

THE MONITOR

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

A RIGHT start in all things is of the first importance. We have one or two practical suggestions to make to our readers at the outset of this year. Many of them, we are glad to say, will not need these suggestions. Others will. Probably the majority will. Our first suggestion is this: that we start right away with a systematic plan of saving at least a small amount of our earnings every week. It may be only a dime a week, but that will be a start and the habit will grow. Savings banks will furnish little banks in which you can save your pennies and dimes and then deposit them in the bank. The United States Postal Savings Banks will accept deposits as low as a dime. Start this year with a savings account. Save something systematically. Building and Loan Associations, banks, the United States Treasury Department and other agencies offer excellent opportunities for you to save money and receive interest on your savings. If you have not already done so, start a savings account now. We are all extravagant spenders, let us become judicious savers. Let us strive to improve our financial condition by saving our money. This is the first suggestion. Our other suggestion is that we take advantage of the many opportunities which offer themselves to improve ourselves intellectually, by a systematic course of reading good books or taking some course of study. Save and study is a good slogan for the year. But whatever else you may or may not do, start saving now.

GROWING BUSINESS ABILITY.

IN the review of racial conditions prepared by the Associated Negro Press, one of the outstanding features is the progress shown by our people along industrial and commercial lines. This is a significant and encouraging fact. Hitherto our people have been very timid about entering the business world. We have been afraid to venture, and if some business enterprise inadequately financed, and therefore for this reason, as much as any other, unable to meet competition, failed, we have lost heart, and become too easily discouraged, instead of trying again. The last few years however, have shown that we are become more and more determined to succeed in the business world. Failures of course there will be from various causes, but the successes will be more in number than the failures and by degrees we will take our rightful place in the business and commercial world. We are headed in the right direction and slowly making progress. We must

help make places for our young men and women by encouraging and supporting our own business enterprises. We can only learn by trying and doing. That our group in every large center is venturing more and more into the business and commercial world is a most hopeful sign. It means growth and development in business acumen and ability.

SUPPORT THE DYER BILL.

THE MONITOR respectfully urges the Nebraska congressional delegation to vote for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. It is a measure aimed at the suppression of lynching which all right-thinking Americans must deplore. It is just as essential in the light of past experience that we have a federal law to combat this evil as it is to have a federal law to enforce prohibition or to protect women in the exercise of the franchise. This is no more an invasion of states rights than other national laws now upon the statute books. The Dyer Bill should be passed and we expect to see the entire Nebraska delegation supporting it.

THE PACKING HOUSE STRIKE.

OUR sympathy is wholly with the packing house employees who are resisting a reduction in wages. The poverty talk by the packers is all bunk. The workers are entitled to living wages and this they are not getting. We hope the strikers will win. And because we want to see them win we want to see them refrain from acts of violence which will alienate public sympathy. Working men are in sad traits at this time. Many without employment for many months and facing starvation have eagerly seized the chance to work, even though it may work a hardship for the strikers. They become strike-breakers not from choice but from necessity. The general non-employment makes this strike untimely. It seems to have been adroitly forced which complicates the situation.

FOR OR AGAINST THE KLAN

THAT notorious movie, "The Birth of a Nation," one of the most insidious and dangerous agencies of anti-Negro propaganda issuing from the Ku Klux Klan is scheduled to show in Omaha at a local theatre. Its production has been barred from several states and cities. There is an ordinance under which its appearance in this city can be forbidden by the authorities. We respectfully call upon Mayor Dahlman and the city administration to forbid the showing of this

preudice-breeding movie in Omaha. They have the authority to do it. The question is, will they use that authority? The picture glorifies the hooded, night-riding murdering Ku Klux Klan which was suppressed by congressional authority in the reconstruction days for its deeds of violence and bloodshed. It has a sinister motive back of it, which in these feverish days may lead to serious consequences. The Monitor places this matter fairly and squarely before the city administration and leaves it up to it with this question: Are you for the Ku Klux Klan or Against It? This picture is Kluxie propaganda, pure and simple. The Monitor awaits an answer.

BOOK CHAT

By MARY WHITE OVINGTON
 Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
 "Peace in Friendship Village."
 By Zona Gale, Publishers: The Macmillan Company, New York City. Price, \$2.25, including postage.
 Recently I wrote of "The Brimming Cup" and of Dorothy Canfield's deep sympathy with the Negro. Since then I have run across a volume of short stories and find that Zona Gale, another of our most popular novelists, has struck almost the same note. Zona Gale is one of America's best known story writers. "Miss Lula Bett," her latest novel, had a phenomenal success both as novel and play. Perhaps she is best known, however, by her series of stories centering about "Friendship Village."

"Friendship Village" is no "Main Street," but describes a kindly pleasant community with Caliope (what a name for an elderly spinster!), the most friendly of its inhabitants, occupying a central place. And it is in the volume entitled "Peace in Friendship Village," where we learn of what the village folk did after the war for their foreign population—for the Greek, the Pole, the Slav—that, tucked in the middle of the book, we have a story entitled "Dream" that sounds a startling note on the Negro question.

It begins with Caliope's visiting her friend, Mis' Sykes, and both of them noticing that the Old Moxon House has been rented. They must be pretty fine people, they argue, to be able to pay the rent of twenty dollars. They watch and see the goods arrive in a van—a piano, comfortable-looking furniture. It is then that Mis' Sykes declares "Whoever it is will be a distinct addition to Friendship Village society." They learn that their new neighbor's name is Burton Fernandes, a most aristocratic appellation, and Mis' Sykes decides that as the newcomers are moving in on Friday they will get up a surprise party for Saturday night. When Caliope suggests that Mis' Sykes is perhaps too sure regarding the newcomers, Mis' Sykes declares, "Folkses' individualism is expressed in folkses' furniture. You can't tell me that, with those belongings, we can go wrong in our judgment." "Well," Caliope says, "I can't go wrong because I can't think of anything that would make me give them the cold shoulder. That's another comfort about being friends to everybody—you don't have to decide which one you want to know." "You're so

queer," says Mis' Sykes, tolerant. "You miss all the satisfaction of being exclusive; and you can't afford not to be." "Mebbe not," Caliope says; "mebbe not, but I am willing to try it; hang the expense!"

On the day the newcomers arrive Caliope finds that her hyacinth bulbs need repotting, and she carries a pot to the new neighbor. She is ushered into a beautiful room filled with books and pictures and meets her hostess, a lovely lady. This is Caliope's description of her: "I gave her the flower and I don't believe I looked surprised any more than when I first saw the picture of the disciples, that the artists had painted their skins dark, like it must have been. Mrs. Fernandes was dark, too, but her people had not come from Asia, but from Africa." Caliope sits down to chat and learns of the daughter, who is at Chicago University, and of the son, who is returning from France where he has received the Cross of War. With this story she faces Mis' Sykes and wants to know her decision regarding the surprise party. But I won't tell more of the story. You must read it yourself to learn how it turns out.

I wondered, as I read it, what the reaction has been on the part of Miss Gale's many admirers who have read this exquisite "Dream."

Blind, Reads With Tongue.
 Braille characters are, of course, read with the fingers, but one armless blind man has been taught to read with his tongue.

Somewhat Hard on Humanity.
 Every man's experience of today is that he was a fool yesterday and the day before yesterday. Tomorrow he will most likely be of exactly the same opinion.—Mackay.

Ornery Animal Is Offered for Sale

Grenada, Miss.—The tax supervisors of Grenada county have reduced the assessment on W. W. Whitaker's mule from \$50 to \$20, the value originally placed on the animal by its owner, after having raised the assessment to the larger figure. In a letter to the supervisors Mr. Whitaker states:

"In valuing this mule to the assessor at \$20 I was extremely liberal with the county. It would have seemed too ridiculous to have placed him at his real value, which, at the time of falling values, could not have exceeded \$10.
 "I hereby make this proposition to any member of the board, to any other citizen of the county or state: Give me \$20 and take the mule, and my good Lord be with you until we meet beyond the river.
 "For inherent wickedness of heart and meanness of disposition this mule, in comparison, makes the devil a smiling cherub; for a disinclination to dissipate useful energy this beast makes the grasshopper a model of industry."

Mushroom Grows Under Snow.
 Mountain mushrooms are said by the French Academy of Sciences to be "the world's crowning gastronomic delight." Professor Constantine, botanist, told the savants he had discovered a small mushroom which grows under the snow, while hunting edibles in the Alps at 7,000 feet altitude. Several high-class restaurants are starting Alpine expeditions.

DIAMOND

THE NEW
 24th & LAKE STREETS
 FRIDAY—
 Episodes 1 and 2 of WINNERS OF THE WEST
 ALICE BRADY
 In
 LITTLE ITALY
 SATURDAY—
 WILLIAM FAIRBANKS
 In
 HEARTS OF THE WEST
 Also a good Two-Reel Comedy.
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 in
 PLEASURE SEEKERS
 HOAT GIBSON
 in
 THE WILD WILD WEST
 Harem and Hookem 2 Reel Comedy

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\$453,996.83
 Was received in dividends by the stockholders of the Omaha Loan and Building Association for the six months period ending December 31. This in addition to the sum of \$430,558.46 paid on July 1st, or a total of \$884,555.29 for the year.
 You can share in these earnings by simply opening an account with us.
 We pay 6 per cent compounded semi-annually.
Omaha Loan and Building Association
 The Oldest Savings Institution in Omaha.
 Northwest Corner Fifteenth and Dodge Streets.
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 The plant of the Omaha Milk Company is thoroughly equipped and modern with all its machinery. The milk is pasteurized and clarified. Bottles are individually washed and sterilized, and filled and capped automatically. The milk is kept cold until delivered to you by the means of an ice machine.
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 Our delivery men are men of long experience—the pick of the best men that can be found. They will give you prompt, careful, courteous service daily.
 PRODUCTS—
 We deliver milk, cream, whipping cream, buttermilk butter and cottage cheese.
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 Sleeveless Sweaters, special \$1.68
 A Heavy All-Leather Work Shoe 4.95
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2775 UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY
REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF The Merchants National Bank OF OMAHA, NEB.
 At the Close of Business December 31, 1921.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$ 9,713,600.69
U. S. Bonds for Circulation	50,000.00
Banking House	106,000.00
U. S. Bonds and Certificates	500,154.11
Other Bonds	117,250.00
Cash and Due from Banks	3,715,771.80
	\$14,202,771.80
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock Paid in	\$ 1,000,000.00
Surplus	500,000.00
Undivided Profits	479,250.12
National Bank Notes	49,400.00
Deposits	12,046,164.55
Rediscout with Federal Reserve Bank	127,957.13
	\$14,202,771.80

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