

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

Vol. XXII.

CHICAGO, JANUARY 27, 1917

No. 19

Attorney William L. Martin Eloquently Declared at Entertainer's Hall on Wednesday Evening at a Meeting in the Interest of Alderman Oscar DePriest; That the People Must Not Sit in Pre-Judgment of Mr. DePriest, on Complaint and Indictment; That Indictments Are Not Convictions; That a Jury of Twelve Men Had Yet to Pass Upon His Guilt or Innocence

AMONG OTHER THINGS HE DECLARED THAT IN MANY INSTANCES A BLACK MAN HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH CRIME AND LYNCHED TO DEATH WITHOUT A TRIAL, THEN LATER IT WAS CLEARLY PROVEN THAT HE WAS NEVER GUILTY OF COMMITTING THE CRIME HE WAS CHARGED WITH.

HE FURTHER DECLARED THAT ALDERMAN DE PRIEST MUST NOT BE POLITICALLY LYNCHED BY COLORED MEN WITHOUT A TRIAL IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF COOK COUNTY.

MANY MEN IN THIS CITY HAVE REDDENED THEIR HANDS IN THE BLOOD OF THEIR FELLOW MEN AND THEY HAVE BEEN LIBERATED ON BONDS RANGING FROM \$10,000 TO \$25,000.

THIS IS NOT TRUE, HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF ALDERMAN DE PRIEST FOR HE HAS BEEN TREATED LIKE UNTO THE MOST DESPERATE CRIMINAL, BEING REQUIRED TO FURNISH BONDS FOR HIS FREEDOM FOR MORE THAN \$50,000.

MANY COLORED MEN ARE IN THE SCHEME TO ASSASSINATE HIM POLITICALLY AND TO PREVENT ANY OTHER COLORED MAN FROM SUCCEEDING HIM IN THE CITY COUNCIL. BY AIDING IN THIS COLD BLOODED SCHEME, THEY ARE SIMPLY ASSISTING TO BRING DOWN UPON THEIR OWN HEADS EVERLASTING WOE AND DESTRUCTION.

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN 1906 THAT HON. F. L. BARNETT WAS SHAMELESSLY DEPRIVED FROM SERVING AS ONE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES EVEN AFTER HE WAS FAIRLY ELECTED AND FROM THAT DAY TO THIS NO OTHER COLORED LAWYER HAS HAD A LOOK IN THAT DIRECTION.

IT IS CLAIMED THAT COL. ARCHIBOLD NAPOLEON FIELDS WHO WAS ONE OF THE CHIEF WITNESSES BEFORE THE GRAND JURY AGAINST ALDERMAN DE PRIEST HAS SUCCESSFULLY MADE HIS "GET AWAY."

IT IS ALSO REPORTED THAT COL. JOSEPH S. DAVIS WHO WAS ALSO ONE OF THE CHIEF WITNESSES BEFORE THE GRAND JURY IS TOTTING AROUND TWO BIG REVOLVERS IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SPORTING ELEMENT FROM JUMPING ON HIM.

At this stage of the game when excitement is running high a most bitter feeling is continuing to be worked up between the White and Colored people in this city by the daily newspapers, whose editors and wildcat writers are successfully aiding the Colored people to belittle themselves to bitterly hate each other and to turn upon themselves like bloodthirsty savages. It is very risky and extremely dangerous for a Colored editor conducting a little one horse newspaper to attempt to raise his voice in behalf of right and even handed justice without running the fearful risk of being yanked up and thrown into jail by the powers that be, nevertheless we shall adhere to at least a part of the absolute truth in this respect, though the heavens fall and the sun refuse to shine forth in all of its splendor.

More than four months ago it was stated in the columns of the daily newspapers of this city that later on or within two or three months from that time an effort would be made to kill Alderman Oscar De Priest off just before the primaries, that the chances were ten to one that by the time he was ready to make his second race for the city council that he would have several indictments hanging over his independent head, it was also contended at that time that Alderman De Priest was very objectionable to some of the powers that be; that at all times he was ever ready to fight and contend for everything that morally or rightly belonged to the Colored people; that the time had arrived for the Colored people to stop permitting milk and water dishonest White politicians to feed them on soft soap from the end of a long silver spoon; that some of the powers that be and many pin-headed White and Colored people hate him with all of their being simply because he has been successful in business main-

tains his family in good shape and as a free American citizen carries his head up in the air and feels that he is just as good as any other human being on the face of the earth.

Right here we must pause for a few moments to state for all time to come namely that the vast majority of the narrow minded and prejudiced ridden Colored people always hate to see or hear of any Colored man becoming independent and they dearly love him much better as long as he is dependent.

On Wednesday evening many of the friends of Alderman De Priest held a meeting at Entertainer's Hall, to consider the crisis existing at this time in Second Ward politics and the leading speakers at the meeting were Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, George W. Ellis, Louis B. Anderson, Edward D. Green, Adelbert H. Roberts, Attorney William L. Martin, Dr. Spencer C. Dickerson, Edward H. Wright, Rev. John T. Jenifer, Rev. J. C. Anderson, Pastor of Quinn Chapel, Mrs. Cordelia West and Mrs. Ada McKinley.

The result of the meeting was one of confidence in the integrity of Mr. De Priest until proven guilty, and a continuation of support to him politically if he determined to be a candidate. In a masterful address Attorney W. L. Martin pointed out that indictments are not convictions and that a jury of 12 men had yet to sit on the case; that we deplore pre-judgment of a man on complaint and indictment. He reasoned that many instances have occurred where a black man was charged with crime and lynched to death without a trial. Said he, are we as black men going to accept as true the complaint and indictment against Alderman De Priest and politically lynch him without a trial?

Mr. Martin related that which is absolutely true, for almost every day in the year in this country some Col-

ored man, woman or child are simply charged with committing some crime, then they are mobbed and lynched in the most horrible manner and after their bodies have been burned at the stake and slices of their quivering flesh has been sold to the highly civilized White Christians for cash, it was proven that they, the Colored men, women and children were not guilty of committing the crimes they were charged with committing.

There is no desire on our part to control the actions of any other human being residing in this city in relation to Alderman De Priest, but as far as we are concerned we intend to give the full benefit of all doubts until he is proven guilty of committing the crimes he is charged with committing beyond a reasonable doubt.

On many occasions in the past many men in this city have reddened their hands in the blood of their fellowmen and after committing a thousand crimes (as it were) they have been given their liberty pending their trial on bonds ranging anywhere from ten to twenty-five thousand dollars, that is not true, however, in the case of Alderman De Priest, seemingly he is classed with the most desperate criminals that have ever disgraced the name of man and therefore he has been compelled to furnish bonds for his freedom for more than fifty thousand dollars but in the estimation of some people that is even handed justice in this boasted land of freedom and home of the brave.

Many short sighted Colored men it seems are in the cold blooded scheme to assassinate Alderman De Priest politically and to prevent any Colored man from succeeding him in the City Council, they are so blinded to their best interest that they are perfectly willing to assist to pull down on their own heads everlasting woe and destruction.

It will be recalled that Hon. F. L. Barnett was elected one of the Judges of the Municipal Court in 1906 and afterwards he was counted out or some way or other tricked out of that honor and his election even after many of his race loving friends donated money to aid him to contest it, and the present scheme is to kill off Alderman De Priest at any cost and for all time to come to prevent any other Colored man from being elected to the City Council from the Second Ward, for ever since the election and the counting out of Mr. Barnett no other Colored lawyer has come within ten thousand miles of securing the nomination for Judge of the Municipal Court.

THE APPOMATTOX CLUB, THE LEADING NEGRO ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTRY IN A BIG DRIVE FOR RACE UPLIFT.

Beauregard F. Moseley Appointed Chairman of the Civic and Public Affairs Committee. Big "Symposium" at Club Parlors, February 4th, on "Negro Migration." All Lyceums and Literary Clubs of the City Invited to Have Representatives Present. President Col. J. H. Johnson Requests Presence of All Members, Wives and Friends.

The Appomattox Club seems to have at last struck the real note of the purpose of its organization, Race Uplift, and will commence it's 1917 program on Sunday, February 4th, 1917, at 4 P. M., at the Club Parlors, in a big "Symposium" upon the livest ques-

tion now before the American people, "Negro Migration."

The program is in charge of one of Chicago's most active and public spirited citizens, Beauregard F. Moseley, a lawyer of repute and great practice, who will be remembered as having put the Club on record last year in a big speech at Wendell Phillips High School, on the occasion of the Lincoln and Douglass anniversaries. He is surrounding himself as Chairman of the Civic & Public Affairs Committee, with some of the best talent in the Club, and purposes, with the co-operation of Col. J. H. Johnson, President, and the Board of Directors, to make things hum.

On the occasion of February 4th, next, the program will indeed be interesting, as not only the representatives of the Grace Lyceum, the St. Mark's Literary and that of Bethel, Olivet, Quinn Chapel, Wayman Chapel, St. Paul's M. E., Mt. Zion of Evanston, and other leading churches of the city will speak or read papers upon this subject, but each member of the Civic Committee will be heard, thus giving an opportunity to all who may attend to hear the best discussions possible upon this subject.

All clubs or literaries, desiring to have representatives present, should forward the name to Chairman Moseley not later than Saturday, February 3rd, or sooner.

On Sunday, February 11th, 1917, at 4 P. M., the Club will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass

with speeches. The day will be known as the "Douglass Centenary" and appropriate speeches will be made by the Hon. Albert C. Barnes, of the Appellate Court, upon the subject of "Abraham Lincoln," and Dr. Geo. Cleveland Hall, one of the noted physicians of the race, upon the subject of "Frederick Douglass" at the Club Parlors. Dr. Dickerson promises a real treat by first class musical program on each occasion.

The members of the Civic & Public Speakers Committee, as announced by President Johnson are as follows:

Beauregard F. Moseley, Chairman, Hon. L. B. Anderson, Hon. S. B. Turner, Col. John R. Marshall, Hon. S. A. T. Watkins, Mr. D. French, Hon. H. S. Daniels, Hon. Henry S. Anderson, Hon. E. H. Wright, Hon. Oscar DePriest, Dr. S. C. Dickerson, Hon. R. S. Abbott, Hon. W. R. Cowan, Major R. R. Jackson, Hon. A. L. Jackson, Hon. A. A. Wells—"C. M. F."

It is hoped that the Hon. Henry S. Anderson and the many other honorables will accomplish wonders in behalf of civic betterment.—Editor.

ALDERMAN OSCAR DE PRIEST WITHDRAWS FROM THE RACE FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL FROM THE SECOND WARD.

Alderman Oscar De Priest has withdrawn from the race for re-election to the City Council from the Second Ward and Col. James H. Johnson will make the race in his stead.



ALDERMAN OSCAR DE PRIEST.

Still stoutly maintains that at no time since he was elected to the City Council from the Second Ward has he accepted one dollar as graft or easy money from any source whatever.

DEATH OF BEN SUMMERS.

Sunday, January 21st, Ben Summers, who was well known on the South Side, passed away at the Fort Dearborn Hospital after a spell of sickness lasting for eleven weeks. Funeral services were held over his remains, at his late residence, 3426 Forest avenue, Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Summers was born in Quincy, Ill., coming to Chicago when he was quite a young man. For a number of years he railroaded, lately he assumed the presidency of the Pioneer Club, 3512 S. State street, which was organized and is run in the interest or for the benefit of railroad men.

Charles E. Morrison, special messenger to Mayor William Hale Thompson, who was a warm friend of Mr. Summers feels sure that he will be greatly missed, by his former associates and friends.

GOV. STANLEY WHO DEFIED KY. MOB WAS ELECTED BY AID OF COLORED DEMOCRATS.

(Louisville News).—Gov. Stanley was elected Chief Executive of this State by a very small majority—less than a thousand, and they do say that to local Colored Democrats is due the credit.

At any rate in this instance it was good for Kentucky, good for Martin and maybe good for Judge Bush that A. O. Stanley was Governor.

In fact nor fiction have we ever heard before the invitation "HANG THE GOVERNOR FIRST."