

THE MONITOR

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Americans of Nebraska and the West

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Cowardly Albinoes Assault Negroes

Conservative and Reliable Race Journal Gives Story of East St. Louis Mob.

BRUTAL ATTACK UNPROVOKED

Uniformed Police and Military Men Alleged to Have Sympathized With and Abetted Mob.

The St. Louis Argus, one of the most conservative and reliable Negro newspapers of the country gives the following report of the East St. Louis race riot:

Thursday evening, May 31, after three days of spasmodic rioting, everything seemed to be quieted down in East St. Louis. The trouble started nearly two months ago when the strike was called at the Aluminum Ore Works and strikers were displaced by Negroes. It is said that a movement was immediately set on foot by the unions to stop importation of the Negroes, because it was feared that they would be used by employers in the event of strikes which were scheduled to take place in the early summer. Several meetings have been held and everything that could be brought into play, except mob violence, has been exhausted. During these six or eight weeks of the strike, the Negroes were getting a firmer hold on the industrial situation; and strikers were getting weaker and hungrier each day. Many of the industries have declared against unions; and the Negro labor, honest and conscientious, was fast winning the hearts of the managers of the firms.

On Monday night a meeting was called at the City Hall by the strikers and an appeal was made to the Mayor to do something for the hungry crowd or something would be done by it. The blame for the situation was shifted from one source to another. Some said it was the manufacturers; others laid it on the Negroes; and still others said it was the railroad. So there was a division among them. It was suggested during the meeting to "get" the railroad men; and another was to "drive out the Negroes and we will get our jobs back with higher wages." This latter suggestion seemed to meet the popular chord. By this time the eloquence of the agitators had made the mob ferocious. Coincident with the dismissal of the meeting, a report was circulated, into the already inflamed minds of those present, that two Negroes had killed a white man. This acted as a signal to go get the Negroes. The crowd marched to the intersections of all street cars which run into Broadway near the bridge, and there they gathered sticks, rocks and bricks and attacked every Negro seen coming or going, on the cars. The Negroes were caught unprepared to defend themselves; and most of them found on the streets were assaulted by the mobs.

An Argus Reporter Was on the

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CONFERENCE ON CIVIC AND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

Twenty representative citizens were invited to attend a conference Tuesday afternoon in the office of Amos F. Scruggs, city inspector of weights and measures, to discuss the formation of some central association for looking after the civic and industrial needs of our people in this city, including the welcoming, help and guidance of the members of our race who are coming from the South. Mr. Scruggs was chosen chairman of the meeting and Mrs. Alphonso Wilson secretary. The sentiment was unanimous that such an organization is needed. A committee of seven was appointed to formulate a plan. The members of the committee are Amos P. Scruggs, Rev. John Albert Williams, Dr. J. H. Hutten, Rev. W. T. Osborne, Rev. Thomas A. Taggart, Mrs. Alphonso Wilson and Henry W. Black.

A general meeting will be called for some day next week to hear the report of the committee and effect the organization of a civic and industrial league, in which it is hoped to secure the co-operation of a large proportion of our people.

CALL ISSUED FOR MORE NEGRO ARMY OFFICERS

Chicago, June 5.—Applicants for enrollment in the reserve officers training camp for Negroes at Fort Des Moines have not come forward in sufficient numbers to fill the Central department's quota. So far 157 men have been certified for admission to the camp and thirty-eight places remain to be filled.

WITHDRAW PATRONAGE FROM DEPARTMENT STORE

The Colored people of Louisville have stopped patronizing Selman's, one of the largest department stores of the city, because a sign has been put up in the ladies' rest room—"Ladies—White Only!"

CITIZENS PRESENT FLAG TO BUFFALO SCOUTS

Buffalo, N. Y.—Tuesday evening, May 29, a mixed audience of a thousand persons gathered in the Auditorium of the Hutchinson Central High school building to witness the presentation of a silk United States flag to Troop 58, B. S. A. The flag is the gift of the citizens of Buffalo, at the solicitation of a committee of ladies, of whom Mrs. H. H. Lewis was the efficient chairman; Mrs. A. Harden, treasurer, and Mrs. Fannie J. Catto, secretary.

Troop 58 is the only troop of Colored boy scouts in western New York. The troop was organized in October, 1916, with a dozen boys. The roll now has 56 names. Rev. Father Bennett, rector of St. Philip's Episcopal church is the organizer and scoutmaster.

Troop No. 1 of white girl scouts attended in a body and cheered the boys of 58, who replied with cheers for No. 1.

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL NOT MEET IN MEMPHIS.

Memphis, Tenn.—The meeting of the National Medical association, which was to have been held in this city August 28 to 30, has been changed and the session will probably be held in Philadelphia or Atlantic City on the same dates. The immediate reason for this change of place of meeting is the savage and barbarous acts perpetrated in connection with the burning of the Negro Persons, in the vicinity of Memphis.

To cap the climax of this barbarity, the recent meeting of the Tri-State Medical association was interrupted by members of the mob of lynchers, bringing the head of the burned man and throwing it in the midst of the delegates in session. The local committee has therefore requested that the meeting place be changed.

SUCCESSFULLY PASS PRELIMINARY TEST

Messrs. Johnson, Pinkett, Terrell and Turner and Drs. Morris and Peebles have successfully passed the physical examination and preliminary test for admission to the officers' reserve training camp which opens at Des Moines June 15.

BAND MAKES HIT.

The First Regimental Band, Dan Desdunes leader, cheerfully volunteered its services with the other bands of the city to play for the patriotic meeting at the Auditorium Saturday night. This band was deputized to play at certain points in the business section early in the evening, and, as usual, made a hit. Citizens were outspoken in praise of its work both on the street and at the Auditorium.

LITTLE BOY COLLECTS DIMES TO GET RED CROSS BUTTON

During the recent Red Cross campaign in Omaha a Colored boy, thirteen years old, approached one of the Red Cross booths, and asked how much it costs to join, expressing his desire to do so if it did not cost too much. When told that it cost \$1, he sat puzzling and counting his small change which proved insufficient to buy a membership. The women in charge gave him some money and told him to ask each of his friends to give him a nickel. At noon he came back with the necessary amount and a radiant smile, and became a member of the Red Cross.

SUBTLE BUT MOST REFRESHING HUMOR.

Washington, June 2.—The rumor that a unit of American Indians would be included in the first division of troops sent to Europe is only a rumor. Secretary of War Baker has announced himself opposed to it. He does not believe that the various nationalities and races that constitute the American people should be separated in service, but should all fight as Americans.

The Rehabilitation of Atlanta

Progressive Tendency Marks Movement to Rebuild Famous Fire-Swept City by the Sea.

BOTH RACES ON COMMITTEE

Co-Operation of Prominent Negroes With Whites in Community Matters Unusual in South.

Atlanta, Ga., June 7.—A Committee of Rehabilitation has been designated by the Mayor of Atlanta, with the Advice of the Chamber of Commerce to synchronize all the elements that enter into the restoration of the burned area and those homes and business enterprises that suffered loss in the recent fire.

The Committee is composed of the following persons, all prominent in the business development of Atlanta, and several of much more than local fame: Mr. Edw. H. Inman, Mr. Rockwell Johnson, Mr. Isaac Schoen, Judge Walter Colquitt, Mr. Carlos H. Mason, Mr. Harry H. Pace, Rev. E. H. Oliver and Mr. A. F. Herndon.

The three latter are Negroes. The Minister's position is self-explanatory. Mr. Herndon is owner of one of the largest and best equipped barber shops in America, is the dominant factor in the Atlanta Mutual Insurance Company, and resides in a home quite in keeping with his station. Mr. Pace is the distinctive character upon this Committee. He is young, virile and the Negro prototype of the modern business executive. His capabilities are best explained by the fact that at the age of 33, he is Secretary-Treasurer of the Standard Life Insurance Company, a \$125,000 Legal Reserve Life Insurance Company that has on its books FIVE MILLION DOLLARS worth of business, and that has met every legal requirement and examination with books and records in such shape as to receive commendation from even antagonistic sources.

It is a distinct novelty in the South for Negro interests to be recognized in community matters by the active participation of bona fide business men in the deliberations of consequential bodies.

Occasionally in politics and religion some sort of Negro adjunct committees have been tolerated, but here we find a case of absolute and direct interchange of ideas, and it may be said that the exodus has not failed to become a prime factor in the Committee's consideration.

Rehabilitating seven hundred white and eight hundred Negro families of every social and industrial type is no mean job for even those eight high-minded and experienced men, and our race throughout the country may feel certain that race interests will be cared for with aggressiveness tempered by a proper sense of justice and business diplomacy. This will represent a lot of work to already busy men, but the establishment of this precedent and its satisfactory fulfillment is of immeasurable value to the race.