

THE BROAD AX
Published Every Saturday

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The Broad Ax is a newspaper whose platform is broad enough for all, ever claiming the editorial right to speak as its own mind.

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**AUDACITY, VULGARITY, SEN-
SUALITY AT WENDELL
PHILLIPS HIGH SCHOOL
DANCING CLUB**

By Dr. M. A. Majors

Accidentally the writer saw through a window into the Antilles Hall, at 3524 Michigan avenue, some very disgusting, low, underworld stunts and, on making inquiry what club or society it was holding such a smutty orgy, was informed that it was the Wendell Phillips High School Dancing Club. We were told that some teacher acted as chaperon at their weekly dances. We stopped, struck dumb on learning that a teacher of our own race would allow such as we saw to be carried on in her presence. Any woman would blush for shame to see the ugly, low, nasty dances we saw done by boys and girls between 14 and 15 years of age, and supposed to be the representative element of the race in the high school.

The sights we saw are indescribable and too low to dwell upon, and we wonder how in God's name a teacher can let such filth go on under her observation. After nearly sixty years we are greeted with new and startling surprises. Unwarranted degradation, the shadow of the old red light district, the grotesque insolence of ever-horrifying spectacle marauding the minds of what we call tender youth enacted as if it was intended to destroy every possible human decency.

If this school is to be allowed by the parents of the children, by the school authorities, and by the citizens, what need is there for education? What need have we to hope for better things? If the ugly debacle is to be encouraged we might close up our Sunday schools and find interesting pastime in forbidding goodness and respectability among people with a dark skin.

If this High School Dancing Club is endorsed by the school authorities, it is a covenant with hell, born of the devil and fostered to kill out of the ambitious hearts of our young men and women all that is noble and inspiring and that is respectable. This article is intended to reach our newspapers, preachers, politicians and civic clubs, hoping that a speedy investigation of this club shall be made and that it be disorganized for the glory of our children, the purity of our girls and the decency of our young manhood.

We had but one thought in mind when our eyes beheld the surprising, shocking lack of decency and the bold, daring vulgarity of those children to call the police.

**WHY NOT HONOR IN PLACE
OF DISHONOR?**

By Dr. M. A. Majors

Is there a concerted action on the part of most white people to wring all of the Negro blood out of the American flag?

What a calamity has come to the Negro race by the painstaking effort (it seems) at Washington to humble and humiliate the 24th infantry, the very flower of the U. S. Army.

For forty years this regiment has added lustre and raised the standards of valor and patriotism to army life, and years after years presidents who have adorned the White House have looked upon them as bulwarks to American safety. Under the present administration the achievements of this regiment are discredited, the men virtually disarmed, and sent to Georgia military training school under the order of the secretary of war, to be



HON. MICHAEL ZIMMER

The popular and efficient Superintendent of the Cook County Hospital, who would make a splendid Democratic candidate for Mayor of Chicago in 1923

bulldozed and take insolent treatment from the Georgians, whose reputation for cruelty to Negroes is without a parallel in this country.

A movement is on foot to petition the president, through our congressmen and U. S. senators, with a possible minimum of prospect of getting the president to rescind action, and restore the regiment to its former status. Should the president do this he will win the gratitude of all loyal citizens of the republic.

**SYMPATHY, JUSTICE AND OPPORTUNITY ARE DUE
NEGRO CITIZENS**

President Lowell of Harvard and Other Leaders Speak at Hampton Meeting

Boston, Mass.—That the so-called "Negro problem" should be studied "as a unique opportunity, an adventure, and a challenge to our democracy and our Christianity, which we should not fear, but for which rather we should give thanks" was the opinion expressed by Dr. James E. Gregg, principal of Hampton Institute, in his recent address, delivered in Old South Church, of which Dr. George A. Gordon is the pastor, at a meeting which was held under the auspices of the Hampton Association of Massachusetts and was presided over by W. Cameron Forbes.

President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University declared that sympathy, justice and opportunity are due members of the Negro race. Mrs. Henry Lane Schmelz of Hampton, Va., a prominent Southern white woman who is chairman of the Woman's Inter-Racial Committee of Virginia, outlined the development and work of the Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation throughout the South.

"This adventure of enabling different races to live and work happily together bristles with difficulties," said Doctor Gregg.

"The curse of slavery, even more hurtful to the white plantation owners and slave-breeders and slave-traders and merchants in rum, molasses and cotton, who profited financially by it than to the Negro slaves themselves, has left us in the North as well as in the South a tradition of thoughtless injustice, a certain callousness to cruelty, that is amazing and shameful."

"The fact that three score of our colored fellow-citizens are put to death by mobs every year is the most terrible evidence of this brutal lawlessness. Let me hasten to say that lawlessness has repeatedly been exemplified in the North as well as in the South, and that there are many white men and women of the South who feel the shame of lynching quite as keenly as any people in the North."

"Then there is still in most of the Southern States an inequality in educational privileges which cannot be defended. One state superintendent of public instruction reports that in 1920-21 the public expenditure for the education of white children was \$39.26 per capita and for colored children \$4.84 per capita. Teachers are often underpaid. School terms are often pitifully short. In every state in the South, however, the set of the current, educationally is toward the improvement of the Negro schools."

"General Armstrong set out on this adventure of faith, hope and love more than fifty years ago when he established Hampton Institute as a school in which young men and women should be trained in head, heart and hand; in mind, conscience and will, for unpretentious, unselfish, trustworthy leadership—to go out and do as he said, 'a quiet work that shall make the land purer and better.'"

President Lowell Pleads for Justice
President Lowell said: "We owe the Negro sympathy for the years of suffering he has endured and for the handicaps he has been placed under. His aspirations, yes, even his hopes, deserve our sympathy. It is only just that if we are to be of any help in

solving the Negro question, we should be first of all in sympathy with the man we are trying to aid. We owe the Negro justice, in every sense of the word. If guilty of a crime in the eyes of the law, he must be punished—but punished by criminal justice and not by the false standards of criminal justice set up by mob violence."

Discussing the opportunity that should be given the Negro, President Lowell quoted Booker T. Washington's declaration that the Negro should be given the opportunity "to achieve anything he can prove himself capable of achieving."
"The Negro should be given the opportunity to achieve an education and even a career," declared President Lowell.

**ANTI-LYNCHING SENTIMENT
FAST GAINING GROUND**

Twenty-two Lynchers Indicted in Georgia This Year—Four Convicted, Fifteen to be Tried

One Indicted in Previous 37 Years

Race Relations Committee Seeks Better Anti-Lynching Law—Eminent Jurists Appointed to Draft It

Atlanta Ga. (Special to The Broad Ax)—That there has been a surprising increase of anti-lynching sentiment in Georgia recently and a growing determination on the part of Georgia people that the sanctity of the law must be upheld, was clearly indicated in reports made to the State Committee on Race Relations in its recent semi-annual meeting in this city.

It was pointed out that during the present year twenty-two indictments

**BOOK CHAT—BY MARY WHITE
OVINGTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF COL-
ORED PEOPLE.**

"NIGGER"

By Clement Wood. Published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York City. Price \$2.00 Postage 10c extra.

The theme of this new novel by Clement Wood is that the Negro is not permitted by the white man of Alabama, where the story is laid, to rise above the status of the title of the novel. Emancipation, the hope of the older generation, has not brought liberty to the younger. The old grandmother, before she dies, assures her husband that the emancipation of which he fondly dreamed is only to be found in Heaven. "You been lookin' fer 'mancipation in de life w'ut is; but dis here 'mancipation ain' gwine come till de life to come." And judging from the fate of the colored people in the book, she is exactly right. Out of a family of seven all, in one way or another, fail to live and win happiness. The soldier dying in France, the other soldier killed in America, the ne'er-do-well, the daughter nearly white who, for a time, goes "over the line" to return home with her baby, the tired drudges, these are her children. To all has come little but suffering. Naturally hers is the cry of the slave, that liberty can only come in another world.

The picture of the white men and women in Mr. Wood's novel makes one understand the fate of the colored. No abolitionists ever painted the white southerners so cruelly as this son of Alabama. His whites are not only cruel to blacks. In his first novel "Mountain," he describes the father of the hero, a rich manufacturer, as cruelly beating his little son every morning, day after day, because he has committed a single act of indolence. It seems as though this author meant that "we should get out

have been returned against alleged lynchers and four convictions secured, carrying penitentiary sentences. Fifteen of these cases are still to be tried, most of them on the charge of murder, besides a number of damage suits growing out of injuries and losses inflicted by mobs. In one lynching case both the deputy sheriff and the chief of police are under indictment.

The significance of these facts was emphasized by the statement that in the 37 years ending with 1921 there had been 430 lynchings in Georgia and that record of only one indictment in all that time had been found. The state and county race relations committees have been active in a number of recent cases, conducting investigations, securing evidence, and otherwise supporting local officials in their efforts to vindicate the law.

The need of an effective anti-lynching law in the state was stressed and the responsibility for drafting and getting such a bill before the next legislature was delegated to a committee of eminent jurists headed by Judge Samuel B. Adams of Savannah.

of our minds the picture of the kindly slaveholder, so popular with the earlier southern writers, and remember the overseer who fulfilled the law of the slaveholder and day after day beat the defenseless people within his power. The whites in Stripling's "Birthright" were cruel, but they had a touch of good nature. They did their cheating with a laugh. There is no laugh in "Nigger." From the time Jake and his family appear upon the scene until the last page, when the old man shivers, tortured by his memories, there is tragedy. "Utility," that might be the title of the story. It is futile for a Negro to be educated, it is futile for him to fight for his country, it is futile to attempt to be white. It is even futile to give up the struggle and be a "no account nigger," for to the ne'er-do-well Tom, the most alive of the figures, comes only sorrow. Don't expect to be anything but a "nigger," at least in Alabama. That is the gist of the story.

It is evident that the author believes this will not be changed unless we have amalgamation. "As long as either race had as its ambition to remain itself there must be conflict. For equality meant sameness, oneness." So his light colored girl thinks, and, seeing only sorrow ahead, is tempted to kill her light colored child.

Clement Wood has written a great tragedy; and it seems only just that in Birmingham, the city of Octavius Roy Cohen's ridiculous Negro sketches, we should have this dark picture. That it is unduly dark every Negro will feel. But it is a swiftly moving picture of suffering that flashes across the pages as a moving picture flashes across the screen. Sometimes it is pathetic, sometimes gigantic. No one can follow it in its swift motion and be unmoved.

**NEGRO DEMOCRAT ELECTED
IN NEW YORK**

New York City.—One colored candidate won in New York and his victory was a big surprise. Lawyer Henri W. Shields, Democratic aspirant from the 21st assembly district, was sent to the legislature. Balden, race Republican candidate, made a good run, but the general disaffection from the Republican ticket by colored voters caused his defeat by a few hundred. Oliver Randolph, the only colored candidate in New Jersey, was elected to the legislature, while Congressman Parker, who voted against the anti-lynching bill, met the dust. He was fought as bitterly by colored voters as was Layton of Delaware, who also bit the dust when Robert Nelson's cohorts took the field against him. Dupont suffered as a result. Harry E. Davis of Cleveland lost for the legislature. The terrific fight against Pomeroy by the labor unions nullified whatever colored support he won.



HON. MILES J. DEVINE

Ex-City Attorney of Chicago, and one of its ablest and most eminent lawyers, who would make a tip-top candidate for Mayor of Chicago in 1923

THE MAN ABOUT TOWN

Takes Up "The Black Man's Burden" From Various Standpoints

States a Few Plain Facts That Can't Be Disputed

I see by the Chicago Tribune, the arch enemy of the Negro, that a man by the name of P. W. Travis has asked the Federal Court to appoint a receiver for the Douglass National Bank, a race institution recently opened by several of our leading citizens, without knowing or going into the merits of the case or the causes of his actions, I must say that it is a shame that a member of the race (and I understand that the man is named Chavers instead of Travis and that he was at one time connected with the bank until he had some financial troubles recently in one of our courts), should be so shortsighted and unfair as to try to injure this institution that is destined to do so much for the Negro in the commercial world.

The men behind this bank are men who are financially situated so as to do for this bank whatever they promise to do. They are men of standing in the business and professional world. I have been told that this man Travis (or Chavers) is sore because he was ousted from the high and exalted position of president and is seeking to get his revenge. Such actions have done more to retard the progress of the Negro than any one thing: the "I can't and you shant" policy. Such Negroes ought to be driven out of the race, so that we can march on and keep step with the progressive races of the world.

I wonder what has become of my good friend Bishop A. J. Carey. Before we elevated our friend to the high and exalted position of bishop in the great A. M. E. Church, we used to see him occasionally on State street and at some of our race gatherings. He was a power for good in our city and was always on the firing line, fighting for the uplift and advancement of his race. How, Bishop, we miss you and your able advice in our race struggles. We did not know when we elected you bishop that it meant that you would take no more interest in local affairs, if we had we possibly might have kept you waiting a few more days or at least until we got this new crowd that came up here during the world war, straightened out. In short, Bishop, don't forsake us now, we need you more now than at any other time. Do you hear me? I hope so.

They tell me that the Regan's Colts are after the scalp of Jim Berwington for some statements he made in a circular in his feeble effort (in the recent campaign) to elect his bosom friend Charles Ringer county treasurer. I don't know how true it is and I do hope that it is false, but if it is true, I am not surprised. You all might remember the awful attack "Jim" made on Mayor Thompson during one of his campaigns, you may also recall the attack that he made on Mrs. Bertha Montgomery, because she dared to demand the money for her club members who was hired by Berwington to do some political work, before election day. The attack on the mayor was on a circular letter and the attack on Mrs. Montgomery was in a newspaper and on her personally. Both attacks came near causing "Jim" his life. The day after his attack on Thompson, two unknown men slipped up behind him and hit him on the head with a "black jack," and the friends of Mrs. Montgomery had to do everything within their power to keep her husband from resorting to a physical encounter. My advice to you "Jim" is to "cut out that stuff" and attend to your business, if you don't some day you may wish that you had taken my advice. Hear me before it is too late.

THE MAN ABOUT TOWN

**THE JAPANESE AND THE
UNITED STATES**

The Memphis Commercial Appeal is very much exercised over the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court regarding the citizenship of Japanese. No comment being necessary, the following remarks are taken bodily from its issue November 18, 1922:

It must appear that if the Government can refuse citizenship on the grounds of race and color it can also refuse citizenship for many other reasons.

There should be few Protestants against the right of the Nation to choose its citizens, although it must be admitted that a bar based on race and color is weakened by the provisions admitting those of African descent. Since our descended Africans are of many different shades of color a considerable burden of fact might be placed on the courts of citizenship disproving the claims of those of whom one might insist upon African descent.

We believe that rigid tests for good citizenship are more important than immigration restriction laws based entirely upon the quantity of immigrants admitted."

This last sentence sums up the very prevalent attitude in the South and shows where the effort is made to rule out people of color—"rigid tests for good citizenship." Is this editorial a reminder of the past, or a hint of the future? Watch Tennessee.

**COL. YOUNG TO BE BURIED IN
AMERICA. NATIONAL CELEBRATION SUGGESTED**

Washington, D. C.—The War Department has announced that final arrangements have been completed for the return to the United States of the remains of Col. Charles Young, from Nigeria, in Africa.

When the body arrives in America, appropriate services will be held in New York City, and in Washington, D. C., prior to the final burial in Arlington Cemetery, near Washington.

The occasion of the burial of this distinguished American soldier will assume national proportions, and if the body does not arrive too far from the date, March 12, the birthday of Col. Young, will be suggested for the general observance.

URBAN LEAGUE NOTES

School Affairs

The Urban League has had a representative on the Joint Committee of School Affairs, which is exerting pressure upon the school scandal to push the investigation so that guilty or incompetent board members may be singled out and properly handled. The Urban League is the only colored organization to receive public mention in this connection.

Race Commission Report

Chicago newspapers should be complimented for the amount of space they have given particularly to the recommendations of the Chicago Commission on Race Relations. When a book of the extent and thoroughness of this report is available for public use, every minister, lawyer, doctor, labor leader, school teacher—in fact, all people who have to any degree or extent the responsibilities of leadership—should acquaint themselves with it one way or the other. The Chicago Urban League has a copy in its library and any interested persons may consult it at the League office.

That Orchestra

They practice twice a week—somewhere. Last Friday they allowed four of the Urban League staff to attend their rehearsal, on condition that they would not tell anybody about them. They pretty nearly mopped up on a selection from Wagner's Tannhauser. It is so hard to keep a secret, you know.



HON. HUGO PAM

One of the most honorable and upright judges of the Superior Court of Cook County, who has legions of warm friends who would be highly delighted to see him enter the race for Mayor of Chicago in 1923