CANDIDATE FOR THE BISHOPRIC

Higher Honors Sought For the Rev. Dr. Frank Jesse Peck.

STANDS IN THE FRONT RANK.

Friends of the Former President of Western University Give Reasons For Urging His Elevation by the General Conference of the A. M. E. Church. Man of Achievements.

By CHARLES S. HUNTER.

St. Louis.—We have reached the period in our racial life when we appreciate the potency of brains; when we recognize the fact that education, training and special adaptability are items to be taken into account when summing up the fitness of men for place or station. We have long demanded that men be so qualified in the mechanic arts, in commercial life and in the professions, but it is only during the last decade that we, as laymen, have been insistent for this type of leadership in the men who are to pastor our churches and have the supervision of our denominational life.

The coming general conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church in Kansas City, Mo., next May will mark an epoch in our racial as well as religious life. Questions of vital import will present themselves for our consideration. Men and measures will demand our prayerful thought if our decisions are to be in the line of wisdom. The past ninety-six years have been rich in achievement, wondrous in obstacles surmounted and difficulties overcome, stupendous in numerical growth, in material and educational acquisition and still more marvelous in the type of men who have been the builders in the church of Allen.

But the past is behind us; the future looms big on the horizon of the future. New conditions, graver responsibilities, problems of greater magnitude await us. The laity, becoming conscious of its power, its growing importance, is demanding that men whose sympathies have touched and quickened their lives, whose piety and eloquence and earnestness have won them and whose actual knowledge of their needs has held them be selected for Episcopal honors—no mere political churchman, but one whose work for humanity is the measure of the man.

Such a one is Dr. Frank Jesse Peck of Los Angeles, Cal., son of a prominent minister of the church, the late Dr. Frank Jesse Peck, Sr., of Baltimore, and a graduate of Storer college, successful pastor and church builder, a man who has given almost twenty years of his life to church development and expansion here in the west, and this section, rich in future possibilities for the church of Allen, offers him as its candidate for the highest office in the gift of the church—a bishop—and feel that the east, his birthplace; the south, the field of his earliest labors, together with the west, should unite and work for his success to the end that we many have a resident bishop in this section of the country.

The modern church demands men of action, men who have done things and who can do things. Dr. Peck has served twenty years as a pastor in this western country; was formerly president of Western university, at Quindaro, Kan.; built the churches at St. Joseph and Kansas City, Mo.; installed the mammoth pipe organ at Denver, and he has doubled the congregation at his present pastorate. As a pulpiteer, financier and constructive churchman he stands in the front ranks. This is our candidate and we feel that the church will honor itself by his elevation.

BISHOP ALBERT J. JOHNSON.

Some Facts Connected With His Useful and Eventful Life.

It may not be generally known, yet it is a fact, that the polished and able Bishop J. Albert Johnson, who has done such good work in South Africa as missionary bishop of the A. M. E. church, was private secretary to Rev. Josiah Henson, who was the original Uncle Tom of Mrs. Stowe's great novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

The African Methodist Episcopal church does not possess a more eloquent, capable, diplomatic or useful representative than Bishop Johnson. If he were not a great bishop he would be a great and forceful statesman in some one of the West Indian or African colonies.

The bishop is on a visit to the United States and will not return until after the general conference of the A. M. E. church, which will be held in Kansas City, Mo., in May. He is doing wonderful things for African Methodism on the dark continent.

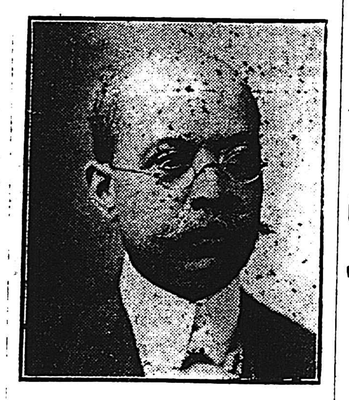
Nature's Answer to Race Question.

The series of articles written by Horace J. Rollin of Troy, O., recently bears the stamp of the philosopher, the humanitarian and the scholar. Nature's answer to man's race question was the general subject of Mr. Rollin's articles, in which he showed that until men are educated to the point where they are willing to accord to other men the same rights which they wish for themselves nature's answer will remain incomplete.

POLITICS IN LOUISIANA.

Effective Work of the W. L. Cohen Faction at Primary Election.

New Orleans.—The recent primary election in this city was fraught with many exciting incidents. The able and manly contention for their legal manhood rights by the colored citizens was a feature of the battle which will not



J. MADISON VANCE, ESQ.

soon be forgotten by those acquainted with political methods in this section of the country.

The W. L. Cohen faction, known as the "Black and Tans," gave the so called "Lily White" Republicans such a severe jolt that it will no doubt be a long time before they recover from the surprising shock. It was a battle for the free and lawful exercise of the constitutional right of qualified American citizens to the ballot. The use of money had no influence with the colored citizens.

As the time drew nigh for the primary election to be held the Lily White Republicans began to grow restless. When they saw the colored men registering they were convinced that they had a hard fight on their hands. It is said that prominent colored men were invited by the whites to call at headquarters. In the majority of such cases the colored men reported this action to W. L. Cohen before holding any conferences with any one. Mr. Cohen gave them full instructions how to proceed with Lily Whites in order to win out. The Cohen faction was loyal to their leader.

The following well known colored citizens were elected: Hon. W. L. Cohen, J. Madison Vance, Esq., E. J. Le Branche, J. Touchard, W. E. Robinson, Colonel James Lewis, B. V. Baranco, J. W. Cooke and S. W. Green. The man who got the information about the methods used by the Lily Whites to win votes was Mr. John A. Tholmer. He has the whole story and can give it exactly as it is, word for word.

Mothers' Club to Aid Tubman Fund.

The Mothers' club of Brooklyn has decided to assist the various women's clubs in Greater New York in their efforts to raise a substantial fund for the relief of Mrs. Harriet Tubman.

THE WEST INDIAN IN HIS NEW HOME IN AMERICA.

Quick to Take Advantage of Every Opportunity For Self Preservation.

Every West Indian immigrant has a definite purpose in view when he lands in New York, says the Southern Workman. In his own country there were activities which were wholly in the hands of white men, but here he can enter upon these and assume that position of natural leadership which was denied him at home.

His ambition is aroused. A massive race consciousness, the like of which he has never experienced before, binds and consecrates him to the service of his race; the superiority of his early training inspires him with a new and strange sense of power, and with this comes the desire seen among aliens—the strong and steadfast determination to master a new society and civilization for the sake of self preservation.

Seeing that the standard of intellectual requirement in the average colored school is below what would have been exacted of him in his own land, he steadily and vigorously pushes his way to the front and finds little opposition in so doing. He questions everything, taking nothing for granted and never resting until he can see the reason underlying all.

American methods of education seem to leave too little for the mental teeth of the student, the whole diet being predigested. The American student usually makes a better recitation, reciting page after page to the astonishment of the West Indian, but the latter cannot do this, as he has been accustomed to correlate and associate every new fact with an old.

He carries with him only facts which he can incorporate into his mental consciousness for all time. The West Indian student does not care how long he takes so long as he understands every move and step leading to the solution of a problem. Where routine work is concerned the American will very often surpass the West Indian. In initiative the latter is better.

Figures Show Progress of the Race.

At the conference recently held under the auspices of the central auxiliary of the Charity Organization society in New York Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois recited many instances and quoted figures which showed that the colored people have greatly advanced in citizenship. The present prejudice against the race seems to be not on account of its inefficiency and ignorance, but rather because of its efficiency and education.

TAFT CAMPAIGN ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE

Reactionary Leaders Now Admit He Could Not Be Elected if Nominated.

NEW YORK SUN TELLS TRUTH

In a Carefully Prepared Article This Representative of the Interests That Are Supporting Taft Frankly Declares That His Renomination Means Defeat In the November Election. The Secret Scheme Uncovered.

That President Taft cannot be elected if nominated is conceded by the New York Sun in a carefully prepared article published Sunday, March 31, and sent by the Sun for simultaneous publication in all the newspapers throughout the country which subscribe to the Sun news service.

The undeniable importance of this statement by the Sun is due to the Sun's attitude of opposition to all progressives and to Theodore Roosevelt in particular, as well as to the recognition given it as a representative and spokesman of the great business interests which center in New York and of the political organization in New York which recently manipulated the fraudulent and farcical primaries held in the state.

It adds to the significance of the Sun's statement that its article, although ostensibly the result of careful investigation, was withheld until after the organization bosses had put through the fraudulent primary election of delegates, in which they carefully refrained from instructing a single one of the men they claim to have elected for Taft.

The investigation upon which the article is based had been completed and the article actually prepared before the primaries were held, showing apparently that at the time the New York bosses were engaged in stifling public sentiment in order to prevent the election of Roosevelt delegates there was what the Sun declares to be a general agreement among the reactionary political leaders that Mr. Taft's candidacy had become a virtual impossibility.

It is now apparent that the sole purpose of the machine bosses and the special privilege interests, to whom Mr. Taft is looking for a renomination, have abandoned all idea of supporting him and that their only purpose is to prevent the nomination of Roosevelt, so that a compromise candidate favorable to the special privilege interests and in harmony with machine purposes may be selected at Chicago.

Although still friendly to Taft, the Sun declares that the time has arrived when the possibility of electing a candidate has become a **"subject for serious consideration on the part of Republicans who believe their party to be of vastly more importance than any man in it, no matter how exalted his station, and who place party loyalty above personal fealty. These Republicans declare that they will take any reasonable step which would seem to insure their party's victory at the polls in November next.**

"The Republicans who expressed these views," the Sun says, "are believers in season and out of season in the policies of their party. Among this class of Republicans are merchants, importers, business men generally and professional men and the rank and file of small Republican shopkeepers and workingmen."

The Sun then says:

"Several months ago influential Republicans, some of them very close to President Taft, declared beneath their breath that the president if renominated could not be re-elected. While expressing this opinion they hadn't the remotest shadow of a doubt that the president, through the power of federal patronage, could force his own renomination."

Among the reasons given by the Sun why President Taft cannot be re-elected the Payne-Aldrich law is cited as of greatest importance. Respecting this the Sun says:

"The Republican national platform of 1908 called for an immediate extraordinary session of congress in the event of Taft's election to revise the tariff. In obedience to his party's platform President Taft called the extraordinary session of congress, which produced the Aldrich-Payne law, and the president's troubles and his party's complications have grown and become more entangled from the day he signed that law. That law gave the progressives substantial footing for their opposition to the Taft administration and afforded them grounds to go before the people on the question. In addition there have been a myriad other troublesome complications, all intended to weaken the president and to bring about bitter discord in the ranks of his party.

"It has been this discord, these complications, that have led Republicans entirely friendly to the president to declare that, **while he could force his own renomination, it was exceedingly doubtful if he could be re-elected."**

The Sun adds:

"With the assembling of congress in Washington in December last the declarations that the president could not be re-elected if renominated took on a more emphatic tone."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Sunday, April 7th, 1912

Title: "The Appearances of the Risen Lord.—1 Cor. 15: 1-11.

Memory Verses: 10-11.

Golden Text: [This Jesus Hath God Raised Up Whereof We Are Witnesses. —Act 2-32.

The Apostle Paul is the author of the lesson before us today In it he gives us the proof of the resurrection of Christ. Christ had appeared to the witnesses whom Paul names—to Cephas, to James, to the five hundred, and last of all to Paul himself, while on the road to Damascus, which he places on the same plane as the revelation to the desciples who stood around the empty tomb as well as on the road to Emmaus. But even that experience was not the only proof which Paul had of the risen Christ, great as it was. The experience on the road to Damascus was but a beginning Christ thereafter was in his life as a friend and companion. It was his certainty as to the presence of Christ in his own life which made him certain of the power of the risen Christ. And the proof Paul had is within the reach of the humblest believer today—the satisfaction which comes through belief in Christ as a present friend.

Now what about the proof which is to convince the world. Paul is well satisfied, with the proof which has come to him, but the world is not so easily satisfied. Of course the marshalling of the facts of evidence is impressive only to those who have an open mind, but there is a more forcible argument than the examination of verbal testimony. The examination of witnesses themselves is very important. What happened to the witnesses? If Christ really revealed himself to them certain mighty consequences must have followed. It will not do to push a material analogy too far, but the claim of the deciples that they had seen a vision of the risen Christ, was really a claim to have come in possession of a great spiritual wealth. The real proof before the world as to whether this was true or not was the conduct of the desciples. Did they really act as if they had come in possession of a great spiritual wealth? There can be only one answer to this question. The desciples suddenly became spiritually rich. They had an abundance of life to enjoy and bestow upon others.

Another and further sign which emphasized the great spirtual wealth which became theirs, was the power which became theirs. Not only were they themselves filled with a spirit of rejoicing, but they found themselves in possession of an instrument of surpassing effectiveness. The doctrine of the risen Lord was to the desciples, as it has been to the church ever since, the most powerful instrument for the advancement of the Kingdom. Even the most hostile critics of Christianity admits. They declare that without the belief in the risen Lord the church never could have got started and never could have continued until this day

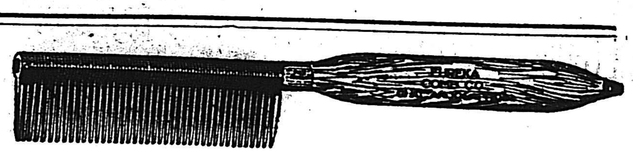
A mark of the new found wealth of the desciples who claimed to have seen the risen Lord, was the new joy that came upon them. They were certainy poor enough in inner feeling when Christ was laid in the tomb. They were cast down in utter despair, and despair is the mark of spiritual destitution. They had for the moment nothing to which to cling. They were as destitute as shipwrecked sailors. They were without hope, without understanding, without plan. All that Peter could do was to think of going fishing, and all the others could do was to go with him. Suddenly they arouse out of this lethergy to a fullness of joy, and they began to act like men who had had a vision. And the joy abides.

To Brighten the Eyes.

Bright eyes are among the most radiant of beauty's jewels, since they give animation and light to the entire face. A dull eye means a heavy drooping expression, a condition to be avoided by the employment of extreme measures on the part of the girl who would attract.

A harmless and generally satisfactory way to bring brightness to the eyes is to bathe them with a solution of boracic acid and tepid water. Put in a basin full of tepid water as much boracic acid as can be placed on a dime. When it has entirely dissolved bathe the eyes gently. Do not be afraid to allow the water to get into the eye, as it will remove all inflammation and tend to make this important beauty feature clear and brilliant, at the same time giving a restful and strengthening effect.

Read The Afro-American-Ledger



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