

Africo-American Presbyterian

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE."—John viii, 32.

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HOW IT FEELS TO BE IN EUROPE

By Rev. A. B. McCoy, D. D.

Splendid Hotel,
Interlaken, Switzerland,
Sept. 29, 1926.

Dear Mr. Editor: I have not forgotten my promise, but everything has been so wonderful, so new, until it takes a good deal of time getting adjusted.

I still feel like an American and am proud of my country with its wonderful opportunities. Thus far we have seen only Holland, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland. We are yet to visit Italy and France. The most beautiful thus far is Germany. The German mark (dollar) is the highest of all the monies—four marks being equal to one American dollar, while it takes 36 Belgium francs to make one of our dollars. Nobody seems to know how Germany did this. The world will hear from Germany again.

The newspapers are saying that the King and Queen of Belgium are traveling through Switzerland "incognito." Sometimes we are afraid we are selected by hotel porters and servants in general as the escaped royalty. Such bowing and scraping and tipping of hats and opening of doors and carrying baggage—in fact we could get no better service if we were the royalty! It makes one feel pretty human to be able to get what you pay for and not have to pay for what you don't and can't get.

The most glorious feeling comes to you in Belgium where 36 francs are equal to one American dollar. To walk into a restaurant and pull out a hundred dollar bill to pay for what you ordered is a grand and glorious feeling. But that hundred dollar bill is just a little less than \$3.00 in American money.

You are anxious to know of the Le Zoute, Belgium, meeting, the real objective of my visit. I must necessarily keep quiet about that until I return to New York about the first of November. There are some matters to be cleared up with the Foreign Board. But you will be interested to know that the door to Africa is open to the Negro Presbyterians of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A. And the Foreign Board is anxious to see that we have a representative on the field in Africa. This, however, is a big subject of which our Synods will hear more. The meeting was attended by representatives from all over the world and was the greatest of its kind ever held.

This is what I saw in one hour on a street in a Belgium town:

A vegetable wagon drawn by a woman and a dog; a policeman (captain) who draws \$40 a month; women (elite) without hose; women everywhere smoking; young men and girls "spooning" on the benches (this is not considered improper); two men pushing a cart load of lumber; twenty cows driven to the barn, each with a bell on of different tone; a drove of chickens being driven to the market (loose not in crates); a man with a grind organ—without the monkey, but a deformed idiot instead; two men almost at the point of blows—from their quarrelsome murder was certain. I was advised they were discussing the weather and in friendly terms. Such is the Belgian language.

Now I must stop. No more until I reach the red hills of Georgia. By the way, a gentleman, Bishop Campbell of Africa (white), asked me what part of Africa did I represent. I said, Georgia. He was originally from South Carolina. Hence, he understood.

I am writing this from Switzerland in the midst of the beautiful Alps. We go to Italy tomorrow, thence to Paris and will sail for New York October 20, on the Majestic, the largest steamer in the world. We expect to be in Philadelphia for the Lincoln and Tuskegee football game.

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URBAN LEAGUE DEVELOPING PACIFIC COAST WORK.

The National Urban League, in keeping with its policy of establishing social service activities at points where Negroes are migrating to urban cities, is despatching T. Arnold Hill, Director of its Department of Industrial Relations, to the Pacific Coast for an eleven weeks' tour, beginning October 15th. Mr. Hill will visit Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Oakland, San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles and San Diego. He will confer with leaders in industries and prominent members of the race concerning the industrial needs of the colored people in these cities. He will aid wherever it seems advisable in the establishment of permanent organizations to help solve some of the social problems growing out of the economic situation. Arrangements have been made for Mr. Hill to address chambers of Commerce and other civic bodies.

In Los Angeles, where Charles J. Jonsson, Director of the Department of Research and Investigations and Editor of "Opportunity" magazine, has just completed an industrial survey under the auspices of the local Urban League and the Community Chest, Mr. Hill will conduct an intensive industrial advancement campaign in interest of colored men and women. Communications from representatives of both races in these cities received at the National Urban League's office, 127 East 23rd Street, New York City, attest to the enthusiasm with which Mr. Hill's work will be received in these communities.

Eugene Kinckle Jones, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, visited the Coast cities a year ago in order to ascertain the industrial situation of the Negro population and this paved the way for a serious consideration by the League of the social service needs of these communities.

On Mr. Hill's return trip to the east in late December, he will visit Pueblo and Denver, Colorado. He will pay special attention to the social service needs of Pueblo which is a busy mining center where many Negro workers have gone.

THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICE FELLOWS.

The National Urban League announces the appointment of two social service "Fellows" to the New York School of Social Work for the year 1926-'27. They are Miss Eleanor Coleman, graduate of Fisk University, class, 1922, and George Goodman, graduate of Lincoln University, class 1926. Miss Coleman is a native of Louisiana and has for the last two years been secretary of Girls' Work for the Y. W. C. A. of Germantown, Pa. Mr. Goodman has been playground worker in Hartford, Conn., for several summers; a member of the football team of Lincoln University for four years, and is a public speaker of unusual talent.

These fellowships are for \$1,200 each and provide for a year's study. Following the completion of their courses, these two young people will engage in professional social work.

READ YOUR BIBLE.

Read your Bible, make it the first morning business of your life to understand some portion of it clearly, and your daily business to obey it in all that you do understand.—Ruskin.

THE COTTON SITUATION

Discussed by Secretary Jardine in Letter to President of Alabama Farm Bureau Federation.

Oct. 8, 1926.

Mr. Edward A. O'Neal, President, Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, Montgomery, Alabama. Dear Mr. O'Neal:

I realize fully the gravity of the situation which you discuss in your letter with reference to the cotton farmers of the South. I am convinced that this situation is very largely due to panic conditions which, it is to be hoped, are only temporary. The basic economic conditions of the country are sound, and cotton producers must soon realize that the intrinsic value of this crop has not changed in these few weeks. The people of the world need only the cotton that we can produce. We are in a position to supply their needs in an orderly manner. Cotton is not a perishable commodity. We have the necessary facilities for storing the crop for months or if need be for years and ample credit to carry it. Cotton in storage is probably the soundest basis for credit that we know.

I am glad to note the evidences that these facts are rapidly gaining general recognition throughout the South. It is my earnest hope that the present stamped may be checked while the major part of the crop remains in the hands of the farmers. The bankers and many other business agencies of the South are loyally cooperating to restore confidence, and I assure you that the Department of Agriculture is actively supporting this movement.

Other agencies of the Federal Government are also available. Credit facilities through the ordinary banking channels appear to be adequate, but we have in addition if needed the services and resources of the intermediate credit banks. It was for just such emergencies as the present one that these banks were established. Those in charge of them have assured me that they are ready to do everything in their power. At present they are lending money freely to the cotton cooperatives, and they are prepared also to extend credit to other cotton farmers.

If this additional source of credit is needed, it may be drawn upon by creating local financial credit associations. These can be established with a minimum of \$10,000 local capital, raised among business men, farmers, or other citizens. Ten times the amount of the capital can be borrowed for periods of six months to three years at a moderate rate of interest.

I am confident that our present and potential credit resources are adequate fully to meet the requirements of our cotton crop, however bountiful it may prove to be. No effort should be spared to make these resources readily available to the producers of cotton. The crop should remain largely in their control until it is needed for manufacture.

The final determination as to the acreage that shall be devoted to the production of cotton in the future rests with the farmers of the South. It is manifestly to their interest to adjust that acreage to meet the needs of the consumers of the crop. This can be done most intelligently if they retain a controlling interest in the crop until it passes into consumption.

I do not share the view expressed by some that a large crop of cotton or a large carry-over from one season to the next is a misfortune. It is to the best interest of both the producer and the consumer to avoid wide fluctuations in cotton prices. The best way to avoid such fluctuations is to be in position to carry continuously an ample reserve, sufficiently large to absorb any surplus from one or

more good seasons and to supplement the shortage of several bad seasons. We are now in position to begin the creation of such a reserve. We should accept the opportunity and make the most of it.

Sincerely yours,
W. M. JARDINE,
Secretary.

NEGRO INVENTORS.

(From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

The Patent Office does not record the race of patentees, but according to Henry E. Baker, in an article in The Journal of Negro History, it is estimated that more than 3,000 patents are held by members of the Negro race.

The most prolific of Negro inventors was Elijah McCoy, of Detroit, who from 1872 to 1920 obtained 57 patents. "His inventions cover a wide range of subjects," says the Negro Year Book, "but relate particularly to the lubricating of machinery. He was a pioneer in the art of steadily supplying oil to machinery in intermittent drops from a cup, so as to avoid the necessity of stopping the machine to oil it."

The first American Negro to receive a patent on an invention, the Year Book asserts, was Henry Blair, of Maryland, who in 1834 and 1836 was granted patents on a corn harvester. It has been claimed but not verified that a slave either invented the cotton gin or gave to Eli Whitney, who obtained the patent for it, valuable suggestions to aid in the completion of that invention.

Among the most important inventions by a Negro was the machinery for automatically attaching soles to shoes. The original contrivance of this sort was devised by John Ernest Matzeleger, who was born in Dutch Guiana in 1852, but who came to the United States and lived in Lynn, Mass. His invention revolutionized shoe production methods, greatly reduced the cost of making shoes, and is said to have laid the foundation for establishment of the United Shoe Machinery Company, the largest organization of its kind in the world.

Granville T. and Lyates Woods of New York, were the patentees of some 50 articles. Most of these have to do with telegraph and telephone instruments, electric railway and electric power control. Among their devices are several relating to the transmission of telegraph messages to moving trains.

Shelby J. Davidson and Robert Pelham, both of them civil service employes in Washington, are the inventors of office machines now in extensive use by the Government for the tabulation of statistics. George W. Murray, of South Carolina, once a member of Congress, patented eight inventions on agricultural implements. Frank J. Ferrell of New York has obtained patents on a dozen or more improvements in steam engines. Joseph Dickson, New Jersey, has been responsible for a number of inventions in player piano mechanism, most of them now in general use by piano manufacturers. William B. Purvis, Philadelphia, is one of the principal inventors of machinery for making paper bags.

HAD YOUR ANNUAL HEALTH CHECK UP? IF NOT, HAVE IT.

Many Have Diseases and Do Not Know About Them—Learn How to Keep Yourself Fit to Live.

By H. L. Brockman, M. D.
In the Sanatorium
Have you had your annual health examination?

If you haven't, let me tell you what it may mean to you. Wise people put in coal before a freeze, plenty of gas and oil for a long drive, and tighten nuts before they drop off and cause

serious trouble. Do you know that you may even now have tuberculosis, heart trouble, kidney disease, hardening of the arteries, cancer, hook worm, or any one or many other diseases in the early stages which may eventually be either fatal or very debilitating? Well, you may not have any suspicion of it.

I'm not trying to frighten you, but on the contrary hasten to cheer you. Do you know that these diseases, taken in their early stages can be cured and arrested, and your life prolonged far beyond its natural course if they are not allowed to progress? By acting now you can learn with a fair degree of certainty whether there is anything wrong with you physically and whether there is anything in the way that you are living that is likely to lead to sickness. You can also learn from the best authority how to keep yourself fit to live your life as happily and completely as is possible.

Time was when people waited until something was very evidently wrong with them before they consulted their family physician. In those days it was often all too late. But now things are different. It is quite the style to go to your doctor once a year, say on one's birthday, and have him go over the old human machine and see if everything is running smoothly.

Now in doing this you should be very explicit and make it clear to the physician that you want a very complete overhauling, including every part of the body, and a review of every important fact of your habits and way of living. And next you must very conscientiously observe every direction he gives you, getting him to write his advice down, so that there will be no misunderstanding.

The matter of one's health and habits is very personal. In the good old days and now, the family physician has felt very fine about bringing his patients through serious illness. He now takes on considerably about keeping them well if they will help him by listening to reason.

KEEPING FIT.

This is primarily an age of physical fitness. Growing boys everywhere are bending their efforts to the development of muscular ability and a sound physique, whether their purpose is to excel in one of the many fields of athletics or to prepare for a life of vigorous effort.

Today the growing American youth has before him as shining goals the great champions in the various fields of sport. Our boxing champions, our golf champions, our swimming champions are generally considered the champions of the world.

But the physical perfection necessary to become a champion in any field of physical activity is not a matter of accident or chance. Back of every champion you will find a ground work of sound physical development which has been maintained by constant exercise and intelligent training.

Every normal boy has the desire to attain a high degree of physical fitness. Many, however, are handicapped by lack of proper information on training rules and care of the body.

The U. S. Public Health Service has prepared a publication to fill this very need. This publication, entitled, "Keeping Fit," gives authoritative information on sound physical development, illustrated with numerous charts, diagrams and pictures. Other important information on personal hygiene with special chapters on sex hygiene for the growing boy and young man are included. Readers may obtain this publication free of charge by writing to the U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

COULTER ACADEMY NOTES, CHERAW, S. C.

By Miss A. J. Pruitt

Coulter Memorial Academy opened what promises to be one of the most successful year's work in the history of the institution. On the opening day, September 14th, there was a large body of students and patrons to greet the Principal and faculty. The enrollment is already approaching the three hundred mark. It is gratifying to note that the High School is almost complete in its enrollment and everyone seems to have the finest kind of spirit for work and study.

The faculty this year has been carefully selected from various sections of the country, and are graduates of reputable institutions. The following institutions are represented on the faculty: Haines Institute, Barber Women's College, Scotia Women's College, Johnson C. Smith University, Columbia University and New England Conservatory of Music. The following teachers are in charge of the various departments: Miss Wilhelmina Gillespie, History and Civics; Miss Nettie M. Day, English; Mr. H. L. Tolbert, Science and French; Mr. B. H. Walker, Mathematics; Miss Brewer, Elementary Department; A. J. Pruitt, Grammar School; Mrs. M. E. Spencer, Primary Department and Mr. N. L. Holman, music.

It is gratifying to note the steady growth of Coulter Academy within fifteen years. It has grown from a one teacher school of five pupils to a full-fledged accredited High School, meeting all the requirements for entrance to an A class college. Its physical equipment, while very inadequate, is nevertheless far above the average standard of our Church schools. We are just now launching a movement for fifty thousand dollars with which to erect a girls' dormitory which is a most imperative need. It is hoped that the money can be raised and the National Board through its Division of Buildings and Property will be able to erect this much needed building during the next year.

Our brick-laying department is making wonderful progress. A handsome new church (a brick veneer job) is rapidly nearing completion. This work is being done by our boys, who are studying brick-laying. We hope to finish our new church so as to have it dedicated January 1.

Rally day was observed Sept. 26th. The members and friends of the Second Presbyterian church listened attentively while Dr. Long, the pastor, preached a soul-stirring sermon from the text Nehemiah 4:16. He explained in a most wonderful way that we should not look upon rally day as one in which we should bring money alone, but one on which we should go out and bring others into Christ's fold. The collection for the day amounted to \$173.13. This little change, no doubt, helped our pastor. He has made untold sacrifice in encouraging us in the building of a new church.

Messrs. Tolbert and Walker, Misses Day, Brewer and Gillespie motored to Mt. Croghan a few days ago to a dinner party at the home of Miss Brewer. They all reported a most delightful time.

Miss Theresa Stevens left a week ago for Washington, Ga., where she will take up work in Rev. T. B. Hargrave's school.

Rev. R. E. Foster, of Chesterfield, was present at our devotionals last Monday morning and spoke briefly to the student body. Other visitors at the school this week were Mrs. R. E. Foster, of Chesterfield; County Supervisor of Chesterfield County; Miss Hancock, of Salisbury, N. C., teacher in Chesterfield Parochial school;

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