

The Palmetto Leader

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Saturday, December 26, 1925.

The Palmetto Leader wishes all of its readers and well-wishers a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and happy New Year.

Judging from the comments of the colored press the country over that part of President Coolidge's message dealing with the Negro has not made a very good impression. As American citizen, the Negro is expecting of an American.

"Battling Siki," the eccentric Senegalese who at one time was the light heavyweight champion of Europe was killed in New York last week. Siki's career since coming to America did no credit to the colored race of this country. No one however could wish him a violent death.

At last Eve, the first woman, according to the Biblical account of creation, has been honored by a monument. Robert Quillen, famous newspaper man of Fountain Inn, S. C., has erected such a memorial in the front yard of his home.

The Florida Ku Klux were on the outlook for Mrs. Kip Rhinelander, who was reported as going to that State for rest after her nerve racking trial. Of course, she did not go. Her good sense told her that there is no rest for people of her strain in that State.

A few months ago, a colored man, Silas Parmone accused of killing an officer, escaped from Georgia and went to New Jersey. He was found out and arrested. Efforts were made to keep him from being returned to Georgia, but the Governor granted extradition with the understanding that he would be given a fair trial. This promise was kept by Georgia for after a trial Parmone was acquitted.

STATE SCHOOL FOR COLORED GIRLS.

Great strides have been made by South Carolina in the past few years in the establishing and maintaining penal and charitable institutions for that class of its citizens in need of such. The State however, for some reason not clear, has altogether overlooked its plain duty in reference to provision for delinquent colored girls. It has made provision for its white boys and girls and colored boys but has forgotten that there is such a being as a delinquent colored girl. It would be good were there no such, but such is not the case. The only establishment of the kind for such girls is the Fairwold Industrial school situated about 9 miles from Columbia. This school however was started several

years ago by the Federation of Colored Women under the able leadership of Mrs. R. S. Wilkinson.

Although the courts have from time to time sent girls there, yet until last year the State made no appropriation for the school, and then, urged by some splendid white ladies, it gave only the small sum of two thousand dollars. Recently the school has been almost put out of business by having the main building destroyed by fire.

In view of all this, Hon. James C. Dozier, executive secretary of the State Board of Public Welfare, has called attention to the necessity of the State making real provision for juvenile delinquents of the colored race.

It is hoped that the coming session of the legislature will make ample provision for the care of this class of girls. It will not only be a case of simple justice, but a protection to the State at large. The need is great, will South Carolina longer fail in her plain duty?

LYNCHING IN MISSISSIPPI.

A few months ago a colored man accused of a crime was burned alive at the stake by white people of Mississippi, just after they had come from church praising God for His goodness. Since then the leading men and women of that state have been outspoken in their condemnation of the barbarous practice of lynching and have put forth a concerted move to stamp it out. The effort however, it seems, has not been on the boards long enough to have any effect, for lynching goes merrily on. And it will go on in any community that allows it without punishment. For some reason, the white people of that state don't seem to have much respect for their own courts. Last Saturday, a colored man accused of murdering a plantation store manager, was tried in the Circuit court and acquitted by a jury of white men. Now, when a thing like that occurs, there can be not the slightest doubt about the innocence of the accused. However, the acquitted man was lynched a short time after a jury said he was not guilty. The natural question must arise, just what kind of a civilization is there in Mississippi anyway? There certainly must be some kind. Will anybody be punished for that crime? Hardly, judging by the past.

COHEN ACQUITTED.

Hon. Walter L. Cohen, Surveyor of Customs, New Orleans La., who, along with nine other men of more or less prominence, was indicted for conspiracy to violate the Federal liquor law, was acquitted last Saturday in the Federal Court. Mr. Cohen should not have been indicted in the first place. Everyone who knows the man, knows that he had too much sense to be caught in such a nefarious business as betraying the trust reposed in him by his Government for a few dirty dollars. He realized, to begin with, that he would have been no trial. The Government would have to be so straight that he must lean backwards, if he would hold the high and honorable position to which he was appointed over his race. The indictment of Mr. Cohen was nothing more or less than the culmination of a dark and damnable plot to "get Cohen" because he was a colored politician holding a federal appointment of unusual importance. The commendable thing however, is the fact that there were men—white men—who, while they might not have approved of Mr. Cohen occupying the position, which is his, yet would not be so unjust as to convict him, knowing that he was innocent of wrong doing.

PHILADELPHIA LEADS.

According to the last published reports of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Philadelphia leads all other cities in contributing to the Sweet Defense Fund. The total amount given in cash, as of Saturday, Dec. 5th, is \$2,350. Philadelphia understands that the Sweet trial in Detroit will decide a question bigger than the guilt or innocence of the eleven defendants charged with murder in the first degree. They also know that if the defendants had been white men under the identical circumstances there would have been no trial. The defendants if white, would have not been arrested. Philadelphia citizens stand the horrors of prejudice, and are willing to contribute their money and their time to see that those who are oppressed and maliciously prosecuted shall have a fair trial, if such a thing is possible for black people in this country, where the color of a man's skin decides his culpability. The officials of the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P. deserve our undying gratitude for the thorough and efficient manner in which they are raising funds for the unfortunate victims who are located in Detroit. Philadelphia is going to give more, Philadelphia is in sympathy with every movement that will tend to

alleviate the burden of racial animosities. Philadelphia leads in this drive for human rights. And led by big unselfish leaders it will continue to lead. Outsiders may criticize us, but when it is time to act Philadelphia shows the kind of work that brings results.

THE WEEK'S EDITORIALS: COLORED PRESS.

(From The Messenger, 2311 7th Ave., New York City, December Number.)

I. DR. SWEET.

The case against Dr. Sweet of Detroit who is now in jail for defending his castle, is a case against the entire race; for if a mob can get away with an assault upon the home of Dr. Sweet in Detroit, it will assault the homes of Negroes in Chicago, New York, Washington and elsewhere.

The N. A. A. C. P. has gone to the bat for the defense and preservation of a great principle, the right of a man, regardless of race, creed, color, or nationality, to be secure in his own home.

Every Negro in America should rally to Dr. Sweet because by so doing, he is rallying to himself. But the only effective kind of rallying now is the dollar rallying. There's no use giving lip

support. We can only win with power, and money is a big factor in the struggle to secure power. The case will cost some fifteen or twenty thousand dollars alone. And there are other cases to be fought out, a case of residential segregation in Washington, D. C., and one testing the validity of disfranchisement in the South. To carry forward the cases, the N. A. A. C. P. has started a drive for fifty thousand dollars. Think of it! Only \$50,000—why one labor union, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' composed of only 60,000 members, when about to begin a strike, raised a million and a half dollars in less time than a week. Ten million Negroes ought to have enough guts and backbone

with the challenge of the Sweet case, to raise a million dollars in one week, and that's a mere bag-

atelle when the race's right to life, property and the pursuit of happiness are at stake as the Sweet case indicates.

It is by this instrument (The Constitution of the U. S. that we as a race must RISE or FALL and the test of its full value as a protection to its citizens will be read in the final verdict at the Sweet Case in Detroit.

The Local Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., is making a splendid effort to bring to the minds of the Black citizens of Los Angeles the fact that their interests are being assailed, along with Dr. Sweet's. Liberty and it is a duty of each one of us to rally to the support of that splendid organization in its attempt to finance and conduct the defense of Dr. Ossie H. Sweet, his wife and nine others, who are standing in the shadow of the gallows, despite the fact that the jurors in the first case disagreed, and

ALLEN UNIVERSITY NOTES

(By Louis W. Thompson)

The Sabbath School was held at the usual hour, 9:00 A. M., on Sunday, December 13 with Prof. R. Peques, the Superintendent at his post. The subject of the lesson discussed was, "Paul in Melita and Rome." Acts 28:1-31. Golden text "I am not ashamed of the gospel; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" Roman 1:16. After the discussion of the lessons the various classes reassembled in the chapel where Prof. George A. Singleton reviewed the lesson. Under the supervision of our pastor, Prof. Hale B. Thompson, the regular services of the Col-

lege Church was held at 11:00 A. M. Beautiful music was furnished by the Glee Club under the direction of Mrs. Viola M. Ross, the Instructor of the Music Dept. Prof. R. I. Lemons preached a very profound sermon. His subject was: "Sight." Text, St. Mark 10:51, "Lord, that I may receive sight." For some time Prof. Lemons held the audience spell-bound with his soul-stirring remarks. It is a sermon that we all will remember.

III. IS JUSTICE REALLY BLIND?

(From The Pacific Defender, Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 3, 1925.)

The regular meeting of the Y. M. C. A. was held Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13, with President Ransom S. Ritter presiding. The main features were the addresses made by Messrs. W. A. Pinkney, L. A. Glenn and B. F. Gibson. Each speaker injected a new thought into the minds of the large group of young men whom were present, and held them spell-bound for several minutes.

After the program, Professors O. Y. Valentine and G. A. Singleton made very eloquent and intellectual addresses. Each young man left feeling that his time was well spent by attending the meeting.

The Allen Christian Endeavor League held its weekly meeting as usual Sunday evening, Dec. 13, at 7:00 P. M. Due to the faculty being present, all the groups assembled in the chapel with President James M. Giles presiding, to hear him speak.

After a few remarks, Prof. Giles very eloquently presented Prof. G. A. Singleton who made a speech that held the audience spell-bound for thirty minutes. His subject was "Lofty Things" He dealt very briefly, but extensively on the subject in every sense of the word. Space does not allow me to adequately relate the details of the address. The students, seemingly said, "It is good to be here."

Just as Prof. Singleton was about to come to a conclusion, the sister of Mrs. G. A. Singleton. She made a few interesting remarks that we all remembered. We are always glad to have visitors to come in and see what we are doing.

We then made plans to purchase a wedding gift for our own Prof. R. I. Lemons, who was joined in matrimony on the 17th. The society then adjourned after a very lively meeting.

President D. H. Sims, who had just arrived from the S. Carolina Annual Conference came into the chapel. After Prof. Singleton had taken his seat, Pres. Giles presented President Sims. Among many other things Pres. Sims told of the death of Rev. Albany at the conference and of the critical illness of the Rt. Rev. W. W. Beckett, Presiding Bishop of the South Carolina A. M. District, at Summerville, with deep grief, the faculty and students received this sad news.

President Giles then appointed a committee to send a telegram of sympathy to the wife of Bishop Beckett. It was sent Sunday night in the form of a night letter in the name of the League.

The newly elected officers of the Phi Beta Society were installed Tuesday evening, Dec. 15 at the regular weekly meeting. After the regular business had been completed, the retiring president, Mr. J. T. W. Mims then presented Prof. G. A. Singleton who then effectively installed the new officers.

After the impressive installation Prof. George A. Singleton made an interesting speech taking for a subject, "The Theory of Evolution." Then the new officers were called upon by President Gibson to make a few remarks after his brief but impressive address. Each officer responded with a splendid speech.

After the addresses, President Gibson presented Professor George A. Singleton who then introduced Mrs. G. A. Singleton. She made a few interesting remarks that we all remembered. We are always glad to have visitors to come in and see what we are doing.

We then made plans to purchase a wedding gift for our own Prof. R. I. Lemons, who was joined in matrimony on the 17th. The society then adjourned after a very lively meeting.

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