

SEGREGATION CALLED SOLUTION OF RACE QUESTION

Holding that "when different races live side by side, the more primitive race, unless conditons be imposed upon it fatal to its spirit, will outlive the other wherever the struggle for existence is keen", Professor J. W. Gregory of the University of Glasgow, in addressing the geographical section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science advocated exclusive territory as the best way of treating racial difficulties, in places where the policy can be applied.

He does not think that policy would be consciously adopted in the United States because of political reasons, but thought that it would ultimately come about by the natural drift of circumstances. The negro problem in America has, in his opinion, been steadily growing from bad to worse during the last twenty years, and none of the conceivable constructive measures for its solution seem likely to be put into effect.

"Absorption is rejected as it would make the United States a nation of octoroons," he said, "but the infiltration of Italians and Mexicans and other South European peoples, who have no repugnance toward inter-marriage, may lead to the occupation of the cotton districts by a hybrid race similar to that of tropical South America.

"This process", he said, "would render impossible the continued refusal of political and municipal rights to any citizen who has a trace of Negro blood. The colored people would regain the suffrage, and the political development of the southern States on normal American lines would be impossible. If the Whites in the southern States be divided between Republicans and Democrats, the Negro vote would hold the balance of power; and owing to the considerable over-representation of the southern States in proportion to population, American politics might be determined by the Negro vote. Such a situation would be intolerable to the northern and western States. Hence, to avoid it, they might agree to the south-eastern States being formed into a group with a special measure of home rule in some departments of Federal jurisdiction. This solution may take a century or more to develop; but the geographical considerations indicate it as the "most probable issue from the Negro strength in the south-eastern States.

In South Africa where the blacks outnumber the whites more than three to one and are increasing the faster, Professor Gregory thinks "the maintenance of the white supremacy and even of a white Afrikaner people is doubtful". The day's wages for a white laborer is about the same as the month's wages of a colored laborer doing the same sort of work. The rule of the white minority is threatened by the rise of an active negro party, "largely inspired from the United States" and increasing in numbers and influence. The speaker argued that "as white labor is excluded from some parts of South Africa in the interest of the negro, it would seem only fair that the whites should have a corresponding advantage elsewhere and especially in districts which were practically unoccupied until the European entered them. Most of Africa is the home of the negroes, whose numbers are increasing faster than any other population in the world."

But there is one continent that may be kept exclusively for the whites and completely occupied by them. This is Australia, for Professor Gregory believes that even the tropical northern territory can be colonized by white men now that tropical diseases are being conquered and that Europeans are learning to live in hot and humid climates.
