill in payment. As the grocer turned to make change, the Negro drew a gun and demanded his day's receipts. The grocer claims that he ducked under the counter and that the Negro fired at his wife, killing her instantly.

A large number of Negroes were arrested but all of them were able to prove alibis. The grocer himself was arrested charged with the murder of his wife. Italian compatriots of the grocer immediately raised a fund and offered a reward of \$600 for the arrest and conviction of the guilty person. Elmer Williams was arrested in Ohio and made a full confession of the murder but upon his examination trial, he was unable to give coherent statements about the murder. He offered, however, to plead guilty if the State would give him a life term but the District Attorney, to the gratification of the colored citizens, refused such a plea, declaring that the electric chair was the only place for Williams.

The Houston Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. at this point entered the case and brought Mr. Sidwell Superintendent of the Nebraska State Insane Asylum, to Houston and, through Mr. Sidwell, proved that on the night the woman was murdered, Williams was incarcerated in the Nebraska Insane Asylum under his care and was not released until twelve days after the murder. Williams was released and the Branch is taking necessary steps to have him committed to the State Insane Asylum.

RECREATION PROMOTES HEALTH

By EUSTACE GAY

(By The Associated Negro Press.) Public playgrounds and recreation centers are providing a strong ally to the new science of illness prevention, according to the Playground and Recreation Association of America, which reports that 8,115 such areas are maintained under leadership in America. To keep well, say health authorities, the individual must balance work and rest with sufficient outdoor play of a type adapted to his needs. Nervous disorders so prevalent today are due largely to a lack of the mental relaxation which real recreation

gives. "Non-medical agencies, such as boys' clubs, boy and girl scouts, settlement agencies, playgrounds, promise most in prevention," stated Dr. Pearce Bailey, Chief of the Section of Neurology and Psychiatry, Surgeon General's Office, writing of the functional nervous diseases. Dr. Charles Loomis Dana, Professor of nervous diseases at Connell Medical College, says "When young folks are taught the worth and ways of recreation, they are taking out an insurance policy against nervous disorders, and in middle age, when they come to collect, they will find themselves reimbursed a hundred fold. An hour or two of leisure spent in playing baseball, golf or tennis or in enjoying music or reading, would surely yield a greater return to body and mind."

"Physical training, recreation and medicine are now integrated," is the opinion of Dr. C. Ward Crampton of New York City, whose unique Health Service Clinic, which opened last January, pays particular attention to prescribing suitable recreation for each client and to supplying recreation leadership.

Insurance companies and other compilers of vital statistics have for years been calling attention to the enormous economic losses caused by the unusual amount of illness among our racial group to say nothing of the physical pain and suffering. Recent figures, however, have been more encouraging. Evidences are not wanting that the idea of "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is taking root. That playgrounds and recreation centers are strong allies in promoting health and that colored Americans ought to qualify themselves for playground and recreation leadership, is abundantly attested to by the large group of men and women—more than sixty in number—that registered to attend the Community Recreation School which is being conducted for three weeks at the Community Center in Chicago. These persons come from twenty-three States. A large number have been reluctantly refused admission because of the limited space. Many vacancies in the recreation field for colored workers are going to be filled from the students of this institute.

The Community Recreation School is being held under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, with Ernest T. Atwell, Director of the Association's Bureau of Colored Work, directly in charge.

WILEY, RUST, PHILANDER-SMITH, SAMUEL HOUSTON COLLEGES MAKE PLANS

(By The Associated Negro Press) Little Rock, Ark., July Four Presidents of Negro Methodist institutions have met here and formally agreed upon plans for the expansion and conservation of their colleges totalling a half million dollars. They are Presidents Dogan, Wiley College, Marshall, Texas; L. M. McCoy, Rust College, Holly Springs, Mississippi; George C. Taylor, Philander-Smith College, Little Rock, Ark.; Robert N. Brooks, Samuel Houston College, Austin, Texas.

Large advance subscriptions have already been made as high as \$25,000 from one source. These institutions in property and equipment represent a total valuation of a million dollars which is entirely free from debt. In opening the conference Secretary Denn said "the expansion of our Negro Methodist institutions has been marvelous from \$1,396,598 in 1913 to \$4,141,000 in 1923, an advance of \$2,744,052 in ten years.

EXTRACTS FROM "CHRISTIANITY AT THE CROSSROADS" ATTACKING THE FOUNDATION

By Rev. J. P. Washington

The Christian church is being shaken today with tremendous force. It has become necessary to examine the foundation in an effort to determine whether it can stand. The fury of contending forces, which during recent years, have attacked every human institution and brought to end many, has not yet expended itself; it is now being directed against divine institutions, and has thrown the Christian church into a restless tumult. It is shaking everything in the world that can be shaken.

Human governments are being overthrown, the institutions of civilized society are being undermined, humanity is seething and tossing like the sea in a great storm, empires that seemed fixed as the stars in the heavens have been utterly overthrown, governments that were rooted in the centuries, have been crashed into atoms. The earth rocks and quivers, and no one can tell how far it has swerved out of its course. In the face of this world wide upheaval, can the Christian church demonstrate its divine origin by standing impregnable?

The church has been attacked before; it has passed through many a conflict triumphantly. No weapon formed against it prospered; it has had many enemies; it withstood them all. They have made many assaults, but not one has succeeded. The weapons of those who assailed it lie in broken-heaps, while the church stood unshaken. It has marched in triumph over the grave of its critics.

But the present attack is of a different character than those who have gone before. The Paines, Voltaires, and the Ingersols of the present day are no longer on the outside leading their forces against the church of God. They have found their way into the breastworks in the guise of its defenders. They have undermined and sapped the loyalty of the servants of Christ. They have divided the allegiance of the people of God; they have gained the confidence of the church; they have been elevated to positions of power and prestige. They have pushed their way to positions of commanding influence; they occupy the foremost places of power in the army of God. They have gained control of its resources and stores of its ammunition and supplies.

Having entrenched themselves among the defenders of the church, having gained influence and power in the ranks of its servants, having divided the people of God into two hostile camps in the face of the enemy, they are issuing orders to turn their guns against their own fortress. They are using ammunition obtained from the enemies of God, and they leave no stone unturned to smash the church of Christ into atoms. Every assault from the outside has been successfully met, will this betrayal and treason from the inside succeed in destroying the church?

It should be noted in this connection that no new weapon has been formed, or is being used against the church of God. The betrayers of the church today have caught the ancient weapons of infidels, skeptics, atheists, agnostics and apostates out of the hands of these ancient enemies, and are using them for an attack on the inside. That is the only difference; the weapons are the same; they have not been changed. They have only been transferred from the outside to the inside.

These weapons have been cunningly contrived for use against the very foundation of the church. That Foundation is Christ. "Upon this Rock I build my church," and it should always be remembered that Christ added, "And the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." But that Foundation is being assailed today from within; the attacks from without have largely died away. Now those who pretend to speak in Christ's name and for Christ, are leading a great assault upon the citadel of Christian truth. In Christ's name, they deny Christ. They deny His deity, His creatorship, His virgin birth, His divine sonship, His authority as a Teacher sent from God, His fulfillment of divine predictions, His working miracles, His substitutionary death, His resurrection, His ascension, His divine intercession and priesthood, and His coming again. Will they overthrow Christ? Will they destroy the Foundation of the church? We do well to examine that Foundation and determine whether it is likely to endure in the face of this new and treacherous assault. If the times are ripe for a radical change in the principles of Christianity, every Christian should be sure where he stands.

NO MIDDLE GROUND—ONLY A CHASM.

- The faith once delivered unto the Saints. 1. The Bible contains the Word of God. 2. The Bible is the Word of God. 3. The Man judges the Book. 4. Jesus Christ is the son of God in the sense no other is. 5. The birth of Jesus Christ was supernatural. 6. The death of Jesus was expiatory. 7. Man is the product of creation. 8. Man is a sinner fallen from original righteousness and apart from God's redeeming grace is hopelessly lost. 9. Man is justified by faith in the atoning blood of Christ; result—supernatural regeneration from above. 10. Modernists' Theology. 1. The Bible contains the Word of God. 2. Jesus Christ is the son of God in the sense all men are. 3. The birth of Jesus Christ was natural. 4. The death of Jesus was exemplary. 5. Man is the product of evolution. 6. Man is the unfortunate victim of environment, but through self culture can be good. 7. Man is justified by works in following Christ's example; result natural regeneration from below, or development from within.

TO BE CONTINUED

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Piedmont Summer School For Colored Teachers Anderson, S. C., July 20-August 28.

Approved by the State Department of Education. Under the direct supervision of Superintendents L. C. SPEARS, Oconee LeROY WEDEMAN, Newberry L. V. CLAYTON, Pickens MISS KATE WOFFORD, Laurens R. L. MEANS, Greenville T. E. DORN, Greenwood L. M. MAHAFFEY, Anderson and J. B. FELTON, State Supervisor of Negro Schools. A State approved summer school to increase the efficiency of the teachers and to build up high ideals which should be reflected in the life and activities of the community. This summer school has been organized to serve elementary teachers who work in the northwestern counties of the state. Thus a splendid opportunity, at a little expense, is offered the teachers of this section to attend a standard summer school. Sessions held in Reed Street high school building. Board for session will be furnished by the citizens of Anderson at reasonable rates. Registration fee \$1.00. For further information write Miss A. E. Webb, 1243 S. Fant St., Anderson, S. C. CORNELL A. JOHNSON, Principal Booker Washington School, Columbia, S. C., DIRECTOR.