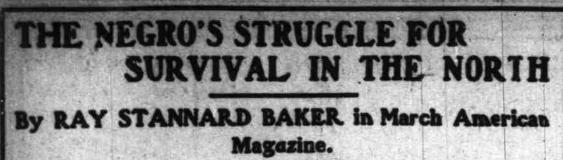
THE NEWS AND OBSERVER. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23.



boy."

tion.

Negroes whom I met both North and South was this:

"What is your chief cause of complaint?"

In the South the first answer nearly always referred to the Jim Crow cars or the Jim Crow railroad stations; after that, the complaint was of political disfranchisement, the difficulty of getting justice in the courts, the lack of good school facilities, and in some localities, of the danger of actual physical violence.

But in the North the first answer invariably referred to working condi-

"The Negro isn't given a fair opportunity to get employment. He is discriminated against because he is col-

Professor Kelly Miller, one of the acutest of Negro writers, has said: "The Negro (in the North) is compelled to loiter around the edges of industry."

Southern white men are fond of meeting Northern criticism of Southern treatment of the Negro with the response:

"But the North closes the doors of industrial opportunity to the Negro."

And yet in spite of this complaint of conditions in the North, one who looks Southward can almost see the army of Negroes gathering from out of the cities, villages and farms, bringing nothing with them but a buoyant hope in a distant freedom, but tramping always Northward. And they come not alone from the old South but from the West Indies, where the colored population looks wistfully toward the heralded opportunities of America. A few are even coming from South Africa and South America. In New York, Boston and Philade!phia, thousands of such foreign Negroes know nothing of American traditions; some of them do not even speak the English language.

And why do they come if their difficulties are so great? Is it true that there is no chance for them in industry? Are they better or worse off in the North than in the South?

In the first place, as I showed last month, in the most of the smaller Northern cities where the Negro population is not increasing rapidly, discrimination is hardly noticeable. Negroes enter the trades, find places in the shops, or even fellow competitive

North (from whom I had expected a complaint of discrimination), said to me: "I'm all right. I'm a member of the One of the questions I asked of that will not be enough; what then union and get union wages." And I found after inquiry that there After a moment's pause he will reply: are a few Negroes in most of the 'I should like to be an office boy

"Well, they're treated more like

men up here in the North." he said.

"that's the secret of it. There's pre-

judice here, too, but the color line

isn't drawn in their faces at every turn

purely economic than it is in the South

-an incident of industrial competi-

In the South the Negro still has

the field of manual labor largely to

himself, he is unsharpened by compe-

tition; but when he reaches the North-

ern city, he not only finds the work

different and more highly organized

and specialized, but he finds that he

must meet the fierce competition of

half a dozen eager, struggling, ambi-

tious groups of foreigners, who are

willing and able to work long hours

at low pay in order to get a foothold.

He has to meet often for the first time

the Italian, the Russian Jew, the Slav,

to say nothing of the white American

laborer. He finds the pace set by

competitive industry immensely hard-

er than in most parts of the South.

No life in the world, perhaps, requires

as much in brain and muscle of all

classes of men as that of the vast

Northern cities in the United States.

A contractor in New York who em-

ficiency. I haven't any sentiment in

the matter at all. It's business. As a

result is, I don't take colored men

when I can get white men. Yet I have

with them for any white man I know.

I have talked with many co

by the white man.

are stronger workers."

me:

as it is in the South. It all gets back

to a question of manhood."

In the North prejudice is

unions of skilled workers, carpenters, masons, iron-workers, even in the ex-Well, what next?' A moment's silence, and, 'I should try to get a poclusive typographical union and in the sition as bell-boy.' 'Well, then, what railroad organizations-a few here and next?' A rather contemplative mood, and then, 'I should like to climb to got in just as the Italians get in, not the position of head bell-boy.' He because they are wanted, or because has now arrived at the top; farther they are liked, but because by being than this he sees no hope. He must prepared; skilled and energetic, the face the bald fact that he must enter unions have had to take them in as a matter of self-protection. In the South SPRINGS business as a boy and wind up as a

the Negro is more readily accepted as And yet in spite of these difficulties. a carpenter, blacksmith or brick-layer Negroes come North every year in inthan in the North not because he is creasing numbers, they find living exmore highly regarded but because (unpensive, they suffer sickness and like the North) the South has almost death, they meet more prejudice, as no other labor supply. showed in my last article, than they In several great industries North expected to meet, and yet they keep and South, indeed, the Negro is as coming. Much as Negroes complain much a part of labor unionism as the of the hardship of Northern conditions, white man. Thousands of Negroes and though they are sometimes pitiare members of the United Minefully homesick for the old life in the Workers, John Mitchell's great or-South, I have yet to find one who ganization, and they stand on an exact wanted to go back-unless he had acindustrial equality with the whites. cumulated enough money to buy land. Other thousands are in the cigar-"Why do they come?" I asked a makers' union: where, by virtue of Negro minister in Philadelphia.

mor

economic pressure, they have forced recognition.

And yet, although I expected to find

the Negro wholly ostracized by union

labor .I discovered that where the Ne-

gro became numerous or skilled

enough, he, like the Italian or the

into the unions. The very first Ne-

gro carpenter I chanced to meet in the

Russian Jew, began to force his way !

Indeed, in the North, in spite of the complaint of discrimination, I found Negroes working and making a good living in all sorts of industries-union or no union. A considerable num.ber

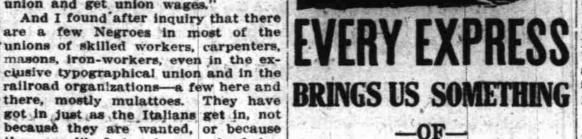
of Negro firemen have good positions in New York, a contracting Negro plumber in Indianapolis who uses col-

organized white labor. I know of Negroes in this country), who are get- still means social ostracism ting their training. I know of several

girls (all Mulattoes) who occupy responsible positions in offices in New York and Chicago. Not a few colored nurses, seamstresses and milliners have found places in the life of the North which they seem capable of holding. It is not easy for them to make progress; each colored man who takes a that a colored man can, after all, do his special work as well as a white

always.





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skilled, they gradually become skilled and in the course of time we will make excellent foremen out of them." Mr. Harrah added that there was absolutely no difference in wages of negroes and whites in the same grade of work.

I have pointed out especially in my last article how and where prejudice was growing in Northern cities, as it ered help has been able to maintain certainly is. On the other hand, himself not only against white com- where one gets down under the surpetition, but against the opposition of face there are to be found many counteracting influences-those quiet congro paper-hangers and painters, not structive forces, which, not being senunion men, but making a living at sational or threatening, attract too littheir trade and gradually getting hold. the attention. Northern people are A good many Negro printers, press. able to help Negroes where Southern men, and the like are now found in people are deterred by the intensity Negro offices (over '200 newspapers of social prejudice: for in most places and magazines are published by Ne- in the South the teaching of Negroes

> Settlement work, in one form or another, has been instituted in most Northern cities, centers of enlightenment and hope. I have visited 8 much, especially in giving a moral

and once with a bank book, they are on the road to genuine improvement. Night schools are also held in the public school buildings from November to April-two schools for Negroes especially, where colored people of all ages are at liberty to attend. It is a remarkable sight; Negroes fifty and sixty years old mingle there with mere children. The girls are taught sewing and cooking, the men carpentry-besides the ordinary branches. One old man from the South was found crying with joy over his ability to write his

name. For the very young children, Negro equally with white, there is Mrs. Eliza Blake's Kindergarten. For the aged colored women a home is now supported principally by the colored people themselves.

The Morals of Negro Women.

I saw a good deal of these various lines of activity and talked with the people who come close in touch with the struggling masses of the Negro poor. I wish I had room to tell some of the stories I heard: the black masses of poverty, disease, hopeless ignorance ,and yet everywhere shot through with hopeful tendencies and individual uplift and success. In Indianapolis, as in other Northern cities, I heard me to the credit of the Negro women.

"If the Negro is saved here in the The Road from Slavery to Freedom. North," Miss Smith told me, "it will be due to the women."

They gave me many illustrations showing how hard the Negro women worked-taking in washing or going out every day to work, raising their families, keeping the home, sometimes supporting worthless husbands.

"A Negro woman of the lower class," one visitor said to me, "rarely expects her husband to support her. She takes the whole burden herself." And the women, so the Loan Assoclation visitors told me, are the chief savers: they are the ones who get and keep the bank accounts. I have heard a great deal South and North about the immorality of Negro women. Much immorality no doubt exists, but no honest observer can go into any Last fall, after the season's work was of the crowded colored communities of Northern cities and study the life without coming away with a new respect for the Negro woman.

Another hopeful work in Indianapolis is the Juvenile Court. A boy who commits a crime is not immediately cast off to become a more desperate criminal and ultimately to take his revenge upon the society which neglected him. He comes into a specially

the system has worked with great suc-

cess. Boys whose offenses are too se-

rious for probation are sent, not to a

Why the Negro Often Fails.

As I continued my inquiries

the ignorant, reckless masses of their

people, were awakening to the fact

Help For Negroes in the North. organized court, where he meets not violence, but friendliness and encouragement. Mrs. Helen W. Rogers is at the head of the probation work in Indianapolis, and she has under her sucolored men and women-the best in



SEE THEM

AT

OUR STABLES.

MULE CO.

ant and many of the other attraction of a good hotel. But in this growth the North is far behind the South, cores of Negro banks are to be found in the South, not one in the North. Cities like Richmond, Virginia; Jackson, Mississippi; Nashville, Tennessee, have a really remarkable development of Negro business enterprises.

Perhaps I can convey a clearer idea of the great variety of employment of Negroes in Northern cities by outlining the condition in a single city, Philadelphia-information for which I am indebted to R. R. Wright, Jr. The census of 1900 shows that out of 28,-940 Negro males (boys and men), 21.-128 were at work, and out of 33,673 girls and 1, men, 14,095 were wagearners. Here are some of the more numerous occuptions of Regro men: Common laborers, 7.690 Servants and waiters 4.378 Teamsters and hackmen..... 1.957 Porters and helpers in stores ... 921 Earbers and hairdressers 444 Messengers and errand boys.... 346 Brick and stone masons 308 Most of these are, of course, lowclass occupations-the hard wagework of the city in which the men often sink below the poverty line. On the other hand the census gives these

figures: At Indianapolis I found an organiza-

ARRIVED

tion of Negro women, called the Woman's Improvement Club. The president, Mrs. Lillian T. Fox, told me what the club was doing to solve the problem of the colored girl and boy who could not get work. She found that, after all, white prejudice was not so much a bugaboo as she had imagin-

ed. The newspapers gave publicity to the work; the Commercial Club, the foremost business men's organization of the city, offered to lend its assistance; several white employers agreed to try colored help, and one, the Van Camp Packing Company, one of the great concerns of its kind in country, even fitted up a new plant to be operated wholly by colored people. over ,one of the officers of the company told me that the Negro plant had been a great success, that the girls

with great intelligence.

Just recently a meeting of colored carpenters was held in New York to fectly willing to accept them as mem-

basis as any other carpenters. In short, the Negro is beginning to awaken to the fact that if he is to sur-

Negro professional men (415) and women (170) including doctors, clergymen, dentists, artists, teachers, electricians, architects, musicians, lawyers, journalists, civil engineers, actors, literary Retail merchants, men (297), wo-

Hotel keepers 13 One Negro runs a men's furnishing store; another, a drug store; others, groceries, meats, etc. The beneficial society has grown to a regular insurance company, the renting acent has become a real estate dealer. Within the the past twelve months Negroes have incorporated two realty companies, one land investment company, four building and loan associations, one' manu-facturing company, one insurance company, besides a number of other smaller concerns. had done their work faithfully and

The civil service has proved of advantage to the Negro of Philadelphia. as of every other large Northern city. organize for self-help, and they found In the post-office there are about 150 that, by bringing pressure to bear, the clerks, carriers and other employees, Brotherhood of Carpenters was per- on the police force about 70 patrolmen, and 40 school teachers and bers of the Union, on exactly the same about 200 persons in other municipal

Wherein Lies Success for Negroes, I have thus endeavored to present vive and succeed in Northern cities, the conditions of the Negro in the number of these settlements and have pervision a large corps of voluntary it must be by his own skill, energy North and show his relationship with seen their work. They are doing probation officers thirty of whom are and organization. For, like any in- white people, except in the matter of dividual or any race, striving for a politics, a subject of so much importtone to a slum community: they help town. These colored probation of- place in industry or in modern com- ance that I shall take it up in a later step ahead must prove, for his race, to keep the children off the streets by ficers have an organization of which mercial life, the Negro must, in order article. I have tried to exhibit every means of clubs and classes; they open George W. Cable, who is the foreman to succeed, not only equal his com- factor, good or bad, which plays a

business callings and still maintain friendly relationships with the white people.

But the small towns are not typical of the new race conditions in the North: the situation in the greater centers of population where Negro immigration is increasing largely, is decidedly different.

As I traveled in the North, I heard many stories of the difficulties which the colored man had to meet in getting employment. Of course, as a Negro said to me, "there are always places for the colored man at the botm." He can always get work at unskilled manual labor, or personal or domestic service-in other words, at well as the ordinary white man. The menial employment. He has had that in plenty in the South. But what he seeks as he becomes educated is an several colored men who have been opportunity for better grades of employment. He wants to rise.

It is not, then, his complaint that he cannot get work in the North, but that he is limited in his opportunities to rise, to get positions which his camblittles (if it were not for his color) would entitle him to. He is looking has to meet in the North (as he has for a place where he will be judged at his worth as a man, not as a Negro: this he came to the North to find, and he meets difficulties of which he had not dreamed in the South.

At Indianapolis I found a great discussion going on over what to do with the large number of idle young colmore feeling than a machine, that is unel people, some of whom had been through the public schools, but who could not, apparently, find any work to do. As an able colored man said to me: "What shall we do? Here ure our young people educated in the the skilled trades are hostile to Neschools, capable of doing good work in many occupations where skill and rules against their admission. I heard intelligence are required-and yet the experiences of an expert Negro lowith few opportunities opening for them. They don't want to dig ditches pr isecome porters or valets any more than intelligent white boys: they are vor with the company, and indeed human. The result is that some of them drop back into idle discourage- personally, the general feeling was so ment-or worse."

In New York I had a talk with William L. Bulkley, the colored principal of Public School No. 80, attended ous, he was finally forced to abandon chiefly by colored children, who told his run. If there were space I could me of the great difficulties and discouragements which confronted the Negro boy who wanted to earn his living. He relates this story:

"I received a communication the in the last few years owing to the other day from an electric company common use of Negroes as strikestating that they could use some breakers. With a few thousand Nebright, clean, industrious boys in groes the employers broke the great their business, starting them at so Stockyards strike in Chicago in 1904, much a week and aiding them to learn and the teamsters' strike in the folthe business. 1 suspected that they lowing year, Color prejudice is used did not comprehend colored boys unlike any other weapon for strengthender the generic term 'boys,' but ing the monopoly of the labor union. thought to try. So I wrote asking if I know several unions which are practhey would give employment to a col- tically monopolistic corporations into ored boy who could answer to the qualifications stated. The next mail black, penetrates with the greatest dif- of the largest, if not the largest embrought the expected reply that no ficulty. Such closely organized unions colored boy, however promising, was keep the Negroes out in the South ex- Charles J. Harrah, the president of

"The saddest thing that faces me in gro tile-settler, steam-fitter or States Industrial Commission in 1900: me work is the small opportunity for | plumber can no more get into a union . "We have fully 800 or 1,000 colored a colored boy or girl to find proper in Atlanta than in New York. Of men. The balance are Americans, imployment. A boy-comes to my of- course these unions, like any other Irish and Germans. The colored lafice and asks for his working papers. closely organized group of men, em- bor we have is excellent. . . . They He may be well up in the school, pos- ploy every weapon to further their are lusty fellows; we have some """ sibly with graduation only a few cause. They use prejudice as a com- shoulders twice as deep as mine. The months off. I question him somewhat petitive fighting weaport, they set

man. The presumption 18 workmen and I am convinced that not against him. a few of them fail, not because of

their color, nor because they are lazy (Negroes in the North are for the in Chicago: most part hard workers-they must be, else they starve or freeze), but for

simple lack of speed and skill; they haven't learned to keep the pace set ploys large numbers of men, said to

newspaper men, engineers and busi- employment and it teaches them civic habits of work. "It isn't color so much as plain efness men were permitted to inspect responsibility and pride. what is said to be the most complete general rule the ordinary colored man can't do as much work nor do it as with me for years, and I wouldn't part In the same way I would rather employ Italians than Russian Jews: they

Not unnaturally the Negro charges these competitive difficulties which he cago." Cases of this sort are exceptional ter of influence. been accustomed to do in the South)

to the white man; he calls it color among the vast masses of untrained prejudice, when as a matter of fact, Negro population in the cities, and set groes receive much off-hand individual it is often of the cold business-like requirement of an industrial life which very possibility of such advancement of old clothes and money; but it is city, find out the cases of idleness, and demands tremendous efficiency, which encourages Negroes to come North. in many lines of activity has little Trades Which Negroes Dominate. So much for the higher branches of indiscriminate giving, but an effort to industry. In some of the less skilled reach and help Negro families by willing to use Italians, or Japanese, or occupations, on the other hand, the Chinese, or Negroes, or Hindus, or any On the other hand, no doubt exists actually becoming dominant. that many labor unions especially in The asphalt workers are nearly all strong union and although part of the to cash in the bank. The Charity Orgroes, even though they may have no

comotive engineer named Burns who hel a run out of Indianapolis to the the city is James H. Wallace, a col-Scath. Though he was much in faored man. with many trainmen who knew him

strong that by soaping the tracks, inmaking his work difficult and danger- have they been that they now propose that they can help them in many give many accounts of strikes against the employment of Negroes. The feelcolored members began to "rush" a than twenty-five cents a week is ac- again, hoping to help out the condition ing among union labor men has undoubtedly been growing more intense

cided that there should be no dis- their accounts to the savings bankscrimination against white men, and fined one of the Negro offenders for his conduct. He couldn't pay and had to leave town.

Where the Negro workman gets a foothold in the North, he often does very well indeed. R. R. Wright, Jr., calls attention to conditions in the which any outsider, white, yellow or Midvale Steel Company, which is one ployer of Negro labor in Philadelphia wanted. I heaved a sigh and went on. actly as they do in the North. A Ne- this company, said before the United

the avenues of sympathy between the of the distributing department of the busy upper world and the struggling Indianapolis post-office, is the chair- Negro contractor said to me:

lower world Such is the work of Miss man. A Negro boy charged with an Here is a little newspaper account Bartholc new, Miss Hancock, Miss offense is turned over to one of these of a successful skilled pattern maker Wharton in Philadelphia, Miss Eaton leading Negro men or women, required little better and a little cheaper than prejudice in the North, both social in Boston, Mrs. Celia Parker Woolley

"A few days ago a large box con- in Chicago, Miss Ovington in New taining twenty-one large and small York. Miss Hancock, a busy, hopepatterns was shipped to the James- ful Quaker woman, has a "broom town Exposition by the McGuire Car squad" of Negro boys which makes a Company of Paris, Illinois, one of the regular business of sweeping several largest car companies in the West. Be- of the streets in the very worst slum fore the box was shipped scores of district in Philadelphia; it gives them

But perhaps I can give the best idea and most valuable exhibit of the kind of these movements by telling of the ever sent to an exhibition in this coun- different forms of work in a single try. The contents of this precious box city-Indianapolis. In the first place, so discouraged over the condition of from slavery into freedom. is entirely the work of a colored man the Flanner Guild, projected by Mr. named George A. Harrison. Mr. Har- Flanner, a white man, is maintained rison is one of the highest-salaried largely by white contributions, but it that the Negro's difficulty in the North men on the pay-roll of the company. is controlled wholly by colored peo-He makes all the patterns for all of ple. Millinery classes were opened for the steel, brass and iron castings for girls (of which there are now many every kind of car made by this com- practicing graduates, eight of whom pany. He graduated at the head of are giving lessons in Indianapolis and his class of sixty members in a pat- in other cities), and there are clubs tern making establishment in Chi- and social gatherings of all sorts: it

has been, indeed, a helpful social cen- is composed of both white and colored

In the South, as I have shown, Netron, an able colored man. The object of the committee is to study the conit shows what can be done-and the charity-food from the kitchen, gifts dition, of the Negroes in New York largely personal and unorganized. In try to help the Negro to better emthe North there is comparatively little ployment. This committee has experienced dif-

ficulty not so much in finding openmaking them help themselves. One ings for Negroes, as in getting reliaother people on the face of the earth. Negro is not only getting hold, but of the difficulties of the Negro is im- ble Negroes to fill them. Boys and providence; but once given a start on girls, though educated in the public the road to money saving, it is often schools, come out without knowing colored. In New York they have a astonishing to see him try to live up how to do anything that will earn them a living. Although the advantmembership is white (chiefly Italian). ganization Society of Indianapolis has ages of Cooper Institute and other inthe chosen representative who sits long maintained a dime savings and dustrial training schools, are open to with the Central Federated Union of loan association which employs six Negroes, they have been little used, women collectors, one colored, who either from lack of knowledge of the

visit hundreds of homes every week. opportunity, or because the Negroes In Indianapolis I found that the These form indeed a corps of friendhod-carriers' industry was almost ly visitors, the work of collecting the wholly in the hands of Negroes who savings furnishing them an opportupreferred the regular literary courses of the schools. So many unskilled and untrained Negroes, both old have a strong union, with a large nity of getting into the homes and so juring his engine, and in other ways strike fund put aside. So successful winning the confidence of the people ployers from trying any sort of Noyoung, have discouraged many emgro help. I shall not forget the sigerecting a building of their own as a ways. Last year over 6,000 deposinificant remark of a white employer I club house. Although there are white tors were registered in the Association, met in Indianapolis: a broad-gauge in other cities) have made a success men in the union the officers are all two-thirds of whom were Negroes, and colored. Not long ago some of the over \$25,000 was on deposit. Not less man, known for his philanthropies. "I've tried Negro help over and over

white man at his work. It was re- cepted, but many Negroes save much of Negro idleness we have here. I ported to the union and hotly discuss- more. As soon as they get into the have had two or three good Negro ed. The colored members finally de- habit of saving they usually transfer been wholly undisciplined, irresponsi-

ploy him.'

training."

says:

Bulkley said to me:

active hostility of labor unions, partly

E

It not pay better to buy a plano which has proven itself to be an instru-L.ent of extreme merit THAN

to buy an instrument that is largely an experiment?

NINETY-SIX THOUSANDS OF

ne more efficient. A part in racial conditions. Many sinetitor, but becon "Yes, I can get any amount of crease of ignorant and unskilled Ne-

work, but they expect me to do it a groes from the South; the growing my white competitors." Then he and industrial, against the Negro; the to report regularly, and helped until he gets on his feet again. Thus far added:

"And I can do it, too!" success can be won.

jail or chain-gang, where they become habitual criminals, but to a reform school, where they are taught regular the South, that he learns only slowly, Negroes are forcing recognition, in in an intense, impersonal, competitive nearly all branches of hu found that the leading colored men in the white man, must do the driving, most cities, though they might be ever It is the lesson that raises any man

life like that of the North, where work entering business life and the profesis at a premium, that he himself, not sions. A new racial consc

Pullman Porters.

So much for industry. The Negro in the North has also been going into was not all racial, not all due to mere business and into other and varied color prejudice, but also in large employment. The very difficulty of measure to lack of training, lack of getting hold in the trades and aggressiveness and efficiency, lack of salaried employment has driven many organization. In New York a "Committee for Improving Industrial Condition of Negroes" has been formed. It men, and the Secretary is S. R. Scot-

tips.

direction.

and

in colored people into small business en- respective strength. It is a trementerprises; grocery stores, tailor shops, real estate or rentine agencies. If they are being driver out by white vival within the swift-moving civilimen as waiters and barbers, they en- zation of an advanced race. No one joy, on the other hand, growing op- can look upon it without the most portunities as railroad and Pullman profound fascination for its interests porters and waiters-places which are as a human spectacle, nor without the often highly profitable, and lead, if deepest sympathy for the efforts of

openings. A Negro banker whom I the obstacles which beset them of met in the South told me that he got every hand. his start as a Pullman porter. He had

a good run, and, by being active and look out upon it and see this dark accommodating, often made from \$150 horde of men and women coming up, to \$200 a month from his wages and coming up, a few white men here and

holding them back, I feel that Port But the same change is going on in the North that I found everywhere in Arthur and the battles of Manchuria, the South: I mean a growing race con- bloody as they were, are not to be scipusness among Negroes-the building up of a more or less independent Negro community life within the Every that arms. But the object is much force seems to be working in

Business Among Boston and Philadelphia Negcoes.

As I showed in my last article, many Negroes in Boston (and indeed in business enterprises which are patronized by white people-or rather by both races. Colored doctors and lawyers in Boston have more or less white practice. Of course, colored men who workers, but so many of them have can succeed, without reference to

races, wish to continue to do so-but a wise Negro put it to me: ble, and sometimes actually dishonest, that I've given up trying. I don't emthe tendency in the North, as in the South, is all against such development and toward Negro enterprises for the

gr ater white civilization.

Upon this very point Professor Negro population. Even in Boston numerous enterprises are conducted "The great need of the young colored people is practical training in inby Negroes for Negroes. I visited sevget hold in a trade unless he has had stores. A Negro named Basil F. of life itself. Hutchins has built up a thriving un-

dertaking and livery establishment R. R. Wright, Jr., who has made a study of conditions in Philadelphia, "It is in the skilled trades that the Magazine." A new hotel called the Negroes are at the greatest disadvantage. Negroes have been largely shut Astor House conducted by Negroes for in this country .- The Editor] Negroes, has 250 rooms with telephone out of mechanical trades partly because of indifference and occasional service in each room, a large restau-

among the Negro population, which Those are the only terms on which is due to poverty, ignorance, crime and an unfriendly climate. On the other For so long a time the Negro has hand, many encouraging and ho been driven or forced to work, as in tendencies are perceptible. Individual

ister influences exist; the immense in-

high death rate and low birth rate

growing up, leading to organizations for self-help; and while white preju-dice is increasing, so is white helpfulness as manifested in social settle-

ments, industrial schools, and other useful philanthropies.

All these forces and counter forces -economic, social, religious, political -are at work. We can all see them plainly, but we cannot judge of their dous struggle that is going on-the the Negro saves his money, to better 10,000,000 human beings to surmound

And what a struggle it is! As I there cheering them on, a few bitterly

compared with such a conflict as this, for this is the silent, dogged, sanguinary, modern struggle in which the combatants never rest upon their the same: the effort of a backward race

for a foothold upon this earth, for civilized respect and an opportunity to expand. And the Negro is not fighting Russians, but Americans, Germans,

Irish, English, Italians, Jews, Slavsall those mingling white races, (each, indeed ,engaged in the same sort of a struggle) which make up the nation we call America.

The more I see of the conflict. the more I seem to see that victory or detheir color and do business with both feat lies with the Negro himself. As

"Forty years ago the white man emancicated us; but we are only just now discovering that we must emancipate our elves."

Whether the Negro can survive the conflict, how it will all come out, no dustry. A Negro boy can't expect to eral small but prosperous grocery man knows. For this is the making

[In later articles Mr. Baker will take up the Political Position of the for Negro trade. Charles W. Alexan- Negro, the Mulatto, How the Negro der has a print-shop with colored Himself looks at the Negro Problem. workmen and publishes "Alexander's and several other subjects, which will throw light upon the probl m of race

WOMAN TORRID OR FRIGID.

While Man is Always Either Temper-

