

Clarence Darrow Tells Negro Audience  
To Maintain Attitude of Defiance  
Toward White Men.

Deplores Treatment Blacks at Hands of  
White Men of the South

Addresses Negro Industrial School.  
Colored Principal, However, Says  
Segregation Is Just Common Sense

Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer of Chicago, who is spending the winter at Fairhope, is the object of attack in a letter received by the Onlooker from A. L. West of Fairhope, signed by two prominent educators of Baldwin County, who claim to have been present at the Negro Industrial School at Daphne when Darrow addressed a colored audience from the negro school.

At the close of Darrow's remarks, however, the colored principal of the negro school countered Darrow's remarks when he asked that the white people pass out at one door and the colored people at another, stating, "That's not segregation, that's just common sense."

The Letter Follows: "In a speech at the Negro Industrial School, Daphne, Ala., on the night of Feb. 10th, 1927, Clarence Darrow deplored the treatment of the negro at the hands of the white man and particularly the white man of the South. His speech was in effect as follows: "I can't help you, you will have to help yourselves, but I advise an attitude of defiance towards the white man, who calls himself your "Friend." How has he manifested this friendship? By hanging and burning you; by making you do his work and use his back door; refusing to let you enter the best hotels and to use the best coach in the train, and making you sit in the rear of the street car. The only front place the white man has ever given you is in the battle line. There you can stop the bullets, but when you return home you can't use the sidewalks, you have to use the road. What can the colored man do to help himself? I see you pray but I don't see why. Your God must be a "white" man considering the way he treats you. No doubt there will be a "Jim Crow" law in your heaven when you get there. You can sing; I heard you sing, "Sweet Land of Liberty," but I don't see how you can. I don't sing it because I know it's not true. But you can work and gain a place for yourself if you can do your work better than the white man. You are being recognized and you have some friends who are not afraid to sit at the table with you. I have done so and even drank boot-leg liquor with you, and in what better way can friendship be manifested?"

Darrow referred repeatedly to his pet theme: "The Origin of Species" and his talk throughout was marked by satirical humor which might have pleased a different audience.

At the close of the lecture, Ligon Wilson, principal of the school asked the white people to pass out at one door and the colored people at another, saying "That's not segregation, that's just common sense," and when Clarence Darrow asked, "Which is the front door?" Ligon Wilson answered, "Both of them are front doors."

Wilson is right. The people of the South are trying to use common sense in working out the race problem for the good of all.

Even Darrow admits that it will take thousands of ~~years~~ generations for the ideal state to be reached where the negro sits down with the white man in daily course of life.

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If such is logic, why stir up strife.

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