

GROWING.  
THANK YOU!

# THE MONITOR

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

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, APRIL 3, 1919

Vol. IV. No. 40 (Whole No. 195)

\$2.00 a Year. 5c a Copy

## Government Reports on Southern Migration

James H. Dillard Places Number Who Have Left South at Almost a Half Million, Although Accurate Number Not Determined.

### CONDITIONS VASTLY IMPROVED

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Investigations of Negro migration to the north during the war, just issued by the department of labor, indicate that the total migration may have been as great as 350,000, extending over a period of about 18 months during 1916 and 1917. That figure is fixed as the maximum limit, and 150,000 as the minimum limit, and the estimate of James H. Dillard, who had charge of the inquiry is 20,000.

The movement had been under way for a long time before any effort was made to determine the number of Negroes moving north. Moreover, so many left separately and unobserved that complete statistics would have been impracticable. The investigator in Georgia estimates that between 35,000 and 45,000 Negroes left that state in 1916-17, and the number to leave Alabama during the same time is estimated at 75,000. State officials, however, make higher estimates, placing the number to leave Georgia at 50,000, Alabama 90,000 and Mississippi 100,000.

Lack of labor in the north, due to the cessation of immigration, was the principal cause, the investigators agree. Among the causes operative in the south to induce migration were general dissatisfaction with conditions, the ravages of the boll weevil, floods, change of crop system, low wages, poor housing, poor schools, unsatisfactory crop settlements, rough treatment, cruelty of the law officers, unfairness in court procedure, lynchings, desire to travel, labor agents, aid from Negroes in the north, and the influence of the Negro press.

The movement of large numbers at the same time was due largely to labor agents, but after these initial group movements Negroes kept going north in small numbers, attracted by the letters from their friends who had already gone. Better wages were important. "Every Negro who made good in the north, started a new group on the way," one of the investigators reported.

About half of the migrants, according to one investigator, went from the towns. Another investigator found that the counties in the Black Belt of Alabama which had suffered most were those in which there was most poverty among the Negroes, and that the shortage of labor was most acute among the landowners who made no attempt to keep their Negro tenants by providing for their subsistence.

One of the promising movements to improve relations between white and Colored persons in the south and thus remove the causes of the migration appears to be the "Community Congress" plan, put under way in Bolivar county Mississippi. The feature of this plan is a committee organization including prominent white business men and agriculturists, and prominent Colored men, in each county. Committees were chosen from the main body to consider special subjects—for example, there is a committee on labor supply. This type of organization is interesting in emphasizing the common interest of the races in community development, and in providing contact between racial leaders in ways designed to promote harmony, prosperity and good will.

Bureaus on Negro affairs as adjuncts to Chamber of Commerce are also highly recommended, as means of bringing together desirable Negro tenants and white landlords and planters. Frequent and confidential conferences upon community problems and active co-operation between the local leaders of the races are urged as important measures toward betterment.

Better housing is recommended, both for north and south. The necessity of higher wages, better homes and better surroundings in the south has come to be generally recognized. "Fair treatment, opportunity to labor and enjoy the legitimate fruits of labor, assurance of even handed justice in the courts, good educational facilities, sanitary living conditions, tolerance and sympathy" are urged by the Southern University Commission on Race Relations as a means of keeping Negro labor in the south.

A summary of the investigation has been published in a bulletin entitled

"Negro Migration in 1916-17," which the department of labor now has available for distribution.

## EMPLOYMENT PRESENTS SERIOUS PROBLEM

Canceling of War Contracts Enforces Idleness on Thousands—Spring Building Operations Expected to Relieve Conditions.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

CHICAGO, April 3.—Chicago is undergoing a very serious problem of adjustment in the matter of employment. Like every other section of the country, laboring conditions have been seriously interfered with by present economic conditions.

Hundreds of contracts for war goods being canceled in plants where thousands of our people were employed, have caused a suspension of work, and a throwing out of employment of thousands of men, and women. While hundreds of these people have saved up for the proverbial "rainy day," many have not and the situation has become very critical for them.

The statement from the police department that much of the recent wave of crime that has been spreading throughout the city is due to the enforced idleness of Negro laborers, has met with instant denial, insofar as attributing the conditions so generously to the race. The majority of the big crimes, by far, are traced to whites.

Nevertheless, the Negro is an important part of the big problem of work, and every effort is being made both by the city and through other agencies, to furnish immediate employment.

While reports are coming from the south that conditions are changing materially there, and that work is far more plentiful than in the north at the present time, not five per cent of the people who came north during the recent migration have any desire to return to their former homes. They argue that they would rather remain in the north with less wages and more opportunities for the education of their children and civic freedom, than be compelled to endure the privations and discriminations so blazely manifest in many southern communities. Millions of dollars will be spent in building in Chicago this year, and as soon as the spring weather opens up every one who is willing to work will get it.

## BALTIMORE HAS 'BLOCK' UNION

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Baltimore, Md., April 3.—A so-called "Block Union" has been formed in Baltimore for the purpose of enforcing plans for keeping Negroes out of certain blocks. Recently a large number of Negroes have been able to secure places in so-called "white blocks" through the co-operation of certain white real estate men. It is stated that the "Block Union" is thoroughly financed, and the good news follows that the Negroes of the city of Baltimore have also organized a "Block Union" and are fifty-fifty with the whites on the financial proposition. "Thank goodness," said one prominent citizen, "we are at least getting to the place where we are backing up our theories with action and money. Results are bound to follow."

## RUSSIAN WOMAN RAPS COLOR PREJUDICE

(By Associated Negro Press.)

New York, April 3.—In an interview given the New York Post, white, a titled Russian woman, declared that the belief that color prejudice is necessary, is a myth and senseless. She said "There is no color prejudice in Russia. Our country's greatest poet, Alexander Pushkin, was a Negro, and the story of his life is taught to all our school children, who love him for his great work. The people of America must eliminate this base conception if they would be true to the ideals they so steadfastly preach."

## BOSTON GIRL RECEIVES FEDERAL APPOINTMENT

Washington, D. C.—Mrs. Marie A. Crawford, of Boston, Mass., has been appointed an adjudicator in the department of the interior general land office. She is a graduate of the 1918 class of the Portia school of law for women. Although a very young woman, she is very active in civic, fraternal and club work in and around Boston.

## Liberia and African Democracy

Dr. N. H. B. Cassell Delivers Africa's Message to the Race in America.

### OURS TO HELP BUILD AFRICA

HAMPTON, Va., March 14.—That it is the duty of some Negro Americans to go to Africa and help build up a democracy in which there shall prevail international justice and goodwill was the vigorous plea recently made by the Rev. Dr. N. H. B. Cassell, president of the College of Liberia, West Africa, to the Hampton institute student body. Dr. Cassell said:

"God places a duty upon you Afro-Americans, to whom He has given these wonderful opportunities, to go into Africa and build Africa up and establish there democracy in religion, in politics, in sociology and prove Liberia to be the open door to democracy. That is the message which I bring to the Afro-Americans, and particularly to the younger Afro-Americans who are in school.

"Afro-Americans are not really and truly awake to the fact that there is a point of contact between themselves and the Republic of Liberia. They have been disposed to dissociate themselves from the African problems. In the methods they have pursued for wealth they have begun to feel that the God in this world is the almighty dollar. Possibly they have believed that God is a God of force, just as the Germans did. There is only one thing that is going to last everlastingly and that is the good we do for men, the help we bestow upon men, the lifting up of men."

President Cassell described the contributions which Africa has made to the literature of the world, to the arts and sciences and to church history. He condemned most heartily the caricatures of Africa which have commonly appeared in geographies and histories.

### The New Africa.

"He who follows history at present, he who reads the signs of the times, must realize that Africa, in the readjustment which is now taking place at the world's great conference, is going to be assigned its proper place; that its people are no longer to be exploited; that international justice and international goodwill will be realized and exercised upon the same principle as personal justice. Africa is going to take her true place in the world's history.

"Think of Liberia as being possibly the great pivot wheel around which is to be evolved that great republic in Africa; that Liberia, having been established on the west coast of Africa through American philanthropy, which until now has endeavored to conduct a stable government, is going to be the gateway through which is to be established in Africa a great democracy. Liberia has stood on the west coast of Africa for seventy years, contending with tremendous odds, while all of Africa has otherwise been divided among the European peoples, whose methods have not been such as would justify Christian peoples, who have exploited the peoples of the land; who have been simply desirous of obtaining their wares—their silver, gold, diamonds and rubber; who have been indifferent to the souls of the men and women upon whom they have drawn, and who have been perfectly indifferent as to whether the peoples have been pagans or Mohammedans or Christians.

### Liberia's Future.

"Liberia stands for quite a different thing in Africa than the methods of the European peoples who have been colonizing in Africa. Liberia stands for republican ideas in Africa. Liberia stands for the establishment of the religion of Jesus Christ in Africa. Liberia stands for the adoption of a national idea and a national ideal.

"Let us hope that Liberia shall be upheld; let us hope that Liberia shall be given a fair chance; let us hope that the pressure and the disadvantages which have been the experience of Liberia in the past years are all going to pass away and that, as a small nation, she shall be regarded, she shall be supported and shall be upheld.

"Let us hope that the principle for which the world has undergone a terrible holocaust—the shedding of blood, the spending of billions of dollars—the result of which is going to be a readjustment in the code of morals of nations, that the international compact is going to be so complete that a small state like Liberia in Africa is no longer going to be menaced by ships

of war in her harbor; that the principle of might over right is no longer to prevail, but that international justice and international fair play is going to be established."

## Dr. LeRoy Bundy Found Guilty

East St. Louis Dentist Accused of Inciting Race to Riot and Murder Is Convicted.

### CASE WILL BE APPEALED

Fight for Justice Enlists Interest and Sympathy Throughout the Nation.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 3.—Dr. LeRoy N. Bundy, dentist, and prominent in civic matters in his former home at East St. Louis, Ill., was declared guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment by the circuit court in Waterloo, Ill., Friday.

The conviction is the outcome of charges preferred against Dr. Bundy as the results of the East St. Louis riots in July, 1917. It is certain that there will be a motion for a new trial, and the case will be appealed if this is denied.

The East St. Louis riots, in which more than 100 deaths occurred and resulted in the devastation of that section of East St. Louis, where the majority of the Colored people live, forms the blackest spot on the escutcheon of the great state of Illinois.

The immediate charge against Dr. Bundy was that of murder in connection with the killing of two policemen on the night of July 1. Dr. Bundy was the last of thirty-four defendants to be given prison terms in connection with the riots, of whom twenty were whites.

The case is of national importance as thousands of people are of the belief that Dr. Bundy is being persecuted, and is being made a scapegoat in a carnival of crime that will never be effaced from the memory of our people.

A price was placed on Dr. Bundy's head for a long time, and he was finally taken into custody at Cleveland, O., his former home, where his parents live, and where he graduated from Western Reserve University of dentistry.

Extradition was fought before Governor Cox of Ohio, who granted a special hearing, and after much delay finally permitted Dr. Bundy to be taken back to Illinois. After languishing in jail for some months, he finally secured bail, and all last year traveled over the country telling his side of the story, and raising funds for his defense.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was at first very active in co-operating with Dr. Bundy and his friends in fighting the case, but because of certain indiscreet incidents connected with the collection of funds as claimed by the association, this organization publicly announced withdrawal from participation in the law suit.

Dr. Bundy has no children, but is married, and the untiring interest and efforts of his wife, a native of St. Louis, in endeavoring to obtain his freedom, have attracted the greatest attention and aroused genuine sympathy. Dr. Bundy is the son of Rev. Dr. Chas. Bundy of Cleveland, O., a presiding elder in the A. M. E. church and mentioned for bishop. He has a brother, Richard Bundy, secretary of the legation, Monrovia, Liberia.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MUSIC TEACHERS

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, April 3.—The first convention of the National Association of Colored Music Teachers, organized some time ago by Clarence Cameron White, of Boston, Mass., will be held in Chicago, July 29-31.

On the occasion all the leading musicians of the country will be brought together. There are several hundred members of the organization. Various phases of Negro musical life will be discussed, and an organized effort will be made to promote a higher appreciation of Negro musical efforts.

A special invitation is extended to all musicians and teachers throughout the country to be present at the convention. Information will be given those interested by writing to Mrs. Lena Douglass Holt, 4405 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The Helpers' club will give a tea at the residence of Mrs. J. D. Lewis, 2414 Binney street, Monday afternoon, April 7.

## MISSISSIPPI NEGRO RECEIVES JUSTICE

Is Acquitted of Charge of Murder for Shooting a White Man Who Had Attacked Him.

Holly Springs, Miss.—For the first time in years a man of color has been freed for killing a white man in this state. Benjamin Ingram, a wealthy planter, charged with the murder of Green Brumley (white), was acquitted in the circuit court after one of the most vigorous legal battles ever staged in this city. Brumley was killed in a gun duel on December 10, 1918, after he had endeavored to extend the property line on the farm of Ingram. In order to regain his property Ingram engaged the services of County Surveyor J. C. McCauley (white), and after receiving a correct statement from the surveyor reclaimed his property.

Brumley upon being informed of Ingram's action armed himself and vowed to take the property by force. The men met on a main thoroughfare at Byhalia; Brumley fired without notice and Ingram returned the fire, killing the man almost instantly.

## INTERESTING LEADING WHITE PEOPLE

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Cincinnati, O., April 3.—Advancement in getting a "listening ear" from the leading white people of the country is brought more and more in evidence daily by the various community organizations that have become a part of the civic work of cities all over the country.

There are recent striking examples, that J. H. Robinson, secretary of the Negro Civic Welfare Committee, of Cincinnati, who recently in an address before the City club at the Hotel Sinton, gave out the results of two-year survey on the Negro life in Cincinnati. He said 90 per cent of the Negro laborers are giving satisfaction, and urged better relations between the "light and darker races, and the removal of unseemly prejudices."

Hotel Sinton is owned by Charles P. Taft, brother of the former president, and it has been one of those "exclusive places" in this city where Negroes were refused to ride on the passenger elevator.

## ALBANY'S COLORED RESIDENTS

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Albany, N. Y., April 3.—In the survey of the Negro population of Albany, looking for the betterment of the condition of the 11,000 Negro population, it was found that 81 per cent have received training in common schools; 11 per cent received high school training, and two per cent reached college. Only 6 per cent are illiterate, and of the number, the majority is above 50 years old.

The majority are employed in work requiring no training, one per cent is classified as "professional" and two per cent as clerical.

## SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ART OPENED

Chicago, April 3.—The Chicago School of Dramatic Art, for the purpose of preparing men and women for the public stage, was formally opened Monday night. Virgil L. Williams is president, and Clarence E. Muse, former star with the Lafayette players, is director.

## DIES AT AGE OF 117

Como, Tex.—William Pruitt, who died in this city recently, was said to be 117 years old. He was a prosperous farmer, having bought land in this section in the early days. His death was sudden.

## DISCUSS COMMUNITY HOUSE

New York, April 3.—The Rotary club of New York, white, at its first public meeting on boys' work activities at Hotel McAlpin, discussed the establishment of community playgrounds and boys' club houses for the under-privileged Colored boys of Harlem.

## GETS DAMAGES FROM PACKING COMPANY

St. Joseph, Mo.—Orville Hunter, a 12-year-old boy, was awarded \$825 in Judge Allen's court against the Hammond Packing company. The boy was injured August 27 last by a motor truck owned by the company.

## Alleged mistreatment to be investigated

Complaints Pouring Into Washington Charging Injustice to Negro Officers and Men at Hands of Southerners.

### PROMOTIONS WERE WITHHELD

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 3.—The subject of the treatment of the Negro officers and men in the army is receiving the attention of the war department, through Special Assistant Emmet J. Scott and others.

Complaints are pouring in from many sources, and the men in every section are saying things that sound very unpleasant, in the light of the cause for which the men fought.

It is an open fact that all the complaints are not confined to Negro soldiers. White northern soldiers both in America and France are stating that they received very unfair, and in some cases, brutal treatment from southern white officers.

That there were some white officers who were inclined to look at the service of the American Negroes in the fair and just light to which the situation is entitled, hundreds of them favored every plan of segregation and discrimination known to the calendar, and were it not for the saving influence of Gen. Pershing, and a few others, to whom the injustices finally found their way, there would be much more unfairness to record.

In the matter of promotion, the Negro officers have suffered most unfortunately. As a matter of fact, the majority of them were summarily relieved from the commands of the companies to which they were attached when going over to France, and white officers were put in their places. All sorts of stories are being told about the various kinds of "tests" to which Negro officers were put in order to prove their efficiency, and if the least flaw could be found, they were relieved.

It is stated by some men that where regiments were officered by Negro men, organized propaganda was resorted to by groups of whites in order to stir up feeling between officers and men.

The true state of affairs is gradually coming to light, and it is believed that some of those responsible for the treatment will be called to an accounting.

## MISSISSIPPI AGAINST BALLOT FOR THE RACE

Washington, D. C., April 3.—How many of our citizens realize the splendid services of our Colored soldiers rendered overseas? The photographs of a few of these heroes who were decorated for conspicuous bravery are a decided contrast to the following editorial which appeared in a paper published in Greenwood, Miss.:

"Circuit Clerk G. S. Pate informs the Daily Commonwealth that a good many Negroes are applying at his office and registering for the purpose of voting at our elections, according to their statements to him. Our advice to these Negroes, and all other Negroes who contemplate registering, is that they had better get this idea out of their heads as soon as possible. The Negroes are getting along mighty well with the white people of Leflore county, and have been for some time, and they ought to have better sense than to think that they will ever again have the remotest chance of voting in our elections. Such a thing is simply unthinkable, and the sooner these Negroes who have registered—and those who contemplate doing so—realize this fact, the better for them. Therefore, the thought should be speedily banished from their misguided minds."

Ex-President Taft's illuminating words written to me in recognition of my book, "The Presidents I have Known," expresses the situation:

"It is one thing to grant in a constitution, and in the forms of law, the fullest recognition of religious freedom, and it is another thing to achieve complete equality of opportunity in the political, social and business fields of activity unobstructed by traditional prejudices."

## \$100,000 MEMORIAL FOR NEGRO SOLDIERS IN S. C.

Columbia, S. C.—The legislature of South Carolina has voted \$100,000 for a memorial for Colored soldiers and a like sum for a memorial for white soldiers.