

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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PRESIDENT GRANTS RESPITE

All broad-minded Americans will approve President Wilson's action in granting an indefinite reprieve to the five soldiers of the Twenty-fourth Infantry recently sentenced by court martial to be hanged for participation in the deplorable Houston riot last August, for which thirteen of the bravest of the brave, with an hitherto unblemished record, have already paid the death penalty and forty-one others were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The reprieve has been granted because of the united appeal for clemency which has arisen from our race in all section of this country. In this appeal thousands of justice-loving white Americans have joined. And here it may be well to call attention to the fact, which many of our people are inclined to overlook, when smarting under the sting of some injustice, that the vast majority of white Americans really believe in justice and fairplay even for Colored Americans. We can depend upon such people when an emergency arises and facts are brought to their attention.

We are also inclined to believe that President Wilson's heart and mind approve of the appeal; for he has clearly demonstrated that he has a mind and a will of his own—and that, therefore, if he were not convinced in his own mind that there was some justification for such reprieve, he would not have granted it despite millions of petitioners. His prompt avowal that the sentence of the court martial in December was executed without his knowledge and his resultant order that no soldier in the United States—an exception being allowed in foreign lands—sentenced to death should be executed without having his case reviewed by Washington, would seem to indicate that President Wilson did not approve of that unprecedented and drastic action, which savored more of vengeance than of justice.

That the resentment of Colored Americans at the almost indecent haste with which the sentence of the court martial was carried out, was intense, it were fool-hardy for anyone to attempt to deny. It engendered a bitterness that among a people less accustomed to exercise self-restraint would have manifested itself in overt acts of disloyalty with most disastrous consequences. Knowing the extreme provocation to which the soldiers has been subjected, the feeling was general, and is still strong, that while they were guilty of a serious crime, others as well as they merited punishment and that there should have been an opportunity of an appeal and a review of the evidence.

That President Wilson has granted a reprieve in the case of the last five is a gratifying indication that should there ever come a similar outbreak or offense, which we all hope may never be, the death penalty will not be executed until a chance has been given for a review of the evidence, and if the evidence warrant, opportunity be allowed to appeal for clemency.

President Wilson's action has brought relief to Colored Americans. It will do a vast deal to allay the bitterness which the hasty execution in December aroused.

CAPTAIN PEBBLES

Omaha friends have learned with pleasure of Lieut. Peebles' promotion to a captaincy. The Monitor joins in extending sincere congratulations. Captain Peebles' many friends will be interested in his interesting letter which is published elsewhere in this issue.

We cannot refrain from telling this good story, which comes from an independent source, about little "Bill," who recently was visiting his father. Bill was looking out of the open window and seeing a soldier passing he called out, "Hello, soldier." Dr. Peebles, beg your pardon, Capt. Peebles, chanced to look up and was much embarrassed to find that the "soldier" whom the scion of his house was so familiarly addressing was the colonel of the regiment.

PROFESSOR KEELING

In the passing away of the gracious, cultured Christian gentleman, Hightower Keeling, the race has lost from his field of earthly influence and usefulness one of its strongest and best men. It was always a pleasure and an inspiration to be in his presence. In the strong, upstanding lives of hundreds of pupils who came under his influence he has reared a monument more enduring than granite.

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK?

Did you ever stop to think that you are a lucky mortal?

You holler because a good meal costs much, but did you ever stop to think that OVER THERE are thousands who haven't had a square meal for YEARS?

You have a nice soft bed to sleep in, but did you ever stop to think that OVER THERE are millions who are almost afraid to sleep on anything?

You stroll along at night laughing and talking, but did you ever stop to think that OVER THERE are thousands who fear the night because it may mean Zeppelins and bombs?

You only want to work eight hours, but did you ever stop to think that there are millions OVER THERE working twenty hours a day for YOU?

You say you can't spare the money to buy a Liberty Bond, but did you ever stop to think that OVER THERE are thousands who have sacrificed future and life?

You have thousands of race men at various camps and did you ever stop to think that you might send them a dime's worth of something?

Are you making any sacrifices to win the war? Did you ever stop to think that if you are not willing to make them now, after while you may have to make them whether you will or not?

STOP and THINK.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

Congress.

Congress is our national association of fortunate word geysers and verbal gymnasts. It is composed of two parts, a part that watches its step and a part that doesn't care a darn about its step for six years at a time. The first part only cares because it has to face the common people every two years and give an account of how much sand it has raised, and two years is too short a time for the constituents to forget anything. A person can forget anything in six years. Again, the first part always has a muzzle tied to its oratorical phonetics, but the second part has no limits this side of vocal paralysis. Those who belong to the first part are always yearning for the second part. No one ever blames them. The second part of Congress is the candy part. Persons belonging to this branch are known as senators and the hardest work they do is to watch each other and see that no one grabs off more appointments or widens more ditches than is coming to him. Widening a ditch is known as the pork barrel and the pork barrel is that barrel from which comes the grease to make life slide along like a song. Both parts taken together publish a magazine known as the Congressional Record. The real purpose of the Record is to show how much talk several hundred men can spill without executing anything worth while. It has become an axiom that a full, live, grown-up thought can be found almost anywhere except in the Congressional Record. There was a time when Congress was some pumpkins and when it was a real nice place to get hints on oratory, wit, humor, and repartee, but that time is not east. It is nothing now but the American gabfest.

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PALESTINE HAS PEP AND PROGRESS

Monitor Representative Meets Men Who Do Big Things.

To Readers of The Monitor:

I left Thrall in the midst of a slow dripping rain and after an hour's ride stopped off at Rock Dale a busy little town situated on the L. G. N. Railroad in the heart of the lignite coal field which furnishes employment to a large number of race men.

After a few hours here I again boarded the train for my next stop, Hearne, which possesses some very progressive race men. Some are in business and some are wealthy farmers, this being in the rich upper Bazos Bottom country.

The Sunshine Limited carried me on to my next point, Palestine, on the Trinity river, the place where they do things. Here are located the headquarters of the National Trading Company, which is under the direction of Mr. F. A. Foster, an efficient and scholarly gentleman, formerly of New York, but now living in Texas, and who was educated in England. He is operating a chain of fifty grocery stores in the thickly settled rural districts. This is an entirely racial institution. I will give details in a special article.

The Farmers and Citizens Savings Bank was the next place visited. President and Manager B. F. White, is most congenial personage. Although it was Saturday he found time to entertain me and give me all the information I sought. The bank is a good paying proposition, established ten years ago with a paid up capital stock of \$125,000, having a surplus of \$30,000. Up to date they have been able to collect 100 per cent of their risk, and last year declared a dividend of 8 per cent.

The People's Pharmacy, another paying proposition, next attracted my attention. It is operated by Dr. Dodd and others under the direction of that courteous gentleman, Dr. Williamson, who, after filling one hundred and twenty-five prescriptions on this busy Saturday, smilingly insisted on whirling me to the station in his auto. I was deeply impressed with the progressive spirit manifested by these people and it was with many regrets that I boarded the train for Carthage where I spent Sunday with relative number three, a cousin, Mrs. James Benton, whom I had not seen for 28 years. Here in this little village in the heart of the box pine forests of east Texas we sat and talked of the days of our childhood, recalling many incidents that were both pleasant and sad.

I was invited to stay always, but my duty calls me. My contract with The Monitor must be fulfilled, so after a day of happiness I am leaving this place where, as cousin Fred, I was a hero for a day. Until next week I am, Correspondingly yours,
FRED C. WILLIAMS,
Traveling Representative for The Monitor.

A NEW BARBER—TRY HIM

Fred Williams, from Salt Lake, a first class barber and expert hair cutter is with P. H. Jenkins at 1313 Dodge St. Give him a trial.—Adv.

Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards

BREAD CRUMB PANCAKES

Soak one cup of stale, crumbled bread in one cup of sweet milk for half an hour, add one egg beaten very light, one teaspoon each of salt and sugar and four level teaspoons of baking powder and one-half cup of flour sifted together. Add one teaspoon of melted fat and bake on hot griddle. If sour milk is at hand, use one-half teaspoon of soda and two of baking powder.

NEVER FAIL DUMPLING

Dumplings (which never fail)—Two cups flour, one-half large tablespoon lard, one teaspoon baking powder, one teaspoon salt, milk to moisten. Sift dry ingredients, mix in lard thoroughly with spoon; add milk to make soft dough. Drop by spoonfuls on granite pie tin. Steam over hot water in closely covered kettle one-half hour. Do not lift cover until done.

NEWS OF PLEASANT GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH

The first anniversary of this congregation was celebrated last Sunday. An address of welcome was given by Mr. Harris. The Rev. T. A. Taggart of Bethel Baptist preached the sermon, after which a short address was given by Rev. J. P. Jackson of Council Bluffs. The members of the church presented the pastor, Rev. J. Costello a new suit of clothes, a pair of shoes and a bouquet of flowers, and his wife with \$5.00 and a bouquet. The collection for the day was \$50.00.

Come to St. Philip's church Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the community chorus.

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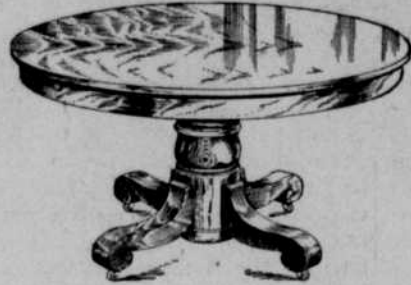
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Gold fillings.....\$2.00 and up
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Heavy 22K bridgework.....\$5.00 and \$6.00 per tooth
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- \$30.00 Quartered Golden Oak Extension Table, 54 inches to 6 feet, beautifully polished, at.....\$22.50
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- \$40.00 Same Table, but 8 feet Extension.....\$30.00
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- \$32.00 Same Table, only extending to 6 feet.....\$23.00
- \$35.00 Quartered Golden Oak Extension Table with heavy plank top, 54 inches to 6 feet, at.....\$23.50
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