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THE MONITOR

Lifting;
Lift, Too!

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

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The Negro Civic and Industrial League of Nebraska

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND CONSTITUTION.

Believing that there should be some central organization for conserving and promoting the best interests of our race in this community and state, we do hereby organize the Negro Civic and Industrial League of Nebraska, and set forth the following as a declaration of its purposes and principles, and the constitution for the government of said league:

I. NAME, CHARACTER, OBJECTS.

This organization shall be known as the Negro Civic and Industrial League of Nebraska.

It shall be non-political and non-sectarian in character.

Its general object shall be the conserving and promotion of the general interests of our race and the good of the community along all lines of useful, self-respecting and upstanding citizenship.

Its activities shall be directed along the following specific lines:

Industrial, Housing, Social, Education, Protection, Charity and Hospitality.

II. SPECIFIC OBJECTS DEFINED.

Industrial—The league shall seek to find industrial and business opportunities for the race and endeavor to encourage members of the race to make good by showing promptness, efficiency and dependability wherever they may be employed.

Housing—The league shall interest itself in trying to secure proper housing conditions for members of the race, encouraging them to purchase homes whenever practicable and to take pride in maintaining the premises owned or occupied by them.

Social—The league shall endeavor to improve in every way the moral and social conditions of our people by encouraging them to provide wholesome recreation and to be diligent in attendance upon divine service and in the discharge of their full duty to the fraternal organizations with which they may be identified.

Education—The league will encourage education not only for the children, but all members of the race, advocating attendance at night school for those who cannot attend during the day.

Protection—The league will endeavor to protect members of the race in securing and defending their civil rights, and will oppose all legislation aimed either directly or indirectly to injure us as a race, and will investigate individual cases in order that justice may be secured and prosecution does not degenerate into persecution.

Charity—The league will endeavor to extend a helping hand to those in need to the end that those temporarily in want may be succored until they may be able to help themselves.

Hospitality—The league will extend hospitality and welcome to strangers of our race coming into the community in order that they may be made to feel at home, be guided and directed as far as possible in adapting themselves to their new surroundings, in order that they may become an asset and not a liability.

III. MEMBERSHIP.

All persons belonging to our race, who are bonafide residents of the community, are of good moral character and are willing to abide by the rules of the league and promote its interests, are eligible to membership and may become members by filing in writing their application with the membership committee—which is hereby empowered to act upon the eligibility of members—by signing the roll when notified by the membership committee of their eligibility and paying the designated membership fee.

IV. OFFICERS.

The officers of the league shall be a president, vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer.

The duties of these officers shall be those customarily falling upon such officers in similar organizations.

They shall be elected annually by ballot and shall hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

The president or first vice-president, in the absence or inability of the president to serve, the recording secretary and the treasurer shall be the committee on membership.

V. STANDING COMMITTEES.

The president shall appoint, and the organization confirm, the following standing committees, consisting of at least three members each, to look after the specific work assigned to said committees: Industrial, Housing, Social, Education, Protection, Charity, Hospitality.

These committees shall meet weekly at such time and place as their chairman may designate, and shall report to the league at its regular monthly meeting the work done by it.

If at any time any committee meets an emergency that demands the attention of the league the president of the league shall call a special meeting.

VI. MEETINGS.

The league shall meet regularly once a month on the second Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m.

Special meetings may be called from time to time when an exigency demands the same.

VII. FINANCE.

For carrying out the objects of the league an admission fee of 50 cents shall be paid for each member, and fee to accompany application for membership. An annual fee of 50 cents shall be paid by every member within 30 days of the beginning of each fiscal year, and each member shall also pay a monthly fee of 25 cents.

Any member three months in arrears shall not be entitled to vote on any question.

Members six months in arrears shall be dropped from the roll.

There shall be no promiscuous outside solicitation of the public, either by direct or indirect methods, for raising funds for the objects of this league.

Any person or persons attempting to use or exploit the league for personal gain or prestige shall be repudiated by the league.

VIII. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The president and secretary of the league, with the chairmen of the respective committees, shall constitute an advisory or executive committee to act for and carry out the will of the league.

FINISHES IN THREE YEARS AT HARVARD

Harrisburg, Pa.—Hoyas Payne, S. 14th street, has returned home after graduating from Harvard at Cambridge, Mass. He finished his four-year-course in three years, making a good record in scholarship.

REFUSES COMMISSION IN CUBAN ARMY

Havana, Cuba.—Sergt. Thomas of the U. S. Tenth Cavalry, who trained the republic's first soldiers, has refused to accept a commission in the army here.

THE USUAL UNWARRANTED DISCRIMINATION

The Board of Education of San Antonio, Tex., has granted an increase of \$10 a month to all white grade teachers on account of the high cost of living and \$5 to the Colored teachers. The board did not make known why the white teachers were given an increase of 20 per cent more than the Colored teachers.

HAS NEW THEATRE

Ronoke, Va., has a new theatre for Colored people, known as the Hampton Theatre.

Foreigner Leads Machinists' Strike

Schnectady Firm Employs One Young Negro and Twenty-Five Hundred Men Strike.

LEADERS' NAMES ARE FOREIGN

Officials of Company, Believers in Real Democracy, Disposed to Stand for the Right.

Schnectady, N. Y.—Demanding that the color line be drawn in the large plant of the General Electric Light company here, the same as the United States Government practices segregation in the army, 2,500 machinists and toolmakers went on a strike said to be one of the most peculiar labor strikes on record in this section of the state.

The color issue was created when a young colored man—Wendell King—was put to work in the machine shops of the General Electric Company. King is of a good family in upper Troy, N. Y., and was graduated from the Lansingburg High School in 1916. He entered Union College, Schnectady, last September, and soon attracted attention as an excellent student in wireless telegraphy and French.

It is rather suggestive that the strike leaders bear names of a decided foreign flavor, the chief spokesman and ringleader being Joseph Lefkowitz. It is therefore not at all unlikely that this shallow-pated individual and many of his confreres are but a slight remove from Russian oppression.

In haranguing his striking colleagues he said: "Do not lose sight of the fact that we are not fighting on the grounds of race prejudice, but on the grounds of moral convictions."

The speaker went on to explain that the real issue of the strike was the employment of one Negro, who was put to work in the shop under the jurisdiction of the machinists organization, which act is contrary to the laws of that organization.

"We are not unfair in our demands," said Mr. Lefkowitz, in ending his address. "We ask no more than the United States Government. This nation has several regiments of Negro soldiers. It is known that those Negroes are not allowed to frequent the same recreation grounds as the white soldiers, nor are they in any manner, allowed to mingle with the whites. What this government sees fit in practicing, we feel justified in demanding."

Company officials claim the issue to be the employment by the company of a young colored man. According to Mr. Emmons, Wendell King is a student at Union College, and was recommended by the faculty with twenty-five or thirty other young men in the college as being a worthy boy to aid in securing his college education. The young man was put to work June 8, and is at present employed in building 23 operating a drill press. The first intimation of any dissatisfaction, Mr. Emmons said, was last Tuesday afternoon, when a committee of machinists protested against the young man being longer employed in the capacity of machinist.

Mr. Emmons contends a committee of the machinists practically demanded that the young colored man be taken off that work to which Mr. Emmons replied that he could see no reason for establishing a color line. He told the committee that the young man was a college student and worthy of being aided.

Mr. Emmons Believes in a Real Democracy.

There were about 2,500 machinists who left the works, practically all the machinists employed by the company, and many of them were busy on government work.

All other branches of work continued as usual after the machinists walked out.

In a formal statement Mr. Emmons expressed himself as follows:

"It is contrary to the policy of the company to take any action detrimental to the best interests of its employees, but it will tolerate no discrimination against any worthy individual on account of nationality or color."

"The management believes that every person should be given an opportunity to improve his condition which the young man in question is trying to do."

The Monitor is growing. Help us grow.

LINCOLN REPUBLICAN LEAGUE HOLDS RECORD-BREAKING MEETING

(Special to The Monitor)

Memphis, Tenn., July 2.—What was a record-breaking meeting of the famous Lincoln Republican League was held at Church's Auditorium Friday night, June 29. The largest political organization among Colored people in the country, the Lincoln League, is the rallying point of 50,000 Negroes in Memphis and all the Negroes in west Tennessee.

The first time the League had met since the burning of Ell Persons, and the beginning of the exodus of the Negro from this city and section, more than 3,000 people packed themselves in the Auditorium, while hundreds were turned away.

No organized condemnation of lawlessness had been heard; no word of advice had been forthcoming from the leadership, and no speech of hope and courage had been uttered. And the people said their cup was running over.

The pent-up feeling of the patriots and patriarchs, together with a thousand women, found expression in a burst of cheers when Robert R. Church, Jr., president and founder of the league, took the gavel. What the people expected is exactly what they got.

After his speech, dealing with routine business, Mr. Church read the resolutions prepared by the Executive Committee on the death of the great Foraker, and then launched into a declaration against lawlessness.

"I would be untrue to you and to myself as your elected leader if I should remain silent against shame and crime of lawlessness of any character, and I could not if I would, hold my peace against either the lynching or burning of a human being," he said.

He went on: "We must not lose hope, but keep our eyes open and press forward. What the Lincoln set out to do is exactly what the Lincoln proposes to do without a shadow of turning."

The President announced that the League endorsed heartily the work of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

THE NEGRO CIVIC AND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

As the result of a meeting held in the office of Amos P. Scruggs some weeks ago an organization, to be known as the Negro Civic and Industrial League of Nebraska, has been organized. The principles and constitution of the league are published elsewhere in this issue.

The officers of the organization as thus far elected are: Amos P. Scruggs, president; Henry W. Black, vice president; Mrs. J. Alice Stewart, secretary, and Nate Hunter, treasurer.

For the present it is planned to hold the monthly meetings at the various churches of the city. The first monthly meeting will be held next Tuesday night in the lecture room of St. John's Methodist church, Eighteenth and Webster streets. The public is urged to attend this meeting. Immediately following the East St. Louis race riot in May Mr. Scruggs invited twenty-five of our representatives to a conference in his office to take under advisement some form or plan of organization for the protection and guidance of our people, who are coming in large numbers from the South. This league, conceived along sane and broad lines, which should have the co-operation of all our people, is the outcome of that conference.

The non-sectarian character of the organization is indicated by the fact that the president is a Roman Catholic, the vice president is an Episcopalian, the secretary is a Methodist and the treasurer a Baptist. Its non-partisan character is equally well defined.

BISHOP HURST ILL

Baltimore, Md.—Dr. T. P. Hurst, bishop of the A. M. E. Church, is ill. It was first thought that he had a paralytic stroke but physicians claim that he was overworked and had poor circulation in one of his legs. He is secretary of the Bishop's council, which position together with his other duties has taxed his nerves greatly.

NEGRO BAPTISTS PURCHASE COLLEGE

Nashville, Tenn.—The Baptists of the United States have purchased the Bascobel College on Sevier street, East Nashville. The school will be used as a National Theological Seminary.

Riot Is Blot on the State of Illinois

Tribune Declares Governor Lowden Must Investigate Thoroughly and Guilty Must be Brought to Trial.

Chicago, Ill., July 3.—Under the caption, "The Shame of Illinois," the Chicago Tribune this morning says, editorially:

"The riot at East St. Louis is one of the worst blots on the good name of an American community in our whole history. Illinois must bow her head in shame before this disgrace. We have no excuse. There can be no excuse for such a breakdown of the most primitive safeguards of civil government, for such betrayal of the first duty of ordered society."

"The Tribune, which has flayed the evil of lynching and especially reproached its countrymen of the South for their failure to stamp it out, does not propose to offer any palliation of this outrage in Illinois. The blood of victims spatters the state. The riot will burn as an unforgettable dishonor in our memories."

Eruption of the Brute.

"We do not propose to talk now about race hatred or economic rivalry or any other learned aspect of the offense. There is just one truth, one sickening, shameful truth—in an American city, in a city of Illinois, there has been a loathsome eruption of the brute, and neither civilized public sentiment nor constituted authority was capable of arresting it."

"If Illinois has a conscience it will solemnly resolve that no such dishonor shall ever lift its head among us again. We ask Governor Lowden, and, if need be, the legislature, to examine at once the conditions which created this outrage and the conditions which left society at the mercy of brutishness in this region."

"We demand especially that it be made clear why neither the police nor the militia were capable of strangling the riot at the beginning. We de-

mand the guilty be tracked down remorselessly and punished to the full extent of the law.

Whites and Blacks Guilty.

"We understand the difficulty of this task. We understand how a mob and even its leaders escape in a jungle of anonymity and political influence."

"We realize how race prejudice and other complications will block discovery and punishment. We know that whites are guilty. We know that blacks are guilty. But we know also that the community and the state are guilty before all, and if we cannot punish the community and the state more than in the punishment already visited upon its good name we can at least study its guilt and do our utmost to root it out."

MUST NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST NEGROES

Fort Des Moines, Ia.—Several of the local restaurants and picture houses in the city of Des Moines have refused to accommodate members of the Reserve Officers' Training Camp. The proprietors of these places have been notified by Lieut. Bell, provost guard commander of the City of Des Moines, that the men in training at the Fort are here because the United States Government has ordered them to come and any discrimination whatever shown toward them in restaurants, church rooms or theatres would not be tolerated by the military authorities. Consequently all owners and proprietors who have been known to have discriminated against one or two of the cadets have been notified that at the first unfavorable report against them their licenses will be revoked. Discrimination in the city has not been widespread. It was only shown here and there by some narrow-minded proprietor. The city as a whole has been frank and open in its welcome of the cadets.

Be sure to attend public installation of officers of Grand Temple at Tabernacle at Auditorium Friday night.—Adv.

DAYBREAK

BY GEORGE MARION MCLELLAN.

Awake! Arise! Men of my race—
I see our morning star,
And feel the dawn-breeze on my face
Creep inward from afar.

I feel the dawn, with soft-like tread,
Steal through our lingering night,
Aglow with flame our sky to spread
In floods of morning light.

Arise, my men! Be wide-awake
To hear the bugle call
For Negroes everywhere to break
The bands that bind us all.

Great Lincoln, now with glory graced,
All Godlike with the pen,
Our chattel fetters broke and placed
Us in the ranks of men.

But even he could not awake
The dead, nor make alive,
Nor change stern Nature's laws, which make
The fittest to survive.

Let every man his soul inure
In noblest sacrifice,
And with a heart of oak endure
Ignoble, arrant perfidy.

Endurance, love, will yet prevail
Against all laws of hate;
Such armaments can never fail
Our race its best estate.

Let none make common cause with sin,
Be that in honor bound,
For they who fight with God will win
On every battleground.

Though wrongs there are, and wrongs have been,
And wrongs we still must face,
We have more friends than foes within
The Anglo-Saxon race.

In spite of all the Babel cries
Of those who rage and shout,
God's silent forces daily rise
To bring His will about.

Our portion is, and yet will be,
To drink a bitter cup
In many things, yet all must see
The race is moving up.

Oh, men of my race! Awake! Arise!
Our morning's in the air;
There's scarlet all along the skies!
Our day breaks everywhere!