

the situation more endurable and sane. Because of this promise, I am now at work on what will be the most impressive tariff speech ever delivered on the floor of the Senate chamber. It will be a speech so brimful of logic, force and eloquence that it will not fail to bring blushes of shame to the Progressives and the Democrats, and convince these miscreants that American infant industries must and shall be encouraged, helped and supported by the Federal Government.

G. T. E.



A MEAN AND CRUEL PREJUDICE.

Portions of Address of Hon. Edward Osgood Brown,
Judge of the Appellate Court of Illinois, at the
Fourth Annual Conference for the Advancement of Colored People,
Chicago, April 29.

Negro citizens of the United States are not asking charitable assistance from us. They are asking our aid as a matter of right, of our own self-respect—the aid which every high-minded man, who is unworped in his thought by some conventional prejudice, of whatever race or creed or complexion he may be, instinctively wishes to give to anyone whom he sees hurt or oppressed by a stronger force unjustly used. * * *

The Negroes have certainly come fairly up in all the things dependent on their own exertions, in all things where they have been allowed to control their own actions and have been given a chance to avail themselves of equal opportunities, to what could in reason have been expected of a race of which the great majority had been in bondage, prohibited by law from education and from any of the individual enterprises by which men in a competing state of society rise to success and distinction. They have become in one generation planters, business men, professional men, teachers, bankers, artists, musicians and authors. They have reared theaters and established schools and colleges of their own; they have built churches, hospitals and orphan asylums of their own. * * *

But every advance that the Negro has made has rendered the more brutal and cruel, the meaner and more dishonorable acts of discrimination and insult against him. He feels them all the more; he resents them all the more, and he is justified in doing so. And we see around us a reaction, a moral lowering of the standards of honor in our treatment of the Negro. For the last quarter of the century at least, that lowering has been going on from bad to worse, quite as much in the North, in our own communities, as in the South. Segregation in schools, segregation in churches, segregation in theaters, segregation in business and professional associations, in traveling conveyances—a segregation which means an utterly unjustifiable and illegal ostracism, bad as it is, is but the

least of the outrages under which the Negro race has been suffering in this country.

By what seems to me the most deplorably growing popular prejudice, and one without cause save the inherent vulgarity of those who foster it, we are practically attempting to shut out the Negroes from all but a few occupations, denying them thus even the opportunity to show whether or not they are our inferiors. George Bernard Shaw, in one of his inimitable passages of humorous sarcasm, speaks of the sweet reasonableness of the Yankees who first preventing Negroes from following any occupation but that of the bootblack or the waiter, then proclaim as evidence of the intellectual inferiority of the Negroes, that they are only boot-blacks or waiters. * * *

Despite this attempt at restriction, cruel, injurious and ineffably mean as it is, the native ability and genius of many a colored man has shown forth conspicuously, as I have said, in every high department of business and intellectual activity. But this constant, continuous and studied erection of worst and meanest of caste systems, one based on nothing but a man's racial complexion (for there are neither religious nor political differences of opinion to reckon with), keeps even these exceptional men in a lifelong feeling of injury and injustice.

Do we not owe it to ourselves, as well as to them, to agitate, to educate, and, if we must, to legislate, and to enforce the legislation, until we shall shake off the benumbing influence of this reaction against the ideals of human liberty and human brotherhood of fifty years ago? * * *

The duty of us all is plain—as plain now as it was to the Abolitionists of the anti-war time. It is to speak out, freely and boldly. We need to remember the words of John Stuart Mill: "It appears to me that when prejudices persist obstinately it is the fault of nobody so much as of those who make a point of proclaiming them insuperable as an excuse for never joining in an attempt to remove them."

BOOKS

PRACTICAL PSYCHOLOGY.

Your Mind and How to Use It. By William Walker Atkinson. The Elizabeth Towne Company, Hologate. Price, \$1.00.

The author of "The Mastery of Being," published last year, gives us another of his analytic studies of the human mind in the present volume which contains so many practical suggestions that it is cordially commended to thoughtful students along these lines. Mr. Atkinson is never a gushing enthusiast, making startling claims that common folk find rather difficult to verify. He rea-