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Thank You!

THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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Lifting;
ift, Too!

Oddfellows Buy Liberty Bonds

District Grand Lodge and Household
Hold Epoch-Marking Sessions.
Reports Show Progress.

PATRIOTISM IS PROMINENT

One Hundred and Fifty Delegates At-
tend Meeting. Grand Master
Watkins Presides.

Patriotism and progress were prominent features of the Thirty-sixth annual session of the District Grand Lodge No. 8, of Missouri, of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows and the Nineteenth annual session of the District Grand Household of Ruth, No. 15, which were held here this week. Patriotism was evidenced by the note struck in the Grand Master's address and by the purchase of Liberty Bonds. Progress was shown by the encouraging reports in all departments of the order indicating substantial growth and by the wise plans proposed for the future.

The Grand Lodge sessions were opened with the usual ritualistic order by District Grand Master T. B. Watkins, of Kansas City, Mo., in Grove M. E. Church at 10:30 Tuesday morning. The Grand Household of Ruth convened at the same hour in Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Mrs. Grace E. Mulligan, D. G. M. N. G., of St. Louis, Mo., presiding. Routine business was rapidly dispatched by each grand body.

Tuesday night an open session was held in Grove M. E. Church at which Edward S. Lewis, District Grand Secretary, presided and in a most felicitous vein introduced the speakers. "America" was sung by the audience and the invocation was offered by the Rev. M. H. Wilkinson. Mayor Dahlman gave a most cordial address of welcome as chief executive of the city, which won warmest commendation. District Grand Master Watkins responded in an eloquent and thoughtful address. The choir and audience sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." R. L. Woodard gave the address of welcome on behalf of the local lodges, which was responded to in his happiest vein by the eloquent W. C. Heuston, of Kansas City, Mo., the Grand Lodge attorney. Mrs. Anna Johnson Pervine, of Queen City Household No. 2903, gave the welcome address on behalf of the local Households of Ruth, which evoked a gracious response by Grand Most Noble Governor, Mrs. Grace E. Mulligan, of St. Louis. The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Walden. It was a well-arranged and well-executed program.

Business sessions were held Wednesday morning and afternoon and in the evening a competitive drill and band concert were the attractions at Holmes Park.

Memorial sessions were held Thursday morning. The election of officers took place Thursday afternoon and at night a banquet was given at Keep's Dancing Academy, which with other features delighted a large audience.

Friday was given over to the street parade and a picnic, band concert and base ball game at Holmes Park.

More than a hundred delegates from various points in Missouri were present. They expressed themselves as delighted with Omaha hospitality and were loud in their praise of the local committee. The following officers were chosen:

L. F. Ford, of St. Louis, Mo., Grand Master for the District; Press Clay, of Hannibal, Mo., Deputy Grand Master; Edward S. Lewis, of Kansas City, Grand Secretary; W. C. Heuston, of Kansas City, Grand Treasurer; J. O. White, of Mexico, Mo., Grand Director; Dr. L. M. Tillman, of Kansas City, State Health Commissioner; L. A. Knox, of Kansas City, Grand Attorney; and C. N. Wilson, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., Secretary of Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Household officers: Mrs. Grace E. Mulligan, of St. Louis, Past Most Noble Governor; Mrs. Frankie Johnson, of Kansas City, Mo., Most Noble Governor; Mrs. Frankie Mitchell, of St. Louis, Right Noble Governor; Mrs. Nellie Reynolds, of Sedalia, Mo., Worthy Recorder; Mrs. Mary Renfrow, of St. Louis, Worthy Treasurer; Mrs. Della Freeman, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., Worthy Counsel.

The next place of meeting is Boonville, Mo.

CAMBRIDGE PAPER MAKES CORRECTION

Expresses Appreciation For the Courteous Manner in Which Colored Citizens Took Up Matter.

Cambridge, Mass.—A reporter with a vivid imagination developed a minor incident into a "race riot." The Standard published it. A committee of citizens, with the Rev. Walter B. McClane, rector of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, as spokesman, held a conference in the mayor's office, in which a correction of the misrepresentations made was requested. The editor of the Standard investigated the matter and in its issue of July 25 published the following correction:

"On Monday, July 16, there appeared in the Standard an article relating to an affair in Central square on the preceding night in which a Colored man and an employe of the Boston Elevated came to blows. The subsequent proceedings, such as taking the parties to the station house, etc., were so stated as to give the affair the appearance of a race riot, and it was so characterized in the headline.

"It has since been brought to our notice by representative Colored citizens of Cambridge that our account was highly exaggerated, and at a hearing in the mayor's office and by subsequent interviews with eye-witnesses and with the police, we have become convinced that their view of the article in the Standard is correct.

"Accordingly we wish to state that we can find no evidence to substantiate the statement that any threats of 'lynching' were made, that any exceptional number of Colored people remained near the station house more than an hour, that any Colored people were 'armed,' or that they were 'determined to have the prisoners.'

"At the same time we wish to express our appreciation of the courteous manner in which the representatives of the Colored citizens have taken the matter up with the Standard, and to hope that they are convinced that the story was 'featured' as an exclusive news story rather than an attempt to create race prejudice in Cambridge. As the latter view was voiced by one speaker at the mayor's office, it seems only fair to state that the speaker quoted absolutely denied making the statement, and the one quoting admitted privately that he might have been mistaken.

"There are no people in Cambridge more deserving of public confidence than our Colored citizens, and we regret that any article in our columns should do anything to destroy that confidence.—The Cambridge Standard."

NEW YORKERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Did Not Have Chance to Present Pro-
test Petition to President,
However.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Headed by Rev. Frederick A. Cullen, a delegation sought to place in the hands of President Wilson a monster petition protesting against mob violence and other racial discriminations and asking that lynching be made a federal offense.

The delegation was met by Secretary Tumulty, who said that President Wilson could not see them, as he was extremely busy. The President declined to see committees from this city and Baltimore, who were at the White House several weeks ago to protest against the riots at East St. Louis and ask a federal probe.

"No nation which seeks to fight the battles of civilization," the petition reads, "can march in blood-stained clothes."

ALUMNI REQUEST IMPROVED CURRICULUM

Hampton, Va.—At a recent triennial reunion of the Alumni Association of Hampton Institute, a resolution was passed asking that the curriculum of the school be raised. It was also urged that a department of music be established with Nathaniel Dett, present instructor in music there, in charge.

PHILADELPHIA PASTORS PRESENTED TOURING CARS

Philadelphia, Pa.—The Rev. E. W. Johnson, pastor of St. Paul's Baptist Church; the Rev. W. A. Harrod of Cherry Memorial, and the Rev. G. W. Robinson of Shiloh all have new touring cars presented to them by their congregations.

Negroes May Enter Navy--- As Cooks and Scullions

New York Age Is Latest Race Newspaper to be
Advised That Policy of Discrimination is
Approved by Present Administration.

Some months ago, when the Government called for volunteers for the Navy, two young Colored men of Omaha offered their services but their offer was rejected.

The Monitor investigated and was courteously informed by the recruiting officer, who in the conversation proved himself to be a broad-minded gentleman of the first rank, that the facts were substantially as alleged. The applicants had been rejected solely on the ground of color, because the orders were not to enlist Colored men. It was frankly stated that the only places open to them—and these were limited in numbers—were those of cooks, waiters and barbers. Re-enlistments were being allowed, but not encouraged, but no Negroes were to be accepted as raw naval recruits.

The Monitor published this information at that time to save some of our patriotic youth who heard the call of the sea and were willing to serve their country in the navy from embarrassment and patriotism-blighting humiliation.

That this unfortunately short-sighted policy is still in vogue is conclusively shown by the following article just published in the New York Age:

Discrimination in the navy against the Negro under the present administration at Washington are to continue. This piece of information has been imparted to The Age by high officials in the Navy Department and expresses the sentiments of Secretary Josephus Daniels.

The following communication has been received by The Age from the Navy Department, in which admission is made that the drawing of the color line in the Navy is to be resorted to with the same zeal in the future as has been practiced in the past:

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Navigation
Washington, D. C.

July 17, 1917.

To the Editor of The Age:

The Chief of Bureau directs me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, addressed to the Secretary of the Navy, and referred by him to this bureau, in which you mention the offers of services to the Navy from Colored men.

This matter has been given due consideration, but it is not deemed

advisable to change the policy which has existed in the Navy to the satisfaction of all parties concerned for many years.

Respectfully,

(Signed) T. B. PATTERFIELD,
Lieutenant Commander, U. S. N.

The communication from the Navy Department was in response to the following sent by Fred R. Moore, editor of The Age:

July 13, 1917.

Hon. Josephus Daniels,
Secretary of Navy,
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Sir:

I wrote you some time ago in reference to Colored men seeking to enter the Navy, but have not yet had a reply. I am told that members of my race are not wanted in the Navy except in menial positions. There are many who would gladly enter the Navy could they be assured of having an equal chance according to ability with others. We have had Colored men in the Navy who made splendid records, one in particular was on the Flagship Olympia with the late Admiral Dewey, and I believe had charge of rifle-range at League Island Station, Philadelphia.

At this time when every man is desirous of doing his part, it is rather discouraging that the Negro who is an American citizen is not given the same kind of encouragement as the American white boy. In fact, it is said that foreigners have a better chance in the Navy than the American black boy. Those now there who have been in for years are discouraged when they see white boys with no more ability than they, promoted and given every opportunity to advance.

I hope that you will see the wisdom of recognizing the merits and the loyalty of the American Negro and be willing to accord him the same consideration that is accorded every other citizen, regardless of race or creed. The Negro has offered his services freely and even now offers his services.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) FRED R. MOORE.

The declaration of the Navy Department to The Age means that the Negroes who enlist in the Navy will be put to work as scullions and doing menial work. An opportunity to be fighters will be denied them, their color being a bar to just recognition.

Circulation Boosting Bargain

The Monitor is \$1.50 a year—and worth it. To introduce it to NEW SUBSCRIBERS we will send it to the FIRST 200 new subscriptions reaching us after this date, but before August 31st, for \$1.00 a year. This applies only to NEW subscriptions (not renewals) and only to the first 200.

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WHAT I SAW AT DES MOINES AND HOW IT APPEALED TO ME

Complying with a very urgent message from a very dear friend, Colonel Young, that I should come and see him, we left Omaha Saturday, the 21st, at 3:55 over the Rock Island.

After a five hours ride, we reached Des Moines. From the first person with whom we exchanged greetings we learned the disappointing news that the Colonel had left for Ohio. This was Sergeant Robinson, whom we have every reason to believe is a soldier of experience and a gentleman too.

You will notice that I said "we," because to combat loneliness I took with me my foster daughter, Miss Camille Simpson. Being provided with a letter of introduction from my business partner, Mr. J. Snell, with little trouble we found our way to 1011 Crocker street, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Courtney, where we enjoyed a very refreshing sleep. Morning brought us to the breakfast table, where the host, hostess and their two daughters entertained us with all that was, or is being said good about the detachment of our men undergoing military training at the Fort. Our timely coming enabled us to see a well planned entertainment given under the auspices of the White Sparrow Club at the Drake Stadium. At the breakfast table we were introduced to Mr. Mills, a man I should judge to be in his seventieth years, yet quite active for his age. Withdrawing from the table, Mr. Mills and I took seats on the spacious cool porch, overhung by two beautiful oak trees, dense with heavy foliage which defies the sun-searching rays, there in mute language welcoming all who come under their protection. Here I was royally entertained by this old veteran with an interesting review of our past history, which time will not permit me to repeat here.

After this pleasant and interesting chat we left for the fort, accompanied by Sergeant Robinson, of the 10th Cavalry.

The first of our Omaha acquaintances to greet us was Lawyer Pinkett. Dr. W. W. Peebles came next with a good many of the detachment.

The young men from Wilberforce University were indeed delighted to meet again their schoolmate, Miss Camille Simpson; so we chatted freely and friendly with all, never losing sight though of their prime earnestness which is a true mark of a well trained soldier. I said well trained, but the remarkable part is that all this has been accomplished in so short a period; for the writer has seen recruits who were awkward after a full year's training. The bugle call having sounded for dinner, we returned to the city.

After a very appetizing dinner, Mr. Mills and I boarded a Center street car, Miss Simpson going with Mrs. Courtney and their three daughters in their car. We were soon at the Drake Stadium. Only by our early arrival there were we able to secure good seats. Through two inlets the people poured in steady streams, until 10,000 human beings of all colors, shades and ages filled this large basin to overflowing. Two local bands furnished music during the pouring in of this human tide; then when all was ready and after the first half of the program was rendered, the First Infantry Band leading, the command appeared at the north gate. This was sufficient. An electric current of enthusiasm shot through the entire crowd with lightning rapidity. The people all arose to their feet as one, climbed to the top of their seats in order to show their respect, and get full and sure view of the command. During the whole time the clapping of hands never ceased until the last company halted. The other half of the carefully prepared program was rendered. One of the numbers was the reading of the 46th Psalm. Now, think of the reading of this passage of Scripture in alternate verses by 10,000 voices, and yet it was accomplished with marked success. This had the appearance to me as another mystery of "The Double Cross."

Here standing in the center of this basin were 1200 men fully armed and equipped, whose business is to kill. Surrounding them on four sides were 10,000 people, whose only purpose and aims are to save life, and yet the part each has fitted in with true exactness. Oh! is it then useless, one without the other?

I said at the beginning that this entertainment was given by a club called the White Sparrows. Now, the White Sparrows' Club is a n organization whose purpose is to give entertainments during the summer months that

"David" the Cantata, Pleases Audience

Sung by Well Trained Chorus of Sixty
Voices From Local Churches;
Ben Stanley, Director.

MARKS MUSICAL PROGRESS

Despite an almost torrential down-pour of rain Brandeis theater was well filled by an appreciative audience Monday night, when the cantata, "David the Shepherd Boy," was most acceptably presented by a chorus of sixty well trained voices, under the direction of Ben Stanley, organist and choirmaster of Trinity Cathedral, and the management of Mrs. W. T. Osborne, for the benefit of St. John's A. M. E. Church. The chorus was composed of representatives from the five local churches, although quite naturally, the largest number came from St. John's.

The leading soloists were: Miss Darlene Duvall, soprano, as "Abigail"; John Andrew Singleton, tenor, as "David"; Mrs. Maud Ray, alto, as "Michal"; William G. Haynes, tenor, as "Jesse"; Leroy Kelly, bass, as "Saul"; Leon Robinette, baritone, as "Samuel," and William Graves as "Abner." Other solo parts were sung by Miss Pearl Ray, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Brown. Miss Myrtle Hayden, alto, was heard to good effect in the duet with Miss Duvall, "O Carmel Fair." While there was diversity of talent and training among the soloists, each one showed an intelligent interpretation of the role assigned. Mr. Singleton's best number was "In Awful Caverns," and Miss Duvall's, "Oh, Long Hast Thou Wandered."

The chorus work was excellent, "When Heroes Return," "The Rosy Heights of Carmel" and "Manasseh Sends Her Thousands" being especially effective.

Mrs. Clarence H. Singleton's work as accompanist was most acceptable and deserves commendation. Just before the end of the program Mrs. Osborne, in a most gracious manner and with well chosen words, thanked the audience and all who had contributed towards the success of the cantata.

The successful rendition of "David the Shepherd Boy" by this chorus shows musical progress among the race in Omaha and points the way for the organization and maintenance of a choral society.

Great praise is due Mrs. Osborne for her initiative and ability in the management of these choruses.

They may be provided with money to help the poor and needy during the winter. How beautifully these acts of mercy stand out against the background of our duty towards our neighbor. Now, this is the part our boys took in the program:

They sang; I need not say more, you know the rest.

At the close of the program the order for attention was given by Col. Ballou, in every particular a commanding officer. He put his men through the manual of arms which they executed with creditable precision and grace. So pleased was Col. Ballou in the movements of "order arms," hearing 12,000 rifles striking the ground as one, that he repeated this movement from every position. Having had a few years of military record I watched and listened with a critic's eye and ears and was made to feel quite proud of the record our boys are making. Then again in the review which calls out the best trumps of the ten and twenty years' service men, in keeping a true and straight alignment, when marching fifty men abreast, which is no easy thing to do, and here again, the command crowned themselves with laurels and gave credit to themselves and their instructors.

A lady seated behind me, whose fan occasionally touched my hat during the entertainment, leaned over and begged pardon for what true courtesy may have dictated to her as an act of unkindness. After the apology she remarked that "I never saw men more straight and erect, and I only hope that when they reach the trenches that they will shoot with the same straightness."

Now, comrades, you are standing out against a beautiful background of past records made by your older brothers and comrades, the which you must face. Do not go around it, that is not manly; do not stoop under, that is disgraceful; you can not climb over it, that would be unmanly; you must go to it and make good, for you can.

THOMAS REESE.