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THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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Lift. Too!

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President Wilson Receives Methodists

Commission Appointed by the Bishop's Council of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Given Audience by Chief Executive.

THE PETITION FOR PROTECTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"Words urging patriotic duties upon the Negroes while they are lynched and jim-crowed have the appearance of insincerity" was a sentiment expressed to President Woodrow Wilson by a commission appointed by the Bishop's Council of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to make representation against discrimination against the Negroes of this country.

The appointment with the President was arranged by Prof. John R. Hawkins, financial secretary of the A. M. E. Church.

The commission was headed by Bishop W. D. Chappelle, of South Carolina. The other members of the committee were: Prof. J. R. Hawkins, of Washington; Dr. W. T. Vernon, of Tennessee; Dr. W. H. Butler, of Pennsylvania; Dr. J. G. Robinson, of Tennessee; Dr. A. H. Hill, of Arkansas; and Dr. A. L. Gaines, of Baltimore.

Bishop Chappelle made the representations to the President and left with him a written document setting forth the views of the commission. The response of the President, though guarded, was very gratifying.

The sentiment of the commission follows:

Washington, D. C., March 14, 1918. Hon. Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States. Mr. President:

Sir—We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, and representatives of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, appointed by the Bishop's Council of said church, which met at Louisville, Ky., Feb. 14, 1918, beg to submit to you the following memorial or prayer.

With a due sense of appreciation of the great struggle in which we are now engaged, and the arduous task laid upon you as chief magistrate of our country, pledge to you our fidelity as loyal citizens of our republic.

These are trying times, and we are passing through ordeals that try men's souls, and now more than ever before, our people need hope and encouragement.

We believe you have read with deep regret the inhuman and unlawful treatment of our people in many sections of the country, and we come praying you for relief from mob violence and other discriminations which lence and other discriminations which

We do not condone crime committed by any people; nor are we asking that you wink at crimes committed by our people, but we are asking that in cases of alleged violation of law, that each and every individual be given a fair and impartial trial by a jury of twelve men of their fellow citizens.

Since congress has given you, as President, power to conscript citizens from and within all the states of the Union, to fight for the common cause of human liberty, and for protection of this country, we believe that it is equally within the power of congress to authorize you to enter any state in this Union with said power, to protect the life and liberty of the citizens therein.

Believing this as we do, we ask: First, That lynching be made a federal offense.

Second, We ask that in all cases of lynching and mob violence where citizens are guilty of participating in the same, they shall be punished by law and declared ineligible to hold office in our government, either federal or state.

Third, We ask that any sheriff allowing his prisoner to be lynched or maimed while in his custody, be declared unfit for that high office and at once removed by the governor.

When we compare what is told us with what is being done to us, it must of necessity create a suspicion as to the sincerity of some of those who speak to us.

If these difficulties are removed then you make it easier for the leaders of our people to control them as patriots; and, too, to advise and direct their activities in such movements as the purchase of Liberty Bonds, Thrift Stamps, and the cheerful enlistment in the United States army and navy.

Mr. President, we can ask no less and be men. So, in the interest of all that is righteous, of all that is just

and of all that is in keeping with true democracy, of which you are the exponent, we beg of you to act.

SET YOUR TIMEPIECE ONE HOUR AHEAD SATURDAY NIGHT

Don't forget to set your clock one hour ahead Saturday night. Time changes all over the United States Sunday morning. Set your watch ahead, too. If you don't set your timepiece ahead you will be one hour late Sunday morning.

OLD COMMANDER CALLS ON SERGEANT LETCHER

General Alexander Dade, who was a commander of Sergeant Letcher's troop over twenty years ago, was in the city recently. Although a very busy man he took occasion to honor Sergeant and Mrs. Letcher by calling at their home. General Dade is now stationed in Chicago and is in charge of the Central Aerial Division.

Attorney Objects to the Term "Darkey"

Presiding Judge Concurs With the Protestant and Promptly Bars Offensive Appellations from His Court.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A few days ago Prosecuting Attorney Hart was very much surprised to be called to account in open court for using the term "darkey." Former Judge Hewlett raised the objection and said:

"May it please the court, as an attorney practicing in the district courts my duties call me here as one of its members. I have been shocked beyond measure this morning to have to listen to a reference by the prosecuting attorney, Mr. Hart, to a man by the term 'darkey'—one that is and always will be objectionable to me and to many of my associates sitting within this rail. He spoke of taking something from a 'darkey.'"

The Prosecuting Attorney: "I was not aware that I used such a term at all."

Mr. Hewlett: "You did so and there are those seated here besides myself who heard you. (Pointing to Mr. Collins.) The use of this term is something of an innovation in our courts, and in fact was never heard until Judge Harrison, I regret to say, made use of it in a recent case, and it is a cause of greater regret that Mr. Hart usually so fair and equitable in his arguments, should emulate such an example. The judges of all the courts here have held it objectionable and instantly suppressed its use when employed. You will remember, your honor, that one of our judges came near facing impeachment because of this very thing, and I want to serve notice right here, and now, that it is objectionable, and further that it is so objectionable that I am not going to have it, nor are my associate members of the bar. As long as I am practicing law here Colored men and women who are unfortunate enough to fall into the clutches of the law, or who happen to be summoned here for any purpose whatever, are going to be referred to as such, and not by any such Southern term as 'darkey.' We, your honor, are fighting for democracy and are doing our part; then, in the name of democracy, let court officials, at least, be just."

Judge Mallowney, who was presiding at the time, said: "It is, indeed, a source of great regret, if it be true, as reported, that a recently appointed judge made use of a term that is offensive to the Colored portion of our population. Up until quite recently the intelligent and progressive people of the District of Columbia, without regard to race, have endeavored to work to the mutual advancement of each other, and have so well succeeded that the petty frictions so frequent in the Southern states were unknown here. It was, therefore, with an eye of suspicion that they were brought to view in recent years the influx of so large a portion of the white South to take positions under the government here; and that this was not without reason is attested to the fact that they have been compelled to stand helplessly by and see many of their privileges and opportunities fade with this coming."

He further said that all men appointed to the judiciary by the president of the United States should be above approaching matters of law from the color standpoint, but on the plane of man to man and justice to all, and assured Mr. Hewlett that no such insults would be tolerated while he was presiding.

Hundreds of Skilled Mechanics Building Ships for U. S.

The Newport News Yard Gives Employment to Nearly Four Thousand Colored Men, Skilled and Unskilled, Who Do Satisfactory Work and Command Good Wages.

HAVE you read the March 16 issue of Collier's Weekly? If not you have missed a most interesting article by Edward Hungerford, entitled "A Shipbuilder on the Job," which describes the activities in the great shipyard founded at Newport News, Va., by the late Collis P. Huntington, and clearly shows the important part Colored men are taking in building ships for Uncle Sam. It also shows that black men and white men can work side by side, without strife or friction. Further, it demonstrates the fact that Colored men may become skilled mechanics when given the opportunity and can command high wages. Some of the men employed as riveters make as high as \$29 a week upon occasion.

Homer L. Ferguson, superintendent of this great plant, holds a most favorable opinion of the Negro as an industrial worker.

In this interesting article Mr. Hungerford tells us why Mr. Huntington decided to found Newport News and how the races work side by side. This is the way he puts it:

Black and White Work Side by Side
"Newport News differs from most Virginia towns in the fact that it has no fine streets shaded with old trees, no Christopher Wren architecture, no ancient families, and no old colons. When the late considerable drought spread across Virginia it found few sideboards in Newport News to empty. For the place is new—comparatively new, at any rate. It is a made-to-order town, and looks it. For even though it long ago reached its thirty-fifth birthday, it still has some of the raw newness of pioneer communities.

"It was founded by the late Collis P. Huntington as a tidewater terminal for the Chesapeake & Ohio railway, purchased as the eastern link of the ocean-to-ocean transcontinental system which he planned definitely, but was never quite able to consummate. And because a tidewater terminal means a real seaport and a real seaport in turn means a drydock and ship repair facilities—then almost entirely lacking in the neighborhood of Hampton Roads—the California millionaire bethought himself of establishing a shipyard at Newport News. Another factor there at Hampton Roads changed the idea into determination. His friends and advisers argued against the enterprise—but wasted their efforts. Huntington did not then lay stress upon his commercial reasons for building the yard. He merely pointed toward the tall tower of a great school for Negroes, a bare half-dozen miles distant, and said: 'I'm going to try and give the black man the same industrial opportunity that Hampton has given him educationally.' And today fully one-half of the 7,800 men and boys who work under Homer Ferguson in the Newport News shipyard are black skinned. White men and black men work not only in the same yard but in the same buildings. And this is the South—the Old Dominion if you please. On a huge traveling crane that runs the length of the yard's biggest erecting shop a white man operates the motors overhead; a Negro on the floor minds the grips. In the yard outside on a huge ship coming into being white painters work upon the upper side of the deck; black painters upon the under surfaces of the same deck.

"Do you get me? Something must be conceded to the traditions of the South."

Hungerford quotes Homer L. Ferguson, the master builder, as saying:

"Don't you dare come down from the North to this yard and tell us that the black man in the South is an industrial failure—you who only use him as an elevator boy or a parlor car porter or a chauffeur and refuse to give him an equal industrial opportunity with white labor. How long would one of our expert machinists last at Trenton or at Paterson or at Schenectady? What opportunity would the unions give him? Can one of our good riveters go North and join the union? He cannot. And otherwise he cannot drive a single rivet."

Some of the riveters make as high as \$29 a week upon occasion, but these are the exceptions. All, however, are

Colored Physicians May Be Internes

The Trustees of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals Assert That no Discrimination Based Upon Color or Creed Shall Operate Against Applicants.

MERIT DECLARED STANDARD

NEW YORK.—On Tuesday, March 5, at 4 o'clock, a conference was held in the office of the Bellevue Board of Trustees, First Avenue and 36th street, between a Committee interested in the question of securing the appointment of Negro internes in the New York hospitals, and the Board of Trustees of the Bellevue and Allied Hospitals.

The committee consisted of Mr. L. Hollingsworth Wood, President of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes. Mr. James Weidon Johnson, Field Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mr. Eugene Kinckle Jones, Executive of the National Urban League. Dr. William F. Hayes, Pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, and Mr. Alruthus A. Taylor, Industrial Secretary of the Urban League.

The following members of the Bellevue Board of Trustees were present: Dr. John W. Brannan, President; Mr. John G. O'Keefe, Secretary; Mr. James K. Paulding; Mr. Leopold Stern; Mr. Samuel Sachs; Mr. James A. Farley; Mr. Henry C. Wright; Mr. Bird S. Coler, ex-officio.

Mr. Wood briefly outlined the purpose of the conference stating that the committee wished to get some expression from the trustees of these hospitals on the question of admitting qualified Negroes to their interne staff.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Johnson were asked to state the case for the committee.

Mr. Jones said, in part: "The Colored people of New York feel that there is a prejudice against Negroes being admitted as internes in Bellevue Hospital. We would like to convey to them from you a message that would alter this impression.

We want to know if color is a determining factor in your selection of internes. If our young students of medicine felt that they would be admitted on a basis of merit rather than color, we are certain that more of them

would apply for the examinations based upon which appointments are made."

Mr. Johnson corroborated generally what Mr. Jones had said, and in addition he asked if any law had been passed or is now contemplated to require at least one year internship on the part of physicians before they might practice in the State of New York.

It was definitely stated by the trustees that no such law had been passed, and so far as known none is contemplated.

Mr. O'Keefe, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, cited a part of his letter under date of February 20th to Mr. Taylor, in which he said: "Relative to the question of internships such appointments in Bellevue and Allied Hospitals are made solely on ability and merit of candidates regardless of race or creed."

Mr. Samuel Sachs said that the Colored people of New York City should be told that any Negro applying for appointment as interne at these hospitals would be judged solely on ability and merit, and that investigation of any claims to the contrary would be welcomed. He further expressed a desire that he be personally informed in advance concerning the number of Negroes qualified or qualifying for such examination, and especially when any one of them contemplates being.

Request was also made by the Bellevue authorities that a list of Negroes now studying in the New York medical colleges be secured and referred to them, that they might be at any moment conversant with conditions examined.

The attitude expressed was to the effect that ability and merit are the sole qualifications for the candidates, and that qualified young Negro doctors may look forward to a hopeful future with respect to becoming members of the interne staff of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals.

LIEUT. MARSHALL NOT DEAD

Washington.—The report that Lieut. Napoleon B. Marshall, of the Fifteenth New York Regiment, had died in France, is denied here. His wife, Mrs. Harriett Gibbs Marshall, who lives here, was besieged with telegrams seeking confirmation of the rumor. No news had reached her of her husband's death, it is said.

Lieut. Marshall is a graduate of the Harvard Law School.

THE MONITOR

Is Read By

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75% of the Colored People of Lincoln
60% of the Colored People of Nebraska

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