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CAYTON'S WEEKLY

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In the interest of equal rights and equal justice to all men and for "all men up."

A publication of general information, but in the main voicing the sentiments of the Colored Citizens.

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ANTI-NEGRO RIOTS

As long as the white citizens of this country permit their prejudices against the colored citizens to assume a state of intolerance, which grows and grows until it becomes acute, there will be outbreaks between the two classes—race riots, if you please—of the kind that occurred in Washington, D. C., one day this week. From time to time, and more especially in the South and the near South, the white folks have shown their displeasure at the black folks trying to "act like white folks," and never lose an opportunity to try to put the breaks on the actions of the colored folks wherever and whenever it is possible for them to do so. In the most of the large cities they colonized them and then charged that the acts and depredations of the criminal ones were the sentiments of the entire colony, and when they set out to punish the criminals they operated against the whole on the theory, "All coons look alike to me." In every community the crimes of the colored folks are magnified, while their good behavior, if any they have, is minimized. The metropolitan daily papers completely overlook the good citizenry of the colored people of their respective communities, but hold up for public inspection and condemnation any crime that may be committed by any one of them. Most any day may be seen accounts of the police raiding places of vice, wherein so and so many men are arrested, and one, two or as many Negroes as happened to be caught are likewise arrested. In other words, the Negro is the only distinct criminal that is designated, he not even being classed a man. If the colored citizens make an effort to prove to the white citizens that it is a mistake to judge all of them by the criminal acts of one or more, no consideration is given to whatever they say to the contrary. It is generally considered below the dignity of a "white man" to attend meetings conducted by the "niggers," and that, too, whether such meetings be for the cause of patriotism or for their own class uplift. But last Tuesday evening a colored man of national renown lectured in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. of this city, preaching a better understanding between the whites and blacks of this country and yet not to exceed a half dozen white folks were present and not one daily paper condescended to reportorially cover the meeting that their great army of white patrons might read for themselves the efforts the colored man is putting forth to smooth out the differences between himself and the white man. Race riots even more violent than any that has as yet been reported in this country will disgrace this "land of the free" unless both white and colored citizens try to see the good instead of the bad in each other. As long as the white citizens teach their chil-

dren that colored citizens are citizens by mistake and that they are invariably criminal at heart, and even when not actual criminals very undesirable citizens, just so long will the spirit of intolerance against the colored citizens fatten and grow strong among the white citizens and they will never lose an opportunity to resent the efforts of colored citizens acting like citizens and to prevent such, mobs of whites will endeavor to exterminate the masses of black citizens that happen to live near them. Good and considerate white citizens of any community make more commendable colored citizens of that immediate vicinity. There is no inspiration for colored citizens to be good citizens if they realize that the white citizens prejudge all colored men and women as "a damn bad bunch." Not long since three policemen of Seattle said to the editor hereof, "The average colored man is not only a criminal at heart, but a damn thief." That is not true and the average white man does not believe it, but he will neither publicly refute it or rebuke the white man for distributing such dangerous public propaganda. The next day after the policeman made the above assertion he, with others, were arrested for stealing and subsequently dismissed from the force, but his propaganda has continued to grow. If the white citizens of this country would but realize that the colored citizens are endeavoring to be like them and to be seen as they are there might be fewer clashes—race riots, if you please—and less danger of government disturbances. All anti-Negro demonstrations in this country have their origin in color prejudice, though their immediate origin be in the criminal act of some colored individual. If in the South a colored man actually rapes a white woman, he is but resenting the criminal cohabitation of most white men with, perhaps, his own wife or daughter, and thus does crime beget crime. Now, brethren, let us reason together and endeavor to help each other out of the quagmires of intolerance and we will have a better citizenry irrespective of color or creed.

RIOTS AND DEMOCRACY

In spite of the publicity the leading editorial in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer has already had, it is being reproduced because it brings out the fact that color intolerance is wholly responsible for such outbreaks and further points out that the great white nation of America had better clean up at home before trying to clean up abroad. The editorial says:

"The race riots which have been going on for days in the capital of this nation must make interesting reading for the people of Europe, who look upon us, or at least our administration, as the bodyguard of democracy and the battlers for oppressed peoples. If they have accepted all that our spokesmen have said at its word value, they cannot be but puzzled that such things could be under the very eye of democracy's leader. If the world is to be made safe for democracy by the United States, democracy cannot very well hunt "niggers" on the streets of our capital, at least without setting the rest of the world a bad example.

"The trouble in Washington is the old one. Some Negro committed an offense against a white woman, or at least is accused of an offense. But to the Lithuanian, the Savoyard or Turk it will be at once

apparent that all the Negroes of Washington did not commit the offense, and the idea that, because a man is of the same epidermal tint as the offender he should be mobbed and bludgeoned, will not appeal to those Europeans the least equipped to reason. To the dullest it will be obvious that race antipathy is discerned at the bottom of not a few of the present and past super-riots in European wars, the emptiness of most of our perpetual peace platitudes will be their most impressive feature.

"Making allowance for the Russian and Polish ignorance of local affairs and for the scrappy disconnected details of these race riots that will reach Russian and Pole, what will be their disposition when they receive our protests against the pogroms? Can they take the resolutions which we passed with so much solemnity seriously? Common sense tells us that they will think the same thoughts as we would if the situations were reversed.

"Those who display so much enthusiasm for the legal forms of constitutions and covenants might well consider the facts of human nature as evidenced in these Washington riots. There is plenty of law to deal with the offending Negroes; plenty of law to protect the innocent Negroes. All the forms and all the officials are ready at hand. Still unmistakably the condition in Washington is one of anarchy, white against black. What do "men everywhere" say to this? Are there any yearnings audible? Soldiers and sailors who fought to make the world safe for democracy are conspicuous in the mobs, no doubt energetically beating up black soldiers and sailors who also fought to make the world safe for the same democracy.

"Ho! Hum! What a funny world!"

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

Despite the fact this old world in its present form and fashion has only been in existence not to exceed ten thousand years, if that, yet scientists tell us that in some form or fashion it has been wagging along for millions of years, it having from time to time undergone physical changes, owing to convulsions from within and corrosive influences from without. During all those years of its existence, in one form or another, it has been fully peopled, who have lived and died just as they do of this day and age. Our religion teaches us, man being an infinite being, does not die, but lives always in soul, though the body, which is the home of the real man from the cradle to the grave, sickens and dies, when the soul, directed by an omnipotent hand, goes to a final home, somewhere in space. If that soul, during the life of the body, lives according to the directions of Christianity it goes to a home of everlasting happiness, and if not, it goes to a home not quite so inviting, but to whichever it goes the question is, If souls have been going to one or both of those imaginary homes as regularly as they are now doing, for all of those millions of years are not those homes pretty well jammed by this time?

While thinking on this subject an idea came to our mind. May, perhaps, the souls leaving this world become inhabitants of other worlds and as they fill up one another is created and prepared for occupancy, and so on ad infinitum. After all, may perhaps the Darwin theory is not half bad and as we go from world to world in