

**LARGE PURCHASERS OF FINE FURNITURE**

**Southern Dealer Claims That Negroes Are Responsible for Tremendous Increase in Business.**

**WELL FURNISHED HOMES SPECIAL PRIDE OF RACE**

**Are Easy Victims of Jewelry and Other Sharpers—Statements by Shrewd Business Man Which Ought to Make Our People Think.**

(By Associated Negro Press.)

**GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., July 23.**—It is the Negro who has made the furniture man of the south rich from his business. The whites have helped, but the tremendous business we have enjoyed recently has come in larger degree from the Colored man.

It was a furniture man from Atlanta, Ga., who was doing the talking, and his talk was most interesting and enlightening.

"I think I may say that the Negro of the south has made more rapid strides in recent years than the white man has. The reason is manifest. He had a longer distance to go and he is covering that distance very rapidly. He is taking advantage of the educational system and he is getting ahead in an economic way very rapidly.

"You know it is characteristic of the Negro that when he has money he likes to spend it and when he does spend it he usually wants something mighty good for it. As a result you may go into the homes of Negroes in Atlanta and find the very choicest furniture in them and usually a lot of it, perhaps it is more than a white man would consider good taste.

"It is very interesting to go into some of these homes. I have been in many of them and never cease to marvel at them. Many of the homes are very small and so far as the house itself is concerned, is not at all pretentious. I've been into homes of not more than three rooms and found in one a \$90 range and a bed room suite that cost \$300 or \$400. In another room would be a mighty fine living room suite along with a \$500 piano and a \$200 Victrola. I have even been in the homes of single men living in one room and found it beautifully furnished with a fine Victrola. I asked one old fellow why all the furniture, since he was there only long enough to sleep, and his reply was that he sometimes had friends call and wanted his home to look nice.

"The Negroes are making more money than they ever did before. Some of them own farms and raise tremendous crops on them and any kind of crop in the last few years has been worth real money. This they are putting into their homes very largely and since the advent of prohibition the money has gone into homes more than ever.

"I'll just give an example of the trade we have with the Negroes. Awhile back I was credit man for a big concern doing a heavy installment business. We did perhaps \$35,000 worth in one year and from 75 to 80 per cent of the account we had were with Negroes. Not a few of these, like a few white men, did not pay regularly, but I'll venture to say that better than 95 per cent of them came in very regularly and paid something on their accounts. Sometimes they could not meet what they had agreed to pay weekly, for the Negro will promise almost anything but they come in with something and keep it up until the furniture was paid for. Now that is a pretty good record.

"The one thing the Negro has to contend with more than anything else in his guillibility. Some of your north-erners come down there with all sorts of fake schemes and prey upon them. A favorite trick is to come down with a lot of fifty cent jewelry, mark it \$4.98, take one dollar down and the rest in installments. Now, if they never get any more than the initial payment, they clean up 100 per cent profit. After they have been there awhile they will sell their accounts to some jeweler make, a nice cleanup and get away. This sort of thing is the bane of the Negro's life and keeps him back, but in spite of it, they are going ahead faster, I think, than the whites and it is to them that we owe the tremendous business we are having now."

**The Monitor's Phone Number Is Douglas 3224**

**JUST KIDS— The Home Team Up!**

By Ad Carter



**DEMPSEY IS AFRAID CANNOT HOLD TITLE**

**Refuses to Risk His Title to the World Championship by Match With Willis—Safety First—His Sparring Partners Before Willard Fiasco Were Colored Boxers and Jack Knows How Hard They Punched.**

Toledo, O., July 23.—Jack Dempsey, new heavyweight champion of the world, has announced that he will not make a match with a Negro. He, therefore, has barred Harry Willis from a fight for the big title. Dempsey's sparring partners at Toledo were Bill Tate and Jamaica Kid, both Negroes but Jack hadn't defeated Willard at that time. Willard drew the color line as soon as the title was handed to him by Jack Johnson in Havana, Cuba, so that he established a precedent for Dempsey. Corbett, before he conquered John L. Sullivan, boxed sixty-one rounds to a draw with Peter Jackson, the greatest Negro heavyweight that ever came here from a foreign shore. Corbett, Fitzsimmons and Jeffries, as champions, refused to risk the title in bouts with Colored men, but Jeffries finally was forced to come out of retirement in a futile effort to regain the championship from Johnson at Reno, the latter having won it from Tommy Burns in Australia.

**ISSUE UNIQUE CITY DIRECTORY**

(By Associated Negro Press.)  
Memphis, Tenn., July 23.—Within the next few weeks Memphis can boast of a real first class Colored city directory, the purpose of which is to present in systematic but concise form the most important facts concerning the Negro population of this city. Directories have been gotten up among the Negroes in Chicago, New Orleans, Savannah, Richmond, Atlanta, Nashville and other cities, but the Memphis Colored directory will contain several features. This directory will contain the name and address of every Colored business and professional man and woman in Memphis; recording churches, schools, philanthropic, fraternal, social and other activities among the Negro population. It will also contain criminal and vital statistics as they concern the Colored people, as well as valuable educational reports. The directory will also contain the name and address of Colored property holders.

There will be a "Who's Who Among Negroes of Memphis" department, with cuts and sketches of prominent Negro citizens. There will also be a good account of the part that the Memphis Colored boys played in the recent world war. There will be pictures of the various boys who saw service in France with statistics concerning the draft. Those who are responsible for this new feature in the commercial life here are endeavoring to present the facts as to the life of the Negro to make him realize what is expected and required of him as a citizen; therefore they are sparing no pains nor expense in making this book appropriate as a souvenir and handy for reference.

**EDUCATION A SAFEGUARD, SAYS PRINCIPAL OF PINEY WOODS SCHOOL**

(By Associated Negro Press.)  
Des Moines, Ia., July 23.—"No Negro with a high school or college education has ever been lynched in this country or accused of the heinous crimes which are cited as excuse for lynchings," said Laurence C. Jones, a Negro graduate of the University of Iowa and principal of Pinewoods school at Braxton, Miss., who spoke at Grace Methodist church yesterday.

"The Negro's education is neglected in the south because he has no vote. School officials know that the less they do for the Negro the better they will stand with the mass of their white constituents.

"Recognition extended the Negroes by white people of the south during the war against Germany has been largely withdrawn since the war ended. The paper controlled by former Senator Vardaman has attacked white candidates for office who had attended Negro gatherings from patriotic motives.

"The Negro does not seek social equality with the whites. That is a bugbear of southern politicians. He does want a fair chance economically and in an educational way, and the better white people of the south would like him to have it. But the white masses still hold that the Negro's highest duty is to get off the sidewalk when he meets them.

"As a group of the American people 12,000,000 strong, and loyal to the nation in its time of war, the Negroes deserve to be fairly dealt with.

Mr. Jones said the Pinewoods school, which he started eight years ago, has 1,324 acres of land and teaches a dozen or more trades to 300 Negroes who work half time.

Good health depends largely upon good habits.

**SCOTTISH RITE MASONS IN NEW ENGLAND**

Special to The Monitor.

New Haven, Conn., July 22.—Echoes are still being heard of the famous 38th annual session of the United Supreme Council of the 33d Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the northern jurisdiction of the United States, held recently in this city, and which met in New England for the first time in history. The members are unanimous in their opinion that the New Haven consistory No. 7 in charge of the arrangements, surpassed all other branches of the order in the hospitable entertainment extended. The session was successful from every point of view.

Upon their arrival the visitors were conveyed to their stopping places in limousine cars. Sunday evening divine worship was held at Dixwell Avenue Congregational church, and Rev. Edward F. Goins, 32d degree, M. W. P. M., delivered the annual sermon. The executive session was held in Odd Fellows hall Monday and Tuesday, with 111, J. Francis Rickards, presiding. His annual address was a model of forensic art and contained much sound advice for the good of the order. The old-fashioned Connecticut shore dinner Monday at light house point in the Tabard Inn was a delightful affair, purely informal, with choice sea food and its accessories in luxurious abundance, followed by a "smoker" and an impromptu program.

The truly social triumph of the season was the grand banquet Tuesday evening at Odd Fellows' hall. His honor, David E. Fitzgerald, mayor of New Haven, was the principal speaker and his strong and statesmanlike utterances will live long in the memory of all who were fortunate enough to hear them. He paid a glowing tribute to the president of the United States. Other speakers, responding to the traditional toasts of the Scottish Rite were III. J. Francis Rickards, III. Sumner A. Furniss, minister of state; III. Richard E. Moore, III. William F. Powell, S. P. William Porter Norson, III. William H. Miller, III. Howard D. Gould and S. P. G. Grant Williams, III. Geo. W. Crawford of New Haven, acquitted himself with distinction as master of ceremonies.

Mrs. Cora L. Owens, 2919 Erskine street, is happy over the visit of her brother, Mr. Lewis Ewing of Minneapolis, Minn., and Patrolman W. H. Ewing of Chicago, who have been in the city for the past five days. Much of their time was spent in motoring about Omaha visiting points of interest.

For Monitor office call Doug. 3224.

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