

THE BYSTANDER

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Editorials

(By Mrs. Elbert R. Hall)

MR. HARDING AMERICAN

TWENTY-NINTH PRESIDENT

Warren G. Harding, is the first newspaper publisher and the first business man by occupation to serve as president of the United States. He is the twenty-ninth chief-executive, reckoning Cleveland's two terms as separate ones because he was the only president serving twice who was not re-elected.

Nineteen presidents were lawyers at the time they were elected. Three were classified as statesmen, two as soldiers, two as farmers, one as a public official. Mr. Harding might also fall within the class of statesmen, as he had served six years in the Senate when elected, and was the first senator to be elected president.

Virginia leads in the nativity of presidents. Eight of her sons—Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler, Taylor and Wilson—have held the highest office in the gift of the nation.

Ohio has given seven native sons to the presidency—Grand, Hayes, Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, McKinley, Taft and Harding.

Eighteen presidents have been college men, one was graduated from West Point, nine had no college education.

GILPIN INVITED.

It is worth recording that the Negro actor, Gilpin, who is one of the season's sensations in New York, and who was named by vote one of the ten who have done most for dramatic art in the last year, was invited with the other nine to the complimentary dinner of the Drama League and was handsomely received by the more than 600 guests who gathered at Hotel McAlpine. The World says in its report: "If any members refused to attend because of the presence of the black actor it was not apparent, for the number on hand was so large it became necessary to place twenty additional tables in the ballroom adjoining

the main banquet hall where the dinner proper was held."

Among the ardent champions of Gilpin was Gilda Varese, between whom and Lee Simonson of "Heartbreak House" he was seated. Miss Varese had said: "If you invite Gilpin I will be proud to sit behind him. If there is any place on earth where race should be permitted it is in the church and in art. God is God, and genius is genius, and race ought not to make a distinction."

At an informal conference of members and guests of the Civic club Gilpin talked on the Negro in America: "It is not a case of social equality, but of the brotherhood of man."

The New York Evening Post speaks of the matter editorially: "By a fine interpretation of a single role Mr. Gilpin has proved that the title of artist is his due. The Negro, famous for his mimic powers, ought to come to hold an esteemed place on the stage. Already the race has produced a comedian of talent in Bert Williams. Poets like Paul Laurence Dunbar and James Weldon Johnson; composers like Coleridge-Taylor of African birth, and Harry T. Burleigh; prose writers like Du Bois and Booker Washington; a scientist like Edward Everett Just—these men show that the Negro will surely though perhaps slowly build up a record of contributions to the arts. There is no color line in the world of culture. An appearance of hesitancy on the part of the Drama League to welcome Mr. Gilpin evoked a protest in which were coupled resentment over a palpable injustice to a colored man and resentment over a palpable injustice to art itself. Those who lead in music, letters, sculpture and painting cannot hitch a Jim Crow car to the muses' chariot. Every new achievement by the Negro fitly recognized helps in the general upliftment of a race. It inspires multitudes of colored people to strive toward a better estate."

This recognition of merit in a colored man, made formally and on full consideration, sets a new mile post for the race, for it will be easier from now on

held Sunday afternoon, the Tenth street center will not have its usual afternoon program.

Let each and every one attend this massmeeting at the Corinthian Baptist church, thereby showing our appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Y. M. C. A. during our recent successful financial campaign. May victory be theirs.

All children are invited to be present at the Story Hour, Saturday afternoon, March 19, at 4 o'clock. The gymnasium class will be continued six weeks longer. We are hoping that the attendance will be as large if not larger than before.

The girls of the East High chorus are undertaking the work of beautifying the billboards on the corner of Sixth and Center Streets.

Mrs. A. J. Brooks had charge of the program last Sunday. Mr. A. A. Alexander gave an interesting talk of his trip to Europe.

The Callanan Industrial club had its last meeting at the center.

Vivian L. Jones,

Funeral Director

Calls answered promptly day or night.

Telephones

Office—Walnut 2767. Residence—Walnut 4964.

1208 CENTER STREET.

Mr. Edward Jones, Jr. spent Sunday in the city visiting with his mother who is a patient in Mercy hospital.

The fourteenth anniversary of the organization of the Alpha club will be celebrated Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock when the members will partake of a four-course dinner. The affair will be held at the home of Mr. William Howard, 1022 Fourteenth street.

Mrs. J. Q. Lindsay will be hostess to the Iocare club next Friday evening at her home, 935 Sixteenth street. The study of Mexico will be taken up at this time, with J. Q. Lindsay, who spent some years on the Mexican border while serving in the United States army and who was a member of Pershing's punitive force which invaded Mexico in 1916.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.
 Owing to our interest in the success of the Y. M. C. A. massmeeting to be

held Sunday afternoon, the Tenth street center will not have its usual afternoon program.

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The Way It Appears To Me

Robert Durr

MEDITATING.

The prison wall magnifies the vision. Thousands of crimes could be averted if human beings were given to see from the inside as they see from the outside: Think of it! In prison, no sunlight, no chairs, no books, no bed, your food moulded bread and putrid water thrown to you as if though you were a dog and you do not even see the hand that flings it to you.

A twinkle of madness, a spasm of jealousy; a desire to get even; the fire of a pistol—then, the prison walls. And in prison you have time to exercise that power that differentiates man from the lower animals—"reason." Time to bitterly recall days of innocence before the glare of the bright lights dazzled the vision and the underworld life saturated the moral sense.

You think of the life lived in the old abode where simple virtues satisfied and peace dominated, that, and other things you have spurned when "right" dared not whisper. You weigh values and see people unceremoniously slammed behind the bars because they acted before "reasoning," this condition fetches human being face to face with the sequel of wasted opportunities.

Freedom was never so sweet; right never so beautiful; self-control never so fascinating; honor was never so wonderful as when looked upon from behind the prison walls. Why not reason before acting?

Capital Plus Education Will Help Us.

No man can be independent or support his lodges, churches, schools, own his home, operate business enterprises unless he has capital. It is that tool that enables a man to cut his ideas even though the world leans from him. We hate the Uncle Tom Negro—lynching and burning at stake, but, often these conditions are brought about due to dependence. Some man trying to earn a living has to work in places where others can commit a dirty crime and place the blame on the innocent man. Often some sap-headed colored man allows himself to be caught in some unbecoming act and his associate yells out they are being intruded upon to hide their dirty work, doings in which both are equally the blame, but, the black man without trial is given a "neck-tie party."

I have never heard of a colored man who had finished the eighth or ninth grade ever intruding on a woman of any race. I have never heard of a wealthy Negro with education ever being mobbed. When a man is trying to accumulate wealth and is educated he has little space in his mind for degrading things "they do things in the best way." Capital is the skeleton of progress while learning is the flesh thereon. It takes both to make the best of us.

THE RHODE ISLAND

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Phone North 6676

We are pleased to say that our doors will open on Monday, February 28, 1921 for inspection of our beautiful newly furnished rooms, for transient or permanent roomers, with private and public dining rooms. Write for terms.

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for every colored man and woman of

ambition and achievement. To be sure, the essential fact must not be lost sight of that Gilpin had proved his merit. He is an actor by all the standards of the art. A multitude of white actors were not invited to the McAlpine dinner. —Des Moines Register.

The many friends of Mr. Eddie Clay-

brook who was injured in the mine last week, will doubtless be pleased to learn that he is much improved at this time, and that hopes are now entertained for his speedy recovery.

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Rheumatism

A Remarkable Home Treatment

Given by One Who Had It

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Sunday School.....10:30 A. M.

Preaching.....11:00 A. M.

Preaching.....7:30 P. M.

B. Y. P. U.....5:30 P. M.

BETHEL A. M. E. CHURCH

Sixteenth and Filmore Streets,

Rev. H. C. Claybrook, Pastor.

11:00 A. M.....Morning Service

12:30 P. M.....Sunday School

1:00 P. M.....Sings Meeting

6:30 P. M.....Christian Endeavor

7:30 P. M.....Evening Worship

8:00 P. M.....Prayer Meeting Wednesday

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