

THE MONITOR

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Brings Unprophesied Opportunities to Race

War Conditions Create Shortage of Men In North and Negroes Answer the Call

SOUTH PUSHING EXODUS LAWS

Way Is Opening for Race to Win Better Place, Industrially and Socially.

A considerable redistribution of the Negro race throughout the States is an unexpected phenomenon of far-reaching importance. This new form of the Negro issue is widely discussed. The Negro's migration will not only be his "second emancipation," according to the Chicago Herald, but "it may be the prelude to a new emancipation for the South."

"The feeling of race antagonism in the South will inevitably be relieved. Furthermore, the southern states will necessarily progress along mechanical and industrial lines. The fact that labor in the South has been cheap has retarded both the Negro and the whites. Labor-saving machinery has not been installed as rapidly as in other sections where human effort meant the expenditure of more dollars. The wage competition with the North, now feared, will have wholesome results. The process of dividing large farms and of attracting immigrant settlers is likely to be enhanced. Altogether a new civilization may be created."

The gist of much Northern comment is expressed by the Dayton, O., News, which admits that there is a good deal to be said on both sides of the question as to whether it is better for the Colored man to leave the South. "But the only thing the South can consistently do to meet the competition of the North in the matter of inducements to the Negro is to pay as good wages and to furnish as good working conditions as the Northern employer."

The dominant note in Negro comment on the significance of the exodus is emphasis upon the big opportunity that has been opened to the Colored race. But bitterness is not absent. A New York Age editorial reads:

"We have pointed out that the Negro does not remain where he is unjustly and brutally treated because he is indifferent to that treatment. He remains there because economic necessity compels him to do so. And whenever economic opportunities open for him elsewhere he will leave."

"These opportunities are now opening for him in the North, and it will take something more than 'exodus laws' to keep him from leaving the South. It will take a willingness on the part of the Southern white people to accord the Negro better treatment; and that means better wages, better schools, better police protection, less police persecution, less brutal and unnecessary discrimination, and a stamping out of lynching. In a word, it means the treatment of the Negro

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Another Revolution In Santo Domingo

Americans Charged With Non-Payment of Salaries.

The cables announce another revolution in Santo Domingo and also the discovery of immense stores of ammunition in Porto Rico, intended for the Dominicans. The following letter will explain why the natives had a clash with the American troops Thanksgiving Day and wounded eleven American soldiers, themselves suffering the same number of casualties according to reports.

"For three months the Americans have not paid the teachers nor the Government employees, in accordance with the budget of the country. You can form an idea of a country where not more than about two million pesos circulate and they keep back a million and a half. How can we keep on living? There is no business, trade falls off, and our lives are menaced by hunger. Can not you Americans, who have a good conscience, say something in the press of your country? Bring it to the attention of President Wilson—that this is a noble people and not a country of savages, as they believe over there. I am suffering horribly for the fate of my country when I see the misery that makes such ravages among the poorer classes."

After the clash, the officer in command of the American troops issued a proclamation that all salaries would be paid, but from the latest reports we presume that the same has not been done. This is a fair sample of Wilsonian government and several New York papers are already demanding a "strict accountability" to Congress of Wilson's high handed methods of dealing with Santo Domingo.

TENNESSEAN MAN GETS \$42,500 DAMAGES

Colored Man Sued Sheriff for Dynamiting His House to Dislodge Him.

Memphis, Tenn.—Upholding the contention that "a man's home is his castle and he has a right to defend it," which Judge John E. McCall emphasized in his charge, a jury in Federal Court here today awarded Matthew Harris, Colored, \$22,500 compensation and \$20,000 punitive damages in his suit against John A. Reichman, former sheriff of Shelby county, and members of a sheriff's posse.

Harris, who sued for \$100,000, was seriously injured when his home was dynamited in an attempt to dislodge him after he fired on the posse which was searching for one of his relatives. Harris testified that he was not aware of the identity of the posse men when he resisted their efforts to search his home.

Reichman was exempted from the verdict for punitive damages, as it was shown that he was not actually a member of the posse.

"Savage" a Senator In Philippine Islands

One of Moro Tribe, Called Savages Takes Seat in New Congress in Philippines.

Manila, P. I.—The new Philippine Congress, convened under the Philippine bill which was signed by President Wilson on August 29, met on October 16 and for the first time in the government of the islands a full-blooded Moro took his seat in the upper house. The Moro senator is Hadji Butu, for many years prime minister of the sultan of Sulu, that unofficial functionary of the American government, who wields an immense influence among the Mohammedans of the Sulu archipelago and the far East generally.

Two other full-blooded Moros took their seats in the lower house side by side with two delegates from the wild tribes—one an Igorot and the other an Ilfugao. The tribes these men represent stepped out of savagery only yesterday and their names are linked with some of the bloodiest deeds in Philippine history.

Altogether nine provinces, hitherto regarded as too close to savagery to have governmental representatives, have spokesmen in the new Congress.

NEGRO DISTRUST OF WHITES INCREASING

Church Report Shows Necessity for Leadership in the South.

St. Louis, Dec. 23.—An increasing distrust of the white race on the part of Negroes is set forth in the report of the committee on Negro churches presented to the Federal Council of Churches of Christ by Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkiel of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The report emphasized the necessity of leadership on the part of the white churches of the south and said that the Negro churches needed better trained pastors.

On the part of the Negroes, said the report, there is a growing contempt for the religion and sense of justice of the white man, but the committee expressed its belief that the social conscience of the south is astir. Efforts for the social and economic advancement of the Negro the report stated, are increasingly successful.

NIGHT RIDERS WARN NEGROES

Fort Worth, Texas.—Night riders have appeared in west Texas warning landlords to dismiss their Colored tenants and Colored cotton-pickers. A printed warning to this effect was left under the door of every business house in Haskell last week, according to advices received here. The warning was signed "The White Renters' League." Many Colored laborers were taken into west Texas this fall to gather the large cotton crop and he printed warning states it is feared these men will not be allowed to remain.

Colored Conductors On Canadian Cars

Thirty-five Men Employed as Conductors and Motormen on Street Cars in Toronto.

NEWSPAPER MAN'S GOOD WORK

Secures Positions for Race in Industrial Field and Organizes Battalion.

Toronto, Can.—The fact that there are some thirty-five Colored men employed as street car conductors in Toronto is due largely to the work and influence of J. R. B. Whitney, founder and editor of The Canadian Observer, who came here from the United States seven years ago, after working his way through high school and the Ohio State University.

In an interview given to Hilda Ridley, a staff writer on the Toronto Star Weekly, and published conspicuously in that paper, Mr. Whitney tells how he overcame the prejudice against the hiring of Colored men by the street car officials.

"Colored men had been successful as porters and waiters on the railroads," he said, "and I thought they would be just as efficient on the street cars. You know there are different shades of color in our race—some are much lighter skinned than others."

"Well, I knew a young fellow who was very light and who was anxious to get into the street car service. I took him to Mr. Fleming, and he had the general superintendent hire him."

Had Hired a Colored Man.

"About a month later, I went again to Mr. Fleming about another fellow, and this time he asked if he was a Colored man. I told him he was, and he said, 'I have never hired and Colored men as motormen or conductors.' I beg your pardon, Mr. Fleming, I said, 'but you hired one a month ago.' I explained to him the circumstances and he laughed and said, 'Well, Mr. Whitney, I would rather give your man a job than refuse him.'"

There are now thirty-five Colored men on the street cars, serving as well in that capacity as on the railroads. The white men in the service have taken them into the union, and evince a broad-minded spirit in their dealings with them.

Started a Newspaper.

In the same article, Miss Ridley tells of Mr. Whitney's struggles in establishing The Canadian Observer as an organ for the people of his race in Canada. He launched this paper on December 13, 1914, and was at once editor and proprietor, general manager and office boy, devoting to it only his spare moments. Mrs. Whitney assisted and did most of the typing of the material. At the celebration of the first anniversary on December 13, 1915, a celebration was had, and Mr. Whitney had as special guests on that occasion prominent men like Sir Edmund Wolker, W. H. Moore, secretary of the Canadian Northern Railway,

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