

THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans.

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THE ROOSEVELT CREED

I BELIEVE in honesty, sincerity and the square deal; in making up one's mind what to do—and doing it.

- I believe in fearing God and taking one's own part.
- I believe in hitting the line hard when you are right.
- I believe in speaking softly and carrying a big stick.
- I believe in hard work and honest sport.
- I believe in a sane mind in a sane body.
- I believe we have room for but one soul loyalty, and that is loyalty to the American people.

THE MONITOR

OPPOSES SEGREGATION

SOME lily-livered, grinning, "Yes, sah, Georges" and "in-floo-ential preachahs" have been contending that The Monitor was wrong in sounding a note of warning against segregation. They maintained that there was no such movement on foot. They knew better; for they themselves have, knowingly and designedly, been giving encouragement to the movement. They know The Monitor is right in its position and because they do not approve of our position on this and other matters they have been planning and are planning now to put another publication in the field that will be subservient to their selfish aims and short-sighted policy.

Do the people want this? We believe that our people desire a paper that will fearlessly, but wisely and sanely, contend for their rights. This The Monitor has always done and will continue to do.

The Monitor lays no claim to infallibility, and our policy is to be sure of the facts before taking a position and when a position is taken to defend it with vigor and candor and to maintain it at all hazards. We never shy at white stones. We know when we speak, whereof we speak and we never speak without cause. There are many things we could say and will say whenever it becomes necessary to do so.

We have known for some time, not from hearsay, but from personal knowledge, that certain agencies and individuals have been scheming, planning and working to bring about segregation or enforced colonization, by which our people would be restricted to certain districts, both as to residence, business and civic privileges. The Monitor stated and reiterates the statement that it would oppose any such movement and fight any agency or individuals who sponsor such a movement. And in this opposition we are sustained by the supreme court of the United States which has rendered the decision that such segregation ordinances or "agreements" are unconstitutional and an unwarranted invasion of the personal and property rights of American citizens. We are American citizens.

As a proof of the fact that The Monitor knew whereof it spoke when we stated some weeks ago that one of the local issues to be met was segregation, we call attention to the petition to the city council from the Central Park Men's Club, published in last week's issue of the North Omaha Booster, the weekly publication of the business and real estate men in the territory contiguous to Twenty-fourth street and Ames avenue. We publish it in this issue. Read it. Mark, learn and inwardly digest it.

The Monitor commends the at present unknown petitioners for their frankness and honesty in giving publicity to their actions and sentiments. Other "organizations," "exchanges," improvement (?) clubs, etc., have not been equally as honest. To these latter we commend consideration of these words from Holy Scripture: "That which is hidden shall be brought to light," "and the devices of the evil shall be brought to naught."

We hope that the eyes of our people and of our friends—for we have numbers of them among the dominant race—will be opened to see that there is a wholly uncalculated and unnecessary movement right here in Omaha for enforced segregation. Uncalled for, for our people are cleanly, industrious and law-abiding; unnecessary, for there is no disposition upon the part of our people for any wholesale invasion of any exclusive residential sections. But that our people have a right to purchase, own and maintain homes in any section of the city in keeping with their means and culture is axiomatic. This is a constitutional right which cannot and will not be surrendered. This must be perfectly

understood. The surrender of the right of domicile carries with it the surrender of other rights.

Whatever others may think about it, this is the position of The Monitor, which voices the sentiments of the red-blooded, thoughtful, self-respecting, upstanding men and women of this community. Of course this position does not suit some "grinning Georges" and "in-floo-ential profiteering" preachahs, but it does suit the rank and file who really count.

Our slogan is: "No surrender of constitutional rights."

Let those who stand with us on this platform speak out and rally to our standard.

A STORY WITH A POINT.

THE Monitor respectfully commends the following story to the attention of the Central Park Men's Club and those of like views and indulges the hope—albeit a forlorn one—that the aggregation may muster enough brains among themselves to appreciate its obvious application:

"A white man was traveling through the country in Alabama, and an aged colored man was driving the mule which drew their buggy. A fly buzzed about the mule's head: 'What is that?' asked the white man. 'Jes' a hoss-fly,' answered the colored man. 'What is a horse-fly?' 'Jes' a fly whut buzzes around the heads of hosses an' mules an' jackasses.' Just then a similar fly was buzzing about the white man's head: 'How's this, Uncle, I am not a horse am I?' 'No, sir, you ain't no hoss.' 'Well, I do not look like a mule, do I?' 'No, sir, not to me you don't.' 'Well, you don't mean to insinuate that I am a jackass?' 'No, sir; I don't mean to 'sinnate nuthin' and I ain't called you no jackass—but, you see, you can't fool de hoss-fly.'

THE ACQUITTAL OF SNYDER.

TO one who listened to the evidence in the case of Ralph Snyder, charged with conspiracy to murder in connection with the lynching of William Brown it seemed quite apparent that he was guilty, and not entitled to acquittal. The prosecution was to the effect that beyond the shadow of a doubt Snyder was a conspirator and active in encouraging the rioting. The prosecution was strong and vigorous and asked for a conviction. There was evidence which showed the criminal activity of Snyder in the mob before and after the lynching. The jury's verdict was therefore a surprise. It, however, suggests a serious question:

Must it be recognized that the county attorney's office has a difficult task on its hands because many who were witnesses of the persons and events on the night of the lynching were sympathizers with the mob?

However this question may be answered, we feel sure that the failure to secure a conviction in this case ought not and will not cause the authorities to cease their efforts to vigorously prosecute all who were indicted. The eyes of the world are upon the United States at this time to see if we are really in earnest to suppress lawlessness and maintain the supremacy of law, the only safeguard of civilization. And the eyes of America are now upon Omaha to see if she will vindicate her outraged honor and set a salutary example for the country. Omaha must not fail.

LEADING EDITORIALS.

A Real Competitor.

Out in the state of California a colored girl led her large class of white students, and earned the envied place of honor student. There were quite a number of students in her class. All went well during the entire course of study. No one seemed to manifest any special interest in the successful young lady, but when the time came to distribute honors, there was an uproar among those who had been outstripped by the young lady of color. This situation is not new. We have

had similar cases before, but we have not had such a demonstration of Americanism before on the part of the authorities. Some one has always weakened. But in this case there was an American who declared for the right. He did not see the color of the young woman's skin. He measured her by the rules and regulations of the school. She was not there as a Negro, but as a student in an American institution. The young woman suffered some notoriety and embarrassment, but she won.

It is un-American to enter the race with any other American and whine because you lose. The race is not won until the course is run. The men who cannot stand competition will soon find this country too small for him. The girl was a real competitor. She asked nothing but the terms and condition of the contest. They were: Studiousness, a strict compliance with the rules and perfection in recitation. She entered under these conditions. So did all of them. She won, not by whining about her color, nor by asking for advantages because she is colored, but by excelling as a student. This kind of competition beats all to hollow the system adopted by the complaining, whining, begging fellow who thinks so much of his color he can not find time to compete.—The Pittsburgh (Pa.) Courier.

FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF LYNCHING Some Suggestions. (New York Call)

What, in your opinion, should be the lowest age at which a Negro could be lynched without destroying our best traditions?

Georgia, always in the van for innovation, has just completed, with its usual taste for finish, the dispatch of a nine-year-old. The boy was hauled through the streets by a rope and then carefully and chivalrously shot. Now this gives rise to several questions in the matter of lynching, and we feel that the art can take its place with other purely American customs, which, so we understand, is the envy of the whole European continent and has already taken its immortal niche in Madame Tussaud's Waxworks.

Our third degree system has been brought to a perfect state. We know that our police force can be depended upon to deliver the goods and our American pride is satisfied with that department of democracy. But in our lynchings we still seem to be groping around in haphazard fashion. One state, for instance, will take up the fashion of burning a Negro in oil, another will merely hang him and then stifle his breath, shoot him in order to end his sufferings. This is a compromise, we feel, with the original spirit of our national conscience. Again, other parts of the republic have seen fit to declare holidays when the lynchings were larger than ordinary and women as well as men were scheduled to furnish the amusement.

The latter plan, it seems to us, approaches nearer, in a spiritual way, to the best things in lynching. But there is a drawback even to this, for in the states where it has been done, while thousands were given the chance to enjoy the spectacle, the children could not be present, as the cotton mills did not close down during the executions. However, that is a mere detail and no doubt the ingenuity of our public officials will rectify the oversight.

But how shall we determine the minimum age?

At nine, as Georgia has selected, the Negro child, it seems to us, offers little attraction as a lynchee. In the first place, a child at that age is too easily killed and the sport ends much too quickly. Why, dragging a mere child over cobblestones is apt to kill it before the tree or lamp-post is reached and what then? Disappointment for all concerned and probably a long walk back to the house, with the dinner grown cold for practically nothing.

We believe the proper way to lynch a child, assuming that the Georgian age is a good one at which to begin, would be to hand the youngster over to the white children for practice. Let them take the victim into a schoolyard, for example, where the see-saws and other toys are placed. The colored boy might be placed under one end of the see-saw, which could then be raised and allowed to fall upon his head. After he comes back to consciousness the act could be repeated until the white children tire of this, when, let us say, a good object lesson in Biblical history be adopted to bring the afternoon to a happy and satisfying end.

With the proper instructors our children would then grow into manhood and womanhood with an expert knowledge of the business and be capable of getting everything out of lynching that is possible. Not only the pure joy of the whole thing, but the unquestionably, with the assistance of some ex-Y. M. C. A. directors who lost their jobs on getting back from France, the commercial instinct would be fostered and the children taught to treat a corpse in such a way that portions could be sold as souvenirs to those whose age does not permit them to attend the event. As

a suggestion, a good ear or portions of the scalp, and arm or a foot might be syndicated to the Macon Telegraph, the Chattanooga Times, or the Atlanta Constitution for photographic reproduction and the children thus taught to earn their own pin money.

We have no desire to be the supreme arbiter in this matter and the column is open to suggestions for the advancement and improvement of lynching. But we do believe our citizens should be taught these matters in their youth as an education fundamental. We offer this suggestion to the boards of education and to the Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls.

LOUIS WEITZENHORN.

COLORED COMMERCIAL CLUB BANQUETS

New Organization, Which Aims to Develop and Foster Business Enterprises, Starts Out Auspiciously—Seventy of Its Membership of Eighty-four Have Dinner at South & Thompson's Cafe.

The Colored Commercial Club of Omaha, an organization which has as its object "the promotion of the commercial, industrial and public interests and welfare of the city and the bringing about of a better understanding with the business and commercial interests of Omaha, has started out auspiciously with a membership of eighty-four. Seventy of the eighty-four members sat down to a well-served banquet at South & Thompson's cafe Wednesday night. The dinner was a get-together affair. E. W. Pryor, the president, briefly stated that the object of the organization. Speeches on "The Colored Man in Business;" "Public Health" and "Obligations," were made by A. P. Scruggs, Dr. J. H. Hutten and Dan Desdunes, respectively. Brief remarks were made by several other speakers among whom were Dr. W. W. Peebles, A. W. Lewis, John T. McDonald, Jr., Rufus Long, Chas. W. Dickerson, Murphy Lynch, Dr. John A. Singleton, Alfred Jones, Irving W. Gray and R. B. Rhodes. The invocation before dinner was said by the Rev. J. A. Broadnax. At the conclusion of the dinner the president announced the chairmen of the several standing committees of the club who will also be members of the executive committee. It was a splendid representative gathering of men, who have the ability to make a great record for our people in business and commercial activities.

PIONEER CHICAGOAN DEAD.

Beauregard Mosley, well known politician and former newspaper man, died in Chicago last week after a short illness. Though aged in years, he was rugged of frame and seemed fitted by nature to be listed among the long livers of this earth.

Mosley has been active in politics and things racial in Chicago ever since the days when Twenty-ninth street was considered "way out south," and up to the time of his illness was always found in the front ranks advocating the cause of his people.

The recent race riot, during which he worked incessantly, is believed by the friends of Mosley to have brought on a physical breakdown which was the direct cause of his death.

The old warrior, who led the advance in many scrimmages, answered the roll call for the last time.

BANKING INSTITUTION OF SAVANNAH IS MAKING WONDERFUL PROGRESS

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 17.—Nearly a quarter of a million dollars increased assets and more than four thousand new depositors is the record for the past twelve months made by the Wage Earners' Savings bank, as shown by the annual report of L. E. Williams, president. Total assets now amount to \$779,285, and there are more than 15,000 depositors who reside in twenty-eight states.

The bank is nineteen years old and pays an annual dividend of twelve per cent. It has invested in several Negro enterprises and is at present promoting the Consolidated Realty Corporation, capitalized at \$500,000, which is to build a hotel, department store and theater.

FIGHTS EXTRADITION FROM NEW JERSEY TO GEORGIA

Hoboken, N. J., Dec. 15.—The colored citizens of Jersey City have petitioned Governor Runyon for a hearing on the case of Andrew Jackson, colored, of Jersey City, before extradition papers are signed for his removal to Georgia. Jackson was arrested at Jersey City by the sheriff of Colquitt county, Georgia, charged with the murder of a white man about four years ago.

It is the desire of the Negro petitioners that the Georgia authorities guarantee New Jersey that Jackson if extradited, will meet with justice and not mob law. Attention was called to the number of lynchings in the southern state and a demand made that New Jersey take a stand against permitting this sort of lawlessness. Jackson denies the charge made against him.



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IT PAYS Children \$3.00 Weekly Benefits for the small weekly premium of 10 cents. Just think of a Home company where you receive such large weekly benefits.

We have a force of Eight Colored Agents working in the City at present and have openings for more. Come and see us. Just say "I read your ad in The Monitor." Our slogan: "Equality Before the Law."

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