

NEGROES IN CHICAGO

Conditions Out of Which Race Friction Has Grown.

POLITICS HELPED MAKE TROUBLE

Some Drifted to Great Metropolis, Others Were Brought There—More Vicious Classes Allowed Full Play—Better Class of Whites Do Not Welcome Them as Neighbors.

F. Frank Gardiner in New York Times. Exploitation of the negro in Chicago, by politicians is regarded by many as the chief underlying cause of the race riots in that city.

The influx of thousands of negroes from the south in the last three years was a contributing factor. Their arrival in an already congested district made expansion necessary.

The Black Belt, which stretches for five miles through the heart of the densely populated south side of Chicago, bulged out into what a few years ago was a choice residential district.

The advance guard of the colored race which moved into white neighborhoods was the better class of negro families, who sought to escape the steady encroachment of the undesirable element of their own race.

Political Power. The second ward of Chicago is the heart of the Black Belt. Eighty per cent of the voters in this ward are black.

Two men control most of the negro vote in Chicago. They are Congressman Martin B. Madden of the First Illinois District and George F. Harding, former alderman, later state senator, and now city controller.

It was the balance of power held by the negroes and swung by Harding that gave William Hale Thompson, more widely known as a pro-German than for his kindness to the public nomination for mayor of Chicago in the spring of 1915.

De Priest became one of the chief floor leaders in the city council for the Thompson administration. His career was cut short by his indictment in connection with the alleged collection of tribute in the Black Belt, but he was later acquitted.

In his campaign for the nomination and election in 1915 Thompson catered to the negro voters. After his election he rewarded many of their leaders with jobs.

So openly did the Thompson crowd treat with the negroes that somebody dubbed the city hall "Uncle Tom's Cabin." One man caused handbills to be printed, setting forth a complete cast of characters, which included Mayor Thompson and other city hall jobholders, white and black.

Lid Off The Black Belt. Thompson had been made not only a short time when evidence was apparent that there was no lid so far as the Black Belt was concerned.

All-night cabarets were jammed with whites and blacks until the morning sun streaked the sky over Lake Michigan. In other parts of the city saloons and cabarets closed at 1 a. m., but automobiles lined the curbs for blocks all night in the Black Belt.

The rattle of dice and the click of poker chips were seldom stilled in the heart of this district. Gambling was conducted on a business basis. A "syndicate" was formed, and no independent couple operated successfully in that district without its approval.

Advantages of Negroes. For years negroes lived in Chicago without friction and without disturbance of any kind. Leaders of the race held positions of trust.

Conditions Generally Known. The newspapers of Chicago repeatedly exposed conditions in the Black Belt. Members of the city council sometimes denounced it. Reformers visited the all-night cabarets and wrote long reports about them.

Then came vice in a new form: in the shape of clubs, which were really dance halls. These new places had no liquor licenses, although most of them sold intoxicants, and they didn't open their doors until midnight or 1 a. m.

The old Pekin theatre at 2700 State street, for years one of the leading negro amusement houses in the county, became one of these dance halls.

With the elections over in April and prohibition looming up in the near future, the hearts of the city authorities were softened, and the lid stayed off. In the last few months conditions in the Black Belt have been almost unprecedented.

State Attorney Maclay Hoyne of Chicago a few days ago laid the blame for the race riots at the door of the politicians, who, he said, taught the negroes disrespect for the law.

"The police department," said Mr. Hoyne, "has been demoralized to such extent by the politicians, black and white, on the south side that they are afraid to arrest and prosecute men with political backing or who claim to have political influence."

Municipal Judge Harry M. Fisher, after sitting for a time in the morals court, where the larger per cent of the offenders were negro men and women, said:

"My opinion, based on observation in this court, is that crime conditions among colored people are being deliberately fostered by the present city administration. Disorderly cabarets, thieves, and depraved women are allowed in the section of the city where colored people live. They have an expression, 'the law is around tonight,' as a warning to behave, so seldom is the law enforced."

Chicago's Lesson. When Chicago began to come out of the nightmare of rioting last Friday, it is probable that the smiles which greeted that "Uncle Tom's Cabin" parody had worn off, never to return. The city's roster of dead was 32, of whom 14 were white. The total injured was given in press dispatches as 300, with the probability that perhaps 200 others had been injured without making any report to the police and hospital authorities.

For five days the district affected by the rioting had been without fresh meats or vegetables. City Controller Harding, who owns his political preferment in large measure to his influence in the Black Belt, sent 2,000 bottles of milk into that area and the movement of supplies in that direction was initiated at the same time.

Chicago's negro population is difficult to estimate. The estimates run from 50,000 to 175,000. There is no authentic information of recent date on the subject. The United States census taken in 1910 reports a population of 44,103 negroes in Chicago.

Chicago's Black Belt is an average of half a mile wide, although it flares to one and two miles in width at certain points. From Twenty-second street it runs south beyond Sixty-third street. South State street is the backbone. The south side elevated railroad runs through the heart of the district its entire length.

Naturally the native religion is fatalistic. A free translation of an inscription on an old tomb runs: "What is the use of living, of kissing lively flowers, if, though they are beautiful, they must soon fade into nothing?"

In the native folklore are innumerable stories of the earth opening up to swallow a dancing girl. Such tales betoken another physical feature of the inland fraught with human tragedy. Not only has its stream-lined, spouting geysers, sulphur lakes but great chasms open and close, and they have been known to swallow villages.

Higher, Higher!—"Do you know, last night they got into the grocer's, broke open his safe and took \$3,000."

COLONEL BECOMES CONSTABLE. Arthur Ritchings is Again a Cop in His Little Welsh Town.

Everybody has heard of the Englishman who went into the war as a private soldier and came out a Brigadier general. A case even more remarkable, however, is reported from Cardiff, Wales, and has excited some of the interest that has attended the matter with entire calmness.

Before the war Arthur Ritchings was a police constable in the town. He enlisted in the army in 1914 and served in the ranks in that critical year and the two years following. In November, 1917, he was promoted second lieutenant on the field, by February, 1918, he was a captain, a little later he was major, and the end of the war found him a lieutenant colonel.

Not long ago Lieut. Col. Ritchings left the army—the war being fought and won—and quietly resumed his place as a common policeman pounding a beat in Cardiff. The chairman of the municipal bench made a point of saying he was glad to see him back, and even went so far as to congratulate Constable Ritchings publicly upon his military record. In fact, it seems that there was a sort of ceremony of welcome.

So the lieutenant colonel with four years of active military service to his credit and field rank, won at the front, displaying the ability to command 3,000 and odd men, modestly undertook to take charge once more of casual drunks and disorderlies in that busy Welsh mining town.

Somebody wrote an indignant letter to a London paper about it, otherwise apparently the incident would have passed if not unnoticed, at least as not patronized almost exclusively. As a consequence of the Cardiff Committee of Cardiff, equal to the ex-lieutenant colonel of his beat, and gave him a job of training the police award squad of recruits in the proper bearing and behavior of a constable.

When the opportunity occurred Colonel or Constable Ritchings would be given a chance such as he deserved. It was also said in authoritative quarters (to quote the British press account) that Lieut. Col. Ritchings himself "recognized as every right-thinking man would that he had a moral obligation to return to the Cardiff police force for the reason that the ratepayers had been contributing during his absence to the support of his dependents at home."

WHEN HELL BLEW THE LID OFF Tremendous Volcanic Eruption That Occurred in Java Recently. Official advice just received by the State Department report that the recent eruption of the Klot (or Kalut) volcano in Java cost 40,000 native lives, destroyed twenty thousands of acres of crops, principally rice, by its flow of hot mud, and did millions of dollars worth of damage by the falling ashes in regions outside the devastated districts.

In this connection the National Geographic Society has issued, from its Washington headquarters, the following bulletin: "Volcano-made in the first place, and constantly being remade by them, Java has more volcanoes than any area of its size in the world. Estimates of the active and extinct craters range from 100 to 50. Everywhere on the island the huge crater lakes, in fissures that are now river beds, even in ancient temples, had finally when interrupted by some fiery convulsion, are evidences of cataclysmic forces—such turbulent forces as now are in continuous hysteria in the Valley of the Ten Thousand Smokes in Alaska and break their crusted surface cage intermittently in Java."

"The treacherous Klot," as the natives call it, all but wiped out the town of Britar, but even its devastation, as reported to the State Department, was mild compared to the violent upheaval of Krakatoa in 1883. Then Mother Nature turned anarchist and planted a gargantuan infernal machine on the doorstep of Java. Krakatoa is a little island in the Sunda Strait, between Sumatra and Java. Australians, as far from the explosion as New York is from El Paso, heard the terrific detonation, more than half the island was blotted out, parts of it were flung aloft four times as high as the world's highest mountain, and to touch bottom below the water's surface where most of the island had been, henceforth required a plumb line twice as long as the height of the Washington monument. Skyscraper waves flooded adjacent islands and rolled half way around the earth. Every human ear drum heard, though it may not have registered, the air-waves as they vibrated three or four times around the earth.

"Krakatoa leveled a smaller toll in human life than Klot, because of its isolation, and many of the 35,000 deaths from Krakatoa's eruption were at far distant points by drowning. "An eruption anywhere on the island means disaster. For Java, about equal in area to New York state, supports a population greater than the combined populations of the Empire state and the four other most populous states in the union—Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio and Texas."

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SAINT HELENA Description of Island Where Allies May Send Former Kaiser. "St. Helena, the island whose peculiarities are the entertainment of deposed monarchs, has good and economic reasons for its reputation as a prison," says a bulletin from the National Geographic Society's Washington headquarters.

"Napoleon was its most famous and best paying 'guest,' though not the only one. Dintzulu, Zulu king, was a more recent exile; sent there after he led a rebellion against the British during the Transvaal in 1899. While Napoleon was at St. Helena, 'protesting' at the expense of the Bonaparte household and the numerous members of the garrison sent to guard him, was reduced to a fine art by the island citizens.

"In fact it was the high cost of St. Helena living which created part of the friction between Napoleon and the British governor of the island, Sir Hudson Lowe. Instead of living within the 8,000 pound sterling allowed for maintenance of Bonaparte and the half hundred members of his entourage the bills for a year mounted to three times that sum. Upon complaint of the governor, which Napoleon resented, the ex-monarch executed a bit of 'play to the gallery' by ordering his silver sold and his bed broken up for wood, which, when reported in England, created so much criticism of the governor, already none to popular, that further remonstrances were not made.

"Napoleon's wants were few. His principal luxury was books; his diversions chess playing and digging in his garden. Like the former kaiser, he spent many hours with the Bible. He professed no piety, however, frankly admitting that he was making a study of certain Old Testament books to show that monarchs had divine sanction, and he also spoke of wanting to write a monograph on 'The Campaigns of Moses.'"

"Since St. Helena is some 700 miles from the nearest land, Ascension island, and 1,200 miles from the nearest African port, the extreme precautions taken by Lowe to prevent the escape of the man who once had ruled half of Europe, created considerable amusement. Sir Hudson was greatly disturbed one day to find a newly arrived Corsican priest riding horseback in a coat similar to Napoleon's, believing the patriot involved in a plot to deceive the guards. The French commissioner complained that the sight of a passing dog was enough to induce the governor to plant a new sentinel on the spot; but perhaps the most extreme of the many amusing stories of Lowe's solicitude was the occasion of his protest against Napoleon's planting some white and green beans, sensing in this combination of colors a subtle allusion to the white flag of the Bourbons and the distinctive green uniform of the general.

"Living almost wholly within two rooms and his garden, Napoleon insisted on all the pomp and ceremony possible in such cramped quarters. Since his companions necessarily were much in his presence his insistence upon their standing sometimes brought them to the point of fainting. None might speak unless spoken to and all became extremely bored with court life in a shanty involving all the comforts, without any of the splendors, of a palace.

"At first the exile rode horseback, but soon abandoned that rather than have an English guard along. His seclusion is best attested by the fact that for five of his six years' stay he did not exchange a word with the governor; and of the three commissioners—Russian, Austrian and French—sojourning there by the provisions of a treaty to assure themselves of his presence, only one saw him through a telescope once, a second looked into his face for the first time when he was to be buried, and the third saw him not at all.

"Napoleon's days at St. Helena were not wholly devoted to killing time. He dictated his voluminous memoirs, and military commentaries, while a number of his associates later added to these diaries, conversations and memoirs of their own. It is not accurate or deliriously misleading in large part. Now this activity would be called propaganda. It was highly effective propaganda, too. Though Napoleon's escape was prevented by vigilance to an absurd degree, and though the effect of his winning personality was guarded against by forbidding visitors to see him, his writings and those of Montholon and Les Cases resulted in the royalist

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS Big Idea Now Being Agitated in Congress. Establishment of a department of federal highways and definite trunk line roads across the United States, together with an appropriation of \$1,700,000,000 for the work are the chief provisions of a bill introduced in congress recently by Representative Osborn of California.

She measure, which is urged by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, differs to some extent from the Townsend bill, which provides for a federal highway commission. Mr. Osborn's bill infinitely states the number of trunk lines to be established, specifically names the officers and their salaries, and increases the appropriation covering seven years from \$45,000,000 to \$1,700,000,000. It also grants the power to appropriate highways anywhere in the United States by condemnation so that the federal government will not be dependent upon the individual states for assistance in development of the highways.

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the British Isles, for it is situated on the same submarine ridge, stretching from southeast to northwest across the North Atlantic," says the bulletin, which is based on a communication from Jon Stefansson. "Iceland is not a bleak, arctic region, embedded in thick-ribbed ice, though its northernmost peninsula, Rifatang, projects a mile north of the Arctic circle. "No country on earth of equal size contains so varied and wonderful phenomena. The glaciers of Switzerland; the fjords, salmon rivers, and midnight sun of Norway; the volcanoes, grottoes, and solfatarae of Italy, on a grander scale; the mineral springs of Germany; the geysers of New Zealand; the largest waterfall, next to Niagara, in the world—all are here. Nowhere has nature been so spendthrift in giving a geological lesson to man. If there be sermons in stones, volumes lie unread here. Here we see her titanic forces at work building up a country. Nowhere is it possible to study so well the geological conditions prevailing toward the close of the Glacial Epoch in Europe.

"Iceland has another and greater claim to one's interest. It is, as William Morris said, 'the Greece of the North.' It produced in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries a literature unparalleled after Rome before the golden age of England and France, in character drawing, in passionate dramatic power, in severe, noble simplicity, in grim humor. All the characters of the Sagas live and move today. Every hill and headland and valley in the island is full of their presence. The Icelander of today knows them by heart. It is as if every Englishman, from pauper to king, knew Shakespeare's historical plays and could tell them more or less in his or her own words. It has kept the national spirit alive through evil times. It has preserved the language almost untouched by time and foreign literature.

"Yet this literary people still live in a pastoral and Homeric civilization, which is a modern lesson of the healthfulness of human life lived in close contact with the free, wild life of nature, such as would have delighted the heart of Rousseau or Thoreau. "For four hundred years Iceland was an aristocratic republic, ruled by the great families of the early settlers, among whom was a Norse queen of Dublin. A fourteen days' open-air parliament of all Iceland met annually in June at Thingvellir, and the speaker of the law (log-soguman) used to recite from memory the whole of the unwritten, elaborate laws of the country to the assembly. In 1262-1264 Iceland was united to Norway, and in 1380 with Norway to Denmark. The Danish rule ruined the island economically, but since the granting of self-government and the re-establishment of the old parliament, in 1874, at Reykjavik, great progress has been made."

The Two Essentials—"Tommy," asked the Sunday-school teacher, who had been giving a lesson on baptism, "can you tell me the two things necessary to baptism?" "Yes'm," Tommy answered immediately: "water and a baby."

EPIRRUS Greece Lays Claim To A Most Historic Province. "The eastern shore line of Adriatic Sea which continues southward as the eastern shore of the Ionian Sea, the exit of the Adriatic, has been a seething cauldron of radical strife from the time of the Persian and Roman empires to the peace conference of 1919," says a bulletin of the National Geographic Society.

The bulletin calls attention to the fact that the subsidence of the country between Italy and the new kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes over Fiume, seems merely to transfer the center of interest southward to the historic Epirus, now a part of Albania, which Greece wishes restored to her domain. "Five centuries before Christ Epirus was set off like a little island, apart from Alexander's vast domains, with Macedonia and Hellas and the Ionian Sea as its boundaries," the bulletin continues. "The name meaning 'mainland' is given. It is to distinguish it from the Grecian islands which fringe its coast line.

"Corinthians, Athenians and Spartans looked upon the Epirotes as barbarians, though Aristotle believed Epirus the original home of the Hellenes. Today the major portion of the ancient area is comprised in Albania, among the youngest and least known of all the states of Europe.

"An oracle and a woman won for Epirus wide renown in the ancient world. From prehistoric times messages of the gods were received at Dodona through an oak tree where Zeus was supposed to lurk; and from Epirus came Olympias, mother of Alexander the Great, whose son's renown does not overshadow her own major part in the history of her times.

"Ruins of the Dodona temples were discovered within the last half century of a few miles southwest of Janina. According to local tradition the first message was delivered by a dove speaking with a human voice from a tree top. Priestesses were called Peleades, or doves.

"Rivalry between the oracle of Zeus at Dodona and that of Apollo at Delphi became keen. Priestesses of the former invented new ways of receiving messages, including interpretations of the murmurs of a brook, and the sounds of a metal-tipped whip as the wind drove it against a bronze tripod. "Croesus was supposed to have consulted the Dodona oracle about his proposed campaign against Cyrus, king of the Persians. He acted upon the more flattering prophecy at Delphi which promised he would 'destroy a great kingdom.' The prediction was verified; the kingdom destroyed was his own.

"Few biographies of women are more fascinating than that of Olympias. She was the daughter of a king of Epirus who traced his ancestry to a son of Achilles. She married Phillip II, of Macedonia. Her character betrays an amazing compound of the devoted mother, the barbaric passion of a Cleopatra, and the astute statesmanship of Maria Theresa. Plutarch gives a vivid description of her fantastic snake dances. Estranged from Phillip because of his infidelity, she was suspected of having a part in his murder. "Pyrrhus, descended from Alexander's aunt, waged a war with Rome and made Epirus a power in world politics for a brief period. A century and a half after his death the Romans annihilated the forces of Perseus at Pydna and the punishment meted out to Epirus for its part in the war was the destruction of 70 of her principal cities and enslavement of 150,000 of her citizens. The kingdom never recovered from that blow.

"Epirus is extremely mountainous. From ancient times to the present day its cattle and horses have been noted and it was famous for a peculiar breed of dog, the Molossian."

TURKISH ATROCITIES. Greek People Subjected to Most Terrible Cruelties. Charges that Turkish officials decimated the Greek population along the Black Sea Coast, 250,000 men, women and children living between Sinop and Ordu, without the shedding of blood, but by "parboiling" the victims in a Turkish bath and turning them out half clad to die of pneumonia or other ills in the snow of an Anatolian winter are made in a letter from Dr. George E. White, representative of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East, made public recently.

The worst of the crimes laid to the Turks, according to Dr. White were committed in the Winter of 1916 and 1917 when orders were issued for the deportation of the Greeks along the Black Sea Coast. The people, he wrote, were crowded into the steam rooms of the baths in Chodum under the pretense of "sanitary regulations" and after being tortured for hours were turned out of doors into snow almost knee-deep, and without lodging or food. Their garments, which had been taken from them for fumigation, were lost, ruined or stolen. Most of the victims, ill-clad and shivering, contracted tuberculosis and other pulmonary diseases and "died in swarms" on the way to exile, the letter declared.

Dr. White said that in the province of Bafra, where there were more than 29,000 village Greeks, now less than 13,000 survive and every Greek settlement has been burned. The number of orphans, including some Armenian and Turkish children, in the entire district, it was said aggregated 60,000. Since the armistice the doctor wrote returned to their ruined homes.

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SOVEREIGN

Tonic for Ever

Builds Up Run-down Systems.

When your health has been undermined by worry and overwork, when your vitality is lowered, when you have that "don't care a rap" feeling, when your nerves are depressed, when your work appears too much for you, you are then in a run-down condition. Your system must be upheld by an active tonic. You will find it in Sovereign Tonic for Men, which gives new strength and ambition—the very help you need.

Sovereign Tonic for Men is a real restoration, a blood maker and a nerve builder. When your blood is impoverished through the want of iron, which produces rich red blood and changes food into "living tissue"—you will find the remedy in Sovereign Tonic. Each tablet contains 1 grain of PREPARED IRON with other blood and nerve products. You will be surprised and delighted with the new strength and vim Sovereign Tonic gives you.

You will begin to feel the efficacy of the Sovereign Tonic after the first dose. Don't hesitate if you belong to the Army of "Hasbeens." Try Sovereign Tonic without delay and become once more a happy, contented member of society, receiving the full benefits of life. Sovereign Tonic for Men will do more to brighten the world, to dispel gloom, to make happy homes than all the medicines that have been compounded. Your druggist sells it or can get it for you. Always in stock at The York Drug Store. Price \$1.00.

Sent by mail or receipt of price. Sovereign Remedy Co. 1215 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pa.

GOOD HOUSES AT LOW COST. WHY??? BECAUSE—We do a large amount of work with Special Modern Machinery instead of by hand, and building in large quantities as we do, we eliminate the expenses of plans and specifications. BECAUSE—We get lumber from the Forest, and other supplies in carlots, and we are satisfied with a Reasonable Profit. YOU CAN HAVE A HOME RIGHT NOW!!! We make a variety of sizes and styles of ready to put up houses at prices from \$200.00 up. Write or phone us for our illustrated Free Catalogue, or Come to SEE US. DIXIE HOUSE CO., CHARLESTON, S. C.

"Smoke Virginia-Carolina Straight"

Americans like American tobacco in their cigarettes

Out of 40 billion cigarettes smoked in the United States last year, 30 billion contained Virginia-Carolina tobacco. That shows how the keen, appetizing taste of Virginia-Carolina stacks up with smokers.

But if you want to relish that taste to the limit, smoke Virginia-Carolina tobacco straight. Smoke it in a cigarette made entirely of Virginia-Carolina. Smoke Piedmont!

The Virginia-Carolina Cigarettes

Piedmont