

THE MONTANA PLAINDEALER.

Published Weekly by The Montana Plaindealer Company.

J. B. BASS, EDITOR.
Subscription \$2.00 per year, Strictly in Advance. Advertising Rates on Application.

Application made for entering the Helena Post Office as Second Class Mail Matter.

Address all Communications to The Montana Plaindealer, 21 South Main Street, Helena, Montana.

Low and Unmanly.

We have it from the very best authority that one of our prominent citizens is circulating a petition or paper of some sort around among the colored citizens for their signatures, denouncing some other colored citizen through the public press.

We do not believe, in the first place, that the colored citizens of Helena as a mass are in that kind of business; they are too intelligent and too manly to resort to such tactics.

Who ever heard of denouncing a man who was aspiring to no position except to hustle in the business world by petition.

It is so absurd as to be ridiculous, and the peddler of this petition should forever hang his head in shame. We do not believe that a mission will meet with any respectable degree of success, and if it is so, for it would only show to the world how strong a prejudice and ignorance and superstition on a people who are supposed to have thrown the same aside.

Such cowardly and unmanly tricks deserve the severest censure from all intelligent men and women, for the same can only bring upon our people ignominious shame and disgrace.

Who Owns The Plaindealer.

The mooted question with some of the knockers and wisecrackers, after they saw that the establishment of one more enterprise by which the colored people could accrue the credit, we predicted would be as to how long we could live, but we now understand that they have sprung entirely a new tact—"And that is as to who owns THE PLAINDEALER.

Now, while we do not think this should concern the average members of our race so long as they are an organ through which their needs of the questions which frequently arise can be put before the public.

In order that these investigators may know the details, we affirm that the name that appears at the top of this paper is the sole proprietor, manager, and absolutely in every way is responsible for the MONTANA PLAINDEALER.

Further details can be furnished on application. If we had needed five hundred dollars more we possessed in establishing it for any other enterprise, of course we would be allowed to go to someone to borrow who knew we was in sympathy with a movement which could not help be of benefit to the race. We would naturally be allowed that range now we may have that—but for particulars as to what call at our office, or look up our records.

We have here about a \$3,000, we possibly borrowed a little, a little, etc. But anyhow, for particulars call at the PLAINDEALER.

As to Vernon Graye.

Learned on last Friday that in parties in this city were circulating a petition or paper which reflect on the above-named man; ordinarily we would pay no attention to a matter of

this kind, but this is being done so publicly, and for the purpose of publicly discrediting a race man we cannot refrain from a few lines of comment.

In the first place the parties who are circulating this petition or paper, or attempting to do so are bringing on themselves only ridicule and contempt.

As we understand it Graye is no applicant for society or political honors nor does he aspire to leadership. He does not attempt to mingle outside of his sphere. He caters to all the trade he can command in his line of business. He is a resident, and part and parcel of Clore St. He has chosen that line of business, and attends to the same.

We can conceive of no circumstance whereby we would enter such business, and we know that Mr. Graye's advice to all young men looking up a business opening is to go into something else than the saloon business.

So be that as it may, Mr. Graye is a resident of Helena, a real estate holder, and pays a revenue into the county and city treasury of Helena which gives him a standing among the business element, and that should be a source of pride to all race men.

And the only source of regret should be that we have not got more men in the various lines of business than Mr. Graye and Mr. Dorsey.

If we cannot help a man in the line of business of Mr. Graye, we can stand off and say: "I admire the hustling qualities of the man, and wish him well."

We know of our own personal knowledge and experience Mr. Graye's devotion and zeal for his race, and the same commends him to us more than any other quality. We do not know of a race cause that ever appealed to him for assistance in vain.

In starting this publication he has been one of our best customers, having taken more advertising space than any other firm.

Aside from the great number of colored men he gives employment at his place on Clore St., he maintains the finest shining parlor, tailor and barber shop in the city where every man regardless of color, race or previous condition of servitude may be served.

What the race needs in all parts of this country instead of censuring someone who is doing something, is more men like him. It was reported to President Lincoln once by some of the Generals who disliked and envied General Grant, that Grant should be dismissed from the army; when asked by Mr. Lincoln what for, they said that Grant drank whiskey and got drunk. Lincoln answered these envious generals by asking them what brand of whiskey it was that Grant used, and on being told, he recommended that all the generals procure some of that whiskey and get drunk on it and maybe they could win some battles as Grant had done.

So we say to the ones who are circulating a petition against Mr. Graye, you should petition for about a dozen more Grayes in this community, and you will see the stock of the race to which we belong rise 100 points in the business world.

St. James church sewing circle met Thursday at the residence of Mrs. H. J. Baker, 818 Breckenridge street. After the regular routine of business of the circle the following menu was served: Potatoe salad, Cold pork, Dill pickles, Boiled eggs, Hot biscuit, Coffee and cream, Raspberries and cake. The following were present: Mesdames Bramwell, Harrison, H. Meeks, C. J. Johnson, Ford, B. F. Harper, L. Napper, Cole, Rev. and Mrs. Allen, Miss Minnie Johnson, J. R. Johnson. The next meeting will be held next Thursday at the parsonage.

Race News.

To the colored people of Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and other Southern States:

We are in receipt of a communication from Mr. W. G. Byrd, 675 Hood St. Portland, Ore., who says that excellent opportunities are now offered for progressive colored men and women who wish to improve their opportunities. There is great demand for them, as the white people of that section of the country are getting tired of Japs and Chinamen; they do not want anything but progressive and industrious colored men and women. No loafer or those who idle the year around need look towards Oregon, as the laws are very strict against that class and are rigidly enforced.

It strikes us very forcibly the colored people of these states who wish to better their condition should go to a state like Oregon, where the laws are more equally interpreted. The schools are mixed, the laws are administered according to justice, and seldom, if ever, do the people judge by the color when it comes to business. Take advantage of the opportunity and scatter over the great Northwest.—Topeka Plaindealer.

The above applies to Montana also and all information desired can be secured by addressing The Montana Plaindealer, 21 S. Main Street, Helena, Mont.

H. T. Calloway, of New Orleans, has established a mail order tailoring business in Chicago, with offices for gentlemen and ladies, and is doing a large business in South and Southwest, giving employment to 16 Afro-American traveling men. He ships over 5,000 suits a year.

Thomas J. Emery in his \$50,000 charitable gifts to the Cincinnati fresh air fund bequeaths \$4,000 to the colored orphans of Vondale, and to archbishop of Ohio in aid of any Catholic institution for the care of the aged and children, provided none are excluded on account of creed or color, \$5,000.

The supreme court has received instruction to prepare the necessary papers for an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States in the Bud Cartwright case from Coffeyville, Kas. Cartwright, a colored man, brought mandamus proceedings to compel the board of education to allow his daughter to attend school with white children. The Court decided in favor of Cartwright.

The appeal to the Supreme Court will tie the thing up long enough for the next legislature to pass a law similar to the Kansas City separate high school law, which has been held to be constitutional by the Supreme Court.

It is rather a peculiar circumstance that both of the decisions of the Kansas supreme court on the question of separate schools for whites and negroes will go to the U. S. supreme court. In the Kansas City case, the right of the board of education to proceed under a state law and provide a separate school for colored children was sustained; in the Coffeyville case, the right of the board to provide separate schools without such a law was denied. Both cases are to be appealed.

Last Friday night Prof. W. R. Richards conducted an enormous mass meeting of the people of District of Columbia to protest the outrage conditions in the South.

The Denver mint has seven colored people employed out of about 125.

A bill was offered last week in Mississippi to legalize lynching.

The Postal Telegraph and Western Union of Chattanooga, Tenn., have employed colored boys exclusively. Splendid results are already being evinced.

The colored waiters of the St. James of Baltimore have flatly refused to serve the representatives of the "Clansmen."

Editor Clement of the Boston Transcript says that America's future artists will come from the Negro race.

The colored citizens of Boston have protested against the state of Massachusetts giving one cent of money for a building and exhibits in Jamestown Exposition unless the officials give a written guarantee that Negroes will not be discriminated against. Giles B. Jackson and the Development Co. favor being jim crowed by the announcement in the papers.

L. Garland Penn, the corresponding secretary of the Negro Young People's Christian and Educational Congress has sent out notices that the organization will meet next July in Washington, D. C.

Next May, in Springfield, Ill., a convention will be called for the purpose of electing colored men to office and for the improvement of the race. The members consisting of the leading Negroes, have invited Booker T. Washington, to participate.

Messrs. Cole and Johnson are authors of a new military drama to be first presented in Europe thru America.

Yes, To Be Sure.

A few days ago we noticed a query in the Butte Evening News as to whether there had ever been a colored man to hold a seat in the U. S. Senate.

The news answered very properly that there was, and that B. K. Bruce was the man.

The News could have stated further that Hiram R. Revels was also a colored man, who was a member of the U. S. Senate he having succeeded Jefferson Davis.

Pull Together.

The dissension among our people over things of a trivial nature are the shoals over which our hopes and ambitions for the race founder.

Suppose we all do our part toward discouraging this spirit, and it will be seen how quickly our stock will begin to rise.

Instead of belittling the efforts of our fellowmen to rise, lets do something ourselves, and when we can get more of the race to undertake business efforts the better it will be for the entire race.

If we have an organization amongst us which we feel as though we cannot endorse, lets not fight that organization, but rather build up another, and constantly do all the good you can. You cannot build a race or a people by knocking. Let's get together. To do so, we of necessity must lay aside envy, hate, ignorance and superstition.

We believe strictly in the proverb: "If you cannot say anything good of a person do not say anything."

We all commend the following: "If you speak well of a person speak it to others; if you have anything against a person speak it to him."

The Republicans Nominate Strong Municipal Ticket.

Mayor, F. S. P. Lindsay,
Treasurer, J. D. Gorkey,
Police Judge, Chas. Horn.

The above ticket was unanimously nominated at the Auditorium last night by the Republican City Convention.

It was a harmonious gathering of republicans who came together for the purpose of naming a ticket with which to march to certain victory on April 3d.

There were several colored delegates to the convention W. R. Dorsey elected from the Seventh Ward, and Edward Johnson elected from the first ward. David Gordon who was elected as an alternate from the Second Ward was made a delegate at the Convention, also L. V. Graye, who was an alternate from the Third Ward being present made a delegate.

Everything was, it seems, agreed to beforehand and of course the boys had nothing to do but look wise and vote.

Mr. Dorsey nominated the chairman of the convention. The Independent did not say in its report of the meeting who nominated him.

In our next issue we shall give an exhaustive resume of the candidates, and the consensus of opinion of the colored votes.

We never expect to abuse anyone through these columns, but we expect at every opportunity to snatch off of the wolf's face the sheep's mask, and show those who so parade in their true colors.

There never was a truer adage than: "A dog that will bring a bone will take one away."

GRANT COMMENTS IRELAND.

The Noted A. M. E. Bishop Praises the Great Catholic Leader for his Manliness.

(Topeka Plaindealer.)

In Archbishop John Ireland's speech of February 22, Kansas City, Mo., to an audience of ten thousand, among other things he said:

BE JUST TO THE NEGRO.

"The Negro we have and must keep. Let it never be forgotten that the Negro did not come hither of his own accord. Our own forefathers constrained him to emigrate from his African haunts to be their servant, their slave. Let it not be forgotten that the long servitude to which they had subjected him prevented him from growing in civilization, and aimed rather at reducing him to the low stages of animal life than uplifting him to the higher regions of spiritual thought and activity. Whatever difficulties there are in the Negro problem, we must say in all humility that they are of our own making. This is sufficient reason why we should bring to the solution of the problem good will and patience. The progress made by the Negro since their emancipation, forty years ago, is the happiest of omens and indicates that years will prove them to be fully worthy of our confidence and esteem. Let us be just to the Negro, according to him willingly the rights which the law guarantees to him, opening to him the avenues of industry and thrift, affording him all due facilities of education and self-education; let the Negro, on his part, make allowance for the conditions of the present, unavoidable legacies of the past, and trust in the future, meanwhile so upbuilding himself in self-control, in culture of mind and heart, in social independence that his fellow citizens must hold him in esteem—and the problem will have lost the asperities now seemingly in the way of final solution.

"Human society, under every form of government, is entering on a period of intense unrest in its search for solutions to those economic problems which are called forth by the spread of education and the material and industrial progress of modern times. The liberty of discussion which our institutions allow, and the fact that the populations of the world are parts of our own, warn us that the agitation of these problems will be especially acute in these United States."

BISHOP GRANT'S LETTER TO THE BISHOP AND HIS REPLY.

Most Rev. John Ireland, D. D., Archbishop, St. Paul, Minn.:

My Dear Sir: It was my pleasure to listen to that magnificent address delivered by you at Convention hall, February 22, Kansas City, Mo., and I cannot refrain from expressing to you my gratitude for the same.

It seemed to me that the address covered every phase of American life, truly patriotic, a plea for justice, honesty, civic righteousness and the liberty to which all people under the American flag are entitled.

When such men as Rev. Thomas Dixon, Governor Vardman, of Mississippi; Governor Davis, of Arkansas, and Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, are making strenuous efforts to convince the world of the unworthiness of the Negro and his inability to accept and appreciate a higher civilization, your plea to an audience of ten thousand for justice and fair treatment to him, came to my ear as a cooling spring to a thirsty soul. We have been waiting patiently for some time for one of the great men of our country, with national influence, to rise in the majesty of his manhood in the defense of a helpless people and simply state the facts with reference to this contingent of Americans, give counsel and advice and throw a new lustre upon the star of hope held out by President Roosevelt.

Eternity alone will make known the good you are doing along the lines above indicated, and on behalf of a grateful people I thank you.

Yours in Christian faith.

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 29.

Right Rev. Dear Sir: I am glad that you were pleased with my lecture in Kansas City and I thank you for your kind expressions of approval.

In what I said of the Negro problem I simply spoke what my sense of justice demands and what my heart certainly desires.

I believe that the solution of the Negro problem lies along the lines indicated by me—charity and patience both on the part of the white man and

on the part of the black man. Men in influential positions, such as you, can do very much towards the solution by upbuilding the Negro race and calming the prejudices of the white race.

Yours sincerely,

—John Ireland.

Right Rev. Abraham Grant.

WOMEN REQUIRED TO HUG AND KISS THEIR PASTOR.

Atlanta, March 3.—On the complaint of several husbands who thought he was too demagogic as "Apostle" of the new religion, Church of God, Saints of Christ, Alexander Dawson, who hails from the West Indies, has been arrested. One of the requirements of this latest religion among the negroes is that all female communicants must hug and kiss the pastor and elders of the church.

Dawson came to Atlanta about one year ago from Washington, D. C., where lives the "great prophet" of the new religion. Dawson tells his followers that the "great prophet" is the appointed of God. One of the requirements of the church is that each member shall contribute 10 per cent. of his or her earnings every week for the support of the "great prophet." The church also observes Saturday as the Lord's Day. The kissing feature of the religion has caused considerable consternation among the negroes.

All male members of the congregation are entitled to receive a kiss and hug from the female members, but they must seek them out, while the pastor stands in one corner of the church and receives the embraces of the faithful.

The above article is no new sensation, as we know of the same creed and sect in Kansas and other Western States which preach the above doctrine, only they are white leaders whose followers are both white and colored, and the sisters became so color blind that they chose only the colored brothers, and even these sainted followers of Christ would not stand for this, and in many places they have ceased to do business, and no longer call the colored man brother.

The Mentzel Murder Case.

The entire week in the District Court has been taken up with the Nora Mentzel murder trial.

The trial itself has been very sensational. In the first place the strong defense that was produced came like a thunder bolt from a clear sky to the prosecution, and the great machinery of the state was put in motion to rebut and break down this defense and County Attorney Lacroix has had a strenuous life ever since Attorney Odell McConnell made his opening address to the jury.

Ugly charges of perjury on the part of L. L. Grisson and Clover Smith, alias Bad Boy, have been made and warrants issued for their arrest.

The trial itself will close with the closing address to the jury which is being made by County Att'y Lacroix, as we go to press.

Mr. Spaulding opened the argument for the defense, his summing up of the case was a clear and concise analysis of the evidence and theory of the defense.

Mr. McConnell's address closing the argument on the part of the defense, was a masterly piece of eloquence and at the conclusion of his appeal for his client there was scarcely a dry eye in the court room.

The fate of the defendant is now in the hands of the jury. She has been most ably defended and it is for the jury to decide as to the evidence which they learned from the witnesses and the law as given to the court as to whether Nora Mentzel is guilty or innocent.

We note in the Topeka Plaindealer a wail from one of the delegates as to why Topeka did not get the 1906 meeting of the Colored Business Men's League. And it is the same old hard luck tale, perhaps if the Colored Business Men's representative of Topeka had patronized his own printing establishment, and their own genius in the various lines their matter would have reached them in New York more promptly.