

# 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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## OUR VOTE IN THE CITY CAMPAIGN

The Colored voters of Omaha have a fine opportunity of making their influence felt at the election of city commissioners May 7, as they did at the primaries April 9, when fourteen candidates were nominated to make the race.

For the primaries seventy-five candidates filed. Each voter could vote for only seven. The Monitor selected fifteen names from the seventy-five and urged our voters to vote for seven of this list of fifteen. It is significant that NINE of these fifteen were chosen and the high men, with two exceptions, were those named in order on The Monitor slate. This shows that The Monitor's advice was generally followed by the Colored voters. It shows that the Colored vote was a DECISIVE FACTOR at the primaries.

As we stated before the primaries, the Colored voters number more than 2,000, and such a vote, unitedly and intelligently cast, can determine the result of any normal election held in this community. Let us realize our strength and use it wisely.

From fourteen candidates we are to choose seven to administer the affairs of this city. Two considerations, and two only, should determine our vote.

1. The candidate's attitude of fairness or unfairness to us in common with other citizens. By this we mean his willingness to give our people employment with others, not only as janitors and porters, but clerkships and other positions within his gift, which we have the ability to fill. This should be the CHIEF consideration with us.

2. The candidate's general ability to give Omaha a clean, economical and business-like administration. The man who is broad-minded enough to meet our first qualification is not likely to be wanting in the second. It requires brains and ability to be broad-minded and wide-visioned.

These two considerations must influence our vote in the city campaign.

The several candidates have been marshaled under two heads, with James C. Dahlman, the present mayor, leader of one, and Edward P. Smith, an attorney, who is politically an unknown quantity, leader of the other. One slate, the Dahlman, has seven candidates; the Smith slate has six. Walter S. Jardine, left out in the cold by both, is going it alone.

Both sides have issued a platform or statement of principles. The difference between the two platforms is the difference between tweedle deum and tweedle dee. In other words, each platform is merely camouflage. So the platforms may be eliminated from our consideration. The supreme question for us, the Colored voters, is the attitude of the men towards us. Whichever side wins out the city government will be largely the same. It will be the average kind the citizens demand. We speak from nearly thirty years' residence here and from first-hand knowledge of civic affairs.

Now, the only way to judge of a man's attitude toward giving our people, not special privileges,—we do not ask that,—but equal privileges and opportunities of employment, is by what he has done when he has had the opportunity. Of course, we realize that there are circumstances which at times limit the opportunities of the best-intentioned men. We are willing to make due allowances. We are not concerned with the maximum, but the minimum. Some men, who are candidates, have shown fairness. Others have not.

The Monitor will, therefore, present next week neither slate, but one of its own, which it will urge our people to support. The Monitor slate will be headed by James C. Dahlman because he has been fair to our people. Other names will be taken from both slates. They will be selected, according to our best judgment, solely on the attitude of the candidates to our people in seeing that we secure a fairer representation for our people in the hundreds of positions under the control of the city commissioners.

Our vote in the city campaign should be so centralized and used that it will be recognized as a decisive factor. It will be the part of wisdom to swallow neither slate as a whole, but to do some of our own thinking, selecting and slate-making.

Let us show our power by a practically united vote in the city campaign and then DEMAND and SECURE not paltry donations, but posi-

tions in keeping with our financial and political strength.

For the next few days think over and talk about what we can do and ought to do by OUR VOTE IN THE CITY CAMPAIGN.

## AN APPRECIATED ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OUR editorial leader of last week captioned, "Who Is the Trouble-Maker?" has elicited an appreciated acknowledgment from General Ballou, which is published in this issue.

We shall defer anything in the way of extended comment on certain points of his letter until a later issue. We simply note now our gratification that the commander of the division did take legal action against the manager of the theater for his illegal act before issuing his bulletin.

While both soldiers and civilians are willing to do what they can to minimize the causes for race conflict, it is an exceedingly questionable procedure to permit the one guilty of an illegal act to go unpunished.

## OUR ENEMIES

"God bless my enemies!" said Whistler, the sarcastic American artist and famous critic, and why not? How many men have been made great through the hate of their enemies? Friends have seldom made a man great, in fact, they generally prevent a man from attaining greatness. They flatter, praise, excuse, and hide our faults, and always meet us with a smile and word of kindness, but not so the enemy. He never flatters and never praises. He excuses nothing and exposes rather than hides our faults. He is really the one who helps us most. Many men would never have attained to greatness if it had not been that they had many enemies. Enemies make us work harder and strive more. If you are seeking a place in the work the criticism of your enemies is far more to be desired than the adulation of your friends. Criticism hurts and adulation spoils. Our race would never have reached the present status of improvement had it not been from its enemies and its enemies are what will eventually carry us over the top. May we have them for many years to come. We need them. And with Whistler, let us bless our enemies.

## GENERAL FOCH OF MIXED RACE

General Ferdinand Foch, the man whom Great Britain and France have chosen as commander-in-chief of the Allied Armies, is of mixed blood and comes of a race that is closely identified with Africa. He is a Basque and his original home is with about a half million more Basques who inhabit the northern part of Spain and adjoining southern France. These Basques speak a separate language from the Spanish and are the proudest people of Spain. They trace their ancestry back to the Iberians, the original inhabitants of Spain, who were a branch of the great African confederation of peoples who ruled all the country about the Mediterranean. They still maintain their individuality as a people and boast that no nation has ever conquered them. General Foch and General Dodds, the latter the conqueror of French Africa, are the two French generals often referred to as the mulatto generals of France.

## GEORGE WELLS PARKER WRITES SPECIAL ARTICLES

Mr. George Wells Parker is contributing a series of articles to The Monitor under the caption, "Children of the Sun," which are winning widespread and most favorable comment. Anything from Mr. Parker's versatile pen is worth while. His contributions have been published in some of America's best magazines and The Monitor counts itself both fortunate and happy in having a writer of Mr. Parker's ability on its staff. As we have said before, no paper in the country supplies its readers with better "feature stuff," as it is called in newspaper parlance, than his inimitable "Skits of Solomon," written exclusively for The Monitor.

Kindly report your news for The Monitor each week not later than Tuesday, so that we may receive it at our office Wednesday. Report all news to either of the following persons: Mr. Gene Nichols, Mrs. Major Moore or Mrs. Eva Crews.

## SKITS OF SOLOMON

### Heredity.

The science of heredity is that science which tries to prove that you are as you are because your ancestors were as they were and that you wouldn't be as you are if it were not for the fact that your ancestors were as they were because they couldn't have been anything else on account of their ancestors. A rich dude or dudess is about the only person that can dandle with heredity. What ought to be heredity in a poor scamp is usually something ten times worse. To make the proposition more water like we propound the following example: If a manikin or ladykin of much mazzama appropriates a set of fox furs or a lonesome automobile hitched to the roadside, he or she is excused with much ceremony because of hereditary kleptomaniac, but if some poor purp nabs a loaf of bread because he is hungry, the law says, "Six months in the county bastille for an unmitigated and inexcusable sense of moral depravity." Of course, if heredity makes a man steal several million bucks from the dear public, he is a genius and after his robber ancestors are painted and hung up on the palace walls at so many thousand dollars per picture, he shows the open-mouthed gazers the deep point where heredity gave him a hammerlock hold on the art of shaking the shekel tree. In fact, the rich are the only folks who care much about ancestors. Poor folks would, too, but they never get the chance. Scientists claim that man is descended from the monkey and there is so much monkey in most of us that scientists must have some sort of inner sight. It is this monkey business that forms the four legs upon which heredity stands. There is a whole lot more to heredity, but we're getting hungry. That's heredity too.

## EUROPE LAYS ASIDE OLD RACE PREJUDICES, WHY NOT AMERICA?

### French Jew Made General.

Colonel Gideon Geismar, of the French Artillery, was promoted to be Brigadier-General. He was brought up in orthodox Jewish surroundings and faithfully observes Jewish traditions. As a diversion from his absorbing labors as Chief of Staff of an Army Corps before the war, Brigadier-General Geismar devoted much of his leisure to making translations from Hebrew classic works.

Fourteen Jews in Polish Council. According to latest reports from Warsaw, the Jews of Poland will be represented in the Council of the State by fourteen delegates. Of these, ten will be appointed and four will be elected by the municipalities.

The Berliner Tageblatt reports that at a solemn sitting of the Warsaw City Council, the Jewish People's Party joined in the protest of the Polish nation against the cession of the Polish province of Cholm to Ukraine. The Zionist organization also joined in the protest.

## HOUSTON AND EAST ST. LOUIS

Comparisons of Houston and East St. Louis riots:

Houston—Seventeen white persons killed; thirteen Colored soldiers hanged; forty-one Colored soldiers imprisoned for life; four Colored soldiers under sentence of death, temporarily reprieved by the president; forty Colored soldiers on trial for life. White policemen who caused the riot not even indicted. No white army officers tried. (Military law.)

East St. Louis—125 Negroes killed; ten Colored men imprisoned for fourteen years; four white men imprisoned fourteen to fifteen years; five white men imprisoned five years; eleven white men imprisoned under one year; eighteen white men fined; one Colored man still on trial for life; seventeen white men acquitted. (Civil law.)—The Crisis.

Spanish lessons systematically taught by Mrs. J. W. Thomas, 2213 North 27th Avenue. Webster 147.—Adv.

Buy Liberty bonds.



## Obvious Observations

If the Americans had had anything to say about General Foch being commander-in-chief of the allied armies, the chances are he wouldn't have been. Remember how they kept General Dodds from being commander-in-chief of the allied armies before Peikin? Ask why? Because both have a sprinkling of Jigg blood in them.

Spring may be here, but the robins must be doing the hesitation.

We wonder how Kaiser Bill and Von Hindy are explaining their failure to eat ham-and in Paris on Easter morning?

What are you doing to boost the Liberty Loan? We've done well, but we can still do better.

A friend of ours told us he had pork chops for breakfast the other morning. It was all right to tell us, but he had better not tell the income tax collector.

We thought we had the coal man just where we wanted him, but he has given us the merry ha! ha! again.

Did you tell your merchant that you saw his ad in The Monitor and that it was a pipin'?

Isn't it funny nobody cares anything about Irish potatoes until they start towards three bucks a bushel?

Are you reading The Children of the Sun? Read it and then note the increase in your bust expansion.

Did you ever stop to think that now is the best time to pay up your subscription?

We will now stop in front of the supply station and oil up our engine. Thank you.

## Letters from Our Readers

### COMMENDS MONITOR'S ATTITUDE ON STRANGER FROM THE SOUTH

Omaha, Neb., April 20.

Editor The Monitor: I read with great appreciation an editorial which appeared in The Monitor of the above date, entitled "A Great Privilege and Responsibility." I heartily agree with your attitude and advice concerning the stranger from the South. I hope all of the people in Omaha will read it, for I am sure they will feel the same as you and I.

During my experience in Omaha selling real estate I have never seen such activity among our people in purchasing homes. It seems that many of the people from the South come here with the intention of remaining and therefore buy a home after they have been here only a few weeks. This shows for itself the character of people that are emigrating north. Such people should have all the encouragement that we can give them, and I do not think that there should be any restraint of the welcome spirit upon the part of any of us.

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