

# THE MONITOR

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

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## ARTICLE XIV. CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

### Citizenship Rights Not to Be Abridged.

1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.



### THEORY AND FACT.

VICE President Coolidge in his excellent address delivered at the opening of the "Government Hospital for Negro Veterans of the World War" at Tuskegee on Lincoln's birthday, enunciated several fundamental principles to which all right-minded and well-thinking people will subscribe. He clearly defined the position to which America in theory, at least, is committed, and the principles for which she theoretically stands, but even a superficial observer must admit that there is a wide divergence between theory and fact. The theory is, as Mr. Coolidge aptly states it, "That America stands unchangeably committed to the principle of the right of individual freedom made forever clear and plain by Abraham Lincoln," but the fact is that "the right of individual freedom" is largely mythical so far as a large group of American citizens is concerned. The theory is, that the United States is a democracy, where all her citizens are entitled to the same privileges in American national institutions; but the fact is, as the opening of this very hospital exclusively for "Negro Veterans of the World War" most graphically illustrates, that principle and application are at hostility. It is because there is such a wide divergence between theory and fact in our American life that the voice of protest is becoming clearer and louder with the belief that ultimately theory and fact, principle and practice will become more fully in accord.

We are grateful for Mr. Coolidge's review of the deeds of our race which have justified the faith of Abraham Lincoln. We accept with gratitude his statement that "The Negro's record at home and abroad during the war won for them the gratitude of the American people," but we regret to say that we fail to see much evidence of this gratitude. In this again there is a yawning gulf between theory and fact. If the undeniable increase of race prejudice, in all sections of the country, studied and systematic efforts to restrict privileges and humiliate and embarrass our self-respecting people, be manifestations of this gratitude, then indeed are the American people grateful for "the Negro's record" by no means discouraged, nor ord at home and abroad during the war." But even though we thus speak will our people abate by on jot or tittle all honorable efforts in the future to surpass their splendid record in peace and in war during the past sixty-five years until by the very strength of their character, manhood and achievements they will force the ideals to which America is unquestionably committed to become real not only in theory but in fact.

### AN ILLUSTRIOUS TRIUMVIRATE.

It is rather remarkable that February should have been the birth-month of that most illustrious triumvirate of Americans, Washington, Douglas and Lincoln. If named in chronological order, it would be Lincoln, Douglas and Washington, for Abraham Lincoln was born on Feb. 12, Frederick Douglass on Feb. 15, and George Washington on Feb. 22. The first two were born in humble circumstances and lowly station, and the last in comparative wealth and affluence. Two were of white parentage and free born, the other of African blood and lineage and born a slave. Yet all three rose to eminence and usefulness in the nation. Two of them reached the presidency of the Republic; the other, despite his color and previous servitude, arose to the high position of minister plenipotentiary of the United States and the trusted advisor of presidents. When Lincoln was born in the backwoods of Kentucky who could have foreord or foreseen the work to which he would be called, the eminence to which he would rise and the historic place he would hold among the nobly great? When the little Negro slave was born on a Maryland plantation, who ever dream-

ed that he would become a free man, sway hundreds of thousands with his eloquence and serve his native land, which counted him as a chattel, with merit and distinction, and attain a high niche in the hall of fame? Though the son of a country gentleman, none would have foretold that George Washington would have become the first president of the United States and won a place among rulers and princes of the earth. From birth and parentage his case is not so phenomenal as that of either Lincoln or Douglas. The case of the latter seemed the most unlikely and unpromising of all and yet note well to what eminence he arose. All things are possible when a child is born. No matter how lowly his parentage or humble his birth who can gauge the eminence to which he is destined to arise? It is well for us to celebrate the anniversaries of this illustrious triumvirate. They force upon our attention many helpful thoughts. The lives of Douglass and Lincoln should prove an inspiration to all youth born in humble circumstances. The life of Frederick Douglass, the slave boy who became a United States minister and the advisor of presidents, should prove an inspiration to children of our race and fill them with the desire and determination to be and do all that may become a man. The life of Douglass and of Lincoln teach clearly this truth among many others:

"Honor and shame from no condition rise,  
Act well thy part, there all the honor lies."

### LENT.

Hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world are observing a forty day period of fasting, penitence, prayer and special services. This forty day period, or to be exact, forty-six day period, for the Sundays are not included as days of fasting, is known as Lent. The word "Lent" really means spring, but in common usage it means the period of special religious exercises and observance which many thousands of people find to be of great help to them in the spring of each year. A period of this kind, so generally used by so many thousands and for many hundreds of years, must have some real meaning, value and significance. It has. That such a season of intensive religious training, for that it what it really is, must be helpful to those who use it, goes without saying. The purpose of the observance of Lent is to help discipline character and strengthen the will. For many years the observance of Lent was confined to Roman Catholics, Episcopalians and Lutherans, chiefly, but in later years other bodies of Christian people have begun to recognize its value and so its observance is growing. It may be a mere perfunctory thing, or it may prove a real spiritual help. We are quite sure that those who enter rightly and sincerely into the spirit of Lent will receive help from it. Like everything else worth while people will get out of the observance of Lent just what they put into it.

### RACE RELATIONS

THE movement inaugurated by the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches is a step in the right direction. The plan proposed is sufficiently elastic to be applied to all communities where there is the slightest desire to come to a better understanding and more genial relationship between the races to counteract the much to be regretted and uncalled for misunderstanding which is becoming acute and which only the spirit of Christ can allay. The interchange of visits upon the part of representatives of both groups to their respective houses of worship and an attempt thereby to become acquainted cannot but bear good fruit. Where this is not deemed practicable conferences between representatives will be helpful.

If the spirit of Christ is in the heart of both races, as we believe it is, even though it may be very imperfectly manifested, there is no reason in the world why amity and goodwill should not supplant suspicion and dislike which develops rapidly into hatred.

### HEROISM OF RACE IN WAR IS LAUDED BY VICE PRESIDENT

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made marvelous progress. That progress is shown not only in the property which they have acquired, not only in the talent which they have exhibited in the arts, in the professions, nor yet in the administration of business affairs, all of which have been very great, but most of all in the honest, industrious way in which the great body of their people have performed. Their greatest contribution lies in the fact that they have helped to do the work of the nation.

"When the call came in time of war they were ready and desirous of enlisting. More than two and one-quarter millions of them were registered under the selective draft. They were more anxious to enlist than they were to evade any service for their country. In spite of every deception or temptation to which public enemies artfully subjected them, they exhibited a loyalty and devotion to the cause of America which was unsurpassed. Nearly 400,000 of them went into military service.

"The total casualty of Negro troops, he said, was approximately 103 officers and 1,543 enlisted men, of whom six officers and 203 enlisted men were killed in action. Four Negro officers and 43 enlisted men received the distinguished service cross, he added.

It was not merely their soldiers in the field but their citizens in the supporting army of production and transportation at home, both men and women, whose efforts contributed to the success of the allied armies, the vice president asserted. "More than that, they gave generously of their resources, purchasing the securities of the government and contributing to the Red Cross and other war charities. Their patriotism shines forth in every field of action."

The Negro's record at home and abroad during the war won them the everlasting gratitude of the American people, he said. "They have justified the faith of Abraham Lincoln."

Turning again to the life of Lincoln, the vice president said: "It takes time and patience and perseverance to put into practice our theory of human rights. Lincoln knew that. If there was one virtue that he seemed to possess more than another, it was that of forbearance. It is well for us, who must live together as Americans, whatever our race or creed may be, constantly to remember his words: 'We are not enemies but friends. We must not be enemies.' Liberty, the vice president said, is of slow growth, but irresistible. It took the long debates of Clay, Calhoun and Webster and the vigilant action of Jackson, no less than the decisions of Marshall and the wise counsel of Washington, to reveal the true spirit of the union. At length the time came for another forward step, another extension of the principle of freedom. Like all others, it was wrought in sacrifice. At last the national character of our government was finally established. The fabric of the union was finally complete. The rank of citizens was all free. It was out of this period of suffering and sorrow there emerged a great statesman. Abraham Lincoln and two great soldiers, Grant and Lee. Each of these represented an American ideal. Lee stands for the power of the states. Grant stands for the power of the nation. But to Lincoln it was given to stand for the power of the people."

son whose prejudices have been fostered there have been many real Americans who have accepted the challenge to our traditions of justice and fair play and have become aroused to throw their influence with the constructive forces.

"The result has been an increased interest in and support of the Urban League movement and a like stimulation of the other forces for co-operation, such as the Commission on Interracial Relations which is becoming

### URBAN LEAGUE IS STEADILY MAKING INFLUENCE FELT

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so important as an influence in the South, and the activities of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America."

As material evidence of this increased interest, the Urban League announced that four new cities had organized affiliated groups in 1922 and that the income of the national organization had increased from \$15,000 to a total of \$43,486.

Announcement was also made that friends of the late Mrs. Harry Plotz, who died in Paris last spring, had raised \$10,000 which had been given to the National Urban League for the establishment of the Ella Sachs Plotz Fund, the income from which is to be devoted "to the development and training of some Negro man or woman especially fitted for social and civic service in the community." Mrs. Plotz, who was a daughter of Samuel Sachs, was an active member of the Urban League Board and a Trustee of Fisk university.

Irving S. Merrell, president of the Merrell-Soule Company of Syracuse, and a trustee of Tuskegee Institute, and C. C. Spaulding, secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the largest Negro insurance company, were elected to the Executive Board, and among those re-elected for a term of three years were Felix Adler, Mrs. Julius Rosenwald Mrs. Booker T. Washington, William G. Wilcox, Miss Nannie Burroughs of Washington and James J. Dillard of Charlottesville, Va. The officers, including Mr. Wood, chairman; Dr. Robert R. Moton as vice-chairman, William H. Baldwin as secretary and A. S. Frissell as treasurer, were re-elected.

The executive secretary of the league, Eugene Kinckle Jones, presented his annual report showing the establishment of four new branches of the league, the establishment of a new monthly magazine, "Opportunity", a journal of Negro life, surveys of the Negroes of Hartford and of the industrial opportunities of the Negroes in Baltimore.

Record of the work in local communities was also presented.

### N. H. THOMAS PROTESTS AGAINST "MAMMY" STATUE

Neval H. Thomas, member of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has written a letter to the Washington Evening Star, protesting against that newspaper's editorial endorsement of the plan to erect a memorial to "colored mammys" of the south in the national capital. Mr. Thomas refers to the plan as "movement having for its object to keep colored people in their former state of servitude." Mr. Thomas, after pointing out that the measure is sponsored by Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, continues:

"We are glad that the white race appreciates the divine virtues of truth and loyalty which the 'black mammy' has, and has in abundance, but it overlooks the other divine virtue that is here, a divine love for her offspring. She bore her sufferings in patience because she believed that through them America's conscience would quicken and give her children and her children's children the justice they so richly deserve. My own beloved mother was one of those unfortunates who had the flower of her youth spent in a slave cabin, and I know the heart of a slave mother, its intense longing for better things for her children.

"Every 'black mammy' who looks down from Heaven today upon this disorderly world delights to see her beautiful daughters and granddaughters aspiring and attaining unto the beautiful and the true in spite of their handicaps which the southern spirit which proposes this monument throw around them. She loves to see their reading the best in literature, filling positions of usefulness, taking honor at the best universities in the land and reigning over cultured homes, not as 'old mammy,' but as dutiful wife and tender mother.

"So if the South has such deep gratitude for the virtues of this devoted group from which it reaped vast riches let it remove the numberless barriers it has gone out of its way to throw up against the progress of the noble Negro womanhood who sprang from these 'mammys.' Democracy is the monument which the 'colored mammy' wants erected to her, and not a marble shaft, which at best will be but a symbol of our servitude, to remind white and black alike that the menial callings are our place in the scheme of things."

### TEXAS JUDGE FREES COLORED PRISONER CHARGED WITH RAPE

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automobile the night Skipworth was killed at "lover's leap."

In releasing Clay, Judge Munroe stated that the evidence was insufficient, even to hold Clay under bond. And as the spectators, feeling the undercurrent and the sensational revelations likely to be disclosed, wildly cheered the decision of the bench, the reporter silently reiterated the statement that "Texas has at last played fair."

### ONLY FIFTEEN STATES FREE FROM LYNCHINGS

Washington, Feb. 16—(Crusader Service)—Only fifteen states have been free from lynchings in the past ten years, the commission of church and race relations of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America declared recently in an analysis of lynching statistics from 1885 to 1921. Of these, no lynching has ever been reported in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire or Vermont, the statement said, and none has been reported since 1889 in New Jersey, Utah or Connecticut. The other states with a "clear record" in the last ten years were Nevada, Colorado, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

The lynching victims from 1885 to 1921 included 1,011 white men, 17 white women, 3,001 Negro men and 68 Negro women. The number of white persons lynched has decreased rapidly since 1900. The statement cited the lynching of Italians, Mexicans, Jews, and a German during the war as "indicating that lawlessness spreads where prejudice abounds."

It added that the annual rate of lynching declined slowly after the peak years of 1892 and 1893 until 1900, increased in that year and the next, and then fell off until 1918, when the tendency again turned upward.

### KLAN PROBE ASKED

Lansing, Mich., Feb. 16—An investigation of alleged activities of the Ku Klux Klan in Michigan is demanded in a resolution prepared for introduction in the legislature by Representative James A. Burns, of Detroit.

### PROBATE NOTICE

In the matter of the estate of John H. Costello, Deceased. Notice is hereby given, that the creditors of the deceased will meet the executor of said estate, before me, County Judge of Douglas County, Nebraska, at the County Court Room, in said County, on the 27th day of March, 1923, and on the 28th day of May, 1923, at 9 o'clock A. M., each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Three months are allowed for the creditors to present their claims, from the 24th day of February, 1923. Bryce Crawford, County Judge.

### Public Sales

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### PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. W. M. Franklin, Pastor

Because of the inclement weather the services were not so well attended Sunday. The pastor gave a very strong and interesting sermon on the Inter-Racial question. Mrs. W. L. Bingham of Chicago, who worshipped with us, was introduced to the church. Rev. J. B. Phelps of Atchison, Kans., preached a very interesting sermon at 8 o'clock on "The White Stone."

The Ladies Aid Society recently organized is making splendid progress. Mrs. P. L. Anderson is president. Because of the growth of the church a new club has been organized known as the Mississippi Club. Mrs. E. Dusen was elected president.

The banquet given under the auspices of the Lone Star Club February 8 was quite a success. Many distinguished persons of the city were present. Attorney Adams and Dr. Jones were the principal speakers.

The following persons are reported on the sick list: Mrs. H. M. Wilkinson, Mrs. Jessie Winston and Mrs. Pharr. The B. Y. P. U. will render a special program next Sunday at 5:30. President Ford urges all to be on time.

### SPECIAL ARTICLES BY EDITOR

Beginning with next week's issue the Editor will give a series of articles under the caption "From Nebraska to Arkansas and Back," in which he will give impressions received on his trip. These articles will tell of some of the great business blocks owned by the race, for example by the Mosaic Templars and others at Little Rock; the Pythians and the Woodmen at Hot Springs; the Masons at Pine Bluff; of schools, homes, business enterprises and important personages whom he met. Readers of the Monitor cannot afford to miss one of these articles.

### EDUCATION KEYNOTE

TO RACE ADVANCEMENT

New Orleans, Feb. 16—Bishop W. A. Fountain of Atlanta, Ga., told visitors and delegates attending the second session of the Louisiana A. M. E. Conference at St. James church to stop complaining and go to work, striving to accomplish something for their race through respect for law and order and through education.

Mrs. Jesse Beard is reported recovering from her recent illness.

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