General Race News

THE NEGRO BLIND.

Of the 57,372 blind persons in the United States, 8,849 are Negroes. This is to say that ninety-eight of every 100,000 Negroes have vision that is so defective, that they are unable to read. The number of blind whites is considerably lower (sixty-two) in each 100,000 of the population. The comparatively larger ratio of blindness for Negroes is due to two causes; most important the greater number live in country districts where trachoma and cataracts are allowed to go without treatment; and next, since the test of blindness is ability to read, the figures for Negroes include some aged folk who are illiterate and should therefore not be classed here.

The colored blind include 4,971 men and 3,878 women; more men since men as a rule follow the more dangerous occupations. Of these, 1,115 men and 265 women are gainfully employed. The occupations of the men include, as we would expect, musicians, newspaper carriers and chair caners, but in addition to these are farmers, 265; retail merchants, 42; clergymen, 52; wood sawyers and choppers, 106; hucksters, 4. The women are not represented among the blind clergymen, but there are laundresses, 29; nurses, 14; seamstresses, 6, and agricultural laborers, 57.

As if this were not sufficient and startling evidence of progress among the blind, we add finally, an author, two lawyers, two school teachers, two physicians and surgeons and one professional entertainer.

NOT TO BE MISSISSIPPIZED.

Columbus, O., Sept. 10.-The secretary of the State Medical Board recently prepared blank forms for applicants who wished to take the state examination to practice certain lines of limited medicine and surgery specified in a bill enacted by the Ohio legislature last winter. These blanks required the applicant to state if he was a citizen of the United States, and in that event he was required further to state his "race" and "complexion," and further required to furnish a photo. There being objections to these requirements on the part of colored citizens, Governor Willis sent for Ralph W. Tyler and discussed them with him. Mr. Tyler vigorously opposed the requirements and showed to the governor that such requirements would make possible injustice and discrimination for his race. Thereupon the governor immediately took up the matter with the secretary of the state medical board, and the following day sent a letter to Mr. Tyler advising him that these objectionable This is another big victory against discrimination for the colored citizens of Ohio in which Governor Willis took the side of the race, he stating that he did not propose that Ohio should be "Mississippized or Alabamaized."

cago university has been created a at the Metropolitan opera house in knight commander of the order of 1915-1916 pushed to a secondary place the Redemption of Ethopia by the in New York papers even the Eurogovernment of Liberia. He is given pean war. She will sing in the Omaha this highest honor which Liberia can Auditorium on the evening of Novembestow because of his services in ber 23, under the auspices of the Asplacing her in her true light before sociated Retailers of Omaha in their the world.

ABILITY AGAIN WINS.

Providence, R. I.-Mr. William F. Pettiford, the trap drummer of Church's American band, is now playing the summer engagement with the band at Looff's Crescent Park. He is the only colored musician among the aggregation of twenty-five members led by the celebrated leader, cornettist and bandmaster. Bowen R. Church, and Mr. Clarence W. Spary, the distinguished trombone soloist of this city. Mr. Pettiford is also a highly valued member of Fay's orchestra and band besides a highly respected and valuable member of the local lodge of the Musicians' Union of this city. Bandmasters Church and Fay made many friends by recognizing merit and not color in selecting their musicians.

PENSION SINGALESE WIDOWS

Paris, France.-The French chamber of deputies, which recently discussed the bill of the Negro deputy, H. Diagna, representing Senegal, providing for the extension of general compulsory military service in France to colonial municipalities whose inhabitants enjoy French citizenship, was again presented in numerous new lights and complications at the session of the chamber on July 8. The question of how to apportion a pension in cases of polygamist Senegalese leaving several widows proved a poser for the deputies.

2,000 LETTER CARRIERS ATTEND. ING OMAHA CONVENTION

Nearly two thousand letter carriers from every state in the union are attending the bienniel meeting of the National Association of Letter Carriers, which convened in Omaha Monday. The convention is the largest in the history of the organization, due to the admirable railroad facilities for which Omaha is noted.

New York City sent a delegation of more than thirty, while Chicago loomed up with 125. Other cities sent proportionate delegations. Omaha was fortunate to secure the convention, it being awarded the meeting in competition with Dallas, Tex., Pittsburg, Pa., Dayton, O., and Milwaukee, Wis.

Omaha's invitation was extended by the bureau of publicity, which had arrangements for the convention in

GERALDINE FARRAR, SOPRANO, WILL SING IN OMAHA

The name of Geraldine Farrar brings at once to mind the beautiful face of the most fascinating personalrequirements had been eliminated. ity America has yet given the art of music. Here is a girl, born and bred in New England, who in her early twenties could honestly claim that the world was at her feet. From her very debut in Berlin at the age or 19, a foremost prima donna, she has gone from triumph to triumph in opera and in concert until last winter the ques-Professor Frederick Starr of Chi-tion of whether or not she would sing charity concert course.

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