

# THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Eight Thousand Colored People  
In Omaha and Vicinity, and to the Good of the Community

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## Republican Nominee At Nashville, Tennessee

**"I Stand For the Maintenance of the Rights of All  
Citizens, Regardless of Race or Color."**

---Charles E. Hughes.

Nashville, Tenn.—Nearly two thousand Negroes gave Charles E. Hughes, the Republican nominee for president, an enthusiastic welcome and listened to a fifteen-minute speech by Mr. Hughes, at Hadley Park to Fisk University students and others Monday afternoon, Sept. 4, in which the speaker told his hearers that he was for a government that stood for equality in all things and for all people, irrespective of race or creed.

Mr. Hughes avoided political issues, dwelling on American citizenship and lauding such great Americans as Abraham Lincoln and Booker T. Washington. He was presented with a large offering of American Beauty roses, the gift of the colored school children of Nashville. The Fisk Jubilee Singers furnished the musical program.

### Mr. Hughes' Address.

Mr. Hughes spoke as follows:

"Mr. Chairman, Fellow Citizens:—It is with the greatest pleasure that I come to this educational center. I remember as a boy listening to the melodies of the jubilee singers. It has always been my desire to see Fisk University and become better acquainted with the educational opportunities which are afforded in this favored place. As I recall the days to which I have just referred, when as a boy I listened to those distinguished makers of melody, I think of the tremendous progress that has been achieved by the colored people of this land. To me it represents an extraordinary advancement which carries with it the hope of a successful solution of many of our difficult problems.

"I am told on very high authority that there are now one million colored farmers, with farm property of the value of one billion and a half dollars. I understand you have church property of the value of seventy-five millions. You are represented in the various activities of life. I believe that you have some forty thousand school teachers, some twenty thousand clergymen, some five thousand doctors, some fifteen hundred lawyers, and upwards of twenty-one thousand engaged in the real estate business.

"I understand that you are conducting upwards of forty thousand places of business; that you have three hundred and fifty newspapers and other publications. Considering the conditions that existed little more than one-half century ago, I submit that it is an extraordinary record of progress which should fill with pride every American heart. It holds the promise of the future.

### Believes in Negro Advancement.

"You have schools of agriculture and of industry; opportunity for higher education. Now, in all this I most thoroughly believe. There is nothing that makes for the advancement of the colored people of this nation that I do not earnestly desire. I think that the lesson which must be learned by you, as by others, is the hard lesson of industry and perseverance in adapting yourselves to all the activities of life, and in becoming citizens of thrift and ability you become agents for the advancement in every practical direction in the communities in which you live.

"Now, there is no easy road to success in the attainment of what is worth while. From my earliest years, when I first began to read at the knees of my honored father, I have been working hard. I have never known an idle week. I have never known the time when the strain of burden was not upon me, when I was not trying to do a little more than seemed possible to be done, in the endeavor to realize the ideals which my father placed before me. There is no different law of attainment for the black than for the white. It is the work of study; it is the lesson of thrift; it is the lesson of industry; it is the lesson of good citizenship; it is the lesson of aptitude; it is the lesson of special knowledge and training. I want the colored people of this land, in every useful activity, to be adapted to it, to be fitted for their work, to progress by showing their aptitude, their training and their knowledge. I want them in every form of effort which is essential in our civilized community, by the perseverance of their application, by the thrift of their character, by their honesty and fidelity, to be commended as they should be commended to the entire people of this country.

"We have many, many difficulties. I believe it was that great leader, Booker T. Washington, whom I had the pleasure of knowing, who said that freedom was not a bequest—it was a conquest. There is a very great truth in that statement. It means this, as I understand it, that no one can confer upon another the blessings of freedom; they have got to be won by individual qualification. We need in our homes evidences of care and industry; we need to have in every direction in which we apply our talent, efficiency.

### Wants An Honest Ballot

"We want thrift and honesty; we want honesty with respect to the bal-

lot. I want an honest and a pure ballot. We desire whenever there is a particular thing to be done, to prove that it can be done. All that you have to do, in my humble judgement, is to take advantage of each opportunity, and when there is a thing that you have to do, do it so well that you command the admiration of everyone who knows about it. That is the only rule that you can give a boy or a man for success in this world. It is not looking at the mountain top miles away, it is like looking at the next step, it is looking at the opportunity of today, it is looking at the duty of tomorrow; it is always measuring like a man and like a woman to the task of the moment that builds character, that insures respect, that wins general esteem. Black men and women can do that. They are doing wonderfully in these various avenues of progress to which I have referred. They are taking advantage of educational opportunities. I want to see those opportunities extended. I want to see them practical. It is well that you have higher educational opportunities, but do not neglect the things that lie close to you in connection with the every-day necessities of life. It is the little things that count in this world; the little things that make the community. It is what the man does with the time when he is not crowded by anybody that tells the story of what he makes of himself. It is how he employs his time, the way he disciplines himself that determines what he will ultimately achieve. Men and women, we are together in a great co-operative enterprise in this land where everyone must do his part.

"I say to you that I stand, if I stand for anything, for equal and exact justice to all. I stand for the maintenance of the rights of all American citizens regardless of race or color. The one word that I love above all others is the word 'justice.' We want in this country what is right.

"I am sure you do not wish particular things done because of color. You want what is right and fair. I desire to see such fair and decent and just treatment as will make you proud of your manhood and womanhood.

"In connection with the work that I have spoken of, education—with respect to the various activities of life, I give you the best of wishes.

"I have frequently said there is no color line in good work. Do good work. Be thrifty; be honest. Never let anyone have the right to doubt your word. Be diligent. Watch every opportunity to improve your mind. Do every task thoroughly. Never slight anything because someone is not looking. Be thorough, be honorable, and you will honor American citizenship."

## Well Known Attorney Commits Suicide

Silas Robbins, the First Colored Man  
Admitted to Practice in State  
Shoots Himself.

WAS TEMPORARILY DERANGED

Had Undergone Operation for Cancer  
on the Brain Which Only Checked  
Malady.

The community was shocked Monday by the news that Silas Robbins, the well known and highly respected attorney, had shot himself at his home 2883 Miami street, dying instantly from a self-inflicted wound in the temple.

Mr. Robbins some months ago underwent an operation at St. Joseph's hospital for cancer on the brain from which he received only temporary relief. The malignant growth continued and it was known that his case was hopeless. Still he maintained his usual cheerful disposition until Thursday of last week when he seemed to become somewhat gloomy and morose.

Monday morning he got up and dressed as usual and came down stairs for breakfast. After breakfast he held a brief conversation with his son, Guy, who later left for his office, but missing his car, decided to return to the house and wait for the next one. In the meanwhile his father had gone up stairs. Soon after a shot was heard and Guy went up to the bath room and found Mr. Robbins seated in a chair with blood oozing from his temple. Dr. J. H. Hutten was summoned but relief was extinct.

Silas Robbins was a native of Ohio, where he was born in 1859. He taught school in Ohio, Indiana and Mississippi, where he was admitted to the bar. He came to Nebraska in 1889, being the first member of his race to be admitted to the bar in this state. He stood high in the estimation of all who knew him, among both races.

He is survived by a widow, two sons, Guy and Clifford, one daughter, Freeda, Mrs. William Penn, all of Omaha, a stepson and other relatives.

The funeral was held from the family residence Thursday afternoon at two o'clock, the Rev. John Albert Williams officiating. Interment was in Forest Lawn cemetery. Jones and Chiles had charge of the funeral.

The pall bearers were M. F. Singleton, Joseph Carr, James G. Jewell, Chas. G. Galloway, Alfred Jones and John Logan.

There were many beautiful floral offerings, a notable one among many being a large pillow of roses given by several members of the local bar.

### Alleges Wife Has Negro Blood.

Crawfordsville, Ind., Sept. 15.—Austin E. West, of Crawfordsville, a carpenter, has filed a suit for divorce from his wife, Juliet Osborne West, al-

leging that after nine years of married life he has learned she is of more than one-eighth Negro blood. They were married in November, 1907. West alleges his wife deceived him. They have no children.