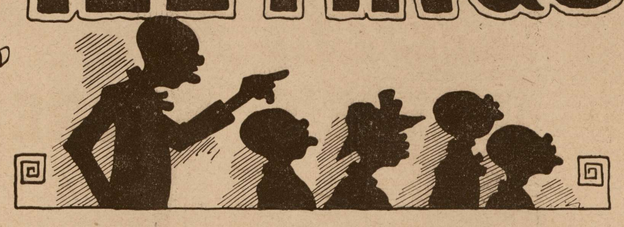
YE OLD CAMP MEETINGS

"GETTING RELIGION"

CAN BE HEARD SOMETIMES FOR MILES—



Camp meetings will soon be events of the past, and the old-fashioned kind are now only memories.

Those of us who are old enough to remember the camps of fifty and more years ago remember them as great centers of spiritual power and energy. Folks went from far and near to get in contact with the great dynamo of religious enthusiasm in order to renew their spiritual strength.

Ministers would attend them and go back to their flocks reconsecrated and spiritually equipped for a renewed attack on the strongholds of Satan in the great revivals of those days in the fall and winter.

The old-time camp meeting was the mecca for the church members, where they also renewed their faith and learned the new gospel songs and came back home in better spiritual shape to cooperate with their pastors in his church work.

But the old tented groves gave way to the cottage system, and the spiritual side of the camp meeting gave way very largely to the social side—and the present-day camps are pleasure resorts, where tennis, croquet and pink teas are the attractions for the younger folks and the old time religious fervor is confined very largely to the old folks.

Of course the reasons for the old camp meetings do not exist today. Churches were few and the preaching service infrequent. Most of the country churches were on large circuits where the old-time preacher on horse back with his ward robe in his saddle bags got around about once in a month or six weeks, and a great many were miles from the meeting houses.

Then the people of that day appear to have been much more emotional in their make-up than they are today, and they seem to crave the excitement and emotionalism which they always found at the camp services.

During July and August there was always a camp meeting in progress somewhere in the county and the country people would make great preparations to go. The camp meeting season, while giving new life to the saints, was death to the chickens, for no camp meeting dinner was complete without friend chicken; and then there were other things that went with the chicken—home-cured ham, hard boiled eggs, tomatoes and then the cake and pies would top the feast.

Whole families would go, not excepting the hired man—and the conveyance was generally the big canvas covered market wagon, with plenty of straw in the bottom; a real modern strawride, only these good people didn't know it. They would leave home after a very early breakfast and trudge along through the mud and over rocks for 12 or 15 miles and enjoy every minute of it, and what a grand time they had. The grown folks took in all the preaching and devotional services and between them ate and met old friends they had not seen since the last camp meeting a year before. After the afternoon services they would make a start hor home, full of enthusiasm, full of good things to eat and full of pleasant memories. On the way home they would practice the new hymns they had heard during the day and arrive at home just in time to get through the milking and care for the stock before daarkness overtook them. It would be a strenuous day for the ladies and would likely take a week to get over it, but it was relaxation and rest for the good women of that period.

There could be no greater contrast than the appearance of the old time camp meeting grounds of the old days and the modern camp of today. Then the white canvas tents, the wood fires on pedestals, the numerous old canvas covered market wagons, a few family carriages, a few rockaways, a few carryalls and a very few modern buggies. Today the wooden cottages, electric lights, telephones, radios, electric cars and automobiles and no horses in sight.

Truly a great change. We have progressed mightily in many directions, but haven't we lost something by the change.

Grandfather, who went regularly to the camp meetings and always profited by them, read his Bible every night in the family circle and had family prayers; his grandson goes to sleep with jazz ringing in his ears coming over the radio a thousand miles away. Who really gets the most out of life—we leave it to you.

We have been speaking of the white people's camp meetings—but we must not overlook the colored people's camps. They are quite as much in evidence today and almost as primitive as they were fifty years ago. There is the same amount of fervor, enthusiasm and emotionalism as ever, and the Hallelujahs and shouting just as much in evidence but of course that is accounted for from the fact that no matter what may be said of their morality, they are a very religious and intensely emotional race.

To see them at their best you will have to visit the camp meetings on the Eastern Shore or Southern Maryland sections or the tidewater districts of Virginia. Although we still have them in Baltimore county.

And how they can sing. There is a melody and a pathos in their voices that is most appealing and it is unlike the singing of any other race. Did you ever hear them sing "The Old Time Religion"? It is worth going miles to hear. It goes like this and the stanzas are innumerable.

"It was good enough for mother;
It was good enough for moth;
It was good enough for moth,
And it's good enough for me.

Chorus:

Oh, the old time religion; the old time religion,
Oh, the old time religion is good enough for me."

When a wave of religious fervor strikes one of these colored camp meetings they are noisy and they are proud of it. The exhorters can be heard for miles and as a rule the louder the preacher, the more hearty are the responses of hallelujah and glory from his flock and more exciting the shouting and other evidences of strong emotion.

The colored camp meetings will be in evidence so long as they retain their racial characteristics and since they retain them today to a large extent as they were fifty years ago, the probabilities are that the colored camp meetings will be here when the white folks camps are forgotten.

STRAINING THE EYES
Trying to read, write or sew without glasses impairs the vision and sometimes causes headache.
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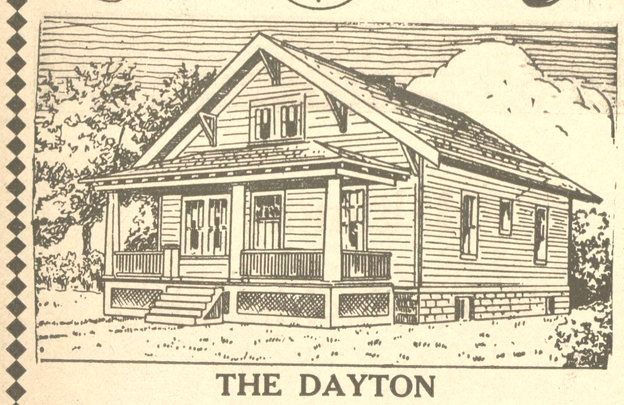

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Winding Up a Big Sale

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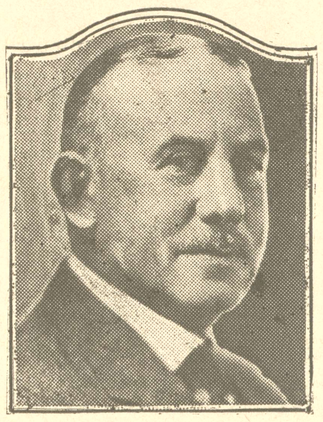
Yes, "Mose" loves to do his people a good service and "Mose" believes that his people appreciate everything that he does for them.

The business that "Mose" has done the last few weeks—when everybody else was talking "hard times"—is good evidence in any court that the people—the great masses—are with "Mose"—and God bless them. "Mose" wants them to know he is with them—through "thick and thin."

"Mose" Wants To Do The Thing Right And Now He Throws In With His Suits His Good Pants Stock.



"MOSES KAHN OF OLD TOWN"

AND "MOSE" GIVES YOU SATISFACTION.

IN his "brown study" when "Mose" gets to thinking of his "ins and outs"—his "ups and downs," his "bad" and "good" times—he doesn't forget that the toiler—the man that earns his bread in his sweat, is his best friend and customer, and thank God "Mose" is big enough to appreciate it.

Since Mr. Larkins has rid the city of mosquitoes, they've all come to "Mose's" and they are going to drive him to the mountains or seashore — or somewhere to get away from them.

But "Mose" will let you hear from him—and he will have good news.

Suits & Trousers for a Mere Song

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Nice Lot Plain Blue Serge Suits; good serge that will hold its color; some lined all through and some half lined; suits that have sold for $25 and $30. Now cut to close at. $10.00

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One Fine Lot Brown Pin Stripe, Blue Pin Stripe and Black Pin Stripe Pants; Have been selling at $4:50. Now..... $3.00

One Fine Lot Pure Worsted Pants; have been selling at $6 and $7; now at one price $4.00

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