

THE LIBERATOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the American Negro.

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Delegation of Colored Citizens Interview Col. Roosevelt.

Says the Julian Harris Letter Defines His Position on the Race Question.

At the invitation of Mr. Russ Avery, national committee-man and chairman of the County Central committee, a committee of representative colored citizens interviewed Col. Roosevelt at the residence of Mr. Avery on Monday afternoon of the 16th. The committee consisted of the following well known citizens:—Drs. G. D. Taylor, J. T. Nelson, J. A. Somerville; Revs. J. D. Gordon, E. W. Kenchin, E. F. Henderson, W. Z. Hopper and J. A. Stout; Lawyers, G. W. Wickliffe and W. B. Coleman; J. L. Edmonds, editor of *The Liberator*, F. M. Roberts, editor of the *New Age*, and Prof. W. E. Easton of the *Weekly Progress*. Mr. J. Thos. Norris, president of the Lyceum and Mr. Eugene Walker, the merchant tailor, were members of the committee but were unavoidably detained. Atty. G. W. Wickliffe was chosen as spokesman of the committee. Col. Roosevelt accompanied by Col. Cecil Lyons of Texas, Mr. E. T. Earl, owner of the *Express and Tribune*, Mr. Frances J. Heney of San Francisco, Mr. Myer Lissner, chairman state Republican Central committee, Mr. Russ Avery, National Committee-man and chairman of the County Central Committee, Mr. Marshall Stimson, State Commissioner of the Panama Exposition and a number of other gentlemen were ushered into the reception room where the committee was waiting. Mr. Russ Avery introduced each member of the committee to Col. Roosevelt with whom he cordially

shook hands. Mr. Avery then introduced Mr. Wickliffe as the spokesman of the committee where upon Col. Roosevelt requested the committee to be seated and seated himself.

Address by Atty. Wickliffe.

In a clear, deliberate manner Atty. Wickliffe delivered the following short but able address. At the close of which Mr. Roosevelt said:

"Have you read my letter to Julian Harris?"

On receiving an affirmative reply from Mr. Wickliffe he then put the question to the whole committee, receiving the same reply.

He then said: "That that letter defines my position on the Race question."

He requested a copy of the letter if any member of the committee had one. The editor of this journal drew a copy from his pocket and Dr. T. J. Nelson passed it to the Colonel, from which he read a few paragraphs and made a short talk upholding his position. At the close of which the committee retired.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY G. W. WICKLIFFE TO COL. ROOSEVELT AT LOS ANGELES, SEPT. 16, 1912.

The issue of greatest concern to us, is the growth of a sentiment so favorable to the enforcement of the laws that it will protect every qualified citizen in the exer-

cise of his right of suffrage, and get for each, ample civil protection.

Some months ago on a street in this city I was stopped by a white man, who said—"Say, I am from the South, and I notice that the niggers out here are all well dressed, don't hang around on the street corners—and they are all anxious to work and get to their work,—they all seem to be in a hurry. The niggers don't do that where I came from; where did these niggers come from?" He was told that the Negro out here is satisfied that he will receive what he earns and it will be a fair pay too. That Negroes in some other sections had learned by experience that he got for his labor what his employer was pleased to give him; and with such pay he would be just as far ahead at the end of the year if he had not been employed.

The right of suffrage where exercised by one set of men under the control and by the direction of another set of men usually does not get a free expression from such voters; our experience is, that it is only where an elector has such protection around him that he can exercise that right without such control and direction of others that the opportunities for pernicious influences are least.

We do not come seeking you to make the Progressive issue a racial one—we have suffered and are suffering a great loss because that issue is never allowed to rest by some men of your race, when it is believed that an opportunity is

to be grasped by a Negro.

We are hopeful from the fact that the people of the United States esteem most, the men that have stood and stand for the cause of human rights—and that they be shared by each and every citizen, without regard to creed or color.

Does the Progressive Party stand for such an issue?

NEGROES INTERVIEW WOODROW WILSON. PROMISES TO GIVE NEGROES A SQUARE DEAL.

Several delegations of colored men have waited on Governor Wilson, the Democratic nominee for President. The first delegation reports the result of their interview as follows: "Mr. Wilson assured, us first of all, that if elected, he intended to be a President of the whole nation—to know no white or black, no North, South, East or West, and no home-born or foreign-born, but that he would treat every citizen according to the law—not only the letter, but according to the spirit of the law—and that he would discharge his obligations, his duties of office, in the spirit of Christ, and with justice and fairness to all. In the second place, even if the President and both houses of Congress should be Democratic, he did not believe that any measures inimical to colored people would be passed. He said that it was the understanding with the party leaders that this should be the case, but if by any accident such a measure or measures should be passed he would veto them. In the third place, he gave us to understand that so far as patronage was concerned he could assure us that the colored people would fare as well under his administration as President as they had fared under Republican administrations. In the fourth place, he promised as soon after his formal notification as possible he would get out a statement over his own name to the entire country refuting the falsehoods which are being so indiscriminately circulated against

him by most of the colored newspapers and by many of the white papers and magazines of the country relative to his enmity to and hatred of the colored man. We called the governor's attention to the fact that it had already been repeatedly stated that if he became President he would use his power to spread 'Jim Crow' and disfranchisement acts against the colored man and to abolish the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. He said that these were false statements; that he had no intention of doing any such thing and would frown upon the efforts of any who undertook to promote such acts. In short, he expressed himself as feeling the need of and desiring the colored vote and stated that he was willing to do anything that was right and legal to secure that vote, and that if elected President of the United States the colored people would have no occasion to regret having voted for him."

—The Crisis.

POLITICAL

Mr. Andrew B. Humphrey estimates the effective Negro vote in the next presidential election to be 600,000, divided as follows:

Massachusetts.....	20,000
Rhode Island.....	3,500
Connecticut.....	6,000
New York.....	50,000
New Jersey.....	30,000
Pennsylvania.....	70,000
Maryland.....	60,000
Delaware.....	10,000
W. Virginia.....	24,000
Kentucky.....	75,000
Missouri.....	30,000
Ohio.....	45,000
Indiana.....	25,000
Illinois.....	50,000
Michigan.....	7,000
Iowa.....	7,000
Kansas.....	20,000
Nebraska.....	4,000
Oklahoma.....	40,000
Colorado.....	5,000
California.....	25,000
Washington.....	3,500

DR. LEONARD STOVALL

Dr. Leonard Stovall has opened an office at 1325 1-2 East 9th street. The doctor commences the practice of his profession well prepared having made an average of 89% at the recent state medical examination. The Doctor practically worked his way through the medical college and if he puts the same energy into the practice of his profession he will reach a place of eminence. Dr. Stovall came here from Atlanta, Georgia, when a small boy and was educated in our city schools. He enters upon his career with the best wishes of all who know him.

ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Mrs. R. E. Daniel of 707 Lamar street who underwent a serious operation at the Good Samaritan Hospital is slowly improving. Mrs. Daniel was on the operating table for nearly 5 hours. This is her sixth week at the hospital requiring the presence of a nurse all of the time.

Mr. S. M. Twine of Pine Bluff Ark., who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Evans of 1391 East 33rd street, left for home last Tuesday.

Mrs. P. P. Dejorie and father Mr. M. A. Jackson were guests at the Edmond's Villa. Mr. Jackson recently arrived from Oakland to make his home with his daughter Mrs. Dejoie.

IMPORTANT MEETING

There will be a free-for-all discussion at the Lyceum next Sunday.

The report of the Committee of 15 who interviewed Col. Roosevelt will be read and discussed by all wishing to take part. The address delivered to Col. Roosevelt will be read and discussed also. The Lyceum's great debate has been postponed one week.

Everybody invited.

MR. H. A. REAVES

One of the successful and exemplary young men of the city is Mr. H. A. Reaves. He came here 8 years ago without money and entered the junk business as little capital was required. He now has three teams and employees a dozen men. He purchased a house and lot at 1429 Santa Fe Avenue for \$3,500. He has since had the house lifted up putting beneath it a \$1500 building, 70 by 38 feet. The front of which will be used for a restaurant, the rear being used as a head quarters for his junk business. A first-class restaurant will be opened there in a few weeks. There are hundreds of openings of various kinds in the city that await the coming of young men of the Reaves stripe. Instead of seeking employment of others where he could get ready money to be spent each night he created for himself a permanent job at the same time creating jobs for 12 other members of his race.

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employment for members of the race. Give him your support.

THE HALL JUBILEE SINGERS ENTERTAIN BIG CROWD

The crowd which turned out on the 11th to hear the Hall Jubilee Singers filled the main auditorium and partly filling the gallery. As an entertainment it will be hard to beat, the audience was held spell bound from start to finish. There was just enough humor interspersed in the programme to relieve the pathetic fervor that from time to time swept the entire audience.

There were a few of us present who had heard those plantation melodies sung by the originals not for entertainment but in a serious vein, telling the story of an oppressed people whose hope for freedom was not expected to be realized till they crossed Times border. But those Jubilee singers put so much of their souls into their songs that we who heard those songs in other days were wafted back into the past and lived again with the men and women, who out of the fulness of their hearts sent those songs as living petitions to the throne of grace. One of the sweetest and most spiritual singers of the group was Mrs. Brooks. She and Manager Hall are a troupe by themselves. Every member of the troupe, however, did excellent work.

If Mr. Hall is properly supported by the church he will have no trouble in raising \$5000 dollars or more for the benefit of its indebtedness. In getting up this concert Mr. Hall had everything to do himself, whereas the advertising and other arrangements should be made by some suitable person leaving Mr. Hall to care for the singing and stage management. For this last effort he deserves the thanks of the entire congregation.

FROM THE CITY BY THE SEA

The Venetian Trio entertained Misses Elizabeth Moore, Margaret

Prince of Pasadena and Alberta Muse at the home of Mrs. S. Nichols. Piano solo's and Trio's singing was the feature of the evening.

Mr. Walter Edmonds lead the B. Y. P. U. Sunday, Sept. 15. The subject of the lesson was Good Citizenship on which Mr. Edmonds read an excellent paper.

Mrs. Lenard of Boston, Mass. and Mrs. McLamore and party spent Monday at Venice.

Friday evening, Sept. 13th, the Don't Worry Club entertained in the form of a shower in honor of Mr. Harry Henderson, at the home of Miss Alberta Muse. Mr. Henderson, who has been residing in Venice, the past four months, and through his enthusiasm in the B. Y. P. U. and church work in general at the Venice Baptist Church, has won him much favor and many friends. Thursday he left Pasadena for Washington, D. C. where he will study pharmacy at Howard University.

Miss Adele Ragland of Los Angeles spent the week-end in Santa Monica, the house-guest of Miss Ednah Adams.

Miss Margaret Prince, who spent two weeks vacation in Santa Monica returned home last Saturday. Miss Prince will attend Normal this term.

Miss Zepha Moore spent the week-end visiting with her sister Miss Elizabeth Moore—both returned home (Pasadena) last Saturday.

Tuesday evening, Sept. 17th, the Phillis Wheatley Club had its opening meeting for the summer in July. Much work is expected during the ensuing year.

Miss Edna Johnson, who has been spending her vacation at Mrs. Wright's, returned home in order to enroll in Hollywood High School where she is taking the commercial course.

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Z. W. MITCHELL IN SALT LAKE CITY

Mr. Z. W. Mitchell the self-styled Panama Commissioner is in Salt Lake City. On his visit to this city some time ago he was received by certain leaders with open arms as they usually do every stranger that drops in our midst. One of the local papers rushed to the front with an elaborate write up and big cut in its columns. In this way it did what it could to put Mitchell in the confidence of the people, with absolutely no previous knowledge

of the man or his schemes. We knew at the time that the man was a faker and that the people were being deceived by the newspaper in question and the other gentlemen who were advertising him. But we have been so often criticized for exposing Negro fakers and traitors that we decided to let that faker expose the men he was using.

When advertised to speak at the Y. M. C. A. we availed ourselves of the opportunity to hear him and get a line on his scheme. When we heard him state before the Y. M. C. A. audience that he had been appointed by the State board of Panama Commissioners as colored commissioner to look after the entertainment of colored people, to see that they enjoyed all the advantages to be accorded to others, we knew at once that he was the rankest sort of a faker. For we were in a position to know that no colored man had been appointed to such a position by the State board of Panama Commissioners. On hearing this statement we got disgusted, took our hat and left. This faker made one of our local editors a deputy local commissioner; this incident alone has been the laugh of the town. Another note worthy incident in this connection, is that Mitchell like the other fakers who come to town used only college men to promote his schemes. It appears that colored men who haven't been to college are too dull to be used in promoting the fake schemes of every rascally stranger that breaks into the city. The Western Outlook has the following to say:

"We published a card in these columns sent out by the Oakland Chamber of Commerce warning the public to beware of Z. W. Mitchell and his schemes. Polished suave and of pleasing address, he is a dangerous man, and his acts work harm to the race. There are those who have had dealings with him and who know his crooked methods and they should speak out. We have a business men's league which we believe is doing

good, but we believe it can do more and should investigate the members of our race who essay business here, and if they are crooked the public should be warned. The papers would render whatever assistance they could, and when they spoke upon the authority of the league much of the personal element which the average reader is so ready to look upon as a knock would disappear and the public would be better satisfied. Let our business men's league digest this thought and strengthen their spinal columns."

You are right, brother, yours is the only logical position to take in such matters. If a newspaper cannot defend the rights of its constituents and protect the community at large by exposing crooks and fakers it is not worth supporting. *The Liberator* never loses an opportunity if it can help it, to expose crooks who attempt to beat the people. It also criticizes the public utterances of good men if these utterances are likely to create a sentiment unfavorable to the well-being of the community, especially the Negro.

This policy *The Liberator* will rigidly pursue in the future as it has in the past.

From time to time we hear a good deal about "*The Liberator* exposing the race." If warning the people to steer clear of Negro crooks and scoundrels is "exposing the race," we are going to keep it up vigorously to the end of the chapter. Men who cannot stand criticism are either dishonest or do not possess the intelligence that leadership requires.

COL. ROOSEVELT VEXED

When the address delivered to Col. Roosevelt by Atty. Wickliffe was read to the colored committee previous to meeting the colonel it met the instant approval of more than three-fourths of the committee. Some thinking that it did not go far enough, others urged the changing of a word or two.

Rev. J. D. Gordon requested the privilege of putting the following

question to Col. Roosevelt: "Have you changed your attitude towards the colored people?"

The question was at once disapproved by the committee on the premises that the entire ground had been covered in a states-man-like manner by the address. It was then decided that the address be delivered to Col. Roosevelt as read without any changes.

At the close of Col. Roosevelt's talk, Rev. Gordon, contrary to the agreement stepped up and said: "Col. I want to ask you a question."

"Alright," said the Colonel.

"Have you changed your attitude towards the colored people?"

At such a question the Colonel was evidently irritated, and stated that that question had been frequently put to him and that it always vexed him.

It was for that very reason that the committee opposed the putting of that question. The question was meaningless and could only put the committee in a thoughtless attitude. The only way to know of a public man's attitude toward any public or other question is to note his acts and sayings on that question. Mr. Roosevelt's atti-

tude towards the Negroes is well known to everybody who reads.

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SECURITY BUILDING
Spring at Fifth

EQUITABLE BRANCH
Spring at First