Afro-American-Ledger,

Published Every Saturday

AT THE

AFRO-AMERICAN BUILDING,

628 N. EUTAW ST.

BY THE

Afro-American Co.

J. H. MURPHY, Manager.

C. & P. Phone, Mt Vernon 2833.

UP-TOWN OFFICE:

1320 Druid Hill Avenue.

C & F. Phone, Madison 342.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Payable In Advance

One Year..... .... One Dollar
Six Months.....Fifty Cents
Three Months.....Forty Cents
Single Copy... .....Three Cents

Postage Prepaid by Publishers.

Outside of the United State the price is double.

Entered at the Baltimore Post Office second-class matter.

We are not responsible for the return or preservation of unsolicited contributions on any subject.

All articles sent to this office for publication, must have the writer's signature or otherwise such article will be ignored.

Churches and others having news notices will please have the same in the office by Thursday to insure publication in the week's issue.

Correspondents will please have all communication, in the office by noon on Wednesdays.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to THE AMERICAN LEDGER, 628 North Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Md.

Advertising rates made known upon application.

All Checks, Money Orders an Drafts should be made payable to THE AFRO-AMERICAN CO.

BALTIMORE, APRIL 27, 1912

NOT A QUESTION OF BREAD AND BUTTER

It is a bit amusing when one reads campaign literature, in the interest of a certain candidate for the Presidency, when the ground of such advocacy seems to rest upon the 'bread and butter'' argument. The few political places held by men of the colored race under the United States govenment, have little or nothing to do with the real issue presented to the American people in the present primary campaign. There is but one naked issue. Shall we have a President of the United States who is pledged to securing the people the largest share possible in their own government, or shall we have one with tendencies in the other direction? The unfortunate thing in the present contest is, no man, among the Republicans, has been mentioned for the Presidency, who is even comparable to Theodore Roosevelt along this line. The great mass of American people keenly appreciate the situation, and therefor, they find but little difficulty in making a choice. There is an argument infinitely higher than the ''bread and butter'' one. It is the argument of geuine Democracy.

Roosevelt believes in the plain people. There can scarcely be any doubt on this point, on the part of the great financial barons. It is just this democratic leaning of Mr. Roosevelt which accounts for their uneasiness. The true nature and inwardness of men are discerned by small rather than by large things. And, in the life of Mr. Roosevelt, in all the public stations he has filled, nothing shines out more prominently than his democracy, and as a simple man among men, Mr. Roosevelt, not only professes the Christian religion, but he has carried, vigorously his religion into his business; and the applied religion in action has been as conspicuous as his other business. In whatever position he has filled, he has filled it as a Christian man. In his contact among men the same honest and straight-forward principles of action have been pursued. In New York where there are mixed schools, the children of his Negro driver attended the same school with his own children. While occupying the seat of the Chief Magistrate of our county, his family worshipped at St. John's Episcopal Church, Washington, and one of his daughters, although living in the Executive Mansion, found it a pleasure very Sunday, to teach a class of Negro children, in a mission congregation connected with St. John's parish. The simple democratic nature of Theodore Roosevelt is so manifestly in evidence that it would be passing strange if the people of this country were unable to detect the outlines. The man of all men for the Presidency is Theodore Roosevelt. The people want him. They have confidence in his honesty of purpose, and his great ability to safely and wisely lead and administer the ''square deal'' we can get our own bread and butter. And, the one thing the Nergo so ardently desires, and this is true of the vast army of plain people of the country, is a ''square deal'' and protection in the enjoyment of their rights. The plain people are for Roosevelt, because Roosevelt is for them. True and tried, the people will exalt him once more to the place he so honorably filled.

A PRECIOUS HERITAGE

Intelligent peope always appreciate, yea almost venerate, some heir-loom, or thing, which has come down to them through many generations of their forbears. The spirit behind such admiration is well worthy of our imitation, with respect to the thing which brought the greatest honor and praise to the whole Negro race in the past, even during the dark days of human slavery. If there be any special thing wherein the race has demonstrated such superb excellence as to challenge the admiration of the whole world, that thing is the splendid type of Negro womanhood, which evinced such remarkable beauty and grace, even under all the disadvantages of slavery It is just possible that we do not begin to fully appreciate what a goodly heritage pertains to the whole race from this source. So exceedingly virtuous, and resplendent with all moral qualities, were the women of our race, that to them were intrusted the rearing of many of the most distinguished and useful men and women of the other race. The trouble with us is we neither criticise ourselves or welcome criticisms from others. In this we are far from being wise. If the unsolicited, and generous tributes to our Negro Women, from the people of the South, mean anything at all, it is confession of rare possibilities in the Negro race. With freedom, there has been too much of inclination to remove the restraints and discipline, which were largely responsible for the magnificent record of noble women which descended upon us at the close of the Civil War. It should be enough for us to know and realize that very much of our freedom is generating into license, and that unless we are most watchful we will suffer our heaviest loss in the lowering of that robust and strong moral type of womanhood which was the glory of the race in ante bellum days.

We dare say, that there is no problem which should so much concern us as of laying solid and enduring fobndations for good family life. This should be the chief business not only of the churches, but also of every moral agency among us. The increasing forms of pleasure pursued by our young people and the vast amount of leisure at their disposal render the task before us increasingly difficult. But, for that very reason is the more necessary that such subject should command the earnest and aggressive attention of all among us who believe that there is some peculiar mission for Negro people to perform. If we are to judge of the nature of that mission by the aboriginal righteousness and purity of the African in heathendom, and the peculiar gifts of patience, love, and music Providence has implanted in the soul of the black man, then, such mission must be along the line of the world's greatest need. Thus, if God has singled us out for such exalted honor of more correctly interpreting for the nations of the earth, the true setting of the Gospel of the Son of God, it would seem hardly short of criminality for our leaders to fail in appreciating the obvious duties which the situation impose. At the very bottom of all our endeavor, must be the solidity and moral beauty of our womanhood. Without this are lost. With it the race is won. The subject matter calls for noble and heroic treatment. Have we the courage and the love for our kind to face the situation'.

BROWNSVILLE vs. TALT'S SOUTHERN POLICY

On the assumption that, inasmuch as colored people generally are opposed to the renomination of President Taft, they must of necessiy favor the candidacy of Colonel Roosevelt, we are freqeuently asked how we can balk at the Southern policy of President Taft and swallow Brownsville. We are accused of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel.

From our point of view the two propositions are radically and fundamentally different. In he first place he Brownsville action was directed against the one hundred sixty odd soldiers, some one or more of whom are supposed to have shot up the town, Roosevelt dismissed the men in disgrace, laying down the rule hitherto unheard of in either military or civil jurisprudence that the accused soldiers, to clear themselves of the charges and secure reinstatement, must prove themselves innocent. This was a reversal of the great common law principle that the accused is considered innocent until proven guilty. However in so far as the colored people as a whole are concerned in this matter its immediate effects were limited to the one hundred sixty odd men against whom it was directed. It blackened and condemned those soldiers only, the innocent, it is true, along with the guilty, if there were any. On the other hand, Taft's Southern policy is directed against a whole race. None escapes. No black man needs apply for recognition as a full-fledged citizen, if any kind of a white man objects to him. The most capable and cultured among us is entirely at the mercy of the commonest cracker, the fruits of this policy toward us and in their train follow civic hopelessness, degradation despair.

Roosevelt did offer the colored troops the opportunity to prove themselves innocent, preposterous though that proposition was. But with Taft's Southern policy there is no saving clause. He has placed the label ''For whites only'' upon every official position in the South, and serves notice that ''No black man need apply.''

That particular colored regiment has since been recruited up to its full strength and the victims of Roosevelt's Brownsville orders are the one hundred-sixty men, many or all of whom were so unjustly punished. But Taft's southern policy not only brands a whole race as hopelessly and perpetually inferior but it forever denies them any kind of participation whatever in the government which their taxes help to support and their blood helped to preserve and perpetuate.

Roosevelt's order stood out in striking contrast with a long list of actions in which he gave practical demonstration of his belief in the ''open door'' and ''every man up'' doctrines, and he showed from the very beginning of his presidential career his appreciation of the black delegates from the South and the colored voters of the whole country. There was the Burleigh incident before Roosevelt came to Washington when the hospitality of the executive mansion at Albany was offered to the singer against whom the Albany hotels had closed their doors. There was the Crum incident which was practical proof that Roosevelt's theory is the exact opposite of President Taft's. There was the Indianola post office matter which put Roosevelt as far at one end of the question of the fair treatment of the helpless colored population of the South as Taft's cowardly Southern policy puts him at the other end. We might continue this list indefinitely.

Roosevelt's life, before, during, and since his term as president, is replete with occurrences which show him a believer in human rights, courageous and determined in the face of opposition and unflinching in the discharge of his duty as he saw it. Taft has been a trimmer all his life, ever on the alert for the passing breeze. His service as president has been marked from the first by vacillation, weakness, cowardice, and ingratitude. Without fixed opinions or political policies he has been any man's man and no man's man from the beginning. Adopting at one moment a policy of retaliation and vindictiveness at some one's behest he would abandon it for one of conciliation and bartering. Under him the public service has been debauched for political purposes as never before. He has been in the closest alliance with men whose policies are rank and hitherto successful efforts to thwart and stifle popular government. Consorting with such bosses as Lorimer, Cox, Ward, and Penrose, he has tried to play their game, but he has failed ignominiously because he lacks those characteristics upon which all successful bosses build their power i. e., gratitude to friends and fidelity to promises.

In a word, Brownsville was bad enough but Taft's Southern policy is a thousand times worse; Brownsville was an unfortunate mistake, but Taft's Southern policy is a plan carefully evolved with malevolent deliberation; Brownsville might be compared with a single hole in a roof which otherwise afforded perfect shelter from the raging storm without, while the Southern policy of President Taft is the storm itself, deluging every dry spot, engulfing all within its reach; while Brownsville was the blunder of an impulsive friend, the president's Southern policy is the fruit of indifference, if not dislike; the Brownsville order was limted in its effect to the discharged soldiers, but Taft's Southern policy affects a whole race, extending unless checked or overthrown to future generations of colored people yet unborn; Roosevelt put a saving clause into the Brownsville order, cruel and preposterous though it was, but Taft's Southern policy virtually means ''Abandon hope, all ye, who enter here;'' the Brownsville order destroyed only the army relation of the soldiers it discharged, but Taft's Southern policy destroys the last remnants of the very fundamentals of our very precious citizenship; the principle of the Brownsville order reversing as it does a fundamental tenet of the common law affects whites as well as blacks if it is allowed to stand, while the president's Southern policy separates and segregates us from the American body politic, empaling us before all the world as social and political Pariahs; Theodore Roosevelt's Brownsville order is one unfriendly act among hundreds of acts of friendship shown us when the action counted and when it required courage and sacrifice to perform them; will some one please name the acts of friendship requiring courage or sacrifice which have ever been shown to us by William Howard Taft?

It only remains to be said that while many colored men honestly object to Roosevelt and with what are to them good and sufficient reasons, he is so vastly superior to Taft in every particular from our point of view that the Brownsville incident in comparison with the President's Southern policy is as a pigmy to a colossus.

ANNAPOLIS NOTES.

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Annapolis, Md., April 25—Mrs. M. F. King spent Sunday in Annapolis, the guest of her daughter, Mrs. J. E. Johns.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Simmons spent Sunday in Washington.

Mrs. W. H. Bates spent the week end in Baltimore.

Dr. L. C. Curtis, was heartily welcomed on his return to Mt. Moriah A. M. E. Chuch.

Mrs. C. Johnson Connor, of Charles street, entertained the Ladies' Whist Club on last Saturday afternoon from 4 to 6 P. M. Mrs. Simms and Mrs. Carter won the first prize and Mrs. Norwood and Mrs. Bishop, the booby prize.

Mr. J. E. Howard is still confined to his home by illness.

DENTON HAPPENINGS.

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Denton, Md., April 25 — Rev. John Bartise, of Camden, N. J., filled the pulpit at the A. M. E. Church Sunday.

Rev. J. H. Robertson, of Baltimore, preached at the M. E. Church Sunday morning.

Mrs. C. B. Casson, Mrs. Elizabeth Dickerson, Miss Janet Thompson, Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Bryant have returned from Baltimore, where they attended the A. M E. Conference.

The W. C. T. U, met at Union Bethel Church last Sunday at which time Mesdames F. T. Johnson and Adaline Lewis made stirring addresses against intemperance. Mrs. A. M. Bailey presided.

Messrs. William E. Myers and Armstead Williams are on the sick list.

Mr. George James has opened a restaurant and ice cream parlor at Water and High streets.

Mr. A. J. Bailey is one of the most successful strawberry growers in Caroline county

Miss Hattie Frazier has gone to Washington for an indefinite stay.

Miss Ida M. Bailey entertained Mr. Bennett Carter, of Ridgeley, Md., Sunday.

SALISBURY BRIEFS..

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Salisbury, Md., April 25 — Section No. 1, of the Teachers' Reading Circle, held its last meeting for the present school year at the High School last Saturday morning. Among the topics discussed was plans for securing an increase of pay for the colored teachers of Wicomico county.

The officers of the circle are: Prof. A. H. Long, president; Mrs. Katie Williams, vice president; Mrs. Mayme Postle Johnson, secretary; and Mr. James L. Johnson, treasurer.

Mrs. Maria, Morris died here a few days ago, aged 86 years. She was highly respected. Mrs. Louise Powell and Mr. Alexander Morris were sister and brother of the deceased respectively.

Miss Martha Purnell has gone to New York for an indefinite stay.

Miss Mayme Houston, daughter of Mr. Solomon Houston, is recovering from an attack of pneumonia.

Mr. Marion J. Armstrong stopped here Monday enroute to his home in Philadelphia.

A Reception Tendered

A delightful supper in honor of Mrs. Mannadier St. Clair and Miss Mattie St. Clair, of Cambridge, Md., was given by Mrs. Alphua M. Peck at her home, 1836 Druid Hill avenue last Sunday evening. Those present were Mesdames Mannadier St. Clair, Charles Fowler, John Rich, H. Grafton Brown, Henrietta Jackson, Mary Adams, Misses Mattie St. Clair and Cora A. Tucker.

A PRETTY WEDDING.

Miss Estelle M. Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Jones, and Mr. Reginald McCleary, of New York, were the principals in a pretty wedding at Leadenhall Street Church Wednesday night. The bride was given away at the altar by her father, following which the pastor of the church, Rev. A. Brown, performed the ceremony.

The bride was attractively attired in white embroidered satin. Her flowing tulle veil was caught with a diamond broach, the gift of the groom. The bridesmaid was Miss Bessie Boyd and Miss Carina Roan acted as flower girl. The best man was Mr. William Gray, of New York. Messrs. Ernest C. Brown, John Scott, Toadvin Williams, and William Roberts served as ushers.

A reception followed at the home of the bride's parents, 915 Pierce street. The young couple were the recipients of numerous presents including gifts of silver. Mr. and Mrs. McCleary will reside at 2188 Fifth avenue, New York.

The bride's aunt, Miss Estelle V. Mason, of New York, was among the out of town guests.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.

Miss Lillie E. Lynn, daughter of Mrs. Florence V. Lynn, and Mr. J. Maurice Butler, were the principals in a pretty wedding at the Pennsylvania Avenue A. M. E. Zion Church Wednesday evening. The ceremony was performed by Rev. E. D. W. Jones, pastor of the church, assisted by Rev. J. A. S. Cole.

The contracting parties have been sweethearts since their school days. A reception followed at the residence of the bride's mother, 1131 Carrollton avenue. The gifts were many and costly. The bride is an alumnus of the colored High School and both parties are active workers in the A. M. E. Zion Church. Mr. and Mrs. Butler will be at home at 1832 McCulloh street after Sunday, June 10

Kines On Sewerage Commission.

Mr. William B. Kines, city editor of the Baltimore American, has been appointed a Republican member of the Sewerage Commission to succeed the late W. W. McIntire. He as a member of the first graduating class of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and has spent nearly a quarter of a century in active newspaper work. His long service as city editor of the American has made him the dean among local city editors.

YOUNG—In sad but loving remembrance of my dear friend, Ethel T., who died one year ago, April 24, 1911.

Oh, how sweet it will be in that
beautiful land,
So free from all snow and rain;
With songs on our lips and harps
in our hands,
To meet one another again.

By her friend Carrie Smith Gross.

Annual Rally.

The annual rally by The Pink Carnation Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of St. Paul M E. Church, Saratoga street near Carey Sunday April 28, 1912; 11 A. M., sermon by the pastor, S. H. Norwood. 8 P. M., sermon by Rev. Acquilla W. Brooks. The Empty Stocking Club of Ebenezer A. M. E. Church, the West End Pleasure Club, The Trustees Auxiliary of St. Paul M. E. Church will also be with us Monday, April 29, 1912. Tickets 15 cents. Supper free. Welcome address by Mr. T. H. Franklin, president of the Brotherhood; solos by Misses Lizzie Walker, Florence Ashton and Mr. W. H. Thomas; duet by Mrs. Hill and company and Miss Sarah Jackson and company; trombone solo by Howard Coleman, Mandolin solo by James Weldon; piano overture by Mrs. Westley Thomas; vocal solo by Daniel Williams; piano overture by Ida Harge.

Mrs. L. Johnson, president; B. Hall, secretary; Mrs. M. L. Freeland, pianist; Rev. S. H. Norwood, pastor.

COLUMBUS GORDON.

Mr. Columbus Gordon, national grand ruler of the Galilean Fishermen, who has been ill at his home, 816 S. Eutaw street, for the past few weeks, is reported to be in an improved condition. He has received letters from all sections of the country wishing him speedy recovery.

"Rose of Allah" to be Presented at Albaugh's

''The Rose of Allah,'' a musical play in three acts will be rendered at Albaughs Theatre Friday evening, May 3rd for the benefit of Provident Hospital.

The play was written by Mr. Lewis H. Murray. The scene is laid in Arabia. The sacred rose of Allah, the Arabian deity, having been mysteriously spirited away, causes great anxiety on the part of the Arabian people. They have lost the medium through which they communicate with the deity concerning matters of love. Fearful lest there be a visitation of Allah's vengeane upon them for not having guarded carefully this sacred medium, the Arabians importune Allah for mercy.

At this point it happens that an American tourist in Arabia hearing of the great distress of the people, invents a substitute for Allah's Rose, and constitutes himself as the custodian of love affairs. Here humorous complications develop but are unraveled by the restoration of this mystic rose, the supernatural power of which is found to be only the delusion of faith. There is a very happy finale to the play.

The principles of dramatic aptitude have been carefully and studiously worked out and Mr. Murray deserves no stinted praise for this very excellent creation.

Musical adaptions are from the songs of Mr. Ford Dabney, a gentleman who is popularly known as a song writer.

Among those being featured in musical numbers are Mesdames Anna Hazelton Lee, Lillian Dolman Weaver, Pauline Jackson Stevens, Messrs. Otho Church and Lincoln Weaver.

These individual musical features are supported by a well trained chorus of one hundred persons.

The humorous side of the play is to be capably represented by the well known comedian, Mr. Travis M. Tucker.

The most elaborate scenic effects have been produced and gorgeous costumes will be displayed.

The play is produced under the auspices of the Lady Board of Mangers of Provident Hospital. Mrs. Julia Carr, president; Mrs. Alice Ennis, secretary; Mrs. Minnie Harvey, treasurer.

Look up. Lift up.

The Third Year Class of Morgan College will render the program for the Riddick Chapter Epworth League of Centennial M. E. Church, corner Caroline and Bank streets, Sunday, April 28, at 4:30 P. M.

Come bring your friends, Offering at the door. Mr. Gant Holt, president of the class; Mme. Helen A. Cooper, president of the league; Mr. C. Wilbert Harris, 4th vice president; Rev. D. W. Shaw, D. D., pastor.

Twelfth anniversary celebration of the William Jones Association and Spring Contest at Asbury Hall, Lexington street and Rogers avenue, Monday evening, April 29, 1912. Come and hear the Roosevelt Singers.

Doors open at 8 o'clock.

Admission 10 cents.

Cornelius Jones, president; H. L. Caution, captain; Elias Murray, com. of arrangements; Bertina Brown, pianist; Josephine Jones, Jane Henson, L. Patterson.

Read the Afro-American