

The Palmetto Leader

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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, NOV. 7, 1931

THE LEADER ON TRIAL

Saturday, October 12 in New York City The Palmetto Leader, along with the more than one-hundred-forty and more other Negro newspapers published in the United States, was placed on trial.

The Judges and Jury who conducted the procedure were Jewish delegates from forty-one Universities throughout the country to a students' convention. These delegates were requested by Mr. L. F. Coles, it appears, to make a study of Negro periodicals for five hours and then give the general opinion of the body concerning the several features of the many periodicals.

The Palmetto Leader feels that its readers are entitled to know just how their paper stands when judged by the best brain-power of the world—for the most ardent Jew phobe would scarcely deny that the Jews rank very high in the intellectual scale. The papers were rated as to make-up. There were two papers that were rated above the Leader in this matter—The Norfolk Journal and Guide, and The Kansas City Call. New make-up is one of the most important features about any paper. Only the first eight papers out of the fourteen score were listed in the matter of make-up.

The Leader was mentioned very favorably according to a report of the meeting for its scholarly editorials and snappy news. It is quite flattering to the Leader that its editorials are the only editorials in the report that are referred to as being scholarly. We only hope that the recognition thus given by the Jewish students is well merited.

We think it no small thing that a paper that gets as little support from Negroes as The Leader gets from the Negroes of Columbia and South Carolina in general, should gain national attention and recognition above papers that boast of as high an end beyond a quarter century of existence. The Leader is in the last months of the seventh year of its age.

We think it not preposterous to say that this paper should have at least ten thousand paid up subscribers in the state of South Carolina alone. The subscriptions in foreign states, especially in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Illinois, show a greater appreciation for The Leader in those states than is shown generally in South Carolina.

Mr. George H. Hampton, publisher of The Leader, since assuming control of the enterprise has ever kept in mind the giving to South Carolina, a newspaper of the highest quality. He has not failed the people of his state. He has given them a clear, new and most provoking paper. We congratulate him on the attainments of his organ, and solicit the whole-hearted support of the reading public in making us an even better Palmetto Leader.

IT MUST BE DONE

With the advent of November, came to our city, Mr. George L. Johnson of New York City. Sunday, October 11, Mr. Johnson appeared in Columbia and spoke before a large audience at the meeting place of the Columbia Forum for Social and Ethical Progress. Mr. Johnson outlined his plan at that meeting, as director of the Colored division of the National Recreational and Playground Organization, for the conduct during the month of November of an intensive recreational program which he hopes may secure the cooperation of Columbians to such extent as will result in the procurement of much-needed recreational opportunities and facilities for Colored Columbians.

In last week's Chicago Defender a very sensible article was published from the pen of Salem Tutt Whitney, who with J. Homer Tutt used annually to come to Columbia with their musical comedy "Smart Set." Mr. Whitney who now is one of the stars of "The Green Pastures" and a Defender columnist said in his article that among the most salutary influences in the life of any person is the opportunity to play with reckless abandon during childhood. We mention the Whitney article because we believe it to be well worth reading, and because some of its premises and conclusions are so apropos of Mr. Johnson's coming to us.

Mr. Johnson is with us to HELP US—not to get for us—secure recreational advantages such as playgrounds, swimming pool, parks, gymnasium, library and the like. The help us is significant. If we as a community want these things Mr. Johnson's record of service to communities where he has been tells us we may have them; however the least apathy and lack of enthusiasm that shows itself on our part as a community might easily result in dire failure.

We have an abiding faith in Columbia's ability to put over any program she wants to, but we are not prepared to say that we have an abiding faith in Columbia's unity of purpose to the extent that she will do what she can. Here is a project that is bigger than any Sect and professional class or any group. There will be no chance for any "Big Negro" to emerge from its successful carrying out. If the program is put over all of us will be "Big Negroes." If not Columbia Negroes will merit being called "miserable pismire apologies for men and women." We will never suffer any such thing to be said of us, so let's get with Mr. Johnson and help him help us to get what we want and need.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

In this the world's richest country, the most serious and perplexing problem is unemployment relief. The relief of a condition that exists where men—able bodied men—are willing to work, begging for the chance to work that dependents may be kept living in domestic honor.

The problem has become so serious that it became necessary for President Hoover to appoint a National Unemployment Relief Committee. President John W. Davis, of West Virginia College is the colored member of the committee. All Americans should be interested in doing whatever they can toward bringing about safe conditions throughout the commonwealth (Isn't that an ironic word for such times as this?), and will doubtless do what they can in aiding those who are less fortunate than they.

Last Sunday night from 10:45 P. M. to 12:00 midnight a special program was broadcast over the NBC and the Columbia Broadcasting systems. This program was rendered in the interest of the unemployed. Mr. William Green, secretary of the American Federation of Labor spoke from Chicago, and Owen D. Young, of the General Electric Company spoke from New York. Both these national figures were introduced by Walter Gifford, Chairman of the President's Committee. These men placed the conditions that are existent squarely before the people of the country.

Several artists voluntarily and freely gave their services to put over that broadcast. The two great chains over which the broadcast was sent gave their services free. All interested in the problems of humanity. If we are to avoid the chaos that would at this time result from unrest on account of unequitable conditions, those that are in position to do so must help those who are down at the present.

As Mr. Owen D. Young said "we should not withhold our assistance from the honestly worthy and needy, because some few who are unworthy might gain." Let us remember that there are many Negroes among the ranks of the unemployed. Let us take no account of color when we give to this worthy program. Suffering, disease, cosmic ills, and poverty take no cognizance of the color of one's skin. They attack all alike. In these things all men are brothers.

BETWEEN THE LINES BY GORDON B. HANCOCK

"AFTER WHICH"

It was perhaps more than a hundred million years ago that this earth started on its outbound journey through time and space! And for millions of years it sped on in its appointed course, a lifeless realm rocked by winds and waves and changing tides. There was no man nor beast nor reptile nor insect nor even plants. What a place it must have been, without sight or sound of living thing! The vapors from below rose to obscure the sun above and there was great darkness. By and by land was lifted above the waters and by some strange and fortuitous circumstance life appeared. Just how and why mortals may never know! For millions of years the earth sped on with congenial climate and with growing things plants, insects and reptiles moving upon the face of the earth and the sea was peopled with strange forms of life. About five hundred thousand years ago it turned suddenly cold and great ice sheets spread from the poles toward the equator and arctic fauna turned southward in their flight for survival. Great glaciers extended as far south in Europe as Northern France and life upon the earth was precarious and for perhaps 25,000 years ice bound the northern latitudes, then gradually receded and the climate was once more congenial, and it so remained for perhaps 25,000 years. Then again it turned cold and for another 25,000 years there frigid times prevailed. The glacial age was upon the earth and for four successive times these ice sheets descended upon the earth. The four glaciations covered perhaps 500,000 years and worked severe hardships upon the life of the earth. Scientists have no satisfactory explanation of these glaciations. Without doubt the glacial age was a "dark age" for primitive life. After this critical period was past man rose to fill this earth with soul and splendour and "dream stuff". According to the Scriptures the human race grew and multiplied and God came close to men—so close that He made known His will through Moses and commissioned the Jewish people to represent Him at the Courts of Mankind. For hundreds of years there were signs of God's presence and tokens of His providence. Priests and prophets arose to declare the will of God among men. Major and minor prophets waxed and waned and the hopes of Israel wrought miracles of mightiness upon the earth. The sun of Jewish glory shone with unexampled splendours and then set as it were to rise no more. For 400 years no word was heard from Heaven—from the Prophecy of Malachi to the preaching of John the Baptist. Four hundred years of spiritual darkness, but after this came the Christ of God! He rose in truth the Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings. After the darkness came the most brilliant spiritual light this world has ever known. Beginning about the middle of the fifth century the earth was again enveloped in spiritual and intellectual darkness and the so-called Dark Ages was upon the earth. For five or six hundred years the torch of learning and art and culture burned low. The clock of civilization was turned back and chaotic events bewildered the hapless sons of men. Events strange and tragic transpired in the affairs of men and it seemed as if the spring of human hope had gone dry and that the fount of goodness in human hearts had ceased to flow. Through the Dark Ages mankind came and emerged a pathetic and tragic figure. After the Dark Ages came one of the most brilliant periods of human development this world has known. The intellect of man sped as upon the wings of the morning and pierced the unseen and the unknown; genous flowered and more fruit which to eat was good for the

healing of the nations; slumbering hopes revived and quickened mankind once more with the strivings from immortal life. After the glacial period came man; after the spiritual darkness at the end of prophecy came Jesus called the Christ; after the Dark Ages came one of the most brilliant periods of man's life upon the earth. We are going today through a period of economic darkness, an economic "Dark Age" when economists and philistines are indeed baffled at the turn and trend of events. But this is not the end! After each dense darkness came supernatural light and it will be so after the present depression which is the most vexing problem before the forum of civilized man. "After which," we are going to have a bigger and better world!

DRAMA GRAMS

By Grace Vera Postles

METHOD OF PRODUCING PLAYS WITH AMATEURS

Miss Grace Vera Postles is Head of the English Department at Avery Institute in Charleston, S. C. She has been affiliated with the Allied Arts Center of Boston, Mass., and is a member of the Utopia Players of New York City, also the Harlem Experimental Theatre. She is also a dramatic reader.

This column welcomes questions relative to any phase of dramatics.

A successful plan for producing plays with amateurs is something worth placing under lock and key. After working with several amateur groups and after observing Butler Davenport of N. Y., as well as managing to get "back stage" to see how "Porgy," "The Master Builder," "Othello" and other productions were managed I offer a plan which I have found to work beautifully many times.

Let us consider the coach first of all. He is to the play what the spinal column is to our body. He must be a creative artist. It is necessary for the group to think the coach is the greatest thing in the country until the play is over. It is the duty of the coach to select the play. Special favorite plays must be carefully scrutinized before selecting. The audience must be kept in mind. Cooperation of the group must be had. The group should pledge to fulfill their parts to the best of their ability. It is now time for the coach to announce that he has selected the play. He must direct every committee. Before casting he will tell something of the story of the play and then go to characterization, "Try out" boys first and get them out of the room. Leave the entire group "on the fence" about four days before selecting the cast.

At another meeting remind the group of their pledge. Then select the production staff, consisting of a stage manager and his assistants depending upon the degree of elaboration in equipment. There must be a technician for stage lighting and a musical director to arrange incidental music. After this has been done announce the cast and dismiss immediately.

At the next meeting the assistant-director does most of the work. He begins a discussion of the play. He tells the story attractively in reference to characterization, voice, appearance and general make-up of the characters. Impersonate.

The first act only is rehearsed at the next meeting. By this time each member of the group should have every bit of the business written in his text. The coach then places the characters on the stage and describes exits and entrances and lets them know where and how to come in and go out.

The assistant director carries the master copy and is the coach's right hand.

WE SAY THE YEAR IS DONE

We pause and sigh and say:
"The year is done,
The year was old,
Now the old grass withers on a thousand hills;
The Old fire dies."

And what is that to thee?
Thou art thyself the flame!
Shall it be quenched by any blowing of win,
Man calls time?
No! for there is another wind,
That is greater.

And, if this light fail, there is another,
Man may blow out a candle;
But not a star.
He may pluck apples, but not sons;
He may cast down a pilgrim from a shrine;
But, never can he draw hope from her altar!

The past deeds are not past,
The Reaper's field awaits another spring,
Another plough. Go forth into the new field;
With thy mind, heart and time,
The plough is in the steady hand of God.

And, when the day of gathering shall come,
And the bright scythe shall mow the harvest;
Your fruits shall be rich and fragrant in the sun,
Because of the past obstacles,
You have overcome.

And, so we Sigh and say:
"The year is done,
The year is past and dead."
Nay, rather, all the old years are born again;
Renewed and quickened to a fresh delight,
To heavenly sun and brighter dreams (Mrs.) Ella M. Green,
Dedicated to Rev. J. E. Beard,
The Beloved Pastor for two years of Emanuel A. M. E. Church,
Charleston, S. C.

NOTICE!

The regular meeting of the A. U. Club No. 1 will be held Tuesday night Nov. 10th at 8 o'clock sharp at the home of Mrs. L. H. Hallman, 929 Pine Street. All members are urged to be present. Business of importance.

Dr. S. R. Green, Pres.,
Mrs. O. U. V. Pegues, Sec.

DRAMA GRAMS

By Grace Vera Postles

MULLINS NEWS

Sunday was a well spent day for all those that worshipped at Mt. Olive Baptist Church. Rev. Brooks preached both services to the delight of his congregations. We should feel proud of this young minister who is able to bring to us the gospel in a new and inspiring way each time he appears before us.

Mr. Paul Reaves who was a patient at Florence Hospital has passed away.

Mrs. Janie Shivers, Mrs. Ben Armstrong Bell Griffin motored up to Columbia Thursday to visit their sister at Benedict College.

Mr. Henry Thompson and others are taking a trip across the country to New York and other parts North.

Mr. and Mrs. Foxworth, Prof. O. Y. Valentine, Mr. Harry Singleton, Mrs. Margaret Foxworth, motored to Florence to the A. M. E. Conference.

Respectfully,
J. W. Galley, Librarian

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A VISIT TO LINCOLN ACADEMY

York County boys and girls are proud of Lincoln Academy just as the North Carolinians. As the reporter was strolling around a few days ago he peeped in at Lincoln and found Dr. Ricks putting things over. I met him in front of the boys training shop. "Peep in a few moments on the boys at work" invited Dr. Ricks. I noticed some things which impressed me very much. Among these were some of the hand work of John Miller, which was a book rack and it would take a good one to tell that it was not All boys are required to do some special work before he finishes the school.

We next visited the Cummings Hall for boys. Here I noticed that the boys living room was a treat. "We try to teach our boys how to entertain in this room," said Dr. Ricks. Upstairs we found our way in the Library and noticed the New York Age on the rack and what the Negro thinks by Dr. Morton. The librarian is shaping things and is to add the "Leader" to her list. In Dr. Ricks's office we found Mrs. Easter diligently employed as secretary to Dr. Ricks. The dining room was then visited and here we noticed the neatness of things conducted by Mrs. E. R. Ricks, matron. In the kitchen and basement things were very numerous. Among the outstanding things in this department was the private ice plant. We also had the pleasure of meeting Miss Cleo Caldwell who is from the reporter's home who was helping to prepare supper.

An interesting football game was played between Jefferson Hi and Emmett Scott here recently which resulted 18-0 in Emmett Scott's favor. There was also a hard fight between Finley Hi and Jefferson Hi recently which convened in Chester last week.

Mr. T. W. White, Supt. of the Sunday School had a good instructive session Sunday. Subject Paul in Corinth. At 18:11.

The basket ball team has been organized and are anxious to go into action with big Great Falls on the corner weighing about 110 lbs., known here as E. M. G.

Miss Marion J. Gardner while making a tour of the schools looked in at Jefferson Hi this week with her inspection suggestion. The school is always glad to have her.

Week-end visitors: Dr. and Mrs. Ricks of Lincoln Academy, Kings Mountain, N. C., and several of the members of the faculty in company with Professor Draughan who act as special judges for the York County Colored Fair which was held last week. Dr. and Mrs. Ricks were entertained on the fair ground by Mrs. H. K. Thomason.

Mr. and Mrs. John Goode, Mr and Mrs. Robins and Mrs. A. B. Thomason of Bullocks Creek was here attending the fair last week.

Miss Leoma White is here with her father from Philadelphia, Pa.

The people of this section continue to think of Hallowe'en in spite of hard times. Two parties were given in celebration. One was held at the Wright's building and the other at the A. M. E. Zion Church.

PHILLIS WHEATLEY BRANCH OF THE COLUMBIA PUBLIC

Report for the Month of October

Adult circulation: Fiction 251; Non-Fiction 118, total 369.

Juvenile circulation: Fiction 108, Non-Fiction 70, total 178.

Entire circulation: 547 books, 11 magazines and two pictures.

New borrowers: Adult 26; Juvenile, 6, total 32.

Present enrollment 1098.

New books: Adult Fiction 113; Adult Non-fiction 26; Juvenile fiction 44; Juvenile Non-Fiction 19, total 202. 40 magazines were donated to the library by Mrs. N. J. Frederick.

A lost book, The City of Fire by Grace Livingston Hill, was returned to the library by Miss C. Mack, a regular borrower and faithful member. We greatly appreciate the kindness of any one who brings in lost books or helps us to find them.

The anxious readers who were waiting for certain books were delighted to get them. We are still trying to get others that have been requested and approved.

Among the many pleasing expressions made by borrowers from time to time is this one: "This is the best place in the city."

Although our room is small, we gladly welcome all who wish to spend some time for reading and reference work or borrow books, magazines and pictures. Hours: 12 to 4 and 5 to 8 P. M. every day except Sundays and holidays. The library will be closed Thanksgiving Day. It is desired that all books be handled carefully and returned promptly so that others may have the use of them.

Respectfully,
J. W. Galley, Librarian

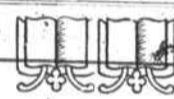
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