

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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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor and Publisher.
Lucille Skaggs Edwards and William Garnett Haynes, Associate Editors.
George Wells Parker, Contributing Editor. Bert Patrick, Business Manager. Fred C. Williams, Traveling Representative.

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OUR BOYS

Last Monday morning more than two hundred of our boys left their homes as soldiers of Uncle Sam. There were smiles and cheers and there were tears, too. The smiles and cheers were the outward expressions of sincere pride, but the tears were the symbols of love. It seemed a holiday event, but it was no holiday. It was the first grim truth that has come to us of what this great world war means. A few months and they will be over there midst shot and shell and blood, helping to lift the standards of the allies against the double eagle of the central powers. And they shall be lifted, too. The sane world has decreed that militarism must be forever crushed and have called upon all men, black and white, and red and yellow and brown, to crush it. There will be glory and for many—death. Our hearts go with them and also our love. Through all the days and the long silent nights our hearts shall be with them, or will seethe across the world to help them and our prayers to aid them. Our one paramount hope will be that they all come back to us safe and sound and happy. That they will come back heroes is conceded. May God bless them and keep them and bring them back—OUR BOYS.

"CONTENT WHILE YOU WAIT"

Under the above caption The Cleveland Gazette makes an important observation with which we most heartily agree. It would be delightful if we could only pursue the even tenor of our way and wait patiently for every problem and difficulty to work itself out. Unfortunately we are called upon to do our part in helping to make things come out right. We agree with what the Gazette so well says in the following editorial:

"All things come to him who will but wait," quotes Editor J. H. Murphy of the Baltimore (Md.) Afro-American, last week, in speaking of the war department's recent belated authorization of the enrolling of our nurses for service in this country and probably "overseas."

Yes, Brother Murphy, all things do come to him who will but wait, but fight for them in a proper way while he waits. That is how we gained the "nurse" concession, Secretary Baker's public statement that local draft boards must stop discriminating against our draftees and the president's splendid plea against mob violence and lynch-murder. All this came as a direct result of our great Washington, D. C., Race Conference's resolutions and "bill of particulars," lodged with the administration in June of this year. Yes, wait, but only because you have to, and be sure to contend in a proper way for what you are entitled to while you wait.

AN AUGUST CONCEPTION

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, poet and essayist, writing some 75 years ago, said:

"The possible destiny of the United States of America as a nation of a hundred million of free men, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, living under the laws of Alfred and speaking the language of Shakespeare and Milton, is an august conception."

The United States is now a nation of a hundred million and more, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and reaching out east takes in Hawaii and the Philippines, in the north Alaska, and in the south the Panama canal. But grander than its physical is its moral greatness. Its fairness and justice, its courage and power, its maintenance of right and freedom cover the world.

The destiny the United States is now fulfilling is a more august conception than even the imagination of the author of Kubla Khan conceived of less than a century ago.

SAVING AND SERVING

By economizing in consumption and with the resultant saving purchasing the government's war securities the American citizen performs a double duty. The citizen and the government can not use the same labor and material; if the citizen uses it, the material and the labor cannot be used by the government. If the citizen economize in consumption, so much material and labor and transportation

space is left free for government uses. And when the saving effected is lent to the government more money is thus placed at the disposal of the government.

The more the people save the more money, labor and materials are left for the winning of the war, the greater and more complete the support given to our fighting men.

RACE PRESS COMMENT ON PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

A Timely Blow for Democracy.

The proclamation is a timely blow for democracy. And while it does not emphasize lynching of Negroes, those who read can but see that the president is determined to let the country know that lynching in any form, and of any human being, is decidedly bad for this country. The proclamation will give the law-abiding citizens of every community the opportunity to strike the monster evil, if they desire. They know not the official attitude of our chief executive, and there is no excuse for further evidences of laxity on the part of officials of any community where lynchings are attempted.—Pittsburg Courier.

Great Pronouncement for Justice.

This is the greatest pronouncement for the cause of human justice that has been born out of the labor pangs of the mighty conflict. Issued under conditions more romantic or sentimental than the president's study it might be expected to rank with Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg speech. Accepted and practised it will accomplish the work so well begun by the spirit released at Gettysburg.—Indianapolis Ledger.

May Not Fall on Deaf Ears.

That this appeal may not fall on deaf ears, but speedily prove itself, to the delight of all liberty-loving Americans, enabling us to take our part in this universal democracy for which we are fighting, is the prayer above all others to which we say a very loud AMEN!—The Colorado Statesman.

Why We Are Fighting Germany

By George Wells Parker

Last week, out of mere curiosity, I asked twenty different men in all walks of life, "Why Are We Fighting Germany?" and I must confess that I received twenty dissimilar answers and not one seemed to give me a clear and concise explanation of just why we want to crush German autocracy and why it is inimical to the liberties of mankind. Seven told me that the United States is fighting for an ideal; yet in my own mind this answer is farthest away from the truth than any. Today we are fighting for as real a reality as ever carried a nation into war and it is my purpose to establish this fact clearly and to justify the mighty effort we are making today to utterly wipe German militarism from the face of the earth.

Writers may place the cause of this war at any date they may see fit, but if we are to really understand the menace of German autocracy, we must go back to the Declaration of Independence. It may be, as Emerson said, that the shot fired at Concord was the "shot heard 'round the world," but this, from the Declaration of Independence, was in reality the clarion note that called to wakefulness.

"That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

When the Declaration of Independence reached Europe, it was the above statement that struck terror to the thrones of Europe. The volatile Frenchman caught the spirit first and the terrible French revolution was the immediate result. Revolutions also began in Spain and Italy and discontent became rife in Germany.

Great Anti-Lynch-Murder Plea.

President Woodrow Wilson has done what no other president has ever done—he has made a strong plea against mob violence and lynch-murder that ought to, and undoubtedly will, have a salutary influence against America's long-standing and greatest shame and disgrace. It is true that it took a time and a condition, made by a world war, such as this country has never before known, to bring this to pass, but that even they forced the making of such a strong plea by a southern democratic president, surrounded in the two other co-ordinated branches of the government by men of the same political faith and place of residence, is what surprises all, even the most sanguine members of that great Race Conference that brought it about. President Wilson's pronouncement against lynching is one of the finest state papers he has issued and it is undoubtedly one of the most important. A grateful people thoroughly appreciate it, too.—The Cleveland Gazette.

Will Lessen Antagonistic Feeling.

This act of the president's will do much toward lessening the antagonistic feeling that has found place in the breasts of twelve million American citizens. We appreciate the delicate position he has been in since taking the chair. Before his first election he gave promise of being a big, broad, independent-thinking man, one who would be president of all, not a part of the people. Perhaps he was too weak to withstand the hounding of the wolves surrounding him, for he failed signally when opportunity offered to throw out the lifeline to those who needed it most. But it is never too late to make amends, and we are inclined to believe our president intends from now on to do all in his power to make amends for his tardiness in seeing that justice is meted out to all citizens alike. We congratulate President Wilson, not because he is doing his duty, but because he is the first man occupying the highest office in our land since Lincoln who not only has realized that no country can long survive that makes of one citizen a man, of the other a vassal, but has had the backbone to publicly denounce this evil. Perhaps, after all, we are on the eve of true democracy. Who knows?—The Chicago Defender.

Will Strengthen Morale of Race.

We are glad that the president, at this time, issued such a statement, because it will strengthen the morale of the Colored people throughout the country, and at the same time, the leaders of our race will be better prepared to carry the message of hope, encouragement and inspiration to the twelve millions of true hearted Americans.—St. Louis Argus.

Alliance, however, was no easy triumph. The spirit of liberty once aroused is not easily crushed. In the war of 1813, Frederick William III of Prussia, was obliged to promise self government to the Germans before they would fight, but after the war broke his word as was usual with all German rulers. Coincident with the third French revolution (1848) came a general uprising and demand upon the part of the Germans for a democratic government "as in England," and at this time the Prussian parliament came into existence and remained so until 1861. But during all this time the conflicts between the German people and king were constant and finally the king actually wrote out his abdication. It was at this point that Bismarck appeared upon the scene as the Iron Chancellor. He demanded that the king tear up his abdication and promised to restore absolutism to the Hohenzollerns. To accomplish this he undertook, without legislative sanction, the wars of 1864, 1866 and 1870.

Bismarck did as he promised and when the present emperor came to the throne he found autocracy established firmly. It has been his fool efforts to perpetuate it in the face of the rising tide of socialism and general discontent that caused the world war. William II would carry Europe back to the dark ages when Europe herself demanded that popular government was the right of the governed. This, then, is the real cause of the world war and as recent as cause may seem, the real cause is that immortal declaration written by Thomas Jefferson and adopted July 4, 1776.

I trust I have made this chain of circumstances clear. There is much more to be written, but space and time do not permit. To assure one's self of the real meaning of Prussian militarism, one has but to take these facts and follow them in detail and the whole purpose of Hohenzollernism will become clear. To destroy this is the purpose of the allied nations and I say again that there is nothing ideal about it. If human liberty is a real thing, then we fight for a REALITY, the greatest REALITY THAT HAS EVER CALLED TO THE HEARTS OF MEN.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

The Circus

A circus is a composite aggregation of everything under the sun from clowns and elephants to popcorn and

pink lemonade, and especially designed to prove how many cullud people there are in one community. Almost anything else can happen and the cullud population is simply sprinkled around in spots, but let a circus come to town and every cullud man, woman and kid from forty miles around will be on the grounds interviewing the monkeys, sideshows and bands. As a rule the above spoken of shady population doesn't care two whoops in Gehenna about the circus parade. What it yearns for and runs to is the circus grounds where the crowds and dust and noise mix up promiscuously. Whenever a circus hits town it generally means rain, but rain has no effect upon cullud folks. Neither would hail and snow and fire. The circus has for them a siren call and when the call comes—they go. The pork chops on the stove may burn up for all they care. Pork chops may be high and come seldom, but circuses come seldomer and that is the sum and substance of Sam's philosophy. Just now the churches are crying because of the lack of members, but as to Colored members there is one way to bring them back. Tell them that away off yonder where the streets are of gold and the gates are pearly, that there is one perpetual circus with multitudes of clowns and bands and circus tents and the churches will remain forever crowded.

A PRAYER

Father, protect our boys in brown
Who march from hamlet, field and town;
Each one a replica of Thee.
Each bears a cross to Calvary.

Be with them on the bloody field;
Be Thou their armor and their shield.
Whisper to those so sorely tried
"Hold firm, thy Comrade stands beside."

When far from friends and mother care
Be with them there—be with them there.
"No greater love hath man than this,"
Be unto them the love they miss.

Father, behold how straight they stand,
These boys of our beloved land!
Oh, bring them safely home again,
This is our fervent prayer—amen.




Encouraging News is Coming Daily From Our Boys Over There.

STAND BEHIND THEM!

Buy War Savings Stamps


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Reasons Why the Alamo Barber Shop Is the Leading Shop of the City



Sergt.-Major E. W. Killingsworth
At O. T. Camp Pike, Ark.

Six Chairs



R. C. Price
At Home on the Job

First, we are giving the people what they want. Second, the management has used discretion in getting the best barbers obtainable. The Alamo barber shop hasn't waited to see what others could do, but has stepped in the lead and given to the public things unheard of in Colored shops in this city.

The Alamo barber shop was the first to hail the public attention to a reading and rest room. The shower bath, which no shop is complete without, would never have been given to the Colored population had it not been for the Alamo barber shop. To avoid confusion over who may happen to be next we use the number system. No matter how high or low everyone is dealt with justly when their turn comes. A system adopted by the Alamo barber shop. Experience has taught the management that a fatigued barber is not the best barber; to keep the barbers fresh and in good trim at all times the shop is provided with stools so arranged to the height of the barber, it is convenient to rest at will while at work. Never before known in the history of the city. We lead, others follow. We advertise and don't knock.

We will be glad to have the most fastidious give the place a thorough inspection and see if this is true. The Alamo barber shop has done more to further the barber business and bring to the people their very needs, than all the shops put together have ever done.

Killingsworth & Price, Props.

C. B. MAYO, Foreman.

Phone Webster 5784 2416 North 24th Street