

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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"THEY SHOULD HELP US"

THIS is the caption of a ringing editorial in the Southern Indicator, an able and well edited race journal published in Columbia, S. C. And it is most gratifying to note the increasingly fearless tone of the newspapers published by thoughtful men and women of our race throughout the country.

These papers are not insolent in tone, although there be some of the dominant race who would claim that they are, because they have the courage to express their opinion upon public matter and particularly those affecting the group of which they are the mouthpiece. These journals are speaking the truth. They know the sentiments of the people whom they represent. They are striving to guide and mould and direct that sentiment in the right way, and they are succeeding.

While encouraging our own people to do the right and to stand for the highest and best things, these papers would be false to their mission if they failed to protest against the injustices and wrongs of which our people are unhappily the victims. They are striving to help mould a sentiment in this country among the dominant race which will make injustice practically impossible. The broad-shouldered white people of this country who are interested in studying social conditions as they affect all classes of Americans would do well to read newspapers which reflect the thoughts, opinions and ideals of Colored Americans. It would be well for those in authority to acquaint themselves with the sentiments of Colored Americans as voiced in our publications.

The sentiments expressed by the Southern Indicator in the editorial, which is here quoted in full, have the endorsement of the race throughout the country. Leaders of the race on forum, in pulpit and press are doing yeoman service in helping to maintain the loyalty to our country which are people are anxious to maintain. This task is becoming increasingly difficult by reason of the epidemic of lynching, which is permitted to go on unrestrained and unchecked in the land, while those high in authority retain a Sphinx-like silence.

Here is what the Indicator says and The Monitor endorses every word and makes them our own:

"It has been the proud boast of the Colored race that it is 100 per cent loyal and this has been proven since this country has been at war. And this, too, despite the fact that the Colored people very largely believe that they have grievances as American citizens. But at the call of their country they have put aside every such thought and have responded to all calls most willingly. This attitude is due to the leaders of the race. There, however, seems to be a certain element in America that is ever alert to do the things that are calculated to disturb the patriotic enthusiasm of the Colored people. Such an element is an enemy of America and should be dealt with as such. By its acts the wise leadership of the Colored people is being made very difficult and the good white people of this country should call a halt. Take the diabolical acts of the Georgia Huns Sunday afternoon. Not satisfied with murdering four other Negroes, men they were, they took a POOR HELPLESS WOMAN and lynched her. And for what? Because she "MADE UNWISE REMARKS" about the lynching of her husband.

"The German Huns would at least try to invent a better excuse than that for such an outrage. The morale of the Negroes cannot be kept up by lynching their women—and he who destroys that is contributing that much to the success of the German cause. America needs team work in this war, but the lynching of Colored women will hardly contribute much to it. It is time the government take a hand in this thing. It has already been tolerated too long. Won't Georgians look fine trying to help the God-fearing, upright Americans save the world for democracy! The good white citizens of the South—and there are millions—ought to call a halt to German atrocities committed in America. We are fighting a righteous war, fighting against women and baby killers, and we ought not tolerate women killers in America!"

THE GENTLE ART OF SILENCE

Last week at South Omaha two Colored employees were arrested and placed under heavy bonds for speaking derogatory of the Red Cross. They did wrong. If they had known just what the Red Cross stands for, they did doubly wrong. We are content to believe that no Colored man or woman really desires this country to lose in this great world conflict, for our race has never been and will never be traitors. Yet we are aware that under the influence of many and repeated wrongs, we are sometimes driven to say things on the spur of the moment that do not reflect our sincere opinions. To have our black soldiers called names, to have their characters aspersed and their abilities ridiculed, to have our people lynched and maltreated, are oftentimes rather burdensome. All that we may safely do is to speak out against such atrocities and hope that the better nature that is in all human kind will try to effect a remedy. It does no good to condemn our country and the various instruments our country has created to help win the war. Often it means inconvenience and prison. The white American cannot appreciate the Colored people's position and feeling. The best thing for us to do is to keep silent under the trying conditions and hope for their amelioration. Eventually a change will come—it must come. Before this war is over the Colored man and woman will be needed more and more. The present administration may think it can get along without them, but 12,000,000 people are too many not to be an important factor in the final conclusion. Be silent and wait. Our time will come and, mayhap, our whole nation will be grateful that it has us for citizens.

HOME

I pity the man or woman who says, "Wherever I hang my hat is Home, Sweet Home, to me." There never was a human being who found home only upon a hat peg. Home is where the heart is. It may be only a shanty where the star light steals through the roof and the breezes steal through the cracks, but if, when far away, the heart yearns to be there, it is home. There need be no wife or husband or kiddies there. These, indeed, are the glories that add to the delights of home, but they are not always essentials. The trapper who lives in the hut on the side of a hill knows and loves home, albeit none but he has ever entered or left its rude threshold. Home may mean a village, a city, a state or a country. To the boys "over there" home means the stretch of fields and prairies and mountains that sweep from the wild Atlantic to the peaceful Pacific and from the snows of the north to the magnolias of the south. Home is the spot that calls to mind and memory across the hills and seas and draws us as a lodestone draws hard steel. Home is the magic word that makes one forget distance and labor and wealth. It is the sweetest word in all the world—HOME!

TRADITIONS OF OUR NEGRO SOLDIERS

The traditions of the Negro soldier may be traced in the history of the great Chaka in the Valley of the Nile, thousands of years ago; Hannibal, "greatest of tacticians," in the war between Carthage and Rome; L'Ouverture in the Haitian rebellion against the mighty Napoleon; Attucks, as the first casualty in America's first battle against the tyranny of George III on Boston Common; black sailors with Perry on Lake Erie; Black Sampson at Brandywine; Peter Salem at Bunker Hill; Carney at Fort Wagner; the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth regiments of infantry and the Ninth and Tenth cavalry at El Caney and San Juan in Cuba and during the insurrection in the Philippines, and the feat of the Tenth cavalry at Carrizal while with the punitive expedition in Mexico. The place of honor held by the Negro in the profession of arms is predicated upon the enviable and cherished facts that he has never had a traitor within his ranks and has never had the blot of cowardice upon his spotless escutcheon. His prestige is based upon the high regard as a fighting man in which he is held by all fighters whom he has opposed, whether they be white men, black men or brown men.—Lieutenant O. E. McKaine in the Outlook.

The Children of the Sun

By George Wells Parker

To the south of Egypt and beyond the cataracts of the Nile is a country known as Abyssinia which, anciently, was called Ethiopia. It is today, perhaps, the oldest nation in the world, for its history stretches back further than that of any other country known to human annals. It is suspected that Ethiopia is far older than Egypt and it is worthy of note that the Egyptians themselves believed that Ethiopians founded their nation. Not a great deal has been written of Ethiopian civilization, because that country was something of a hermit nation. It was sequestered among formidable hills and mountains and for other nations to reach them it was necessary to cross a sea and deserts. For that reason few conquering armies ever tried to reach that country and the few that did met only with disaster. That is why Ethiopia is perhaps the only nation of the ancient world that has never been conquered. But the position of the country was not the only thing that prevented its conquest. The Ethiopians were great warriors and their renown spread broadcast throughout the world of antiquity. Often they invaded Egypt and on several occasions Ethiopian dynasties ruled over Egypt. Many times resentful Pharaohs tried to repay the temerity of their southern enemies, but they never did. Ethiopia ruled on and rules today, while the score of other nations who envied her have sunk into ruin and forgetfulness.

"Come up, ye horses; and rage, ye chariots; and let the mighty men come forth; the Ethiopians and the Libyans, that handle the shield; and the Lydians, that handle and bend the bow," wrote the prophet Jeremiah.

"The sire of gods and all the ethereal train,
On the warm limits of the farthest main,
Now mix with mortals, nor disdain to grace
The feasts of Ethiopia's blameless race."

Sings Homer.
"The Ethiopians," said Herodotus, "are the tallest, handsomest and greatest warriors in the world."

Persia once tried to conquer the Ethiopians and failed. Years after when her country was threatened with destruction, she sent her precious Shan Nameh, (the Persian Bible) to the Ethiopians to keep for her. "It is safe only with you," was their message. And safe it was, because after the storm had passed, the Ethiopians returned it safe and unharmed into the hands of the Persian Magi.

These quotations will give you some idea of the respect in which the Ethiopians were held by the nations who knew them well. The same respect is given them today, although perhaps somewhat grudgingly. Only a few years ago the Italians thought they would conquer Ethiopia and make her an Italian province. They massed their troops and notified Menelik that unless he became subject to Italy the troops would move. The black emperor sent word to let them move. The Italians thought that they would meet the savages armed with spears and clubs, but when the two armies met the Ethiopians had the latest weapons known to warfare. The disaster that overwhelmed the Italians is still a sad memory to Italy today. Since then no nation has ever thought to attempt again the conquest of this

black empire. Instead they have sent her gifts that they might have a share in her trade without having to fight for it, the United States included.

Extensive excavations have never been carried on in Ethiopia, but the few that have been conducted have proven that great monuments once existed. Around Meroe are the ruins of temples that perhaps once rivaled Egypt. As a matter of fact it seems that anciently Ethiopia and Egypt had much in common, especially in the matter of religion. Both had the same system of worship; the same sacerdotal order, the same pomp and processions. The images of the gods were at certain times conveyed up the Nile, from their Egyptian temples to others in Ethiopia and after the festival were brought back into Egypt. And, as respects the Christian religion, some of the greatest fathers of the church were Ethiopians and the Abyssinian church still preserves some of the most primitive forms of the Christian religion as taught by its Founder.

There are other things that make Ethiopia great even today. Her country has never been conquered and her government is the oldest in the world. In the Kebra Negest we may find the names of her kings in unbroken succession from the time of Solomon until the present day and only fancy can say how far back into the dimness of early ages this line of black monarchs ruled. If it be true that governments are instituted among men for the promotion of happiness and well being, then this black empire is the only nation of the world which has come near realizing this end. Her system of government is communal. In all her history no hereditary nobility was ever known; no caste of priests ever existed. Between the ruler and the people there can and could be nothing and everyone may aspire equally to all the honors of state and to the highest dignity of the priesthood. Let it be said for them that they were the first to conceive the true principles of universal human liberty and founded the first government upon the eternal truth that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. From the dawn of their history until the present, woman has always been the equal of man, and in no country until now did pictures of domestic life play so large a part as they did in Egypt and in Ethiopia.

And before I close, I might mention that Ridpath, the popular American historian, classifies the Ethiopians as white. This would be ridiculous and altogether laughable were it not for the fact that it shadows the sinister attempt of the Caucasian to withhold every vestige of praise from the African. The publishers of Ridpath assert that his writings are not to be noted for accuracy and, indeed, they are not. To him no black man ever did anything worthy of mention. But what boots it? Facts never lie and so many are the facts today that no man or woman of African descent need read the writings of a liar in a search for truth. Read history with the one idea that all the great nations of antiquity were either African or of African descent, and what authors may say to the contrary means little. They haven't yet had time to shed their prejudices.

annihilating boches. What Unk ought to do is to whisper to Mr. Hoover and advise him to hold a star session with the Ancient and Honorable Order of Side Towel Toters, and get some idea of helping feed the Allies by playing jokes on the American stomach. The American stomach wouldn't mind and the American foodist would never know the difference. Bell hops, elevator conductors, broom porters, and other such ilk would be more valuable hauling an Enfield, but there are so many things a waiter can do without trotting the trenches.

RED CROSS SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Monitor hopes to be able to publish a complete report of the subscriptions turned in by the Colored people of Omaha for the Red Cross. Of course this will be difficult, because so many made their subscriptions and gave their donations through the firms where they are employed and also made donations through the general solicitors, fair women and girls, who were in evidence on almost every corner.

James A. Clark turned in \$68 from his committee. This represented contributions from the Omaha and University clubs. The boys of the Omaha club gave \$10 in addition to each one giving one day's pay.

M. F. Singleton and Miss Althea Turner collected \$310 from the Colored employes of the Cudahy Packing company.

Colored soldiers from Trinidad, serving in Egypt, have recently won one military cross and three military medals for bravery.—The Crisis.
Mrs. John Newcomb of Minneapolis is the guest of Miss Lutie Bryant. She

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