



THE APPEAL

A National Afro-American Newspaper

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1914.

THE ONLY SOLUTION.

Recently at the Church of England Congress at Southampton, Sir Sidney Olivier, who was governor of Jamaica from 1907 to the end of 1912, put forward the claim that no solution of the American color question was possible except by a resolute disclaimer of the color line and the race differentiation theory.

Sir Sidney Olivier certainly knows what he is talking about. In the Island of Jamaica, where he was governor for five years, there are about 800,000 colored people and only 20,000 whites and yet there is absolutely no friction between the races. Jamaica is a British colony and the government is just. Colored men enjoy every civil and political right which white men have and there is no color line.

Among other things Sir Sidney said: "My study and comparison of conditions in the United States and the West Indies," he said, "has brought me to that conclusion. American and colonial politicians and public men are not Exeter Hall abolitionists nor evangelical Christian missionaries. I do not expect them to adopt the methods of missionaries, nor do I sympathize with all their programmes. But it cannot be ignored that it happened that the faiths of the men who laid the foundations for the peaceful development of the mixed community in Jamaica were democratic and humanitarian and, above all, uncompromisingly Christian.

PROTEST AGAINST WRONG.

To submit in silence when we should protest makes cowards out of men.

The human race has climbed on protest.

Had no voice been raised against injustice, ignorance and lust; the iniquity yet would serve the law, and guillotines decide our last disputes.

The few who dare, must speak and speak again to right the wrongs of many.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

national life, but race difference is only one of many schismatic agencies. The solution of the difficulty involves discipline for the white man as well as the black."

JUSTICE, NOT OFFICES.
The Detroit Informer comes out in defense of President Wilson and thinks that the Anti-Segregation Delegation which presented a monster petition bearing the signatures of 20,000 Afro-Americans acted hastily.

The Informer further says that there "are other questions of more importance pending engrossing his (the President's) attention than the appointment of members of the race to office."
THE APPEAL believes that it is always right to protest against wrong and injustice and the time to protest is when the wrongs and injustices are being perpetrated. The President is the head of the Nation and he does not need the assistance of a single person to stop segregation. It would not matter if every member of Congress objected to his decision, a single word from him would stop it instantly.

THE APPEAL has read the petition, Mr. Trotter's speech as chairman of the delegation, and all the matter pertaining to the petition and there is not one word about the appointment of Afro-Americans to office. The object of the petition is to end a condition of affairs which is a disgrace to a country which calls itself a Christian democracy.

The Informer seems to be very much worried about appointment to office but that is of little consequence in comparison to the greater question whether caste is to be introduced into this country and if Afro-Americans are to be appointed to office with the understanding that they are to segregate their employes THE APPEAL does not hesitate to say that a colored man who would accept any appointment with such conditions attached would be lower than the vilest reptile that crawls upon the earth.

It is of course proper then that President Wilson should give the Afro-American representation in presidential offices and that matter should be taken up later, but the matter now in hand is segregation and that is the matter to be handled first.

The 20,000 Afro-Americans who have joined together to agitate this question of inequality and wrong are fighting for a great principle. We want justice, not offices.

It seems that there is at least one white man in the world who is of the opinion that the day is not far distant when the boasted superiority of the white man will only be a remembrance. Dr. A. Luce, who for 16 years has been a resident of China and is now president of the Presbyterian College at Shan Tung, China, addressed the students at Macalester College this week and among other things said:

"In 100 years or less, because of the wealth of raw material, because of the fiber of the people, China will be the dominant nation of the world intellectually, politically and economically."
It is a good thing that the Doctor was in Minnesota when he made this statement; had he been south of Mason and Dixon's line, there would have been a lynching.

THE APPEAL reprints in this issue a portion of the article on "The President and Segregation at Washington," which appeared in the North American Review for December. In it, Oswald Garrison Villard, the author, who is a grandson of the great abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, takes the Wilson Administration to task for the great injustice of trying to establish caste in the republic. Every reader of THE APPEAL ought to purchase a copy of the North American Review, read the

SCORES SEGREGATION

Oswald Garrison Villard, Grandson of William Lloyd Garrison, Writes a Strong Article for the North American Review, in Which He Takes President Wilson to Task for His Administration's Injustice to Afro-Americans.

"It is as if the Great Government of the United States had Gone Out of Its Way to Stamp Them Publicly as Lepers, as Physically and Morally Contagious and Unfit for Association with White People.

"Wittingly or Unwittingly the Wilson Administration has Allied Itself with the Forces of Reaction, and Put Itself on the Side of Every Oppressor, of Every Perpetrator of Racial Injustice in the South or the North.

"To Suppress Any Group of Human Beings, or to Deny Them Full Equality is to Court Disaster. For Each Depression There is Certain to Come a Terrible Reckoning."

On October 16, 1912, Woodrow Wilson, then the Democratic nominee for President, declared that: "Should I become President of the United States, they (the colored people) may count upon me for absolute fair dealing and for everything by which I could advance the interests of their race in the United States." This utterance gave complete satisfaction to those leaders of the colored people and the friends of the race who were urging them to the Republican party and to vote for the Governor of New Jersey on the ground that the country would profit most by the election of the Democratic ticket. Qualified observers believe that many more colored men voted the Democratic ticket in 1912 than ever before.

It was with dismay, therefore, that early in the Administration of Mr. Wilson, whose Cabinet is equally divided between Southerners and Northerners, there became noticeable in certain quarters a distinct hostility to the colored people. For a long time no appointments were made by the President. Then he nominated Adam E. Patterson of Oklahoma for the position of Register of the Treasury, a place long held by colored men. Patterson's nomination was far beyond any protests from the most violent negroophobes in the Senate; Senators like Hoke Smith of Georgia, Vardaman of Mississippi, Tillman of South Carolina, and others, declaring that Patterson should not be confirmed, or any other colored man, for an office which would put him over white women clerks. With abject cowardice Patterson rushed to the White House and demanded that his name be withdrawn. Unwilling at this time to meet the issue thus raised, Mr. Wilson consented to his request, unlike Presidents Cleveland and Roosevelt, who, under similar circumstances, put the responsibility on the Senate by continuing to nominate the colored candidates for office and when the Senate was not in session, when the Senate was not in session, when the Senate was not in session.

When a group of citizens holds so few Federal offices as do the colored people, each one takes on a significance far beyond any question of salary or powers that may be attached to it. This is particularly true of the posts of Minister to Hayti and San Domingo. Not one of the stock Southern objections to Negro appointments holds here; these ministers are accredited to foreign countries, and the bogie of social equality cannot be raised. Under Mr. Wilson both of these posts have gone, temporarily, it is said, and doubtless for reasons satisfactory to Mr. Bryan, to white men. The colored people are disappointed this as notice from the Federal Government, under whose flag they have fought in every war, under whose aegis they are working, which struck their fetters from their limbs, should now take the side of the oppressors in the year of the fiftieth anniversary of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation—this is what hurts and rankles beyond all else. Is it any wonder that one of the leaders of the race of national renown writes that he has never seen his people so discouraged and so demoralized as to-day?

They rightly declare—as must every fair-minded man free from prejudice—that this spells caste. They believe that it is intended to drive them out of the public service by rendering it intolerable for Negroes with self-respect; they assert that one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Treasury has already held up the promotion of two colored clerks because of their color. Segregation is, beyond doubt, an entering wedge, and here is the chief significance of it all. Let a precedent be established, and who shall say what the outcome will be to what lengths despotic officials will take their way by means of discrimination, intimidation, by aboveboard or underhand methods? Who shall prophesy to what extent this caste division will be established in the decades to come? If colored people can thus be set apart contrary to the spirit of the civil-service law and of the Constitution itself, why not others—Jews, for instance?

Indeed, it may come to pass that Mr. Wilson will go down to history as the man who set in motion terrible forces for evil without adequate conception or prevision of the dangers he was inviting.

And his philosophy, if he remains silent and segregates further, will be wrong, his democracy gravely at fault; he has given us beautiful and worthy sentiments in his book called "The New Freedom," and in his various speeches prior to and since his election to the Presidency. But nowhere thus far do we find any indication that his democracy is not limited both by the sex line and the color line. He falls utterly to see that to discriminate in his democracy against any one is to bring his whole carefully reared edifice crashing to the ground. The principles upon which our democracy rests must apply to everybody without discrimination, as exactly as a law of science, or they are open to doubt at once. Thus, we should not believe in the law of gravitation if it did not apply alike to every human being; we should not think very much of Mr. Marconi's wireless invention if he could transmit only the first half of the alphabet and not the last. It avails the apologists for the President not at all to say that "The New Freedom" applies only to political and economic problems, for what is the whole race problem but an economic and political

(Continued on Fourth Page)

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WANTED, A SAMARITAN.

Prone in the road he lay.
Wounded and sore bestead:
Priests, Levites past that way,
And turned aside the head.

They were not hardened men
In human service slack:
His need was great: but then
His face, you see, was black.

From the New York Independent.

RACE PREJUDICE.

I am convinced myself that there is no more evil thing in this present world than Race Prejudice; none at all. I write deliberately—it is the worst single thing in life now. It justifies and holds together more baseness, cruelty and abomination than any other sort of error in the world. Through its body runs the black blood of coarse lust, suspicion, jealousy and persecution and all the darkest poisons of the human soul.

—H. G. Wells in N. Y. Independent.