

THE MONITOR

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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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Department Store Springs Surprise

Places Large Force of Colored Men
In Complete Charge of Its Ex-
tensive Delivery Service

EDITOR PITTSBURG COURIER

Responsible for Securing This Un-
usual Opportunity of Employment
for Members of Race.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 18.—For the first time in the history of Pittsburg and, perhaps, in the history of the country, a leading business firm has decided to recognize in the Negro his value as an industrial asset, and give him a chance.

Kaufmann's (The Big Store), after years and years of experience with white men as delivery servants, decided to try the worth of Colored men and boys, and on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 251 men and boys were placed in charge of the delivery service of the oldest and leading department store of Pittsburg. The change came as one of the surprises of the age. No one had hoped that so many men and boys would be given such an opportunity to demonstrate their ability in a field of labor hitherto denied them.

Entire Delivery Service

The entire service, including mechanics, helpers, greasers, oilers, shifters, gasoline men, vulcanizers, chauffeurs and aids was turned over to our men with the hope that we take hold of this new opportunity and make good or die in the effort. Pittsburg has never seen such a change before. In fact, The Big Store is easily in the lead of all other Northern department stores in this respect. In Southern cities, such as Richmond, Baltimore, Washington and Atlanta, it is no uncommon thing to see our boys delivering merchandize, but the Northern stores, perhaps due more to custom, because of the scarcity of Colored help in former years, have not seen fit to give us the chance. Now, that Kaufmann's has opened the door, we shall soon become accustomed to Colored men engaged in delivery service.

Crew Selected and Trained

The taking over of the new crew was a sight well worth seeing. The organization had been carefully effected, trained and primed for the moment, and the ceremonies were truly impressive. The heads of the firm told the men what would be expected of them. Honesty, punctuality, regularity of service, and courtesy were the key notes sounded by the men of "The Big Store." The new crew responded with a determined chorus of "we will," when asked if they would make good. They seemed to realize that their life depends upon this one chance, and they have entered the service with a determination to improve it, and to hold it, if real, conscientious service will hold the job.

The men were selected by Attorney Robert L. Vann, who had been selected by the firm to organize the crew. The work of organization covered several months, and the remarkable thing about the organization, a truly remarkable thing, the men did not know they would go to work nor for whom they would work until three hours before they were signed up for duty. This is the best illustration of confidence shown for many a day. Mr. Vann says he never saw such confidence as the men showed in his promises to give them the greatest opportunity they had ever had.

Our men and boys are on the job, and on the streets is that they are and on the streets is that they are "making good."—Pittsburg Courier.

NASHVILLE Y. M. C. A.

BUYS HOTEL PROPERTY

Nashville, Tenn.—The Colored Y. M. C. A. of this city will be housed in the historic old Duncan Hotel, located in one of the most accessible sections of the city, for which the association's board of directors paid \$70,000. Possession was given January 1.

Necessary alterations will be made and proper equipment installed at once. When ready for occupancy the Nashville Y. M. C. A. quarters will compare favorably with those in any other city in the country, many of which cost considerably more. One Nashville Colored man contributed \$1,000 and another gave \$500 to the fund, local Negroes contributing altogether \$33,000.

A FRIENDLY NOTE

ON RACE EFFORT

Atlanta University is attempting to raise a half million dollar endowment and the following friendly note was struck in the columns of The Nation, for December, "To this we gladly call our readers' attention in the earnest hope that some of them will contribute to this most worthy undertaking. Even in the South realization is coming that if the Colored people are to direct their footsteps towards efficiency, probity, and useful citizenship, there must be among them great leaders and great teachers. This is precisely the opportunity and need which Atlanta University has lived up to for fifty years."

MADAM C. J. WALKER TO

BUILD A \$100,000 MANSION

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 18.—Mme. C. J. Walker, an Indianapolis Colored woman who has acquired enormous wealth in the last ten years through sale of a hair preparation, has bought a \$75,000 lot in the most exclusive section of Long Island.

The lot is opposite property formerly occupied by Miss Helen Gould and close to a mansion owned by John D. Rockefeller. Mme. Walker's income is said to be in the neighborhood of \$200,000 a year. She will erect a \$100,000 mansion on this property.

COLORED POLITICIANS OF ILLINOIS WELL CARED FOR

In Illinois the great Negro vote is not only adequately recognized, but is fully appreciated. In the state, county and civil service branches of government they are holding 1,144 appointments, drawing a total of \$1,151,850 annually, and yet with all of this fine showing Governor-elect Frank O. Lowden has promised the race 100 additional appointments the first of the year.

The following is a list of the Negro appointments and elective offices in Illinois, with the salary paid: Major R. R. Jaskson, elected state representative, \$3,500; Benj. H. Lucas, elected state representative, \$3,500; Edward H. Wright, appointed assistant corporation counsel, \$5,000; Louis B. Anderson, appointed assistant corporation counsel, \$3,000; Rev. A. Carey, appointed chief law clerk, \$2,400; James Tipper, appointed law investigator, \$1,200; Oscar DePriest, elected alderman Second Ward, \$3,000; Edward D. Green, appointed law investigator, \$1,500; James M. Brumfield, appointed assistant city attorney, \$2,400; Adelbert E. Roberts, appointed court clerk, \$1,800; seventy-five colored policemen civil service, each \$1,200; nine Colored police sergeants civil service, each \$1,500; ten Colored sanitary inspectors, civil service, each \$1,500; one civil engineer, appointed, \$1,800; four Colored nurses, appointed, each \$1,200; 600 Colored clerks and carriers, postoffice, average \$1,200; fifteen Colored firemen, civil service, average, \$1,400; 300 Colored laborers, appointed, average per day, \$2.50; fifteen Colored appointees in Legislature, per day, \$3; 105 Colored clerks in city, state and county offices, per month, \$90.—The Indianapolis Recorder.

ODDFELLOWS AWAITING

COURT DECISION

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 18.—The state supreme court is expected to hand down a decision within the next two weeks in the injunction proceedings involving the row among Colored Odd Fellows of Georgia.

A letter has been received by E. L. Collier, one of the auditors of the national committee of management of the order, from Attorney General Clifford Walker, saying that the delay in the decision had been due to other important matters coming before the supreme court. He advised that all policyholders in the endowment branch continue to pay their premiums and thus save their policies.

YOUNG ATTORNEY

RECEIVES APPOINTMENT

Columbus, O., Jan. 18.—Attorney L. P. Henderson, one of the recent graduates of the Ohio state university, has been appointed deputy clerk in the office of Probate Judge Homer Z. Bostwick. Attorney Henderson will begin his work February 9.

Legless Colored Lad Wireless Operator

Disabled by Accident Robert J. Freeman Determines to Find Some
Method of Self Support

ACCUSED BEING GERMAN SPY

Denies Accusation—Member American
Radio Relay League. Hopes
to Secure Berth.

An accident which cost him both legs, caused Robert J. Freeman, of the Alout Radio Station, Southampton, N. Y., to take up the study of wireless telegraphy. After three months in the hospital young Freeman was carried home a helpless cripple, to all appearances. That happened three years ago.

A friend in New London, Conn., owning a wireless set which he wanted to dispose of, interested Freeman, who bought the set for something under \$5. His father and uncle erected two forty-foot poles, sixty-five feet apart, and the legless boy put his own wires up. Patient study and effort followed, and today the young man has a wireless outfit worth more than \$150.

Able at first to hear only a few stations, the young wireless operator now can receive messages from Key West, Fla., Miami, Fla., New Orleans, La., and practically all the stations along the Atlantic coast. Just recently he picked up messages from English and French cruisers far out to sea. He receives standard time from Washington twice daily also. A powerful receiving set makes this possible, but he is handicapped by a sending set of light power and small area. Young Freeman hopes to be able during this year to install a more powerful sending set to cover at least 500 to 800 miles.

Accused as a Spy

His patient study and faithful effort has brought him some distinction, both pleasant and unpleasant. He is a member of the American Radio Relay League, and holds both an operator's license and a station license. But reference to his work has been made by some papers, in which he was denounced as a German wireless spy. This, of course, is an absolute fabrication and is indignantly repudiated by young Freeman.

His operating table is a late model and he is now installing a switchboard. He says that much of his time during 1915 was given to experimenting and developing his ability, so that he has not done as much receiving as usual. He would be glad to get in touch with any other young Colored man interested in wireless telegraphy for mutual benefit. It is his ambition, handicapped as he is, to so perfect himself in the art that he will be able to secure a berth as wireless operator on some sea-going vessel.