

Labor Unions Have Negro Porters Fired, Page 4.

# THE LIBERATOR

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

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RESIDENCE OF JUDGE CHARLES SILENT, CHESTER PLACE.

### Education in the South.

The fourteenth conference for education in the South was in session last week in Jacksonville, Fla., with well known educators from all parts of the United States and several foreign countries in attendance. The feature of the opening session was the annual address of the President, Robert C. Ogden of New York. After expressing his gratification of the progress made in the last year and reiterating the objects of the conference, Mr. Ogden said, in part:

"Our great universities and colleges, which are the crown of our American civilization, are worthy of the highest honor and most profound respect; but the true democratic idea is not to influence society downward from the top, but upward from the bottom. We have discovered that education is life—the most abundant life. We are beginning to define education as implying the training imposed by social and industrial needs of the community, and are asserting that the special capacities and the prospective wage-earning occupation of the pupil be carefully considered in the training for life given in the school, thus creating larger efficiency for the person and greater prosperity for the States.

"There is also coming a broader view of the philanthropic ideal in education. Recent legislation in several States tends towards the protection of children from injury and needless severity, compulsory attendance at school, and proper sanitation. Public opinion is going beyond the law, and is insisting on a more generous supply of school books and materials, medical inspection, segregation of the morally and physically defective as objects for special care, improvement in training, pay, and qualifications of teachers."

What education can do for the commercial prosperity of a country was the subject discussed by Dr. Paul Ritter, minister from Switzerland to this country. He used Switzerland as an illustration. Switzerland supports a population of 3,700,000, although in size less

than one-third as large as Florida, the minister declared, attributing the general prosperity which prevailed throughout his country to the wide diffusion of education.

The abstract of the North Carolina Mutual and Provident association is out, and the last report of the greatest Negro insurance company in the world indicates that steady growth has always marked its course. The association is now twelve years old. Beginning in 1899 with \$540 for a year's business, it has gained so steadily every year without exception that its business for 1910 was \$245,238. Besides the exceptional showing in collections, it has \$69,318 in real estate; cash in banks and office, \$21,154, and a balance of \$95,535 in the treasury. During its twelve years the company has paid over \$500,000 in benefits and has written over 200,000 members. Furthermore it has a \$20,000 cash bond in the hands of the South Carolina insurance commissioner as a guarantee for its policy holders in that State. The company was organized with John Merrick, a barber, of Durham, N. C., as its president.

NEW YORK, April 24,—The oldest pupil in the New York public schools, Mrs. Martha Harmon, has just received from the board of education two gold medals—one for regularity in attendance. Although 70 years old and a grandmother, Mrs. Harmon throughout the term has been a diligent and exemplary pupil in the primary department of the night school at Public School No. 157. She was born a slave in Kentucky.

We commend the above to our young readers. This is the kind of spirit that wins victories, and if more of them were imbued with the same strong will there is no telling what might be the results. Mrs. Harmon has set a splendid example and it will do good.—Western Outlook.

### Young People's Societies

The crowd that greeted the Douglas Literary Society last Friday evening, taxed the capacity of the hall, every seat being taken. The occasion being a debate between the Young Mens' Assembly represented by L. K. Beeks and B. K. Edmonds and Attorney Barnett and Mr. Jas. Alexander, representing the Douglas. The able manner with which the debaters handled their subjects and the fund of information displayed on both sides of the contest, amply paid the large audience for its attendance.

"Resolved that United States senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people," was the question discussed. This being one of the issues now engaging the public mind. The debaters from their splendid arguments showed that they had carefully studied every phase of the subject. One of the enjoyable features of the discussion was the amount of wit and humor thrown into the debate. It was impossible for one to listen to those eloquent addresses sparkling as they did with thoughts born of wide reading and careful preparation, without having his desire for information greatly increased.

Another educating feature of the programme were the select readings by Messrs. P. Henry and V. Kelso. These with the instrumental solo by Miss Leona Jordon were entertaining.

Mr. Lacy presented Miss Senola Maxwell a beautiful bound volume entitled "The Life and Works of Paul Lawrence Dunbar." The prize awarded her for winning the spelling match at the Golden Rule some weeks ago. The Douglas will give an old fashioned spelling match next Friday evening, after which refreshments will be served.

It is gratifying to note that the attendance at the Young People's Literary Societies is rapidly increasing in size and interest. This is a good indication and means much for the future as the men and women who attend them will

get in the habit of reading and thinking. Their thoughts will be lifted from the common things around them to the high and noble things to be found only in the realm of good literature. The young man or woman that can find pleasure in spending his evenings in companionship through the medium of their books, with Shakespeare, Irving, Longfellow and Whittier are indeed aristocrats.

The Wesley Chapel Literary Society is making final arrangements to intellectually entertain its members and friends. Besides the usual programme there will be an evening with Whittier, Longfellow, Dunbar and other American poets. Among the Orators, Lincoln, Frederick Douglas, Webster, Clay and Price will be studied. Evenings will also be spent with the great women who led in the Anti-Slavery movements in this country.

The object of course is to create in the young people a love for reading. To note that Miss Stovall and Miss Whites are to have the backing of Madames Sellers, Tibbet, Greer and King bespeaks success. Of course it is always understood that Mr. J. A. Jackson will be there to push forward anything that has for its object the advancement of the young people.

Nothing has been heard from the young people of Dr. Hill's church. There is not a finer body of young people than those that attend his church and Sunday school.

#### Prize for Essay Won by Negro Student

ITHACA, N. Y., May 1—James B. Clarke, a negro student at Cornell, whose essay on the race question at Cornell caused comment recently, has been awarded the *prix d'honneur* in the annual competition in French essay writing and translation under the auspices of the Society of French Professors of America. Clarke is a junior in the arts college and comes from the West Indies.

#### Municipal Railroads

Every citizen who has the good of the community at heart should give his moral assistance to the proposition to construct a municipal railway to San Pedro. Before the project takes definite shape, the transportation corporations will do all in their power to clog the enterprise; they will say that the estimates are wrong, that the city cannot operate a railroad, that it will become a political machine, and that it will be a wrong to private capital for the city to go into this enterprise.

All of which may be taken with several grains of salt.

The trolley companies have only themselves to thank for this determination of the city to build the road. If the trolley company managers had been thoroughly awake, they would long ago have made such freight and passenger rates to the beach that there could have been no ground for complaint. The freight rates to and from San Pedro to-day are outrageous—as much as it would cost to haul by wagon. There is no reason in the round trip price of 50 cents to the beaches for transient passengers—none at all.

Take the case of the Los Angeles-Pacific. It charges five cents for a four mile ride to Arlington. But if the passenger wants to travel the next ten miles, he must pay at the rate of 2 cents a mile if he buys a round trip ticket and more if he buys single passage.

Railroad men, with the exception of E. P. Ripley and J. J. Hill seem to be afflicted with the belief that the people will take all that they say as gospel. If you ask any railroad man the why of the high freight rates, he will reply that it is done to put San Pedro and San Diego on a parity of rates to Los Angeles. In other words, just because the Santa Fe company cannot haul freight from San Diego as cheap as the Southern Pacific, the Salt Lake and the Pacific Electric can from San Pedro, then the high rate is maintained so that the Santa Fe can get a share of

the haul from the sea to Los Angeles. What on earth, is the sense of having a port at all, if not to give the people who own that port a fair deal in the way of freight rates.

We do not care whether the municipal railway ever makes a cent, although it will if the management is as sane and as wise as that of the city water department. If it will only reduce the cost of transportation to and from the beaches, it will be money well spent.—West End News.

Says the Western Christian Advocate: "There are about 4,000 colored church members in Columbus of all denominations. Eight years ago there were about 12,000 colored people in Columbus, now there are 20,000, showing a much higher rate of increase than the white race. Notwithstanding the industrial disadvantages under which this race rests, very substantial progress has been made in the more remunerative occupations and business ventures. Colored people have 12 good sized grocery stores, 2 house movers, a number of transfer lines, 2 drug stores, 3 dentists, 2 tailors, 8 physicians, 5 attorneys, 4 undertakers, 2 feed stores, 12 policemen, 2 detectives, an assistant prosecuting attorney, 12 clerks in the city and county offices, a photographer, and a large number of carpenters, masons, plasterers, painters, barbers, milliners, and restaurants. A colored man owns a three-story hotel, and another a theater. Alas! they own several saloons also. Several hundred families own comfortable homes ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$5,000. A day nursery, an industrial school, an Odd Fellow's hall worth \$20,000 and a Knights of Pythias hall worth \$10,000 are among the properties owned by the colored people in Columbus."

A drama will be given early in May under the management of Mrs. C. J. Smith, for the benefit of Second A. M. E. Church.

## THE LIBERATOR

J. L. EDMONDS, Editor and Business Manager.

JEFF L. EDMONDS, JR., Assistant Editor.

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### Can't Spare Governor Johnson

For the first time a Californian has loomed large enough to be considered for a place on the national republican ticket. Governor Johnson has earned that distinction by reason of his brilliant record during the few months he has been in office.—Express.

We can't spare him. Although Governor Johnson has given the Augean stables the best scrubbing they have had in forty years, there is still a smell of the machine in many of the commissions of the State. When he shall have so disinfected the various departments of the State government till not a scintilla of the old machine is left. California will be able to let the

nation have him for president a term or two. But not till then, unless it is actually necessary to relieve the country of President Taft by the election of Governor Johnson as president.

### An Object Lesson in Labor Unionism

For a number of years the Santa Fe R. R. Company has employed a large number of negro porters who also acted as brakemen. At the demand of the labor unions of this state, a law was passed by the last Legislature compelling the railways of this state to use what they called a full crew—that is one front and one rear brakeman. Under the terms of the new law, the Santa Fe R. R. Company, the only company in this state employing negro porters, decided, it is stated, to promote the negro porters to the position of front brakemen which carried with it an increase of salary, white men to be used as rear brakemen. It is stated that the labor unions threatened to tie up the entire Santa Fe system if the negro porters were promoted to the position of brakeman.

We are not in a position to vouch for the correctness of the above statement of organized labors' threat against the Santa Fe, but we do know that the law for the increase of train crews, was inacted at the behest of the labor unions. We know further that they have been laboring for ten years to force all negroes out of the employment of the railroads. The fact that as soon as this law, originated by the labor unions, became effective, every negro in the employ of the railroad was immediately dropped from its services, is significant. These men, many of them, have been in the service of the company ten to fifteen years, which is ample proof of their faithfulness to duty. This little bit of organized labor legislation will serve as an object lesson for the negroes of what they may expect when organized labor gets control of any law making body. If the

effects of the law in question is a criterion of what will happen, should the whole country become unionized, free government would be a thing of the past, and equal opportunity a by word and a scorn.

### All Negroes Bared.

The Machinist's Union of this city has passed unanimously a resolution debaring all negroes from becoming members. This action and the forcing of negro porters out of the Santa Fe R. R. service are object lessons that the negroes cannot fail to learn. And to ask negroes to in any way affiliate with any branch of organized labor is simply asking the negro to cut his own throat.

### A Move in the Right Direction

The organization of a number of well attended literary societies by the young people of the city is a move in the right direction. Their programmes are always elevating and instructing. Those attending them being well paid for their visit. We would advise our young people who waste their time attending cheap theaters and picture shows to attend these Literary societies where they come in contact with good books, and the men and women who are enriching their minds by their perusal. The proudest and most lasting aristocracy is the aristocracy of the mind. The poverty of the mind being the most abject.

Cast your lot with these young people and with them take up the study of the books left us as a legacy by the great minds of the past.

Attorney Tyler of the law firm of Darden & Tyler will address the citizens of Pasadena at the celebration of John Brown's birthday May 12th. Mr. Tyler is a brilliant orator and a well equipped attorney being a graduate of this Harvard Law School.

**A Campaign for \$75,000.**

The board of management of the colored Y. M. C. A. is preparing to inaugurate a whirl wind campaign for \$75,000 in order to secure the \$25,000 offered by Mr. Rosenwald for the building of a colored Y. M. C. A. in this city. The colored men in Chicago, Washington, D. C. and Atlanta, Georgia, not only raised the amounts required of them to secure the \$25,000, but ran far beyond it. Take for instance, the colored men of Atlanta, Georgia, who were asked to raise \$40,000 as their share of the \$100,000 to be raised. In ten days in spite of poverty and low wages they raised \$67,000 or \$27,000 more than was required of them. That is civic pride worthy of emulation. The contributions ran from twenty-five cents to a \$1,000.

In Chicago, a colored laboring man with \$1,500 in the bank insisted on contributing \$1,000 to the Y. M. C. A. funds—or two thirds of his entire wealth. That was putting man above the dollar in a manner worthy of remembrance.

We have in this city, something like fifteen to twenty thousand people; well housed, well paid and prosperous. And can raise \$75,000 with far less personal sacrifice than was required of our brethren in Atlanta, where wages are not so high. We feel sure that our colored citizens will respond promptly to the demand for contributions when the campaign opens.

The present building occupied by the Y. M. C. A. has long since proven inadequate for the demands made upon it. A new and larger building with an up-to-date industrial department is absolutely necessary to fit our young men to fill places that are demanding their services each day in every department of the city's industrial life. Money contributed to fit young men to live larger lives is the best investment one can make.

We were placed here by an Alwise Providence to make men, not money. Hence those who contribute the largest financial assistance to institutions engaged in

making men, render the greatest service to humanity and country.

The hope of our race for the future depends upon the conduct of our men of to-day.

No race or country can hold its own without men. Men with educated minds, educated morals and healthy, well developed bodies, through whose veins flows blood untainted with disease. These are the kind of men that the great Y. M. C. A. is making for us.

Without doubt the intelligent, race loving patriotic, prosperous citizens will raise the \$75,000 in the characteristic way that Los Angeles always does things.

The white and colored Y. M. C. A.'s of this city, are two of the largest in the world and hence accomplish big results with ease.

**The Forum**

The audience at the Forum last Sunday evening in point of size and decorum, reminded old members of former days when its proceedings were characterized by the dignity and intelligence of those taking part and not by the small personal bickerings that threatened its usefulness of late. The topics discussed were handled in a manner that were at once dignified and educating.

Attorney W. R. Taylor delivered a short address, urging the members to handle all questions relating to the rights of the race with the utmost care, urging that the less talk the better. He warned them especially against the danger of thoughtless speaking. That when matters having to do with the rights of our people were before the courts that the talking should be done only by the attorneys handling the case. He touched upon many things in which the race is interested in such a soft, scholarly way as to make a lasting impression upon all who heard him. He was also introduced to the Y. M. C. A. before coming to the Forum, where he delivered a short address.

His addresses in both cases being well received. The thoughtful

members of the Forum were especially gratified with his counsel against hasty, thoughtless speaking in a body like the Forum. There has been decidedly too much thoughtless, loud, incendiary talk in the Forum by people who think that free speech means that small spirits have the right to slander and vilify big ones. The people who do these things perhaps mean to do no harm. They are merely exercising what they regard their right of free speech: And yet the whole body is responsible for the words and acts of the people in question. The topics were also entertainingly discussed by Mr. Milton W. Lewis, the well known, popular real estate dealer and Messrs. S. Oliver and Morgan T. White. It was a great meeting enjoyed by the entire audience.

The speeches, being such as to give information and lend inspiration to the hearers.

The chairs ruling on points of order raised were happy and did away with any possibility of friction. The Forum has inaugurated an era of thoughtful, heathful study of public questions.

**Capt. G. W. Hawkins.**

The well known old patriarch delivered one of his enthusiastic addresses at the Forum on the 22nd. Capt. Hawkins is one of our busy, wealthy citizens who takes a deep interest in all matters pertaining to the well fare of the race. On hearing that there was a strong effort being made to have the negroes join the labor unions, he came out to sound the alarm. Although the captain has grown older in recent years in his powers as an orator, he is as young as ever. His speech at the Forum was brim full of his old time enthusiasm and made the Forum look like an Ocean in a storm. And as for the negroes joining labor unions, captain made the idea look like an ox cart that had been hit by a fast train.

Dr. Lyman Abbott Sperry delivered one of the most entertaining and instructive lectures ever listened to at the Y. M. C. A. last Sunday. Dr. Sperry, a graduate of Oberlin Ohio College, although seventy years old enjoys the vigor of a man of fifty. In spite of the fact that the announcement of his lecture was made too late for publication in the colored papers, the Y. M. C. A. auditorium was filled with a representative audience.

Touching upon the dangers that threaten the stability of American institutions, he called attention especially to the divorce evil, paying especial attention to the appalling fact that a great majority of divorces granted, was granted because one or the other of the parties had violated the marriage vow and that violation of the seventh commandment was causing untold misery by spreading diseases that destroy the health, dethrone the mind, causing a lowering of moral sentiment of the nation, thus undermining the foundation upon which rests our social system. He paid a glowing tribute to the progress made by the colored people since their emancipation, but warned the audience against any letting up, that there was still work and much of it to be done if the race was to maintain its upward movement. He condemned in the severest terms the double standard of morality maintained in this country. Arguing that the abolition of the double standard and the substitution of the single is absolutely necessary if our moral fabric is to stand. He urged upon the young men the importance of embracing the gospel of work. Mental and physical work, continual work, backed by temperance and economy.

The Wesley Chapel Literary Society will give a big free social at the Wesley M. E. Church, corner Eighth and San Julian streets next Tuesday evening, May 9th. Good programme. Ice cream and cake served free. Everybody invited.

### If You Are Looking for a Park for Picnics or Private Parties Do Not Overlook Seal Gardens.

It is now under the management of Golden West Lodge No. 86, I. B. P. O. E. of W. The grounds are provided with a pavillion 60 feet by 90 feet. Picnic, Dining Room 50 feet by 90 feet, Barbecue Pits, Lunch Stands, Merry-go-rounds, Swings, Foot-ball ground, Lawn Tennis Court, Croquette, etc.

The park has plenty of shade, and is large enough to be just the place for a day's pleasure. No intoxicating drinks will be allowed on the premises. Hurry and select your date. For further information call Broadway 3851, or see J. B. Loving, 927 E. Twelfth street. The park is located on Long Beach car line.

Mr. J. W. Jones has reopened his dye works and tailoring establishment at 150 W. 35th street, where he will be pleased to meet all his old friends. Dyeing, cleaning and repairing promptly and thoroughly done. Work called for and delivered.

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### 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.

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GOOD THINGS TO EAT

**Flashes from the Furlong Tract**

Mr. J. E. Lattimore has removed to his recently purchased home on 54th street.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rodgers of 53rd street and his name is Booker T. Washington Rodgers.

The church social given at the home of the pastor Rev. Harrison H. Jones was a success in every way and a financial help to the church.

Mr. Purnell of Holmes Ave. continues to improve.

Dr. H. J. Hoare of the Seventh Day Adventist Church began a series of special services on Sunday evening, April 30th, 1911. Subject:—Perfect Health—How to Obtain It. All welcome.

Five or six boys who had their names on the Roll of Honor in Miss Orger's room will never forget the May day joy ride to Venice.

The Parent-Teachers Association held their regular meeting on the fourth Thursday in April.

The numbers rendered by the Misses Woolen, Turner and Craig were commendable. Miss Lavonia Craig was elected assistant chairman of the Program committee for the rest of the school term.

Another very important number was an article from Munsey's magazine read by Mrs. C. J. Smith, the title of which was "How to Make Children Mind" written by a Kindergartner in New York city. The discussions which followed the reading brought light to many mothers.

Miss Lillie, the principal, announced the school exhibit to be held on May 15th, at Ebell Club rooms and urged the mothers to attend. She also said that some of the work of our children had been selected for exhibition and many

of the mothers anticipate the joy of seeing it. And they will also attend the concert of five hundred voices which will be given on Thursday and Friday of the same week at Temple Auditorium.

At the next meeting Mrs. J. A. Wooten will read a paper for discussion entitled—Citizenship. Mrs. Julian W. Stacker, president. Mrs. C. J. Smith, secretary.  
*By Mrs. Julia W. Stacker.*

**Items of Local Interest**

If you are economizing, call at the Central Avenue Variety Mart—general merchandise. Prices to suit. 1209 Central Avenue.

Mr. Percy Butler of 1824 Montrose street, Philadelphia, a retired mechanic, is stopping at 2408 Hope street. He will be pleased to meet any old citizens of Philadelphia or persons who have friends there. He will spend a year in this city.

Mr. Claud Allen of 3509 Wabash avenue, Chicago, is spending a few days in the city.

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.

Mr. Howard Clemens of the Young Mens' Alliance of Pasadena was a visitor in the City last Sunday. He says the young men of his city are making progress along all lines.

**Buy Homes**

Elsewhere in this edition will be found the cards of Mitchell, Lewis and Williams, dealers in real estate. Instead of paying rent, go to one of these gentlemen and purchase you a home on the installment plan. A house that will rent for twelve dollars per month, can be purchased on the installment plan by paying fifteen dollars per month. By this it can easily be seen that the home will cost the man just three dollars a month.

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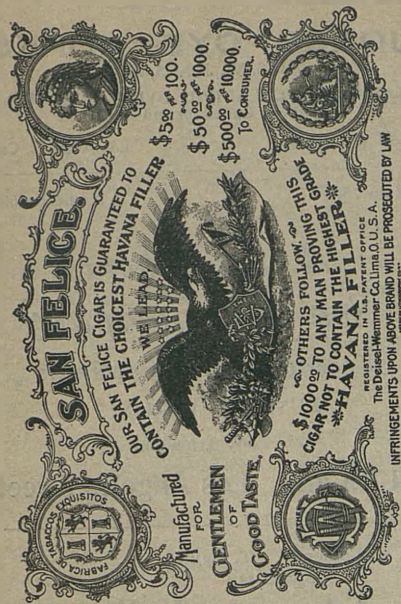
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### Fisk Needs A \$300,000 Endowment

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 5—  
An effort is being made by the trustees of Fisk University to raise a fund of \$300,000 for the general needs of the school. Of this sum the central education board has already given \$60,000. The trustees will make the following use of the money when raised: For heating, light, and laundry plant, \$50,000; repairs, equipment, etc., \$10,000; indebtedness (accumulated annual deficits), \$43,865.93; endowment, \$196,134.07. Fisk university is one of the oldest and best of the many colored educational institutions in the South. Its graduates have gone into all parts of the country. Professor W. E. Burghardt Du Bois is a graduate of the university. Booker T. Washington is a member of the board of trustees. About 500 students are enrolled. There are 35 acres on the campus, 14 buildings, and a plant worth \$367,662. The present endowment amounts to \$67,000. Among its 777 graduates are some of the most prominent men and

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women of the race. Fisk university was founded in 1867, its first quarters being an old army barracks. The Fisk jubilee singers won fame all over the country by efforts to raise funds for the school.

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