

# THE LIBERATOR

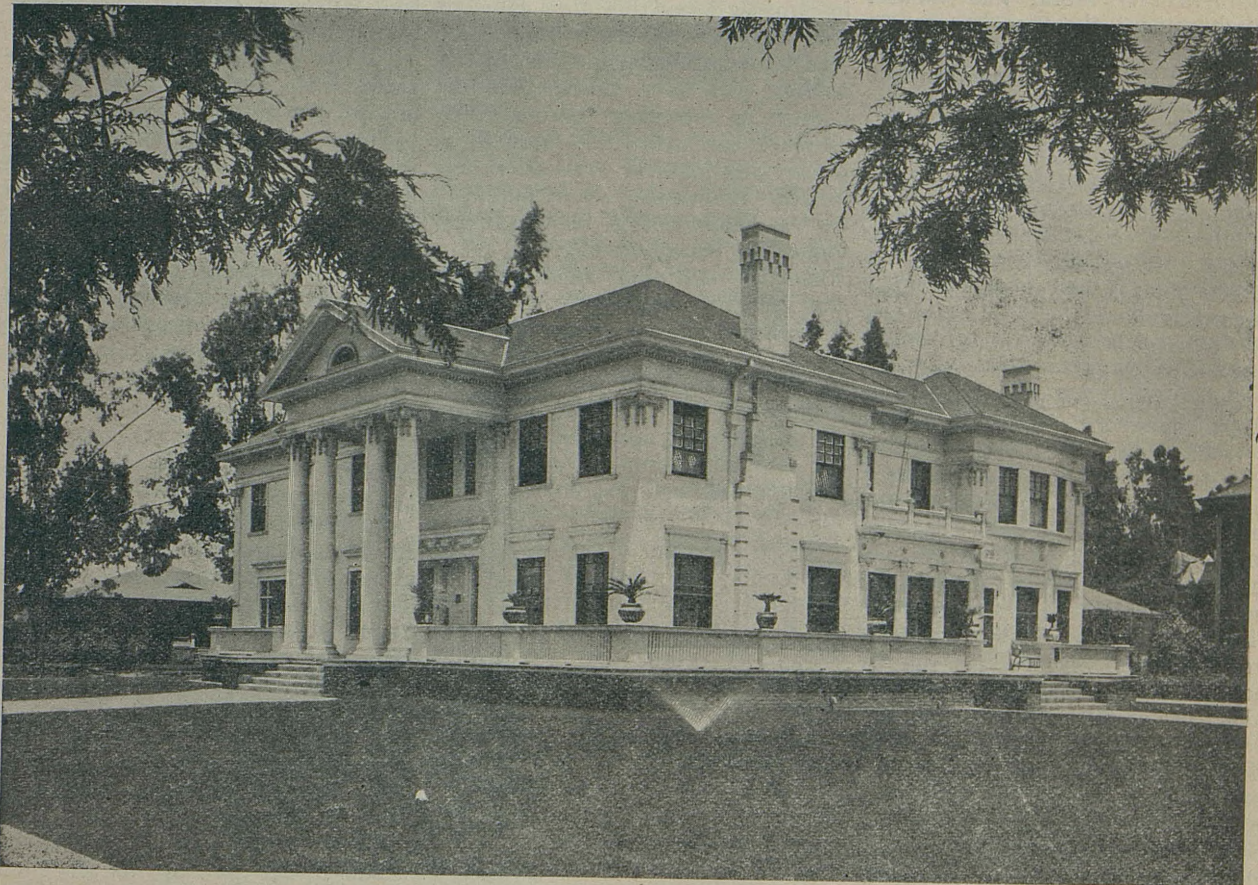
A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the Afro-Americans.

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LOS ANGELES, CAL., MAY 26, 1911

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Residence of J. E. Stearns, St. James Park

Why Not Put Your Ad Here?

### The Negro's Progress.

(Sacramento Union.)

The growth of the Negro race in this country, in spite of handicaps, is graphically set forth in statistics gathered by the department of commerce and labor. Rarely are figures of interest when taken from government reports, but in this case they speak with a compelling eloquence. In both numbers and moral and mental enlightenment the race has grown with strides of which the average American has no comprehension. Is it generally known, for instance, that to-day there are 10,000,000 black people in the United States? Is it known except to the investigators, that 3,700,000 Negroes are members of churches, presided over by 35,224 ordained ministers in 35,160 houses of worship? That the total value of property owned by Negroes is \$56,650,000? That there are 35,000 Negro Sunday schools with 1,700,000 pupils and 210,000 teachers? That the Negro churches contribute annually \$500,000 for education, \$50,000 for foreign missions, and \$100,000 for the support of missionaries at home? That the Negroes are themselves maintaining 175 colleges, industrial schools and academies? These are facts. The statistics are authentic, and cannot fail to make a deep impression upon the mind of any thoughtful person.

There is a wonderful story in the history of this race in America—the removal from one continent to another, and the changes in food, clothing, language, religion, and from slavery to freedom. Slavery in the United States undoubtedly was an inhuman institution, yet the Negro went into it a chattel and came out a citizen. He went into it a savage and came out a farmer or skilled mechanic. He went into it with only a guttural tongue, and came out speaking the English language. He went into it a pagan and came out a Christian. That marvelous transformation was accomplished in chains and under the lash. It was after the slaves had been emancipated, however, that the real pro-

gress of the Negroes began. The statistics issued by the government represent achievements of the last fifty years.

Few races under like circumstances have ever shown ability to live and to increase in numbers, as far as our knowledge of history serves us. Few races have ever been subjected to so great changes, physical, industrial and religious. The Negroes were only about 20 in number when they first came to America; now they are 10,000,000. And these millions, as a part of the nation, can have tremendous influence in retarding national progress or can exert the same force in carrying forward civilization and human usefulness as exemplified by the peoples of all bloods living under the American flag.

Not in spirit of condescension can the white man help the Negro. The desire of the black man is to be let alone. He wants only moral assistance as he endeavors to improve his condition, and then the privilege of applying his training and education without undue prejudice against his color.

Major Hardie, founder of the colored branch of the Y. M. C. A. delivered an able address at the Y. M. C. A. Auditorium last Sunday. The major gave a history of how the work started and its progress from then till now.

His talk was highly instructive and entertaining to the audience. He is a Southern man, but has given much of his life to the advancement of the negro.

One of the curious incidents related by him was the fact that the first man to take charge of a colored Y. M. C. A. was an Ex-Confederate Colonel of Virginia.

### Postoffice Department Informs Congress That the Proposed Organization is Subversive of Discipline.

(Associated Press Night Report) WASHINGTON, May 6.—Second Assistant Postmaster General Stewart appeared again today before the House Committee on Civil

Service in opposition to the Lloyd bill, giving government employees the right to affiliate with trades unions. He declared that union such as the proposed organization of railway clerks were projected "to coerce the departments, subvert good administration and intimidate Congress."

"Do you deny the right of government clerks to strike?" Stewart was asked by Representative Wilson of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Committee on Labor. "I do," Stewart replied. "The clerks have a right to resign, but not to strike."

Stewart told the committee that the oath of the Brotherhood of Railroad Postal Clerks stipulated that the clerks must all resign and walk out on the same day if such a plan is approved by a vote of three-fourths of the members of the brotherhood. Employees have been notified that the department is unalterably opposed to the union, Stewart said.

### Refused to Jim Crow Mrs. B. T. Washington.

Memphis, Tenn., May 2.—As a result of charges today in railroad circles that the Jim Crow laws of Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee had been violated, officials of the Cotton Belt Railroad and Pullman Company will be prosecuted.

The wife of Booker T. Washington alighted from a Pullman car. Charges are made that she had been carried through from Paris, Tex., in the drawing room.

Conductor Rogers said that he would rather give up his job than to continue being a slave driver. "Mrs. Washington," he said, "is just as good and far better than lots of passengers I handle over my line. You may put me on record as saying that not only Mrs. Washington, but any respectable colored lady will be given comfort by me."

Mr. D. A. Atkins of 1315 1-2 East 12th street wants everybody to know that he does all kinds of shoe repairing. Work done while you wait. Give him a call.

**Items of Local Interest.**

Mr. G. W. Whitley, a prominent politician and state lecturer of the Afro-American Council, has been nominated for the city council by the Socialist Labor Party. The A. A. Council will put up a vigorous fight for his election.

Mr. Jerome R. Collins, a prominent citizen and popular orator after an absence of one year returned to the Forum last Sunday and left in utter disgust.

Colonel Allen Allensworth, founder of The Allensworth Colony, the only full fledged colored town in the state, passed through the city Monday en route for El Paso Texas. Colonel Allensworth goes in response to an invitation to deliver his lecture, "The Crucial" through which the American negro is passing," to the students of the El Paso High School.

Miss Bessie Williams, the talented musician and daughter of Mrs. J. W. Williams of 1220 Birch street, will leave Sunday for Pueblo, Colorado to visit her sister, the wife of Rev. Mr. Holmes. Miss Williams will remain three months.

Mr. Wm. Shelten, the real estate man has good homes on easy terms. \$100.00 down and fifteen dollars per month, the same as rent. It will pay to see him before buying. Telephone Main 1836. 733 E. 3rd street.

Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Gordon, who left January for Liberia, Africa, have returned to the city. They look a picture of health.

Mr. Robert Bunton and daughter of Alhambra, were visitors at the Y. M. C. A. last Sunday.

Mr. W. Yeldell of Stroud, Oklahoma, was also a visitor at the Y. M. C. A. last Sunday. Mr. Yeldell is a man of means and is on a tour of inspection.

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We witnessed a few of the Doctor's demonstrations and regard them as something wonderful.

Editor

Mrs. S. A. Wright and Mrs. J. Columbus were visitors to the city this week.

The Y. M. C. A. is getting the most authentic directory of the colored population ever gotten together to use in the campaign for \$100,000.

Attorney G. W. Wickliffe spent Saturday and Sunday in San Francisco.

**The Seal Garden Park.**

The Independent Order of Elks have leased Seal Garden Park and thrown it open as a pleasure ground for colored picnics and outings. Only the best of order will be maintained. We feel certain the colored people will appreciate the advantages offered. It fills a long felt want. Read their announcement in this edition and arrange your picnic dates.

Mr. B. W. Brown, proprietor of the Central Avenue Variety Mart, has opened a first class soda fountain where soft drinks of all kinds and ice cream can be had. 1209 Central Avenue. When in need of refreshments call.

**Y. M. C. A. Citizens Meeting.**

The citizen's committee held a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. Monday night was in every way a success. The crowd that packed the auditorium representing every part of the city, boiled over with enthusiasm.

Rev. Anderson, the old and popular Baptist minister, the philanthropist of the colored ministers, occupied a seat on the stage and infused the whole audience with enthusiasm. There were many inspiring speeches by leading business and professional men.

Mr. Blodgett, the well known contractor and builder, delivered a practical address inspiring the men to the fortunate duty they had to perform.

Mr. Jerome R. Collins also treated the audience to one of his splendid speeches. Owing to the lateness of our arrival, we failed to hear the addresses of other gentlemen.

The \$100,000 campaign will be undertaken with a rush as soon as the time for its opening arrives. When the call was made for volunteer captains of teams, there was vigorous response. After a rousing session of two hours, the committee was treated to an abundant supply of ice cream and cake. Of the \$100,000 to be raised for the colored branch, the colored citizens are asked to give \$37,500. The citizens are anxious to run their subscriptions beyond that. Let everybody give from \$100 up. We have some generous, wealthy colored men and women in the city who may give \$5,000 each. They have the opportunity of their lives to link their names perpetually with the Christian growth of this city.

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The conduct, with the language used by the president of the Forum at its meeting on last Sunday, when he left the chair, as presiding officer, did more to verify the statements made in *The Liberator* about that official than we had occasion to expect.

The editor has been surprised at the number of attendants of the Forum who have come to him and given their assurance that the president well deserved what was said in its columns.

The policy of this journal is to comment upon conditions when it is satisfied that improvements can be made.

The size of an official is always gauged by his ability to realize that fact and if equal to the occasion will use his efforts to bring about the improved condition.

The president made it possible

for all present last Sunday to learn of his ability to handle the situation, and it was with pity that the sight of witnessing the spectacle that he made of himself, for his greatest effort at vindication was met with laughter and derision.

*The Liberator* hopes that the president has had time to reflect and will be benefited by his late experiences.

The Forum's opportunity for good depends much upon its presiding officer, and if he is a big soul great things may be accomplished but as before stated in these columns "a little soul can never do big things."

### The Power to Think and Will Must Be Developed.

"Never were the educational chances for young persons so bountiful and brilliant as at present. Schools, books, lectures, papers, magazines, etc., accessible to all. Generous millions of the rich are placed at the disposal of the colleges and universities and libraries of the nation. And never were there so many well-equipped uplifting institutions. The Church, Young People's societies, Young Men's Christian Associations and various opportunities for refinement and conserving the higher nature.

"If the young man would avail himself of his chances, he must invest in himself. He must develop power to will and to think, and this is the prime purpose of an education. When men who have been successful in material things disparage high school and university education, it must be put down as colossal egotism. Some men who have been successful in making a little money arrogate to themselves the right to speak with authority upon science, theology, ethics and education, and they do it with a pompous pride which is pitiable, notwithstanding its impertinence."

We clip the above from Dr. Locke's sermon to young men published in full in the last week's *Liberator*, for the purpose of emphasizing the advice given. If that

advice is good for young white men with all their advantages, surely it is equally good for young colored men. If our men are to succeed, they will have to apply themselves to earnest practical study. They must invest in themselves.

Dr. Locke says further:

"Sometimes struggle and poverty teach men to think and to will, but if a young man has not the spur of necessity he probably never will learn to think and to will unless he puts himself down to the desperate task of acquiring a mastery of mathematics and history."

### The Sad Picture.

Again:

"The two great evils that destroy young men are liquor and impurity—these are the modern Seylla and Charybdis—the two deadly monsters which snatch to their death the young mariners on life's dangerous sea. Of 182 criminals, 165 were young men, and of 53 murderers, 45 were young men."

The above ghastly figures should be well pondered by our young readers. The awful story it tells speaks for itself.

For an old man to make a shipwreck of life at its sunset, presents to the mind an extremely pathetic picture. But from the standpoint of human economy and usefulness, the man who wrecks his life in the morning of his existence inflicts a far greater loss upon himself and the human family.

A ship by mistake of her captain, goes on a rock and becomes a total wreck after traversing the high seas for many years, transporting many cargoes of merchandise for the good of the human family; a ship fresh from the hands of the builder, commanded by a speed-mad captain, proud of her strength, speed, beauty and modern improvements, laden with a cargo of human freight with their inestimable future possibilities, starts out gaily on her first voyage, collides with a rock that is plainly marked on the mariners chart, goes down with all on board.

**President of the Forum Scourged.**

Editor *The Liberator*.

Anent the course things are taking in the Forum, I desire to enter a solemn protest. The Forum is being grossly misused and the peoples' time is being wasted simply for the want of a proper conception of what the Forum is trying to accomplish; that is—if it is trying to accomplish anything at all. Certainly the Forum was not organized for war, is it rightly engaged in trying to adjust personal differences. I say rightly, because there are those who mistakingly think the Forum is the place for the settlement of such affairs. This mistaken idea and its attendant evils will ruin or destroy the usefulness of the Forum, if its officers do not take a higher stand and see to it that personalities are not allowed to enter into the discussions. The idea of a set of intelligent people meeting Sunday after Sunday to hear men discuss matters of a purely personal nature is absurd, and is only calculated to subject the entire organization to that public censure which it so rightly deserves.

What has the Forum to do with what some newspaper prints about an individual? What right has any individual to say that he is personally attacked when he is not named? Is it not better to pass this quasi attack up and let it die a natural death? No man has a right to assume that he is attacked when the language used makes the charges general and no names are used. It is weakness to confess when one is not accused rightly, and it should be borne in mind that a newspaper can say what it pleases, just so long as it stays within bounds. Unless the writer is chargeable with libel, it were better for all men to take no personal notice of newspaper articles, or else they simply advertise the paper and expose to ridicule all who attack it.

The president, I think, was right in taking time to defend his administration on last Sunday and his friends were more than surprised that he did not devote his time to

defending his official acts and not to making personal attacks and veiled insinuations. What of a defense did he make by advising the audience to watch the writer of the article in which he was criticised? What did he expect to gain by saying that a certain gentleman had him expelled from the Forum. The fact that the gentleman to whom he referred is now a member of the Forum proves one of two things: Namely: The gentleman in question has atoned for his sins and is herein forgiven, or else the Forum saw its mistake and rescinded its actions in having expelled him.

In either event, I consider it a mistake to refer to it. Besides I do not see wherein vituperation can be used as an answer to argument. When the president said that those who give the chair trouble (meaning, I presume, those who do not always see things as he sees them) are simply out for money, thereby impugning the motives of men who are his personal and political friends, he descends to a depth from which, I fear, his most ardent partisans can never hope to extricate him. It is to be hoped that some of the things spoken in that harangue were chargeable to excitement and were not the real sentiments of him who uttered them.

Reference was made to the Thos. Lee Woolwine visit to the Forum. I did not vote for Mr. Woolwine largely because of his "Friday Morning Club" speech, in which he spoke of my race in a most disrespectful manner, but I do think he should have been heard by the Forum after it had invited him to come and address its members. I do not find it possible for me to reconcile myself to the idea of inviting a man to my house to insult him. I would be willing to hear Tillman speak and I think no one could expect courtesy to be extended beyond hearing him. It is certain that the usefulness of the Forum will be destroyed, if, indeed, the organization is not disrupted entirely if a halt is not called and all men do

not take a higher stand and put a stop to the sickening petulance which has characterized the deliberations of the Forum.

Men who hold public positions should not be peevish. They should recognize the fact that their official conduct is the property of those collectively who put them in their positions. That they are the creatures and not the creators; that those who elevate them have a right to review and criticise their official acts, and that such criticisms are not to be regarded as personal per se, and that to regard, and answer them as personal matters is to show a weakness which is pitiful if not despicable.

One of the things which seems to have disturbed the harmony of the Forum to an alarming degree is the admonition of the editor wherein he advised strongly against the practice of speaking when no preparation had been made or where the speakers had no knowledge of the subject matter. If one could forget the personality of a certain editor who is persona non grata to certain other gentlemen, then I believe the advise would be shown of its sting; whereas, if we could but look at the advice abstractly there is no doubt that we would be greatly benefited by following it. That is to say, our prejudices rob us of benefits which we greatly need.

Aside from this puerility—which if not checked, seems destined to ruin the Forum—we are confronted with another coil which mars our deliberations every time we assemble. I refer to the "point of order" so common among us and which is so shamefully abused by our "Parliamentarians." Whenever a speaker has the floor and another *would-be speaker* wants to stop him, he resorts to the "point of order" which in many cases he does not understand. That he does not understand it, is proven by the use to which he makes of it, viz: To answer the argument of the speaker and not to show that the speaker is out of order.

I most respectfully submit that more good would come from study-

ing some work on parliamentary usages than in trying to apply rules with which we are not acquainted.

Possibly the climax of this entire absurdity is to be found in the solemn reflection that all of this nonsense is conducted in the name and by the grace of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ by his disciples, God save the mark.

I rejoice in the fact that I am not known because of my empty claims to piety for I think it no credit to a man to claim something to which his title is questionable.

Yours,  
Morgan T. White.

#### The Forum.

There was no regular program at the Forum last Sunday. Although many topics were read, the discussion of which would have imparted much light to the splendid audience that came out in search of information on matters of human interest. But the beloved president, feeling grieved over compliments paid him by *The Liberator* of the week before, spent the evening in bitterly denouncing the members of the Forum who sincerely respects him, but differ on some public questions. If the president had confined his criticisms to *The Liberator* and its editor no harm would have been done to either. If his criticism had been just, *The Liberator* and its editor would have been greatly benefited. If unjust, neither would have suffered. The article which so exorcised the president may be found in the May 20th issue of *The Liberator*.

#### A Regrettable Fact.

It is noted with regret that every one of the many business and professional men of this city have ceased to attend the Forum. The fact that these men are all educated, trained thinkers; makes their absence from the Forum all the more regrettable. If there ever was a time when negro organizations needed the guidance of the educated, trained men of the race, it is now.

The absence of these gentlemen from the meetings of the Forum is due to no fault of their own. They formerly attended and lent dignity to its proceedings. In the above estimation our ten or more ministers are not included, as it may not be possible for them to attend the Sunday afternoon meetings. It is time for our business and professional men to get together and organize a historical and literary society such as the "Bethel" of Washington city, and have a place where the people can get the benefit of the trained minds of the race through debates and lectures. The great mass of the colored people of this city are thirsting for knowledge and will fill any hall where there is a chance to obtain it through lectures and discussion of public questions. Life is too short and the need of information too great to waste time listening to people who insist on speaking without thought.

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GOOD THINGS TO EAT

**The Color Line in the Unions.**

(Commercial News, May 9.)

Very few colored men have ever been admitted to the unions in San Francisco. There must be a reason. Union labor leaders are very fond of saying they know no distinction as to color, except as to Asiatics. They aver that the African is not objectionable to them. Yet very few of the colored race have ever been admitted to the San Francisco unions. Why is it.

Surely, this narrow mindedness does not exist in union circles in the East. Skilled Negro machinists and mechanics in other lines have come to San Francisco with withdrawal cards from Eastern unions and they have presented their international cards here and have been made to stand outside the gates and some have been sent away to undesirable jobs in Los Angeles.

Is the objection to the Negro because of his skill? That can hardly be, because the same objection would arise as to Caucasian skill. It must then be a social line that is drawn. The aristocracy of labor leaderism does not wish its wives and daughters to mix with, much less see, the Negro, his wife and his daughter, and so the color line is drawn and the "nigger," as they call him, is debarred, despite all his credentials, good behavior and skill. The irony of it all is found in the fact that some of the union leaders are counselling heartily taking in Japanese and Chinese on a footing of equality. Cannot such leaders be controlled? Why such unnecessary insult to the colored race?

**Not a Social, But an Economic Question.**

Your reference to the fear of white labor leaders that the negroes might meet their wives and daughters socially is erroneous. It is an Economic not a Social question.

What the skilled negro laborers are looking for is an opportunity to earn a comfortable living for his own wives and daughters. He has always been satisfied with them but from every day evidences he seems

to be about the only man that has been so satisfied. The fear of the labor unions is of the negro, as a competitor and spurred by that fear, they have systematically kept the doors of opportunity closed to him. Now that they find it necessary to have him in their organizations to control this city, they have thrown down the barriers and invited him to membership, but past experience causes him to be satisfied where he is. As a worshiper of his own wives and daughters, he is going to stay in the middle of the road.

**White and Colored Ministers Hold Meeting To Arouse Public Sentiment Against Mob Violence.**

An important conference composed of the white and colored ministers and the circuit judge of the district, will be held at Hazelhurst, Mississippi in a few days to arouse public sentiment against mob violence. This is a movement in the right direction and shows an aroused conscience on the part of the Christian people of that city. We trust that the good white and colored people will get together throughout the South and hold similar conferences. Unless the public conscience of the South is aroused against this great evil, the young white and colored people of the South and perhaps of the whole country will be doomed. There is no need of bloodcurdling editorials or fiery mass meeting, but a quiet coming together of the sober, God fearing law-loving white and colored men who have the future peace and order of our country at heart.

The colored men and women of the country must join the good white people against the rum traffic, its attendant evils, and all forms of political corruptions. If the white people of the country can always depend upon the negroes to assist them in their struggles the evils that threaten the happiness of their homes, they in turn will protect the negroes from the elements that make their lives unsafe. Thank God for the beginning of the breaking of the day.

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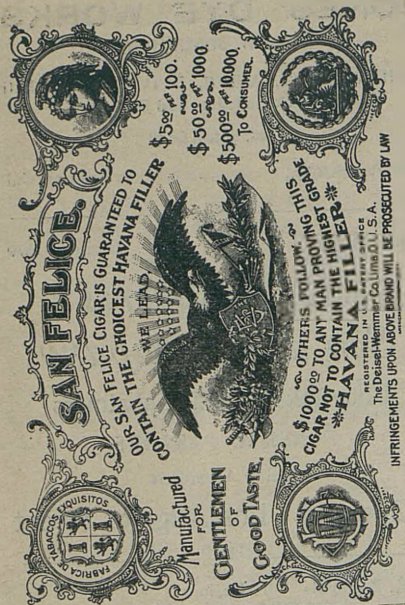
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May 27, steam fitter, modeler, (National Museum;); June 3, forest clerk (male) oiler; dental interne (male) June 7; press feeder (female,) do.; law clerk (stenographer and typewriter,) do.; wireless telegraph inspector (male) do.; medical interne, Government Hospital for the Insane, do.; laboratory helper, Department of Agriculture, do.; agronomist in grain investigation (male) do.; botanical translator, do.; preparator, Natural Museum, do.; engineer and miller, do.; superintendent of lighthouse services, June 7-8; district inspector of locomotive boilers, do.; stenographer and typewriter (male), June 14; second-class (or assistant) steam engineer, June 21; first-class steam engineer, do.; petrographer, Bureau of Chemistry, do.; bacteriological chemist, do.; teacher (Indian service,) do.; librarian (male), Bureau of Education, June 21-22; veterinary inspector, Department of Agriculture, July 5; scientific assistant in forestry (male,) July 5-6.

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