

The Liberator

Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the Afro-American.

VIII Vol.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., AUGUST 1906.

No. 7



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Ready for an Aggressive Campaign. Taxation Without Representation Must Go.

THE HATCHET IS BURIED.

Yielding to the demands for race unity, the leader of the various contending factions have agreed to agree and concentrate their energies for the common advancement of the race. At a recent meeting of the Afro-American stalwarts occupying seats in the rooms and taking part in its proceedings was a sight to delight the gods. There were Flint, Warner, Alexander, Walker, Vena, Capt. Hawkins, Whitley, Troy, Bernard, B. W. Sikes and others of the old guard. These were re-enforced by Editor T. A. Greene of the Enterprise, Lieut. Colonel Allensworth, Capt. F. H. Crumbley, Lieut. Williams, W. E. Easton, Willis Jackson, a bright man from Missouri, a score or more bright men whose presence has added intelligence and wealth to the city. With a regenerated look a few members of the old "six bits" push occupied seats in the hall and manifested in many ways a desire to amend for past prodigalities. The Pasadena members have also repented in sackcloth and ashes and will be given the right hand of fellowship. Race unity for the present and future demands that past political mistakes be forgotten, and the race present a united front to the foes of its rights.

TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.

We have in this city a population of 10,000 to 12,000 with 2,000 to 3,000 voters paying taxes on two and a half millions dollars worth of real and personal property. We have many business and professional men and women with 4000 homes and hundreds of thousands invested in the city's business life. With the property above mentioned and 10,000 citizens, 75 per cent of whom can read and write and the political balance of power in the Sixth and Seventh wards, the Afro-Americans have no representation or voice in the administration of the city's affairs. They hold not a single position of honor and trust. So far as having a voice in public affairs, the colored voters are as completely disfranchised as they are in the South. And to add to the shame of the whole business, is the fact that the colored people in no city in this country can boast of a finer array of talent. There are lawyers, doctors, newspaper men,

soldiers, printers, merchants, chemists, tailors, real estate men and women, capitalists, orators and statesmen out of jobs. Here is taxation without representation with a vengeance. Here is sneaking disfranchisement that would make Vardaman green with envy. What a model Republican city. What are you to do about it, colored voters?

The remedy is to organize now and open a campaign to secure the nomination of a colored man for councilman and one member of the school board. In the coming city campaign there will probably be six or seven tickets in the field. If a place on one or the other of these tickets cannot be secured, let the colored voters run independent candidates for councilmen in the Sixth and Seventh wards, and run one or more candidates for members of the school board. In view of the spirit of "jim crowism" in our city schools the colored voters should have representation on the school board to look after the interest of the colored children. The placing of an independent ticket in the field by the colored voters would so confuse things that they would be almost certain to secure representation. And such a move would teach the bosses a wholesome lesson and secure manly consideration for the colored voters in the future. Remember the treatment accorded the colored delegats at Venice. Eight hundred white Republicans allowed the 15 colored ones to go without dinner and be insulted for being black Republicans. The fact is the negroes were not wanted, and if there is a spark of manhood left in them they will keep away from people that don't want them.

Mob Law Must Go.

THE LYNCHING SYSTEM OF MURDER.

Of all the abhorrent forms of murder, lynching is the most brutal and cowardly. That it is all this and more, no man can deny. Lynching is the taking of human life without warrant of law. It is the extreme of cruelty. It has all the damning accessories of premeditation and malice aforethought, and it is so dastardly as to be unworthy of a skulking coyote.

This foul and un-American practice is none the less inexcusable because it is confined to the killing of negroes. In fact it is all the worse for that. If white men were as regularly lynched, when they either commit crimes or are merely suspected of them, and no discrimination made on account of color, the thing would not look so bad.

The lynching which took place at Charlottesville, N. C., on Monday last, is a sample of nearly all. Three negroes, against whom nothing had been

proven, were taken forcibly from jail and the custody of the law, hung to a tree and riddled with bullets. Sometimes the custom is varied by burning the victims at the stake. Whether or not the persons who were lynched were guilty of the crime of which they were suspected no one knows, and it is doubtful if any of the lynchers care. But the men who strung those helpless human beings to a tree and shot them were themselves murderers, pure and simple.

Every Man Has a Right to Trial by Jury.

No excuse can or should be made for negroes, or white men, either, who commit crimes. But all men stand equal before the law of the United States. Every man has the right to be tried by a jury of his peers. The lynchers destroy that right.

It is not to be wondered at, perhaps, that the good, true men of the negro race in America grow discouraged and disheartened in the face of constantly recurring instances like this one at Charlottesville. When the negro says he is not given a square deal, that his rights are not respected and that he is the prey of brutes who, because their skins are white, hound and persecute and slay him at will, what answer can be given?

Yet there must sometime be an end to this sort of infamy. There must come a time when the negro will not be denied the protection of the laws. Not only has the Constitution guaranteed that protection to him, but he has earned it, himself, a million times over, by his sacrifices, his good conduct, and his progress along the lines of civilization and humanity. The American negroes as a class, have no reason to be ashamed of themselves today. It is a pity and a shame that the nation tolerates the abuses and the outrages that are being heaped upon them and which they are obliged to suffer.

Whoever has a voice, let him raise it in the negro's behalf. Whoever they may be who sit in the seats of the mighty, let them wipe from the nation's escutcheon this awful disgrace.—The Times.

WANTED AT ONCE.

Every young colored man to join the colored Y. M. C. A. For Christian training and the fitting of young men for lives of usefulness the Y. M. C. A. is one of the cheapest and best institutions in the country. The young man who starts on life's journey without a Christian education is a soldier in battle without ammunition. The men of the future must be trained now.

A Ringing Appeal to the Country.

Address Issued to Country by Niagara Movement Says Race Is Not More Lawless Than White, but Is More Often Mobbed—Republican Party Accused.

Harper's Ferry, W. Va., Aug. 19.—The second annual meeting of the Niagara movement came to a close today with religious exercises and a sermon by Rev. G. Frazier Miller. At the conclusion of the sermon, an address to the country was read. It says in part: "Address to the country: The men of the Niagara movement coming from the toil of the years of hard work and pausing a moment from the earning of their daily bread turn toward the nation and again ask in the name of 10,000,000 the privilege of a hearing. In the past year the work of the negro has flourished in the land. Stripped of subterfuge and in its naked nastiness the new American creed says: 'Fear to let black men even try to rise, lest they become the equals of the white.' In detail our demands are clear and unequivocal. First, we would vote; with the right to vote goes everything—freedom, manhood, the honor of your views, the chastity of your daughters and the right to work and the chance to rise, and let no man listen to the liars who deny this. We want full manhood suffrage; and we want it now, henceforth and forever.

"Second, we want discrimination in public accommodations to cease. Separation in railway and street cars, based simply on race and color, is un-American, un-Democratic and silly. We protest against all such discrimination.

"Third, we claim the right of free men to walk, talk and be with whom that wish to be with us. No man has a right to choose another man's friends and to attempt to do so is an impudent interference with the most fundamental human privilege.

Wants Discriminations to Cease.

"Fourth, we want the laws enforced against the rich as well as the poor, against capitalist as well as laborer; against white as well as black. We are not more lawless than the white race, but we are more often arrested, convicted and mobbed. We want justice, even for criminals and outlaws. We want the constitution of the country enforced. We want congress to take charge of congressional elections. We want the fourteenth amendment carried out to the letter and every state disfranchised in congress which attempts to disfranchise its rightful voters. We want the fifteenth amendment enforced and no state allowed to base its franchise simply on color.

"The failure of the Republican party in congress at the session just closed to redeem its pledge of 1904 with reference to suffrage conditions in the South seems a plain, deliberate and premeditated breach of promise, and stamps that party as guilty of obtaining votes under false pretense.

"Fifth, we want the national government to wipe out illiteracy in the South. We want our children trained as intelligent human beings should be and we will fight for all time against any proposal to educate black boys and girls simply as servants and underlings, or simply for the use of other people.

"These are some of the chief things which we want. How shall we get them? By voting where we may vote, by persistent, unceasing agitation, by hammering at the truth, by sacrifice and work.

Believe in John Brown.

We do not believe in violence, but we do believe in John Brown, and here on the scene of John Brown's martyrdom we reconsecrate ourselves, our honor, our property, to the final emancipation of the race which John Brown died to make free."

The address closes with an appeal to the young men and women of the nation and asks: "Cannot the nation that has absorbed 10,000,000 foreigners into its political life without catastrophe absorb 10,000,000 negro Americans into that same political life at less cost than their unjust and illegal exclusion will involve?"

The Afro-American Congress of California Elects Officers and Will Next Meet at Oakland.

The Afro-American Congress of California met in its annual meeting in this city yesterday by selecting Oakland as the place of meeting next year and electing the following officers:

President, James M. Alexander, Los Angeles; vice-presidents, J. B. Wilson of Oakland, G. W. Hawkins of Los Angeles, William Tipton of Sacramento; secretary, F. H. Crumbly, Los Angeles; assistant, J. B. Culpepper, Riverside; corresponding secretary, R. H. Harbert, Redlands; treasurer, G. M. Warner, Los Angeles; chaplain, S. W. Hawkins, Los Angeles; lecturers, W. L. Howard, Bakersfield, and G. W. Whitley, Los Angeles; advisory counsel, C. S. Darden, Los Angeles.

Agricultural Commission—President, J. J. Neimore, Los Angeles; vice-president, F. H. Johnson, Riverside; secretary, T. W. Troy, Los Angeles.

State Executive Commission—James Alexander, chairman; F. H. Crumbly, secretary; H. H. Harrall, Redlands; A. Allensworth, Los Angeles; Daniel Hudgins, Los Angeles; E. W. Winters,

Bakersfield; A. L. Gaines, Pasadena; M. J. Thomas, Riverside; Charles Prince, Sacramento; T. B. Morton and Rev. T. Brown, San Francisco; A. Strother, R. Leonard and J. T. Summers, Oakland; J. Bronson and William Bowers, Los Angeles.

WILL THE NEGRO THINK.

With a Republican President, a Republican Congress and a United States Supreme Court, with a Republican majority, with the army and navy Republicans, the colored American is told that he cannot be protected in his political rights. Since this is an established fact, what use is there to keep Republicans in office? Why should the colored man north continue to vote to keep men in power who cannot protect him? It is admitted that the above conditions exist, so why should the colored voter continue to be the willing slave of a party that will not do its duty towards him? It is not necessary for him to go to the Democratic party—that historical enemy of human progress and human rights. Will the colored man have no sense? Just think of it! Has the colored voter ever stopped to consider his condition and the power that his supposed friends possess? A change in the political atmosphere could not affect the colored man any more than he is now effected. It is not understood that The Bee means for the colored voter to go over to the Democratic party. But it does mean for him to support men, be they Democrats or red devils, who will give him his political and civil rights.

Republicans declare they cannot do anything with the machinery of the government under their control. Why not put men in control who can control the machinery and who will use it? The Nihilists of Russia can be protected by this government and all classes of revolutionists have the strong arm of this republic protecting them; but, the man who assisted in saving this republic is "Jim Crowed," shot and lynched without judge or jury. It is about time for this business to stop and the colored man do a little serious thinking and acting.—Washington Bee.

TROUT KNOCKED OUT.

The ignominious defeat of Dr. Trout for renomination for Coroner adds another to The Liberator's long string of victories. The doctor is a good citizen and a splendid physician and druggist, but a very poor Coroner. If we had had our say so, we would have favored giving him the nomination and then defeated him at the polls, thus securing for the people the permanent services of a good physician.

THE LIBERATOR

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JEFF L. EDMONDS, JR., Assistant Editor.

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THE TIMES AND THE LYNCHING EVIL.

Elsewhere in these columns will be found a strong editorial from the Times denouncing the Charlott, N. C., lynching. It is timely and to the point and should be widely read. If the great dailies of the country would daily hold up these cowardly murderers in their true light, they would be lawfully exterminated, and this country, with its free institutions, schools and churches, would no longer stand on a parallel with the ignorant Russian serfs who murder and rob defenseless Jews as a pastime. But like most of the white papers, the Times attempts to purify the streams without touching the polluted fountain. Its local news columns holds the negroes up daily to scorn and ridicule. All negroes are put upon the same level. The college-bred negro, in spite of his gentlemanly demeanor, if he lives here, is spoken of with sneers and rude jests as though he was an ignorant craps shooter. The cultured black woman is usually referred to as a "negress," the term "woman" being considered too good a designation. If the college-bred negro is sent to a political convention he is made the monkey of the occasion. If he rises to speak the reporter proceeds to put into his mouth the parlance

picked up in low crap dives. Wherever he appears as a man he is written up as a monkey. In short, no opportunity is lost to create universal contempt for the negro and hights locally. If the negro's name is mentioned in connection with a crime, the reporter jumps to the conclusion that he is guilty, and proceeds to sentence him without further ceremony. Some time ago a white man's house was burned, and as he had had some trouble with a colored neighbor, the Times stated that the house had been burned by negroes. The Examiner said that the police did not know who burned the house, which proved to be true. A white girl whom some white man had made drunk and then did God knows what else, called at a colored man's door for aid, which was given in a true Christian spirit. For this, the Times charged the negro with keeping a house for enticing white girls to ruin. On another occasion a half column was used telling how a burly negro with a big revolver was raping defenseless white women out on Santa Fe avenue, forcing them to keep the hellish secret by threatening death for betrayal. When brought into court the women swore that the Times' charges were false. In each case the truth could have been had just for the asking. But the truth was not wanted. Now this is the same policy pursued by the daily papers in Charlott, N. C., and in all places both north and south where there is a desire to appeal to the mob and stir up race animosities. And wherever such a narrow, short-sighted policy is pursued by the press the negro is ultimately denied his rights, mob law prevails, justice takes her flight, life and property become cheap and the white man starts hellward. In view of the Times' great circulation and power, its tendency of late to give the Negro the worst of every controversy is to be sincerely regretted. He that appeals to the passions and prejudices of the lawless element of his community pollutes the fountain of peace and good order—he is an angel of death at the wedding feast. If this republic is to survive, mob law will have to be suppressed. If mob law is to be suppressed, every man will have to be taught and made to respect the right of every member of his community.

THEO W. TROY FOR COUNTY AUDITOR.

The nomination of Mr. Theo W. Troy for county Auditor by the Prohibition County Convention was a good one and will give the ticket a big colored vote. Mr. Troy is not only well fitted for the position, but is one of the heaviest colored taxpayers in the county. He served the people of this city ten years as a letter carrier in the post-office department and is well known

and popular with all classes. He already has the endorsement of the Afro-American League, which will be followed by all of the colored organizations in the city and county.

He is honest and capable.

JUDGE YORK.

The defeat of Judge York for renomination for the Superior bench has justly incensed the voters, regardless of parties. Judge York is one of the ablest, purist jurists on the bench, whose services to the people have been so well appreciated that he has always run ahead of his ticket.

If the present law requires the nomination of judges of the Appellate court by petition, Judge York will be placed on the Appellate ticket and overwhelmingly elected. He has the confidence and sympathy of the people, who will rally to his support whenever the opportunity presents itself. There ought to be an amendment to the State constitution requiring the nomination of all judges by petition. This would take the judiciary out of the hands of the machine politicians. The judiciary is the one department of all others that the people should endeavor to keep clean and above suspicion.

James W. English, Jr., of Atlanta, Gov. Terrel's chief of staff and seeker of cheap notoriety, has offered \$1000 for any negro lynched in that city for rape. Here is inducement for some enterprising white thugs to black themselves and rape a few white women and implicate negroes, lynch them and secure the reward. We trust that all white women who object to being raped will go armed and kill the first brate that attacks them. We warrant that the first victims will be counterfeit negroes—white men blacked. The respectable white men and women of the South may yet tire of the notoriety that comes to them through brainless men of the English kind.

WANTED.

More Afro-Americans to read race papers and patronize race enterprises. We need a daily paper. There are abundance of brain and plenty of money to back such an enterprise. All we need now is a willingness on the part of the leaders to lend their aid.

THE BUSINESS LEAGUE BUGLE.

A business journal published by the negro Business League of Memphis, Tenn., is placed on our exchange list. It is a well gotten up journal and is well patronized by the business men of that city. The object of the publishers is to stimulate race enterprises by encouraging colored men and women to patronize them. The Bugle is the first journal of the kind we have yet seen published by colored business men. It deserves success.

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THE NEGROES AND THE REPUBLICANS.

In the declaration of those negroes who make up what is called the Niagara movement at their annual convention at Harper's Ferry last week, there is contained more of promise for the future of the negro in this country than in any action thus far taken.

One of the planks of the platform adopted declared:

"The failure of the Republican party in congress at the session just closed to redeem its pledge of 1904 with reference to suffrage conditions in the South seems a plain, deliberate and premeditated breach of promise, and stamps that party as guilty of obtaining votes under false pretense."

When the negroes of this country shall awaken to the fact that the entire policy of the Republican party for the past quarter of a century relative to the black man has been one of hollow pretense, plain and deliberate, then they shall begin to realize that the idol upon which they have leaned politically has at no time been honest in its dealings with them, has at no time intended to keep its promises or to act in good faith, then may they hope for better treatment than they have hitherto received.

During the years which have elapsed since the war wherever and whenever there has been opportunity, North or South, for the black man to vote, he has given that vote to the Republican

party. "We made you free, hence we are entitled to your vote," is what the Republicans have said to the negro, and he has believed them and governed himself accordingly.

For years has he complained to them of the treatment accorded him, and been fed with promises of better things. Promises made to be broken in the belief that the American negro was irrevocably bound in his political allegiance to the Republican party.

Should the time ever come when Ephraim shall cease to be joined to his idol, when he shall awaken to the fact that the obligation of duty to the living present is greater than that which he imagines due to the dead past, then may he begin to hope. Let the negroes of this country cease being slaves under the lash of the whip of the Republican bosses; let them stand upon their own political feet, like independent freemen, and become a factor to be reckoned with in the political life of this country, would they have the promises made them be kept. Whatever debt of gratitude, if any, they owe to the Republican party has long since been paid. The present has to do with the living and with posterity. The solution of the evils of which the negro complains is in his own hands.—Denver (Colo.), Daily News.

The American Employment Agency is now permanently located in the Odd Fellows' building, corner Eighth and Wall streets. C. F. Crumbly, the manager, is a Notary Public, and will serve those needing such services.

OUR DRUG STORE.

Dr. Cummings, colored, Oakland, has permanently settled in this city, and opened a drug store corner Eighth and Wall streets. He holds diplomas from some of the best medical colleges in the East. He was formerly located in San Francisco, where he lost everything by the late earthquake and fire.

The selection of Lieutenant Colonel Allinsworth for chairman of the executive committee of the Afro-American State Council, is the best that could have been made. It is an important position for which the Colonel is well fitted.

THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT.

The address issued to the country by the Second Annual Convention held at Harper's Ferry on the 19th, published elsewhere in these columns, is strong, manly and uncompromising. The negro is an American citizen and must battle to the death if need be for every right guaranteed citizens by the constitution. The right to vote and vote as he pleases, to get whatever he pays for, to ride where he pleases, when he meets the requirements, such as are demanded of other citizens, to associate with those who wish to associate with him, are rights that no American citizen should consent to relinquish. The negro asks for the enforcement of the Federal constitution and amendments. Can't the white people live up to their own laws?

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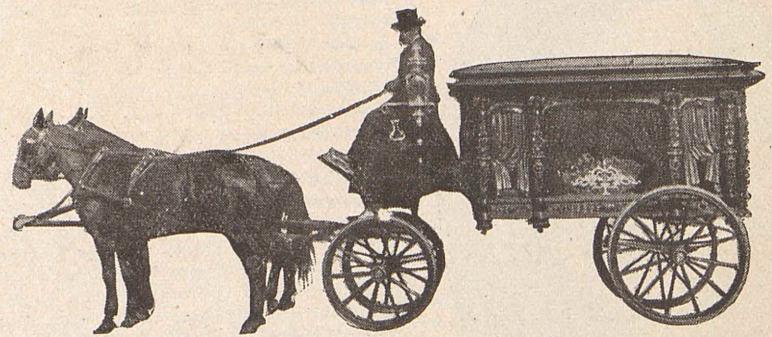
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