

The National Forum.

Subscription Rates:
 One Year.....\$1.00
 Six Months......50

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
 AT
 1022 You Street, N. W., Room 1.

RALPH W. WHITE,
 Editor and Proprietor.

JOHN H. WILLS,
 Business Manager.

C. L. BARNES,
 Special Agent.

Entered as second-class matter, May 27, 1910, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879.

Address all communications, checks and money orders to
 R. W. WHITE,
 1022 You Street, N. W.,
 Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 24, 1910

EDITORIALS

PULSATING POLITICS

The last week in political circles has given us food for thought. Reckoning from the viewpoint of the regulars, some were saved, some were lost. On the whole maybe we have gained, perhaps we have lost. Who can tell? The Ides of December will answer the query. Perhaps the defeat of Mr. Taft, chairman of the Appropriation Committee, causes the situation to loom up less distinctly with good results than any other thing during the week's happenings. To say the least, there have been seven days of real old-fashioned genuine politics, and the game may be said to be just fairly begun. If the matter ended with the question of defeat in the primaries we might feel some consolation. But we must not be unmindful of the fact that there are sores to be healed and political wounds to be saved. We are standing upon the threshold of a vast area of inquiry, and not the least among the many is, will the regulars, after having suffered defeat, give full strength to the Progressives and Insurgents that defeated them. There's the rub. And incidentally there may be the Democratic House. It is the hope of the Democracy at least. President Taft has gained ground in the last week because in some measure Mr. Roosevelt has lost. True, Mr. Roosevelt has many friends. It is correspondingly true that he has many enemies. Mr. Taft may not have a horde of admirers, but he has few really maliciously inclined enemies, and his late silence and steady equipoise under galling and provoking circumstances have shown the public another side of the man, bound his friends closer to him and strengthened the weak-kneed. If Mr. Roosevelt is grooming for 1912, the President's beautifully golden silence in the face of that grooming may not be of sufficient power to renominate him, granting that he desires it, but it may act as a lever that may pry the props from under the Colonel. Dark horses frequently win, and there is always somewhere in the stable a dark horse.

A STUDY IN INCONSISTENCY

Advertisements are being run in all the papers to the effect that the Jeffries-Johnson pictures may be seen at a point just outside the District and for white people only. Ye gods, talk of inconsistency, incongruity and all the other "ins" and "cons," but here is the heights of them all added together. A short time since, only a short time since preachers would be moral reformers, the Commissioners of the District here and officials the country over pointed out the shocking, huge, ponderous evil that would result from such display. Gross, coarse, vulgar, inhuman and a thousand other things were said of it. White papers (and those of our own city, too,) advised that it was a discredit rather than a credit to our race, and that we should look upon the new champion with eyes askance, and just here a little later the form only of the law is evaded, all of this high moral sentiment either thrown aside or forgotten, and the very thing they

say ought not to be is wheeled up to their door just outside and they invite their own and clan to come out and view what they claimed was even too vile for us to set eyes upon, yet claim their superiority over us as a race. Note that ladies are especially invited. Here is a man who will sneak out his back door to witness the result of a defeat of his race variety (and mark you they raised the race issue in the matter, not we), but he can't stand to be seen looking at it or to let you see it. Not a preach has been preached against this; not a sermon sermonized; no moral crusade has been inaugurated against this, nor any edict issued against it. How will our daily papers explain their position that it was against public policy two months ago and their absolute silence on it now? Is it possible that they are game enough to witness this reproduction of the defeat of the white race and yet not enough so to let us have just one little peep? It was said Jack had a streak of yellow, but we are constrained to ask after the manner of Chanler to his brother, "Whose yaller now?"

THE KNOCKER

Don't be a knocker. Be a booster. Don't be a pessimist, but an optimist. Don't bewail your fate, but conquer it. Don't envy your brother, but strive to be as good as he and get as much. Don't find fault; seek good. Faults will expose themselves. Don't be hoggish; be liberal. Don't curse your luck; stop and see if you didn't bring it on yourself. Don't get in the parade unless you can keep step; be a spectator rather. Don't think you are right and everybody else is wrong. Be cheerful, smile anyhow, whether you feel like it or not. Try it, it helps others and helps you as well. Don't think you are under a spell of bad luck, for the world is the best paymaster yet, and gives to every man all he is worth in the end—not a penny more, not a penny less.

Sues Town for Race Riot

Negro Who Got Ten Years, but Was Freed on Appeal, Sues \$100,000

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 10.—One of the most unique cases in the history of race riots was presented today when Samuel L. Burton, colored, of Onancock, Va., entered suit for \$100,000 against the town of Onancock and the board of supervisors of Accomack county for damages to him in 1907.

Burton claims that his business, amounting to \$10,000 a year, was broken up as a result of a riot which occurred in Onancock August 10, 1907. He charges that the authorities aided in the riot and caused him to spend almost a year in jail before he was finally acquitted of a charge of murder, as a result of his appeal to the Superior Court of Virginia from a sentence of 10 years in the penitentiary.

Mr. H. C. Smith Advocates a Circuit for All Colored Picture Shows

Mr. H. C. Smith, the enterprising manager and part owner of the Blue Mouse, has called a meeting of all of the owners of the different moving-picture theaters in town, and intends submitting to them a plan whereby a circuit, not only in this city, but in all of the cities lying in direct line—say, such as New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Richmond—could be supplied with attractive talent, and at a decided advantage to the public as well as to the managers. This plan, if consummated, will put new talent in town weekly, and in all probability the contract would bind the actors to cover the circuit, and thereby insure a constant stream of talent to be coming weekly to each city of entirely different variety.

Mr. Smith is a thoroughly up-to-date business man, and understands the situation, having gone into the study of it quite extensively since engaging in this enterprise of his own.

Mr. Samuel T. Henry, commander of the James A. Buchanan Garrison, Army and Navy Union, has returned from Delaware City, Del., where he has been spending the summer with his family.

IN SOCIETY'S REALM

Conducted by MISS MARY CURTIS

Mrs. Connelly of Atlanta, Ga., is spending a few days in the city.

Mrs. Caroline of Arkansas is visiting in the city this week.

Mrs. Bowman of Pittsburgh, Pa., is here on a short visit.

Mr. Pierce of Cincinnati, Ohio, passed through the city this week.

Mrs. Johnson of Auburn, N. Y., spent a few days in the city this week after attending the B. M. C. in Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Parker of Auburn, N. Y., spent a few days in the city after attending the B. M. C. in Baltimore.

Mr. Carlyle of Syracuse, N. Y., made a short visit to this city this week.

Mrs. T. M. Moore, treasurer of the Federation of Women's Clubs, has been the guest of Mrs. I. N. Ross of 1444 Q street N. W. Mrs. Moore addressed the Mite Missionary Society of the Metropolitan A. M. E. Church on Monday evening. Mrs. Moore will leave in a few days for her home in Allegheny, Pa.

Rev. A. M. Starkey of Boston, Ga., was the guest of Rev. I. N. Ross last Sunday.

Rev. A. Murray, brother of Mr. Emanuel Murray, the caterer, made a short visit to this city during the week. Rev. Murray is pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church of Philadelphia, Pa.

Rev. H. H. Williams of Albany, Ga., visited the city last Sunday.

Mr. Wilson of Portsmouth, Va., spent a few days in the city with his son, Mr. DeWitt Wilson.

Mr. Williams of Muncie, Ind., spent a few days in the city this week.

Mr. James M. Warren of Chicago, Ill., passed through the city this week.

By arrangement with Corresponding Secretary R. W. Thompson and President Garnet C. Wilkinson, Bethel Literary and Historical Association has set apart an evening with the National Negro Press Association, at which time many phases of journalistic work will be discussed and interest in the development of Negro newspapers will be stimulated.

A Washington press club, made up of the editors, publishers and correspondents residing in this city, is to be organized soon as an auxiliary to the National Negro Press Association. Such an organization has long been needed. The enthusiasm of the local newspaper workers for their cause was amply demonstrated last month when the National Negro Press Association, in conjunction with the local business organizations, "pulled off" the most interesting and successful banquet held in the capital in many years.

Miss Minnie Brown, the popular prima donna and dramatic expressionist, who has been filling a successful engagement at Ford Dabney's Theater, sustained a painful accident last week while out driving. The horse became frightened by a steam-roller near the Soldiers' Home, and shying suddenly, turned the buggy over, throwing Miss Brown and her companion to the ground. Although suffering considerably, Miss Brown sang as usual at the theater. This week she is appearing at the Foraker Theater on 21st street, and repeating her up-town triumph, taking four and five encores nightly.

Miss Clarice Wright, who made such a hit last week at Dabney's in her artistic Spanish dances, left for New York Sunday night, but will probably return to become a member of the Howard Theater Stock Company.

Mr. Joseph H. Douglass, the eminent violinist, has purchased a beautiful home on Florida avenue, near 16th street, and will make this city his permanent headquarters. Mr. Douglass will shortly undertake an extended Southern tour, accompanied by his talented wife, who is a pianist and dramatic reader of

note. She was formerly Miss Fannie A. Howard, an Atlanta belle.

Miss Henrietta Vinton Davis, the race's premier elocutionist, is planning to give an elaborate presentation of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in connection with the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of its author, Harriet Beecher Stowe, next June. Miss Davis will enact the emotional role of "Eliza Harris," and it is expected that the veteran Sam Lucas will be prevailed upon to appear as "Uncle Tom," in which part he scored a tremendous success all over the country several years ago. The movement for the observance of Mrs. Stowe's centenary is being fostered by Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, and is attracting nation-wide attention.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Stewart and little son, Glenn, of Indianapolis, Ind., were dinner guests last Saturday of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Thompson of 1918 11th street N. W. Mr. Stewart was formerly advertising manager of the *Indianapolis Freeman* and is now a clerk in the Census Office. Mrs. Stewart is here on a visit, but may make her stay permanent. She has been the recipient of much social attention since her advent here.

Captain Silas H. Johnson, captain of engineers of the city fire department of Denver, Col., was in the city last Saturday, the guest of Mr. John H. Paynter of the Internal Revenue Service, who also hails from the "Centennial State." Captain Johnson was en route homeward from Baltimore, where he attended the B. M. C.

It is asserted by those thought to be in a position to know that Mr. Whitfield McKinley, collector of customs at the port of Georgetown, will be confirmed without difficulty by the Senate when that body convenes in December.

The Order of St. Luke's Washington branch was established in 1902. It now has 38 councils and an aggregate membership of 2450. Mrs. Bessie B. Anderson is deputy and Rev. A. C. Garner is associate deputy.

Information reaches Washington that Architect J. A. Lankford and family are comfortably installed at Wilberforce University, and that Professor Lankford's new duties as instructor in mechanical arts are very congenial.

The Misses Thompson of Chicago have been visiting Miss Louise Blanche Wright.

Manager George W. Hamilton is presenting an unusually strong bill this week at Ford Dabney's popular theater. The bright and particular star is Princess Rajah, styled "the German-African songbird." The Princess is versatile, singing catchy songs in German, French and English, carrying through each the characteristics of the nationalities portrayed, closing with a humorous rendition of "colored people's grand opera"—rag-time. She is full of fun, coupled with real dramatic ability, and so well does she please all classes, she is taking four and five encores at every performance. James C. Moore does a side-splitting stunt as a "washerwoman," and after a witty monologue makes a rapid-fire change and brings down the house in an old-fashioned song and dance, reminiscent of the palmy days of Billy Kersands and his unctuous tribe. Miss Lizzie Taylor, a vocalist and dancer, is the third of the new faces appearing this week, and is proving a favorite with her mezzo-soprano voice, which she knows how to use to advantage.

The Hiawatha Theater will open early in October and will offer a round of first-class vaudeville features. The stage is to be enlarged and ample dressing rooms will be provided. The house is to be renovated throughout and an expenditure of \$3000 in repairs is planned.

That perennial favorite, T. Spencer Finley, will be on deck and will renew his triumphs of last season, when he appeared night after night for ten months, growing in popularity each week.

Ford Dabney's "That's Why They Call Me Shine" is being played at the Minnehaha by George E. Battle, and Tim Brynm's "Rubbernecking Moon" is getting a "hand" there also. "The Smart Set's" catchy music will not soon be forgotten by the delighted Washingtonians.

Mr. Horace D. Slatter, the well-known general correspondent, was in town this week. He had been attending the B. M. C. at Baltimore. Mr. Slatter is recording secretary of the National Negro Press Association, and will proceed with the compilation of the minutes of the New York and the Louisville sessions of the organization for publication.

Prof. W. A. Joiner, formerly of Howard University, has assumed charge of the Normal Department at Wilberforce University.

The next international council of the Knights Templar will be held in Washington in September, 1912. The session of the present year was held recently in Detroit.

Mr. W. R. Griffin has been attending the meeting of the Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers at Richmond, Va. He was re-elected chief of the Washington Division, representing 5000 True Reformers, and placed on the executive board of the Order. He declined the vice-presidency, which was tendered him. Chief Griffin's report shows that in the past two years over \$70,000 had passed through his hands without a single error.

Armstrong Manual Training School, of which Dr. W. Bruce Evans is principal, is to teach aviation, and will have a class for the development of "chauffeurs of the air" this year.

The public schools opened Monday with a record-breaking attendance. The figures are as follows: White high schools, 3201; colored high schools, 1245; normal school No. 1 (white), 197; normal school No. 2 (colored), 162; white grade schools, 26,330; colored grade schools, 11,435; total enrollment, 1910, 45,570. Total colored enrollment, 11,842. More will enter as soon as the order for vaccination is complied with. The colored attendance should reach upwards of 13,000.

Miss Mae Irwin, assistant superintendent of nurses at Freedmen's Hospital, is making a splendid record, and Dr. W. A. Warfield, surgeon-in-chief, is gratified over his good fortune in having such a capable and efficient helper in charge of this important branch of his department. Miss Irwin is a graduate of one of the leading schools for nurse training in Chicago. Her unflinching tact, patience and executive ability, together with her courteous treatment of all with whom she comes into contact, have earned for her a popularity that guarantees her a successful administration.

Former Senator Foraker of Ohio was in the city a few days last week, looking the picture of health. He will take part in the Ohio campaign in support of Harding for Governor, and will make the welkin ring in his pristine style. He is optimistic about the chances of Republican success, but admits that things are somewhat "mixed."

ELITE COLUMN

Conducted by W. PRESTON BAYLESS, 1915 6th Street N. W.

Miss Daisy Watson, 938 Tea street N. W., is visiting in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Prof. David Houston, formerly of Cambridge, Mass., who has been teaching the high schools of Baltimore, has accepted a position in the Armstrong Manual Training School. Professor Houston is a graduate of

Harvard University. He will be a very valuable acquisition to the teaching force of the Capital City.

Mrs. H. C. Tyson and daughters, Misses May and Pearl, have just returned from Arundel-on-the-Bay, where they spent the summer.

The B. M. C. ball in Baltimore on last Thursday night in the auditorium at the Lyric Theater was one of the most unique affairs of the season. There were nearly two thousand present and the ladies wore very beautiful and attractive gowns.

Washingtonians were very much in evidence. Among those present were: Grand Master and Mrs. W. L. Houston, Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Curtis, Dr. and Mrs. A. V. Gray, ex-Recorder of Deeds and Mrs. J. C. Dancy, Recorder of Deeds and Mrs. Henry Lincoln Johnson, Mr. Starling, Misses Clotilde Houston and Lucille Nooks, Assistant District Attorney J. C. Cobb, Messrs. John N. Goins, H. T. Morris, U. L. Houston, O. Randolph, W. Davis, G. H. Forrest, W. Clifford, Dan Freeman, J. Wilkerson, Masters C. H. Houston and E. Hays.

The grand march was led by Grand Master W. L. Houston and wife. Mrs. Houston wore a very handsome black satin gown, trimmed in jet applique and baby Irish lace. Mrs. A. M. Curtis wore an apricot satin gown with a black lace coat and large black picture hat. Dr. A. V. Gray wore a black-spangled net over Persian silk. Another very attractive feature of the ball was that the men were attired in uniform. The Patriarchs marching in to receive the prizes for the competitive drill was a spectacle of splendor. Philadelphia won the first prize of \$100. Washington the second of \$50. Supper was served in the basement from tables bright with autumnal flowers and foliage. During the intermission the Metropolitan Orchestra, of which Mr. Henry J. Anderson is director, rendered several pleasing selections. The program consisted of eighteen well-arranged and selected pieces of popular music, which made one feel that he had absolutely drifted into "Fairy Land." Several requested numbers were very graciously rendered.

Dr. and Mrs. Lofton and daughter spent two weeks in Atlantic City and Plainfield, N. J.

Miss Ethel Highwarden has recently been appointed to the teaching force of the M Street High School.

Miss Miriam Wormley has been appointed as a teacher in the city schools.

Hon. Ralph W. Tyler has been indisposed for two weeks. The many friends of the Auditor of the Navy wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Houston of Cambridge, Mass.; Mr. David Houston of Baltimore, and Miss Milbourne of Plymouth, Mass., were the guests of Mrs. T. J. Houston last week.

Mr. William Willhoit of Beuna, Va., was visiting friends in the city last Monday and Tuesday.

Miss Cora Hawkins, 1910 4th street, is visiting in Pittsburgh, Pa. Miss Hawkins will go to Toronto, Canada, before she returns to the city.

Miss Ocea Brooks spent the summer visiting friends in Saratoga, N. Y., and Orange, N. J.

Mr. James Black of Louisville, Ky., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Slaughter.

Masters C. H. Houston, Claude and Clifton Johnson, of Mobile, Ala., visited in New York City a few days last week.

Mr. J. Sherman Hamnicutt, leader of the Wilberforce Orchestra, was out of the city a few days last week in the interest of his orchestra.

Rev. A. Robinson, A. B., from Sparta, Ga., passed through the city en route from Baltimore, where he had been attending the B. M. C.

J. H. Wiggins of Sparta, Ga., paid us a pleasant call last week. Mr. Wiggins was a delegate to the Odd Fellows' meeting.

Rev. Reuben Seely, D. D., P. E., who is superintendent of the A. M. E. Missions at Bridgetown, Barbadoes Island, is in the city in the interest of his school.

Mr. William R. Beverly, who has been spending some time in Kentucky, is in the city again, and his many friends are glad to see him back.

Mrs. Ada Goins visited her cousin, Mrs. Hairston Kenilworth of 4506 Polk street N. E., this week. Mrs. Goins was a delegate to the True Reformers' meeting at Richmond, Va., and stopped over en route to her home in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Attorney Armond W. Scott has lately purchased a fine residence on 11th street between T and U streets N. W.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert B. Montgomery will be very pleased to see their friends at their home, 308 L street N. W. They celebrated their marriage August 24 last. Mrs. Montgomery was formerly Miss Nellie Williams of New Haven, Conn.

Mr. Henry P. Slaughter, the newly-elected editor and manager of the *Odd Fellows' Journal*, will not take hold at Philadelphia until about January 1. For nearly twenty years Mr. Slaughter has held a responsible position in the Government Printing Office, and is a master of the art typographical.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brooks have lately returned from Atlantic City, where they have both been spending a very pleasant month's vacation. Mr. Brooks says that the gay burgh by the sad sea waves is just as gay, lively and frivolous as always, and the only noticeable difference in the place is "the increased cost of living." Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are both very much improved in appearance and health.

The moving show theaters are improving their bills each week, and now one can see the very best moving pictures, as well as an act or two of up-to-date vaudeville, for five or ten cents an evening.

Dr. J. Madison Fraction and Dr. Sumner G. Holmes have removed their offices from LeDroit Park and are now pleasantly located at 327 G street S. W. They have fine prospects for a good practice in their present field.

Mrs. Hopkins and Mrs. Crows of New York, after attending the B. M. C. in Baltimore, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Honesty of 13th street. The ladies enjoyed our beautiful roads and drives very highly.

Mr. Will Vodery, the talented musical director, is preparing "The Sunny South Comedy," a musical vaudeville act, which, after showing in America eight weeks, will play return engagements in London for two months, and then go to Berlin, Paris and the principal continental cities of the Continent. Mr. Vodery is an earnest student of musical art, and we may expect great things of him in the near future.

Dr. Booker T. Washington in North Carolina

Charlotte, N. C., Sept. 21.—Dr. Booker T. Washington will make a tour of the State of North Carolina, beginning October 28 and ending November 3. The details of the itinerary will be worked out by Bishop George W. Clinton of the A. M. E. Zion Church, who is a resident of Charlotte. Due announcement of the particulars will be made.

Similar tours have been made through the States of Mississippi, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Connecticut and Delaware, and they have been largely instrumental in promoting a spirit of sympathetic cooperation between the races at every point visited. R. W. T.