

# THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS

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## JUST PEOPLE

Just people, that's all. Culture, wealth, position, influence may be added, but after all we are all, black and white, high or low, rich or poor, just people, feeling the same joys and sorrows, the same hopes and fears. Just people with tremendous possibilities for good or evil, each one accountable for the use he may make of his opportunities.

## GO FORWARD

As we enter the New Year can we not all firmly resolve, and carry that resolution out, to be a little more considerate and thoughtful of others; to blame less and praise more; to magnify our neighbor's good points, rather than his bad ones; to be less critical and more charitable. To cultivate a healthy and health-giving optimism rather than a sickening enervating pessimism? Really this would be a good thing for us all to do. "The Golden Age" is before us, not behind us, if we will only have it so. Look forward hopefully—go forward courageously, and do your part.

## FIGURE IT OUT

Sun cooling scientists tell us that the sun has reached its highest point of solidification or something like that and has begun to lose heat and energy at the rate of 2,400,000 tons a second. Figure out how long it will be before the planet earth will be too cold a spot on which to live, without paying heavier toll to the coal dealer.

## MCGILL FEEDS HUNGRY

That was the right spirit shown by Eugene McGill of the McGill and Davis Restaurant, South Side, when on Christmas Day he gave dinners to over 400 men whom people speak of as "down and outers." McGill gave welcome to all, irrespective of race, color or creed, and it was a great and motley crowd that enjoyed his hospitality. McGill has done his same thing before, but it didn't get into the newspapers. McGill is a Negro and it is gratifying to know that he has both the will and the ability to do so generous a deed.

## SOME SIDELIGHTS ON AFRICAN HISTORY

The Hamatic League

### John James Audubon.

It will come as a great surprise to many students of American history to know that John James Audubon, the great naturalist and author of that magnificent work, "The Birds of America," was a Negro. Francis Hobart Herrick's work, "Audubon, the Naturalist," gives us the facts in full. Jean Audubon, father of John James, met at Les Cayas in the West Indies a brown skinned Creole by the name of Mele Rabin. To them was born John James, referred to in the early documents as "Jean Rabin, Creole de Sainte Dominique." Later a daughter was born. When their father later left the Indies and returned to his wife at Nantes, France, he took his children with him. Mme. Audubon had no children and adopted the illegitimate children of her husband. Later they came to Louis-

iana. At the death of the father, the property was left to the children, but his nieces, Mme. Vageon of Nantes, and Mmes. Lissabai and Domenica of Bayonne, tried to have the will set aside on the ground that the children were illegitimate and of Negro blood. Because of this, John James broke with his family, and moved north, to settle in Pennsylvania.

The chief reason why the United States did not hail Audubon as a genius was because he was of Negro blood, but later, after Europe received him with open arms and went wild over his great work, naturally the United States fell into line and tried to hide the fact of his Negro ancestry.

## SPRIGGS WINS SUIT

Two diamond rings, valued at \$150 each, were stolen May 29, 1926, from the residence of Calvin H. Spriggs and were sold by the thief to the Brodkey Jewelry and Loan Company for \$50.00. When the goods were located by the police and demand made therefor, the holder refused to surrender the property, claiming ownership by reason of their purchase and his having complied with the penal ordinance governing pawn shop purchases.

Suit was brought against the Brodkey Jewelry and Loan Company in the municipal court, which awarded plaintiff, C. H. Spriggs, \$300 and costs. The defendant appealed to the district court, where judgment was awarded the plaintiff in the sum of \$308.75. Pending a motion for a new trial, defendant decided to compromise case and settle it out of court, stating satisfactory terms to Mr. Spriggs and his attorney, W. G. Morgan, who was opposed by the well known law firm of Weaver and Giller.

Mr. Morgan, who is a young Negro attorney, received congratulations for the ability with which he handled the case.

## "PARISIAN FLAPPERS"

Scintillating and smart is the verdict bestowed upon the "Parisian Flappers," announced for presentation at the Gayety Theater, Sunday, January 2, when Stella Morrisey and Flossie DeVere will appear with all their vivacious attributes, and show us just how a burlesque can be put together and successfully operated and projected by women. Stella Morrisey will be remembered for her magnificent appearance, her well-modulated singing voice and her wealth of stunning gowns. She has been upon the local stage upon several occasions, each time adding additional prestige to her reputation as an artiste and each time adding to her long list of personal admirers. Flossie DeVere, the fascinating little nymph with the tantalizing smile, is another perennial visitor who has been associated with many of the most successful burlesque offerings in the past, and who, it is said, at this time has made the most distinctive success of her career, and Frank Anderson, a tramp comedian, are accredited with giving a most laughable account of themselves in the various scenes entrusted to their care. Maurice Perry, a Hebrew comedian, Chickie Wells, George Stella and Dick Richards are also included in the funmakers, in addition to the chorus which is said to be just a little better than the average lot of girls seen around here this year.

## ARTHUR SPINGARN WILL BE PRESENT AT "WHITE PRIMARY" CASE ARGUMENT IN SUPREME COURT

New York, N. Y.—It has been announced at the offices of the N. A. A. C. P. that Arthur B. Spingarn, prominent New York attorney and chairman of the National Legal Committee of the Advancement Association will go to Washington on January 3rd for the argument in the U. S. Supreme Court of the case of Nixon vs. Herndon. This important case, involving as it does the validity of the disfranchisement of Negroes in Southern states by means of the so-called "white primary" system, has been carried to the country's highest tribunal by the N. A. A. C. P. A favorable decision will mean another great victory in the N. A. A. C. P.'s long fight against denial of the ballot to Negroes in the South and will take its place with the victory in the "Grandfather Clauses" which the N. A. A. C. P. was instrumental in gaining in 1915. The Advancement Association's attorneys of record in this case are Moorfield Storey of Boston, James A. Cobb of Washington, and Fred C. Knollenberg and R. J. Channel of El Paso, Texas, the point of origin of the case.

## TIGER FLOWERS

Probably one of the most unusual films of the season, or many seasons, will be shown in Omaha next week.

Manager Bill Bergman of the New Lake Theater, is more than pleased to be able to offer to his patrons Theodore (Tiger) Flowers, former middle weight champion, in "The Fighting Deacon" for three days, commencing Tuesday, January 4.

According to Mr. Bergman, "The Fighting Deacon" is universal in its appeal and will please the young and old. Flowers is supported by an all all-colored cast in the production.

Flowers is noted throughout the land for his fairness in everyday life and in the ring.

"The Georgia Deacon," as Flowers is sometimes called, reads three verses of the Bible daily, never trains on Sunday, and never uses tobacco or intoxicating liquor. These facts alone accounts partly for the success Flowers has enjoyed. The film was produced under the personal supervision of Walk Miller, Flowers' manager.

"The Fighting Deacon" will come to "The Lake" direct from the Lincoln Theater, Nashville, Tenn., where it is playing this week to standing room only, according to reports from there.

We are informed that on account of the high production costs there will be a slight advance in admission. Adults' seats will be 25 cents, while the children's admission will remain the same.

## LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

J. T. Wright spent Monday with his mother at Omaha.

Miss Zurretta Doty, now of Atchison, Kan., spent several days with friends here during the holidays.

The ladies of the M. A. Club entertained their husbands at a beautifully appointed dinner December 26, at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Williams, 1215 North 23rd street. The house was adorned in gay Yuletide colors. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Ben Brown, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Houston, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Crews, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dorsey, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Pope, Mr. and Mrs. John Irving and Mrs. Virginia Lewis. Out-of-town guest, Mrs. E. G. Huff of Chicago.

Amaranth Chapter No. 3 and Princess Happeatha Chapter No. 8 held a joint installation at Masonic Hall December 21st. Following is a roster of officers: Amaranth No. 3—Worthy Matron, Mrs. Laurence Dorsey; Associate, Mrs. Ada Holmes; Treasurer, Mrs. Alice Thomas; Secretary, Mrs. V. Lewis; Conductress, Mrs. Anna Smith; Associate Conductress, Mrs. Lulu Burks; Warder, Mrs. Jennie Edwards; Sentinel, Mrs. L. J. Gordon; Ada, Mrs. Belle Collins; Ruth, Mrs. Marion Duncan; Esther, Mrs. Gordon; Martha, Mrs. Evelyn Knowles; Electra, Mrs. Lulu Colley. Of Princess Chapter, they are: Worthy

Matron, Mrs. Sarah Saunders; Associate Matron, Mrs. Leona Dean; Treasurer, Mrs. Elnora Evans; Secretary, Mrs. Mayme Todd; Conductress, Mrs. Opal Westberry; Associate Conductress, Mrs. Anna McWilliams.

The funeral of Mr. Zach Johnson, who died last Monday, was held in Mount Zion Baptist church last Wednesday at 3:30 p. m. Rev. H. W. Botts preached, and was assisted by associate pastors. The G. U. O. F. had charge of the services. A concourse of friends was in attendance. The floral offerings were fine. The body was shipped to his old home at Junction City, Kan., for burial, and was accompanied by the widow, son and daughter.

Cornhusker Lodge 579 I. B. P. O. E. of W. made numerous kiddies happy on Christmas day when they played Santa Claus at a Christmas tree in Masonic Hall.

Mrs. Jennie Johnson, daughter Lorraine, and son, A. A. Johnson, returned from Junction City, Kan., on Monday, after burying the husband and father, Zack Johnson.

Out-of-town guests at Lebanon banquet were: Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. M. Scott, Miss Maybel Scott, Mr. Charles and Henry Scott, Mr. Pinkett and Mr. Duncan, all of Beatrice.

Rev. H. W. Botts and Mrs. Mayme Griffin are in attendance at executive meeting of New Era Baptist Association at Omaha.

Lebanon Lodge No. 3, A. F. and A. M., held their eighth annual banquet in the dining hall of Quinn Chapel A. M. E. church, on Monday night, December 27th, in celebration of St. John's Day. A large concourse of Master Masons, wives and friends were in attendance. After an informal reception in the auditorium of the church, all were ushered into the dining hall, where spacious tables were laden with eatables. After invocation by Rev. I. B. Smith, and singing of "America," all enjoyed the repast and listened to the program at intervals, which consisted of addresses, solos and instrumental music.

P. G. M. R. H. Young, after a lengthy talk, presented P. M. George B. Evans with a P. M. Jewel as an appreciation of his work while in office as W. M. of Lebanon Lodge No. 3. May this event be ever cherished in the hearts of the Master Masons of Lebanon.

W. W. MOSLEY.

## ANNUAL SURVEY OF THE ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS FOR 1926

(Continued from Page One)

cerns that are quietly and gradually lifting Negro employees to skilled laborers and foremen.

### Agriculture

The Negro farmer, as an equation, is neither comprehended or heard much about in the North. He is an important factor in all parts of the South, both as a workman and a producer. The subject is big, and affording many tragic facts in the form of leased lands, as well as penal conditions in some districts. Nevertheless, there are many large owners of Negro farms, and there are hundreds making a success of leased ground. The U. S. government, and individual states, are helping conditions by the co-operation of qualified men and farmer's conferences. Yet, there is much to be done.

### Politics

The Negroes' influence in politics today, nationally, is less potent than at any time since enfranchisement. The reason comes from Southern disfranchisement which condition makes it impossible for black people to vote their wishes, and thereby have representation in Congress. No people in a republican government can have a voice without representation, nor can there be either much consideration or respect. Until that day again arrives where Colored America has representation in Congress, his position politically, in a national way, will be circumscribed and precarious. Members of Congress from the North, except in the districts closely contested, where the Negro vote is the actual balance of power, are slow to lift their voice for rights involving the Negro.

Colored America's political power is confined to certain municipalities, and, in a measured degree, to some states. Chicago and New York show

the highest attainments, in order named, and by opposite parties. In those locations where there are members of councils and legislatures, there is not only better understanding but less friction. The thinkers of Colored America exclaim: "Taxation without representation cannot long endure!"

### Organization

"Organization" is the middle name of Colored America along some lines. He is strongest organized fraternally. There are more Negroes who belong to one or more "lodges" than to any other organizations. These lodges have been noted for "taking care of the sick and burying the dead." They have captured popular interest by pass words, grips and regalia. That day is passing. Like a child with Christmas toys, Colored America, is tired of the mere spectacular, and now seeks something more fundamental. Therefore, those organizations that are doing constructive work, are the ones that are making progress today. The investment in properties, the opening up of fields of employment in insurance and otherwise, and the meeting of the everyday needs of the people, are appealing forces in the new idea of organization.

There is need of stronger organization in business, local, and national, and of organization that will create ways of absorbing the services of the thousands of Negro youths who are fitting themselves for life, by education. This is an acute and all-absorbing problem at this time. Co-operation between black and white forces dealing in commodities used by the race, and organizations with creative programs are regarded as essential.

### Business

The Negro is going forward in business, but not by leaps and bounds. When it is understood that the Negro has had to find his way into the commercial world, without much help or encouragement, it is wonderful that he has come thus far, and with as few failures. In our most substantial businesses, banking and insurance, the Negro has begun on his nerve, with all too little knowledge of the fields, and only a kind Providence, in some instances, has sustained the efforts until, through mistakes and by perseverance, sufficient knowledge has been attained to develop accepted standards. That day is passing. Competent men are now trained in these various fields who know how to deal with the intricate fractions of dollars, and the percentage of profits on investments, equal to any others.

### The Printed Word

Negro newspapers are an accepted force and factor in racial life. They now occupy a unique and strong position. They are not only furnishing information and education, but they are furnishing employment for scores of men and women. Next to the insurance field, the Negro newspaper is employing the largest force of trained workers. The number increases constantly. The field broadens. Advertisers are discovering the Negro publication—and "discovering" is a good word. The big advertisers of America are yet ignorant of the possibilities of the almost untapped field. When the awakening comes, the field of Negro journalism will electrify the consciousness of all America.

Magazines are finding their delightful new day and place; books, of many descriptions, are falling from the different printing presses; and the Negro artist has found his place in beautifying all these outputs, for the delectation of thousands, black and white.

White writers, and publishers, are beginning to discover this world. They are scratching their heads and pens, writing about our world, and hastening to the bank to deposit their dividend checks.

### Music

If, after all, there is only one gift to the Negro, it is that of music. Music fills his soul, in every field of it. With the natural gift he is training, and mastering. By voice and instrument, Colored America is getting a hearing these days, all over the world. The intensity of development, in this one field alone, to say nothing of the intensity of present-day accomplishment, promises to make the future of the Negro in the field of music, second to none anywhere in all the world. There are at

this moment, men and women, sacrificing and training, here and abroad, to give to the world the benefit of their gift and training, and they will, by all hazards, find their place and be heard. That will be a great day for Colored America.

### Amusements

Theatrical producers are discovering the world of Colored America anew. They are gesturing and experimenting. They are trying everything from burlesque to grand opera. They are failing and succeeding, but they continue to try and try.

### Sports

Colored America continues to demonstrate several things in sports. Equal to any others where given a fair chance. Will tackle any game, and make a real showing. The people of white America, in the field of sports, as in some other things, are not really good sports. They keep the door shut all they can, in baseball, football, boxing, and other professional and amateur lines, including tennis. The Negro has delivered, where given a chance, and he not only furnishes entertainment, but a spirit of good cheer.

### Inter-Racial

What are known as "Inter-Racial movements," North and South, are helping to acquaint white America with Colored America. Colored America has always known white America in every field except commercial. The commercial field has been our Gethsemane, Wat erloo and Gibraltar! We will enter when the awakening comes and the discovery is made—by white America. There are present indications of this awakening, and discovery. The spirit of hate dissolves into the spirit of Good Will, where there is understanding. The coming year portends a larger understanding and a finer desire for co-operation.

### Inter-National

Travel and contacts broaden visions. As quiet as it is kept, Colored America is traveling. There are some countries that it is difficult to get into, but somehow, we are getting into them, and we are seeing and knowing. We are traveling in our own country, first of all. Going from one corner to the other is a common occurrence. We are going by automobile and train, and we are getting facts, helpful facts. We exchange thoughts and figures. We promote our cause. We are interested in the Virgin Islands, Haiti, Liberia, and Africa at large. We are concerned about Hawaii, the Philippines; and Japan, China, and the South Sea Islands. Every country in Europe we are touching by our students, performers, business folks, and tourists. The influence of our own 200,000 Negro boys who went to France, and traveled in other countries, has reached even the baby child. We have world knowledge and world vision. We are measuring the United States of America, our own very lot, by the lot of other Colored Peoples throughout the world. We know what they are thinking and doing, by our own eyes—we are not being told. We are forming friendships, and we are looking to a new, better and more glorious future, right here in this "land of the free and home of the brave." We know our heritage, and we know the heavy price of injustice, and "man's inhumanity to man." We know the trend of world and Color conscience, within and without, this and other nations.

We have never failed America; and America has never failed us, in a crisis. Colored America now faces a new day, in a new way, with faith and good-will, but with fixed knowledge and determination. We could not be Americans without determination.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The annual parish meeting of the Church of St. Philip the Deacon will be held in the Guild Room, Wednesday night, January 5, for hearing annual reports and for the election of wardens and vestrymen and delegates to the annual Council. All members of the parish are urged to attend.

Why is the Lincoln Market Always Crowded?

ASK YOUR NEIGHBOR

1406 No. 24th St. Web. 1411

## THE SENSATION OF THE AGE

# TIGER FLOWERS in "The Fighting Deacon"

The Life Story of the Greatest Colored Fighter in the World

New LAKE THEATRE, 3 days commencing Tues. Jan. 4, Adm. 10c and 25c