

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.  
IFT, TOO!

## White Man Confesses He Set Fire to Chicago Homes

### Charges Crime to Negro Highwayman

Then Admits That Story Was Connected to Shield Married Companions of Man Whom It Is Alleged Was Shot by Relative of Woman Taking a Joy Ride.

### DEAD MAN'S PARTNER RETRACTS FIRST STORY

Woman Sticks to Story That Assailant Was a Negro—Suspicious Circumstances Surrounding Case From Which a Discriminating Public May Draw Its Own Conclusions.

(Special to The Monitor.)

KANSAS CITY, MO., Aug. 6.—As illustrating the disposition to charge crimes to Negroes, of which they are entirely innocent, a recent tragedy enacted near Rosedale, July 27, shows. Herbert G. Woodruff, Emmett Thomas, his partner, and two women, made up an automobile party. Woodruff was shot and killed. The story was given out that the party had been held up by a Negro highwayman. It appears, however, that the parties concerned were married people, whose actions were open to question, and that Woodruff was shot by one of the relatives, husband or father, of one of the women. Someone must be fished and so the all-too-frequent fiction of a "Negro" highwayman or desperado was hit upon.

Sensational headlines in the daily press proclaimed to the world that another heinous crime had been fixed upon the Negro race; a noble scion of a blameless and superior race had been murdered by a "burly black brute" and his virtuous companion violated. But here is the revised version of this sordid event as published in the Kansas City Star of July 28:

Retracting the story he told the Rosedale authorities early yesterday that the murder of Herbert G. Woodruff was committed by a highwayman, Emmett L. Thomas, business partner of the slain man, said today he believed the shooting was done either by the husband or father of one of two married women with whom the two men had gone on a joyride.

To keep the lips of scandal closed a story was plotted among the three remaining of a holdup and robbery, thereby leaving the names of the women out of the case, protecting the name of the dead man and that of his partner, who was to notify the police and tell the story agreed upon.

### Told Policeman True Story.

Thomas, garage partner of Woodruff, and the other man in the party, told the story as agreed upon. But incidentally he confided in a friend, a policeman, Patsy Mutalipassi. And then other persons had seen the four together and whispered the fact to two detectives, Harry Arthur and Harry Bozell.

Thomas repeated early this morning the same story he told yesterday, but when confronted by the policeman he broke down and confessed that the story was "framed" to save the names of the various persons connected with the ride.

### Believes a Relative Slew.

"I was with one woman and Woodruff with the other," Thomas said. "After the shooting I took both the women to their homes, then went to Rosedale and related the version of the shooting based on a holdup. I believe the murder was done either by the father or husband of one of the women, who probably had trailed us in another motor car."

Later on when Woodruff's companion insisted the slayer was a Negro highwayman, who killed Woodruff, robbed him and then attacked her, Thomas said he could not be sure, that the man might have been a Negro, but he never was near enough to the murderer to be sure.

The woman who was with Thomas is unable to help with the identification, but insists that Mrs. Brown's story must be correct.

However, since the first story planned by the three was a palpable fake, the police are proceeding on the theory that relatives of the two women can help sort out the loose ends of the mystery about which the police are not yet certain the three survivors have told all they know or suspect.

After closing the garage at 2705 East Eighteenth street at 10 o'clock Saturday night, Thomas and Woodruff met the two women at Fiftieth street and Troost avenue. Mrs. Blanch Brown, a pretty blonde of 19, 1807 Montgall avenue, sat in the front seat with Woodruff. Mrs. Margaret Love, 23 years old, 4722 Troost, a widow, sat in the tonneau with Thomas.

### Women Are Sisters-in-Law.

The women are sisters-in-law, Mrs. Love's brother, John C. Brown, having married Mrs. Blanche Brown. The latter two are now separated.

After driving around in Mission Hills awhile they took the Olathe road and stopped. Thomas and Mrs. Love walked a short distance away from the car. Mrs. Love removed her shoes she says, because some gravel was bothering her feet.

Woodruff and Mrs. Brown remained near the car.

The remainder of the story was told to Harry Arthur and Harry Bozell, detectives, who took the two women to police headquarters.

### "Negro With a White Kerchief."

"It was about twenty minutes after we had sat down," Mrs. Brown said, "until 'Woody' lighted a cigarette. He got up to go to the car and as he was within a few feet of it the Negro stepped out from behind the car and shot him without saying a word. The Negro had a white handkerchief over the lower part of his face. 'Woody' just groaned and fell.

"Then he came to me—I had jumped to my feet—and he showed the revolver against my breast.

"Come on and do as I say or you'll get the same," he told me in a rough voice.

### Made Woman Search Woodruff.

"Then he took me over to where 'Woody' had fallen and made me search 'Woody's' pockets. I took his money

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### A FORWARD MOVEMENT AMONG STATE MASONS

Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Nebraska Is Organized at Lincoln—Nate Hunter of Omaha Is Elected First Grand Master.

An event of great importance to the Masonic fraternity in this state was the formal organization and setting up of the most worshipful grand lodge A. F. & A. M. of the state of Nebraska at Lincoln Saturday, August 2. Grandmaster Cross of Iowa was the presiding officer. Nebraska has for many years had lodges which were under the jurisdiction of Missouri and of Iowa. It has been the opinion of local Masons for several months that Nebraska ought to have a grand lodge of its own. This has now been realized.

Delegates to the number of sixty, twenty being from Omaha, three from Grand Island, three from Hastings and several from other points were in attendance.

The business of the organization was effected with dispatch. The following grand officers were elected: Grand master, Nate Hunter, Omaha; deputy grand master, Perry Warner, Omaha; senior grand warden, D. P. Booth, Hastings; junior grand warden, J. Noah Thomas, Omaha; grand treasurer, Richard Young, Lincoln; grand secretary, Trago MacWilliams, Lincoln; grand tyler, Dr. C. W. Flippen, Grand Island; grand lecturer, Walter L. Seals, Omaha; grand purveyor, J. G. Gates, Lincoln; grand sword bearer, F. L. Barnett, Omaha; grand marshal, J. H. Woods, Lincoln; grand standard bearer, C. H. Hicks, Omaha; grand senior deacon, Charles W. Dickson, Omaha; grand junior deacon, John H. Crawford, Omaha; grand auditor, I. B. Smith, Lincoln.

The members of Lebanon lodge, Lincoln, provided a splendid banquet for the craft at their well-appointed hall.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska starts out under most favorable and promising auspices with six subordinate lodges and a splendid corps of efficient and enthusiastic grand officers.

### FILLS TEETH WITH GEMS

Pueblo, Colo.—James Luttrell, a Negro wire drawer, who died here recently from the effects of an accident a short time ago, had his front teeth filled with diamonds, the value of which amounts to several hundred dollars.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE CHICAGO RIOTS BY AN EYE WITNESS

Lieutenant Will N. Johnson, Former Star Player on the Nebraska University Foot Ball Team, Well-Known Omaha Attorney and Overseas Fighter, Writes Some Impressions for The Monitor—Revival of the Spirit and Methods of War.



CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—On Sunday afternoon race war broke out. It started from a spark generated from racial friction. During the night there were intermittent flames here and there on the south side; by Monday, Aug. 1, it is indescribable. It is a halocust. Murder, incendiarism, stab-halocust. Murder, incendiarism, stabbing, pistol, rifle, machine gun fire all added to the dismay and terror and death struggle. Negro sharpshooters on the housetops picked off the white pedestrians and autoists. Hooting white mobs ran down Negroes in the loop district to beat, stab and shoot them to death.

It was a war of reprisals. It was an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

### High Lights.

A Colored man and a boy on the Wentworth avenue car on Monday evening were shot to death by men riding on the same car.

A white man on 27th and Dearborn was held by one Negro while another stabbed him to death.

A Colored woman and baby returning from down town were beaten to death by a gang of whites.

### War.

It was nothing less than war, with all its horrid practices, with all of its accepted tactics and operations. Negroes had been fired upon by whites from high powered cars driven through at high speed. Under cover of darkness they stretched a heavy wire across the street. The next car of whites that came by overturned and was shot up.

Like war it was impersonal. It was not the satisfying of a personal grievance. It was not a revenge visited upon a known person. War had been declared by other persons at other places it was only for every white to kill every black and every black to kill every white until peace was declared. From the spirit in which each side sallied forth to do battle came greater satisfaction. To the Negro—at least—the drowning of a Negro youth was a more salutary cause for war than the sinking of the Lusitania. When the causes of war are come so close to home the battle is waged with greater zest.

Every night since Sunday has been a wild night. Negroes set up a machine gun on Wentworth and 47th killing and wounding many whites.

### Causes.

There are two classes of people who do not understand the race war. First, the old school whites who look with friendly eyes upon the Negro as an inferior race, and who tolerate and even assist him in any plan which does not bring his life too close to theirs. Second, the old fashioned Negro, who accepts his condition as fixed with no inclination to change it and who has no proper perspective of his rights as a citizen or his worth as a man. To both these the race war

is incomprehensible. They hold it attributable to (1) Bolshevism; (2) German propaganda; (3) the exodus of the untrained Negro. Any of the three alleged causes are wild conjecture, because labor, and union labor, at that was battling against each other. No motive for German propaganda or any evidence thereof has been adduced. The northern Negro was drawn into the maelstrom with other Colored people.

There is a class, however, who do understand both the fundamental causes and the psychology of the race war. This class is composed of the "wide awake white man" and "the young Negro." The wide awake white man, who although he has some prejudices is sufficiently rational to reason that the Negro, who has suffered and fought and died in every war during the long history of the United States and especially in the late war for the democratization of the world, will not eternally consent to suffer as he has, but will do as the "young Negro" is doing, namely, demand absolute equality. The young Negro has been gassed, bombed and shot up in the late war. He does not need to be a college graduate to know that if he is good enough to die for democracy he is good enough to enjoy it, provided he lived through the fight.

It is plain that this war sprung from the manifest inequality in the protection and administration of justice. Force became law. It was not a riot but a revolution. Many advocate as a solution of the race problem, education, trades, wealth. When he is accorded absolute equality he will have all these and every prize a valiant people is entitled to.

### Results.

Forty-eight whites and 21 Negroes were killed. All these were mostly innocent. It is too bad. Too bad that the innocent of Belgium and of France were killed. But it was war.

Six hundred whites and blacks were injured. Too bad.

The white man will have greater respect for the Negro because he knows that he will fight and is not afraid to die. Men who will submit to being mobbed and mistreated after all the sacrifices they have made for freedom are of small use to society.

### LYNCHED FOR FOOLISH TALK

Cochran, Ga., Aug. 6.—An unidentified Negro riding on a southern railway train which arrived here today told other Negro passengers that he was from Chicago and purposed to help the Negroes of Georgia "do what the Negroes of Chicago did."

On their complaint he was taken from the train and put in the city jail. Later his body was found swinging from a small tree outside.

It is a wise policy to remain true and loyal to old friends.

## Seventeen Rioters Are Indicted

Chicago Jury Acts on Murders and Conspiracies—Judge Advises That Guilty Should Hang—States That Jury Should Act Impartially, but It Is Rather Significant That Only Negroes Have Been Thus Far Indicted.

### COUNTRY WILL DEMAND PUNISHMENT OF ALL

(Special to The Monitor.)

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—Cook county's prosecuting machinery is actively at work to punish all who are guilty of murder, rioting and conspiracy. The first day seventeen Negroes were indicted. There is no reason why whites and blacks should not be jointly examined. Evidently there is a sinister motive back of putting Negroes on trial first. The country will demand impartial treatment of all.

### Judge Favors Hanging.

"The rioting in Chicago is anarchy and should be treated as such," Judge Crowe instructed the jury. "In your deliberations there should be no prejudice, passion, politics or discrimination. Every man who violates the law, regardless of his color, should be promptly indicted. And I promise on behalf of the judiciary of Cook county that they will be promptly placed on trial.

"Where murder has been committed every member of the mob should be tried for murder. The salutary lesson given in the hanging of Spies and Parsons and the other anarchists demonstrates that hoodlumism and mob rule are best curbed by hanging. It would be a calamity, however, if the jury of the judiciary discriminated because of color. It is up to you men to indict regardless of color where the law has been violated."

### The Men Indicted.

Those against whom indictments will be returned this morning and the charges against them are:

Elmer Sanford, Oscar Mondine, James Mays, and McKinley Baldwin, two indictments, one charging conspiracy to riot and one assault to kill.

Henry and Clara Dumas, Sidney Scott, Charles and Willie Richards, William Turner, and James Pitts, four indictments, one for conspiracy to riot and three for assault to kill.

Walter and Amos Like and Lee Alexander, four indictments, conspiracy to riot, carrying concealed weapons (under Sadler law, which makes this a felony), and two charges of assault to kill.

John Washington, Spurgeon Anthony, and William Powell were indicted for murder.

### NEGROES GIVE \$600 TO BUNDY DEFENSE

Kansas City, Mo.—Negroes here contributed more than \$600 toward the defense of LeRoy M. Bundy, a Negro dentist of East St. Louis, Ill., now under life sentence for activity in the East St. Louis race riots in June, 1917, at a meeting in a tent near Twelfth street and Michigan avenue, yesterday.

Bundy's case will be appealed to the supreme court and it is the purpose of the "Bundy defense campaign" of which the Rev. J. W. Hulse of Kansas City, is president, to raise a fund of \$15,000.

Dr. Edward J. Perry, a physician, presided at yesterday's meeting and the speakers were Rev. Hulse and William C. Hueston, the latter having acted as counsel for Bundy at his trial in Waterloo, Ill. Besides reviewing the case, the speaker admonished his hearers to hold a neutral attitude in the race rioting now going on in various cities and not to commit any act whereby it might be caused to crop out here.

### A Warning for New York.

The outbreak of race rioting in Chicago is a reminder, where none should be needed, that such disturbances are not matters of geography or special local conditions. Washington's recent experience showed that such conflicts are not necessarily politics, but an explanation of the cause of riots in Washington would leave the Chicago trouble unexplained. This should serve as a warning to other communities and especially to New York.—Brooklyn, N. Y., Eagle.

Homes of Negroes and Foreigners Were Set on Fire by Frank Jacob, a Painter, Who When Arrested Had Two Flasks of Benzine Which Had Been Used in Starting Fires.

(Special to The Monitor.)

Chicago, Aug. 6.—Much of the mystery concerning the fires which have added to the trouble and intensity of feeling here has been cleared up by the confession to the police of Frank Jacob, a white painter. He confessed to the police that he had set fire to several homes, thus adding a dozen new blazes to those which Saturday destroyed nearly one hundred houses of foreigners employed at the stock yards and which were thought to have been set by either Negroes or labor agitators.

It will be recalled that the houses burned in the foreign district and nearby sections were said to have been saturated with gasoline or benzine and then ignited. When Jacobs was arrested he had two flasks of benzine in his pockets and admitted that he had used benzine in starting the fires.

## Not Aggressors, But Defenders

Race Not Responsible for Deplorable Conditions and Rioting at National Capital—Were Defending Themselves Against Bloodthirsty Attacks of Mobs, Composed Largely of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.

### WASHINGTONIANS ISSUE STATEMENT

Doctor Emmett J. Scott and Judge Terrell Advise Country of Efforts to Restore Normal Conditions—Urge Co-operation Between Representative Citizens of Both Races in All Communities to Prevent Similar Disturbances.

(Special to The Monitor.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 6.—Although by prompt action upon the part of the local authorities and the vigorous defense of their persons and property by the Colored people of this district, who were attacked by hoodlums, conditions have become normal here, it will be of interest to know that the best elements of the community deplore the outbreak and are not slow in placing the blame for it where it properly belongs. Negroes were not aggressors. They did not precipitate the trouble. They defended themselves when they were attacked. There were, of course, as would naturally be expected, regrettable cases of reprisal, but be it said to their credit the race was not responsible for the riot.

Two of the leaders of the Colored race in the District, Dr. Emmett J. Scott, secretary-treasurer of Howard university, formerly special assistant to the secretary of war, and Judge Robert H. Terrell of the municipal court, have issued a statement which is being sent to the Colored newspapers of the country and to those who have made inquiries.

### Leaders' Statement.

The statement follows: "Letters and telegrams from Colored people throughout the country have come to us and to others of our race here in Washington from all parts of the country, revealing widespread unrest and agitation among the thoughtful leaders of the Negro people, who sense a growing feeling of suspicion as between the races at a time when there should be amity, concord and mutual respect and confidence.

"For the benefit of those who are apprehensive we beg to say that it has been our privilege and the privilege of the thoughtful leaders among the Colored people of Washington to co-operate during these trying days in every possible way to bring about a restoration of friendly relations between the races here in Washington. It has been our privilege, and the privilege of many others of our race, to serve the interests of the Negro people of this community and the best interest of the community itself by counseling during these anxious days with the important officials of the District of Columbia who are charged with the responsibility of (Continued on Page 3.)