

The Liberator

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

VOL. IV.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., SEPTEMBER, 1902.

No. 3.

Booker T. Washington Speaks.

The Need of Negro Ministers who set Examples of Industry.

One of the most powerful and most useful negro ministers that I know is one who owns the best farm in his neighborhood, and works at cultivating it in a large measure during the week with his own hands, preaching the gospel on the Sabbath. This man is helping to lay the foundation for the race in a way that will enable his children to enjoy the best things. The highest moral and religious practice does not and cannot go hand in hand with idleness, shiftlessness and poverty.

I want to see an influence go out from this great meeting that shall, if possible, take every young negro from off the street corners and from out the bar rooms, north and south.

Further, I want to see an influence go out from here that shall result in lifting up and purifying the character of our ministers in every part of the country. In the negro ministry there are as many, as pure and useful characters as any race can boast of, but I would not be performing my duty to you and to my race did I not say frankly that one of the most serious and embarrassing duties that is yet to be performed is to sift the ministry with the finest sieve, so that the good may be honored and recognized, and the worthless taken out of the pulpit.

As a race we are somewhat inclined to be emotional, to be guided by our feelings, to live and soar in the clouds,

without at all times having a material and industrial basis on which to rest. The true test of the ability of a race, whether in the business or religious world, is its ability to decide upon a plan of action and then pursue it constantly, through winter and summer, through discouragement and encouragement. It is the continuous, progressive effort, guided by intellect rather than feeling, that we want to cultivate.

I have emphasized the money side of life, not for the sake of the value money has within itself, but because the possession of money, in most cases, represents thrift, economy, foresight, self-sacrifice and morality.

One other question that relates to our environment as a race and vitally concerns our moral and religious growth. One thing to be feared where two distinct races inhabit the same territory is that these may yield to the temptation to doubt and mistrust each other, and thus unconsciously bring about a blunting and hardening of the sensibilities. No race can hate another without that race itself being weakened, narrowed and degraded, without—in a word—having shut out from it all those things that are tenderest, highest and sweetest in life. Let us cultivate friendship and love for all races and all individuals, and harbor hatred for none. In the long run it is the race that helps to push up that succeeds.

I am glad that this great convention is held right here in the heart of our beloved southland, in the midst of the people among whom the greater proportion of us plan to live for all time. If we are to continue to make progress as a race, at the south, the time has come when in a larger degree we must seek out those of our white neighbors who are our friends and take counsel with them. In nearly every southern community there are white men who are just as much interested in our progress as any people in any part of the country, and we should let these people know that we trust them and that we desire their friendship and their co-operation.

Finally, let us never grow discouraged. We have made immense progress as a race. All races, of whatever color, have their difficulties and discouragements, and we can be no exception. Let us keep our faith and patience, and continue to go forward. Let us remember that our surest protection will be in our usefulness to the community in which we live. The great human law which always rewards and encourages merit and virtue is everlasting, is eternal.

LOSE NO SLEEP

Now that the campaign is on in this state, the negro should bear in mind that he is not running for office, the contest being between white men. He should therefore lose neither sleep nor time nor friends or money, but in the meantime think and stick close to his business, make and save money. Remember that one who owns and conducts a farm or store is worth fifty politicians. Voters who make it a business to own nothing but their ballots generally have to vote as told. In view of this fact we should spend most of our time doing business instead of politics. To let the fellows who are to have the jobs do the fighting is common sense. This does not mean that the negro should not vote, but it does mean that he attend to his own business, do his own thinking till the polls open, vote for his friends, regardless of party, and then return to his business. This course will win the respect of all parties and will secure for him the recognition he deserves. What we need now is self-supporting enterprises owned and controlled by us.

Mr. Wm. Prince and Mrs. Lydia Miller have purchased a business lot near the corner of 4th st. and Central ave. A building is to be erected soon and leased to the Enterprise Publishing Co.

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DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—

Among the many distinguished visitors who enjoyed the hospitality of the city during the A. M. E. annual conference, we had the pleasure of meeting Bishop and Mrs. Arnette. In spite of the fact that Bishop and wife have been married forty years, Mrs. Arnette still looks young and handsome. She is a cultured lady whose many graces aid the Bishop in his grand work. Elder and Mrs. E. T. Cottman were everywhere made welcome. Doctor and Mrs. Floyd Grant Snelson of San Francisco were honored guests. The doctor, who is pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. church of San Francisco, is one of the best known ministers in the A. M. E. connection. His intellectual attainments and distinguished services as missionary in West Africa has made his name a household word wherever this church has unfurled its banner. Mrs. Snelson is a native of Georgia. She is also a cultured, attractive lady. Rev. and Mrs. Herring of Stockton, well known and loved for their church work in Pasadena; O. E. Jones of Oakland, and Rev. A. Simpson of Riverside. By the way, Rev. Simpson is a minister after the idea of Booker T. Washington. He preaches the gospel for the honor and glory of God, and for the elevation of the race, but runs a farm for a living. He owns and cultivates a valuable farm and has accumulated \$10,000 worth of property. It is needless to say that he stands well with the business men of Riverside.

Among the young people we met were Miss Gussie Simpson, the accomplished daughter of Rev. A. Simpson. She is one of the few young colored girls in this section who are educating their heads, hearts and hands. You are right, Miss Simpson; it is now or never. The most interesting little stranger we met was little Miss Aline Jones of Centerville. She graduated from the grammar grade several years ago at the head of her class, but had to give up her studies in the high school on account of poor health. She is a talented musician and boasts of the fact that she makes her own dresses and can cook, and wash and iron. She has an interesting face and looks upon work as a virtue. If she regains her health she is destined to be one of the model women of the future.

A BRILLIANT RECEPTION.—Friday, September 5th, the elegant home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Washington at 1607 Toberman st. was the scene of one of the most brilliant social gatherings of the season. The occasion was the reception tendered Mrs. Bishop Arnette and other distinguished lady visitors by the Woman's club, of which Mrs. Baker is president. The spacious parlors were beautifully decorated and the pink incandescent light as it fell in the darkened rooms upon the rich costumes of the ladies produced a beautiful effect. The doors were thrown open at 2 o'clock.

Mrs. J. B. Roan and Mrs. W. E. Ford of Pasadena received the ladies and introduced them to Mrs. Baker, who in turn presented them to the ladies assembled. Two sweet little girls received the cards. The popular McVey orchestra furnished music. Mrs. J. B. Roan and Miss Gussie Simpson each sang solos, which were reproduced by the megaphone. This wonderful talking machine sang several plantation melodies, which called to our minds many of the animated dances we had witnessed in the slavery days. "S'wane River" was the favorite on account of the appeal to the pathetic side of slave life. After an hour or more pleasantly spent orange punch, ice cream and cake were served. Those present were: Mrs. Bishop Arnette of Wilberforce, O., Mrs. Floyd G. Snelson of San Francisco, Mrs. R. H. Herring of Stockton. Fifty or sixty names are omitted because they could not be obtained.

BISHOP ARNETTE ENTERTAINED.

On Saturday, September 6, Mr. and Mrs. Washington entertained at luncheon Bishop and Mrs. Arnette, Elder and Mrs. E. T. Cottman, Mrs. Holland and Miss Gussie Simpson; Revs. P. R. Green, John Pointer, A. Simpson, D. R. Jones and the editor of this journal. It was an old-fashioned Mississippi turkey dinner, and the table was laden with the whole family of good things. Mrs. Washington, hostess, is a Mississippian and entertained her guests in that royal southern style. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Washington is one of the beautiful modern cottages on Toberman street, and Toberman is one of the cleanest, most beautiful thoroughfares in the cultured university neighborhood. This street is 100 feet wide, lined on both sides by a wilderness of elegant modern homes, each with a green, velvety lawn as a foreground, with rare potted plants sitting like jewels on their bosoms, bounded by clean white cement walks, bordered by narrow strips of green running between them and the cobblestones, present to the eye a picture of contentment, comfort, ease and happiness that one is not willing to forget. As we looked southward on this street from 16th, we found but one thing that tended to mar its beauty, and that was the absence of children, those gifts from our father above, whose presence gives to life a charm that nothing can, banishes care from the heart and weariness from the tired limbs. Mr. and Mrs. Washington are the only colored people in that refined locality, and the quickest way to find their home is to know the number, for their place looks just like the others. How the touch of freedom and opportunity is transforming the one-room cabins into mansions. In spite of slavery and its hideous offsprings, race prejudice and the mob, the negro and the whole country like a mighty avalanche are moving forward, carrying before them all opposing forces.

KELLEY DIDN'T ESCAPE.—The attempt of ex-Rev. Kelley, through his attorneys, to escape trial in his seduction case by a technicality places him in a worse plight in the eyes of the people. An innocent, intelligent minister charged with so grave an offence against religion, morality and decency would court the fullest investigation. To escape by technicality is to plead guilty. The moral atmosphere of a community cannot be kept pure unless the pulpit is pure. The stream cannot rise higher than the fountain.

Many of the colored pulpits are sorely afflicted with so-called ministers, who took up preaching because they could live in idleness and have a good time. The injury done to the well-being of a community by this class of preachers is hard to estimate. They take interest in no kind of work, cannot be depended upon to aid any cause unless personally interested. Although morality, intelligence, industry and frugality are the mainstays of the community as well as the church, these things are rarely ever mentioned from the pulpit. The people are never taught to save their money, buy homes and land and go into business. Although self-reliance is the fertilizer upon which self-respect feeds, it is never taught, never encouraged. "Bring me your money and 'truss God'" is their watchword. Although continually preaching to you about the godliness of giving, they never give a penny toward the support of the church or of the church's poor. They are everlastingly trying to persuade you to swap them your hard-earned money for treasures in heaven. When this class is not breaking up families their principal occupation is idleness and begging. They maintain their popularity by appealing to the ignorance and superstition of their hearers. They live high, dress well and play havoc with the innocence of the thoughtless, confiding church-going young women. It is needless to say that we have many, very many, able, conscientious, race-loving Christian gentlemen in our pulpits—gentlemen that would be a credit to any congregation. This is too well known to be gainsaid. When this class ceases to fellowship with these low, mercenary, cold, selfish pulpit merchants, the cause of the race will be greatly advanced.

REV. D. R. JONES.

Rev. Mr. Jones, secretary of the conference, is not only clerically one of the best equipped men in the conference, but is an able, eloquent speaker, and one that has done much for the upbuilding of the church.

UNLOADING THE NEGROES.

The actions of the Alabama and North Carolina Republicans in indorsing the disfranchisement of the negroes by the Democratic parties of those states shows unmistakably the attitude of the administration at Washington touching the negro's right to vote. It shows further that the Republican party of the country is beginning to regard the negro as "a body of death" to be gotten rid of at the first favorable opportunity. The recent Republican state and county conventions have carefully avoided any mention of the unlawful methods by which the colored citizens are deprived of their God-given rights.

Although the crime of lynching is on the increase in numbers and barbarity, and is practiced almost exclusively upon the defenseless members of our race, the Republican party has become as silent as reath touching it. The attitude of the party in this lynching evil is not only wrong with respect to the negroes who now are the victims, but to the white people and country as well. Disfranchisement and mob violence go hand in hand. The Republican party is in power, it is responsible for the policy of this country. The constitutional rights of the citizens of the country are in its hands. The future well-being of a great nation has been committed to its care, but if the phantom of wealth and power lures the party from the path of right and duty, the God Who raised up Abraham Lincoln and the Republican party of his day out of the smoke of revolution to rescue the country from war's bloody storm and devastation into which the wrongs of slavery had plunged it, will raise up another party; it may be from the burning bush of revolution, to lead this nation to the promised land of equality of rights and opportunity.

The present attitude of the party on the race question is no surprise to us. It has been drifting rapidly towards a total abandonment of the negro and his rights for the past five years. Another thing, the negro has been free nearly forty years, and it is certainly time that he should think for himself. If the negro hopes to enjoy his rights as an American citizen, he will have to think and act as other American citizens. The negro need not give himself any uneasiness about the party's disposition to throw him overboard; if it does not need his vote some other party will.

CONVENTION BARS NEGROES.

(By the New Associated Press—P. M.)
CHARLOTTE, N. C., Aug. 28.—The Republican State Convention met at Greenboro today and indorsed the candidacy of Thomas H. Hill of Halifax, Independent, for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The convention adopted a resolution, accepting the Constitutional amend-

ment of disfranchisement, and binding the party not to contest the amendment's constitutionality. The convention was composed entirely of white men. Contesting delegations of negroes headed by ex-Congressmen Cheatham and O'Hara, prominent Eastern North Carolina colored Republicans and others, were in every instance defeated. All the business of the convention was settled in caucus.

Capt. Charles Price of Salisbury, division counsel of the Southern Railway, was chairman of the convention. He made a speech congratulating the Republican party on the elimination of the negroes from politics in North Carolina, saying that they were now released from "the body of death."

(By Direct Wire to the Times.)

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 30.—(Exclusive Dispatch). Animated with the strength of a maniac and armed with a silver table fork, the wife of one of the most prominent men in Sevier county rushed upon her pretty negress servant yesterday afternoon and literally picked her eyes out of her head, afterward grasping her around the body and carrying her to a red-hot cooking stove, where for five minutes she tortured her in satisfaction for her own insane jealousy.

The woman is Mrs. Earl Sharp of Sevier county, daughter of Col. McMahon, one of the most prominent men of that section, and wife of Earl Sharp, equally as prominent. Authentic details of the story have just reached this city. She was arrested and temporarily confined in jail, but afterward was released on \$10,000 bond as soon as she quieted.

Mrs. Sharp was married at 16 years of age, and is in delicate health. Her murderous fit was clearly one of insanity.

May Run Independent Candidates.

The colored voters are organizing for the purpose of securing a nominee on the Republican municipal ticket in city election. Should the Republican city convention see fit to ignore their request independent candidates will be put in the field. They claim that their loyalty to the party entitles them to consideration, and if they are ever to be considered and treated as members of the party there is no better time than now. It is argued further that while the negro has been loyal the party locally has not been loyal to him. For instance, there are sixty to seventy-five clerks and copyists in the court house and city hall, and not a single colored copyist is employed. This, too, in the face of the fact that the heads of these departments had the support of 75 per cent of the colored vote. There are other circumstances underlying this movement, one of them and the main one being the disposition of the party

to get rid of the negro whenever it can get along without him. It's silence regarding his disfranchisement in the south, its say-nothing policy about mob murders and the recent actions of the Republicans in Alabama and North Carolina have given new impetus to this movement.

Then, too, every Republican officeholder who has recognized the negroes has been turned down. When all of these little circumstances are put together they furnish abundant food for reflection. The colored voters are beginning to think and this movement which is the result meets their approval generally. This movement shows political progress, it shows a growing self reliance among the colored voters that should be commended rather than condemned. Their ardor for carrying elections just to see the other fellow hold down a fat job is cooling off. While this new departure can do the negro no harm, it will do him much good. He has nothing to lose, but everything to gain by independent actions.

After all the treatment the negro is receiving at the hands of the Republican party, will prove a great benefit to him by forcing them to think and act for himself.

[By Direct Wire to the Times.]

AUSTIN, Tex., Aug. 29.—(Exclusive Dispatch). The committee of State Senators and Representatives created by the last legislature to investigate different state institutions and departments today made public their official report. The report contains a startling statement regarding the treatment of state convicts who are employed on lease and contract forces. The report says:

"It is our conviction that the lease system is a disgrace to the state and ought to be abolished. As a rule, the life of a convict is not as valuable in the eyes of sergeants and guards and contractors as that of a dog, and in evidence thereof, we find that the average life of a convict is seven years. Convicts are shot down upon the least provocation, and when there is absolutely no excuse for it. Convicts are working when they are sick and disabled, and some have been compelled to work until they dropped dead in their tracks, yet nothing so far as we know, has ever been done to remedy this evil.

"When men are shot down like dogs and worked until they drop dead under this system, the people of Texas cannot hope to escape responsibility for these wrongs, and we believe that if the present condition of things were known to them and they could be made to realize it, they would bring such pressure to bear upon the next Texas legislature that these evils would be stopped. The existing methods are harsh, cruel, inhuman and unworthy of an enlightened people."

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HOW TO WRITE FOR THE LIBERATOR.

Published monthly at Los Angeles.

MR. LE COMTE DAVIS FOR THE SENATE.

Mr. Davis, nominee for senator from the 38th senatorial district, is too well known to the voters to need extended introduction. All that is necessary is to let his neighbors know that he is willing to represent them in the senate. The Liberator takes pleasure in making this announcement. He is a member of the well known and popular law firm of Davis & Rush, and no class of voters will give him a more loyal support than the colored voters. Mr. Davis is a broad, capable gentleman that will fittingly represent all of the people if elected. The highest ambition of this paper is the advancement of the negroes; no one will deny this, therefore the negro who votes for Davis will make no mistake.

CHEAP RATES TO CALIFORNIA, \$30.

Elsewhere in these columns will be found the special low rates to California offered by the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific routes, for the months of September and October. It will be seen that from Chicago to any point in California the fare is \$33. Atlanta, Ga., \$37.85; St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., New Orleans and Mississippi river points, \$30. Colored men and women in the South who desire to better their condition by migrating to a state where wages are good and all citizens are treated alike, and where all are equal

before the law, should now take advantage of the low rates offered by these companies. Wages are good, hundreds of cooks, nurse girls, chambermaids can find immediate employment at \$20 to \$30 per month, furnished room and board included. Ranch or farm hands receive \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day of ten hours. On public works men receive \$2 to \$3.50 per day. It is simply impossible to supply one-half of the demand for colored help, such as cooks, nurse girls, maids, etc. Honest, industrious colored men and women will find ready employment and kind treatment in California. The churches, schools, lectures and other places for mental and moral improvement are open to all and no state offers better facilities for the education of its youths than California does. To the colored home seeker no state in the Union offers better opportunity to acquire and enjoy wealth than this state. The industrious, self-respecting, law-abiding negro is simply treated as a man, the other fellow, be he white or black, male or female, is not wanted here. The white people here are exceptionally kind to their colored fellow citizens and render them every encouragement possible to elevate themselves. It should be the ambition of the colored people never to abuse the confidence of their neighbors. The editor of this journal will gladly furnish any information possible to those desiring it, if the writer will enclose a two-cent stamp.

50,000 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE.

Mr. N. P. Bailey of this city is offering for sale 50,000 acres of good farming land in Riverside county at prices ranging from \$25 to \$50 per acre, according to distance from the railroad. This land is a part of the fertile valley near the famous Elsenore hot springs, 30 miles south of Riverside on the Southern Pacific railroad. It is very fertile and is adapted to all kinds of grain and truck farming. To the farmer with a small capital nothing offers quicker and better returns than truck farming. To colonists and homeseekers Mr. Bailey is offering easy terms. Artesian wells furnish abundant supply of water. See Mr. Bailey's ad elsewhere in these columns.

A WEAK NOMINATION.

In the Thirty-sixth district Ben W. Hahn of Pasadena is the nominee for the senate, winning over Willis by a few votes. Hahn is a reputable lawyer, whose younger brother is the attorney of the Anti-Saloon League. Even this fact will be used against him by the Democrats, who will probably inject into the contest that unique and marvelous statesman, "El Hutch." Possibly Willis would have been the stronger man before the people.—Times.

If the Democrats do not capture the Thirty-sixth senatorial district, it will be a case of refusing to pick up a dollar after finding it.

WILL THE NEGRO VOTE FOR MR. WHITE?

There is a very strong feeling among the colored voter either to vote against Mr. White, Republican candidate for sheriff, or let the office of sheriff go by default. It is claimed that Mr. White's friendship for negroes is away below zero. There are other gentlemen who will be remembered and overlooked in the booth. We are not dealing in hearsays, but what we know from personal conversations with the colored voters. The growth of political independence among the colored voters in the past four years has been phenomenal and like white men they are learning to, at least, try to do at the polls what they failed to do in the convention. There is a new generation of colored voters who knew not Joseph (slavery) and cannot be kept in line as easily as the old fellows whom the Republicans are helping to disfranchise.

A DELUSION.

The scheme to build up a white Republican party in the south by assisting the Democrats in the disfranchising business will prove to be a delusion. It will only increase Democratic contempt for the Republican party. The white men of the South are Democrats by birth and habit, and will vote that ticket as long as there is a Republican ticket to vote against. The white men of the South don't have to join the Republicans to get office, neither state or national; they will get the offices if they want them, regardless of the party in power at Washington. The white Democrat who joins the Republican party will be ostracized and disfranchised as were Longstreet, Chalmers and McLauren, late of South Carolina. Just so sure as the negro got free from slavery, just so sure will he be freed from the present unjust discrimination, the Republican and Democratic parties to the contrary, notwithstanding.

IT MAY BE GOVERNOR LANE:

The failure of the labor party to put a ticket in the field and the refusal of the labor leaders to endorse either the republican or democratic state tickets decreases Dr. Pardee's chances of election, while correspondingly increasing those of Mr. Lane. The pleacing of the state executive committee in the hands of the Flint push, who were Pardee's bitterest enemies in the convention, looks bad for party harmony. If Pardee is to be elected his friends certainly should have charge of his campaign. Let the best man win; both candidates are gentlemen of ability, fully capable to fill the office. The state will be safe regardless of who wins; the governor will be a white man.

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The readers of the Liberator, especially the ladies, will find it to their interest to call and examine stock and prices at the Racket Store, 111 and 113 East Colorado street, Pasadena, Cal., before purchasing. They carry a full line of first-class goods. Their five and ten cent counter is unexcelled. Headquarters for toys and children's goods.

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MR. T. M. McCLELLAN.

Mr. McClellan, the well known politician, believes that Dr. Pardee, republican nominee for governor, will be elected. Mr. McClellan was an enthusiastic Gage man, and attended the convention and witnessed the nomination of Doctor Pardee by the gallant Gage forces. This they did without the aid and in spite of the combined opposition of the Flint push. He visited Oakland, the home of the nominee, and met many of the doctor's colored neighbors, all of whom speak well of him.

H. Stricklin, the butcher—804 Central avenue, handles all kinds of choice meats. Tel. Peter 5411.

Bishop Arnette, one of the most distinguished colored leaders in America, is in the city holding the annual conference of the A. M. E. church. The reception given the Bishop and visiting ministers was one of the largest ever given in the city. Bishop Arnett is an able, scholarly gentleman, a man of commanding appearance, whose classical bearing makes him a man of mark in any assemblage. He was a warm personal friend of President McKinley and was to that great apostle of American progress what Booker T. Washington is to President Roosevelt.

The ministers present are Revs. John Pointer, Sacramento; O. E. Jones, Oakland; F. G. Snelson, San Francisco; P. R. Green, Martinez; C. C. Holford, Riverside; E. T. Hubbard, Pasadena; R. H. Herring, Stockton; J. R. Dorsey, Red Bluff; R. E. Arrington, Oakland; E. S. Fee, evangelist; D. R. Jones, Santa Monica; A. Simpson, San Diego; J. E. Edwards, Los Angeles.

The conference was organized by the election of Rev. D. R. Jones, secretary; Rev. E. T. Hubbard, statistician; Rev. F. G. Snelson, recorder; Rev. R. E. Arrington and Rev. A. Simpson, marshals.

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One thing the colored ministers should teach the people is that no idle, shiftless, extravagant, shouting, immoral persons can inherit the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is with men. "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. That is homes and lands. The fellow who does not bother about inheriting some of the earth spoken of cannot claim an heirship to property anywhere else. He is best prepared to die who reaches the highest ideals in this life. The fellow who is too shiftless to pluck for himself some of the sweets from life's bountiful storehouse is too shiftless to walk the straight and narrow way that leads to that celestial city. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

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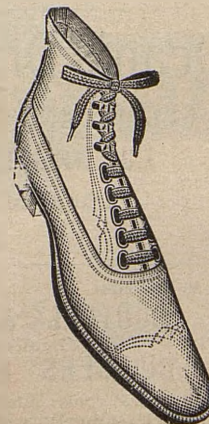
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