

## Echoes and Re-echoes of the Visit of Julius F. Taylor to the Prince Hall, Masonic and Order of Eastern Star Home at Rock Island, Illinois. Under the Present Conditions the Home Is More Than Fifty Per Cent Below Par.

THEREFORE IT SHOULD BE SOLD AND A NEW HOME SHOULD BE SECURED FOR ITS INMATES IN CHICAGO, WHERE THEY WOULD BE IN THE MIDST OF THOUSANDS OF MASONS AND MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, WHERE CHURCHES AND SCHOOL HOUSES WOULD BE HANDY FOR THEM.

IT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE AT THE PRESENT TIME SEVENTEEN THOUSAND BLUE LODGE MASONS IN ILLINOIS; THAT THEY PAY EIGHT THOUSAND AND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER YEAR TO HELP TO MAINTAIN THE HOME AT ROCK ISLAND; THAT THERE ARE FOUR THOUSAND MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF EASTERN STAR IN THIS STATE WHO CONTRIBUTE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER YEAR FOR EACH MEMBER, MAKING ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS; OR, ALL TOLD, NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS WHICH IS CONTRIBUTED BY THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS FOR THE HOME.

IT IS ALSO ESTIMATED THAT HUNDREDS OF CANS OF ALL KINDS OF CANNED GOODS, LINENS AND SO ON, AMOUNTING TO AT LEAST THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS, IS DONATED TO THE HOME NEAR THE HOLIDAYS EACH YEAR.

On our recent visit to the Prince Hall, Masonic and Order of Eastern Star Home, which is located several miles from Rock Island, Illinois. We carefully inspected it from top to bottom and looked into every nook and corner of the home, and the more we think about our visit to the home, the more firmly we are convinced that under its present management that ten or twenty years will roll on into eternity before it will be able to reach par, for it is away below par right now in many vital ways after it has been running for more than twenty years.

There will be no attempt on our part at this time to set forth a history of the Home at this time, later on we may attempt to do so. The first and the most serious objection we have against the Home is that the well and the sick inmates are all huddled into one large room together, which is unsanitary and against all the rules of health; that it is located so far away from the churches or the public schools, far too far for any of the children who may live in the Home belonging to the Masons to walk to and from them; that there is no way for the inmates to attend

meetings in the churches unless they can secure twenty cents each Sunday for carfare; that during the long severe winter months, when the snow is several feet deep on the ground, it is very hard for anyone to enter or leave the Home; that it is located almost two hundred miles west of Chicago, right on the edge of this state; that there are not many masons or other persons around it who seem to be deeply interested in the Home; that whenever any of the inmates pass away at the Home, there is always double expense in railroad fare to ship their remains to Chicago and to other points in the United States.

In view of all the foregoing and of many other important things along the same line, we honestly feel that the Prince Hall Masonic and the Order of Eastern Star Home, near Rock Island, Illinois, should be sold before any more money amounting to anything is dumped into it and a suitable site should be secured for it either in Chicago or near it, where the inmates could spend their declining years in peace and happiness; where they would be free from hard work; where they could come in close contact with thousands of masons and members of the Order of Eastern Star; where

they could dwell in the midst of churches and public school houses.

Right at this point we must pause to state that at no time should the inmates of the Home be looked upon nor regarded as objects of charity for some of them, prior to entering the Home, had paid their dues into their various chapters and lodges for twenty-three, and almost fifty years; some of them always carry enough life insurance to provide a decent burial for them when the final end comes, so in all fairness the inmates of the Home are justly entitled to rest all of the time and to feast on the fat of the land.

Within the past two years it has been stated at public gatherings or meetings on many occasions, and through the columns of newspapers and in other publications by the leading and the most prominent masons in this state that "there are seventeen thousand Blue Lodge or Blue House masons belonging to the most worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of free and accepted masons in Illinois and its jurisdiction; that each one of these seventeen thousand masons pay fifty cents each year into the Grand Lodge fund which is expended to assist to maintain or support the Grand Lodge, which amounts to eighty thousand and five hundred dollars per year, providing that there are seventeen thousand masons within this masonic jurisdiction; that the same seventeen thousand masons dig up fifty cents each year which is known as Home tax and it is maintained that the eight thousand and five hundred dollars and the one thousand dollars which the four thousand ladies, belonging to the Order of Eastern Star, pay into the Home fund each year, making a grand total of nine thousand and five hundred dollars per year which should find its way into the Home fund each year."

It should be perfectly plain to the average wayfaring person in the world that if the nine thousand five hundred dollars per year is paid into the treasury of the Home, and as it can be maintained at the very highest rate at the present time for two thousand five hundred dollars per year, including the seven inmates and the matron which does not include the hundreds of cans of canned goods, the linen goods and so on which the ladies composing the various auxiliary clubs solicit funds for the linens, bed sheets and so on, used at the Home, and for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner for inmates at the Home, all of that food and other material sent into the Home free of charge, as a result of those who are deeply interested in the welfare of the Home and its inmates, would amount to over four hundred dollars, and as the Lodges and Chapters which send the inmates to the Home buy all the clothing which they wear and furnish them carfare to and from church it is easily proven that the Home can be and is being conducted at a very small expense per year.

That at the lowest estimate six thousand five hundred dollars per year out of the nine thousand five hundred dollars which is supposed to be paid in as Home tax should be on hand right now, ready to be flashed up at one moment's notice.

It is, therefore, just as plain as your nose on your face, that if the six thousand five hundred dollars per year, aside from the three thousand dollars per year which is used to maintain the Home, that right at this very minute it would have for the past ten years more than sixty-two thousand dollars which would enable the friends of the Home to secure ten or fifteen acres of ground either here in this city or at Morgan Park, Illinois, or in some other nice place near Chicago and erect upon it a modern and an up-to-date Home for the old worn-out Masons of this state, which would be a lasting monument to the members of the most worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois and its jurisdiction.



ATTORNEY CHARLES C. ROE

One of the most profound and classical writers in this country, whose brilliant article on the "mixing and the crossing of the races" is well worth reading two or three times.

### PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL NEGRO BANKER'S ASSOCIATION

Philadelphia, Pa.—Major R. R. Wright, President of the National Negro Banker's Association, has sent out the following program of the next meeting to be held in Chicago, August 21, 1924:

"What the Negro Bankers' Association Can Do for the Race"—Major R. R. Wright, President National Negro Bankers' Association, President Citizens' and Southern Bank and Trust Company, Philadelphia, Penna.

"How Can Negro Banks Best Cooperate?"—Mr. E. C. Brown, President Brown and Stevens' Bankers, Philadelphia, Pa.

"Some of the Mistakes of Negro Bankers"—Mr. W. F. Boddie, Cashier of Citizens' Trust Company, Atlanta, Ga.

"Why We Should Build Banks in Our Larger Cities"—Mr. B. M. Roddy, Cashier Solvent Savings Bank and Trust Company, Memphis, Tenn.

"What the Ministers May Do to Promote Banking"—Rev. E. L. Baskerville, Charleston, S. C.

"The Mission of Negro Banks"—Mr. Anthony Overton, President Douglass National Bank, Chicago, Ill.

"Co-operation Between Negro Banks and Newspapers"—Dr. R. R. Wright, Jr., Editor Christian Recorder, Cashier Citizens' and Southern Bank and Trust Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

### THE MIXING AND THE CROSSING OF ALL THE RACES OF MANKIND PROFOUNDLY DILATED UPON BY MR. CHARLES C. ROE, RIPE STUDENT OF HISTORY, EX-ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL OF CHICAGO, EX-ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK COUNTY AND EX-ASSISTANT ATTORNEY FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF CHICAGO.

Apropos of the brilliant article of former United States Senator James Hamilton Lewis, published in The Broad Ax, May 31st, 1924, and the able article of Julius F. Taylor, its editor, in the issue of June 14th, 1924, I spent considerable time in refreshing myself concerning the subject of the assimilation of the races and I am giving these views which very materially add to the theories advanced by me in the article which I wrote for The Broad Ax several years ago on the "Assimilation of the Races."

No one who has any knowledge of past history doubts for a moment the fact that as we become better acquainted with the origin of mankind, that the Ethiopians and Egyptians played a very prominent part in the first civilization known to us. The education, culture and position of the various races of mankind today have been brought about by many ages of progress, and we are told by no less an authority than H. G. Wells in his "Outline of History," that, "Through the hundred centuries or so while Reindeer men were living under comparatively unprogressive conditions upon the steppes of France, Germany and Spain, these more favored and progressive people to the south were mastering agriculture, learning to develop their appliances, taming the dog, domesticating cattle, and, as the climate to the north mitigated and the equatorial climate grew more tropical, spreading northward. They were peoples at about the level of many of the Polynesian islanders of the last century; and they were the most advanced peoples in the world."

All through the "Outline of History" by H. G. Wells, when he tells us about the earth, the record of the rocks, natural selection and changes of species, life and climate, sub-men and men, the races of mankind, languages and first civilizations, we find that the races assimilate throughout the world. He says: "Man, so widely spread and subjected therefore to great differences of climate, consuming very different food in different regions, attacked by different enemies, must always have been undergoing considerable local modification and differentiation. Man, like every other species of living thing, has constantly been tending to differentiate into several species; wherever a body of men has been cut off, in islands or oceans or by deserts or mountains, from the rest of humanity, it must have begun very soon to develop special characteristics, specially adapted to the local conditions. But, on the other hand, man is usually a wandering and enterprising animal, for whom there exist few insurmountable barriers. Men imitate men, fight and conquer them, interbreed, one people with another. Concurrently for thousands of years there have been two sets of forces at work, one tending to

separate men into a multitude of local varieties, and another to remix and blend these varieties together before a separate species have been established.

"These two sets of forces may have fluctuated in this relative effect in the past. Palaeolithic man, for instance, may have been more of a wanderer, he may have drifted about over a much greater area, than later Neolithic man; he was less fixed to any sort of home or lair, he was tied by fewer possessions. Being a hunter, he was obliged to follow the migrations of his ordinary quarry. A few bad seasons may have shifted him hundreds of miles. He may therefore have mixed very widely and developed few varieties over the greater part of the world.

"The appearance of agriculture tended to tie those communities of mankind that took it up to the region in which it was most conveniently carried on, and so to favor differentiation. Mixing or differentiation is not dependent upon a higher or lower stage of civilization; many savage tribes wander now for hundreds of miles; many English villagers in the eighteenth century, on the other hand, had never been more than eight or ten miles from their villages, neither they nor their fathers nor grandfathers before them. Hunting people often have enormous range. The Labrador country, for instance, is inhabited by a few thousand Indians, who follow the one great herd of caribou as it wanders yearly north and then south again in pursuit of food. This mere handful of people covers a territory as large as France. Nomad peoples also range very widely. Some Kalmuck tribes are said to travel nearly a thousand miles between summer and winter pasture.

"It carries out this suggestion, that Palaeolithic man ranged widely and was distributed, thinly indeed but uniformly, throughout the world, that the Palaeolithic remains we find are everywhere astonishingly uniform. To quote Sir John Evans, 'The implements in distant lands are so identical in form and character with the British specimens that they might have been manufactured by the same hands. . . . On the banks of the Nile, many hundreds of feet above its present level, implements of the European types have been discovered; while in Somaliland, in an ancient river-valley at a great elevation above the sea, Sir H. W. Seaton-Karr has collected a large number of implements formed of flint and quartzite, which, judging from their form and character, might have been dug out of the drift-deposits of the Somme and the Seine, the Thames or the ancient Solent.'

"Phases of spreading and intermixture have probably alternated with phases of settlement and specialization in the history of mankind. But (Continued on page 2)