

# THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA, BY THE MONITOR PUBLISHING COMPANY

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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.

### CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS has come again with its message of good will. Despite the fact that modern times have commercialized it this has not robbed it of its spirit. It is still a time of kindness and good will. There is something in the very air which makes unkindness and ill-nature and grouching and selfishness entirely out of place. There is an irresistible urge to think of others, to want to do something to make other people happy. This influence, though there may be those who are either unconscious of or unwilling to acknowledge its source, comes from Him, the Founder of this great Christian festival "Who for us men and our salvation came down from Heaven and incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary and was made man." Unselfishness incarnate, Love incarnate manifested in the Babe of Bethlehem is still the alchemy which transmutes the baser metal of our nature into that of divine gold, akin to Him Who called us into being and would have us share His nature in all its fullness. This is the spirit felt at Christmastide and manifested even by those who do not acknowledge its source. It was not for himself, but "for us men", all mankind, and "for our salvation", restoral to right relationship with the Father, that He, the Only begotten Son of God, "became man", took human nature, with all its essential elements of a pure virgin. This being the motive of His coming there could be no other message than that of peace and good-will. And the peace and good-will which He came to bring is emphasized at Christmastide. This accounts for the kindness which dominates men at this season of the year. Its influence is not as ephemeral or as transient as it seems; for it is absolutely impossible for anyone to enter at all into the spirit of the season without being lifted to a higher plane and thereby be made the better by just that much. The Christmas spirit which is the Christ spirit should dominate the entire year. Let us all strive to make it so energize our lives. Let us all show our thankfulness for this uplifting season by manifesting in our lives the virtues it exemplifies and then indeed will our Christmas be not only a merry one, for mirth is transient and fleeting, but a happy one, with the happiness which endures. May the message of Tiny Tim re-echo in all hearts, "God bless us every one."

### GOOD WORK

THE local lodge of Elks under the leadership of Count Wilkinson and his faithful fellow-workers is to be commended for its good work in providing Christmas baskets for the deserving poor. Many families will be made happy this year by the gracious and Christlike service of the Elks. The One who notes all acts of kindness done, by whomsoever it may be done, to the least of His children is never unmindful of those who labor for Him, nor does He withhold His rewards from them either in this world or in that which is to come. Many of the Elks, we are told, make no religious profession, and yet, if this be true, they show that they are not uninfused by religion, for they are practicing some of the cardinal

### THE NEGRO'S CONTRIBUTION NOT NEGLIGIBLE

A moment's thought will easily convince open-minded persons that the contribution of the Negro to American nationality as slave, freedman and citizen was far from negligible. No element of American life has so subtly and yet clearly woven itself into warp and woof of our thinking and acting as the American Negro. He came with the first explorers and helped in exploration. His labor was from the first the foundation of the American prosperity and the cause of the rapid growth of the new world in social and economic importance. Modern democracy rests not simply on the striving white men in Europe and America but also on the persistent struggle of the black men in America for two centuries. The military defense of this land has depended upon Negro soldiers from the time of the Colonial wars down to the struggle of the World War. Not only does the Negro appear, reappear and persist in American literature but a Negro American literature has arisen of deep significance, and Negro folk lore and music are among the choicest heritages of this land. Finally the Negro has played a peculiar spiritual role in America as a sort of living, breathing test of our ideals and an example of the faith, hope and tolerance of our religion.—Du Bois, "The Gift of Black Folk."

### DEMPESEY-WILLS FIGHT HAS MADE ONE CHAMPION

By William Pickens (For the Associated Negro Press)

That 1926 fight between Dempsey and Wills has already decided one champion—namely, if the actual fight never takes place. The title holder for this new championship is Attorney General Arthur L. Gilliom of Indiana. In the following famous opinion as to the legality of the proposed fight, which the Attorney General delivered to the Klux Governor of the Klux-owned state of Indiana, said Attorney has proven himself to be the *Champion Circumlocutor of the English Speaking World*. He delivered the following, knock-out: "It is not impossible that the men might, without violating the law, meet for the single purpose of exhibiting their skill as boxers, excluding from their purpose the exchange of blows which would be calculated to determine superiority between them in their chosen and well-known profession. If this is the intention, there is no intended violation of the law." Now, we offer Attorney General Gilliom as the only man in the world who has so far employed so long a string of English words to say simply this: "That if Dempsey licks Wills, all right,—since Dempsey is already champion. And if Wills licks Dempsey, still all right,—for in Indiana Wills cannot be declared champion." Nay, more. The statement can even be boiled down lower than that, without any loss of sense. And to prove that Attorney General is the champion who can *Compress More Words into Fewer Ideas Than Any Other Man*, we offer the following as the real sense of his circumlocution: "Wills cannot lawfully win Dempsey's title in Indiana." Perhaps Gilliom thought that nobody except lawyers and Kluxers would understand his long Wazardy and Cyclopean phrasology, but we "get" him when he says that Wills and Dempsey, if they meet, cannot "purpose the exchange of blows which would be calculated to determine superiority between them in their chosen and well-known profession." That is to say that the present technical "superiority between them", with Dempsey on the upper end of it, cannot be changed, whatever the result of the fight. It must not even "purpose" to change it,—so that, even if Wills should knock Dempsey unconscious, nothing will be altered, as such a "blow" would be an unintentional accident. It seems that it is going to take all the attorneys general and all the state legislatures in the United States to keep Dempsey from losing or risking his title to Wills.—The question arises: Why did Dempsey select Indiana, a Klux state? Why did he not select New York or New Jersey,—or some place at least as civilized as Mexico or Dahomey. The Kluxers have already decided in their creed that any white man is both mentally and physically superior to any black man,—and they do not propose to have that creed disturbed by any FACTS such as Harry Wills might deliver.

### MITCHELL'S PUNISHMENT

WE believe that fair-minded people will not approve of the severe sentence passed upon Colonel Mitchell because it seems to partake more of the nature of persecution than of prosecution. This gallant officer presumed to criticize the army and naval authorities. His conduct was considered a grave breach of discipline. He was tried and found guilty on several counts. He is sentenced to five years suspension without pay. This means that he is still subject to the military authorities. They can dictate his employment or non-employment. He is a virtual slave of the military authorities. Dismissal from the army and imprisonment, if that were allowable, would, in our judgment, seem more humane punishment than that inflicted upon him. We can hardly believe that such a sentence will be approved by the President. It looks more like petty spite work than an adequate sentence at the hands of dignified authority.

### PERHAPS

THE local federal prohibition officer says that the law against the use of intoxicating liquors will be rigidly enforced even in the swell and exclusive cafes of Omaha during the holidays. Perhaps. The customary way has been to go after the little fellows and let the big fellows get by. Perhaps it will be different this year, but we have our doubts. Therefore, we say again, perhaps. As a matter of fact there is a whole lot of bunk about the enforcement of the prohibition law. The government expends millions for the attempted enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment and allows the Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Amendments to be violated with impunity.

### WANTED ACTION

NO, we did not enthuse over President Coolidge's reference to the Negro in his message. He simply stated facts which we all know. It was good as far as it went, but it did not go far enough. Mr. Coolidge confined himself to a plain statement of fact. Having presented the facts he should have made certain recommendations. An executive order to abolish Jimcrowism and segregation in the departments at Washington would be more effective in practical results than the most eloquent and laudatory speech. Words are good, but what is wanted is action.

### MISSISSIPPI MOVES

Mississippi has made a momentous advance towards civilization in her recent action against the suppression of lynching. It is a most hopeful sign when leading citizens of a state as notorious as Mississippi go on record and launch an earnest campaign for the suppression of mob violence.

Please be ready to pay your subscription when the collector for The Monitor calls.

### THE GOVERNOR WHO FORGOT TO REMEMBER

There was a rather pompous Nebraska Governor against whom William Jennings Bryan had made some fifty speeches. Invited to speak at a St. Patrick's Day celebration in Lincoln which was presided over by the pompous Governor, he describes his feelings in "The Memoirs of William Jennings Bryan" (The John C. Winston Co., Philadelphia): "I was a little nervous when I saw the Governor in the chair, for I felt he might be annoyed by the fifty speeches I had made against him. The program was a varied one—an instrumental selection, a declamation, a song, etc. The Governor rose and read from the list prepared for him, 'The next number is by Mr. W. J. Bryan.' As I stepped forward the Governor advanced and extended his hand. It ran through my mind that he was a kind old fellow to forgive my opposition. Then the Governor drew me toward him and said in a hoarse whisper, 'Do you speak or sing?' He did not even know I had spoken against him and had not even heard of me! The sudden revelation of feeling was almost too much for me. I could hardly control my laughter and began to speak with great effort. I have always regarded this as one of the best jokes which Fate has played upon me."

### DETROIT SENTIMENT MORE FAVORABLE TO SWEET

A prominent white Detroit attorney, whose name is withheld for obvious reasons, has written to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to report that sentiment in that city has swung in favor of Dr. O. H. Sweet and his associates who defended the Sweet home from a mob. The attorney writes: "From the comments which have come to me since the Sweet trial, I am satisfied that a great deal of good was accomplished. There are even compensations in the failure of the jury to agree. One man who used to live in the neighborhood of Garland and Charlevoix told me that he believed that the people of that locality have a new understanding of the rights of the colored people to buy property and live in it. He states that the opinion of many others is that the case should now be nolle prossed. "On the other hand there are the 'die-hards' who are undoubtedly using their influence to prevent Prosecutor Toms from doing any such wise thing."

### LINCOLN NEWS AND COMMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Ashford wish to announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Opal Ashford to Mr. Clarence Ray September 10, 1925. Mr. and Mrs. Ray are residing at 1621 W street. Cards are out for a New Year tea January 1, 1926, at the residence of Mrs. Mary Holmes by the M. A. club. Miss Julia Dericotti from New York City spent a few days in the city in the interest of University Y. W. C. A. work. She was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young. Mr. Clyde Marion is much improved at a local hospital.

### Miss Cleopatra Ross will be heard December 28 over radioophone KFAB, Buick station.

The L. L. Kensington club held their annual Xmas tree and program at the home of Mrs. Virginia Lewis. All members were present to exchange gifts and Xmas wishes. The hostess served a delicious two-course luncheon. Decorations and viands were expressive of the season. One guest was present, Miss Dillie Gordon, who leaves for Illinois next week.

Rev. C. A. Spalding occupied the Quinn Chapel pulpit Sunday morning, in spite of stormy weather, a good crowd was present.

The pre-Xmas dinner by Stewardess boards No. 1 and 2 Thursday night was well attended. The boards were elated over their success.

Mr. L. G. Forbes was confined with illness the past week.

Amaranth Chapter No. 3 and Princess Hatipha Chapter No. 8, O. E. S., held a joint installation in their hall last Tuesday night. The following officers were commissioned for the ensuing year: (1) Amaranth Chapter, Mrs. R. E. Edwards, W. M.; Mrs. L. Dorsey, A. M.; Mrs. Katherine Moore, secretary; Mrs. G. B. Evans, treasurer; Mrs. J. C. Collins, conductress; Mrs. D. Lewis, A. Cond.; Mrs. Ethel Clark, warder; I. B. Smith, patron. (2) Princess Hatipha No. 8—Mrs. Ultra Murray, W. M.; Mrs. E. L. Johnson, A. M.; Mrs. Sarah Saunders, secretary; Mrs. G. B. Evans, treasurer; Mrs. Opal Westberry, conductress; Mrs. Anna McWilliams, A. Cond.; T. T. Williams, patron.

Mr. Hillman of Terre Haute, Ind., visited his sister, Mrs. J. A. Patrick, and friends here this week. Mr. Hillman is the nephew of the late Rev. B. Hillman, formerly pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist church here.

Mrs. I. B. Colley left Sunday for her old home in Houston, Tex., to spend the holidays with her parents and friends.

Mr. Harry Franklin underwent a surgical operation at a local hospital last Friday for appendicitis. He is reported improving.

The Utopian Art club will be entertained by Mrs. L. G. Forbes Thursday night, December 31st.

We wish you all a Prosperous New Year! But be sure to start it right by: "Ringing out the old, ringing in the new, Paying what you owe us and subscribing too!"

The inspiring Christmas Cantata, "The Babe of Bethlehem" will be dramatized by the choir assisted by others at St. John's A. M. E. church, Twenty-second and Willis, Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. Public is invited.

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