

# 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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## "MAN WHO KEEPS HIS WORD"

THIS is the caption of a suggestive editorial which was recently published in the Baltimore Afro-American, one of our most highly esteemed exchanges. What we admire about the Afro-American is its high character and tone, and its frankness and fearlessness in expressing its convictions. It has an opinion and a will. And our newspapers which are making their influence felt belong to this class. The Afro-American is one of the oldest of our publications and its editorial utterances are always worth while.

Americans in general and Colored Americans in particular are too careless about promptness and the keeping of their word. People will make promises which they do not conscientiously try to fulfill and do not regard this peccability with any serious concern. Therefore we need to be repeatedly told and have impressed upon us what the Afro-American so well says in the following editorial words, which we quote in full and commend to the thoughtful consideration of our readers:

"The most important man in the world today is the man who keeps his word." These are the words of a successful man whose work is well known.

"There is wisdom in this man's words. The great fault that is found with the workers of this day is their inability or unwillingness to fulfill their part of the contract. When a man promises to meet you at a certain time and fails to keep his engagement with you, he is full of excuses of all kinds when he has been unable to keep his word with you, when, as a matter of fact, he has not even tried to be on time. Sometimes he will squirm and twist in every conceivable way to make you believe it is no fault of his, when, as a matter of fact, he has deliberately fallen down and never really intended to be there on the time he promised.

"The great demand of the day is for reliable people. The man who when he says he will be at a certain place or will do a certain thing at a certain time, is the man that gets the very best jobs and incidentally the best paying one. It is aggravating in the extreme to have a man promise to meet you at a certain place at a certain time and then be kept waiting for a half-hour or more after the time. He is not only wasting his time, but, worse, wasting your time, which he has no business to do.

"There is many a man who would rather put up with inefficient workmen who will always be on time rather than have more efficient workmen who can never be depended upon. Many people prate about what they can do and promise to do it, but never do it. People who do not know how to live up to their agreement ought to be made in some way to pay for it. Such people need hard and fast rules and ought to be made to pay even at a sacrifice. If you want to take a chance you have no right to take it at another's expense. You should pay the bill.

"There is an old adage that 'a man's word should be as good as his bond.' Some men's word are better than their bond. And it is these men who go to the front and are always in demand."

## EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS

WE publish in this issue a thoughtful editorial from the Washington Bee, which we understand has passed under new management, which bears the caption, "How Colored People May Help In War Work."

With much of what the Bee says we are in heartiest accord. Its commendation of Secretary Baker and his special assistant, Emmett J. Scott, we most heartily endorse. Its advice for whole-hearted co-operation with Mr. Scott in making the work of our people effective in this great crisis we unqualifiedly commend. We do not, however, concur with the opinion expressed by our contemporary at the seat of government that the people should refrain from asking "embarrassing questions."

Any fair question that any group of the American people in general and our own group in particular may ask ought not give rise to the slightest embarrassment if there be the desire and disposition and intention of those in authority to deal fairly and justly by that group. Where there is an attempt at side-stepping and evasion in a matter of policy or principle almost

any question that may be asked in that connection becomes an "embarrassing question."

It was by asking an "embarrassing question" that we ultimately succeeded in getting, for example, an officers' training camp. It is by asking an "embarrassing question" that will eventually be answered by employing Colored Red Cross nurses. The asking of "embarrassing questions" will ultimately result in opening up to our people, in common with all other American citizens, the opportunity for service, willing, efficient service, in any branch of the civil or military service for which we may have the training and ability.

With frank, square dealing with all there will be no reason for embarrassing questions.

## GETTING TOGETHER

RECENTLY there was held a notable conference of editors and leaders from all sections of the country at Washington, D. C. The conference was called by Emmett J. Scott for the unification of sentiment and efforts on the part of the millions of Colored Americans in winning the war. The conference was notable in that it brought together representatives of such wide differences as Dr. Dubois, editor of the Crisis, and Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee. These two men typify the so-called radical and conservative schools of thought within the race. Naturally there are many who fall between these two extremes. The conference was notable in that it brought together all schools of thought and all agreed upon a statement and platform that was agreeable to all.

The extract from the resolutions, which are published elsewhere in this issue in the report of the conference, shows the sane, manly and patriotic views expressed by these leaders and moulders of thought and opinion. That there is a reasonable discontent upon the part of Colored Americans is not overlooked by the conferees. They would be unworthy of their leadership and false to the best interests of the republic had they blinked this fact. It is unwise, unpatriotic and dangerous to cry "Peace, peace, when there is no peace," or to say that people are satisfied and contented when such is not the case. In impressing this fact upon those in authority the race press has been rendering the government and country loyal and patriotic service, which some day will be fully appreciated.

While urging loyalty and unquestioned service upon their people, the press has not ignored injustices which are contrary to American ideals, but has called attention to them in the hope and belief that "pitiless publicity" and the innate sense of justice upon the part of the American people would lead to their correction.

It is pleasing to note that this is the position of the conference. It is gratifying to The Monitor to notice that the resolutions voice the sentiments expressed by us in an editorial several months ago, in which we said that German propaganda would be absolutely powerless among our people if our president would only speak out against American atrocities. The silence of this great leader has been a puzzle as well as pain and grief to us in the face of crimes against one-tenth of loyal Americans. The resolutions of the conference almost re-echo our words when it says, "We believe today that justifiable grievances of the Colored people are producing not disloyalty but an amount of unrest and bitterness which even the best efforts of their leaders may not be able always to guide unless they can have the active and sympathetic co-operation of the national and state governments. German propaganda among us is powerless, but the apparent indifference of our own government may be dangerous."

Our leaders are getting together. Our people are getting together. Standing unitedly for the country, we shall also stand intelligently and unitedly together until justice shall be accorded us as American citizens.

## AS IT SHOULD BE

LAST week we called attention to the fact that unfortunate Colored women, arrested for prostitution and suffering from social diseases, were being detained in the county jail, while their erring sisters of the other race were being sent to the detention hospital provided by the city for the

and treatment of such cases. It now gives us pleasure to state that this discrimination has ceased. Colored unfortunate are being sent to the detention hospital and given exactly the same care, attention and treatment as others. We have been assured that all are being treated alike. This is as it should be. And it is but fair to state that this matter was promptly taken up by the Board of Public Welfare.

## JEFFRIES FOR CONGRESS

IT gives us pleasure to note that A. W. Jeffries, one of Omaha's foremost lawyers, has filed for nomination for congress on the republican ticket. He is a man big in stature, brain and heart, with the blood, traditions and vision of the west, therefore a typical American. He will make a good congressman. The Monitor heartily endorses his candidacy.

## DIXON'S PROPAGANDA UNDER THE BAN

DIXON'S infamous misrepresentation of history, conceived as an effective propaganda to create a sentiment which should demand the repeal of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, is being placed under the ban in many cities and states. The authorities of several Southern states see in its exhibition a serious danger and menace to the public welfare and have refused to allow the picture to be shown. City after city and community after community are forbidding the exhibition of "The Birth of a Nation." There must therefore be good reasons for this action which justify the opposition raised by Colored Americans, who were by some considered "over-sensitive about this beautiful and harmless production."

The chief ground of objection to this motion picture is the sinister motive lying back of it, and not denied by its author, to create strife between the races.

With cool-tempered, thoughtful and sensible people such a scheme would fail; but even Americans, with their many advantages, are not as a whole cool-tempered and thoughtful. Many are easily swayed by passion, and so

## The Children of the Sun

By George Wells Parker

THE white man has always wondered from whence he came and what kind of a place his original home was. About forty years ago a professor by the name of Max Muller decided to find out. He was a student of languages and by chance he noticed that three root words in English were similar to three root words in Sanskrit. Upon this flimsy evidence he propounded what was known as the Aryan theory. He declared that the white man came from India and nowhere else, and told how "when the first ancestors of the Indians, the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Slavs, the Celts and the Germans were living within the same enclosure, nay, under the same roof." The theory spread like wild fire and where Muller had found only three words other scholars came forth, declaring that they had found from ten to one hundred. For a time it seemed that the question of the white man's origin was finally settled and it became gospel truth. Everything went lovely for a while, but later on a few French and German scholars sort of got tired of the noise that was being raised and began to look into the subject for themselves. They were unable to figure out how a small Aryan clan in the mountains of Central Asia could send out great colonies, which marched four thousand miles to the shores of Europe. After a bit they discovered traces of primitive Europeans who were not Aryan and who did not speak the Aryan language, and still other non-Aryans who did speak the Aryan tongue. One scientist was so unkind as to call the new theory an invention of armchair savants, and this led many more to hunt for the probable origin of the white race. Up to the present time they are still hunting. In India, where they thought the question forever answered they have found millions of black folk and to this day these same people are found tucked away in the hills, where they are living the lives of their ancestors, unmindful of the great wordy war that has been fought over them.

When we inquire into the ethnology of the Indians we find many facts, legends and circumstances which go to prove that they are primarily an African people. When the Aryans, whoever they were, invaded India, they gathered all the inhabitants under the name of "Daysu" and of them an authority says that everything about them, from "their color and flat noses to their barbarous customs, manifested their relationship to the Negro races." As to their barbarous customs an issue may be raised. From the Vedic hymns themselves we may learn that these people certainly were not savages. From the Ramayana and the Mahabarrata, the epics of

the authorities are wisely deciding that in these perilous times everything possible should be done to prevent strife.

## SKITS OF SOLOMON

The City Hall

THE city hall, located on Eighth and Farnam streets, has become the habitation of jackals, hyenas and wildcats. In the good old days everything around the brownstone pile was peace and happiness, and any citizen could drop in, cross his feet over the mahogany table, light a Pittsburgh cheroot and talk to the mayor and commissioners on any subject from secret diplomacy down to the raising of radishes.

But these days are not more. We have scrappers there now, scrappers who scrap and make the Queensbury rules look like play games at a children's party. In fact, the gentlemen scrap so much that they haven't yet had time to find out whether the city has any affairs it wants them to attend to or not. Perhaps they don't care. Before they got in they promised to have Omaha dressed up like a Quaker meeting, but a tempo Omaha is going to the dogs so fast that one can feel the fleas.

Mistuh Smith as a mayor is a lemon with a huge spec. Sir Ringer, who was to unhoss the incubus of lawlessness, has been so busy trying to flop his friends into fat berths that lawlessness stands on the corner twiggling its fingers at the end of its nose. Lord Falconer is saddling unionism on this burg until it feels like a label. Senor Towl has had a tug-o-war trying to yank Dan's jobs away from him, and Count Zimman flops like a pendulum trying to gain its equilibrium. Meanwhile the daily press is building nice little fires under the bunch and it is green apples to soap suds they will be hopping around right lively in a few weeks. If they ever make good it looks as though it will be about the same time that Kaiser Bill puts his brogans under the feeding board at the Palais Royal. In other words, they are digging nice, deep graves to fall into when the next municipal election rolls around.

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