

A Merry Christmas and A Long, Happy Life to All!

THE MIDDLE CLASS NEGRO.

That there will be class distinctions among peoples is as natural as the proverbial wheat and chaff which is gathered up together for a final separation of the good, bad and indifferent. It is in the final analysis of the common product that different grades of the general whole are discovered, and we get a distinctive margin on quality. So regarding the people that make up what is essentially called society among Negroes which readily permits of three distinctive classes, perhaps more noticeable in our race than any other, the upper, middle and lower classes. Professionals seem to be associated with the first, and it may or may not include teachers, lawyers, editors, preachers and so on. The second may or may not include porters, housemen, chauffeurs, waiters and so on, while the third may or may not include common laborers, hod carriers and



CHAS. A. STARKS.

general building workers. This much, whatever may be their vocation or occupation in life, a close study of conditions will reveal that character and manhood and not the vocational or occupational is surely determining the good from the bad, and this will never depend on any imaginary lines that men might draw for themselves.

Truth will finally take away from them what they seem to have, and give it to them who really have. Looking over these so-called classes, from a little experience one can see that perhaps the middle class are building more solidly than any other on the basis of honesty and sturdiness of character. They seem to avoid the deceit and hypocrisy which so often characterizes the so-called upper classes, and are freed from the ignorance of the lower ones.

The upper ones pretend to furnish the leadership of the people and depend largely, yea, altogether, on the lower classes for support, while the middle classes exemplify what real co-operation the race might possess and seem to furnish more real manhood and womanhood than any.

Slowly but surely truth is swing the facts around to a common understanding of who is who in this old city as to manliness and womanliness, and people are beginning to become suspicious (and sometimes justly) of the "upper ten" who has victimized him in some manner, and are casting confidence and his society lot with those whose only pretensions to class are clean living and honest purposes. In this class none may be excluded on account of mental or particular physical condition, but surely and positively on moral grounds. There is a middle class in this city of this kind, and strange to say it numbers individuals in its ranks who happen to be men who sweep the streets or climb the ladder with hod on the shoulder to the progressive teacher or the respectable minister.

CHAS. A. STARKS.

WORDS OF PRAISE.

Father Cyprian, Priest in Charge of the St. Monica's Roman Catholic Church Commends the Sun.

Dear Mr. Crews:

I enclose a check for five dollars as a token of appreciation for your paper, The Kansas City Sun, which you so kindly send to me each week. I congratulate you most sincerely as the Editor of such an exquisite paper; I venture to state it is the most ably edited paper of its kind I have ever found. I read it with great interest each week and the five priests of the parish here (at 26th and Locust) praise it very highly. I hope I shall have the pleasure of receiving your worthy paper in all the future. I would be glad to have you and others call at St. Monica's and see our Christmas decorations. A special feature of our Christmas is the representation of the vent at Bethlehem in beautiful statues or figures. We have the stable, the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, the infant in figures. The figure of the Divine Infant is of pure wax made in Rome; it was blessed by the Pope, taken to Bethlehem and placed on the very spot in Bethlehem where Jesus was born 1914 years ago. This makes it very valuable to any Christian. Our services on Christmas morning are at 8:30 and 10:15, with Mass, sermon and Benediction.

With best wishes for Merry Christmas, I am,
Sincerely,
FATHER CYPRIAN, O. F. M.

THE MORAL PHASE OF THE NEGRO PROBLEM

A Pointed and Stinging Article from the Pen of the Gifted Nannie H. Burroughs of the National Baptist Training School.

The moral phase of the Negro problem is the most serious part of the whole aggravating question. To improve the standard of the life of the masses is the only solution.

As with other races, the standards in the homes are set up by the women who preside over them. Therefore to bring about a reform the womanhood of the race must be taught how to instruct their children in those virtues that have made the most advanced races what they are.

We are prone to think that the Negro is by nature religious, and therefore moral. He is both; but he is not enough of either when it comes to living up to fundamental principles every day. Because of his crude conception of what the Christian religion really is he too often practices one thing and preaches another. Often the foremost woman in the church is so far from a model for her less ambitious sisters that they look with contempt upon her and discredit religion. This misrepresentation of the genuine article takes many forms and sometimes the one woman is a combination of all. She allows her drinking, card playing, and rag time music at her home. She is loose in her conversation. Her language is often smutty. Her demeanor becomes a hangout for "sliding elders" and leading, hungry preachers. Her house is poorly kept. Her children are too young to be men and women and too old to be children. They are therefore the freshest things in the neighborhood. They run the church. They sit on the front seat, chew gum, talk and keep their "gang" giggling. To speak to them is to throw a match into a magazine of powder.

Those wise and talented youngsters of the leading sisters, get into the choir and start trouble for the choristers. They get religion and start trouble for the deacons. These children of too many of those who aspire to leadership in our local churches

presume too much on the standing and influence of their mothers and give our churches all kinds of trouble.

What we need is a new type of women in our homes as mothers, and a new type of women in our churches as leaders and examples for the young.

The wig wearing, gum chewing, beer smelling, mouth running, street trotting, home neglecting, convention fever type of women are out of style, and from them may we soon be delivered. Amen and Amen.

ROLL OF HONOR.

The Sun is proud of and extends its sincere thanks to the following Afro-American business firms and individuals for the reason that they have the high distinction of having had an advertisement in every one of the fifty-two issues of this paper during the year 1914. The growth and development of their business can be largely attributed to the wise and persistent advertising. They are as follows:

- Dr. Theo Smith.
- F. J. Weaver.
- Caldwell & Chapman.
- Mrs. C. A. Smith.
- Madame P. M. Dabney.
- A. W. Harris Printing Company.
- Love Regalia Company.
- T. E. Gear, 2211 Vine.
- Mrs. E. Norles, 1737 Paseo.
- Dr. E. C. Bunch, dentist.
- Miss Ruth Bradley, real estate.
- Moses Dickson Regalia Company.
- Mrs. Lillie Williams, dress making.

IN MEMORIAM.

In sweet and loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs. Annie Johnson, who passed away five years ago December 24, 1909.
"Memory's mirror shows no blot,
Memory's heart forgets thee not."
MRS. MIDGEE MOORE.



DR. T. C. UNTHANK.

Dean of the Negro physicians of Greater Kansas City and one of the most famous and successful surgeons of the race, a firm friend of the unfortunate, poor and needy, who without ostentation is constantly doing some act of charity or kindness to the needy. Kansas City is proud of Dr. Unthank.

Mr. E. A. Robinson, secretary of the Business League, is all O. K., and any statement to the contrary is unfair and misleading. He will have the new membership cards ready for distribution at the social meeting of the league to be held New Year's eve and will receive the names of all who wish to be restored to the Business League.

Cactus will remove corns and bunions.

Wonderful "707"
Positively Cures the
Worst Cases of Rheumatism
50 cents per bottle

Your money back if three bottles fail to cure!
One bottle is usually more than enough

The Palace Drug Stores
19th and Vine Sts. Bell Phone E. 641
1611 E. 18th St. Bell Phone E. 3668

Phone and we'll deliver it without extra charge.

The First Christmas

(Luke 2: 8-19.)

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

* Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

It is announced that the Ivanhoe club's annual dance will be carefully guarded against those who would attend upon their nerve instead of invitation. Personal cards will be taken up from each guest at the door and those who do not come clean will be refused admittance.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Day of love and day of days,
Bells aloft, a glad song ringing!
What is all the joy about—
What the message you are bringing?

Love, the great need of the world,
Through its lack all thugs must sorrow;
Love, the key to happiness—
And a brighter, fair tomorrow.

Christmas is to teach this lesson,
Birthday of our Lord and King—
Universal brotherhood,
This the tidings glad you bring.
—Marilda Gardner,
1525 East Eleventh street.

NOTICE.

The Inter-State Literary Association will hold its twenty-fourth annual session at Lawrence, Kas., Dec. 28, 29 and 30, 1914.

THE ORPHEUM.

Everything is in readiness for the opening of the new Orpheum theater on Baltimore avenue Saturday night. One of the best shows of the season is promised and every act is a strong one.

"The Bride Shop," produced by B. A. Rolfe, possesses all of the good points that any musical comedy has. This is Andrew Tombea, a comedian of original and unflinching methods; Lola Wentworth, the prima donna of "The Bride Shop," is the possessor of a bird like voice, which shows the good results of careful training. The book of this musical comedy was written by Fred De Gressa, author of "The Enchantress," "The Purple Road" and "Sweethearts." Securing this well known author's work for vaudeville is only another proof that the best of the artistic maris are to be found in the two-a-days.

When Wellington Cross and Lois Josephine were persuaded to accept musical comedy engagements, vaudeville nearly lost one of its most enjoyable acts. Their irresistible manner of singing and delivering bright and pertinent lines had quickly attracted the attention of the various producers of musical comedy, and they were soon a feature of "The Wall Street Girl," during the time that piece was seen on Broadway. Then they returned to vaudeville. They were taken away to become features of the musical comedy, "Oh, I Say." Recently they went to London, where at the Leicester Square theater they scored a decided success. They would still be there were it not the war necessitated their return.

Morris Cronin and his merry men in "Many Mirthful Moments" do some phenomenal juggling. This does not sound much like a novelty, but the way Mr. Cronin has put his merry men to work is, and a decided one. Cronin is an American but went to Europe early in life and was so successful there that he remained until the present. His present act was conceived and originally presented abroad—consequently this is his initial American tour.

Riding on the very crest of the wave of dancing popularity, is a team of society dancers called Bankoff and Girtle. They are responsible for any number of original ideas of the tango, hesitation waltz and the maxixe. The execution of their dancing is grace bewitching. M. Bankoff, a Russian dancer, was under study for Michael Mordkin, Pavlova's dancing partner, a couple of seasons ago, and danced with Pavlova for several weeks while Mordkin was ill. Bankoff's dancing partner, Winifred Gilrain, is a Boston girl, who was taught to dance by Bankoff himself.

Ever since Paris decided beauty was the most valuable of all possessions and bestowed his golden apple upon Venus, the question of types has remained unsolved. That beauty may be blonde, brunette or auburn, is undeniable, but the question which of the three types is the more beautiful is one that has made history and even caused thrones to totter. The producer of "The Three Beautiful Types" does not attempt to solve the discussion, but has merely gone out and searched the highways and byways for representatives of each type. The result is that he has secured a blonde whose beauty is ravishing, a brunette even Cleopatra might look upon with envy, and an auburn type of the most fascinating kind. In living representatives of famous paintings, the three young women not only represent a posing act that is really beautiful but form a practical exhibit which may settle among many the question which has been discussed since the world began.

When Walter S. "Rube" Dickinson created him now justly famous "Justice of the Peace," it must have been after a thorough study of that most important of all small town officials. Dickinson's monologue is brighter and clever by far than could possibly be the speech of any save a humorist, and his delivery is in that quiet yet forcible style of a man sure of his power on account of his position.

Little Cleo Gascoigne made an enviable reputation for herself in child parts with the Metropolitan Grand Opera Company of New York. She weighs but 69½ pounds and is only 3 feet 11½ inches tall, being one of the smallest prima donnas in history. Her vaudeville offering will be arising from "Traviata," "Tales of Hoffman," "Faust" and other well known operas.

The Orpheum Travel Weekly will also put on its best dress for the opening week, and offers an especially beautiful tinted reproduction of the famous Carnival in Venice, a trip through the valleys of France and scenes among the Pyrenees in Spain.

Two performances will be given New Year's eve, the first one commencing at 7 and running until 9:15; the second beginning at 9:20 and will be out in ample time to give every one an opportunity to take up their hotel reservations. Those who desire to stay and see the New Year in may do so, as the management is preparing a surprise for that occasion.

THE SUN FOR \$1.00 DURING JANUARY.

We will send the Sun for 1915 to any address in the United States for \$1.00, if ordered now and accompanied by the cash.

Our New Years Gift...

Do You Read The Sun?

Do You Like It?

Do you know you can get it for
ONE YEAR for ONE DOLLAR CASH, if ordered before Jan. 31, 1915?

(Sent anywhere in the United States.)

This Offer is to New Subscribers, and to Old ones who are SQUARE on our books.

ORDER NOW! OUR PHONE IS BELL EAST 999.

Call us, write, or see our agents.

1803 East 18th Street.

NELSON C. CREWS, Editor and Owner.