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# THE MONITOR

A NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS.

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LIFTING.  
LIFT, TOO!

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## A Lovely Corner In Paradise

What the United States May Get From France as Part Payment of the Immense Debt Incurred by the War.

### A BLACK MAN'S COUNTRY

Grace Phelps, in the New York Tribune, Gives Long and Interesting Account of Islands and Its People.

IN the Sunday New York Tribune of January 26, a long article appears concerning the Island of Martinique, which it is reported, may be ceded to the United States as part payment of France's war debt. Excerpts of the interesting review appear here and will prove enlightening to those unacquainted with this beautiful little island of the West Indies.

Martinique, the best known of the French West Indies, may soon belong to the United States, if the proposed plan to cede it as part payment of the war debt of France to us is carried out.

Whether the inhabitants of the island would be as enthusiastic over the idea of becoming Americans as were the natives of the Danish West Indies nearly two years ago, is a moot question. The fact remains that the plan is being seriously made abroad and as seriously considered here, especially by a pan-American group anxious to extend our influence over the entire West Indian group of Islands. Birthplace of Josephine.

Josephine, ill-starred wife of Napoleon, was born in Martinique, and her statue, splendid and melancholy, dominates the public plaza, or Savanne, near the center of Port de France. Here, too, was born Mme. de Maintenon, the beautiful courtesan, whose influence on Louis XIV was responsible for one of the religious massacres during his reign.

The French have no such race prejudice as we have here in the United States, and both within and without the law intermarriage has been the custom. It is this crossing, together with the original Carib Indian strain, which produced the beautiful, supple, colored Creole, who proved so fascinating to Lafcadio Hearn in his two years in Martinique.

Color, however, and a tropical languor always had a fascination for Lafcadio Hearn far exceeding that of the white and pink beauties of northern climes. He might therefore be accused of prejudice if it were not for the testimony of other visitors to Martinique, not to mention the living proofs visible to present day travelers.

### Martinique's Great Figure.

By far the most interesting figure in the history of Martinique is that of Pere Labat, a Dominican father, who lived in the island in the early part of the seventeenth century. Methods of distilling, sugar cane raising and even engineering projects instituted by Pere Labat remain in Martinique today. Yet all that is remembered of the stern fighter, priest and layman, is a legend which the Creoles use to frighten their children into good behavior.

Slavery was introduced into Martinique before Pere Labat's time, yet it is always associated with him because of his cruelties toward the Negroes, whom he believed literally to be "limbs of Satan." And when at night a light is seen twinkling on an inaccessible mountainside, it is believed to be the lantern of Pere Labat, condemned to wander thus as a penance for his cruelties. Slavery was abolished in 1848. Many Creoles, especially among the women, were freed voluntarily years before, yet Pere Labat's lantern still twinkles in Martinique.

### Social, Political Equality.

Socially there is little distinction today between the races in Martinique, and politically there is none whatever. It is the color problem, therefore, with our less liberal social and political attitude, which this country will have to face if the island should be ceded to us. It is the same problem which faces us in the Virgin Islands, formerly the Danish West Indies, where class and not color was the dividing line under Danish rule. In Martinique there is also the barrier of language, for where English is understood and spoken in the Virgin Islands, only the French patois is to be heard in Martinique.

Judging from reports that have reached me from St. Thomas since

## WHERE THE AMERICAN DELEGATES ARE RESIDING



The handsome Hotel Crillon on the Place de la Concorde, Paris, where the American delegates to the peace congress are housed.

the American occupation, the color problem is not being met very happily there. That we would be more successful with the Creoles of Martinique, who enjoy far greater economic and political freedom than did the natives of the Danish West Indies, is unlikely. Trade, too, is bound up more closely with the mother country than was the case with the Danish West Indies. The white rum which is distilled in Martinique forms the basis of the fine French perfumes.

Furthermore, Martinique is only one of the French West Indies. Its population of 185,000 slightly exceeds that of Guadeloupe, the second island of importance in the group. Besides Guadeloupe there are four other islands belonging to France in the West Indies, all closely connected with the mother country, and in all of which the population is 95 per cent black or Colored.

### LYNCHERS BROUGHT TO TRIAL

Tuscumbia, Ala.—The special term of the Colbert county circuit court, called by Judge Charles Almon, for the purpose of trying the men charged with participating in the lynching of two Colored men in Sheffield last November, convened at the Colbert county court house Monday, January 6. Judge J. J. Curtis of Jasper, who is presiding in the absence of Judge Almon, found that none of the cases against the men who were under arrest had been set and only three of the fifteen or sixteen men who had been sent to other jails throughout the state had been brought back to Colbert county jail for trial. As a consequence he issued an order directing the sheriff of Colbert county to bring all of the accused men back to Colbert county immediately and ordered their cases set for the week beginning January 20. Court will be in session meanwhile awaiting the final report of the grand jury, which is in session making further investigation of the lynching and other alleged law violators in Colbert county.

In the habeas corpus trial before Judge Pride Tompkins Monday, Ralph Owen, one of the alleged members of the lynching bee was freed under bond. The trial developed that there was no evidence at all against the young man and his acquittal is indicated when he comes up for trial with the rest of the men later this month. Hon. H. H. Carmichael, well-known criminal lawyer of Tuscumbia, has been employed as counsel by nearly all of the accused men.

### ENGRAVER ACCUSED OF THEFT

Washington, D. C.—Malcom Boone, Colored, seventeen years old, 1907 Second street, was arrested in connection with the theft of \$15,000 in unfinished notes from the bureau of engraving and printing. William Tate, one of the Colored messengers under arrest for alleged participation in the thefts, resides in the Second street house, and it is charged that he had the boy put a number of the notes in circulation.

## Attempt Fails to Oust Colored Switchmen

Memphis, Tenn.—All of the white switchmen on the Illinois Central, Yazoo & Mississippi Valley, Frisco and Union Railway lines in this city, went on strike because the companies refused to dismiss the Colored switchmen. The strikers in no way hampered the traffic very seriously.

When they waited on Mr. Edward Bodamer, terminal superintendent, he positively refused their demands and told the men that the company had no contract with the individuals but with the brotherhoods. Then the whites tried to point out that the company had no contract with the Colored switchmen, but saw fit to see and entertain a delegation of them who presented their grievances regarding promotions and seniority. After further argument Mr. Bodamer told them they could quit if they did not like their jobs but this they declined to do.

In stating their complaints against the Colored workers, they said the men were carrying firearms and quite frequently they were arrested and would be back at work within two hours. "We don't know who bailed them out," the white men are lav-abiding men, and don't want to be forced to carry arms to protect themselves.

After being told that the elimination of the Colored switchmen on the Memphis terminals cannot be settled by the railway officials, that it was a matter of policy that could only be settled by the railway administration in Washington, the strikers began to return to work Friday morning. The fallacy of such a strike gained for the men no friends whatever.

### JAPANESE OBJECT TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS PLAN

Tokio, Feb. 1.—(By the Associated Press).—The opposition in the lower house of the Japanese parliament is continuing its heckling of the government. Keisuke Mochizuki and others have charged the government with placing the Siberian interests of Japan under American control and have argued that the projected league of nations would prove futile. The unequal treatment of Japanese by the United States has been likewise pointed to, as has the probability of American naval expansion.

The government declined to reply to the interpellations.

### RALPH W. TYLER RETURNS

New York City, N. Y., Feb. 4.—Ralph W. Tyler, ex-auditor of the navy, who went to France in September as the official war correspondent of the government returned last Saturday morning on the steamship President Grant. Mr. Tyler went at once to the Union Square hotel. Most of our troops, he said, were now billeted in Le Mans, about 200 miles from Brest, in France, awaiting ships to bring them home. Mr. Tyler left New York for his home town, Columbus, Ohio, Sunday.

### STRANGE WHITE TRIBE FOUND IN CHINA HILLS

New York, Feb. 4.—A tribe of white men whose chief characteristic is their ferocious courage has been found in the western mountains of China by Dr. Joseph Beech, president of the West China Union university, at Changta.

Dr. Beech, who recently arrived in this country to aid in the Methodist Episcopal centenary campaign for \$85,000,000 for missionary work at home and abroad, tells also of another race of white men, who greatly resemble Bohemians, to be found in the great hills.

"There are forty or fifty different tribes," Dr. Beech said, "all speaking different languages and all different in physical appearance in the mountains of west and southwest Szechuen. On our maps these tribes are called a part of China, but they are really independent, and have fought the Chinese from time immemorial.

"This tribe, resembling Anglo-Saxons, lives in the district of Sung Pan. It is described to me as consisting of large men whose bravery is considered a marvel by Chinese. They never run away, a Chinese friend told me. They love to fight."

### U. S. NEGRO SOLDIERS CURIOSITY TO GERMANS

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) With the American Army of Occupation. Feb. 4.—Wherever American Negroes have appeared in the area occupied by the Americans, they have attracted great attention among the civilians.

In Treves, Coblenz and other places, during the early days of the occupation, crowds assembled wherever any Negro soldiers stopped in the streets and it was necessary for the military police to enforce the orders prohibiting gatherings in the public thoroughfares. Even now in Coblenz and Treves where there are a number of Negro soldiers, they attract crowds of German children every time they appear in the streets. The German soldier also regards the Negro with great curiosity. According to a discharged German soldier in Kengsdorf, the German army, early in the war, offered a reward of 400 marks for the capture alive of each Negro. The discharged German soldier said that throughout the war German soldiers lived in great fear and even terror of the Negroes, and it was in order to overcome this fear that rewards were offered.

### MEMORIAL FOR ROOSEVELT AND DUNBAR SAME DATE

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 4.—Sunday, February 9 has been set aside as the annual date on which a national memorial service will be held for the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt. This date also marks the 13th anniversary of the late Paul Lawrence Dunbar, an intimate friend of Colonel Roosevelt. Efforts are being put forth here to have the race honor the two great men on the same date. Every lyceum, literary and forum is urged to use this date to emulate the characters of the two great Americans.

### AN AFRICAN STATE LEADS PROHIBITION

Ordinance Against the Introduction and Sale of Spirituous Liquors in Basutoland.

Thaba Rosigo, Africa.—As evidence of the determination of the people of Basutoland to wipe out the liquor traffic, which was introduced here by the whites, Chief Moshesh has issued the following important official edict:

"Whereas the spirituous liquors of the whites were unknown to former generations of our tribe, Mattie and Motlomi until Bomonageng and our father Makhachane now very advanced in age, has never used any other drink than water and milk, and whereas we deem that a good Chief and Judge cannot claim to be competent to execute his duties if he makes use of anything of an intoxicating nature, and whereas spirituous liquors create quarreling and strife and pave the way to the destruction of society (for surely the spirituous liquors of the whites are nothing else than fire):

"It is therefore hereby made known to all that the introduction and sale of said spirituous liquor within Basutoland is henceforth prohibited and provided any person, whether white or Colored, contravene this order, the spirits shall be taken from him and poured out on the ground, without excuse or indemnification.

"And this order shall be printed in the Sesuto and Dutch languages and posted up at the places of public meetings and in the villages of the Basuto.

"Given with the advice and concurrence of the great men of our tribe, by us, the Chief of the Basutos, at Thaba Rosigo, the 8th of November, 1854.

"(Signed) MOSHESH, Chief."

### SECRETARY LANE SPEAKS AT HAMPTON INSTITUTE

Hampton, Va.—Hon. Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior, was at Hampton institute on Sunday, January 26, and delivered the annual Founders' day address at the morning service.

Since the death in 1893 of Gen. Samuel Chapman Armstrong, who founded the Hampton school in 1868, it has been customary for the trustees to invite each year to Hampton as the chief speaker on Founders' day some prominent man who has made a definite contribution to national progress.

Among the honored speakers of the past at the Hampton Founders' day services have been Woodrow Wilson, Lyman Abbott, Francis G. Peabody, Booker T. Washington, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Talcott Williams, Robert R. Moton and William H. Taft.

### RIOT VICTIM GETS JUDGMENT

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 4.—Thursday, January 16, Mrs. Carrie Redmond-Williams, Madison, Ill., was awarded a judgment of \$2,000 against the E. St. Louis and Suburban Railway Co. The charges grew out of an assault upon Mrs. Williams on one of the company's cars during the riot of July 2, 1917. There are a number of cases filed against the company.

## Ku Klux Klan Arrived Through South

Infamous Organization Which Reveled in Deeds of Arson and Blood and Terrorized Helpless Victims in Reconstruction Days Revived.

### SECRET ORDER TO OPPOSE RACE

Believed to Be Plan to Cower and Break Spirit of Returning Soldiers and Make Them Submissive to Southern Methods of Oppression.

Columbus, Ga., Feb. 7.—A society to be known as the Ku Klux Klan has been secretly organized in this city, and literature stating the purpose of the society is being distributed broadcast over the state. A charter has been granted for the operation of this organization by the state department at Atlanta, and workers of the Klan are busy establishing lodges throughout the smaller communities. The headquarters of the order are only exposed by the address given in the daily papers, which reads: "Address all communications to Til Bo-Him, Box 943, Columbus, Ga. Other than this address nothing is known of the permanent quarters from which the vile society is fomenting its plans.

### Agents Are Active.

Agents of the organization are advised to "pick" the men who are to compose the society, the heads of the organization declaring that it is of great importance that those identified with the secrets be careful in disclosing the main object and purport of the organizations. A pamphlet issued reads: "The spirit of the old Ku Klux Klan still lives, and, while conditions are different, there exists those sacred principles against Negro invasion; to forever maintain white supremacy; to shield the sanctity of the home and virtue of womanhood."

### Other States Invaded.

The spirit of the Ku Klux Klan is establishing itself throughout the entire southland. At Nashville and Chattanooga, Tenn., the organization is being viewed with favor, and has collected together white citizens who have pledged themselves to support its principles and to adhere to its early traditions. In speaking of the operations of the Ku Klux Klan a prominent white merchant of Columbus said: "Its noble work was, indeed, well done. The noblest heroes of history of any nation were its members, who aided greatly in driving the Negroes from politics in this state. Our order can do even more than this."

### PLAN TO HUMILIATE NEGRO SOLDIERS

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 7.—There is a concerted determined effort down here to make the Negro feel and believe every minute in the day that he is an inferior and that he can do no more than his oppressors desire him to do. They are also preparing to inaugurate a system of crime and persecution in an attempt to take the heart-out of the returned Negro soldiers and reduce him to the same status that he occupied before the war. An advertisement in a daily here warns the Klans to "Awaken."

The following is an exact copy made from the 1918 city directory of Atlanta, Ga.:

### "Ku Klux Klan."

"Invisible Empire, Ku Klux Klan—Wm. J. Simmons, imperial wizard, Atlanta." Nathan B. Frost, Klan No. 1—meets first and third Thursdays, 86 Central avenue, H. W. Hucks, Kligraph."

There are lots of these organizations all over Georgia. In Tennessee they call it the Columbian Union, but in Georgia it is the plain Ku Klux Klan that vaunts its face in public.

### STEEL CO. HEAD GIVES \$500 TO THE Y. M. C. A. FUND

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 7.—Clarence Howard, president of the Commonwealth Steel company, one of the largest employers of labor, in making a gift of \$500 towards the Furnishing Fund of the Pine street Y. M. C. A., wrote as follows: "As another evidence of my continued personal interest in you and your good work it gives me great pleasure to send you the enclosed \$500 Liberty bond as a special contribution to commemorate the association of our Colored men's Fellowship club with the Y. M. C. A. I know that this association is to result in great common benefits and increase your sphere and opportunities for doing good among your people."