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BALTIMORE, APRIL 13, 1912

THE RACE DOES NOT TAKE ITSELF SERIOUSLY.

It should create no surprise that others do not take us seriously when we fail to take ourselves seriously. It is a little too much to expect of poor human nature to expect our white friends to think more highly of us than we think of ourselves. Many of the deprivations which we sustain with respect to our civil rights and privileges are occasioned by our own failure in giving forth convincing evidence of our genuine sincerity. Among our white fellow citizens are all kinds of combinations and organizations to advance certain interests which they esteem of the utmost importance. And, behind such organizations are real men, who give themselves, their time, and their means towards realizing the desired objects. The success which comes to such organized efforts results from the active and hearty cooperation yielded by them in such combinations. Strange as it is, yet the fact remains, we seem to think that it is possible for us to attain the full fruit of our citzenship by quietly reposing on our arms, confidently expecting luck or chance will bring to us what other men work and endeavor to attain. We do not take ourselves seriously, and hence we are not taken seriously by the white community. We reap according to our sowing.

If, on the other hand, we become so desirous of securing the enjoyment of all the rights and privileges pertaining to citizenship, as to lead us into unity of purpose and action, and concentrate all of our resources in well directed effort to attain, we thereby furnish the actual proof of our seriousness and determination. Serious and determined men, sooner or later, force a hearing of their cause, and in the end have their prayers anwsered. This is the one thing which we must learn if we would win. Colored men who firmly believe that members of our race should receive the same consideration in all civic matters, even in voting and holding of offices, can only hope to accomplish the desired end by combination and cooperation. This lesson we have not sufficiently learned; hence the slowness of progress we are making in that direction. It is not by working some "scheme" or prating about the large number of votes possessed by colored men, which will bring us the victory, but rather by some well defined system by the which we may awaken and educate our people, and secure a sufficient number of them to stand fimly together in an endeavor to so educate public sentiment that the natural justice and fairness of our fellow citizens of the other race will generously accord to us that which they freely yield to all others. The trouble about all this, there is no short cut to such an accomplishment. When men really love their race, and their country, they will, thus associate themselves in honest endeavor, realizing that in so doing they are equally serving the best interests of all men of all races. We must take ourselves seriously, if we expect others to take us seriously.

DOES AN OFFICE PAY THE DEBT?

The colored voters must enter the approaching campaign as colored men with special interests whether they will or not. The unreliability of our party and its pledges in the past; the recreancy of President Taft to his promise to uphold the laws and carry out the party platform; the persistent and untiring efforts of the Democratic party to abridge and destroy our political and civil rights, have made us a special class with special interests, and if we would maintain any semblance of a position of influence, or self-respect even, we must agitate and agitate and fight.

In this presidential campaign it is not a question of whether we are to continue to be Republicans. For many years to come there can be no doubt about the fact that logically we must ally ourselves with the Republican party, and the question we must thresh out is our intra-relatonship with the other elements of our party.

Are we content to remain simply a Republican asset for election purposes only? Are we willing to hearken to and follow the wil-lo'-the-wisp promises of the candidates and platforms of our party only to realze after the elections that political promises and political platforms are not made to be kept? The President of the United States apparently thinks that the millions of disfranchised and downtrodden colored voters should be satisfied because he has given us an assistant attorney general of the United States. After his degrading Southern policy, his betrayal of the black delegates from the South, who made his nomination possible; his monumental ingratitude to the colored voters without whom he would never have been president; his conscienceless disregard of his party's platform promises to give "exact justice to all men without regard to race or color;" and in the light of our deplorable political condition throughout the country, the South particularly, are we willing to accept this office in satisfaction of our claim? Is it not rather an insult to our intelligence to offer, as President Taft has practically done, this office in settlement of our claims for some positive action looking to the amelioration of our condition?

With the elective franchise taken away from the great majority of our voters; with our citizenship rights — those same inalienable rights so forcibly portrayed in the Delegation of Independence—abridged and denied by "grandfather clauses" and jim-crow legislation of every hue and description; with the courts of justice aligned with the political machinery for the execution of the devilish devices for the destruction of our political influence; with our president of the United States—nominated and elected by our black votes — adopting and pursuing a policy thoroughly in sympathy with these unholy and un-American practices and furthering them by appointing to the Supreme Court of the United States, our court of last resort men from the South where such sentiments have the full effect of law, and with which they are apparently in full sympathy; with the Republican leaders lending a deaf ear to our petitions for our manhood rights; with those of our own race, who are in the few high political positions we hold, stricken with lockjaw and dumbness when confronted with the necessity for a "voice" to cry out against these wrongs; will our pleas for "exact justice to all men without regard to race or collor" be silenced by this paltry gift of an office, as if an office would right our wrongs, and will we in effect, "sell our birthright for a mess of pottage?"

The time is past when we will accept offices as a legal tender in settlement of our claims. The time is past when we will quietly gulp down the specious promises of candidates and platforms, in view of the betrayals of the past and the certainty of deception in the future.

What we want, what we demand, is not the appointment of an assistant attorney general, with an emasculated office, or a register of the treasury, or a fourth auditor, or any other place for any individual—these should go to black politicians as they go to other politicians as reward for political services—but what we demand is "exact justice for all men without regard to race or color" and that this practice should begin with the president of the United States; we demand the recognition of the black Republicans of the South, not as material for presidential delegates only to be used as such and afterward cast aside, but as full-fledged members of the Republican party entitled to the consideration attaching to such membership; we demand the abandonment of the damnable Southern policy of President Taft, involving, as it does, the total abrogation of his party's platform; we demand that there shall be no jim-crow practices within the Republican party; we demand the recognition of majority without regard to color; we demand action from our part looking to the overthrow of the wicked and unconstitutional "grand--father clauses" and other jim-crow laws of the South which abridge our citizenship; we demand the ballot and protection by the general govenment in its exercise.

We are weary of promises. We are sufeited with the high sounding phrase of party platforms. We are sick and tired of the preelective gush of Republican spellbinders. We want action. We have laws on the satute books and we want their enforcement. We want our party to redeem its pledge.

We want our president to discharge the obligation the party has placed upon him. We want a candidate who will regard a party promise as a solemn obligation, who will reward us by fairness and justice and not basely betray us when we make his election possible.

Taft was elected on a platform promising to give "exact justice to all men without regard to race or color." He carried out that promise by giving us his Southern policy, the most conscienceless betrayal of political allies that is recorded in the history of American politics. He has broken his obligation, betrayed his party'strust and destroyed our confidence in him. Notwithstanding this record of weakness, cowardice, and ingratitude, the party leaders are determined to renominate him and will probably succeed. But of one thing they can be assured and that is that wherever the opportunity presents itself the black voters of the country will show their resentment at the polls.

AROUSING AND STUNNING.

Much store had been set upon the New York and the Illinois primaries, as settlers of the contest between Colonel Roosevelt and President Taft, as to the preferance of the people for presidential candidate. In New York, the scandalous steam roller process defeated the proper expression of the will of the people, but in Illinois, where the proper safe guards were used, Roosevelt has swept the state.

It must be rather staggering to the Taft men to have the New York delegates, even after the steam roller process in the State, go to Chicago without instructions. The New York leaders have not lost their senses and even after the shameful mockery of the primaries, they did not have to complete their effrontery to the people by instructing the delegates for Mr. Taft. The action of the New York convention is a practical surrender, and prima facia evidence that they are in doubt as to the wisdom of forcing Mr. Taft upon the party.

If the leaders of the party are really desirous of continuing the Republican party in power, they will not be guilty of turning a deaf ear to the voice of the people No sane man can fail to see that the plain every day people are with Colonel Roosevelt, and believe in him and his theories of government. The people have long wanted a chance to make their own leaders. The people have tired of having a few political bosses get together and make the ticket for them to vote. The people have grown weary of this government by minorities. The time has long since passed when the people are satisfied to let a few men sit back in their palatial offices and make up the slate for them. This condition has caused many a party man to vote independently or remain away from the polls altogether on election day. By this minority rule in political parties, the whole party has been shamed and good men have hung their heads when they have found at times the most corrupt leaders of corrupt gangs set up for their franchise. Then, we have been told by the political orator, we must vote for them because the party is more than a man. In that way corrupt and unprincipled men have been elevated to places of power by the franchises of the people.

All of this is manifestly wrong. If the plain workaday people are expected to vote men into office after the ticket has been made, the plain people have a right to say who shall go on that ticket. It is true today as it has even been true the men elected to office serve the interests and the men most influential in putting them into office. If a few men, forming a sort of political oligarchy, can behind closed doors dictate the ticket of the party, certainly the men who by this means are put upon the ticket and elected to office will serve the interests and men which lay back of their nomination and election. This is why it is such a difficult matter to get a single piece of legislation passed in the interest of the common people. The prohibition question in this State is a case in point.

This enactment and enlargement of laws in the interest of big business, placing daily a heavier yoke on the neck of the common people, is accountable for the tremendous and fearful upheavals manifest throughout the country, resulting in strikes and dynamitings. The plain people find the multiplication of laws against them and favoring the corporations whose greed has daily increased their burdens, and they are answering the condition with a deep seated and ominous unrest, which forebodes our republic no good.

We are repeating the history of France previous to the cutbreak of the French Revolution, and the student of history can see the rocks which are ahead. Mr. Roosevelt is a profound student of men and history, and undoubtedly has a vision of the real needs of our nation and those who are responsible for guiding the ship of state would do well to hear this man who is pleading the cause of the people in our land today. The common people have suffered and endured, until they have about now decided to rebel against the present social order, and will, unless they can elect such men as will be interested in them and do somthing to lighten their burdens. If any favors are to be shown, the common people need them; they are the nation's wealth, they are the nation's hope.

Princes and lords may flourish and may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath has made;
But the proud yeomanry a country's pride,
When once destroyd, can never be supplied.

LYNCHERS SHOULD BE HANGED.

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from law into lynching and disorder is due to the fact that courts are not full of dispatch in disposing of criminal cases.

"But we must not attribute it all to the courts. There is among our people a disposition to forget the sanctity of the law, and to ignor the fact that no civilized country can live unless the law is respected. Now lynchiing is justified because it is said to only apply to one offense that is particularly heinous in the minds of all of us. That is not true. Statistics show that lynching is applied to a great many crimes.

Lawless Example Bad.

"The moment that the mob acquires that wolfish desire for human blood, the example is dreadful to the community in which that exhibition of lawless is given. There is not any crime—I don't care what it is—that justifies a departure from law in the punishment of the person who is charged with guilt. "One of the serious questions we have to face in this country is that we have not among all our peolpe as profound a respect for the law and the necessity for obedience to it we ought to have. and that is part of the reason why we have these exhibitions of lawlessness over the country and these cruel murders, for that is all they are.

vidual opinion of the necessity for the enforcement of law.

Mr. Holmes made a forceful plea for the kindling of the spirit that would make the graduates revere toward University as their alma mater. A spirit, he said, that would not show itself so much in deeds as in words. Here counted the atheltic events of the student body that hd brought the university fame, and said that the building of gymnasium would be a step in the great work that is now being done to make Howard University the national educational institution for the race in this country.

"The athletes of this university, he continued, "have been noble in victory and in defeat, and it is time for us to be noble, and to show that nobleness that has been long sleeping and make our alma mater rise into its own."

GOOD WORK BY WEST VIRGINIA INSTITUTE

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be a step forward. Strong men and women are members of the faculty, and each year additions are made. One of the great features now is the summer school, which is one of the best in the country. Then their agriculture department is also very good. These strong men and women are working to develop our young people.

I was delighted to see Prof. C. E. Mitchell, the man of brains and ability. He has taken unto himself a wife and she is indeed an accomplished musician.

The students are of a high class and they know their buisness. They are preparing to take hold of the busy world. I noticed them for a whole day, and then I watched Prof. Prillerman. He is a busy man. I spent a day or more there and then turned my attention to other things.

It would just take me a week to tell you the things I saw at Institute, and the work being done there by the students and teachers. After spending a little time out there in the educated atmosphere, I was accompanied to Charleston by Prof. Mitchell, and found a committee of high school boys to meet me and show me the way to the Charleston High School. This was indeed a nice trip for me, to see the high school. I also visited Hotel Brown. I am glad to report to you that Mr. and Mrs. Brown continue to have a first-class hotel, and they are doing welll.

I stoped in Lexington with Rev. Dr. Clark, of the A. M. E. Church, spending the night at the home of J. C. Jackson, thence on to another part of the world. I cretainly did enjcy getting around there. I would like to tell you just all the places I have been.

In Louisville, I stoped with Editor William H. Steward, of the American Baptist, and leaving him, I found my way to another place. I have been to Frankfort, and it would not be out of place for me to refer to it. In Frankfort, I had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Amanda Coleman, and then going to Mrs. Martha E. Williams, where I had dinner and then had another dinner at the Capitol hotel with B. D. Madison. All of these things were inspiring to me. Now I am here, and will not be here long, for I am leaving as I write this letter for Cordele, Ga. Send all mail for me, care of Hon. E. Taylor, St. Augustine, Fla.

J. O. MIDNIGHT.

Dr. McCard Honored.

Dr. H. Stanton McCard, of 2005 Druid Hill avenue, has been appointed a member of the educational commission of the National Medical Association. The work of this committee will embrace an investigation of the work now being done in colored medical colleges, and to make recommendations that will put them on a par with other leading medical schools. Among the colored medical colleges are: Leonard Medical College, Raleigh, N. C.; Meharry, Nashville, Tenn.; Flint, New Orleans; and Howard University, Washington.

Public Waiters Banquet

The annual banquet of the Public Waiters' Association was given at Young's Auditorium Tuesday night. Councilman Harry S. Cummings, who is the attorney for the organization, delivered an address. Toasts were responded to by a number of the members.

The banquet was served by Caterer John R. Young. The organization was founded eight years ago by William P. Lansey, and is one of the most flourishing in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. George Casie gave a beautiful tea in Washington Easter Sunday in honor of Mrs. Margarett Henderson and Miss Sarah Powell, of Baltimore.

Revs. S. M. Johnson, A. L. Gaines, C. H. Stepteau, and B. F. Watson, the latter of Washington, attended the sessions of the Virginia A. M. E. Conference at Hampton, Va., this week.

Mrs. Henrietta T. Allen is confined to her home, 619 W. Biddle street, by illness. She is in an improved condition.

Mrs. Mary V. Burke, mother of Misses Grace and Maria Burke, died at her home in Catonsville Monday night.

The stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Jones, of N. Carey street and left a fine little girl Mother and daughter are doing fine.

Delegates Meet.

The Baltimore Conference delegation to the A.M.E. General Conference met last Saturday to talk over matters that will engage the session of the General Conference next month.

They reaffimed their previous action of endorsing Rev. John Hurst, financial secretary of the denomination, for the bishopric. Rev. A. L. Gaines, pastor of Trinity A. M. E. Church, was again endorsed for the editorship of the Christian Recorder, the leading denomination organ.

Dr. Hurst has made a fine record as financial secretary of the denomination, and Dr. Gaines' education and experience in journalism are regarded as eminently fitting him for the editorship.

The following members of the delegation were present: Revs. C.H. Murray, chairman; James G. Martin, secretary; A. L. Gaines, D. G. Hill, P. J. Jordan, and C. H. Stepteau, J. Frank Blagburn, of Washington, and Thomas J. Hilliard, the latter being lay delegates.

Funeral of Mr. Joseph Moore.

The funeral of Mr. Joseph Moore, which was held Tuesday at his late home, 1227 Jefferson street, was one of the largest attended in East Baltimore in recent years.

Mr. Moore died Saturday after a lingering illness. He was one of the most active spirits in the Doctor's Coachmen's, Junior Association, and a large delegation from that association attended the funeral. The services at the house were conducted by Rev. D. W. Shaw of Centennial Church. Resolutions on behalf of his fellow club members were read.

Headed by Samuel Procter's Band, the members of the association preceeded the funeral party to Laurel Cemetery, where the interment took place. The floral tributes were numerous and handsome. Harry A. Vodery, of 1775 Orleans street, had charge of the funeral arrangements.

Funeral of Henson D. Murray

The funeral of Henson D. Murray, who died at his home, 909 N. Eutaw street, Sunday mornng after a brief illness, was held at his late home Tuesday afternoon. The services were in charge of Rev. D. G. Hill, pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church, of which congregation he was a member, and Rev. G. F. Bragg, Jr. assisted.

Mr. Murray was born in this city 45 years ago. He was educated in the local public schools He was engaged in the newspaper business for nearly 25 years, handling all of the local papers, includig the Afro-American Ledger. He was a member of St. James' and St. Andrews' Societies. His wife, Mrs. J. F. Murray, and daughter, Annett, survive.

Hagerstown Notes

Hagertown, Md., April 11—An industria and agricultural educationg conference wa held in the new Ebenezer A.M.E. Church Thursday of last week. The conference was arranged by Prof. Benjamin S. Smith, supervisor of colored schools in Washington county.

The speakers included: Assistant Superintendent of Schools Purdum, Rev. David Johnson, Prof. Walker, of Harpers Ferry, W. Va.; the Mayor of Hagerstown, Hugh E. Macbeth, Robert Young, both of Baltimore, and Professor Smith.

Rev. David Johnson will be tendered a reception by his congregation Monday night. He will leave for the session of the Baltimore A. M. E. Conference Tuesday. Rev. Johnson was recently presented a new suit of clothes by the Golden Rod Club of Ebenezer Church.

Annapolis Personals

Annapolis, Md., April 10—Mrs. Samuel Johns and daughter spent Easter in Baltimore, the guest of Rev. and Mrs. Wheeler.

Mrs. Samuel Simms spent the Easter holiday in Baltimore, the guest of Mrs. N. E. Harris.

Mr. H. M. Norwood spent Easter in Atlantic City.

Miss Blanche G. Butler and Mr. Jesse James spent Sunday in Baltimore the guest of lawyer and Mrs. G. L. Peleto.

Mr. E. Whittington, of Baltimore, spent Easter in the city the guest of Miss Clara Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Catlett, of Washington, spent Easter in the city, the guest of Mrs. George Wells.

Mr. Charles Brown, of Morris street, is now in Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, quite sick. He has the sympathy of his many friends.

Misses C. Wadeton and A. Davis spent Easter in Washington with their parents.

Miss Edith Merriweather spent Easter in Baltimore.

Mrs. C. Johnson Connor, spent the week end in Baltimore.