

GROWING,  
THANK YOU!

# THE MONITOR

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

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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LIFTING.  
LIFT, TOO!

## A Bit of Racial News From the Rural West

Some Interesting Facts Concerning  
A Colony of Colored Folk Who  
Homesteaded in Wyoming

SCHOOLMASTER'S EX

Some Conclusions Deduced  
of Practical Value to a Settling  
and Progressive People

By the Rev. Russell Taylor,  
Empire, Wyo.

THINKING that perhaps Monitor readers might be interested in some of the occurrences in this section and having been requested by the editor when he first launched The Monitor to contribute an occasional article I now even at this late date offer the following:

Some years ago, to be specific in 1908, several families of our race emigrated from Custer county, Nebraska, to this section. They homesteaded in Wyoming, each taking a "Mandell" or 320 acres, and in addition to this they bought some 800 acres adjoining their homesteads, some of which lay in Nebraska. At one time the community had in its possession over 4,000 acres of land.

As they resided in Wyoming, a law in that state which reads: "When there are fifteen or more Colored children within any school district, the board of directors thereof with the approval of the county superintendent of schools, may provide a separate school for the instruction of such Colored children," was taken advantage of. One of the very best buildings in the county among rural schools was provided and furnished. There was an understanding that it could be used for the purpose of divine worship.

Fulfilling the tradition of the race a Sunday school which had been held in one of the houses was moved into the school building.

The first teacher of the school was Miss S. Katherine Thistle of Cheyenne, at one time a pupil under the then county superintendent, and a graduate of the high school of that city.

The writer was called from New Market, Tenn., in the fall of 1911, taking charge of the school and also Grace Presbyterian church, an organization growing out of the Sunday school.

Beginning about three years ago some of the many changes that strike the west made their appearance among us, and the little community began to disintegrate. Though much progress was made by dry farming and the raising of cattle, thinking they could make more rapid financial gains under irrigation, the major portion sold their original holdings and bought irrigated farms.

Thus the community was broken up and thus the writer was led to cast his lot among them, and thus the circumstances soon to be related.

The war caused a great scarcity of teachers. In the rural schools it was next to impossible to supply them. Something like one-third of the schools in my district are vacant. Five miles south of the old Empire community is the Nash school—a white school i. e.—a school hitherto attended by white children only and taught by white teachers. Mr. C. A. Nash, the leading patron of the school, personally urged the writer to come and teach the above mentioned school, offering a house suitable for his family.

Readily considering the stupendous questions involved, for the much mooted race problem is in many ways more acute in rural than urban life, I delayed long before consenting. After being assured that all of the patrons of the school were willing, I gave my consent and in due time took charge of the school. I noticed that certain children came one day only. I had my own surmises. They were partly correct. Not until sometime later, however, was it clearly made known to me that the child, a fourth grade pupil, had stated that he did not return to school because he could not understand the language of Colored people!

Upon this ground one of the leading men of the community took it upon himself to publicly advocate the theory that in no case should Colored persons be allowed to teach white children, for it mattered not how well educated he might be, the Colored man would use improper English such as "dis," "dare," "dat," etc. And this at such a time!

The ever watchful subtleness of the white man is herein evidenced. The

coming of a controlling number of Colored families into his community has "set him thinking." Investigation showed that the matter of finance had much to do with his cogitations. It didn't look good to him for a Negro to be sitting in a school room drawing a salary, while white men were in the hay field and potato patch drawing wages.

So we have the same problems in the far and sparsely settled west as you have in the densely populated east.

There is a subtle philosophy in the fact that in most of the northern and western cities with great and influential Negro populations, there has been but a spattering of Colored teachers in those schools. I doubt if a single Colored graduate of these schools hasn't been frankly asked as to his vocation after commencement, and in most cases frankly invited to go south for employment. Under such conditions can we be surprised that there are so few aspirants?

We are passing through a period which spells opportunity. This is true in all walks of life, and especially in the professional. It is ours to guard these opportunities. Whether or not we are willing to subscribe to the slogan, "Negro teachers for Negro children," we ought to be ready to insist that those boys and girls of our race to whom the profession of teaching especially appeals should not be disheartened because of the obstacles in the path to that profession.

It meant something to this westerner to have the teaching of white children by a Colored man made a precedent. There are many things in the opposite condition that should mean much to us. How many of the boys and girls of our race who have been educated wholly in mixed schools taught by teachers of the white race, have by virtue of their teachings learned of our achievements as a race? Personally I was nearly through my college course before I knew anything at all of the wonderful progress of my race—and then I obtained what knowledge I had without the walls of my educational institutions.

Now in the rural schools all grades are usually in the hands of one teacher. If we take the subject of U. S. history it will be noticed by experience that there are unimaginable differences in the histories used as text books in our schools, both in the facts stated and in the manner of stating them. In my whole course in history, and I do not recall any teacher who was, particularly prejudiced, it was never impressed upon my mind that the first slaves in this country, aside from the Indians enslaved by the Spaniards, were the Huguenots—white men, not black ones. Does any importance attach to a matter of that kind?

Again, what does the Colored child know of the Negroes in the wars of our country, so far as portrayed in our school histories? Is not the white child naturally prejudiced as to our ability, when in all his education nothing of special emphasis to our race is said. In my school experience I have taught from dozens of readers from the primer to the eighth grade, and in all these not a line have I found from a Negro author of any sort.

The impression made daily upon the children of a nation or a race decides the trend of that nation or race. If under present conditions the Negro has more regard for the white race than his own is it not because he has been taught to think white? If the white child can see anything great in the Negro it is because his knowledge has been gained outside, rather than within the schoolroom.

Hence the westerner was justified in his apprehensions. Are we going to be less astute?

Where it of right should be otherwise are we going to sit supinely by and without the raising of our voices allow all the instruction in schools containing portions of both races to be given by one race? If so, then let us not complain because our girls and boys lack aspiration. Let us not complain because they prefer the peroxide soaps and cosmetics. Let us not complain if the white boy soon to be the white man innately doubts the ability of the Negro as a race.

## FORMER ALDERMAN DIES

Wilmington, N. C., April 10.—Geo. Bell, 67, at one time an alderman in this city, before the nefarious discrimination election laws, fell dead here on the street. At one time he was worth more than \$100,000, but at his death he owned only a small farm.



COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG.

## COLORED YOUNG MEN OF AMERICA, HEED THIS CLARION CALL

A Ringing Appeal by Colonel Charles Young to Youth Upon Whose Shoulders Grave Responsibilities for the Future of Our Country Rests to Fully Prepare Themselves for Proficient and Patriotic Leadership and Citizenship.

COLORED young men of America, you fine fellows upon whose shoulders shall fall and even now is falling the hope of race and country, I salute you and give you greetings:

Frederick Douglass, Bruce, N. Wright Cuney, Booker T. Washington, DuBois and hosts of others have proved power of Negro political leadership and organization.

Let no man inoculate you with the lie that these things are not true and that there is an inherent inferiority in any racial group in America—white or black or yellow.

Dr. Crummel, Bishops Allen, Payne, Grant, Turner, Arnett and hosts of others have proved the same for church leadership of the Negro.

I call upon each young college and high school man to wake up! Can you sit supine and indifferent while the foundations of your own future, that of your unborn children as well as that of the country we love so well are being undermined by propaganda against your capacity for leadership of your own people.

Toussaint Louverture, Crispus Attucks, Maceo, officers and non-commissioned officers of the civil, Spanish-American and world wars have proved the capacity of the Negro for military leadership.

Let no man deceive you to the contrary.

Untruths are being circulated in the press to the end that you may be impressed with ideas of your innate inferiority and that as result of the acceptance of the idea by the common Negro man, our race shall be kept bound down as a lower caste in our own country.

Not all of the white people, not even a majority are in accord with this insidious and persistent plotting. By patience, by acts of love and courtesy, by serious purpose and endeavor to show the salutary effects of higher education upon the Negro group, let every Negro American boy show his manhood, his virile determination to measure up to all that is highest and best in American life, so that we may keep the friendship of this friendly majority.

Let us study the things that are in accord with the genius of our race that we may add these as cultural gifts to our country. Let us study the history of our own race not only in the United States, but in the West Indies, South America, Asia and Africa. Ah, Africa! land filled with glorious history of that proud race that gave civilization to the white race; land if you knew its heroes and achievements you would thank God for every drop of black blood within you!

And now to the crux of this matter: I adjure you by everything you

held sacred; God, honor, duty, country, than you take advantage of the universal military training and the reserve officers' training corps units now being organized in your high schools, colleges and universities:

1st. That you may qualify for efficient leadership of your own racial group in event of our country being called for future war.

2d. That you may not sink to an inferior caste in the country of your birth, having the stigma of being incapable of leading because of lack of preparation, and because you indifferently and selfishly threw away the golden opportunity for training for scientific leadership which is now being offered by the general government.

3d. Because it is right, patriotic, and American that each social group in America should emulate all that is good and progressive in any other group. Do this and we fulfill our country's destiny and measure up to our ideals of what the flag stands for.

4th. You can afford the six weeks' active summer training even though you believe it a sacrifice.

Let no man deceive you into telling you IT IS NOT worth while or that you cannot afford it.

Lastly, I implore you to have faith in yourselves and the dignity of your manhood as such. Love the country, its flag, its people both black and white, north and south, striving without hatred and without animosities for a better and better Americanism, to believe that the constitution and the flag for which our race has spent its blood and treasure are sufficient guarantee for our every right and privilege.

Let us daily strive by acting up to the highest and best within us to make democracy a reality and a success in our national life.

This can only be done by daily endeavor in which the golden rule measures our conduct. Not acting so, we but cool the love of our friends and heat the hate of our enemies and stop the wheels of progress of our race and country.

May the good God nerve you and serve you, fire you and inspire you!

Trusting to your patience and forbearance and that you will do the right as "God gives you to see the right," let us with joined hands and singleness of purpose face the morning and go forward!

## WOMAN WANTS TO PRACTICE LAW IN GEORGIA

Estella Henderson, Member Faculty Morris Brown College, Seeks Admission to Atlanta Bar.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., April 9.—With offices already opened in the Negro Odd Fellow building, Estelle A. Henderson, proposes to be the first Negro woman to practice law in Georgia. Already admitted to the bar in Alabama, Attorney Henderson states that she will soon be admitted to practice here. She is already a member of the faculty of Morris Brown college.

## COLONEL HAYWARD OPENS VICTORY LOAN CAMPAIGN

Lauds American Spirit Manifested by Men on Western Front and Says Same Spirit Prevails in Fighting for Justice in Civil Life.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Albany, N. Y., April 10.—Colonel William Hayward, of the "Old Fiftieth" New York opened the Victory loan campaign here with an address before 10,000 people, in the armory. His address bristled with interest from start to finish, as he related the events in which the Negro soldiers participated up to the signing of the armistice.

Probably the most interesting story is the following, as told by the colonel: "The American spirit is the greatest in the world. I saw my men when they first arrived in France buying German money of the Morrocco troops. I asked them what they were doing that for and they said: 'We were sent to France and we are here. You said we are going to Germany, and we are going.'"

When we reached the Rhine I had the pleasure of seeing the boys spend the same money in Germany some of them talking Harlem German, and with a Yiddish accent. The spirit that prompted the boys to adopt the slogan of 'Hell, Heaven or Hoboken by Christmas' was fulfilled, and was the spirit that won the war. That same spirit prevails today in fighting for justice in civil life."

## FORMS FEDERAL LABOR UNION

Race Looking Askance at Proposed Nation-Wide Movement to Unionize Negro Labor—Inclined to Doubt Sincerity of Repentance of Former Unfriendly Organizations.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 10.—Formation of a Chattanooga "Federal Labor Union" has created quite a bit of discussion in this community. It is understood that the movement is part of a nation-wide plan to unionize Negro laborers, and has the approval of the American Federation of Labor.

The south has never been very strong for union labor, and in as much as the Negroes form the bulk of the labor field in the south, there are some who are inclined to look at the present plan with more or less alarm. However, it is asserted by those backing the plan, that it is for the protection of the Negroes, as well as the whites. It is argued that if the Negroes are unionized, they will not then consent to go into communities and be strike breakers, oftentimes working for less money. In the meantime, knowing the shrewdness of certain classes of whites to use the Negro for selfish advantages, members of the race interested in the plan are carefully considering every step.

## ATTEMPT TO FORCE GIRLS INTO DOMESTIC SERVICE

Richmond Women Organize to Secure Colored Girls for Housework—It Is Alleged That Efforts Will Be Made to Compel Their Withdrawal From Other Jobs.

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Richmond, Va., April 10.—A number of wealthy white women have formed an organization, and state as the object, the securing of Colored girls as domestics. They claim that since the beginning of the war, Colored girls have been given positions in other places than households, and the matter will be taken up with the Retail Merchants Association, urging that the Colored girls be released from their present jobs, have them filled with whites, and make it necessary for the Colored girls to again take up domestic service.

The Colored girls are protesting, not because they claim there is anything disgraceful connected with housework, but because they feel that they should be permitted to retain their present advantages, and have the right to choose for themselves, as others, where they shall work.

## FORMER NEBRASKAN OIL INSPECTOR

Detroit, Mich., April 10.—W. P. Kemp, editor of the Detroit Leader, has been appointed deputy oil inspector for the First district of Michigan. The inspectorship carries with it a substantial salary. He will enter upon his duties sometime in April. Mr. Kemp is a former Nebraskan, having been born and reared in Lincoln.

## Thompson Triumphant Through Race Vote

Frankly Conceded by Leaders and Newspapers That Chicago Mayor Owes Re-election to Loyal Support of Negro Voters.

## OUTSPOKEN FOR SQUARE DEAL

Has Been Fair in Giving Representation to All Classes—Jackson and Anderson Re-elected Aldermen—Result Demonstrates What United Action Can Accomplish.

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

CHICAGO, April 10.—The Negro voters of Chicago, more than 50,000 in number, have been acclaimed by the democratic leaders as the one contributing factor in the re-election of Mayor William Hale Thompson as mayor. This fact was also attested by all of the daily newspapers, both in their news stories and editorially.

Mayor Thompson was elected, according to present figures, by about 18,000 votes, and more than 11,000 votes plurality, was given him in the Second ward, said by the Chicago Tribune to be "the greatest Colored ward in the world." To this ward must be added the pluralities in the Third and Fourteenth wards, where thousands of Negro voters also live, and it is easy to be seen that Mayor Thompson owes his political success to the Negro voters of Chicago.

Every daily newspaper in Chicago opposed the mayor. The last days of the campaign were embittered by personalities, and many rampant white partisan opponents of the mayor publicly denounced his "friendship for the Negro," which the mayor just as publicly acclaimed everywhere he had an opportunity, because, he declared in a specially prepared statement for The Associated Negro Press, following the election:

"I have given fair representation to the Colored people of Chicago because as republicans they have helped nominate and elect me, and, secondly, as American citizens they are entitled to their quota of representation in governmental affairs.

"They contributed their quota to the armed forces of the nation and performed valiant service for their country. From the records at hand, it cannot be denied that they discharged their duties of American soldiers with as great a degree of bravery and heroism as any other element in the American armies.

"The history of the Colored race in America is a record of fealty and devotion to our country, and in this election they have again demonstrated that they may be relied upon to act intelligently. They have allied themselves with those forces that stand for the highest development of our country and the greatest protection to its people.

"I have maintained and still insist that the man who so nobly upheld the majesty of our government on foreign battlefields ought not to be deprived of participation in the government which he would give his life to preserve. He has earned his right to cast a ballot anywhere that an American citizen may vote under the Stars and Stripes.

"I stand for the constitution of our country, the constitution of our state and the laws enacted under them. I believe in the Declaration of Independence. I am for America and American citizens first, last and all the time, without any distinction of race, creed or color."

The election proves that the Negro of Chicago will not sell out, and that he believes in standing by his friends, declared Major R. R. Jackson, to the Associated Negro Press. "Chicago achievements give heart to the Negroes throughout the nation," he continued, "and we are in a position to accomplish great things if we pull together."

Major Jackson, with Louis B. Anderson, re-elected, are the aldermen of the Second Ward. Alderman Anderson is one of the mayor's acknowledged floor leaders, and both men are regarded as being among the foremost men of the council.

The mayor's re-election assures the retention in office of E. H. Wright and George W. Ellis, assistant corporation counsel; Dr. A. J. Carey, who is prominently mentioned for bishop in the A. M. E. church, and others.

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