

# 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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## A Prayer for the Flag

By The Rt. Rev. Arthur L. Williams, S. T. D., Bishop of Nebraska.



"Oh, Lord God Almighty, Who alone art the Giver of victory, bless, we pray Thee this Flag, which is the outward and visible symbol of the liberties of our beloved country. We ask that this, our Nation's Flag, wherever it is carried, may never be associated with oppression or tyranny, or unfurled in a base or ignoble cause. May the principles of a free people and a free government, represented by it, be victorious in the world-wide war now raging, and may the day come when Peace shall be forever established and the Righteousness which exalteth a nation prevail upon the earth. These and all other things, for us and the whole world, we ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen."

### A HAPPY CHRISTMAS, RICHLY BLESSED

We wish all our readers a very happy Christmas! We say "happy" rather than "merry" advisedly, because merriment is so transient. It is associated with jollity and laughter; with frivolity and playfulness. Happiness is less fleeting and more permanent than mirthfulness. It is not dependent upon sportiveness. It is rather a state of contentedness and satisfaction which arises from the consciousness of well-being or enjoyment of good of any kind, as peace, tranquility, comfort.

These are days in which it is difficult to be merry. Sportiveness and frivolity seem strangely out of place. Gayety grates upon one's nerves. Why? Because one instinctively feels that these are WORK days, not PLAY days; that there is stern work before this nation and all the nations of the earth.

But there is ample room for happiness, the happiness which comes from the assurance that into this world has come ONE Who, despite the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, has introduced a power into human nature which will ultimately lift it to a plane of righteousness.

This is the message of Christmas: "EMANUEL, GOD WITH US!"

God gave His Son, the only begotten One from all eternity, to enter into human life through the gateway of human birth to redeem, restore and uplift mankind, linking all His children of every race and clime together by a bond of love in universal brotherhood.

This is the Christmas message. It was for this purpose that God BECAME man, that "the WORD was made Flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

This is the FACT to which Christmas bears witness. This explains the joy of Christmastide. And the more fully we grasp this truth and enter into His spirit of giving ourselves for the service of others the happier will our Christmas be.

But are we tempted to doubt the efficacy of the Incarnation, the great fact and mystery which Christmas attests, to banish hatred, ill-will and bitterness, to uplift humanity and fraternize the world? If so, do not yield to the temptation. Remember that despite the fact that strife and tumult prevail, and brother wars with brother; despite world-anguish and travail, and cruelty, greed and selfishness, God's plans and purposes have neither changed nor failed. The Christmas evangel, "God with us," is true and His Presence and Power and Patient, Pitying Love and Suffering will yet turn the hearts and wills of His disobedient children to Him in loving, cheerful, helpful service, and the world—yes, this war-torn, distracted, sorrow-chastened world—will give back the song of the Christmas angels.

Therefore sursum corda. Lift up your hearts.

Above the din of cannon's roar and warfare's strident cry may we catch the echo of that sweet song which filled the star-lit Judean sky and attune our lives to that heavenly music that each in his place and station may help bring to pass that universal reign of peace and goodwill of which the angels sang when Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea.

A Happy Christmas, richly blessed, we wish you one and all!

### OPEN THE NAVY

This district wants six Colored men to enlist as mess attendants in the navy. Up to the present they have been able to secure only three. This is a suggestive and significant fact. It is not that Colored men do not want to enlist in the navy. Several have offered their services only to be refused and told they were not wanted. Colored men know that mess attendants and coal heavers are just as necessary and important as gunners and others. If they were allowed to enlist, just like other Americans in the navy, they would be willing to accept assignments as mess attendants, coal heavers, firemen or any other line of duty where they could be of service. They, however, resent, and rightfully resent, the undemocratic and un-American spirit which restricts them to only one line of service and ruthlessly pushes them aside.

When the government opens the navy to general enlistment of Colored Americans there will be no dearth of men for mess attendants or any other line of honorable service. Open the navy!

### NOW FOR COLORED RED CROSS UNITS

The Colored people, in common with other American citizens, have responded most generously to the Christmas call for membership in that splendid organization, which does so much for humanity irrespective of race, creed or color, the American Red Cross. Our people are not only willing to give of their money, but they are willing to give their services. The time is here and now for Colored Red Cross units. We want them, need them and should have them. We are under the impression that the initial step has been taken to organize such units to help nurse our soldiers. If it has not been done, it should be done, and we believe will be.

We demand for our people opportunity to serve our country in every branch of service for which they have ability to be trained and that is every branch.

Having joined the American Red Cross, which makes no distinction in the distribution of its gracious work to those in need, there are many of our people willing to render service. To all such we hope speedy opportunity for such service will be given.

### WORTH THINKING ABOUT

Here is an interesting thought we ran across the other day in an instructive article in the Independent by Edward Earl Purinton:

"One of the quickest ways to rise in the world is to get close to the man at the top."

Think it over and see how much truth there is in this statement.

Are you trying to get close to the man at the top, or are you satisfied to be with the man at the bottom?

Your success is largely a matter of association and companionship. Do you prefer to associate with those from whom you can learn little or nothing of good, or with those from whom you may learn something worth while?

"Get close to the man at the top." Is this what you are trying to do in your given calling or occupation?

Do not forget the date—Tuesday evening, January 1, 1918. The Louisiana Warblers at St. John's A. M. E. church, Eighteenth and Webster sts.

## Our Women and Children

Conducted by  
Lucille Skaggs Edwards

### CHRISTMAS, 1917

When we think of all the agony in Europe; when we look about us at husbands, brothers, sons and sweethearts who are in cantonments or at sea or in France, we begin to wonder how we may find any Christmas cheer or how the celebration of the birth of Christ fits into all this sorrow, suffering and anxiety. Yet, when we reflect, it is at this season when our hope may be fullest, our faith strongest. The Divine Love, which gave to the world Christmas, is permitting these things to be that out of it all the greatest good may come.

Love and beauty will be created and revived in the hearts of mankind. Love in its full strength shall drive from the world hatred, envy, prejudice, and bring equal rights, equal opportunity, just reward for toil, protection and freedom to all peoples.

Through all the gloom, 'midst all the sorrow, and high above the cruel battlefields, the desolated homes, the suffering and the bereaved, shines the Christmas star, as of old, telling its story of love of the Christ Child which will permeate the hatred, the lust, the pride, the wickedness of men; love of the Father, who will yet bring Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men. L. S. E.

### SKITS OF SOLOMON

#### Santa Claus.

Lots of folks say that there is no Santa Claus, but said folks have simply slipped the trolley of joy from the wires of make-believe. There is a Santa Claus. He is a little sawed-off, hammered down, whiff of animated imagination, with a face that is mostly rouge and whiskers and a body that is mostly fat. He loves red clothes better than a Sam from a Georgia plantation. There was a time when the little old gent sported a sleigh and reindeers, but that was in the old days. Santa isn't anything, if not up-to-date. When the world was small he could make it with the deers, but nowadays he has an auto racer that makes Dario Resta and his machine look like a toy when he gets started.

Santa Claus is the patron saint of the child world and parents are his ambassadors. If it wasn't for this diplomatic corps, the central government would cave in and the little roly-poly king of the Christmas tide would evaporate. The diplomatic corps is always on the job. It never seeks conquest nor indemnities, hence it never receives passports. It is a world where war is never known. No ambassador is ever struck from the rolls unless he has lost his imagination and poured water upon the flames of joy. Yet none need be stricken from the 1st eternally. Unlike a finished prize fighter and a wing broken ball player, he can always come back. And he is always welcomed back.

Santa Claus rules and will rule until children are gone.

### FUNNY S. H. DUDLEY COMING

Is With Dave ("Snuffy") Marion and "The World of Frolics" at the Popular Gayety Next Week.

Many theatrical patrons consider S. I. Dudley, chief comic with Dave Marion's own show, which comes to the popular Gayety theater week



S. H. DUDLEY, Formerly with "The Smart Set," comes to the Gayety Saturday for Christmas week.

starting Saturday matinee, December 22, the peer of Bert Williams, the most famous of all Colored comedians. Mr. Dudley won a world of admirers when he starred in "The Smart Set." The fact that Dudley is even con-

sidered with Williams, who has a world-wide reputation, is proof sufficient that he is a performer of more than ordinary ability, and this opinion is borne out once you have seen this funny Negro.

His scene with the famous donkey is one of the funniest bits ever seen on any stage and stamps Dudley as a creator and not an imitator. His character is a faithful presentation of the small town darkey, with his eccentricities and funny mannerisms, without stooping to buffoonery.

Dudley has several funny scenes with Marion in "The Second Edition of the World of Frolics," which is the name of the offering, and his several musical offerings, which he composed himself, are gems of melody.

The Gayety's popular scale of prices will prevail. Matinee every day. The Sunday matinee and the Christmas Day matinee starts at 3 o'clock.

### PEASE-BLACK COMPANY INVITE INSPECTION OF CHRISTMAS STOCK

A few months ago two well known gents' furnishing firms, the Pease company and Black the Hatter, united under the new firm name of the Pease-Black company. Their store is located at 1417 Farnam street.

Pease and Black worked well in single harness, each being a thoroughbred of high pedigree. Naturally, therefore, as a team they attract admiration and attention. They have an elegant gents' furnishing store, well stocked with beautiful ties, shirts of the latest material and pattern, hats, caps, gloves, handkerchiefs, collars, canes, cuff links, and, in short, everything in that line that a man may need. Prices, too, are reasonable. You are invited to inspect their stock of Christmas goods and become a regular customer.

PEASE-BLACK COMPANY,  
1417 Farnam Street.



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Services  
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League, 6:30 p. m.  
Florence P. Leavitt Club, Monday afternoon.  
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday Evening.  
W. H. M. S. Thursday Afternoon Ladies' Aid, Friday Afternoon.  
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## Keep Water Away From the Telephone

Many cases of telephone "trouble" occur because water from a scrub-brush or a mop dampens the telephone wiring near the floor.

An umbrella or a wet coat left where they will come in contact with the telephone cords, may put your service out of order.

The telephone cords must be kept dry.

