

SIMMONS THRILLS BIG AUDIENCES

Hampton Institute and Other
Meetings Wildly Cheer
Able Orator

QUINN CHAPEL IS CROWDED

"The Greater Hampton movement" was given a great ovation at Quinn Chapel A. M. E. church Friday night. It was one of the most inspiring and educational meetings that has been held in this city for a number of years. The church was packed from pit to dome with representative citizens. Oratory, music and moving pictures of the great educational institute were the features of the evening's entertainment. There was not a minute that was not given to information and intelligence of what Hampton is doing for the betterment of its students and the people of this country. L. B. Street, president of Armstrong League, named after Gen. Armstrong, founder of the school, acted as chairman of the meeting. On the platform sat Major Allen Wesley, R. E. Moore, Major R. R. Jackson, Alderman Louis B. Anderson, Hon. George W. Ellis, Rev. J. C. Anderson, Miss Lulu Willson and Editor Robert S. Abbott.

Roscoe C. Simmons Speaks

The principal address of the evening was delivered by Col. Roscoe C. Simmons of Louisville, Ky., journalist and orator. His subject was "Our Loyalty to Hampton." The speaker eulogized the late Dr. Armstrong, Booker T. Washington, Major Robert R. Moton and others who have graduated from the institution that has become famous and gave reasons why every citizen should support the school. He grew eloquent when he said that Hampton stood for education of the highest nature: liberty, justice, fairness and equality, and were the corner stones of the institution. Col. Simmons paid a high tribute to Dr. Fressell, its president, saying he was one of nature's noblemen. He u

ROSCOE G. SIMMONS THRILLS BIG AUDIENCE

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moving pictures, which were explained by John C. Whiting, director of the Greater Hampton Movement.

Stirring Addresses

The stirring and eloquent addresses delivered in Chicago Friday, Saturday and Sunday of last week by Roscoe Conkling Simmons impressed white Chicago as no utterance of a Race man has done in recent years. Combining the native eloquence of Douglass with the philosophy of Booker Washington, this new spokesman for his people before the bar of opinion has eclipsed all. He is not only the talk of the town; he is the idol of the town.

Sunday evening at Orchestra hall, before the famous Sunday Evening Club, before which the greatest men are ambitious to appear, our Roscoe made a defense of the cause of the Race that literally brought more than 3,000 people to their feet. Often it was impossible for him to go on with his address. The audience, anticipating the end of some stirring phrase, would begin to applaud. The noted orator took what many deem the great unpopular cause and made it the popular cause.

Makes Many Speeches

Arriving in the city Friday direct from his home in Louisville, Col. Simmons, who came under the auspices of the Greater Hampton Movement, spoke briefly at the Hampton meeting at the LaSalle hotel in the afternoon. At night before a record crowd at Quinn chapel he gave, in picture and wisdom, as the Rev. Dr. Anderson, pastor, said, "a new vision to his people."

Speaking before 200 of Chicago's wealthiest men at the Hoo Hoo dinner of the Lumbermen's Association, he brought forth great cheering when he made this plea:

Forest of Humanity

"Come with me," he said, "come with me to the forest of humanity, and see the timber I have to offer to the market of life. Examine closely tree and sapling. Draw near. Neither bark nor leaf can truthfully tell you from afar the timber round about."

With Col. Simmons at the memorable meeting at Orchestra hall Sunday night was the famous Hampton quartette. Their songs brought encore after encore. Mr. Clifford W. Barnes, president of the Sunday Evening Club, introduced the orator as "the successor on the platform of Booker T. Washington." The audience was his from the moment he strode in familiar way around the altar to the edge of the stage. Col. Simmons preached democracy and his country as the home of it. He declared that he believed that his chance would come if he and his were patient.

Great Applause

"I would rather be an American Negro," he said in a burst of eloquence, "and trust my cause in the hands of the American white man with all his faults; I would rather be an American Negro, eating the bread of hope as I wave above my head the Red, White and Blue, than to sit on the cold stones of ancient grandeur, and feast from the hand of any king."

The audience responded with deafening applause. But the Sunday Evening Club forgot all about dignity when he said, "Ten thousand Negroes have signed Roosevelt's roster in his promised division. I should like to see that army cross the ocean, sweep through France, on past Verdun, and pass over the Rhine. I fancy the herald would announce to the emperor of Germany, trembling on his throne, 'Flee the wrath

to come. Teddy and his blacks, waving the Stars and Stripes, are knocking at the gates of Berlin."

Although Theodore Marburg, former United States minister to Belgium and former Secretary of War Dickinson were booked to follow Col. Simmons, the audience began leaving as soon as he closed his address. Monday morning he made an address before the Church Federation of Chicago at the old First Methodist church downtown. He had to decline a dozen invitations from leading white ministers who wanted him to speak from their pulpits.