ALEXANDER'S

MAGAZINE

AND THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC



OCTOBER, 1907

This Magazine gibes the Negro's point of View Regarding his own Problems Published by Charles Alexander at 714 Shawmut Abenue, Boston, Mass

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Editorial Department

in Boston? Perhaps it is. not altogether certain as to the extent to which prejudice of the whites ject of color prejudice which is not at toward the blacks has grown in this all to be wondered at. To such an exhome of Garrison, Phillips and Sum-tent has this extreme sensitiveness ner. That there is some increment grown in many of us that we are not seems to be conceded by almost every exactly sane on the subject and may body, i. e., by almost every Colored see color prejudice in many person with whom we have talked, where it does not actually exist. There has lately been a good deal of smoke in respect to this subject for this spirit of oversensitiveness and in the city, and where there is so much smoke, we take it, there must be prejudice in Boston on the part of produce so smoke.

prejudice is on the increase in Boston as it is on the increase all over the country. Instances of it have, it seems, jour condition of servitude. It is a been sometimes exaggerated. And at fact however, of which Boston may other times some of our people, ap- justly be proud, that its judges and parently have gone out of their way to jurors will uphold the civil rights find the ugly thing, and, as it always law of Massachusetts

COLOR PREJUDICE IN BOSTON. happens, what we go out of our way to find in the way of trouble and especial-Is color prejudice on the increase ly in respect to race trouble, we are We are almost sure to find. We as a race, have grown very sensitive on the sub-

Still after making all due allowance exaggeration on the subject of race And some fire there un-some Colored people, we believe nevermuch theless that the thing is altogether too much evidence in this banner We will assume therefore that race city of this banner state in respect to the equality of all men before the law, regardless of their race, color or prevthe violators of the same wherever a clear case has been made out against them by Colored plaintiffs and complainants.

A case of Color prejudice pure and simple has just come to our knowledge. A young lady, the daughter of one of the foremost Colored scholars and educators of the country, came to Boston from a distant Southern city to pursue a course of study at one of the schools of expression in the city. She had corresponded with the officers of the school and was led to believe that she would be received as a regular pupil in the school. But although her tather's check for her tuition was in the hands of the school authorities, she was denied the right to register and enter as a regular student. The authorities offered to admit her as a special student, and even to give her work in the r office, but nothing and no one were able to induce them to admit her into their school as a regular student.

However, the young lady encountered no difficulty whatever in gaining admission on terms of perfect equality with white students to the rival 'school of elecution of this other school of expression, which has denied has admission. The school which received her is the largest and most prosperous school of elocution in Boston and perhaps of the country as well, Ever, thing to which she is entitled as registered student she will undoubtedly receive and along with it she and another Colored lady will get from the officers nothing but kinaness, the most cordial consideration and from most of the pupils the most courteous treatment. And this is all that they ask, no more nor less.

More than this they do not care to receive and less than this they will

school of expression refused to give our young lady on account of her race and color, and in doing so put itself beneath the contempt of all fairminded people, and out of touch with the noblest traditions of this grand old city of justice and of Garrison, Phillips and Sumner.

MOB RULE.

If the Republican state convention of Massachusetts needed a foil to set t off to the greatest advantage before the voters of this grand old commonwealth, it was supplied with the best of all possible foils for its purpose n the Democratic old night and haos, which broke loose in Springield on Saturday, the fifth of October, We, ourselves, never could have beieved that such a thing was possible n Massachusetts, before the late Democratic convention revealed itself to the state and country as the very Words fail to describe thing itself. such a mass of conglomeration of folly and brutality and violence and ininite uproar and suicidal madness is constituted the Democratic state convention of Massachusetts in this year of peace, 1907.

For many weeks before this crowning event in their lives, the rival canlidates for the Democratic nomination or governor, went up and down the state, making each his appeal to Demscratic voters for their support. Sometimes this appeal was made from the same platform and sometimes it was nade from separate platforms. Both men got lots of cheers, and each got at the primaries a majority of the lelegates! This extraordinary sult of the Democratic polls of the state was a sort of storm signal that trouble and tumult were coming not take. And this is what the other | traight for the Democratic state con-

vention, which was to meet in Springfield on the 5th of October. straight they came and struck the convention with the tremendous volume and impact of a West India hurricane. All sense of decency and order and fair play went down before the fury of men's passions and rival-

Once upon a time Samson vanquished his foes with the jaw bone of an ass but John D. Kiley vanquished the whole Democratic convention, composed of friends and foes, with a jaw that would have given the weapon used by Samson odds and beaten it at its own game. Kiley's jaw was Kiley's own, and this is where he had the advantage of Samson. Kiley was born with his. It is his peculiar possession, and a more formidable weapon no presiding officer over a party convention ever wielded to the confusion of friends and foes alike. Kiley killed the Democratic convention and the Democratic party and both of the rival candidates for gubernatorial honors at the hands of that party with his formidable jaw. Kiley's voice was like the Irishman's shelalah, whereever a head showed itself in opposition to Kiley Kiley hit that head with his jaw, and down went the head in inglorious defeat, while Kiley's jaw went on vocalizing forever.

Who are these rival candidates for gubernatorial honors at the of the Massachusetts democracy? One is Henry M. Whitney, a millionaire and one of the leading captains of industry in New England, and besides these qualifications he is a man of the highest social standing in Boston and the country at large.

The other candidate is Charles W. Bartlett, one of the leading lawyers at the Suffolk bar. He too, is a man of large wealth and he is besides a lawyer of large practice. Mr. Whitney and his managers claimed a safe majority of the delegates to the convention, but Mr. Bartlett and henchmen got possession of the convention and excluded about twothirds of the Whitney delegates. Of course, after this bit of political strategy, it was a walkover for Mr. Bartlett, who received the nomination of scenes of disorder and uproar which seem hardly credible in Massachu-Mr. Whitney's excluded delegates held their convention in a section of the same hall and simultaneously with the other convention and amid scenes of disorder and uproar, hardly less credible in Massachusetts, nominated Mr. Whitney as the party's standard bearer.

What would the country have said, what would those very men have said had this Bay State convention of Democrats been composed of Colored instead of white men? Everywhere and from every finger of the white people of the state and the country the finger of scorn would have pointed these men out as incapable of self-government, as unfit to be admitted to the citizenship of the Republic. But thank God, the men who thus brought shame to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. and degraded American citizenship, were, every last mother's son of them. After men. all. however. human nature is human nature. whether covered by \mathbf{a} white skin or bу a Colored skin, and scoundrelism and lawlessness and violence belong exclusively to no particular race and are monopolized by no particular class in the American Republic. The whole American nation is tarred out of the same pot of pitch, is sick from the head of it to the foot of it with the same alarming disease. Lawlessnes is in the air of the Republic, and scoundrelism and violence are also. They hang in deadly mephitic vapor over the South. They poison the atmosphere of the rest of the nation. They are present alas, here in this grand old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, vide the Democratic state convention which met at Springfield on October 5, 1907.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

That was a notable gathering in Boston during the last week in September of the International Congress of Religious Liberals. The members came not only from all sections of this country but from all parts of Europe, and from the far East as well. They constituted indeed "a goodly his side of the convention, amid company," as President Carroll D.



Wright said in his opening address, never knew me. And they will ulfrom dogmatic tenets, free to stand before the pubapplying the highest religious ideals white man and the American Repubreligion, true religion, is not a creed, prejudice and oppression. is not a system of theology but simple love to God and man. A man has religion not because he accepts certain dogmas of the church but because he accepts God as his father and his fellow men, regardless of differences race and color, as creed and brothers. This is religion, true and undefiled, the religion of Jesus, tao religion which is to redeem the world from sin and wrong, from race prejudice and oppression, from the beast of rapacity and cruelty, which like a and superiority. Now if the Internaravenous lion is going up and down tional Congress of Religious Liberals the may devour.

of the religion of Jesus, of that true religion of Jesus, it did well, and will religion which is to save men from deserve at the hands of the Republic the beast which is in them. much as ye do it to the least of these the "Well done" plaudit not only of my brethren (the Negro in America, for example) ye do it to me. That is erations likewise. the positive side of the supreme test as to whether the white man in America has religion or not. And here is the negative side to the same vital | truth: Inasmuch as ye do it not to held its general convention the first the least of these my brethren (the part of October in the old capital of Negro in America) ye do it not to me. the Southern Confederacy. This is the supreme test. It is not is a denomination in America which only the supreme test, it is the only one in fact. The white man may build the most magnificent church edifices and fill them with vast audi- to its high title by apostolic succesences and eloquent sermons and wonderful music. He might even pour his money out like water for the educa- and splendid church edifices, and a tion of the Negro in his midst but if he looks down on the Negro in the altars. It has wealth and social prepride of race as essentially different from him, as a man not his brother, not entitled with him to equality in the state, to equality in the church, to equality in society, then the white man in America knows not the religion of Jesus. And the judgment will be passed on him and on the Republic also.

theological timately go the way of Assyria and Babylonia and Greece and Judea and lic as representing the necessity of Rome, for like those the American to the affairs of the world." Slowly lic will have prepared themselves for has the great and vifal truth entered the devils of man's inhumanity to man, the heads and hearts of people that and his angels of race pride, race

It is not enough for the white man in America to perceive the Negro's needs, he must also see his brotherhood, a brotherhood as real and close and vital as if his skin were white To give the Negro a cup of cold water in the true spirit of human brotherhood would do more toward the ultimate solution of the race problem in America than would the gift of millions of dollars to his education in a spirit of race pride, segregation word to-day seeking whom it did aught during its five days meeting in Boston to establish white Deeds not words is the vernacular America in this saving truth of the Inas- and at the judgment seat of the world this generation, but of all future gen-

THE EPISCOPAL CONVENTION.

The Episcopal church of America claims to be pre-eminently Christian that denomination is the Episcopal church. It points with stately pride sion to be the true church in America. It has splendid forms and ceremonies, splendid priesthood to officiate at its It has in a word all the eminence. riches which this world can bestow in the way of vast possessions, in scholarship and eloquence and membership and spreading influence and power. But it lacks the one thing needful, viz., full and unreserved recognition of the brotherhood of the Depart from me for ye Negro, who is in its midst.



church sees that the Negro is in want, and it wants to help him, not as a brother man, or brother in Christ, but as a lower man, as a man devoid of any kinship to the white man and brother, as essentially different from him and hopelessly and eternally inferior to him.

Fifty years ago the American church was the bulwark of American Today it is verily the bulslavery. wark of American colorphobia. It would have been impossible for slavery to have lasted a year in the Republic had the church arrayed itself solidly against the iniquity. Neither could American colorphobia exist another vear in the North and in the South alike were the church to set its face sternly against its cruelties and injustices to the weakest of the brethren of the divine Master. Were the so-called Christian churches of America to preach in earnest the brotherhood of man, including the despised Negro, and to practice in all sincerity what it preached of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, including much despised Negro, there would be today no so-called Negro problem to vex the nation and to cloud its future.

Does the church believe in the one blood doctrine of the Bible? Or does it believe in the one blood doctrine for white men only? Then what does it believe in respect to the origin of the Negro? Is he a man or is he something lower and different in the scale of creation? The Episcopal church South acts on the assumption that he is different from the white man, with a different origin and destiny, and that therefore he must be treated differently and set apart in the church itself from his "superior" in white. Social contact with him is contamination, and ecclesiastical as sociation with him is a thing which no Southern white clergyman or layman should tolerate for an hour. The Episcopal church South has drawn its social and ecclesiastical skirt and robe about it with a mighty scorn lest they so much as touch the colored man and brother.

The Episcopal church which has just held its triennial convention in

Richmond preaches very generally now the un-Christian doctrine of racial differences, of race superiority for the white man and of race inferiority for the black man, and practices what it preaches with amazing openness and frankness and it does so well nigh universally. It has rejected in much of its preaching and in most of its practice the great doctrines on which Jesus founded his religion, viz., the fatherhood of God and the brother hood of man in respect to the Negro. He is not regarded even in theory any longer by that church, the portion of it which is located below Mason and Dixon's line, as a man without essential difference from his brother in white, and everywhere throughout that section he is treated not as a brother but as something but little removed from the status of the lower animals.

Under these hard and anti-Christian conditions and circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the colored Episcopalians, especially of the South, have been asking the powers that be in that church to appoint over them a colored bishop. What a damning reflection on the tianity of a church and its hierarchy. claiming direct apostolic descent and succession is a request such as that preferred by colored Episcopalians for a colored bishop? They want a colored bishop because things are not what they ought to be for them under white bishops. White bishops make them feel not their brotherhood in the church but their race difference, and fasten upon them by a. treatment, which no man can possibly mistake, the stigma of race inferior-What is good enough for the ity. divine Master is not good enough for the white Episcopal church of America. For the black man there is no equality in the Episcopal church, and for him there is no practical brotherhood either. He is not wanted and it seems to us that the quicker he shakes the dust from his feet and gets out of such an anti-Christian church the better it will be for him and for his, now and for years to come.

THE M. E. CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal church of America is a decided improvement on the Episcopal church in respect to its treatment of the Colored man and brother. There is more, much more fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man principles in the religion of the Methodists than that of the Episcopalians as a church the organization. The former see needs of the Colored people more clearly than the latter, much more clearly in practice do they recognize their brotherhood with the rest of hu-They have established manity. their education institutions of learning like Clark university and Gammon Theological Seminary. And in the government of these institutions and in the faculties thereof they have introduced the principles of equality and fraternity and by those principles they have lived and governed their race prejudice, their race feeling or instinct in a very noble way.

Still the recognition of the full brotherhood of the Negro of this church is far from complete. It goes a long way on that road but there remains a long distance from the place where its recognition stops to place where Jesus stors. Is segregation along the color line consistent with the brotherhood of man as Jesus preached it and practiced it? In his church would there be churches for Colored people and churches for white people, Colored ministers minister to the Colored portion of His flock and white ministers to minister to the white portion of his flock? He recognized no distinctions of race or position among his followers. were all one in him. Greek and Roman and Jew, rich and poor, white and black. Brotherhood was brotherhood without any mental reservations as he preached and practiced it. Not so with the American church, not so with even the Methodist Episcopal church. For it practices separation in respect to its Colored members and ministers. The Colored members and ministers have been asking these many years now for a b'shop. But they have not yet been granted their

Why? request. Because a Colored bishop might not be tolerated by a white diocese. In fact we know that there is not enough of the religion of Jesus in the pews and pulpits of that church to accept a Colored bishop to rule over any portion of the white section of the M. E. church in Amer-When a Colored bishop into that church it will be to rule over the Colored portion of it and over that portion alone. And it would not matter how learned and saintly a and Christian he might be he would be rejected by the white portion of the M. E. church and assigned rulership over the Colored portion exclusively. Whatever else one might call such a spirit as that, it is surely not the spirit of Jesus, who laid at the foundation of his religion twin doctrines of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

MACHINE RULE.

The Republican party of Massachusetts held its annual convention in Boston on the 5th of October to listen to an address of its presiding officer. Senator Lodge, to adopt a platform and to nominate candidates for governor, lieutenant-governor and other state officers. Everything went off with the ease, the regularity, the precision of a perfect piece of machinery. There was not a hitch or an irregularity in any of the proceedings from beginning to end. Every part of the big machine was nicely adjusted to every other part and oiled, and the whole complicated mechanism worked in admirable and absolute harmony. Great is the machine in Massachusetts and great is the god of it likewise.

Sena'or Lodge, deus ex-machina. was at his best, and the speech made by him was one of the best political speeches ever made by him, also. By best, we mean, that he was apparently in the best possible fighting condition, and in respect to the speech delivered by him as presiding officer of the convention, that it was a blow swung with pugilistic skill and force. straight from the shoulder and which struck the Democratic party on a vital spot well above the belt. It was fairly and effectively struck and not even



the Democrats can cry foul to a blow which they have not yet parried or returned, owing to circumstances which put them as a party out of the ring and the fight. But of those circumstances more anon.

The question of a revision of the tariff, the Republican boss dismissed as having no place in a state election. He quieted the revisionists by the oily assurance, "We shall, I hope and believe, declare for revision, which I for one have been urging for the last three years, at our next national convention, and we shall then, I trust, carry that revision into effect, along protective lines, immediately after the 4th of March, 1909."

And this is the way he met and thrust aside what he denominated the reciprocity trick;

"Let us also waste no time in talking about reciprocity with Canada. That is another trick to divert us from the real questions of the hour, questions not of yesterday or tomorrow but of today.

"The plain truth is that Canada does not want a reciprocity treaty, and all the world knows it. She has, as she is entitled to have, her own economic policy, and without Canada it is difficult to see how a reciprocity treaty with Canada can be successfully made. We can hand our markets over to Canada without her assistance but we can get no return for doing so without her consent."

The merger of the two great railroad systems of New England, viz., the Boston and Albany and the Boston and Maine into one great corporation—the New York, New Haven and Hartford, the head of the state convention declared to be the dominant question upon which the state election in December will turn. Here is the rest of his remarks on this subject:

"We must see to it, in case this merger should be permitted, that there shall be no chance for an undue increase of rates, that the business of the state is properly protected, and that, above all, and this is the most perilous point, every guarantee shall be exacted and every legislative provision possible shall be made to pre-

vent the diversion of through freights for export from the port of Boston.

"In this connection it will also become the duty of the legislature to determine whether it is for the interest of the state, of business and of the railroads to permit express companies to own a large, if not a controlling, amount of stock in our railroad corporations."

But on the alleged rotten condition of Boston the Senator let himself go. And go he did. He went into the present rule at City Hall with a dash and clatter, and swing which carried the convention off of its 2500 feet. But we will let Senator Lodge speak for himself:

"The revelations of the finance commission, the increasing debt, the declining credit, the well-sustained and ever thickening accusations made by the newspapers in recent months, would be enough of themselves to command state action, for which we Republicans are responsible. apart from these proved and published facts the air is heavy with stories of the corruption at City Hall, of offices sold, of percentages taken, of pay rolls loaded, of loans made to support men in idleness, of widespread frauds at the ballot box, which should be rigidly investigated and brought to the light of day.

Not a "Busted Cow Town."

"The people of Boston and of Massachusetts have been confused amused long enough by the clashing of cymbals and the beating of drums. I do not know how it is with others, but, loving Boston as every citizen of Massachusetts must love it, I revolt at the cheap circus performances which have been indulged in under the pretence of bringing business to the city. Boston, one of the greatest cities in the country, the most historic. the town which all alone defied the power of the British crown and whose name rang from one end of the British empire to the other, is treated in this year of grace, as if she were a "busted cow town," to be saved from merited extinction by Colored posters and senseless noise.

is neither new nor cheap, nor vulgar, Charles Sumner in the United States and her prosperity is not to be promot- senate. It is sad to record this ined by boom and bluster and brag or dictment against Senator Lodge but by any other triple alliteration worthy it is true, nevertheless, of the intellect and taste of a "barker" Governor Guild and at a country fair. No, the prosperity officers were nominated. We wonder of Boston is not to be advanced by if Governor Guild will signalize his methods like these, but by good admin- last year in the gubernatorial chair by istration, by streets well ordered and well paved, fit for the traffic of com- porters some fit recognition of their merce, by honest and efficient government which will indeed increase her trade and by doing her share in the construction of those great terminals without which foreign commerce cannot be successfully carried on. Upon you, Republicans of Massachusetts, devolves a high duty, for you must do your part in rescuing your capital city from the low estate to which it has fallen."

The party platform is Senator Lodge's speech depleted of a large quantity of its hot red fighting blood, with the exception of this short paragraph, which is very good as far as it goes:

"The Republican party, true to its traditions, deprecate any effort which seeks to destroy the high which have been its glory strength. We condemn any prejudice which deprives any person whatsoever of his rights under the constitution, and especially do we condemn any spirit of discrimination in public places within our borders. The Republican party has kept alive the spirit of equality of opportunity, and earnestly calls upon our public offlcials for enforcement of all laws, to the end that justice shall be accorded every person, regardless of race, color or creed."

We could wish that the senior senator of Massachusetts had seen fit to incorporate into his speech just a word on the subject of the rights and wrongs of his Colored fellow citizens. We should be immensely gratified had these rights and wrongs proven enough to stir the indignation and the eloquence of the head of the Republican party in Massachusetts. The Senator's blood has for these many years, now been at the freezing point in respect to these rights and wrongs. They alas! no longer interest the head

"Whatever else Boston may be, she i nor move the heart of the successor of

Governor Guild and the other state giving to his Colored Republican supfidelity to him and his party at the We shall see what we shall polls? see.

THE IMPOSSIBLE.

If we could gather all tears that fall From women's eyes;

If we could dispell the clouds that pall Their summer skies,

What an ocean those tears would fill, Ceasing never,

What a hope-kissed light from would thrill

Their hearts forever.

RALPH W. TYLER.

BRILLIANTS.

A health unto the happy, A fig for him who frets, It is n't raining rain to me, It's raining violets.

SIDNEY LANIER.

Sow love, and taste its fruitage purse: Sow peace, and reap its bright:

Sow sunbeams on the rock and moor, And reap a harvest-home of light. HORA'11US BONAR.

What makes time short to me? Activity!

What makes it long and spiritless? Idleness!

What brings us to debt? To delay and forget! What makes us succeed? Decision with speed! How to fame to ascend? One's self to defend!

GOETHE.

