

THE LIBERATOR

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

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No. 15

Why California Should Not have Segregated Schools.

On the twentieth of this month Senator Sanderson of Orange county, introduced in the Senate a bill for the segregation of school children a long race or color lines, and on the same day a similar bill was introduced in the Assembly by Assemblyman Moorhouse of Imperial County.

These bills are before the Legislature, now in session at Sacramento, to be enacted into the laws of this State.

Senator Sanderson and Assemblyman Moorhouse are both "Progressive" Republicans.

Should these bills be considered seriously and become laws of this State, it would be taking a step backwards.

California has played no small part in the destiny of these United States, and particularly so on legislation that has developed a healthy sentiment which has stimulated the wonderful growth of this country to a world's power. It does seem out of reason for a State that has played such a part so long to fall from its noble standard to that of developing race prejudice with all of its unmanliness and un-American spirit.

It is a well known fact that in those States where schools are maintained a long race lines the moral forces of the white man are stultified and dwarfed, as shown by their not acting honestly and fair in making appropriations and keeping up a standard for Negro schools.

The schools maintained in those States for Negro children are of the poorest kind and in most instances hardly worthy the name

of school. There opportunities for developing colored boys and girls are so limited that it stands out as a blot on white American manhood for want of spirit in honest dealing, as a monument to petty selfishness, or a warped mental attitude akin to fear of giving the Negro child an equal opportunity.

It teaches white men that they can with impunity rob a part of American manhood of its birth-right. It is the right of every child who, by its birth, is a citizen of the United States to share in all the opportunities that the State affords to acquire an education.

It is our belief that the white men and women of this State who stand for the mental growth and moral uplift of mankind, are so much in the majority that they will not permit a small short-sighted minority to put in our statute books a statute that would link California with those States who are known to fame for their lawlessness and growth of hatred along race lines.

We regret that there has been discovered among us some short sighted enough to be friendly to such legislation, they favor it on the belief that they would get a school

A character of this kind in an adjoining state urged such legislation until it became a law—and after the separate schools were established he was unable to qualify for a position as teacher.

Those among us that favor such legislation are of the same class as this character, but with a want

of temerity brought on by a fear of the spirit shown by a great majority who seek the greatest opportunities for educating our children.

We are here like other people, to share those splendid conditions found in California, buying homes and contributing of our efforts to the common cause that is building up this great State; and we are now as we have been for the past twenty years in the fight for immunities for none but equal rights for all.

The superior man is the man who is fairest in his dealings with his fellow men.

Few men need education worst than the men who follow the plow. The man who carries to his labor an educated mind lightens his task and dignifies whatever he touches.

It has been well said: "That the man who manures his land with his brain uses the best fertilizer."

Of the 23,000 inhabitants in Meridian, Mississippi 10,000 are Negroes. Fifty per cent. of these 10,000, it is estimated, own their homes.

Mr. Jullius Rosenwald, of Chicago, who has given so magnificently to the Colored Young Men's Christian Associations, gave \$2,500, recently to the National Association for the Advancement of colored People.

**LEADERS OF THE FORUM
MAKE BRUTAL ATTACK
UPON THE SOJOURNER
TRUTH CLUB.**

The cowardly premeditated attack upon the Sojourner Truth Club by certain leaders of the Forum is in keeping with their policy of trying to discredit every person in the community who is doing something for its uplift. Heretofore they have devoted their energies to attempts to discredit every individual who was playing a manly part in the community. Having been given ample rope they have now turned upon the noble women of the race because they are about to succeed in a noble enterprise.

In order to furnish shelter and home-like surroundings for the scores of young girls who come to this city to find work and larger opportunities to better their conditions, a band of noble women organized the Sojourner Truth Club for the purpose of building them a home. By giving entertainments and lectures covering a period of several years, that band of noble women raised four thousand dollars, purchased a lot, and have in the course of erection a commodious home. Aside from Mr. Bowers, who gave twenty-five dollars, not a man of the race gave as much as ten dollars. But as soon as the money was raised and the women set about in a business like manner to the erection of a home, the self-elected bosses in question became greatly offended because the ladies failed to secure their consent before building. They immediately raised the hue and cry that the building was being erected by white mechanics; taking the position that it would be better to have no building at all rather than have white men build it.

The truth of the matter is that the Club's building committee did everything possible to have colored men make bids for the erection of the building. Receiving no bids from that quarter they accepted those offered; as a result a splendid

building is being erected—the first and only one of the kind in the United States.

To have Negro men stand up and denounce these noble women for such a worthy deed is so mean and cowardly that it is almost unbelievable.

Another and no less brutal performance was the fact that although the Hall was filled only one voice was raised in defense of those noble women. However, when it is known that in that audience were three or more pettifogers together with a good sized bunch of people with a smattering of book learning—just enough to unman them, it is not strange that their silence, when our noble women were being attacked, had a baleful effect upon the less pretentious members of the audience.

In all the history of human progress it will be difficult to find any class of women who have labored harder, received less, been more patient, and suffered more insults at the hands of all kinds of men than have the Negro women. Then, at this late day to have Negro men, who are not furnishing a day's work for anybody, and who are making a business of creating dissension between their neighbors, stand up and wantonly upbraid our noble women, because they are engaged in throwing the arm of protection about our young womanhood, ought to make the blood boil in the veins of any man worthy of the name.

Suppose, for instance, the white people, who are furnishing employment for the 20,000 Negroes in this city, should for a week entertain the same vicious feeling towards them that these self-elected bosses entertain towards the white mechanics—what would be the result? What must be the result of this kind of leadership?

**THE Y. M. C. A. MADE TO TAKE
A HAND**

To bring the Y. M. C. A. into the row was very indiscreet to say the least. The statement made by one of the officers of the

Forum, that certain women were opposed to having a colored Y. M. C. A., and that the Club was being punished for allowing women to entertain such views, was a very bad break and headed the Y. M. C. A.'s ship toward the rocks. The statement, that the Colored Y. M. C. A. held the same relation to the Central Y. M. C. A. that the Colored M. E. Church holds to the M. E. Conference, is not true: For instance, a Negro M. E. Church can buy and sell property, contract and erect churches and parsonages without consulting the Conference, this, a branch Y. M. C. A., cannot do. There are many other particulars in which the above is true.

The above statement will doubtless be characterized as an attack upon the Y. M. C. A. That so far as we are concerned is immaterial. The reader is at liberty to place upon what we have said any construction he may desire. The secretary of the Y. M. C. A. is a good man, and is actuated by highest motives, but if he hopes to make the Y. M. C. A. a success he will have to divorce it from the sinister influence of the Forum and other brutalizing alliances. The Secretary has the opportunity of his life. Will he prove himself equal to the occasion?

WILL ADDRESS THE LYCEUM

Doctor Leonard Stovall, M. D., will address the Lyceum Sunday, February 2nd at 4 p. m. Subject: "Race and National Ideals." Everybody cordially invited, especially the young people. Dr. Stovall is one of our rising young men whose addresses are always instructive and interesting.

There will be other matters of vast importance to the race considered at the close of the doctor's address. Your presence is earnestly desired. They are matters that will not be discussed in this journal; so to get the benefit of them you must be present. 4 p. m. 1209 Central Avenue.

FROM THE CITY BY THE SEA

The Don't Worry Club concert Friday evening proved a success.

Miss Perkins and B. Jackson entertained with a party at the home of Mrs. J. Fritz of 25th street.

Mrs. C. Smith, who has been seriously ill at her home on Fifth street was moved to the County Hospital last Saturday.

Miss Mayme Carter, who has been confined to her bed several days is convalescing.

Miss Hazel Brown entertained with a shower for Miss Adams Saturday afternoon. Those present:—Misses Elizabeth Moore, of Pasadena; Miss Charlotte Bolgon, of Hot Springs, Ark; Miss Louise Holkins, Flavia Whitley, Mayme Carter, Mattie Dudley, Alberta Muse, Bessie Howard, Anne Foye, Margaret Goodwin, Elizabeth Hinds and Miss Roberta Parks.

The afternoon was spent playing games.

Miss Adams was the recipient of many useful articles.

Miss Jessica Jamison with Miss Roberta Murdock, Morine Moss and Mr. Scott visited Santa Monica last week.

The B. Y. P. U. of the First Baptist Church of Venice held a Pennant Rally, Sunday evening. Mrs. Kelsy, Delores Burks, Mrs. Lula Bubbard and Mr. Alex Brown were participants for the Pennant. Mr. Brown, having raised the largest sum of money, received the Pennant.

Mr. Wilbur Randolph of Pasadena, president of the Baptist Sunday School Convention of Southern California read a very enlightening paper "The Value of Man."

Mr. J. Allen Reese was summoned to the death bed of his father in New Orleans, La., Mr. Reese is President of the B. Y. P. U. and

holds a very prominent part in all church affairs and will be greatly missed. He has the sympathy of his large circle of friends.

Miss Muse read an excellent paper on "Dust, Dirt and Hygiene"; Mrs. J. A. Stout also had an instructive paper on "Woman's Share in Building the Home." Both were intelligently discussed. The Phyllis Wheatley Club is having a series of such papers.

Mrs. E. V. Moxley has opened her door for the next meeting of the Phyllis Wheatly Club.

Miss Mattie Dudley gave a dinner Monday evening for Misses E. Adams and Mr. Roscoe Broyles. Covers were laid for eight.

Miss Stella Burrell of Cincinnati, Ohio has been appointed visiting school nurse by the Board of Health of that city. It is looked upon as a distinct innovation in the Medical Supervision of schools in that city. She is the first colored girl in this country to hold such a position. She is a graduate of the Provident Hospital of Chicago of the class '07.

There is much to be said in favor of and against buying property by paying a small amount down and the rest in monthly payments. Unless it is possible to pay at least one-third down it seems rather risky business, there are so many things liable to happen that would make it a risk. Flats very often stay vacant for months at a time, but the interest, taxes and various other expenses still go on. Buy a house and live in it, and the amount you pay (as the real estate dealers tell you) as rent will go toward buying it. This sounds good, but many a man has figured—only after he is bitten

—that what he pays barely keeps up the interest and at the rate he is going it will not only take his life-time but that of his children's to get out of debt. Put your money in a bank where you will be drawing 3 per cent interest instead of paying 7 per cent until you can yet enough ahead to make a substantial payment and preclude the possibility of losing your property on account of not being able to meet the payments. Many beautiful homes in this city have gone just that way. Buy property, but buy it intelligently. —Chicago Defender.

Mrs. Lo Griffin of Savannah, Georgia was entertained last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. A. Nelson with a musical concert.

Mrs. J. Lamkin and Mrs. J. W. Anderson entertained with a six course dinner in honor of Miss M. F. Hawkin last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. W. S. Brown was entertained last Friday afternoon with a dinner by Mr. Porch, manager of the Askin & Marine Co. Covers was laid for twelve. Mr. Nickless was toastmaster. After dinner Mrs. Toll rendered a few selections on the piano.

Mr. Harry Elgin is on the sick list this week. Mrs. Elgin is feeling much better at this writing.

The Guest Club will give a social dance for the young folks.

Mr. Primus Haynes of Lake Charles, Louisiana, and father of Mr. A. J. Haynes is here on a visit to his son. Mr. Haynes Sr. is a veteran of the Civil War while his son, Mr. A. J. Haynes is a Spanish War Veteran.

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THE SEGREGATED SCHOOL BILL

The separate school bill recently introduced in the Legislature shows the wisdom of the *Liberator's* fight against the attempt of certain members of the Board of Supervisors to jim crow the Negroes at the County Hospital. It also shows the wisdom of our criticism of the Negroes of this city, who lent their aid in opening a jim crow school in Imperial County. We knew then, as well as we know now, that the whole business was a scheme of "Progressive" white politicians who were using a bunch of Negro pettifogers, together with a handful of irresponsible, thoughtless, half educated Negroes to establish jim crow schools in this state. If we had segregated schools here not a single Negro identified with this agitation could qualify under the laws of this state to teach. And if by any curse of Heaven the unfortunate Negro children of this State were turned over to such teachers as these Negroes would make, their budding intellects would be dwarfed beyond the hope of redemption.

Not a Negro man or woman, qualified to teach in this State, would for a moment agitate for separate schools. It is the Negro with a smattering of book learning who admits his mental inferiority by asking for the lowering of the educational standards of this state so that he might get a job of teaching.

The introduction of this bill at this time shows that we did not underestimate the gravity of the situation last fall when we fought so desperately to defeat certain members of the Board of Supervisors. And the result of the election showed that ultimate victory for our cause is certain. It farther shows that our suspicion, that the race was being betrayed by the silence displayed in certain quarters, was well founded.

Another thing in this connection, was the mummy-like silence of the other Negro papers in the last fall campaign. If they did

not understand that the Negroes had certain rights involved in the result of the Supervisorial election, they have missed their calling and are merely doing violence to the well being of the race. If, however, they understood the gravity of the situation and remained silent for reasons, they are deserving of a characterization that courtesy will not permit. In view of all resulting circumstances it would be well for the Negroes to demand an explanation of these gentlemen. The silence last fall of the papers in question, when the present "jim crow" school law was known to be incubating, is a mystery.

CORRECTIONS

In our last edition there appeared an unusual number of typographical errors. The following paragraph under the caption of "Keep the portraits," appeared the following paragraph which read:

"The portraits of the illustrious white men and women who aided in abolishing human slavery in this country, would be fitting decorations for the homes of any people. But for Negroes to decorate their homes with the portraits of distinguished white men to the exclusion of the Negroes who are being moulded and fashioned in such homes."

The above should have read: The portraits of the illustrious white men and women who aided in abolishing human slavery in this country, would be fitting decorations for the homes of any people. But for the Negroes to decorate their homes with the portraits of illustrious white men to the exclusion of the portraits of illustrious Negroes, would work a serious injury to the race pride of the boys and girls reared in such homes.

Typographical error made \$40,000 given by a wealthy Texas Negro to a school for Negroes read \$40.

It also made Rev. R. D. Jones assistant sargeant at arms of the Assembly at Sacramento receive

"And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

Mat. 6—28-30.

Mrs. Willie Berry of Chicago died last Monday at the county hospital. Mrs. Berry left a husband at 1011 Stanford street.

600 dollars a day instead of six dollars per day.

"BOB" CHURCH'S WILL ATTACKED.

Early this week Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Napier spent several hours in the city en route from their home in Vancouver, B. C., to Memphis, Tenn.

Mrs. Napier is one of the daughters of the late Robert Church, the well known Southern millionaire, whose death several months ago caused universal regret.

Mr. Church had several children, Mrs. Mary Church Terrell of Washington is one of them. They claim that Mrs. Andrew Napier (a half sister) has no claim upon the estate, but her attorneys think otherwise, and a lively legal battle is expected. Attorneys for the Napiers are authority for the statement that Mr. Church had always recognized her as his daughter. She was his oldest daughter and he had her educated at Fisk University. She was born in New Orleans.—Chicago Defender.

WHAT WILL MY SON DO?

Ask any one of the numerous parents whose children are hanging around the street, why they don't send them to school, invariably the query will come: What will they do after they are educated? They will go to work and make a place for themselves if they are worthy of existence. Just think of the amount of honorable labor there is to be done to keep this world going. There will be men to make and homes to build and to beautify forests to fell, lands to till, and factories to fil. There is our great country to be developed and governed. There will be victories to win and crowns to wear; kind words to be spoken, noble deeds to perform; the world to save from sin and heaven to enter in. Nothing for your children to do in the midst of all of this glorious work? Shall your children starve in the thoroughfare of plenty? Although we have mentioned but few of the things to be done to keep this old

world of ours moving along, the work to be performed can best be done by educated men and women.—From *The Liberator*, July 1901.

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