

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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ALSACE-LORRAINE AND AFRICA

When Bismarck took away Alsace-Lorraine he told the French, in derision, to seek compensation in Africa. This was voicing not only contempt for the French, but also contempt for Africa and the Africans. However, France followed Bismarck's advice, sought compensation in Africa and found it. Out of Africa today are pouring hundreds of thousands of black fighters, loyal defenders of France, who are striking terror to the heart of the Hun. Out of Africa are pouring supplies to succor the people of France in their fierce contest with Germany.

The first troops to pierce the supposedly impregnable German line were African. Among the most valiant and dependable of the valiant French troops are those from Africa. The restoration of Alsace-Lorraine will be accomplished through the valor of African troops and the supplies that Africa affords.

Bismarck's advice to France, though given in contempt, has proven advantageous to her, for Africa is not only compensating France for the loss of Alsace-Lorraine, but is destined to play an important part in this great world war. This is a world war, not merely a European war. In it Africa has her place and that an honorable and important one.

"Seek your compensation for Alsace-Lorraine in Africa."
This was Bismarck's polite way of telling France to go to—the hot place. But Bismarck's geographical knowledge was not accurate. Tradition has it that it was in that direction where the Garden of Eden lay. Be that as it may, Africa has proven a paradise for France, and the world may yet learn that Africa is the most favored of the continents.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Monitor most heartily endorses the commendation given the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by the Amsterdam News in the following editorial:

"The Colored people of the United States are everlastingly in the debt of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This organization of white friends and progressive Colored people has done much to endear it to the race. It has fought segregation to a standstill and tackled lynching and other injustices wherever they have cropped up. It has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in fighting in the cause of the race and has greatly advanced that cause. All it asks in return is that every Colored person genuinely desirous of helping the race should become a member of the Advancement Association.

"In unity is strength, in organization power. And no other body has done so much to advance the interests of Colored Americans as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. We earnestly advise our readers to join the association and so back up the greatest war that ever was waged upon injustice in this or any other country. Stand behind the Advancement Association! Not only is it able to fight more effectively than the individual or than any other organization of Afro-Americans, but with men like Dr. Du Bois and James

Weldon Johnson it is fully capable of wise and aggressive leadership."

AMERICAN PREJUDICE

In the American Magazine for January two men of international fame write articles concerning themselves and their success. One is Bert Williams, the greatest comedian in the world; the other, Montague Glass, one of the world's greatest humorists. The one is a Colored man; the other a Jew. Both have come greatly into contact with their fellow men and both have found prejudice. Both feel it and wonder why it is. They can't explain it. They only know that it exists and that it exists everywhere. Both jeer at it and make fun of it, yet beneath their humor and sarcasm the reader can see that there is really a wound. They are both Americans, both men who are struggling to bring some sunbeams of happiness into the lives of their fellows. Yet these very fellows have placed a stigma upon them because they happen to be of different race. In the articles there is more need for thought than for comment, and in thinking upon these two articles one is brought inevitably to the thought that the very country to which they belong is waging war to make the world safe for democracy. And it brings in its train another master thought—the United States has still a greater war to wage than the war with Germany. That war is a war within her own borders and it is to make democracy safe for the world. Democracy can never be safe until every man has a man's chance, no matter what his color, creed or previous condition.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

The Dentist.

There are doctors and doctors, and then there are dentists. A dentist is sometimes called a doctor, but he isn't a doctor. He is an executioner. He can cause an individual more pain and get by with it than any gazook extant. He has one pet phrase that he repeats more times than a Mohammedan repeats verses from the Koran, and that is, "That didn't hurt, did it?" Somehow he believes, or pretends to believe, that the Christian Scientist slogan of no such thing as pain is the real dope. If he breaks your jaw in two getting out a six-foot molar, he smiles sweetly and murmurs, "Didn't hurt, did it now?" If he starts his grinding machine and develops the jim-jams from your toes to the ends of your hair, and then suddenly hits a nerve and makes you yell like a Comanche and jump out of the chair, a look of disgust pervades his professional map and he wants to know, "Did it hurt?" When he is putting on a crown he gets out a lead mallet and pounds away like an excavator breaking concrete, and when your head flops back and you knock your brains silly, he pauses a moment to remark, "Did that really hurt?" You long for a six-shooter, but he's got you at his mercy and there's no use to squeal. You've got to grin and bear it. And then when you ask him for your bill, and he murmurs softly, "Fifty plunks," you let out a six-cylinder sigh, and again he smiles and says, "Doesn't hurt, does it?"

Buy war savings stamps!

THE COLORED AMERICAN AND THE GREAT WAR

By George Gilbert Walker.

The United States is at war with a most ruthless enemy, probably the most ruthless enemy ever faced by any nation. And we are at war not for conquest of territory, nor for military aggrandizement, but for the high principles of justice and freedom. We entered the war for these things alone. The fact is recognized by the military critics of the Allies and the United States that the war will be won when we get our armies in the field. It is generally recognized now that our coming into the conflict means sure victory for democracy and progress over militarism, autocracy, mediaevalism.

This is our war, the war of every citizen of the United States, be he or she of whatever race or environment. It not only requires but demands the active, willing, zealous and painstaking co-operation of every person who believes that autocratic despotism should be once for all shorn of its power, and that "the world shall be made safe for democracy," for the unhindered and unopposed development of freedom, progress and the higher ideals of political and social and economic justice.

From this war great things will surely come to pass. The world has beheld a new vision, a vision of universal peace, amity and progress, a vision of the realities of the higher ethical and religious principles. The winning of the war will bring nearer the full realization of brotherhood and righteousness. The great war is a crisis in the world's history, a final struggle between the outworn and the new. Yet we are not to think of the new as things suddenly injected into the world process, but rather as the maturing of those principles, policies and ideals which are of supreme value, and which have for decades and centuries been struggling for mastery.

In these things the Colored American is most intensely interested. The world's leaders are enunciating the ideals which are nearest and dearest to his endeavor and his dreams. The results of the war will mean much to him, much more, probably, than many of his wise men now think. The great sacrifice of life, which will be the cost of victory, will not be permitted to have been made in vain.

The winning of the war depends upon the active, positive co-operation of every individual. Out duties have been and are being set before us continually and plainly, so that for failure in them there is no excuse to be had. From the battlefields of this great conflict shall arise a new era, an era of practical justice, actual brotherhood, unhindered opportunity; an era of increased faith in God and His righteousness. The Colored American will be among those who through sacrifice of labor, necessities and life, have made it come to pass.

LYNCHING RECORD OF 1917

I send you the following relative to lynching for the year. I find from the records kept by the division of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, Monroe N. Work in charge, that there were 38 persons lynched in 1917, of whom 36 were Negroes and two were whites. Thirty-seven were males and one female. Twelve, or a little less than one-third of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged against the whites lynched were: Rape and murder, 1; fomenting strikes, 1.

The offenses charged against the Negroes were: Attempted rape, 5; rape, 6; murder, 3; killing officer of the law, 2; for not getting out of road and being insolent, 2; attacking women, 2; disputing white men's word, 2; entering woman's room, 2; wounding officer of the law, 1; molesting women, 1; stealing coat, 1; intimacy with woman, 1; killing man in altercation, 1; accidentally killing child by running automobile over it, 1; vagrancy, 1; wounding and robbing man, 1; attacking an officer of the law, 1; opposition to war draft, 1; insulting girls, 1; writing insolent letter, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and number in each state were as follows: Alabama, 4; Arkansas, 4; Arizona, 1; Florida, 1; Georgia, 6; Kentucky, 2; Louisiana, 5; Mississippi, 1; Montana, 1; Oklahoma, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 3; Texas, 6; Virginia, 1; Wyoming, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

SECOND SMITH TRIAL BEGINS MONDAY

The second trial of Charles Smith, accused of the murder of Mrs. C. L. Nethaway last August, will begin Monday morning in Criminal Court Room No. 1, Judge Sears presiding. He will be defended by Attorney Scruggs and Timlin. The jury in the first trial stood nine for acquittal and three for conviction.

Our Women and Children

Conducted by
Lucille Skaggs Edwards

Quartermaster of the World.

Uncle Sam is today the quartermaster of a hungry world. He is playing the game squarely and counts on you to do the same. The American people cannot expect more than their share of the food supply, which for 1918 does not measure up to expectations. It is now time for every American to get these facts by heart.

In order that you may know the facts the United States food administration from time to time issues statements and announcements which are printed in the newspapers for the information of the American people.

The food administration and Herbert Hoover in giving you the facts of the food situation believe that you have the courage to face the truth and adjust your household to new war sacrifices.

As the war goes on and the need becomes greater we Americans must be ready for greater sacrifices.

More than 10,000,000 families have pledged themselves to help make the food go around. This pledge, unless we interpret patriotism as mere lip loyalty and insincere affectation, is a pledge to service as real as that of the soldier. The pledge card is not a mere scrap of paper, but the pledge of the American women to stand by the declaration of war. Men, help the women!

Every particle of diminished consumption by the American people is one particle more for the soldiers, men, women and children of our associates in this war and for the starving people in other countries. This is a personal obligation upon every one of us toward some individual abroad who will suffer privation to the extent of our own individual negligence.

A PRAYER

Let me be a little kinder,
Let me be a little blinder
To the faults of those about me,
Let me praise a little more;
Let me be when I am weary
Just a little bit more cheery—
Let me serve a little better
Those that I am striving for.

Let me be a little braver,
When temptation bids me waver,
Let me strive a little harder
To be all that I should be;
Let me be a little meeker
With the brother who is weaker,
Let me think more of my neighbor
And a little less of me.

Let me be a little sweeter—
Make my life a bit completer,
By doing what I should do
Every minute of the day.
Let me toil without complaining,
Not a humble task disdain;
Let me face the summons calmly
When death beckons me away.

For dressmaking, call Miss Alexander. 2413 N. 29th st. Web. 3927.

RATHER JOLTING TO MASCULINE VANITY

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt Claims That Colored Women Are More Intellectual and Progressive Than Colored Men.

Washington, D. C.—Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National Woman Suffrage association, paid a tribute to Colored women when she cited the reason given for the opposition to the federal enfranchisement of women. She said that the Colored women are more intelligent, more ambitious and more dependable than the Colored men.

The South, the only section of the country arrayed against suffrage, conceives that the vote of Colored women would far exceed that of Colored men. Colored women, they say, would be more willing and ready to pay the \$2 poll tax and would double the Colored vote in the South.

SOME SUGGESTIVE STATISTICS CALL FOR CONSIDERATION

F. L. Hoffman, in the Insurance Spectator, gives the statistics for homicides in thirty-one cities. An increase over the previous five years' average is shown and is attributed to the war, while the tendency is toward a decrease from the high-water mark in 1896.

The homicide rate for our race is seven times as high as that of the whites, though the rate for the foreign-born whites is considerably higher than that for native whites. The five cities with the lowest rate have a large foreign population and show a decrease, while the five cities which have the highest rate have a large Colored population and are in dry territory. They are Memphis, Atlanta, New Orleans, Nashville and Charleston. Memphis has a rate 100 times greater than that of Rochester and Milwaukee, an increase of 25 per cent. The rate for the Colored people of Memphis was 133.7 per 100,000. Strange to say, New York has fewer homicides than Chicago, and its rate shows a decrease. With the largest Colored population of any Northern city, this showing is most gratifying.

BIRTH STATISTICS

Birth statistics issued by the Bureau of United States Census record for 1915 12,405 births for the registration area containing 600,821 Colored people, which is a rate of 20.6 a thousand, as compared with a rate of 25 for the whites. One hundred and eighty-one deaths of infants under 1 year of age and one thousand births were recorded.

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What War Savings Stamps Are

A War Savings Stamp is a "baby bond" of the United States Government. It is made in the form of a small sticker or stamp.

You can buy a War Savings Stamp this month for \$4.12. If you want to keep it until January 1, 1923, the Government will buy it back of you and pay you \$5.00 for it.

The 88 cents profit to you on the transaction represents the interest the Government pays for the use of your \$4.12—at the rate of 4% compounded every three months. This means that your money actually earns nearly 4½% each year.

If you do not want to keep the stamp until January 1, 1923, you can get the cash for it, plus whatever interest it has earned, by simply giving written notice to the postmaster at any money-order postoffice that you desire the money. There is no red tape, no difficulty about it.

The money derived by the Government from the sale of War Savings Stamps is spent in this country for manufacturing the millions of things required by the army and navy to win the war. It helps buy rifles and clothing and food, ammunition and airplanes for the boys in France. The Government can raise all the money it needs by selling bonds to rich men. But it wants YOU to have a part in this war. Therefore, it goes to the great trouble and detail of issuing "baby bonds" like these War Savings Stamps so that every one, no matter how situated, can feel that he or she is actually helping to win the war.

Then, too, the Government wants you to save your money and sooner or later thus learn the way to prosperity. War Savings Stamps will teach you to save. You can buy one a month or four or ten a month—whatever you wish.

But, beyond all that, buy War Savings Stamps and you not only learn to save and get paid for doing so, but you show the boys in France that you are standing behind them here at home—doing all you can to help them in their terrible duty.

You can order your first War Savings Stamps TODAY. Just tell your employer how many you want and he'll get them for you. Or call up the DOUGLAS COUNTY WAR SAVINGS COMMITTEE, 1612 Farnam Street, Douglas 1917, and we'll deliver it

Back Up Our Boys in France

Thompson, Belden & Co.

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for Colored people, as compared with ninety-nine for whites.

The report says: "It is possible, however, that the registration of births is not as complete among Colored as among white persons, and that therefore the rates shown for the former class are too low."

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