

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Nebraska and the West, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and upbuilding of the community and of the race.

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THE NATION ENDANGERED

It is safe to say that comparatively few people in the United States today realize the great danger confronting our nation. We are threatened on all sides by internal dissensions; by clashing of class with class, by inter-racial strife and conflict; by strikes and lock-outs. But these are not the chief dangers of which we would now speak. We would arouse our readers to a sense of the danger which threatens our nation from the destruction of the family through the evil of divorce.

Here is a hydra-headed monster which is sinking its deadly fangs into the very vitals of the nation and few are giving any heed to the death wound inflicted.

Divorce strikes at the very vitals of the nation because it destroys the family which is the foundation of the nation. The family is the social unit. The purity, permanence and welfare of society depends upon the purity, permanence and welfare of the family. The family is founded in and safeguarded by marriage. The guarantee of the permanency of the family is the indissolubility of the marriage bond. If the marriage bond can be broken at will and new alliances be made by the men and women who have broken their marriage vows, it must be seen at a glance that there can be no such a thing as the permanency of the family. This must be quite plain to any one who will think about it. From the very nature of the case, the permanence and welfare of the family rests upon the indissolubility of the marriage bond. Divorce destroys the family and in destroying the family destroys the state. The facility with which divorce can be obtained among us and the lightness with which this sin—for it is a sin—is regarded even by Christian people is one of the greatest dangers threatening our nation.

So much depends upon family life that all who have the highest interests of humanity at heart should do their utmost to have all with whom they come in contact realize the seriousness and sacredness of marriage and the evil and pollution of divorce. When the family decays, society decays. With sound and sacred family life, the greatness and perpetuity of any people or race is secure. Decadent family life, and of this divorce is the unmistakable symptom, spells national dissolution. This is a real danger which we should realize.

THE SMITH CASE

We have been asked to become custodian of a defense fund for Charles Smith, the man who is being held for the murder of Mrs. C. L. Nethaway, the wife of a real estate man at Florence, Sunday afternoon, August 26. Smith, a Negro tramp, and a stranger in Omaha, who was seen in the vicinity of the murder was arrested on suspicion of having committed the crime. Rigid investigation of the suspect by the police and a searching three days' inquest failed to establish any connection whatever between Smith and the crime aside from the admitted fact of his presence in that locality. The jury recommended that he be held for further investigation. Subsequently a charge of murder was lodged against him and he is awaiting trial.

To safe guard his legal rights and to see that he is given every opportunity to prove his innocence several persons volunteered to contribute to a defense fund to employ counsel to defend him, and also find and convict the guilty party or parties.

The firm of Morrison, Seacat and Timlin have been retained to defend him.

The necessity for safe-guarding his legal rights by the retaining of counsel became apparent when without warrant of law he was being experimented upon by individuals who wanted to subject him to "psychological tests" and taken by officers again and again to the scene of the crime.

In our judgment the authorities who as a matter of fact do not believe Smith guilty, instead of trying to fix the guilt on him ought to spend more time in zealously trying to run down the guilty man. The suspicious conduct of Nethaway himself calls for investigation at least. Why not investigate him?

We want to see the case brought to trial and the innocence or guilt of the accused established. If he is guilty he should pay the full penalty. If

innocent, his innocence should be established.

We are ready to receive contributions for the Smith defense fund, not to shield him if he be guilty, but to enable him to prove his innocence.

WHY NOT TRY FRANCE?

The kaleidoscopic policy of the war department with regard to the Colored troops is puzzling, to say the least. On day we are advised that "the Colored troops will be assigned to the various cantonments for training with the white troops." The next day the information is given out that these troops will probably be sent to separate cantonments, probably in the northern or western states. On the third day the country is informed that it is "not yet decided what will be done with the 70,000 Negroes who under the selective draft will be called to service in the national army, and that the war department is seriously studying the problem." On the fourth day it is announced that "the problem of the Colored troops has been satisfactorily solved, and the war department has definitely decided upon the policy to be pursued." On the fifth day we are told "that a new aspect of the case has presented itself, etc., etc., etc."

Well, here's hoping that the problem may soon be solved and if the worst comes to the worst and nowhere in America's wide domains can a place be found for training "the Colored troops" who are willing to shed their blood to "help make the world safe for democracy," we suggest that it might be possible to find room "somewhere in France."

HOME BUYING

A comparatively large percentage of our people realize the importance of becoming home-owners. The good work of home buying goes steadily on. It should be encouraged. Speak to your neighbor about beginning to buy a home.

Home-buying suggests "HOME-BUILDERS" and that reminds us that we were talking this week to Mr. Rohrbough, president of the "Home-Builders, Incorporated," of which the American Security Company are the fiscal agents, a corporation which makes a specialty of building homes on easy payments, and also providing a way for a thrifty person to lay by his surplus savings weekly. Mr. Rohrbough somehow has conceived the idea that our people do not avail themselves of the opportunities offered by his and other companies as they should. He was agreeably surprised at the information we gave him. Naturally, he expressed the hope that more of our people might be induced to investigate the opportunities offered by "Home-Builders." Their offices are on the corner of 17th and Douglas. We would urge our people who either want to build homes or save money to see what the Home-Builders have to offer.

THE CLOSING LABOR SEASON

A week or two more and the labor season will practically close for the year. Nine months ago The Monitor attempted the job of helping our people from the south and we have no reason to be ashamed of what we have accomplished. The number of those whom we have helped does not run into the thousands, but it has run into the hundreds. To Omaha we have brought more than 400 and every one is a credit to the community. To other places we have distributed as many again and the reports we have from them and of them is encouraging. It makes us feel that we have done a little something for our people and our race. Next year we hope to do more. That the south is bitter against emigration has been demonstrated more than once and that parts of the north are equally bitter is not to be denied, but here are still many places that are anxious for Colored labor. Next year we hope to deal in thousands. The winter will be spent in outlining the spring campaign and a way has already been devised to circumvent the attempt of the south to keep the Negro there. Again we say that we are proud of our work; we could have accomplished much more under more favorable circumstances, and we have nothing to regret. Emigration has a great future and the work has just begun.

Buy homes.

Obvious Observations

Things are either so quiet or else the censor plies his scissors so thoroughly that there is nothing stirring in the war line at all.

The Colored officers remain at camp a month more. Well, the boys should worry as long as the hundred bucks come their way.

If this beautiful weather will only last until January first we don't care what the price of coal is.

The man or woman who started raising spring chickens last spring is certainly having a lovely time now.

Several people have been indicted in East St. Louis. Now let us sit tight and see what is coming after the indictment.

The Democratic administration has several years ahead yet, but when it is elected to another four year term the blue birds will carol "Who'd a thunk it!" and bees will mine coal.

What's nicer than a dollar, Bill? Two dollars.

Let us hope that Russia's stomach-ache is almost over.

Will all the folks who owe on subscription please step this way?

The general next to Hindenburg says the war will end this winter, but he forgot to say which way it will end.

Thanking you for your most undivided attention, the editor will eat the cracker he brought from home for lunch.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

Fall.

Fall is that delightful season of the year which acts as the back door for summer and the front door for winter. It is past the harvest season, irrespective whether there is anything to harvest or not. By harvest, however, we insinuate grain and such stuff, because for the average American there is no season in which he can harvest anything like coin. More coin is spent in the fall than at any other of the seven or eight seasons, whichever they are. There are expenses for eats, canning, coal, heavy B. V. D.'s, overcoats, furs, wood, furnace repairs, ear muffs, and many other such small items. The items are small, very small, but the prices for these items are large, very large. Everybody loves to see Fall come in and regrets to see it pass out. It never lingers. As a matter of fact time has never learned the gentle art of lingering over anything. Only man lingers and he lingers most over paying the debts he owes. Women are the greatest lingerers and especially when they have an appointment at 2 p. m. sharp. They generally blow around about 3:30 dull. The unvarnished and undressed truth is that women, well, this essay isn't about women. We started out to write about Fall and have fallen by the wayside. Anyway, Fall is here. Everything in nature gets ready for the six months' sleep, even the world war. It can sleep, however, and no one would much care whether it ever wakes up again or not. No philosopher could ever write anything about Fall anyway. It takes a poet to do that. We had no business starting it. Kindly excuse the interruption. We will try and do better the next time.

NOW THE KAISER WILL BE SHOWN

Things are looking dark and gloomy, for the Hohenzollern bunch. That the tide will go against them. They've no doubt received a hunch. By arousing Uncle Sam, it's clear to all they pulled a "bone" As they say it in Missouri, Now the kaiser will "be shown."

We have everything that's needed—Soldiers, sailors and marines; And to furnish ammunition, likewise food.

We have the means; And our army has a leader Who throughout the world is known General Pershing's from Missouri—Now the kaiser will "be shown."

This Kaiser Bill, the autocrat, Who says: "Myself und Gott," Was certain when the war began He'd gather in the "pot." But Uncle Sam got in the game, His trump card, be it known, Is Pershing from Missouri—Now the kaiser will "be shown." —Thos. H. West in Kansas City Post.

DISTINGUISHED PYTHIAN PAYS OMAHA BRIEF VISIT

S. W. Green, Supreme Chancellor of the Colored Knights of Pythias of the World, with a membership of 200,000 men and 90,000 women in its allied branches, en route from San Francisco to New Orleans in company with his wife, spent a few hours in Omaha Thursday as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ransom. Mr. Ransom is state deputy of this order.

Smoke John Ruskin 5c Cigar. Biggest and Best.—Adv.

Our Women and Children

Conducted by
Lucille Skaggs Edwards

THE BETTER THING

It is better to lose with a conscience clean

Than win by a trick unfair;
It is better to fail and to know you've been,

Whatever the prize was, square,
Than to claim the joy of a far-off goal

And the cheers of the standers-by
And to know down deep in your inmost soul

A cheat you must live and die.

Who wins by trick may take the prize.

And at first he may think it sweet
But many a day in the future lies
When he'll wish he had met defeat.
For the man who lost shall be glad at heart

And walk with his head up high,
While his conqueror knows he must play the part
Of a cheat and a living lie.

The prize seems fair when the fight is on,

But save it is truly won
You will have the thing when the crowds are gone,

For it stands for a false deed done
And it's better you never should reach your goal

Than ever succeed to buy
At the price of knowing down in your soul

That your glory is all a lie.
—Edgar A. Guest in Detroit Free Press.

SOME USES OF RICE

Department's Food Specialists Suggest Several Ways of Serving This Nutritious Cereal.

The experts of the Office of Home Economics of the department have been studying the uses of rice, a food which can be served in many palatable ways all the year but which seems particularly appetizing in summer.

Boiled rice prepared in southern fashion, so that all of the grains are kept separate, is sufficiently attractive in appearance to justify its slight wastefulness, except, of course, where strictest economy is necessary. Slowly add a cupful of thoroughly washed rice to a quart of rapidly boiling water which contains 2 level teaspoonfuls of salt. If carefully done, the boiling (which should continue all of the time the rice is cooking) will not be stopped. Stirring is not permitted, as this will break the rice grains. About 20 minutes is sufficient to cook the rice, which can be tried from time to time by taking one or two grains between the fingers. Pour off all the water from the cooked rice, cover with a cloth, and place in a warm part of the stove, so that the grains will swell. To remove the starchy material from the outside of the grains, cooks sometimes turn the cooked rice into a strainer and pour 1 quart of hot water over it before covering with a cloth and allowing to steam and swell. A cupful of raw rice cooked in this way will give over 4 cupfuls of very white and light boiled rice. The water drained off from the rice can be used in soup making to save the starch and mineral matter which it contains.

If one wishes to use a fireless cooker, add a cupful of well-washed rice to 3 cupfuls of boiling water, in which 2 level teaspoonfuls of salt are dissolved. Cook for 5 minutes and then put in a fireless cooker. In 2 hours the rice should be done. If any water remains unabsorbed, it can be drained off. Rice varies somewhat in the amount of water it absorbs, and the housekeeper accordingly should vary the amount of water used.

Rice cooked as described above is excellent when served as a vegetable with meats, as in the well-known "chicken and rice." Such uses of rice are particularly welcome in the period when "old potatoes" are not very palatable and "new potatoes" have not yet appeared in the locality or are high in price in the market.

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