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THE MONITOR

Lifting;
Lift, Too!

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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GRAND REUNION OF GRADUATES

Hampton Alumni Association
Observes Anniversary.

REID ELECTED PRESIDENT

Fourteenth Triennial Gathering Brings
Together Members of Classes Covering
Period of More Than Forty-five
Years—Dr. Lattimore Delivers Fine
Address.

The death of Dr. Hollis B. Frissell gives added significance to the recent fourteenth triennial reunion of the graduates of Hampton institute. Fred D. Wheelock, Hampton, '88, offers the following statement concerning the successful reunion: "Some doubt was held as to whether it would be wise to hold a reunion this year on account of the unsettled condition of affairs. In view, however, of the coming celebration next year of the fiftieth anniversary of Hampton, the executive com-



MAJOR WASHINGTON.

mittee decided it would be most fitting to hold the reunion, which was called together by William M. Reid, '78.

"Every class from 1871 to 1917 was represented. A more earnest and thoughtful gathering of men and women it would be hard to find. After a thorough review of the work of the Hampton Alumni association by the president and an outline of what remained to be done the following committees were appointed: Resolutions, nominations and memorials.

"Dr. John T. Lattimore, a dentist of Hampton, Va., made a stirring address on 'Hampton's Ideals.' It was a gem, indeed, expressing in choice and heartfelt language the loyalty of the sons and daughters to their alma mater and giving also a brief resume as gathered from the mottoes of all the classes of the ideals which governed the men and women who have gone out from the school. That intangible something known as the 'Hampton spirit' was beautifully referred to and called forth a hearty response. At the close of Dr. Lattimore's address discussions followed. The elements were present—the conservative, and the progressive.

"The progressives, headed by the younger members, were for an enlargement of the functions of the association and were anxious to make themselves felt for good along some definite lines. This awakening is a very good sign of the times and shows that there has been some thinking done. There is no reason in the world why a thousand and more of educated men and women should not be co-operation able to bring some things to pass which they desire.

"One of the pressing questions before the association is the completion of the permanent scholarship. The president called for funds for this purpose, and the response was quite generous. There was on hand \$1,439 toward the \$2,500. At the close of the session the amount on hand was a little over \$1,500. It is intended by next April to have the entire sum in hand. The following chapters responded: Norfolk and Portsmouth, \$100; Hampton and Newport News, \$80; New York, \$25. Chicago, Boston and Washington were not heard from at this time.

"Only a few changes in the executive committee were made by the committee on nominations. The officers remain as heretofore: President, William M. Reid, '77, Portsmouth, Va.; vice president, Caspar M. Titus, '73, Norfolk, Va.; recording secretary, Don A. Davis, '03, Hampton Institute, Va.; financial secretary, Allen W. Washington, '01, Hampton Institute, Va.; corresponding secretary, Miss Callista Sheppard, '06, Norfolk, Va.

"One hundred and sixty were present at the banquet over which Toastmaster Allen Washington presided.

"Professor W. T. B. Williams read a very touching letter from Dr. Frissell, expressing his regret at not being able to be with us, also one from Miss Sherman and Sydney D. Frissell.

"During the evening a poem, 'Memories of Hampton,' by Mrs. Marie Stevens, '80, was sung to the tune of 'America.' Professor R. Nathaniel Dett, teacher of music, rendered an original selection from his suit, 'In the Bottoms,' which was greatly appreciated. Thus ended a long to be remembered occasion, fraught with much interest and enthusiasm."

CANCEL CONCERT ENGAGEMENT

A Well Defined Case De Luxe of
White Liver Discovered in
Omaha.

A company of students from Roger Williams University of Nashville, Tenn., have been giving a series of concerts in the leading white and Colored Baptist churches of the country from New England to Nebraska, in the interests of their institution. They have met with marked success and given entire satisfaction wherever they have appeared. They gave a splendid recital at Zion Baptist church Monday night, and had an engagement for the First Baptist church, white, for Tuesday night. Tuesday afternoon they were called up by the church authorities and advised that in the light of the fact that a Negro was under arrest on suspicion of having committed a murder, they deemed it best to cancel the engagement.

Broad-minded citizens of Omaha, and their number runs well up into the thousands, will hardly sympathize with this action. It reflects anything but credit upon the church authorities having the matter in charge.

LAST CHANCE FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS UNDER THE SPECIAL ONE DOLLAR RATE

We will accept new subscribers today under the special one dollar rate. This is the last opportunity. Send in your subscriptions today. This rate was on for the month of August to introduce The Monitor to new subscribers. Our regular subscription rate since February, 1916, has been \$1.50 a year, payable in advance. We will publish complete list of the lucky new subscribers in next week's issue. Get your name on the list. Do it today.

AFRO-AMERICAN BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

This is the name of the organization which N. W. Ware is undertaking in our city. The objects of the association are the same as like organizations, but for the purpose of encouraging and assisting our people in the buying of homes.

The capital stock of the association is fixed at \$10,000, to be paid into the corporation within one year from the date of incorporation.

Fuller particulars will be given in a later issue. This is a laudable business venture in the right direction.

RACE RIOTS AMONG TROOPS

Omaha Bee, Aug. 25, 1917.

The mutiny of a body of Colored soldiers of the United States army at a Texas post can scarcely be considered as a symptom of serious trouble in the organization. It is rather a further proof of the difficulty of maintaining strict discipline in presence of the unconcealed prejudice against the blacks that exists generally in the South and prominently in Texas. Judgment must be suspended until a full inquiry has developed the real reason for the outbreak. This will not lessen the seriousness of the offense committed by the soldiers, who have laid themselves liable to the extreme penalty by their conduct. It may serve, however, to place definitely the blame for a state of affairs that shows on the surface that something radically wrong is back of the outbreak. Several years ago, in time of peace, an entire troop of a regiment of cavalry was dishonorably discharged because of an outbreak engendered by friction between white civilians and Colored soldiers in a Texas community. The scandal then occasioned has not been forgotten, but its lesson evidently did not sink deep enough. Without undertaking to fix fully responsibility for the deplorable affair at Houston, public opinion must lean towards the conclusion that such clashes may be avoided by the application of a little forbearance on the part of the whites. Army authorities may be depended upon to deal with offending soldiers.

Give Us a Colored Commander for Colored Troops

PRESIDENT WILSON, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY, TWELVE MILLION COLORED AMERICANS RESPECTFULLY PETITION YOU, SIR, TO GIVE OUR RACE A GENERAL IN THE PERSON OF CHARLES YOUNG AND TO GIVE HIM COMMAND OF COLORED TROOPS; AND WE PLEDGE YOU OUR HONOR THAT OUR COUNTRY WILL THRILL WITH PRIDE AT THE VALOR OF THE TROOPS UNDER HIS COMMAND.

GIVE US A COLORED COMMANDER FOR COLORED TROOPS. OUR LOYALTY AND SERVICE MERIT THIS RECOGNITION.

Dangerously Sensational Headlines

Monitor Calls Attention to Unwisdom and Peril of Omaha
Bee's Report of Recent Crimes In City—No Evidence
Against Man Under Arrest.

Sensational headlines in newspapers can stir up lots of mischief. With one exception, the Daily News, Omaha papers have been singularly free from this. Recently, however, the Omaha Bee has adopted this dangerous style, without any intention, we are quite sure, of stirring up racial strife.

In Monday's issue it published a front page article on the recent crimes in our city under the following startling captions:

ARCH FIENDS SLAY TWO WOMEN

Omaha Is Stirred by Wave of Crime
in Last 36 Hours.

Two Brutal Murders, a Woman Assaulted in Her Room, Three Men Carved by Her Running Amuck and a Woman Harrassed by a Negro Are Some of the Crimes Keeping Omaha Police Force Busy.

Our chief objection is to the second subhead and the general tone of the news item, which, although doubtless unintentionally so, was nevertheless prejudice creating.

The World-Herald's featuring of this news item was in marked contrast to that of the Bee. It gave the facts as then gathered without startling headlines or exciting embellishments.

We addressed the following self-explanatory letter to the Bee, the first part of which was published in its issue of August 30:

"Omaha, Aug. 27.
"To the Editor of the Bee: I desire to commend you for your admirable editorial published in Saturday's issue on the deplorable Houston affair, which all right-thinking people must keenly regret.

"All who have our country's best interests at heart must do their utmost to allay the sentiment quite prevalent throughout all sections of the country which underlies and is responsible for inter-racial tragedies of this character. This, while necessary in normal times, is most imperative in these abnormal times, when the nerves of the nation are at high tension. Press, pulpit, bar and every agency which influences public opinion must unite in counseling sanity, self-restraint and moderation. Therefore I desire to commend you for the editorial in question and for the Bee's general policy both in editorial and news columns for standing for law, order and justice for all classes of citizens.

"In tonight's issue, however, there seems to be such a radical departure from your usual policy of news reporting that I beg leave to call your attention to it. I do so, most respectfully, because I believe the sensational manner in which the recent crimes which have deeply stirred our city are reported in tonight's issue has a decided tendency to inflame rather than to allay anti-racial antipathies, which loom so large in the average American community.

"I refer, of course, to the report of the two murders, the burglary and the evidently unprovoked attack made by a demented or drunken man, who chanced to be a Colored man—which accident ought not either magnify or lessen the crime—upon three of our citizens on a downtown street.

"The subhead and two or three expressions in the news item impress me as being dangerously objectionable. The impression conveyed to the average reader by the subhead is that Negroes are responsible for the 'wave of crime' which has stirred Omaha; while as a matter of fact, aside from the crazy or drunken fellow who ran amuck with a knife and the tramp who asked a woman for food and in doing so is said to have 'harrassed' her, there is no evidence yet as to who committed the crimes of murder and burglary. The article apparently would convey the impression that all these crimes were committed by Negroes. It is stated that 'the assaults and murders are believed to have been the work of a Southern Negro laborer of the type recently imported North to work.' This is wholly gratuitous. And it is also an unfair attack on honest and industrious laborers who have recently come from the South, the great majority of whom, although perhaps uncouth, are industrious and law-abiding.

"Inasmuch as it is your policy not to let your news reports nullify your editorial utterances in promoting the welfare of the community which you faithfully serve, I am very sure that you will be very careful to suppress the 'featuring' by ambitious reporters of even sensational news in any manner that may tend to create racial or class prejudice which can so easily lead to serious and deplorable results.

"JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS."

COLORED MAN HELD AS MURDER SUSPECT

Sunday afternoon the wife of C. L. Nethaway of Florence, whom her husband had directed to join him at a given point, when he would take her for a ride in his auto, was brutally murdered at a secluded spot on the railroad tracks not far from her home.

Failing to meet his wife at the appointed place Mr. Nethaway drove on home, but found it locked and his wife gone. Fearing, as he said, that she had met with an accident, he got a friend to accompany him and walked up the track in the direction he had told his wife to go. He took the right side and his friend the left. After having gone some distance Mr. Nethaway was horrified to find the dead body of his wife, who had been murdered after a desperate struggle.

Suspicion fell upon Charles Smith, a Colored man, a stranger in this city from Mississippi, who had been seen in that vicinity. Smith was arrested on a freight train at Blair. Smith does not deny that he was in the vicinity and admits that he got a drink of water at the well at the Nethaway home, but denies all knowledge of the crime. He has been subjected to the usual grilling at the hands of the police, but aside from the fact of his admitted presence in the locality of the murder no evidence has been disclosed to connect him with the crime.

There are one or two facts which lead The Monitor to think that the police have not caught the murderer. Neighbors have stated that Smith came to the Nethaway house a few minutes after Mrs. Nethaway had left to meet her husband and knocked at the door. Getting no response he went to the well and got a drink of water, then left in the direction that Mrs. Nethaway had gone. Unless he had met her before coming to the house it is not likely that he overtook her. And if he had committed the crime before coming to the house it does not seem at all probable that he would have retraced his steps to where his victim's body lay. Moreover, it is not likely that he would have hung around in the neighborhood as it is asserted he did.

The police should leave no clue unfollowed that may lead to the apprehension and punishment of the murderer or murderers of both Mrs. Nethaway and Mrs. Anderson.

A VOICE FROM THE PLAINS

Lower Brule, S. D., July 23, 1917.
To the Editor The Monitor, Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sir: You desire to help the Colored people. Why not organize them or at least some of them into farmers' clubs? This could be done in this way: Get some of the business men to finance them toward the purchase of at least forty acres of land to the family.

There is a splendid quarter section here of the best soil in this part of the state or any where else that can be purchased real cheap—at least I would call it cheap. There is not an acre on it that could not be plowed or cultivated, 160 acres of as good land as lays out doors anywhere.

My plan would be as follows: Organize a society to purchase the land and then sell it to people on crop payments or shares. Help them to get to a country where their hogs, corn, wheat or, in fact, anything that they raise, will bring the same price that the white farmers get. It is a little late in the season to start out this fall but you could buy the land and have them start early in the spring.

The land I have in mind at this time is only 12 miles from a good railroad town where there are two banks, a good creamery station, also good hotels and restaurants, grocery stores, hardware, in fact, stores of all kinds and garages.

I will be in your city this fall and will be pleased to give you any assistance in my power that will help in this matter. The land I mentioned can be bought this fall for \$1200.00 with a perfect title and abstract. There is no incumbrance on the land. The party's reason for selling is that it is too far from his home place which is at least 27 miles from the land he wants to sell. Don't crowd all those people that you are bringing out of the south into the cities, but send some of them to the farms so that they can help take care of those that are by their training compelled to live in the cities. All questions and inquiries gladly answered. Awaiting your pleasure, I will close for this time.

Yours respectfully,
W. B. GAMBLE.

ORGANIZE RED CROSS

Last Friday afternoon thirty women in answer to the request of Mrs. Isaac Bailey met in the parlors of the Grove Methodist church and organized a branch of the Red Cross. Mrs. O. C. Redick was present and explained its objects. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Isaac Bailey, president; Mrs. Philip Letcher, vice-president; Mrs. Daniels, secretary; Mrs. U. G. Bell, corresponding secretary and Mrs. Benson, treasurer.

Meetings are to be held every Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 5 at Grove Methodist church and all women are most cordially invited to attend. The aim and desire is to make it a representative organization of all our women in the city. They have begun work on hospital supplies and workers are wanted.

WOMEN'S REGISTRATION DAY

September 12 is the day when all women are requested to register, not to vote, but to give such service as they can to the government during these times of war. Every woman can do something to help. Full particulars next issue. Simply remember now that the government is seeking to register women for patriotic service, for some of which pay will be given, for others expense money and other no material returns.

SEPTEMBER 12 IS THE DAY.

Business League Asks Aid For Liberia.

The National Negro Business League at its session held at Chattanooga, Tenn., from Aug. 15 to 17, inclusive, adopted resolutions asking the United States government to lend a helping hand to the republic of Liberia by reopening the coaling station and the appointment of a commission to investigate conditions of Americans in the republic. The resolution also indorsed the day of prayer called by the National Federation of Women's Clubs.

New Labor Organization Formed.

The Associated Colored Employees of America is the name of a new organization recently formed in New York with general officers and an executive committee. The purpose of the association is to meet the demand of employers for laborers and to see that a square deal is given in wages and hours, according to the kind of labor performed.

YOUNG SPEAKS FOR HIMSELF REGARDING ARMY AFFAIRS

Noted Retired Colonel Sends Patriotic
Letter to Hon. H. C. Smith.

The Hon. Harry C. Smith, veteran editor of the Cleveland (O.) Gazette, who was for several terms a member of the Ohio legislature, is still on the firing line fighting with voice and pen against race segregation and other forms of injustice to our people. He stands for a square deal according to law. On this score his record as a legislator bears abundant witness to his manhood and executive ability. Like Sumner, Garrison, Phillips, Lovejoy, Douglass and other noble sires of the abolitionist period, he is in earnest and does not retreat a single inch, but must be and is heard.

Mr. Smith was one of the many persons who evinced great interest in the recent prospective promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Charles Young, U. S. A., whom the war department retired a few weeks ago. Editor Smith has received the following letter from Colonel Young, which explains Colonel Young's position very clearly on several matters concerning his future:

Wilberforce, O., Aug. 12, 1917.
Hon. Harry C. Smith, Editor of the Cleveland Gazette:

My Dear Friend—I cannot thank you too much for your kindness in coming to my rescue in your last issue.

You are right in saying I had nothing to do with the failure of the new regiment of Ohio cavalry (dismounted). I did not ask for command of the regiment. I simply obeyed my instructions from Washington and from the adjutant general of Ohio. By training I am only a soldier, going where sent and doing what I'm ordered. So in this case.

The only painful thing in this whole matter to me has been the petty ambitions of certain would be officers of our own race who waited for me to "bell the



COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG, UNITED STATES ARMY (RETIRED).

cat" and then made their howl. When in the world did I ever play politics or seek my personal preference when the welfare of my race or country depended upon my action?

"To me the motto of the Black Prince, 'I serve,' should be the motto of every black officer, and I have always made it mine, humbling myself to serve the rest, for the good of the rest.

Now as to the retirement of me by the war department from active service. As before stated, so I repeat, I am only one man, and if, according to the rules of the game, I am to be "scrapped," I shall submit, sportsmanlike, to the president's orders.

I have never felt any ill effects of the surgeon's findings as to disability, and I shall keep my head, my patience and my health, still studying until such a time as I may be needed by the government.

I pray God she may not need me and that the war will be soon won. Now let me beg you and all good people of our race not to agitate or protest in my favor. The administration must not be embarrassed in its extremity. We all love the country too well for that.

Again thanking you for all your kindness to me and wishing you and the Gazette success, cordially yours,

CHARLES YOUNG,
Colonel United States Army, Retired.

GOOD AMERICAN CITIZENS.

Silent Parade Was Dignified Protest
Against Lynching, Says the Eagle.

In concluding an editorial on the "silent" parade to be conducted the next day by the colored citizens of Greater New York the Brooklyn Daily Eagle of Friday, July 27, said:

The Eagle regards this parade as a dignified and proper way of displaying race feeling. It trusts that no street violence will spring out of it. The immense exodus of southern Negroes to the north and the degree to which they have been employed as strike breakers has given the question of the rights of colored people a wholly new phase in America.

Well dressed, well fed, fairly prosperous, the adults in the parade will be good American citizens. The children in bright colors will testify to every eye that they are well cared for. No country can afford to tolerate race injustice. Above all, the United States of America must protect all its citizens regardless of color if it is to keep the respect of the civilized world.