

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 Gardner 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 tenure 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.

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.

Not long ago Lieut. Col. Ritchings left the army—the war being fought and won—and quietly resumed his place as a common policeman.

W. M. C. A. establishment cost \$185,000. It has more than 1,500 members, and 150 young men live in its dormitories.

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.

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SAINT HELENA Description of Island Where Allies May Send Former Kaiser.

"St. Helena, the island whose appeal is the entertainment of deposed monarchs, has good and economic reasons for its reputation as a prison."

ICELAND Illuminating Sketch Dealing With the "Greece of the North."

"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?"

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 were made in a letter from Dr. George E. White, representative of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East, made public recently.

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.

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.

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."

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.

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.

AMERICANS like American tobacco in their cigarettes Piedmont

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