The Palmetto Leader

WEEKLY

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REMITTANCES

Checks, Drafts and Postal or Express Money Orders should be made payable to the order of the Palmetto Leader

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COLUMBIA, S. C., SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 1928.

Certain political henchmen can at least thank Attorney Frederick for entering the race for delegate-at-large without the love or permission of the power that be. By so doing he has given them some work to do whereby they can earn a few measly, disreputable dollars. "Meet Frederick" is their cry, morning, noon and night. Indeed, we believe the poor devils have nightmares and in their sleep mutter "Meet Frederick." Who is paying them? Don't ask, it is too plain. Some Negroes can always be obtained to crush upstanding Negroes. The names of some of these gents will be given later.

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The case of the white Shriners was argued recently in the U. S. Supreme court. The case came from Texas, as did the famous "White Primary" case. The white Shriners object to colored Shriners using the same insignia, etc. Really, isn't that something to be engaging the attention of the U. S. Supreme court?

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In Miami, Fla., the white people and colored people were assigned certain streets on which to gather for the purpose of greeting President Coolidge on his recent trip through that city to Habana Cuba. Conditions certainly must be bad in "Miss Miami."

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If some Negroes were as busy and earnest during the years between a convention as they are just before in rounding up delegates for the selfish purpose of some selfish men, there would be a real Republican party in this State. But there will never be anything other than a mere shell as long as no one cares or does nothing save at such time—and then for so much per.

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The Negro as a race will never get very far as long as there are so many "no'er do wells" who can be hired for 30 cents to try to crush, embarrass or annoy other Negroes of real merit and achievement is at the behest of men who have their own sinister purpose to serve. Columbia, unfortunately, has all too many of that class, well known though they be, and who mean nothing real to the community. They are ready to serve any dirty purpose.

NEGRO HISTORY WEEK.

While there have been so many "weeks" of various kinds that people no longer pay much attention to them, yet February 5th-12th is one week that the Negroes of America should observe with enthusiasm. This period has been designated as "Negro History Week." Its object is to focus attention on the achievements and accomplishments of the Negro. The history of no race has been so neglected as that of the Negro. Indeed, colored people know more about the history of every other race than they do of their own. The ignorance is so dense that the average Negro does not know that his race has a very creditable history. Thanks to the celebrated historian, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the study of Negro history is at last being given some little attention—far too little, however. Every Negro school, college or what not should give some serious attention to this subject. The proper education of Negro people demands this. There is inspiration in the subject and far, far more needed in education as well as facts. While all intelligent Negroes should give attention to Negro history, yet Negro teachers should take the lead. No Negro is really educated who is unacquainted with his own race's history. Let's give attention to "Negro History Week."

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION NEXT WEEK.

Next Thursday in Columbia, the State Republican Convention will convene. The chief business of this meeting will be the election of four delegates-at-large to the National Republican Convention which meets in Kansas City, June 12th. The convention promises to be an interesting one. Heretofore, it has been the practice for the "Boss" to make out his ticket, call the various County delegations in and give them orders to "elect" it. The ticket has always been made up of men who are as faithful and obedient to orders as the most abject slave in the hey-days of slavery. Indeed, because of their meekness and lack of independence, they were always taken. One reading the delegates "elected" every four years, would have to reach the conclusion that South Carolina was indeed poor in material—same old thing year in and year out. Thoughtful and independent Negroes have at last decided that such a practice reflects neither intelligence nor independence and no longer will they meekly swallow what is doled out to them. They are determined to exercise their own right of choice, believing that they know best who among them is most worthy and able to represent them. They resent the idea that they are children to be told what they must do or whom they must vote for. Of course, there are many slave minded fellows who still believe that they must do as ordered—but they are mostly the kind that move and think in terms of "how much is in it for me?" To these simple minded parasites, the usual line of "bunk" about what has been done for the Negro is as manna to the hungry soul. If an idea however could penetrate the place where the mind is supposed to be they would readily see that it's all "bunk" for without doubt, the Negro in Republican circles is at the lowest ebb it has ever been since Republicanism has been in the state. However, an awakening is at hand, and we predict that the day of swallowing just any and everything given is over. The friends of Attorney N. J. Frederick who is pursuing a course at variance with the old method of ramming down anything, are telling him that they are with him and mean to see that he is really elected one of the four delegates-at-large.

14th, 15th and 18th AMENDMENTS.

Once again it seems that North and South are destined to work themselves up to a rage. Of course, there will be no serious break as there was in time past. Before it was economic differences in which the Negro slave was involved. Now it is liquor and unfortunately again, the Negro is involved. At present, the North wants liquor in moderation and therefore cares not for the 18th Amendment and the fanatic volstead law designed to enforce it. The South wants the 18th Amendment and the volstead law, though it consumes its portion of the bad liquor to be had volstead law or no law. The North, to get back at the South, tells it that it is hypocritical in talking about nullifying a sacred amendment of the U. S. Constitution when its chief occupation is and has been in nullifying other sacred amendments of that same Constitution—the 14th and 15th. Of course, when the North retorts in such a manner, the South gets mad and say "taint us," and holds its hand to high heaven in witness thereof. The South had a long debate over the matter a few days ago. Southern Senators—not bly the two from Virginia—said some plain things as well as hard about the Negro, who hasn't a soul in Congress to speak for him.

Not being able to uphold the South's side with facts and logic, these Senators just proceeded to give the Negro the devil—and he, poor soul, didn't have a thing to do with the row. The fight, however, is on. Even the ladies have entered the fray. They have an association known as "The National Women Democratic Law Enforcement League," the object however, of which is to be to the enforcement of the 18th Amendment. Mrs. Franklin D Roosevelt, of New York, however, who thinks it's hypocracy to talk about enforcing the 18th Amendment and ignoring the 14th and 15th. If that's to be the policy, says Mrs. Roosevelt, the name of the association should changed to the "National Woman's Dry Enforcement League." The president of the league rather tartly answers Mrs. Roosevelt attacking Gov. Al. Smith of New York. So it seems that there is trouble ahead in this liquor business. The Senate starts out with liquor and ends on the Negro; the ladies start likewise and end with Governor Smith. There is something wrong somewhere.

Pointed Points

By George A. Singleton

The Weekly Text: "Look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh."

The Shrine of Lincoln.

Your government has decided to repare Ford Theatre in the city of Washington as a perpetual shrine of Abraham Lincoln. You remember that it was in this place over sixty years ago that the great emancipator and preserver of your nation was murdered, just at the time when his greatest work had been achieved—he surrendered to U. S. Grant at Appomattox Court House after four years of bloody civil strife. But you did not have to wait on Congress, for already in the hearts of hundreds of millions of non-white Americans, a shrine has been reared and dedicated more lasting than the snow-crowned Alps.

This month is the natal month of Lincoln. It is true that he restored a race to its birthright, but his leadership was largely responsible for preserving the Union. He saw better than Judge Douglass, or anyone else, that the government could not exist half slave and half free. It must be all of one or the other. His election to the presidency was resented by the South as a good cause for war. The South wanted slavery and to extend slave territory; the North wanted free soil, and Lincoln said, "Slavery shall not extend another yard." Those two antagonistic ideals clashed at Fort Sumter, and hell ran. The superior won at Gettysburg as Pickett's valiant men were sickered into eternity to face the judge of all the earth. Lincoln's sins were many and great. There was dissension in his own political household. Foes within and foes without. His task was greater than that which fronted a Washington, but with faith in the God of Justice he accomplished it. Like his Master centuries ago, on Good Friday he saw the travail of his soul and was satisfied. Lincoln was greater in his martyr's death than in life, for had he lived to put through his pet schemes of reconstruction, the history might have had quite a different story to relate.

This is the month when you will read down your lives of Lincoln by Tarbell, Charnwood, Barton, Nicolay and Hay, and others that you might refresh your memories. But do not read blindly. As the men of the Civil War period pass across the stage of action single out Charles Sumner, great noble Senator from Massachusetts. He was not a political opportunist; he would preserve the Union because it was right; he would abolish slavery because it was wrong. Beaten down in his blood by Preston Brooks from South Carolina in the Chamber of the Senate, he did not retreat a single inch. One of the most curious things in the world of history. After a while when your teachers get out of the habit of one-book-instruction your children will see the light. The truth will make them free.

"The Man With The Hoe."

Last year this time your humble writer listened to an address by one Southern city delegate and distinguished member of the white race. He talked about you and not a word about you. The matter of ceremonies called upon your scribe, and he attempted to represent you with facts of history, which are studiously omitted from textbooks which your boys and girls master and think they are educated. You are considered a nonentity, and are lost in the shuffle. While the soldiers in gray were following "Peter" Beauregard, Wade Hampton and Alebrt Sidney Johnson, you stayed at home on the plantation, took care of their families with such loyalty and fidelity. You worked on lines of communication, and provided the sinews of war. On the side of the stars and stripes you did the same. Nearly two hundred thousand of your grandfathers fought at the Crater, Fts. Wagner, Hudson and Pillow. While reading up on Lincoln do not forget to read the Memoirs of Grant, Sherman and Bonsteel. Take a peep into the personal diaries of Prescott, Kemble, Oberholtzer. Then read the contemporary newspapers of the times. You were "The man with the hoe." The war was fought about you; they have been fighting about you ever since. They are fighting about you in Congress now. While they fight and call each other names, you saw wood. As a race they is on your side. Let folks talk about you as much as they please, and treat you with disregard to the extent of nullifying the Constitution. Remember that every dog has his day even the black dog. Have some well informed person tell you about Edwin Markham and read you his poem. "The man with the hoe" and think that God created man in his own image in the image of God created he him. "Bowed by the weight of centuries, he leans
Upon his hoe and gazes on the ground,
The emptiness of ages in his face
And on his back the burden of the world."

"The Voice of One Crying."

Some people think that except in politics it is on the wane but not so. When a man of God appears among us with a fresh and vital message God's will is done. The ever impressive need is for prophets to speak the message of the age in which they live. Then they must be fearless exponents of the truth they proclaim. This is what must take place if we do into the Jordan and go to Palestine in the words of John the Baptist. This is what caused Martin Luther to arise in the day of Martin Luther and he had a burning message, and all Europe heard. All England and America were charmed by the Wesleys and Whitefield.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, America's foremost preacher, is the only man in the world whom people crowd and bring to hear. Last Sunday morning he preached at the University of Chicago. Admission was by ticket. Shoals of people were turned away, but your representative was fortunate to hear him. The speaker's vast store of learning was applied in the interpretation of the gospel, not to people of the Middle Ages, but to a modern 1928 audience. Indeed he is a great preacher with magnetic charm of personality that draws. Like his Master he speaks with authority. As the writer listened attentively to the discourse, more and more was he conscious of the misplaced emphasis upon theology instead of upon life, creed instead of character. The religion of Jesus is alright if interpreted properly—it will save men. As the reporter shook hands with the preacher at the close of the service, his thoughts still ringing in his soul: O God, lift our colleges, that knowledge might walk with character and intelligence with understanding.

It was a pleasure to talk with our friends, Mrs. Chappelle and sons. Mr. Talmadge was in Chicago with his mother to witness the marriage of Dr. Palmer Chappelle to Miss Marjorie Cooperwood. The doctor is practicing in Saginaw, Mich.

ANDREWS NOTES

Mr. Fred Greene has been confined to his room for a week, after having his tonsils removed at Kelley Sanitarium in Kingstree.

Mrs. Bertha Walker Greene, of White Plains, N. Y., is here on a visit to her sister-in-law, Mrs. E. B. Greene.

Miss O. A. Brown was called to her home, McClellanville, to her aunt's funeral on Saturday.

Rev. J. C. Quarles and his good people came over Sunday from Kingstree and rendered services at St. Andrews A. M. E. Church. The collection was $20.05.

Dr. and Mrs. U. G. Teele motored up Friday evening to see the picture "Ben Hur" at the theatre.

YES, THE SOUTH HOLDS "VERBAL SWAY"

Under the date of January 24th, one of the leading newspapers of the South (The Columbia State) published a communication from its Washington correspondent under the heading "The South Holds Sway in Senate." The present writer must confess that he viewed the statement with some concern until, in reading on he found the reporter elucidating his position by the revision: "The Southerners VERBAL sway." We gave a sigh of relief and came near dropping the paper without further interest, because it is true, and, too true, that the South holds "sway" in the way all the Senate and elsewhere. This fact is seldom a pleasant one to us. It does not impress us as news at all. The South has usually held verbal sway in the Senate. But verbal sway is of little importance in practical and effective statesmanship in the United States today. Fortunately, the modern United States government is not governed by verbal sway. It is following historical precedent is far better than a nation follow an aimless sway, moral sway, or any other sway than mere verbal sway.

The South should aspire to more effective and vital leadership than "Verbal Sway." History condemns as a practical, effective power in the affairs of nations. Demosthenes and verbal sway in the classic land of Athens, his native city. The "golden tongued orator" crumbled before the uniform of Philip of Macedon. Clever, well worded sway in the Forum of the "Eternal City" just before the Roman Republic was deluged in the blood of her patriots and democracy was buried on the plains of Italy. Eloquent consummate Orators, with truth and justice on their side, could not withstand the following "Verbal Sway." It seems that a Southern statesman could not be so anxious to hold sway verbally alone.

Speaking as a Southerner, we believe that it is high time for the South to begin to send men to Washington who aspire to do more than hold verbal sway in the Senate. That has been the curse of the South.—Our greatest representatives in the past have held verbal sway. Too often they have not approached more than political power on the first order.

The South has held "and emphasized verbal sway so long that everybody is beginning to think that we really don't mean what we say. For example in the matter of advocating world peace, the League of Nations, World Court, etc., the South has unquestionably held "verbal sway." What has been the result? We will not embarrass the Southern reader with the answer too well known to all. The world does not believe that we mean what we say, and with good reason. How can we stand for world peace when that is fundamentally a question of human brotherhood, and we have the reputation of being very unbrotherly toward our nearest neighbor, the Southern Negro? I firmly believe that the Levite who travelled so long ago failed to be a neighbor to the man who fell among thieves because back in Jerusalem he had failed to be a good neighbor. If we fail to be a good neighbor to the Negro here and now, is it any wonder that the world is skeptical about our being really interested in altruism in a world where most of the people are darked skinned, even as the African. No, they will not believe us although we may forever hold verbal sway as defenders of democracy in the political forums of the modern world. Yes, indeed, the South holds "Verbal Sway."

—A. H. GORDON.

THE SEARCHLIGT

BY W. FRANK WILLIAMS

Dr. Brawley Declines.

The refusal of Dr. Benjamin Brawley to accept the Harmon Award for his accomplishment in the field of education is a matter of especial significance. Of the thirteen Negroes awarded prizes by the Harmon Foundation of New York for accomplishments in creative work during 1927, Dr. Benjamin Brawley was the only one to refuse. The erudite professor was awarded second prize in the field of education, his being for work as a teacher of English and writing. The first prize in education was awarded Professor John W. Davis, president of West Virigina Collegiate Institute.

Coincidentally both of these distinguished men are graduates of Morehouse College and the fact that Dr. Brawley, a former professor at Morehouse, taught Professor Davis at his institution, is believed by many who know these men to be the cause of Dr. Brawley's refusal to play second fiddle in this duet.

Dr. Brawley has never been regarded as unconscious of his great contribution to the fields of Negro history and literature. Even in his decision to decline, he told the press that all his life he had strictly first-class work and was not willing to accept anything that looked like a reward for the second order of merit.

At Morehouse John W. Davis is regarded as one of the greatest organizers and executives that ever attended that institution. It was this merit that got him into the exalted position of president of one of the fastest growing institutions, and it was the fact that the West Virginia legislature had lauded him highly as an executive that caused that body to make a liberal appropriation for his institution, for this has ever been the very strong stand by in his orthodoxy.

Brawley has received honors in years past and for his books on science and history and its seems credible that he should envy a young scholarship beginning he was given credit for a single year's accomplishment. He should throw his hat under the table, doff his coat, roll up his sleeves and say "That's Brawley."

Georgia's Clean State.

Georgia felicitates her sister state, South Carolina on not having a lynching in the year 1927. The Empire State also has a clean record for the year just passed. May these two states continue to regard law and order and thereby lead the way for others.

"Ostracising The South."

Recently The Atlanta Constitution ventured to recommend the federal authorities in Washington for their desire to put a Southern man on a committee of five on educational specialists to make a land grant college survey. Under the above title, an editorial appeared in this great Southern daily which showed much indignation over the South being slighted while every other section of the country was recognized."

The writer of this editorial did not venture into an argument but chose to refer it to the Senators and Representatives from the South in Congress."

The South is only getting a dose of its own medicine. In all of the years they have been men down here, the Negro is never thought of. So far as the writer knows, this international committee is the only organization in which men of our race rub shoulders with men of the other race and are treated as if they were on the same plane.

We pay more taxes in proportion to property, but we are not represented in any of the city organizations; we pay the same fares on railways and buses, but we are given poorer station and car accomodations; we buy from the stores, but we are allowed poor rest rooms or none at all. But, what's the use, why try to outline them? We colored people of the "Sunny South" are ostracised on every hand. To us the South is not "Sunny." Sometimes it seems as dark as the bottomless pits of hell.

"Taxation without representation"? Ye Gods! What else do we know down here?

Yes, we will remain in the good old South with our "best friends", but by heck, we are going to contend for our rights just as long as the Irish do—and eventually get them.