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BIG CHORUS RENDERS HIAWATHA

Jackson Scores Another Hit.

ALLEN CHAPTER FILLED TO HEARSINGERS

By CHAS. A. STARKS.

Can anyone imagine anything more weird and touching than the prelude played as introductory to the Wedding Feast of Hiawatha? Hiawatha, son of Mudjekewis of the West Wind and the beautiful Wenokah, daughter of old Nokomis, who fell from the full moon,

"Down thru the evening twilight in the days that are forgotten."

There was a great chorus to take up the narration of the wonderful Wedding Feast, which had begun so gloriously with orchestra baton by N. Clark Smith in his graphic and inimitable style.

Despite the natural, beautiful, romantic and appealing wildness of Longfellow's poem, it enjoyed but little popular form until one S. C. T., Son of Africa, kissed it with his magic wand of music and Hiawatha became a living dream. The characters and scenes are possibly peculiar to Red men, but the music of the composer makes their souls black by the touch of Africa's muse.

The Harp of Ethiopia is brought from the land of the morning the land of the setting sun, brought to give a new language to the sunshine of the meadow, the shadow of the forest, the wind among the branches.

Then it was another brilliant Coleridge Taylor evening. The spirit of his music was rampant. Taylor was just as much alive as if he was there in person. Time, Friday, April 21; place: Allen Chapel, which was amply



PROF. ROBT. G. JACKSON

Who so successfully conducted "Hiawatha" last Friday evening at Allen Chapel.

filled by music lovers of the city. The historic meeting place was alive with a great throng listening to weird chants, swelling volume and the mighty pitch of voice, strings, piano and organ vying and soaring above the lofty columns of the building.

We are told that Prof. Jackson tackled this difficult work with some natural apprehension as to its musical success under prevailing conditions. But the verdict of the audience would no doubt pronounce his effort as one decidedly happy, and thus another star in his profusely decorated Corona which he wears with perfectly unaffected modesty. Then it was a success.

Those contributing in special roles were: N. Clark Smith, who presided over the Orchestral Division; Miss Beulah Douglass, Organist; Miss Joyce Dorsey and Miss Eva Moore, as Pianists, and such local talent as this high-class trio: Miss Effie Grant, Soprano; Prof. F. J. Work, Tenor, and Mr. Lemuel Russell, Baritone. These handled the difficult staging roles.

As a relief against the first and last parts of Hiawatha Mrs. Emma Payne sang a number from J. Rosamond Johnson entitled "Since you went away." Never was song rendered with such plaintive dreariness. There was not the slightest tremor in the singer's voice as she interpreted for the audience the meaning of the pathos of a heart who feels the absence of a beloved one—sung in perfect accents, exact and rich with touching sympathy. Too bad there was no place for this singer in Hiawatha proper. Her second number was an innovation, "I heard the voice of Jesus Say," sung to the tune of "Dearest Memories," by Voderly. This was well received.

"Steal away to Jesus" was rendered by the Chorus with N. Clark Smith directing. This number was characteristic and discovered some clever tone maneuvering under the sharp baton of the director.

"The Crucifixion," one of Smith's own compositions was pleasingly rendered by the Chorus with Jackson directing.

"Oh, the long and dreary winter! Oh, the cold and cruel winter!" The disconsolate theme is now taken up. The chorus gives a fair interpretation, singing as even as could be expected. Indeed, one could see the effect of

Jackson's drilling in every turn. The rendition was all that could be asked under the circumstances and we call your attention to the unusual ability of Prof. Jackson in training voice and hand. Every local student should take advantage of Jackson's genius to impart thoroughly the higher perception of music to those who would learn. The writer notices the fine spirit of relationship that exhibits itself between teacher and student. It must be pleasant for those privileged to study in such an atmosphere of congeniality and profitability. Those who want voice culture, those who would understand the fundamental manipulation of the piano and its technique, those who would be a part of the great musical organization, see R. G. Jackson at his studio. Join his class. Become of the elected, initiated into the inner science of music—the harmony of tone and color.

Dr. Theo. Smith's Easter opening was the largest, grandest and most successful in the history of his business. All classes were represented from school principals to washer women, and laborers. Dr. Smith is popular among all classes because he plays no favorites. The servant and working classes get as much consideration as the professional or wealthy class.

Dr. Smith came here a few years ago with less than Five Hundred Dollars and today his assets runs up into the thousands. His word and indorsement means something among the best white people. We need more race men like him.

PATRONS' DAY AT LINCOLN SCHOOL

The annual patrons' day at Lincoln school will be held next Wednesday, May 3. An elaborate exhibit of the year's work will be on display in each of the rooms and in the domestic science and manual training departments. A special feature of the display will be the handwork of the various classes. The millinery work of the seventh grade pupils under Miss Clara V. Lynden has been made a great success this year and each parent has sent to the teacher a special letter of thanks and congratulations. This work will be on display.

The kindergarten exercises will begin at 11 o'clock, luncheon will be served in the school cafeteria and during the afternoon there will be singing, games, drills and folk dances on the school grounds.

It is always a great comfort to one to know they're kindly remembered by dear friends after many months of lingering illness and the kindly felt appreciation is better expressed by one who is truly the recipient at this time. Such is the case of Mrs. Frances Wilson who was so kindly remembered by the following friends at a Easter time: Mrs. Charlotte Vire, a potted Easter lily; Mrs. Benj. Braxton, a potted Martha Washington geranium; Mrs. Milo Hawkins of Washington, Ind., a large box so heavily laden with lovely serviceable clothing from the daintiest lingerie, pretty dollies and so forth to the richest silk and velvet ready to wear costumes, the outfits completed with two stunning hats that would arouse the envy of any of our artistic milliners. Mrs. Wilson in her pleased air of astonishment and thanks only says: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

ALLEN CHAPEL

God gave us a most beautiful day. The church was artistically decorated with flowers and ferns and singing birds and people came out in large numbers. There must have been fully 1,500 people at the morning services. The choir was simply grand. The minister preached a great and forceful sermon. His text was: "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" After preaching the rites of baptism were administered to Miss Eugla Zephyr Anna Lewis, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, and Miss Helen Thompkins, infant daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Thompkins. At 2:30 the minister preached the annual Easter sermon of Far West Commandery No. 3, Knights Templar, and again Allen chapel was filled to its capacity. At 7:30 vesper services were held. At these services Rev. J. C. C. Owen spoke. We were all glad to have Rev. Owens with us. The fair begins Monday night. Remember this and be present as many nights as possible.

EBENEZER A. M. E. CHURCH. Rev. C. A. Williams of Wichita, Kas., will preach at 11 a. m. Sunday. The two weeks' rally to date netted the trustees \$623.46. The rally will continue over next Sunday.

Mr. J. E. Laing, 1715 East Eighth street, has returned to the city after touring the state of Oklahoma in the interest of his business. He was accompanied home by his wife, who has been teaching in that state. Mrs. Laing will now have charge of their establishment.

Our Children's Shoes and Slippers can not be surpassed. They are late in cut and color and prices right. 1507 E. 18th st. G. A. Page Shoes.

Association of Colored Chauffeur's Banquet

Sixty chauffeurs sat down at the banquet table on last Tuesday night at the X. M. C. A. This was the first of a series of such social business gatherings of the Associated Colored Chauffeurs for the purpose of uniting the colored chauffeurs of the city for the mutual benefit of employer and employee.

The following program was rendered:

Toastmaster—C. E. Cross. Music—Orchestra. Address—R. B. DeFrantz. Instrumental Solo—Tapley Berger. Address—Prof. J. R. E. Lee. Banjo Selection—George Donel. Address—Dallas Foster. Music—Orchestra. Paper—"Motives"—R. A. Perkins. "Why We Organized"—J. S. Weathery, president. Our Association—Charles Garrett. My Duty to the Association—John B. Lucas. General Remarks—Fred Wright.

Menu. Fruit cocktail. Young spring lamb. Stuffed peppers. Green Peas. Russian salad. Cake. Black coffee.

EASTER SERVICE OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

The Far West Commandery No. 3, and Emanuel Commandery No. 25, Knights Templar, turned out in great array last Sunday afternoon at 2:50 at Allen Chapel, where their annual Easter services were held. A large and appreciative audience listened to a very fine and inspirational program. The sermon was preached by the Rev. William T. Thomas, D. D., and the prelate, Prof. Wm. H. Dawley, Jr., was master of ceremonies. Music was furnished by the Lincoln High School chorus, while solo's were sung as follows: "Calvary," Miss Saxe P. English, and "The Sanctus" and "Ademaria" by Prof. Fred J. Work.

The ritualistic service was conducted by Eminent Commander Edw. S. Baker. Grand Master Crews extended the invitation of the church and so urgent was his appeal that twelve persons came up and pledged themselves to join some church the next Sunday.

Rev. Wm. H. Thomas, pastor of Allen Chapel, will leave Sunday night for the General Conference, which convenes at Philadelphia. Delegates leaving here at the same time are: Revs. A. A. Gilbert, J. F. Sage, W. C. Williams and Mr. Geo. W. Teeters.



MR. EMMET J. SCOTT

Secretary of National Negro Business League. Mr. Booker T. Washington in his annual address said: "In a large measure it is the hard work, the business tact, and the modest, unselfish resourcefulness of Mr. Scott which makes this Business League the powerful agency for good that it is."

PROFESSOR R. G. JACKSON will conduct a Summer Music School at Allen Chapel this summer. There will be classes in Piano, Organ, Voice and Harmony. Special attention will be given to those who have never had lessons before and to children between ages of 7 and 12 years. For catalogue and other literature address Box 170, or call Bell phone West 1032, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

ARGENTINE NEWS.

By Ophelia Jackson. Mrs. Lulu Berry of Silver avenue, was run down by a motorcycle at 22d and Metropolitan avenue on last Monday afternoon. Three ribs were fractured and she received other very serious injuries.

Mrs. Mayme Dobb of Oklahoma City, who is here visiting, has been quite sick but is very much improved at this writing.

An excellent Easter program was rendered at the Second Baptist church on Sunday night. Miss Tule, a missionary from Africa, gave a very interesting talk, and several musical numbers were rendered by Miss Martha Ford of Virginia avenue, Kansas City, Kas., which were received with a great ovation.

Miss Ida Stanifer on South 37th street, is sick with pneumonia.

Large congregations were present at St. Paul A. M. E. church all day on Easter. A very good and well received program was rendered by the Sunday school and choir on Sunday night.

Several residents of Argentine attended the rendition of Coleridge Tay-

lor's Hiawatha at Allen Chapel on Good Friday evening. Among them were Mrs. Victoria McDaniel, Mrs. Hawthorne and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jackson.

In the death of Aaron Overton, Argentine has lost one of its best thought of and most beloved citizens. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him. During his illness, which lasted a year, the untiring efforts of his brother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Turner Overton, an aunt, Mrs. Mamie Maxie of Kansas City, and his devoted wife remained unchanged. He died on Saturday morning, April 22, at 2 a. m. He was conscious to the last and bade those at his bedside goodbye. His funeral was held at the St. Paul A. M. E. church. Rev. H. D. Harris officiated. The body was escorted by the Argentine Cornet band, of which he was leader eight years, and Mr. Geo. Simmons had charge of the funeral, an undertaking for whom he had worked ten years. He leaves a wife, two sons, one daughter, one brother, two sisters, an aunt and a number of other relatives and friends to mourn his demise.

WATCH NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE SUN

for the final monthly

MUSICAL PROGRAM OF LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

which will be rendered

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 7

Best Musical Talent from all parts of the City will assist the

HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

The Owl's Easter Ball

Prizes Won in Swell Dressing.

Monday's Dance at Wright's Academy Went Big.

Prof. Dude Knox's orchestra was playing one of those all engulfing scottisches, such as "Down Among the Sheltering Palms," when 200 couples swayed to and fro, now here and now there, walking and skipping, now close locked and "seasiding" with the music as the graceful waving of waters, four hundred feet raised in unison, running forward, now aside, wheeling and turning all to the tune of some stirring and catchy rag.

It was the night of the Owls. Their weekly Monday night ball. Over 400 people were there. Every attendant more or less dressed to death in some new fangled Easter creation. Every mother's son and daughter seemed to "have 'em." There were prizes offered for the two best dressed ladies present. Every fair one in the ball was a brilliant contender and the contest was finally and agreeably settled.

A general good time was in vogue for everyone. The stellar lights of the Owls were there. That prince of entertainers, Marshall Rodgers, was there. Steve Lane, the joy dispenser; Jim Carter, the personage who is about, and the "Yellow Peril," better known as "Jap" the Oriental Kid, a popular favorite.

There was not a dull moment. The hall was decorated for the occasion, the music was good and the terpsichorean devotees danced till 1 o'clock. All of which is another reason why Wright's academy is the best.

ONCE MORE TO THE FORE.

Lincoln Electric Park, 20th and Woodland, Kansas City, Mo., Greater, Grand, More Interesting Than Ever—America's Greatest Colored Resort.

GRAND OPENING, MAY 6, 1916.

With new attractions, new concessions, surprises galore, amongst which has been added the construction of a new \$2,000 swimming pool, with more than a hundred separate lockers, furnished with latest style bathing costumes; departments for ladies and gentlemen, the whole immense innovation suggestive of an of an Eastern of west coast seaside resort. Come and see!

On the stage, new faces, new acts, combining every form of theatrical art—Madame Billy Kersands, with her phenomenal voice, who has pleased the multitude, in the United States, Canada and Australia, will positively appear here at the Lincoln Electric Park, supported by an excellent company of singers, dancers and vaudevillians.

The merry-go-round, the bowling alley, the only one in town at our service, are amongst the principal new concessions.

The rising popularity of the Knights Templar band has enlisted their services in the Park and splendid street parade.

The dancing pavilion and academy will be open every evening under the charge of Prof. W. C. Clark.

The management has been fortunate in securing the services of Prof. Chas. T. Watts as musical director for the stage productions.

Many of the principal lodges and other organizations of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, have booked for their annual fetes at the Park.

Beginning on Saturday, May 6, every school child on the Missouri side, will take part in a great athletic tournament.

Otis H. McDaniels is the manager of all amusements.

ST. STEPHEN'S BAPTIST CHURCH.

Services were well attended at the St. Stephen Baptist church Sunday. The pastor, Rev. J. W. Hulse, preached a soul stirring sermon morning and evening, from Matt. 25:8. Subject, "The Risen Lord." At morning service two souls were happily converted. The B. Y. P. U. rendered a splendid program at 6:30 p. m. There were 14 additions. At the close of evening services fifteen came up for prayer. On the strength of this the pastor will preach every night this week, and if it pleases the Lord will close Sunday night by preaching "The Eagle Stirreth Up Her Nest."

CENTENNIAL M. E. CHURCH.

Easter Sunday was a great day at Centennial. The worshippers attentively listened to a beautiful sermon on the Resurrection of Christ by the pastor, Rev. Richard Davis. There were four additions to the membership, two of which were converts. A delightful program was rendered in the evening under the direction of C. A. Warrick. The total collection for the day was \$83.00.

VINE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

All services well attended last Sunday. Mr. Geo. W. Taylor has been very sick for two weeks. He was confined to his room a large portion of the time, but is somewhat better at this writing. We hope he will continue to improve.

Houses and flats for rent. We have houses for \$50.00 down and \$10.00 down. Call White. Either phone, East 3249.

MRS. BESSIE M. WEAVER

Kansas City's popular florist, who delivered the following address before the National Negro Business League in Boston, August 20, 1915:



The Business Opportunities Offered Colored Women in the Florist Business.

"I have been so busy out there on the floor of the convention trying to get life and annual memberships, as you requested, Dr. Washington, that I have almost forgotten the few words I intended to say on this important subject. I want briefly to speak of the opportunities offered the women of our race in the florist business. This is a big, undeveloped field, which should especially appeal to a woman and it is one of the most profitable enterprises a woman can engage in. I have found it to be very interesting work and as healthful as it is interesting. Be it said to the credit of our race, our people have always been lovers of music and flowers. They buy lots of flowers, especially for funeral purposes, to say nothing of weddings, entertainments, table decorations, yard and garden use in the matter of bulbs and plants, graduating exercises and for a number of other purposes that will easily occur to you.

When I made my first report to you at the Philadelphia meeting, I was the only Negro florist in Kansas City, Missouri, but since that time there have been two other ladies engaged in the same line of work. And we are succeeding in educating and inducing our people as well as others to buy flowers for Christmas gatherings and entertainments. Easter greetings, Mother's Day, flowers to be used in the home, in the church, in the Sunday school, in the hospitals, at weddings, as well as for funeral designs. So you see this is a business that can be profitably conducted the year round, and the nature of which is admirably suited to womanly endeavor.

Here in Boston there is a splendid opportunity, indeed there is an opportunity for us in any section of this country for pretty, well grown flowers never draw the color line. The business requires comparatively small capital start for as Dr. Washington has said "you can begin at the bottom" and gradually increase your stock and equipment until you are well established. Another feature of this business which is not true of the average mercantile venture and that is your flowers grow even while you are asleep and the forces of nature are in league with you in your endeavor to succeed; when the men, when the merchant closes his doors for the night his income ceases, his stock is depreciating in value; the air and sunshine and moisture and the gentle rain from Heaven mean but little to him as an asset, but to the florist they mean much, and even when the florist retires, the buds will burst forth and blossom in the night. In connection with my florist establishment I conducted a laundry agency which helped to tide me over the operating expenses and enabled me to make money from the very beginning. I would not exaggerate the profits to be made in this business at first for it takes time to grow plants and flowers, there are expenses to be met, and it also takes time to win trade and build up any kind of lucrative business but I know of no business more suited to women and which promises an almost certain profit if rightly conducted than the florist business. The propagation of plants enables you to take one plant, for instance a geranium, and from that one plant you can root a dozen or more potted plants after a little instruction. Many florists of this country have grown rich in the business owning greenhouses and equipments that run up into the hundreds of thousands of dollars and a large number of them I can name started in a very humble way. Why can't we do likewise? (Applause). Now I hope when this league meets in Kansas City next year (applause) we will be able to hear reports from quite a number of our young women to the effect that they have embarked and are succeeding in this same line of work. You have a crowded program and therefore I shall not detain you further. I thank you." (Hearty applause).

Mrs. Cox of Boston, Mass., said: "I want to correct Mrs. Weaver by saying that we have a young woman who is in the florist business right here in Cambridge."

Mrs. Weaver replied: "I am delighted to know that."

It also developed that young colored women were engaged in the flor-

Y. M. C. A.

The dormitory rooms are so filled that it is now necessary for men desiring accommodations to make reservations in advance.

Present indications are that May will equal April for a number of banquets and special parties to be served in the association's banquet hall.

That a larger number of men might take advantage of the physical privileges, including shower baths, a special rate of \$5 has been made until May 8 for full membership.

The "Boaters" club is to give a musical entertainment for the benefit of the club and the boys' summer camp, which will be rendered May 12 in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium.

"Making Good" will be the subject of the address by the international secretary, R. P. Hamlin, at the men's meeting April 30, 3:30 p. m. Mr. Hamlin, whose headquarters are in Washington, D. C., is making a tour of the West inspecting associations. All men, and especially members of the Y. M. C. A. are expected to be present. Rev. Davis' Easter address was a treat for the men.

OFFICIAL CALL.

To the Members of the Western Negro Press Association.

At the 17th annual meeting of the association in Kansas City, Missouri, December 27, 28, 1915, it was voted that the 18th annual session of this organization should be held in the city of Chicago on Monday and Tuesday, June 5th and 6th, 1916.

Therefore by the authority vested in me as president of the Association, I hereby call upon each member of the Association to be present at the office of the Chicago Defender, 3159 State street, in said city of Chicago, at 10 o'clock, Monday morning, June 5th, 1916, for the purpose of transacting the business of the Association and discussing questions of interest, the race, state and nation.

All newspaper, or magazine editors, editors, reporters, managers or correspondents not members of the association are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

Respectfully,
A. J. SMITHERTON,
President.

J. D. COOKE,
Rec. Sec., Milwaukee, Wis.
THOS. KENNEDY,
Cor. Sec., Kansas City, Kas.

COLOR AND WORK.

It was a happy thought to have half a dozen dark-faced men supply music in advance of Mr. Moorfield Storey's address before the New England Dry Goods Association. That body had gathered to hear his plea for a fairer distribution of industrial opportunities among our colored citizens, and the orchestral performance significantly anticipated the lesson he came to teach. What the guests heard was music, and there is no color in music. None is injected by the score sheets or even by the instruments; piano, violin, cornet and drum give out in an absolutely unprejudiced manner the notes required of them. The musicians, differ as they may in skill, show no peculiarity which can be traced to "race, color or previous condition of servitude." You can not tell by mere listening whether they were born North, South, East or West. "America" and "The Star Spangled Banner" sound the same whosoever touches the keys, bows the strings or supplies the "wind." And if there is no color in music, why should there be color in work?

That question is raised by the declaration which has just gone forth from about 1,500 of Boston's best known residents announcing their willingness "to be served by colored salespeople and other colored employees, wherever found competent for the duties assigned them," and adding the request that "opportunity be given to colored applicants for positions to demonstrate their fitness for employment." This can only mean—it is intended to mean—that our colored men and women are being slighted in the distribution of certain kinds of work. And yet a good deal of disinclination to try them out, as Mr. Storey more than hinted, arises out of a supposition rather than out of a fact. The employer is bound to avoid giving offense to his customers, but does not always take the trouble to find out how many of them would be "offended." That 1,500 citizens have taken the trouble to disclaim all sensitiveness in the matter should serve to "encourage the others." A reasonable share in the city's industrial and commercial opportunities is the right of all our people, irrespective of class, color or creed.—Boston Herald.

Slippers and low shoes for men, women and children at G. A. Page's, 1507 East 18th street.