

for \$22,008,095. During the same period 5,138 loans were approved, amounting to \$16,131,553. All together 173,644 have applied for loans under this system, aggregating \$447,729,569.

#### MEN WITH NERVE

An oversea army officer down in New York banquetted 500 friends in one of the leading cafes of the city and the music for the occasion was furnished by an orchestra of colored men. When the eating time came the entertaining officer, though white, gave orders that the colored men be seated at the head of the table and served as the other guests, which brought on a heated argument between the proprietor and himself, and for a second it seemed that the officer would lose, but he rose from his seat and informed his guests of his order and the proprietor's refusal to do as requested and concluded with: "If they were good enough to fight with they are good enough to eat with. And if they can't sit at my table you can cancel the order for the five hundred plates," brought forth rounds of thundering applause from the guests for his 100 per cent Americanism. A long story short, the colored men were served as the other guests and all went as merry as a marriage bell. A majority of the white men of this country way down in their heart of hearts feel toward the colored folks just as did the above army officer, but they haven't the "guts" to defy the taunts of the minority.

On a previous occasion the writer hereof has published a personal story of having been employed by Judge Richard Winsor of this city as city editor of his daily paper—The Evening Call—when the twelve white men in the composing room, on learning of the new city editor, struck and informed Judge Winsor, "We refuse to take copy from a colored man." Rising supreme to the occasion, and in words not clothed in Sunday school regalia, he replied, "Get your effects, each one of you, and go to the office and get your money. You boss my composing room, but I draw the line on my editorial room." The men after a hasty confab among themselves decided not to strike and for months thereafter they took copy from the objectionable colored man and after a brief spell became boon companions of the colored man. Judge Winsor, like the army officer, had the "guts" to stand up for the rights of two human beings, himself and the colored man, and the would-be strikers tucked their tails under the lash of right and justice and sneaked away as so many whipped curs.

Not long since as a train from Chicago went speeding southward headed for New Orleans an oversea colored soldier sat in one of the passenger coaches and when the train crossed the Mason and Dixon line the colored hero was told to go to the "colored coach," which he refused to do, and when the tram crew came to forcibly take him to the colored car, a Southern white man rose supreme to the moment and said, "lay hands on him at your peril," and the crew fell back as though a voice from the clouds had commanded them and the colored soldier rode the balance of his journey undisturbed, save numerous courtesies shown him from the white passengers. The white man had the guts to stand up for the right and the wrong trembled in its boots.

Some years ago after much persuasion the Republican National Committee agreed to hold a national convention in St. Louis, providing always the places of accommodation and amusements in St. Louis would open their doors to the colored delegates the same as to the white delegates, but when the convention assembled to the chagrin of the party leaders the colored delegates had no place to rest their heads, which caused such a row that the convention was on the verge of adjourning and reconvening in Chicago the next morning, but the matter was in a way adjusted. The most of the colored delegates fared badly but one colored delegate from the state of Washington—J. Ed-

ward Hawkins—walked into the Planters Hotel and took his meals in the dining room as big as life. On the Washington delegation was one John H. McGraw and he rose supreme to the moment and announced "hell will be to pay, if Hawkins is not accorded the same rights as the other delegates from Washington," and in this he was backed up by the other members of the delegation. Gov. McGraw had the guts to stand for the right and as a result Hawkins was given his rights.

Once in the good old political days of this state a number of Senator John L. Wilson's friends protested against he, Wilson, always having a colored man at his political confabs, and against he, Wilson, seemingly more inclined to take the political advice of the colored man than the ninety and nine white men within the fold. The writer being the objectionable one he heard with much self satisfaction the reply of John Lockwood Wilson, "His color to the contrary notwithstanding he suits me and you ought to be tickled to death. This is my fight, not yours, and I feel quite able to take care of my affairs. He will continue one of my trusted lieutenants as long as he and I are satisfied." Wilson had the guts to not be afraid of criticism and as a result a colored man from a political standpoint got a square deal.

May perhaps this storyette will serve no good purpose and intensify the colorphobia disease rather than mitigate it, but whatever it does it will be meet for thought. White supremacy in the United States is a fixed fact and it will so continue for multiplied generations yet to come and for the colored folks to kick against the pricks will be as futile as to fight the flying winds, but at that the white man can afford to be not only fair, but generous. The black man, the red man, the yellow man, the brown man and all manner of man have human rights that even the white man should not disdain to respect and you will be a better man for having done so.

#### IRELAND FREE

I stepped across to Paris and I heard the song of Peace;  
I heard the cheers for liberty from Greenland down to Greece.  
I heard the fiddles, fifes and drums, and then I listened sharp,  
And I says, says I, "Now, where's the sound of Tara's Irish harp?  
You ask for freedom of the land, and freedom of the sea;  
Give freedom, too, to Ireland—and that makes the whole world free!"

I stepped across to Ireland and I went to Dublin town  
And there I saw gossoons in green a-marching up and down.  
And then I went to Belfast, which was marching in reply,  
And there they wore the orange hue and so  
I says, says I:  
"When Irishman and Irishman have Irish eyes to see,  
To see that both are Irishmen, then Ireland will be free."

.. I went to California and I took one look around,  
And there I saw green orange trees a-growing in the ground!  
O, Dublin hue! and Belfast, too! why not choose this instead,  
And wear white orange-blossoms on the day that you are wed?  
I saw green fruit and orange fruit upon the self-same tree,  
And when they grow in Ireland so, then Ireland will be free!  
—Edwin Vance Cooke, in Reedy's Mirror.

#### LABOR AT THE BAT

The new Labor Party had its first real tryout in Chicago April 1st. Although organized but a few scant months its success

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in the smaller Illinois cities of Pekin, Bloomington, and Joliet gave its friends hopes of a good showing in Chicago with its 800,000 registered votes. Its failure to poll a larger vote is disappointing to those who hoped that with the labor vote augmented by the support of men and women like Mary McDowell, Robert Herrick, Wm. L. Chenery, and Geo. E. Hooker, a real independent movement might be launched. Considering its handicaps, however, the Labor Party did fairly well in polling 54,000 votes.

The Labor Party started out as a side party. The real election lay between Robert M. Sweitzer, a relative by marriage of Roger Sullivan, the gas boss, and William Hale Thompson, the personally conducted candidate of Lundin, a former lieutenant of Ex-Senator William Lorimer. These two waged a bitter fight over the school question and the public utilities, although to the neutral it appeared to be a case of the pot calling the kettle black. Thompson got the votes of many liberals who would otherwise have been for Fitzpatrick and the Labor Party, because the logic of the situation seemed to demand the defeat of Sweitzer.—The Republic.

#### TOMORROW

I see a world where thrones have crumbled and where kinds are dust; the aristocracy of idleness has perished from the earth. I see a world without a slave. Man at last is free. Nature's forces have by science been enslaved. I see a world at peace; adorned with every form of art, with music's myriad voices thrilled; while lips are rich with words of love and truth—a world in which no exile sighs, no prisoner mourns; a world on which the gibbet's shadow does not fall; a world where labor reaps its full reward; where work and worth go hand in hand. I see a race without disease of flesh or brain; shapely and fair; the married harmony of form and function, and as I look life lengthens, joy deepens, love canopies the earth; and over all in the great dome shines the eternal star of human hope.—Robert G. Ingersoll.

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