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Race Riots Predicted if Ku Klux Organize.

Interdenominational Ministers in Letter to The Times Protest Against Klan's Incorporation.

Race riots like those in East St. Louis and in Chicago will follow if the Ku Klux Klan is permitted to organize in this city, according to a communication to The Times received today from members of a committee appointed by an interdenominational ministers' meeting called when announcement was made that the revived "Ku Klux" was organizing.

Members of the committee are T. J. Moppins, pastor of the Metropolitan A. M. E. Z. church; C. A. Williams, pastor of St. Paul's chapel; A. R. Dobbins, pastor Wayman chapel; Wm. F. Turner, presiding elder; B. F. Abbott, pastor Union Memorial M. E. church; C. M. Powell, M. D., and Aaron E. Malone, president of Poro College, who are among the most prominent Negroes in St. Louis.

"Do Away With Police." "If we welcome this organization we might as well do away with our police force and courts of law," the letter says. "All upstanding, fearless agents of the law will be liable to a visit from the night rider or secret bullet."

"The Ku Klux Klan comes to us from a state and section where murder-farms, peonage, lynchings and ghostly outrages at midnight are common."

The letter in full follows: "Permit us to enter our most serious protest against the organizing of the Klan of the Ku Klux here in St. Louis. When it begins to operate and the people have caught its spirit it may mean that the riots of East St. Louis, Chicago and other places will be repeated here.

"Happily, we have been free from this sort of mob violence. Let us guard at every cost this pleasant race relationship here. It may not be ideal as yet; it could be infinitely worse. We often complain that public sentiment will not sustain the processes and verdicts of our courts; yet too frequently we allow those things to happen which are destructive of a wholesome public sentiment. Outlawed by The U. S.

"The Ku Klux as an organization has a criminal record and was outlawed by the Federal Government. It comes to us from a State and section where murder farms, peonage, lynchings and ghostly outrages at midnight are common. What can you expect from a group of people of this kind? A tree is to be known by its fruit. Its voice is Jacob's voice, but its hands are the hands of Esau. "It is said that the organization is to protect the white people; what has it done to protect the black people? It professes to champion white supremacy in this land. This is a slander on white supremacy. If white supremacy needs such a championship it is doomed already.

"The courageous Governor of Georgia and the noble white citizens like him who are fighting barbarism in the State know from a deep sense of shame what this Klan means. Let this Ku Klux emissary go back to his own State and help his great-hearted Governor to clean up.

"It has come to a pretty pass that the orderly processes of law and the methods of a civilized and Christian community are to be disregarded and admitted to be a failure by resorting to the methods of the Mafia.

"To allow this organization to operate will mean that the foundations of a law-abiding community are giving away and will be the means and incentive to all sorts of vile excesses, for mystery and secrecy are its defense. The identity of its members is to be hidden. Men chose dark-

ness when their deeds are evil.

"High Sounding Talk." "As it is, our city and State are shamed by banditry covering its tracks and defeating the law by killing witnesses and by the hoarse cry of the mob satiating its blood lust. If we welcome this organization we might as well do away with our police force and courts of law. All upstanding, fearless agents of the law will be liable to a visit from the night rider or secret bullet.

"In spite of the high sounding talk which this emissary is handing down to St. Louis, he know that the Ku Klux Klan everywhere and at all times is the relentless enemy of black Americans—who are among the truest Americans.

Shall Reap Whirlwind. "Let us assure all that the only supremacy that will last is a moral and spiritual supremacy, the supremacy which is inherent in righteousness, brotherhood, even-handed democracy and equal opportunity under impartial law.

"The whiteness of crumbling Austria, of crushed Germany and of Russia, bleeding at every pore, has not saved them. Righteousness exalts but sin destroys nations. God is going to have the last word on our conduct as a nation and as a community.

"If we sow the wind we shall reap the whirlwind; and already the sough of the coming storm can be heard over the land.

"We call upon the Governor, the pulpits, the Mayor, the Police Department, the Chamber of Commerce and all good citizens without regard to race, creed, calling or whether native or foreign-born, to stand together out in the open and in every way make sentiment against all influences which are un-Christian, un-American and inimical to our peace."

MID-YEAR FLASHES FROM THE MIDDLE WEST.

We are very anxious for the readers of our great Church organ of Zion "The Burning Star," whose heat and shining rays are supplied by the thoughtful son of Zion in person of our Dr. W. J. Walls, Editor, to hear from us.

On April 8th the Ter-centenary King, Bishop J. L. Blackwell visited our little charge accompanied by our Ter-centenary evangelist Rev. W. T. Beck. At 8:30 P. M. Caldwell chapel was packed to its capacity. All things were ready. Bishop Blackwell introduced Rev. W. T. Beck as the speaker of the hour. He demanded the attention of the hearers with one of his sweet songs of Zion. He spoke from Gal. 6—and he held his audience spellbound. People say never a man spoke like this man. Bishop Blackwell extended invitations and made a strong appeal for the Ter-centenary which resulted in \$42.50.

"Ter-centenary Honor Roll." Mrs. Annie Robinson, \$1; Mr. J. R. Cooper, \$1; Mr. Chas. Moore, \$2; Rev. D. G. Shelton, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Wilson, \$5; Mr. O. T. Bond, \$1; Mrs. Mammie Tall, \$1; Mrs. E. G. Bell, \$1; Mrs. Lillian Bond, \$1; Mr. Robert Frazer, \$1.25; Mr. Alex. Sneed, \$1; Mrs. Nettie Frazer, \$1.50; Mr. Willie Coates, \$1; Mr. R. Nichols, \$1; Mr. M. Hardison, \$1; Mrs. Laura Wilson, \$1.25; Mr. H. Howard, \$1.50; Mrs. Minnie Ogeltree, \$1; Mr. David King, \$1; Mrs. Eliza Farmer, \$1; Mrs. S. Freeman, \$1; Rev. Lindall, \$1; Miss Jessie Rollins, \$1; Mr. Joe Perkins, \$1; Rev. P. C. Wilburn, \$1; Mrs. M. H. Cooper, \$1; Mrs. Marie Johnson, \$1; Mr. John Carr, \$1; Mrs. Winnie Wilson, \$1; Mrs. E. B. Winfield, \$1; Mrs. Sussie Tiggs, \$1; Mr. James [Name obscured]. Continued to page 5.

WATCHING THE BREAKERS.

By Dr. W. H. Davenport.

The dismal march of death through our ranks will bring, if it has not already done so, solicitous moments and perplexing problems. Of one thing we may be sure: we are certainly not engrossed with infantile insensibility to the solemnity of our Connectional bereavements, which will assuredly involve a deviation from the strict lines of our Connectional procedure. In Methodism the General Conference is the arbitrary authority of the Church; and any rule, however old or venerated, may be altered when the best interest of the Church demands it. It cannot change the Articles of Religion, but it may change the General Rules if two-thirds of its members assent to it. Any other rule may be changed by a majority vote, and no General Conference is bound by the acts of its predecessor. Rules are made to meet contemporaneous conditions and not for all time. These rules may be changed when circumstances and conditions warrant it, whatever may be the opinion of the Presiding Officer whose duty it is to rule upon points of order and not upon points of law. The General Conference is a law unto itself. It should be determined that a law requiring a minister to be forty years old and to have "traveled" at least twenty years before he is eligible to the episcopacy would operate to the Connectional disadvantage, that law may be changed by any General Conference subsequent to its enactment. Indeed a motion to reconsider and rescind such a law may be passed in the same General Conference. Likewise the law requiring a two-third vote for an election to the episcopate: Also any other inhibition, which may or may not have been inspired by deep piety, reverent righteousness or lofty idealism, but was political or personal in its nature, though veneered with piety and morality. The decimation of our episcopal bench will bring us face to face with a grave situation. We shall be able to meet it calmly and judiciously, except we are bound and chained with the thought that all our legislation is unchangeable and infallible. To my mind no mortal man, nor any body of mortal men, however well intentioned, wise or eminent, is infallible. Tampa, Fla.

TER-CENTENARY CONFERENCE.

By J. E. Robinson.

The Mid-year conference of the Pee Dee conference has passed into history. This conference came off at a time when the people were quite busy with their farms. All the preachers of the conference were on hand with few exceptions. All made fair reports considering every thing. Bishop Lee knows how to handle Mid-year conference. He is strictly to business. He is a great man. The Pee Dee conference is in a farming belt, where the people have nothing to do but farm. This conference is composed of two presiding elder districts, but they raised a handsome sum of \$803 considering the hard times.

The Mid-year Tercentenary conference was held in Rock Hill, S. C. It was a grand conference, this being Bishop Lee's old home the people were glad to see him. This conference had been a little dull on the Tercentenary fund, but Bishop Lee has got them awake and things seem to be moving on nicely. Bishop Lee is the right man in the right place. He is teaching the people to pay to the church, be thrifty and industrious. He is a great Bishop. We hope that he will live long to do great work for the church. This conference raised \$835.00. Lancaster, S. C.

Louisville Makes Large Preparation Evidences of Race Thrift

What promises to be the largest assemblage of Negro physicians, surgeons, dentists and pharmacists in history, will take place in the City of Louisville when the National Medical Association meets there for its twenty-third annual session, August 23-26, inclusive.

In choosing Louisville as the meeting place, the Association showed rare judgment. No other city offers so many inducements for Negro professional men to assemble as Louisville.

Situated on the Ohio River within a day's journey of Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis, its admirable location makes it easy of access to the larger cities of the country, and being a railroad center it is handily reached from every section of the United States.

Louisville has a total population of about 300,000; 60,000 of which are Colored. Though south of the Mason-Dixon line, it has none of the humiliating restrictions of the southern cities, there being no jim-crow street cars or segregated parks, etc.

The Red Cross Hospital, which is under the direct supervision of Colored physicians and surgeons, offers the most modern equipment for clinics and research.

Unlike most cities Louisville can easily entertain the visitors, for besides having the Roscoe Simmons Hotel, where rooms and bath can be obtained at a nominal sum, there is the Pythian Temple, a beautiful \$200,000.00 structure which can accommodate a large number. In addition there are many beautiful homes which will be open to the visitors.

The most progressive type of business among Negroes is to be found in Louisville. The recently organized First Standard Bank, capitalized at \$125,000.00, and two Insurance Companies are not surpassed in their administration by any similar institutions in the country.

Few cities can boast of the scenic location of Louisville—situated on the banks of the rightly named beautiful Ohio it offers splendid opportunity for boating, fishing and other forms of water sport.

For quiet reading there are two libraries, branches of the Carnegie library, the most beautiful in the country, under the supervision of a Colored librarian and assistants. Every book and magazine, whether popular or serious reading can be obtained at either of these buildings.

Many outings are being planned for the visitors. Churchill Downs, America's most famous race course—River trips to various points along the river and motoring parties to the Mammoth Cave and the beautiful Blue Grass country for which Kentucky is famous, are a few of the pleasures which are being planned for the occasion.

All sessions of the Convention will be held in the Jefferson County Armory, one of the largest Convention halls in America. This Hall will contain the exhibitor's booths, over 100 in number, representing all lines of medical, surgical, dental and pharmaceutical supplies. No physician, surgeon, dentist or pharmacist can afford to miss this session, the greatest meeting of Colored men in the medical and allied sciences which has ever taken place.

HORROR ON THE RHINE, NEGRO TROOPS SERVING WHITE MAN AGAINST WILL.

"It is impossible to study—the Negro occupation, and believe that the presence of black troops constitutes a constant terror and horror to the Germans. The crime is rather against

the black troops themselves than against the German. They are virtually slaves—forced—to military service in a cause in which they have no interest and which they do not understand."

Thus writes Lewis Gannett from Mainz, Germany, after careful first-hand study. His article appears in THE NATION for May 25. About the "Horror on the Rhine," German officials told Mr. Gannett "that this propaganda was a commercial enterprise conducted for profit." The article censures the conditions of the occupation, and describes in detail not only the conduct of the black troops on the Rhine but that of the white troops as well.

THE NATION publishes in the same issue the complete text of the Haitian Memoir to the United States describing the atrocities perpetrated by the military occupation of the Republic of Haiti and concluding in part:

It is the most terrible regime of military autocracy which has ever been carried on in the name of the great American democracy.

The Haitian people, during these five past years, have passed through such sacrifices, tortures, destructions, humiliations and misery as have never before been known in the course of its unhappy history.

The American Government, in spite of the attitude of wisdom, moderation, and even submission which it has always found in dealing with the Haitian Government, has never lived up to any of the agreements which it had solemnly entered into with regard to the Haitian people.

The Haitian people is entitled to reparations for the wrongs and injuries committed against it.

The great American people can only honor themselves and rise in universal esteem by hastening the restoration of justice—of all the justice due a weak and friendly nation which the agents of its government have systematically abused.

MISS GARDNER'S 90th BIRTH-DAY.

A ninetieth-birthday Reception and Testimonial will be tendered to Miss Eliza A. Gardner (the oldest member of the A. M. E. Zion Connection) at Columbus Avenue A. M. E. Zion church, Boston, Mass. (Rev. Benjamin Swain, D. D., pastor), at eight o'clock Friday evening, May 27, 1921, in the auditorium. The music will be in charge of Dr. Walter O. Taylor, chorister, and Mr. William H. Batum, Supt. of the Sunday School, will be Master of Ceremonies, the Butler Club (of which Miss Gardner was founder and first President) being in general charge of the anniversary. Friends of Mrs. Gardner are hereby especially invited to greet her on this occasion which will include a literary and musical program and testimonials from eight to nine o'clock, followed by a reception in the vestries from nine to ten o'clock. The executive committee includes besides Rev. B. W. Swain, D. D., pastor, the following: Mrs. Eliza Bryant, chairman, Rev. Jacob Powell, secretary, and Mrs. Eliza Johnstone, treasurer, supported by the officers and members of the Butler Club and other church auxiliaries.

NOTICE.

We the members of the A. M. E. Zion Church hope that all the churches of the A. M. E. Zion Connection will pay up all claims on time in order that we may receive our Sabbath School Literature on time.

Rev. W. Brown.