

# THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Nebraska and the West, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and upbuilding of the community and of the race.

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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor and Publisher.  
Lucille Skaggs Edwards and William Garnett Haynes, Associate Editors.  
George Wells Parker, Contributing Editor and Business Manager.

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## AGITATION WINS

The demand that opportunity be given Colored Americans to receive military training as officers has been granted. It has been accomplished by agitation and persistent protest against our exclusion not only from West Point, but also from the officers' training camps which the government has established throughout the country.

When Dr. Spingarn, that firm and unselfish champion of our rights, sought admission of Colored Americans to Plattsburgh Training Camp, it was refused. He and others persisted that opportunity should be afforded our race for this training. Major General Leonard Wood finally said that if a certain number of men could be secured a separate training camp would be established. Dr. Spingarn immediately set to work to secure the requisite number. Still there was hedging. The final outcome of the whole matter has been that by persistent agitation opportunity for officer training has been secured. Not only are separate training camps to be established, but twenty-five members of the Fifteenth New York regiment have been admitted to Plattsburgh, to which admission was formerly denied. Seeing that we were determined to secure the necessary training to provide officers for Negro regiments which must be called into service before this was is over provision for this has been made.

Agitation and persistent demand for our just rights as American citizens will eventually secure every right to which as American citizens we are entitled. While persistent for our rights, let us be zealous, conscientious and faithful in the discharge of every duty.

## WHERE HELP IS NEEDED

In the past three years the country has been deluged with appeals to help the Belgians, the Poles, the Jews, the Christians in Turkey, the Syrians and dozens of other nationalities, but far more pressing than any of these is helping the Colored people of the South. There are thousands who need help. War has paralyzed industry and want is stalking abroad. It is not a one man job, but a job for the whole race. Every Colored paper in the United States, every Woman's club, every church and Christian organization, every Colored lodge, all of the national organizations, and every individual citizen should try and lend a little aid to our people in the South. There are laborers there who want to get North to work; mothers with little children whose husbands have come North and deserted them; women who yearn to get away from bondage and earn a living with their hands. If the white and yellow races can help their people, the black should be able to help theirs. There are persons in the South to whom a dollar would look like a fortune. What shall we do about it? Let us hear from the race in the North.

## SHALL THE NEGRO MIGRATE?

Last week we received a clipping from the D'Lo Herald, a white paper, and noted the caption of the editorial, "A Great Good Negro." We read it. The following we read twice, "Let the Negro beware; heed the advice and teachings of such leaders of their race as Prof. Jones. Do not become a nomadic race. Discard the glittering promises of labor agents. Stay at home."

The Monitor has brought a good many men from the south this spring. We have noted such sayings as these that have fallen from their lips. "I have been here almost a month and I haven't heard a white man say 'nigger' yet." "It is cheaper to live in the north now than in the south. I've got a little bank account started and that is something I never dreamed of down there." "There are no slave drivers up here. These firms want you to work, but don't want you to kill yourself. Down there they want you to work until you do kill yourself." "I'm going to bring my wife and children up next week. They are safer up here. "Do Colored children really attend the same schools and get the same education as the white children?" "White people up here are so friendly like."

We might give many more, but what's the use? The only question we would like to have answered is: "Shall the Negro Migrate?"

## SOUTHERN SAVAGES

This week's press dispatches bring another revolting story of Southern savagery. A Negro accused of the crime of assault and murder was burned at the stake, with all the attendant brutality conceivable, by a mob of more than two thousand, while stores and business houses were closed to permit attendance upon this manifestation of Southern savagery. Granted that the bestial crime was committed by the accused man, what can be said of that of the murderers who taking the law in their own hands displayed multiplied brutality?

Lynch law must go. America can not fight for humanity successfully until she rises in her might to suppress such outbursts of savagery as this within her own borders. Suppress Southern savages.

## THE SPINGARN MEDAL

The award of the Spingarn medal to the distinguished composer and musician, Harry T. Burleigh, will win general approbation. Mr. Burleigh has won recognition in the musical world which has brought honor not only to the highly gifted race of which he is a splendid representative, but to the American nation. Colored Americans have just reason to be proud of the progress we are making along all lines and of the recognition of that meritorious progress we are compelling from prejudiced opponents. Tanner in art, Burleigh in music, and Young in military affairs are notable examples of those who are winning recognition.

## SKITS OF SOLOMON

### Straw Lids.

Where is your straw lid, brother? The sun hath now begun to smile warmly and the sweat of the brow, ordained of old, beginneth to trickle down the side beams. The old felt is heavy and the derby is an abomination. The straws of the season are so pretty. The bands are decorated with wrecked rainbows and guaranteed to attract notice of any seismograph on the face of the globe. They deflect the rays of the sun for the simple reason that the rays of the sun are afraid of anything really loud. Be sure, also, when buying a straw to buy a string with it to fasten it on, so that you won't have to marathon it down Broadway with your straw four feet in front of your toes. Hatpins aren't fashionable for men—yet. There is generally nothing for a hatpin to fasten itself to on a man's head. On some men's heads not even a fly can get a good hold. That isn't the fly's fault, however.

A lightweight straw hat is generally the best kind to buy. Some straw hats are heavier than one of the war department's armored motors, and the only reason why they are made is because there is a class of people who will buy anything once, from preferred ozone stock to reserved curbstone seats along the golden streets. A Panama is the best bargain, but a good one requires a month's harvest of beans. However, visit our haberdashers and they will razzle dazzle you into something real cute and nifty.

Always be careful to keep out of the rain with a straw. A straw hat has just as much use for a heavy rain as the Allied ships have for U-boats.

## Obvious Observations

If President Wilson goes after the high cost of living one-half as hard as he went after war appropriations and draft army, there should appear a cloud of hope on the horizon.

Russia has decided to keep in the war and therefore the Allies will quit shivering for the present.

Even Haiti is going to fight Germany. If Kaiser Bill has never been scared he surely ought to be scared now.

The spring fever germs are now mobilizing for general attacks.

Stop hollering it's hot. You were praying for hot weather a month ago with both knees on the carpet.

Dry town does go along pretty nice, doesn't it? The worst of it all are the things that never happened.

Roscoe Simmons, the famous speech juggler, orated the other day that when Teddy started fighting with his chony soldiers the Germans will hot-foot for the tall timbers. We don't mind platitudes, but we do mind nonsense. The Germans haven't run from any one yet and we don't think Teddy can do any more than the fighting blacks from Africa. Tone down, Roscoe, tone down.

Where is your Red Cross button, eh?

No, friend subscriber, you won't hurt our feelings a bit by paying up that subscription.

Thanking you for your devoted attentions, we will now sprinkle the garden.

You will miss it if you fail to see Andrew Reed in the drama, "Satan," May 28 at the Auditorium. He's great.—Adv.

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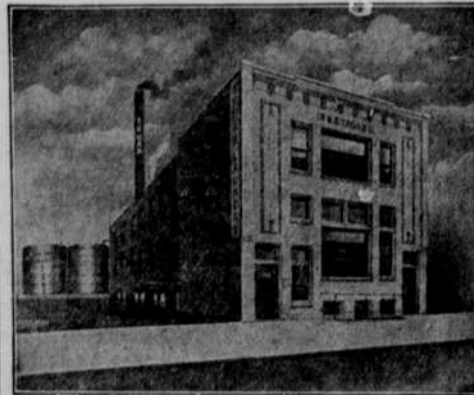
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