

HAVE YOU A ROOM FOR RENT?—ADVERTISE IT IN THE SUN.

THE NEGRO AND THE WEST

An Entertaining Account of the Recent Trip of the Grand Master and Other Masonic Dignitaries to the Far West.

NOTABLE PERSONS AND CITIES VISITED ON THE TOUR

By DR. M. O. RICKETTS, ST. JOSEPH, MO. Past Grand Master of Masons.

CHAPTER III.

The pleasure resorts about Los Angeles are too numerous to mention, but best you should at some time go to Los Angeles we ask you not to fall to visit the Ostrich Farm, the Alligator Farm, Pasadena, the home of the rich, Busch's Sunken Garden and Venice, or some one of the ocean resorts. We were especially interested in our own people and in what they were doing. We were domiciled in the Golden West hotel, where we found elegantly furnished and lighted rooms with good clean beds, hot and cold baths and every other thing needed to make up a modern hotel. The help was polite and attentive. The cafe was right up to date and gave splendid service at reasonable prices.

When we went into the barber shop the barbers were all busy except a busy attendant. She informed Mr. Crews that she would cut his hair and shave him if he so desired. He informed her that his only serious objection was the fact that if the work did not please him he could not cuss her right out in church, but would have to go down by the big gate. We never heard him cussing, hence another avocation has fallen to the new woman, and in it she seems to be making good. Mr. Crews seemed desirous of strutting around all filled up with pride over the fact that a lady had cut his hair and would have put on airs had not George reminded him that a lady had cut his hair many times when he was a lad. Mr. Crews suggested that that might account for the fact that Love would never be able to have it cut pompador.

We were anxious to know what part, if any, the colored brother was taking in the wonderful growth and development which was so evident on all sides. We were fortunate indeed in finding our old friend Joe Bass, who did much toward helping us secure the desired light on the subject. He showed us many places of interest. We went with him to the home of his niece, Mrs. Gamble, where we stumbled upon some sort of a ladies' meeting, and from the handshakes and exchange of greetings between Mr. Crews and Mr. Love one would have judged it to be a club meeting of Kansas City ladies. Having just invested 5 cents in a generous box of red, ripe and healthy sized strawberries I did not feel lost or neglected, but managed to keep reasonably busy trying to see just how long one box could hold out against the assault it was making on it. As a result of this call, and the Kansas City spirit of genuine hospitality, we were invited to a chicken dinner that evening, and although unnecessary, to add, we went, and when we arrived we found chicken to the right of us, chicken to the left of us, etc. The dinner was served by Mrs. Addie Hooker and surrounded as she was by every convenience of her elegant home, beautifully furnished, she proved herself a most charming hostess. She greatly impressed one of our party, but we are Free Masons, and I am not going to divulge the secrets of a brother. After the dinner party we went to the elegant home of Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard, where the Missouri-Kansas Club tendered us an informal reception, where we were met by many of our old friends from Missouri and Kansas. To the California Eagle we are indebted for many kindnesses, and finding it difficult to eliminate the personal equation from any account of the reception which we might write, we are going to let the Eagle tell the story for us. We desire to state right here that the managing editor is no editor at all, for she is an editress. A talented little lady from away down East, where they can put the ah sound on their a's without seeming affectation.

Account of the Missouri-Kansas Club Reception. From the California Eagle of Oct. 17, DOES ITSELF PROUD. Kansas-Missouri Club Again Entertains Distinguished Visitors in Our City. The question is often asked what makes the Kansas-Missouri Club the most popular organization of its kind in our city. It is easily answered: Because it is an organization which always up and doing things worth while, and last week with a distin-

It is the place which could have taken Jim Vena at his age twenty years ago and preserved him in the condition in which it presents him today. I am over 39, and good breeding suggested more than forty years ago, that I should address him as "Uncle Jim." Friend Vena did much to make our visit pleasant and we were very glad to renew the old acquaintance. Among our people there is much business enterprise, and we find them breaking new ground for it. It was here we met a Mr. and Mrs. Prentice, who were the owners and managers of the New Idea stores, where they handled dry goods, millinery, notions, ready to wear garments, along with ladies and gents' furnishings. When I say stores I do so advisedly, for they have more than one such store. We think it worthy of mention that we found the Cablesberry brothers maintaining offices and conducting a general electric business, putting in fixtures, wiring houses and doing general electrical contracting. We found many real estate dealers who were all the term implies. We desire to call attention first to Milton W. Lewis, who is the sole agent for Birch Court, which contains fourteen modern bungalows which for economy of space surpasses anything we have ever seen. We met a Mr. Owens, who represents Owen's estate, and we saw one of the buildings belonging to this estate which is said to rent for \$36,000 per annum, and we met a Mr. Jones, who does a real estate business and is reputed to be worth \$75,000. We saw a building belonging to him and which gives him a rental of \$400 per month. The Owen's estate is estimated to be worth \$800,000. It would require much more time and space than is ours to give, to tell all the Negroes of Los Angeles have done, and perhaps it is just as well that some things they have done be not told. Be it understood that the Sun may leave with surety the publicity of every discreditable thing which the race does to a hostile press and that we are making an effort to show just a few of the really big things the race is doing as an incentive to the timid and discouraged. As a part of the training of the old slave regime every Negro believes he can do anything any other Negro can

do, or has done, and he is willing to try, therefore the mean things which are done by members of his race are kept constantly before him. The Negro press must keep well in the foreground the fine things being done by the Negroes' brain and brawn. We were not asked to philosophize but to write a story of a trip. We are becoming enamored of Los Angeles that we must hasten away lest we decide to remain. Before leaving this dreamland we want to give a brief resume of conditions among our people. Lodges. Masonic—Five symbolic lodges, three Royal Arch chapters, two Comanderies Knights Templars, one Temple, one consistency and two chapters O. E. S. Odd Fellows—This organization owns a \$75,000 property, free from debt, and has five lodges and four Households of Ruth. Pythians—The Pythians have two lodges and two Courts of Calanthis. U. B. F.'s—The United Brothers of Friendship has two lodges and two temples of S. M. T.'s. Knights of Tabor—The Knights of Tabor has two lodges and two tabernacles. We find in Los Angeles nine physicians, ten attorneys, four drug stores, several undertakers and any number of barber shops, cleaning and pressing establishments and pool and billiard parlors. When we asked Joe Bass about the churches he showed a lack of information which was marvelous. We did, however, go through the church of the Pecks and other distinguished ministers, and we had a pleasant chat with the present pastor, who needs no higher indication of our impression of himself than the fact that Grand Master Crews engaged him on the spot to succeed Dr. Thomas, who now fills the pulpit of Allen chapel, and whom Mr. Crews declares to be without a peer in the African Methodist Episcopal church. I asked Mr. Crews why he did not say Dr. Thomas was in a class by himself, and he replied very pointedly, saying:

"Anybody can be that. Why, even George Love is that." Dr. Thomas is in a large and brilliant class, and stands at the head of that class. It is said that 10 per cent of the colored people of Los Angeles own their own homes, and many of these homes surpass in elegance anything we have seen elsewhere. They are mostly on the bungalow order and have very artistic interior decorations. (To be continued.)

God Hears, Thee, Heart, Sing On! What if I sing, and no one hears the song. Shall I sit in the muffled silent deeps? And does the soul of voice the tragic wrong. To quench its genial spirit till it weeps? Shall I be silent if none hear the song? Or, hearing, turn no listening ear to me? Or shall I, if the heedless, hurrying through But darkling list, damp the sweet muse's lay? Nay! heart of mine, break forth in singing, dear! God bids thee sing, and He Himself will hear. —Anonymous.

At the Hubbard Residence. The reception was held at the beautiful residence of Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard, 1494 West 26th street, who are prominent members of the Kansas-Missouri Club. The members and guests came out in large numbers to the fullest capacity of the house. An informal program was rendered, the Kansas-Missouri Club orchestra furnishing the music. Mr. H. W. Davis rendered a solo. At 9 o'clock Vice President Patterson called the gathering to order and introduced J. B. Bass editor of the Eagle, as master of ceremonies, who introduced President S. P. Johnson, who in a few well chosen words on behalf of the club welcomed the distinguished guests to our city. Grand Master Harris was next introduced and on behalf of the citizens in general welcomed the gentlemen in our midst.

Mr. George K. Love was next introduced to respond and made a neat speech of appreciation for the royal reception which had been given them. D. M. O. Ricketts was next glowingly introduced by the master of ceremonies, and responded in a speech which stamped him as one of the very ablest of the many noted men who have visited our city in the past few years, although the war was late the people were loath to have him quit, and all expressed a desire to hear the learned doctor again. The next speaker introduced by the master of ceremonies was the Hon. Nelson C. Crews, whom the master of ceremonies paid a high compliment as a race leader and orator. Mr. Crews in a happy vein addressed the gathering, but owing to the lateness of the hour and to the disappointment of the crowd did not attempt any oratory, but was content to express his appreciation and to compliment the club and the citizens upon their apparent progress along the various lines of endeavor. Mr. Crews is one of the greatest orators of the race in this entire country, and we anticipate his return as well as Dr. Ricketts at some future date. After the program refreshments were served and all voted the Kansas-Missouri club and Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard the greatest organization and people on one of the greatest occasions ever held in our fair city.

This Kansas-Missouri Club is a fine social organization and has for its purpose the entertainment of worthy people who come from "home." We met many charming people at this reception and some who have made their impress felt upon the new life which they sought for themselves in the golden West. We are going to name those who were in attendance at this reception, haying by doing so some reader of the Sun may be able to get a line upon some lost friend. President—S. P. Johnson. Vice President—W. T. Patterson. Secretary—Mrs. Viola Hubbard. Treasurer—E. Waller. Members. L. Hubbard, M. Bain, Clara Johnson, Ora Bain, Mr. Banks, J. B. Bass, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. True, Attorney Nash, Mrs. C. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Moberly, Mr. and Mrs. H. Davis, A. J. Jones, Mrs. Addie Hooker, George Gamble, R. H. Todd, Mr. Wait, Prof. C. A. Beggars, V. W. Morris, Mrs. Fry, George Taylor, Dr. and Mrs. Summerville, Dr. Stovall, Dr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Harris, Mrs. F. H. Alexander, Jas. Vena, Dr. Ballard, J. E. Carpenter, Mrs. S. E. Bean, Miss Bulah Roots.

In looking over this list I am constrained to give to Los Angeles another credit which did not occur to me until I saw James Vena. I am sure if there is any place in this country which deserves the credit of being called the place of perpetual youth

NOTES OF RACIAL PROGRESS.

Furnished by the National Negro Business League. A Thought for the Week—Now is the time to begin planning for the Christmas trade. On account of the war American will not be able to import toys and novelties from Germany and France. Thus we must depend upon the American manufacturer for our Christmas gifts. The colored business man should make his plans now to take advantage of this condition and he should not forget the Negro manufacturer. Negro dolls may be purchased in Nashville, Overton's toilet articles from Chicago and Patterson buggies from Greenfield. Just think of the thousands who can be made happy from these factories if our business men push their goods at this time. Then don't forget those splendid books by Negro authors. They are so appropriate gifts.

A large number of colored people were employed as demonstrators during the recent Edison electrical exposition which was held at Grand Central Palace in New York City. The Y. M. C. A. of Indianapolis has inaugurated a night school where barbers, bootblacks, porters, janitors

Dr. Thompkins Honored

Appointment Pleases Negroes of City and State. (By T. Holden Steward.) One of the greatest triumphs in the history of the Negro in Kansas City, is the recent appointment of Dr. William J. Thompkins as Superintendent of the Negro Department at the City Hospital. Great credit indeed, is due this black son of the West for his success in the realization of that which has been his dream for Kansas City ever since his advent into the medical profession here, eight years ago. Ever since 1906, Dr. Thompkins has worked perseveringly toward the accomplishment of this hope, fighting always against strong opposition, but overcoming obstacle after obstacle, winning point after point, and gaining ground, though slowly, yet steadily, until at last his ambition for a City Hospital in Kansas City, solely in the hands of Negroes, is realized.

In the above-mentioned year, when the magnificent new City Hospital was completed and the white patients transferred there, leaving the Negro patients in the old building, Dr. Thompkins saw how, since this segregation could not be avoided, it might be used to the advantage of his people. He saw that not only would the Negroes receive more considerate treatment at the hands of their own people, but also that vast opportunities would be open to the Negroes of his profession through the equipment of a modern hospital and the direct association with such men as Drs. Frick, Jabez Jackson, Binney, Frankenberg, Hill and Outland, and great facilities would be afforded Negro girls for becoming proficient nurses.

It was not, however, until 1911 that the first tangible results of his efforts became evident, when on October the first, Negro Nurses and Internes entered the City Hospital to care for their own people, and four Negro Surgeons and Physicians were appointed as assistants to the various chiefs on the visiting staff. And many times since then has it been through the initiative and insistence of this advocate of Right and Justice that his people have been accorded fair treatment, better service and accommodations, and greater opportunities. Yet through all his strivings, both toward immediate and future aims, be it said to the unselfishness of Dr. Thompkins that he never had higher ambitions for himself than to be a member of the surgical staff, that which he has been since Negroes were first put on the service; and even during his most strenuous activities, was thinking of becoming located in another city. So, to those who knew, it was not strange when in April of this year, Mr. Thos. J. Finn became president of the Hospital and Health Board (the first in that position to be so heartily in sympathy with the Mayor's idea of turning the hospital completely over to Negroes as to set about to carry the plan through)—I repeat it was not surprising to those who knew him, either when Dr. Thompkins was decided upon as the logical one for the head of the institution, or when he refused the position, and it was twice offered him before he was prevailed upon to accept it. Thus "The Kansas City Star," that local organ of racial prejudice, as usual on any matter pertaining to the Negro, knew not whereof it spoke in connecting this appointment with the Metropolitan Street Railway Franchise, for the offer was made before the Franchise was thought of, and in fact such had been the Mayor's plan for two years prior.

As was said before, Dr. Thompkins is the logical one for the position, and certainly one more worthy could not have been appointed. Kansas City has no better citizen, the Democratic party no more staunch supporter, the race no more loyal member, nor his profession a more capable one than he. His entire life seems to be devoted to doing good for others, and all movements that tend toward the uplift of his people and of humanity claim him as an enthusiastic adherent. It was through his efforts that "St. Simon's Nursery" was established, an institution that cares for between four and five hundred babies annually, and was for seven years physician there. It was there that he established the first Child Hygiene department among Negroes in Kansas City, a work that was later taken over and maintained by the city. For seven years also, he was physician to the "Old Folks" and Orphan's Home" here. He was the first Negro "Medical Inspector of Schools" in the state, at the same time being City Physician to the Negroes here, all of which work was later put under Civil Service an divided among three men, he retaining one-third of the work at the same salary for which he had been doing it all. For two terms he was President of the Kansas City Medical Society; and was recently appointed a member of a committee from the Missouri Pan-Medical Association to appear before the State Legislature to ask for a State Tuberculosis Hospital for Negroes. And well was he chosen, for such an authority on the subject as it pertains to his people is he considered, that the white papers have quoted him.

In all his political connections, his activities are concentrated upon those things that stand for the elevation of his people, as the City Hospital and the Garrison Square. When after the completion of the Garrison Square Field House, it was thought by some of the Whites too magnificent a structure to be devoted to the Negro, and the Italians made a plea for it, and a committee of representative Negroes appeared before the Park Board to offer protestations against the injustice, it was Dr. Thompkins who was called upon to make the masterly opening address that won the cause for the Negroes. Dr. Thompkins has also been prominent in fraternal organizations for several years, being a thirty-third degree Mason, a U. B. F., an Odd Fellow, and a Knight of Pythias. In the last-named organization he was for six consecutive years Grand Medical Registrar of Missouri, and was offered the nomination the seventh time, but then being offered a salary in connection with the regular fees and refusing again, was honored by elevation to the office of Past Grand Chancellor. Last year when after the inauguration of President Wilson, there seemed every reason why Dr. Thompkins should have become Surgeon-in-Chief of Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D. C. (as in fact he would have, had not the present incumbent been "blanketed" by Civil Service), Mayor Jost gave him the highest recommendation possible, and wished him success, saying, however, that his going would be a loss not only to his people here, but to the entire city. And what with the noble fight made for him by Senator Reed, and the endorsement of such men as Senator Stone, the leader of the Democratic party in the Senate, Speaker Champ Clark, Third Asst. Postmaster General Dockery, Bishop Alexander Walters, and that of the entire Missouri Congressional delegation, together with an excellent recommendation from Health Commissioner Wheeler, and in fact the entire city and state endorsement both professionally and politically, hundreds of his friends from New Hampshire to Florida, and from Seattle to Mexico, are hoping that President Wilson may yet be prevailed upon to issue the executive order that will make it possible for Dr. Thompkins to attain that which is due him, the highest position in this country for a Negro physician.

He is worthy of it, for his appointment here means not only a fitting reward for his labors in this city, but additional employment for over thirty Negroes, and consequently making Kansas City distinctive in having a City Hospital in which are only Negroes in every capacity.

ALLEN M. M. S. Dear Editor: Please allow space in your valuable paper to say a few words about the Mite Missionary Society of Allen chapel, A. M. E. church, Kansas City, Mo. The year 1914 is rapidly coming to a close, and each day records the work we have done for the Master. There is a great work for us as Christians to accomplish, and as missionaries we should work together to help the unfortunate to surer footholds in life's way. God has assigned this work to us, and we cannot afford to be idle if we wish to carry out the principle of the great Teacher, while so many are perishing for the bread of life. The election of officers took place Monday afternoon, October 26, and resulted as follows: Mrs. Laura A. Gilmore was re-elected president and from her past record we feel safe to say the society will do a great, great work. Mrs. Mary Kingsbury, first vice president; Mrs. Ella Harrison, recording secretary; Mrs. Gertrude Bruce, assistant secretary; Mrs. Victoria Morgan, treasurer; Mrs. Ida C. Lee, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Brandon, chaplain; executive committee, Mrs. Pauline Hoffman, Mrs. Nannie B. Wilson, Mrs. Bettie Brown. Vacation is now over and we have returned to our work with renewed interest and with a determination to do more this year. We gave \$100 for the cause of missions last year and we hope to double the amount this year. If you should visit our work shop on Monday afternoon of each week you will find a busy set of women, for we make and sell plain and family aprons, caps, quilts and prepare rags for the weaving of rugs of all descriptions and then, too, we are inspired to do greater things by our beloved pastor, Dr. Wm. H. Thomas, whose presence and kind words fill us with inspiration. IDA C. LEE, Corresponding Secretary. THE KNOCKER. When the Creator had made all the good things, there was still some dirty work to do, so He made the beasts and reptiles and poisonous insects, and when He had finished He had some scraps that were too bad to put into the Rattle Snake, the Hyena, the Scorpion and the Skunk, so he put all these together, covered it with suspicion, wrapped it with jealousy, marked it with a yellow streak, and called it—who? A Beautiful Design. Stays\$1.00 and upward Designs\$1.50 and upward We please the people both in price and quality. Flowers for all occasions. WEAVER FLORAL CO. 1510 E. 18th St. Home phone Main 7555. Bell phone East 4798.



HON. W. CLARENCE HUESTON. Worshipful Master of Mt. Oread Lodge No. 76, A. F. & A. M., which is destined to be one of the foremost lodges of the Fraternity in this jurisdiction and which has in its ranks some of the brightest young business and professional men in this city.

HANNA-JAMES WEDDING. Miss Laura Hanna of Wellinton, Mo., and Mr. V. T. James of Versailles, Mo., both formerly students of Geo. R. Smith College, Sedalia, Mo., were quietly married Sunday evening, November 8, at the residence of Mrs. Dora Mingo, 919 East Twelfth street. The bride was prettily gowned in white satin and carried a large bouquet of pink and white roses intermingled with ferns. The house was decorated with ferns and wedding bells. Miss Bertie Taylor sang "Oh Promise Me," accompanied by Miss Allene Cary. Mrs. Scott sang "Rosary," then a dainty luncheon was served. Mr. and Mrs. James will make their home in the city for a few weeks. Mrs. Cora Cox and daughter have moved to 1011 Virginia avenue.

and flatmen are instructed in their line of work. Two hundred and fifty negro farmers of Sumter county, South Carolina, met recently and adopted resolutions to reduce next year's acreage of cotton by at least 50 per cent. Much interest is being manifested in the subscription contents now being conducted by the Richmond Planter, the Atlanta Independent and Columbia Herald. The Savannah (Ga.) Branch of the Negro Business League is very active. Chicago is to have a school of floral designing, the first of its kind in the country. An enterprising colored woman is at the head of it. Madame Walker, the well known hair culturist, has purchased the home of the late Bishop Derrick, located in flushing, N. Y., for \$50,000. She will make this her future home. The Wage Earners' bank of Savannah, Ga., one of the pioneer Negro banks of this country, has just moved into its new \$40,000 building. A RISING ARTIST. Perhaps it is not generally known that Kansas City possesses one of the most pleasing artistic and finished landscape painters of the race in the person of Mr. R. J. Rice, 1015 Tracy avenue. One of his paintings which hangs upon the wall of the editor has elicited the warmest admiration from all who have seen it; and he has received much favorable comment from connoisseurs and art critics of the white race. The Sun predicts for him a brilliant future. GRAND ROYAL MATRON VISITS CHAPTERS HERE. Mrs. Victoria Clay Haley of St. Louis, Mo., Grand Royal Matron of the Eastern Star, paid her annual visit to the eight Chapters of this city on Thursday afternoon, and was royally received and delivered a magnificent address at the Masonic Temple to more than 200 loyal ladies. She was taken for an auto ride over the boulevards Friday, and Friday night was tendered a delightful reception.

SNAPS No. 1—The Paseo: This is a lovely two-story frame house, overlooking the Paseo, in a most desirable location. And what woman would not like to own a nice little home on the Paseo? It is not fully modern, but at small expense could be made so. There is not another place on the Paseo to be had at such a low figure. We can particularly recommend this as a good buy. Price, \$1,200. No. 2—Park Avenue: Here is a two-story frame house, with six nice, large rooms, with plenty of closet space. This is a feature every woman appreciates in a home—large rooms and plenty of closet space. This property is most desirably located, being near two car lines, which makes long waiting for cars unnecessary. The lot is 23x14 feet, and beautifully terraced. The many desirable features about this home will at once appeal to the careful buyer. Price, \$2,500.

We have many other attractive propositions. If you don't see what you want in our Ads, call on us and we will get it for you. STEWART & SMITH Real Estate and Financial Brokers. 1515 EAST EIGHTEENTH STREET, Kansas City, Mo. Phone: Bell, East 4893. Home, Main 7255.