

Growing,
Thank You!

THE MONITOR

Lifting
Lift, Too!

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

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Pays Fourth Visit to Des Moines

"Bob" Robinson Writes Interesting
Letter Concerning Conditions at
Officers' Training Camp.

TWO HUNDRED MEN GO HOME

Postponement of Graduation Creates
Dissatisfaction and Dampers
Men's Enthusiasm.

Editor Monitor: May I give you a letter on my fourth trip to Fort Des Moines? I left Omaha in company with Mr. W. D. McCulloch, who was the first man from Omaha to be drawn in the selective draft, over C. R. I. and P. Ry. for Des Moines the morning of the 14th, arriving at the Fort at 9 a. m. I at once got in touch with Dr. Cabanis and learned there was some discontentment as the boys had expected to finish their three months' training and receive their commissions or be notified that they failed to make good, but were told that the camp would be prolonged another month. An order from the war department directed that the school be continued and two hundred men took their discharge and left for home. Of the many who had applied for their discharge was Attorney W. N. Johnson but little persuasion caused him to change his mind and enlist for another month. He expects to stay and try to win a commission at the completion of this month's training. This extra month will take some of the rough edges off some of the candidates and, in fact, do them more good than harm.

One visiting the camp last Friday would have thought of school days, seeing so many men getting ready to leave for home. Some smart men left the camp Friday but they had finished their course of instruction for three months and felt that as the school was not going to graduate them they could do better by leaving for their positions in civil life. Dr. Cabanis and his staff, Messrs. DeFrantz and Beckett, were a committee trying to persuade some of the men to remain at camp for the extra months and find results. They called on General C. C. Ballou and were assured the object was simply to keep the men in training until time for the first Colored selective draft men were ordered to report at the cantonment as no definite date had been set for the Colored army to mobilize.

The companies were going on with their usual routine of work. Company No. 2 was going to the trenches and we promised Ed Turner to accompany them, but got busy trying to get some of the men to not accept their discharge and "re-up" for the extra month. The boys from the regular army and National Guard are there for results and will stick by it one or more months.

We had lunch with Company No. 5. Menu: baked fish, Spanish sauce, corn on cob, mashed potatoes, bread, butter, iced tea, and bread pudding. After lunch we went down to the medical corps quarters, met some of the officers who were commissioned in the Dental and Medical Relief corps and spent quite an enjoyable afternoon. The enlisted men of the Hospital corps, about 800 strong, were given instruction in litter drill. They are a likely bunch of young men and are learning the drill fast. As so many of the candidates for commission have left the fort, some of the companies will merge so as to let some of the Hospital corps have their quarters. I think the intention is to quarter the candidates in eight or nine barracks.

The boys have had lots of sport during the past week. Company No. 7 gave a banquet and ball Wednesday night at the Administration Building and it was well attended. Captains Stevens and Fink, Companies 7 and 10 respectively, and their wives and citizens were in attendance.

Thursday night Company No. 5 had their banquet and ball at their quarters and members of each company claimed the honor of having excelled the other in the undertaking. Sorry I was not there to witness it. Some of the decorations were hanging in Company No. 5 quarters Friday.

Returned to Des Moines after retreat and after dinner planned to attend a banquet at the Auditorium, given by some Des Moines society for candidates and officers, but I was too tired, and after taking a little sleep, awoke too late, but heard it

was quite a swell affair and well attended. We left Des Moines Saturday morning at 8:20 for Van Meter, Ia., where we got the car and motored to Omaha, arriving here rather tired and ready to do justice to a good meal.

G. Wade Obee, being one who decided it was useless for him to continue training, asked for his discharge, and will be in the city for a few days en route west to join his family. Quite a few of the boys who are going to "re-up" are asking for a few days' furlough to visit home.

A delegation has called on Secretary Baker in behalf of General Ballou having command of the Colored soldiers in the new army. He seems to have the interest of the Colored boys at heart. They all like him.

The boys were disappointed at the camp being prolonged, for most of the men had made arrangements to leave for home. Some were coming to Omaha for a few days, but when the order was received to continue training for another month, it took all the life out of the men and a shadow of gloom hovered over the camp, which was still apparent on our arrival.

Shall try to be at Fort Des Moines October 14th, if the training camp closes, for it will be the last time so many well-educated Negroes will be assembled for such an important duty. Men from all parts of the country and from every school are, or have been, in training in the 17 Pro. Reg. R. O. T. G. at Fort Des Moines, Ia., since it opened, June 3, 1917.

Wishing each officer, candidate, enlisted man, and the secretaries of the A. and N. branch, Y. M. C. A. a successful future, I am,

Yours most respectfully,
BOB ROBINSON.

THOUSANDS ATTEND COUNCILMAN CUMMINGS' FUNERAL

Baltimore, Md.—The funeral of Councilman Harry Cummings, who died last week after having been in ill health for some time, was held Monday afternoon from Metropolitan M. E. Church, near Druid Hill avenue. Hundreds were unable to get into the church. It was the largest funeral ever held in Baltimore for a Negro.

Members of both branches of the City Council attended in a body, and civic organizations were well represented. The funeral services lasted two hours and the eulogies paid the dead councilman were genuine.

COLORED SOLDIER KILLED BY TRAIN

Phillipsburg, N. J.—Harry Mason, 18 years old, and a member of Company B, 15th N. Y. Infantry, Colored, was killed while on guard duty in this section September 6. He was guarding a bridge and stepped out of the way of one freight train directly in front of another going in the opposite direction.

MAY ENTER NAVY— ONLY AS COOKS

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The first opportunity offered Negroes for service in the navy is given in orders received by Lieut. Com. Newton Mansfield, authorizing the recruiting officer to enlist Negroes as mess attendants. The pay is \$37 a month, besides \$60 a year for clothing and subsistence, medical attention and quarters.

BROOKLYN TO HAVE Y. M. C. A.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The Y. M. C. A. in this city laid Sunday, September 9, the cornerstone of a new building for its Negro members of the Carlton avenue branch. William McCarrall, vice president of the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A., presented a silver trowel to George Foster Peabody, who placed the cornerstone. Mr. Peabody was the donor of the first building of the branch. The new edifice will cost \$204,534.

ACTIVE AT AGE OF 107

Sacramento, Calif.—The oldest resident in the State of California lives in Broderick. He is Washington Jackson Brinson, and he resides at No. 510 G street. Brinson is 107 years old. He is Colored.

If his present state of health is any criterion, Brinson will live several more years. He is as agile as a man half his years, and can do a day's work without suffering from the after-effects. He attributes his good health to clean living.

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, DAVIS, GREEN OR ANY OTHER COMPETENT MAN NOW SERVING IN THE ARMY, 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.

Opposes the Transfer of Troops

Archdeacon Baskerville Says Race Riots will Not Result from Training in the South—Uniform Should be Respected by White and Colored Citizens.

"As I am opposed to the wholesale migration of the Negroes from the South, because I am satisfied that the South affords them the greatest opportunity for material progress, and that they are absolutely necessary in the development of the Southland, I am also opposed to the wholesale transportation of the drafted men of my race to Northern cantonments where they are not used in the climatic conditions, because I am certain that it will put them at a disadvantage and that it may tend in the end to influence more Negroes to migrate from the South."

In these words the Rev. E. L. Baskerville, rector of Calvary church, Charleston, South Carolina, and who is also Archdeacon in charge of the Colored work of the Episcopal Church in that diocese, and a former United States soldier, sums up, in the Charleston News and Courier, his protest against the transfer of Negro troops to the North for training. Pleading for sanity and cautioning against race hatred on the part of both his own race and the whites, Mr. Baskerville says:

"As to our soldiers, the thing which our white and Negro citizens should do at this time is to respect the uniform, regardless of the color of the soldier who wears it, and to treat every soldier as a man. This will save us from trouble. By this I am not advocating social intermingling, but social justice.

"In every community, North and South, where black and white soldiers are encamped, the civilians can keep peace, if they desire it, or they can start trouble between the soldiers and the citizens. Especially is this true in regard to police officers and Negro soldiers. From observation, while in the United States Army, it appeared to me that some police had a dislike to the Negro in uniform.

"Now, if our Negro drafted men are trained in the South there need not be any fear of race riots unless certain white citizens cause it. I am

satisfied that these Negro men will not be the originators of trouble with white citizens or white soldiers. According to the established custom of the War Department, white and black soldiers can be trained in the same camp without friction. Their company quarters and company streets are separate and distinct. They also have their separate mess halls. However, they all are treated as men by the War Department. As to camp life there is seldom any friction between white and Colored soldiers. This fact can be verified by officers and enlisted men of the United States Army.

Train Men in South.

"I differ respectfully from those of our Southern white friends who are advocating the transporting of our men from the Southland to be trained in the Northern climate. It is agreed by military experts that the South is the best place for the training of the soldiers for service in France, and even troops from the North are being transferred to the South on that account. Then, why should our men be transferred from the South to the North? Why should they be sent from their friends and home camps, where the climate is especially suited to training, to be trained in a Northern climate among strangers? Would this be a fair policy? I think not. In the South white and black men work on many farms together, and live in the same cities and on the same streets of the cities without strife. Why should they not be trained in the same cantonments without friction? It can be done, and prejudice on the part of white men and Colored men should not hinder it.

"It seems to me to be high time that the white people of the South should understand that the Negro does not desire to enter their parlors, or their dining rooms, or their social functions. What he desires is a square deal as an American citizen, who is an American to the core, and social justice."

TEN THOUSAND CHILDREN ENROLLED IN SCHOOL

St. Louis, Mo.—When the schools of this city opened Tuesday, September 4, more than 10,000 Colored children were enrolled in the well-organized and well-equipped schools under the efficient management of capable teachers of the race. The enrollment exceeds by 1,000 that of last year and additional schools must be provided at once.

APPOINTED TO CLERKSHIP IN SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE

Washington, D. C.—Miss Florence M. Hunt was appointed to a clerkship in the surgeon-general's office of the War Department, after passing a competitive examination as typewriter and accountant with an average of 100 per cent. It is stated that Miss Hunt was treated with the greatest consideration by the chief and other employees when she entered upon her duties.

CLAIMS FILED AT EAST ST. LOUIS

East St. Louis, Ill.—East St. Louis officials who have been receiving claims filed by Negroes for damages to their persons and their property suffered during the recent riots, express surprise at the apparent luxury in which some of them lived, and at the costliness of their belongings.

25TH INFANTRY GOOD SHOTS

Schofield Barracks, H. T.—The members of Company B, 25th Infantry, enjoy the distinction of being the most accomplished set of riflemen in the regiment. There are thirty-two experts, thirty-seven sharpshooters, and twenty-seven marksmen among this company. These boys rank with the best shots in the country.

ROMAN CATHOLICS DEMAND FAIR PLAY FOR NEGROES

Kansas City, Kas.—At the sixteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Roman Catholic Societies held recently, resolutions were adopted demanding fair play for the Negro. A demand was made for such governmental action as will secure the Negro's natural rights and constitutional guarantees.

TRAINING CAMP IMPROVES WAGES

The location of a training camp near Augusta, Ga., has given employment to hundreds of Colored laborers at \$2 per day, while skilled Colored workmen are receiving \$4 and \$5 per day. It is suggested that the camp will prove a godsend, if it will teach the lesson in and around Augusta that the black man is worth more money for his labor than he has been getting here.

THE DUVAL RECITAL

The recital given by Miss Darlean Duval at St. John's A. M. E. Church last Monday night, was worthy of a larger audience than that which greeted the talented young people who gave a delightful program for a most worthy cause. The audience was, however, a most appreciative one. Miss Duval sang "Baracole" from "Tales of Hoffman," and "Calm as the Night," by Bohn; and gave an encore "Jean." Mr. Lee gave as a violin solo, "Humoresque," Mrs. Silas Johnson being his accompanist. Miss Irene Cockran delighted the audience with her rendition of "When the Heart is Young," by Buck. Maynard L. Wilson recited "Eugene Arams' Dream" with his usual effectiveness. William G. Haynes' tenor solo, "Perhaps," by Foster, was a revelation to the audience which demanded an encore. He responded with "Dear Mother Mine." Miss Dora Ware, a newcomer who is an acquisition to Omaha's musical circle, sang "The Years at the Spring," by Beech, and responded to an encore. John Andrew Singleton was most pleasing in his rendition of "Mother M'Creed," by Ball. He gave as an encore Will Marion Cook's "Exhortation." Mrs. Brown, who is great as a reader of Negro dialect, captivated the audience with "How Lucy Backslid," by Dunbar; and an "Old Time Sermon." Mrs. Osborne gave a brief address and Miss Duval graciously thanked the audience for their assistance. The Rev. John Albert Williams read a brief letter sent him by Albert Hurt, of Hastings, Neb., in which Mr. Hurt had enclosed fifty cents for himself and mother to help one who is trying to improve. He had seen the notice of the recital in The Monitor and although neither he nor his mother could attend they wanted to help.

Miss Duval goes to the Western University at Quindaro instead of to Fisk as Quindaro is nearer home.

PASSES TWO CREDIT- ABLE EXAMINATIONS

Pensacola, Fla.—Dr. Aarons, of this city, who a few months ago graduated from Meharry Medical College, has just succeeded in passing two very creditable examinations, one admitting him to practice in the state of Florida, and the other admitting him to the Medical Reserve Corps of the U. S. Army with the rank of first lieutenant.

CANADA'S HISTORIC NEGRO TOWN

North Buxton, Canada's Negro town, is situated nine miles from Chatham, Ont., on the Michigan Central Railway. The town has a population of six hundred and is an old settlement dating back from the Civil War. North Buxton has a school-house which is well kept with beautiful grounds. Several families own automobiles.

THREE PREACHERS ARE FIGHTERS

David, Charles and Peter Preacher, sons of the Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin Preacher, Galveston, Texas, are all members of the Twenty-fifth Infantry. The Preacher family can boast of having three sons in one regiment.

LOUISIANA TO AID INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Louisiana has decided to appropriate more money for industrial work among the Negroes than ever before. A special agent has been employed to take charge of the free education of Negroes along lines of farming, cattle and poultry raising, carpentering, etc.

TO MAKE STATE FAIR RECORD BREAKER

Columbia, S. C.—The Colored State Fair will be held here from October 29th to November 3d. There are 800,000 Negroes in the state of South Carolina, and an appeal is being made for them to make this year's fair the record breaker.

COLORED SOLDIERS GUARD SHOPS

Springfield, Mass.—125 Colored soldiers from Connecticut are guarding the power shops in this city.

Isaac Bailey has been re-elected a justice of the peace in Atlantic City.

Mayor Indicted By Grand Jury

Chief Executive of East St. Louis, His Secretary and 37 Others Held for Complicity in Recent Massacre.

DEMAND HIS REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

Report Declares He Failed to Give Directions to Militia. Specific Charge of Malfeasance in Office.

Belleville, Ill., Sept. 8.—Mayor Fred Mollman of East St. Louis and his private secretary, Maurice Ahearn, were indicted recently in connection with the Grand Jury inquiry into the recent race riots in East St. Louis. Indictments were returned against thirty-seven other persons in connection with the riots, but their names were not available, as the capiases for their arrest had not been issued.

The Grand Jury submitted a report criticizing the Mayor for his alleged dilatoriness in taking means to curb the rioters, who took part in the slaying of Negroes on July 2 and recommended that he be removed from office.

"Mayor Mollman," says the report, "must be judged by his actions as proved by the evidence. If his failure to give directions to the militia and if his failure to call upon the Sheriff and to deputize citizens who offered their services were the result of a lack of ability or of fright, the office should be taken from him and given to an efficient person.

"If his failure to act was because his sympathies were with those who sought to drive the Negroes out of East St. Louis, he should make room for a chief executive who is in favor of enforcing 100 per cent of the laws. The law-abiding citizens and industries, and the respectable laboring men should unite and demand the resignation of the Mayor as the greatest good he can do his city."

The specific charge against the Mayor is malfeasance in office, based on his alleged negligence at the time of the riots. The charge against the Mayor's secretary is that of conspiracy with the rioters in that he ordered the police and militia to destroy cameras, "thus preventing moving picture men from photographing the mobs." "No man," says the report, "gave greater assistance to the rioters and assured them more safety from prosecution than did Ahearn when he ordered that photographers be denied their free rights to take pictures."

"About a month and a half after the riot of July 2," says the report in conclusion, "a new police and fire commission took charge of the police, composed of three of the strongest and most reputable men in East St. Louis. They have courage and ability. Our evidence shows that the coteries of corrupt politicians who have been the undoing of the mayor will be able to hamper the fire and police commission as long as Mr. Mollman retains the office of Mayor.

"We have not been able, because of lack of time, to apprehend and indict all who committed crimes in the recent riots in East St. Louis."

One hundred and five men were named in the indictment returned a few weeks ago as connected with the race riots. If all the thirty-nine indicted recently are men not previously named, the number now under indictment as a result of the riots is 144.

HOUSTON POLICEMAN, IN- CITER OF RIOT, INDICTED

Houston, Texas.—Lee Sparks, the police officer whose assault on Sergeant Baltimore, a trooper of the Colored Twenty-fourth Infantry, precipitated the riot between the Colored troops and white troops and civilians on August 23, in which 11 whites were killed and 22 wounded, was indicted September 1 by the Harris county grand jury on two charges, assault on Sergeant Baltimore and murder in connection with the death of Wallace Williams, a Colored civilian, who was shot to death on the Sunday following the riot.

FLOODS DRIVE PEOPLE FROM THEIR HOMES

Richmond, Va.—Damage to the extent of thousands of dollars and the routing of many families from their homes was the record in this city September 9. Shockey Creek went on another rampage, flooding the lower section of this city.