

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.



THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

AMONG the news items published in this issue are two articles which make similar appeals. One is from the view point of the Roman Catholic Church; the other is from that of the Protestant bodies. Each, however, stresses the need of candidates for the Christian ministry. The Roman communion has been very slow to try to encourage vocation to the priesthood among colored Americans belonging to that faith; not more than six or seven of our group having been ordained in nearly a century and a half. It is, therefore, somewhat of an innovation, albeit a praiseworthy one, for this historic communion to call attention to the fact, as Monsignor Bourke has done in a recent sermon, that vocation to the priesthood and to sisterhoods should be encouraged by the Roman Catholic Church. How far the views of the Director General of Missions among Negroes represent those of the hierarchy presents an interesting question. We venture the opinion however, that his is simply "a voice in the wilderness." That voice proclaims the right message. Evangelization and spiritual leadership normally come from people of like nativity. That the Roman communion, or at least influential members of that communion, are beginning to recognize this need in its work among colored folk in the United States is quite significant. With this is the acknowledgment that there is a dearth of men for the priesthood. The other article is from the Protestant viewpoint and states that the supply of well-trained men for the Christian Ministry is far below the demand, and calls attention to the fact that far too few college trained young men of our race are offering themselves for the ministry. This is undoubtedly to be regretted. The Christian Ministry offers a splendid field for helpful service and the need for consecrated well-trained spiritual leaders among our race, should enlist the very best and most virile of our young manhood. It is rather significant that both Romanist and Protestant should at this time call attention to the need of men for the ministry.

AMERICANS' BAD MANNERS

IT is to be keenly regretted that a certain class of white Americans wherever they go try to spread the slimy poison of race prejudice. It is not the well-bred American who does this, but the snob, and the sad truth is that such a large number of Americans are snobs. They have acquired some money, without taking on the culture of genteel breeding which should accompany wealth, and fearful lest the public will size them up at their current value, they effect many foolish airs, chief of which seems to be the privilege of trying to show their superiority to people of a different color. Wherever the average white American goes he carries his detestable and silly race prejudice. France and other European countries are feeling this baneful spirit. France is meeting it in the right spirit and telling America that French citizens of color will be protected against discrimination. It is had enough for Americans to show bad manners and ill-breeding at home. When they go to foreign countries they should have better sense than to carry it there.

Q MINUS O EQUALS O

WHENEVER a Kluxie is caught with the goods on him, he immediately attempts to prove an alibi. But a Kluxie is not to be believed upon oath, because he does not regard the sacredness of an oath, outside of the Klan. In Klanology, the only MEMBER of the Klan, is the Klan Kleagle. He is a MEMBER. The others are INITIATES. One's name may be on the roster, and he may have been "Naturalized" and paid his "donation," and yet swear upon a stack of Bibles "That I am not now and never have been a member of the Ku Klux Klan." He is only an "INITIATE," don't you see? And the difference between a "MEMBER" and an "INITIATE" is the difference between Tweedle-de-dum and Tweedle-de-dee and so your Klux saves his conscience with this apparently clever but transparently clumsy subterfuge. Believe them not. Zero minus Zero equals Zero.

BOOST YOUR CITY.

Some people love to be crepe-hangers. Their city to let them tell it is away behind other cities in advantages. We run across some of this ilk in Omaha, who do not appreciate the advantages and opportunities we have here. There is much that Omaha lacks. No city is perfect. But taken all in all there is no better city in which to live than Omaha. Everyone should be a booster and make it the banner city of the world. Boost your city. Show your civic pride by doing your part.

FOOTNOTES TO AFRICAN HISTORY

(By the Hamitic League)

MR. PERSEUS OF ARGUS

Whenever you make up a list of the chocolate heroes of yesterday, don't forget Mr. Perseus, the brown skin Beau Brummel who had Zeus for his father and Danae, a descendant of old Egypt for his mama.

Danae was some doll and so pretty that Kink Polydectes of Seriphus fell in love with her and wanted to consult a preacher. Neither Danae nor Perseus liked the idea of mother being Poly's sweet cooky, but Poly figured that if he could ease Perseus into the discard, everything would be peaches.

So Poly told Perseus to go and bring him the head of Miss Medusa, one of the three hard boiled Gorgon sisters, and that if he did the world was his.

Perseus didn't know any more about the hangout of Miss Medusa than a polar bear knows about the price of Nebraska corn, but he was game and started.

The gods and goddesses were with the kid, so Mercury, the god's office boy, stole him a pair of winged sandals, a magic wallet, a large curved razor and the helmet of Pluto. When Minerva, one of the society dames, took a few of her friends and went with Perseus to show him the way.

Miss Medusa, the lady of the snakey looks, was asleep when the party arrived. Without even introducing himself, Perseus borrowed the lady's head, put it in the magic wallet and started home.

On his way back he passed thru Ethiopia and there found a princess, Andromeda, chained to a rock to make a dinner for a sea monster. Of course Perseus fell in love with her and stuck around until the monster blew up for his dinner. Just as he appeared, Perseus showed him the head of snakey locks and turned him into a concrete statue. Then Perseus married the little Ethiopian girl and carried her home to mama.

As he entered the cabaret of Kink Polydectes, the kink was so surprised that he made a break for Perseus with a desire to harpoon him. But sonny was too quick. Out came Medusa's head and the kink and all his court were made into statues for the Seriphus museum.

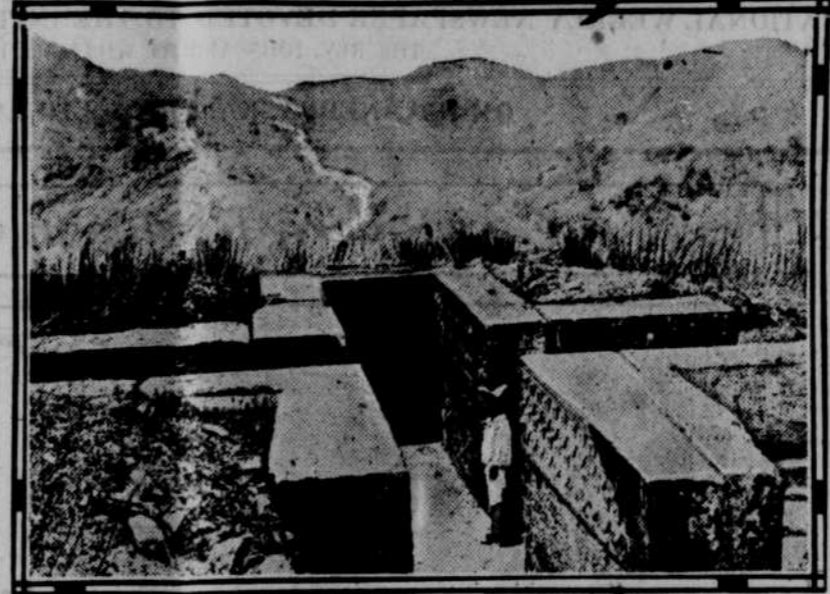
Of course this tale is some yarn sure enough, but it goes to prove that all those heroes and heroines of old Greece were rather shady when it comes to complexion.

(Next week, "Little Io of ancient Greece.")

GIVES PICNIC FOR JUVENILES

Mr. P. W. White, motron mother of the Georgia E. White Juvenile No. 345, S. M. T's, assisted by Mrs. Margaret Walker, motron mother of Marcus Juveniles gave a picnic Saturday for their tents at Elmwood Park. Fifty-three children and 15 parents attended and had a delightful time.

Isthmus of Tehuantepec



Cruciform Grave Near Mitla, Tehuantepec.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)
The rival of Panama when both regions were dependent on railroads as connecting links between the Atlantic and the Pacific, Mexico's Isthmus of Tehuantepec is not so important now that the canal is in operation. But its well-constructed, standard-gauge railroad is still carrying on its concentrated transcontinental way some of the goods of the world when quickness of shipment is the chief consideration and a steamer trip of a thousand or so miles is worth eliminating.

Cortez, conqueror of Mexico, was the first man to have the idea that the Isthmus of Tehuantepec might solve the problem of a passage between the oceans. Even in the midst of his busy life as warrior and governor he attempted to find a way across, and explored the Coatzacoalcos river to its headwaters. He did not find a water passage across the divide, of course, but he realized that some day commerce would pass through this relatively low, narrow region, and he asked the king of Spain for a grant of lands in the Isthmus. The request was granted, and a few years ago his descendants still held the lands.

Baron Alexander von Humboldt, who traveled in Mexico in the beginning of the last century, saw at once the importance of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and called it "the bridge of the world's commerce."
Half a century ago the first attempts were made to dig a canal, and many railroad schemes were proposed from time to time, including a "ship railway" for the transportation of vessels. The first work on a railroad was undertaken by the Mexican government in 1882, but it was not until 1907 that the Tehuantepec railroad was formally opened, after a succession of failures and after years of unremitting labor. The road as it now exists is a well-constructed line about 120 miles long. It is in fair condition even after years of revolution and instability in Mexico. Salina Cruz, the Pacific terminal, was given excellent modern port facilities by the Diaz regime, and became in fact probably the best port on the Mexican west coast. The latest loading and unloading machinery was installed. Puerto Mexico, at the Atlantic end of the railroad, had in the mouth of the Coatzacoalcos river an excellent natural harbor.

Great Oil Field There.
Along the Coatzacoalcos river is a Mexican oil field rivaling that of Tampico. Derricks pierce the sky on every hand and the bustle about wells, and loading tankers gives an unexpected Yankee touch to his once sleepy tropical region.
Before the days of the pioneer and forest roads, the Coatzacoalcos river (the river of the Winding Snake), emptying into the Gulf of Mexico, was the favored highway, and dug-outs poled by dusky natives carried freight and a few passengers up and down the river and its tributaries. Here and there a narrow mule path trailing away from the banks of the river marked the entrance to some lonely plantation or village. Today, however, the new stands side by side with the old. Fine steel boats run on the river, but the native still poles up and down in his dug-out canoe. Good roads and mule paths have been made from one plantation to another, but the old-time ox carts have not yet been discarded.

The town of Coatzacoalcos, at the mouth of the great river, has undergone the greatest change. Once a veritable fever hole, it is now rapidly being modernized and brought into some semblance of sanitation. Long wharves jut out from the water front, and fireproof warehouses and electric cranes give to the town a business-like appearance.
From Coatzacoalcos the road gradually begins to climb the Cordillera, which divides the gulf slope from that of the Pacific. Much of the route lies through wild and beautiful country, with tall manaca palms (Attalea cohune) and forest trees topping a thickly-matted jungle, and here and there a quaint little Indian village on the banks of a shaded, shallow river. The picturesque Malatengo canyon, with its rocky chasms, is followed by the Chivela pass, entered at a height of 735 feet above sea level, the highest point on the Isthmus.
Modern Town of Salina Cruz.
Leaving the pass, the train crawls down the Pacific slope of the Sierra Madre, running along for some dis-

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Nebraska Civil Rights Bill

Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Civil Rights. Enacted in 1893.

Sec. 1. Civil rights of persons. All persons within this state shall be entitled to a full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, restaurants, public conveyances, barber shops, theatres and other places of amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to every person.

Sec. 2. Penalty for Violation of Preceding Section. Any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person, except for reasons of law applicable to all persons, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges enumerated in the foregoing section, or by aiding or inciting such denials, shall for each offense be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, and pay the costs of the prosecution.

"The original act was held valid as to citizens; barber shops can not discriminate against persons on account of color. Messenger vs State, 25 Nebr. page 677. N. W. 638."

"A restaurant keeper who refuses to serve a colored person with refreshments in a certain part of his restaurant, for no other reason than that he is colored, is civilly liable, though he offers to serve him by setting a table in amore private part of the house. Ferguson vs Gies, 82 Mich. 358; N. W. 718."