

law an incompetent juror, and should by law be excluded on evidence of such lack of regard. We deem it to be the duty of all judges to, at all times, specially instruct sheriffs and commissioners with reference to correcting these abuses, so as to secure to every individual, white or black, a fair and impartial trial by a jury composed of men acknowledging themselves to be his peers.

In furtherance of a desire to effectually and legitimately prescribe a remedy for the evils and wrongs complained of, we recommend the formation of an organization to be known and called "The Colored People's Progressive Union." It shall have for its object the protection of the rights of the colored people of Texas, by giving aid and direction in the prosecution of suits in the support of every right guaranteed to colored people as citizens. We recommend that our delegates to the National Convention be instructed to urge upon said Convention the necessity of organizing a national convention of the same name and for the same object, under which, if organized, this State Association shall act as a branch.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MACK HENSON, Chairman.
A. R. NORRIS,
J. N. JOHNSON,
J. Q. A. POTTS.

REPORT D.

EDUCATION.

Mr. Chairman and Convention:

Your Committee on Education beg leave to submit the following report:

Previous to 1870 there was no systematic educational work done among our people. From the close of the war to that time a few self-sacrificing friends from the North taught colored schools in our principal towns and cities. These schools were largely attended, notwithstanding our extreme poverty, and the want of that knowledge which enables one to properly appreciate the advantages of a liberal education.

The work took shape in 1870, but was greatly hampered and retarded by the want of teachers, and the unsettled condition of affairs arising from the evils which always follow in the wake of civil war. From the close of the war to the beginning of 1873, we had few or no colored persons in the State competent to teach.

On the withdrawal of teachers then in the field, for causes not necessary to mention, many ill-prepared colored young men and women entered the school room. These young pioneer teachers certainly deserve our highest praise for the good (not unmixed with evil) they did. Their success is due, not so much to inherent qualities for teaching, as to their thorough knowledge of the wants of our people.