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THE MONITOR

Living.
Lift.

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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People of Cincinnati Defeat Segregation

An Effort to Force Them to Send
Children to Separate School
is Defeated.

DABNEY STATES CASE PLAINLY
Colored People Object to the Idea In-
volved in Segregation and
Jim Crowism.

Cincinnati, O.—The colored people of Cincinnati have finally defeated an effort made for over a year to compel all the children of the race to attend the Stowe School, known as a colored school. This attempt at segregation has been resisted by the parents for many months, but every obstacle had been placed in the way of their securing transfer or admission for the children to the other schools. When the matter was put up squarely to the superintendent, no legal authority could be found for forcing the children to attend the colored school and transfers were finally secured to the schools of their choice.

The situation was summed up by W. P. Dabney, in the Union, as follows: "We wish it distinctly understood that intelligent colored people do not object to colored teachers, but they do object to colored schools, they object to the idea involved in segregation, Jim Crowism, and prejudice in public institutions supported by taxation, directly or indirectly, of citizens of the community. They love colored teachers and they respect colored teachers, but feel that they should be distributed among all of the schools, just as the children should be free to go to any school. There is a tendency now to segregate Negroes in everything of a public nature, and we regret to say that some of our colored leaders, spurred on by ambition and desire for money, fight for their own selfish desires rather than labor for the general good. We have no German, Irish, Jewish, Italian or French schools. Only the colored people are ranked as unworthy of association, regardless of their ability, morals or wealth. What a rotten system of Christianity. If Negro children are not up to standard, their competition with white children will bring them up to the standard. We want mixed schools, which means teachers as well as pupils."

CHICAGOANS PROTEST AGAINST SEPARATE CANTONMENTS

Chicago, Ill.—Protesting against the announced policy of keeping colored and white soldiers separately in cantonments and insisting "that regiments be formed and training provided without making any distinction based on race, a letter of protest has been sent to President Wilson, signed by the executive committee of the committee on national citizenship defense.

HAS SEEN FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Philadelphia, Pa.—Charles T. Dorsey, 70 years old, has just celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his entrance into service at the Union League Club. He is one of the oldest employes in point of service, and stands high in the esteem of employers and fellow employees.

KNEW HIS BUSINESS

An English militant crusader strolled into a barn when a young man was milking a cow. "How is it that you are not at the front, young man?" "Because, ma'am," answered the milker, "there ain't no milk at that end."—Christian Register.

PEDESTRIAN LEMME WRITES FROM DES MOINES

Letter Received Too Late For Last
Week's Issue.

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 16, 1917.
Editor The Monitor:

After many ups and downs I arrived in this city late last evening and was a very tired man, but thanks to my knowledge of hydrotherapy, I am around today just feeling fine.

In my effort to reach here I traveled just fifty-seven miles out of my way. I covered the following towns, and left one or more Monitors in each of them: Logan, Harlan, Jacksonville, Portsmouth, Kimballton, Hamlin, Exira, Long Branch, Guthrie Center, Panora, Dallas Center, Grim and Camp Dodge, Des Moines.

I just give you the above so you

might refer to the map and figure out for yourself.

Camp Dodge is a wonderful place. To emerge out of a wood on the top of a hill and feast your eyes on it is a pleasing experience. They told me that it has an area of thirty-two square miles and they also have beautiful golf links for the officers. Each quarter is arranged to house 200 men. The camp sits right down in a valley and a beautiful stream of water runs through it. On the side of the hill going toward Des Moines is dotted with tents picturesquely situated. The commander there expects to have between 40,000 and 50,000 men before spring.

I arrived in Des Moines and stopped at the Thompson Hotel and was housed very comfortably.

I changed clothing after having hydro treatment and went out, enjoyed a good dinner at one of the nice cafes of the city and then proceeded to meet the soldier boys of our race at Fort Des Moines, which was very stimulating. I went out to the Fort on Sunday and visited the Y. M. C. A. quarters there which Mr. De Frantz, of Kansas City, presides over, and he permitted me to sell The Monitor there. I did so very, very successfully. I am only sorry that I did not have 500 Monitors; I could have sold them as easily as 100.

I attended church Sunday night at the M. E. Church. Rev. Birt is the pastor, a very able man.

I am going to have on the rest of my journey post card pictures of myself, made by a race man, Mr. Santee, the official photographer at the Fort. Enclosed you will find one of them. I buy them in thousand lots. Mr. Santee has a large gallery in Kansas City, Mo., also here. He is a very progressive man.

Tomorrow I expect to arrange with one of the busiest drug stores it has been my pleasure to see, conducted by either white or black, in years, to take an agency for The Monitor. The proprietor expressed a desire to do the same. It is the McCrea Drug Co., on 10th and Center streets.

I had a very agreeable surprise at Fort Des Moines Sunday. I found I had a son there in training, Albert J. Lemme. Just imagine my surprise when I found it out. I was one of the happiest fathers in the world, because it was my boy. He left Sunday night.

I also had the pleasure of shaking hands with the first gift the Negro race has given to Uncle Sam and the French government—the hospital corps which left Sunday night for France. They are as fine and well trained a set of men as you would ever want to see. I wished them God speed and good luck.

I sold The Monitor on the streets here today and made quite a hit with the Des Moines Press Association.

I am sorry, but I have to wait here until Tuesday morning on account of my stuff to work with; so greet me with papers at Grinnell, Iowa, for Saturday afternoon. I am trying hard to get subscribers, which I hope to do before I leave here.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, '17.

Well, Dear Editor: I have been out all day plodding and find that I am too close to home to do much for The Monitor, except to establish an agency.

The people here all take the By-stander and say of course that they would buy The Monitor if it were on sale here somewhere, but they seem to have been done by some man who took their order and some money for an out-of-town paper, and who didn't deliver the paper, and so that being the case, they don't like to trust any one else. And, believe me, he did his work well.

I was out to the Fort again yesterday and saw the boys pass in review before a major general; and, say, it was grand. They did it like vets. I also saw Lieut. Peebles and he looks just fine in his uniform—"a soldier to the manor born." I also had the pleasure of meeting three young men who, out of thirty-five thousand at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, were the only three colored there. They were in the medical department of that camp. They graduated there and are now telling the boys how to do it here. They are from the 15th N. Y. regiment. Their names are Sergeant F. L. Slade, Sergeant E. O. Jones and Sergeant J. H. Walker.

Well, this is all for this time. I will remit tomorrow before I leave. I hope to be in Newton tomorrow night and Grinnell Saturday. I hope to proceed right along after leaving here, but I had to wait for cards to work with.

Sincerely yours,
R. J. LEMME, Enroute,
Walking to New York.

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.

Curly Hair Made Straight

Trade Slogan Which Has Put a Progressive and Resourceful
Colored Woman in the Rockefeller Class—Interesting
Story by Frances L. Garside in Kansas City Star.

I have a friend who, in a private secretarial position, gets one of those fancy salaries that make other women wonder why she doesn't dress better, or give a fortune to a foreign missionary society, or send rescue expeditions to her less fortunate kin, the criticism depending on the kind of glasses through which the critic looks on life. That she gives away more than she keeps her friends know, and it was something of a surprise to learn recently that she had spent \$50 in a most extraordinary fashion on herself.

She had had a permanent crimp put in her hair! Those of us, whose hair is so straight that if we curl it and then shed a tear the dampness takes out the curl, were filled with envy. It was beautiful, with the ripples all over it, but the process, she said, was excruciating. The victim (or heroine, as you choose) is seated and a fan-shaped arrangement filled with innumerable electric globes is fitted over her head, a strand of hair being rolled in each globe. Then the current is applied, and she is forced to sit absolutely still for several hours. As these are the days when we peel our potatoes in fear that a secret service man will arrest us because they are not peeled thinner, we could not agree on the wisdom of her expenditure, but we did agree that never had we seen a more beautiful effect. Then, in a few weeks, the ripples began to recede, and in three weeks not a ripple was left, proving that nothing in this life is permanent, not even a crimp.

The colored folks are also dissatisfied with the way God made them, and pay so much to have their curly hair made straight that in a certain section given over to their race in New York City there are numerous beauty parlors, and in the windows of all of them there are little notices to the effect that Mme. Walker's methods are employed. Mme. Walker is the wealthiest Negro woman in the United States. Having learned how a passing crimp is put in hair it would be interesting to learn how a permanent crimp is taken out. I called on her.

Her home in New York City is in a \$50,000 house she recently presented her daughter. The facing is of red brick, with marble trimmings, there are French windows on the four floors, and two entrances, business and residential. The business entrance was easily gained. I found myself in a very large beauty parlor with parquet floors, with the ceiling, side walls and decorations of a delicate gray. A clerk told me I could not see madam, she was asleep, but she kindly made an appointment for me, and on the second call I was taken upstairs and seated in the drawing room to await madam's convenience. I am not a Southerner; I waited.

When she came into the room a few minutes later I realized how adaptable my sex is to change from poverty to wealth, for Mrs. Walker, washerwoman fourteen years ago, carried her generous weight gracefully on high French heels and wore an expensive pink-flowered lavender silk dressing gown on a week-day morning, with a lack of self-consciousness few of us know when we get on our Sunday clothes. She has an income of one-quarter million dollars a year. She made every cent of her money without aid or encouragement from any living soul. Pause while you take off your hat to her.

Mrs. Walker was born in Delta, La., of ex-slave parents. Left an orphan at

seven, she was treated with such cruelty by those with whom she lived that she married at fourteen to get a home. She had known only three months' schooling in her life, but her husband seems to have been above the ordinary, for he induced her to go to night school after she was married. She was left a widow at twenty with one child, and her only means of support was the washtub.

Fourteen years ago her hair began coming out, and she prayed the Lord to save it.

"He answered my prayer," she told me, "for one night I had a dream, and in that dream a big black man appeared to me and told me what to mix up for my hair. Some of the remedy was grown in Africa, but I sent for it, mixed it, put it on my scalp and in a few weeks my hair was coming in faster than it had ever fallen out. I tried it on my friends; it helped them. I made up my mind I would begin to sell it."

She was living in St. Louis then, and as Colorado was a more promising field than Missouri for bald heads, she moved to Denver. This was just fourteen years ago, and when she arrived there she had a dollar and a half in her pocket. She got a place as a cook. Then, with a little money ahead, she bought her ingredients, rented an attic, working two days in the week to pay her rent, and began to brew her herbs, making up the "grower" by the tubful. She has always had a respect for printers' ink that places her ahead of many white folks, for as fast as she earned a little money she spent it in advertising, and at one time owned a newspaper of her own called the Afro-American in which she exploited editorially, telegraphically and locally the wonders of her wares.

She went on the road; she established agents in various towns; she moved to Indianapolis, where her factory is now located, and opened headquarters in Pittsburgh and New York, and always she advertised, spending more on printer's ink in the beginning than she spent on bread and butter.

Mme. Walker has made her fortune by exploiting her hair tonic as a grower, but an application or two, and presto, the hair is straight. But if the hair is wet the curl comes back so that the grower must be reapplied every two weeks, at least. She does not cater to the white folks' trade with this wonderful mixture that makes two hairs grow where one grew before. Some day she will, and then and then an addition will have to be built to the adding machine to estimate her income.

She conducts a number of beauty course schools, turning out twenty graduates at the school in New York every six weeks. She recently held a meeting of her agents in Philadelphia, and they came from far and near, four hundred strong. She employs five domestics in her New York home, six girls work in her office; she has a force much larger in Indianapolis, and has her own lawyer. It is her intention in the coming year to enlarge her factory, putting in machinery that will make the output of the "grower" twenty tubs a day. When you think what these twenty tubs represent in a renewal of woman's crowning glory, you grow breathless.

Mme. Walker favors her own sex. She helps women to increase their wage earning abilities as no other Negro woman has ever done. Her agent in Philadelphia was earning \$5 a week as a servant when madame found her; her income is \$250 a week now.

Madame is the only Negro woman on earth who ever gave \$1,000 to the Y. M. C. A., and she maintains, year after year, six students at Tuskegee, Ala., paying all their expenses. She lives in luxury, but is not a profligate, giving to the poor what many white folks of her income devote to riotous living. It is her greatest regret that she did not have an education when young, but she is making up for it with a private tutor, and you must take off your hat to her again.

She is shrewd and has courage and ability or she could not have made the climb. She has a memory of the struggle that will keep her from ever making any reckless plunges that will jeopardize her interests.

Her secretary, a young man of pleasing address, took me through the house, and this was not the least interesting part of my visit. Everything was bought without regard to cost, but with considerable regard to good taste. The daughter's bedroom is furnished with ivory tinted furniture of Louis XVI style and the bedroom set cost \$4,500.

"There is nothing more expensive to be had or I'd have bought it," said the madame, humbly. The hangings are in old rose, and the pictures and statuary in the room are as costly as the furniture. Her own room is furnished in mahogany.

There was one of those big \$200 Victrolas in the bedroom hall, and the bathrooms are of the kind you read about in connection with the Astors. I thought one Victrola would surely satisfy, but saw another in the drawing room covered with gold leaf to match a gold leaf grand piano, and an immense gold leaf harp. That isn't all, oh, you who are buying a \$25 graphophone on the installment plan and satisfying the cravings of your soul for music at the Ten Cent store! In the main hall there is a player organ that reaches to the ceiling, and is fine enough for any church, but it no longer pleases, and there is to be a pipe organ built in the house in its place.

The dining room has the one in Wanamaker's show place—the House Palatial—beaten by a great many feet of walnut and cut glass, and the kitchen dazzled with white tile walls and floor, and from its windows I caught a glimpse of a garden with one of those things in it which we who never sat under one called a "markee."

Sh! It's a secret; Madame Walker is building a home to cost one-quarter million dollars in the most exclusive residential spot on the Hudson, but the white folks living up there don't know the color of the future neighbor. That is, they don't know it yet.—Kansas City Star.

DEMOCRACY AND LIBERTY ONE THEME OF AK-SAR-BEN

If the heart of every Nebraskan is not thrilled, and if his patriotism is not at boiling point, it will be no fault of King Ak-Sar-Ben, whose benign reign has begun.

For everything Ak-Sar-Ben is patriotic. The two big parades, the electrical and the daylight, are built upon the ont thought of Democracy and Liberty. The grand display of fireworks will be a reproduction of the great Battle of Verdun. The decorations will be in the national colors. Even the carnival shows will breathe the thoughts of Democracy and Liberty.

The great coronation ball will be entirely military in character. In short, Ak-Sar-Ben will be a grand patriotic celebration in which every subject of Quivera can take part.

RIOT VICTIMS GET DAMAGES

East St. Louis.—Suits for \$2,400 as a result of the recent riots in this city resulted in \$204 being awarded colored persons in Judge Clark's court Friday of last week.

The East St. Louis decision is the first that has been made concerning the liability of the city of East St. Louis for damages sustained during the riots. If the many cases of a similar nature pending against the city in the Circuit Court here are decided against the city, a possibility of bankruptcy will exist.

FEDERAL INVESTIGATION ILLINOIS MASSACRE

Washington, D. C.—Investigation of the East St. Louis riots will begin October 1, it was announced here September 11, by the newly appointed Congressional Investigating Committee.

Peerless In His Precarious Profession

Colored Man, According to Postal Officials, Has Stolen \$90,000 From
Government.

Best Informed Man in Country on
Post Office System.

Wichita, Kans., Sept. 24.—Charles A. Stevens, known to postal inspectors as the most notorious mail thief in the United States, was placed on trial here today for the fifth time in the federal court. Stevens is a colored man and has served six years in United States prisons for stealing mail. He is now charged with stealing seven registered mail pouches from a Santa Fe train between Dodge City and Syracuse, Kans.

Inspectors say thefts for which he already has served in prison have netted him more than \$90,000.

Stevens was sentenced to fifteen years in the federal prison from Kansas City, December, 1908, upon conviction of stealing registered mail pouches which contained \$76,000 in currency and \$20,000 worth of diamonds. After serving five years of this sentence he obtained release on a habeas corpus proceeding.

Authorities in postoffice matters declare that Stevens is the best informed man in the country on the operation of the American postoffice system. Fred Robertson, United States attorney, has subpoenaed witnesses from all parts of the United States to testify against him.

"NEBRASKANS KNOW NOT WHAT FAILURE MEANS"

Organizing for the great Liberty Loan Drive, Nebraskans have one thought in view,—that the state will respond to its quota in as decisive a manner as it did in the former drive when the quota was well oversubscribed.

The Liberty Loan drive will be made during the month of October, with October 24 designated as Liberty Day. Nebraska's quota will be about \$27,000,000, or about fifty per cent more than its previous allotment.

"Nebraska's reputation is at stake as is the Nation's in this campaign. Failure would mean saying to the German Alliance, 'we're not in this war to win.' But there will be no failure. America and Nebraska will respond in a most decisive manner." Such is the terse and emphatic statement of T. C. Byrne, chairman of the state organization for the sale of these bonds.

ONE CERTIFIED FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE

Portsmouth, N. H.—Portsmouth, as in the Civil War, may furnish the only colored man from the State of New Hampshire for service in the national army. Edward Chambers Hicks, 25 years old, a machinist, living at 46 Bow street, passed the physical examination of the Portsmouth draft board and has been certified for service.

In the Civil War but one colored man from New Hampshire was drafted and he came from Portsmouth.

Hicks told the exemption board he would not claim exemption and was glad that he would be called upon to serve the nation.

TO CHOOSE COLORED NURSES FOR WAR SERVICE

Colored registered nurses throughout the country are in receipt of information from the Red Cross headquarters at Washington that a Government Base Hospital will be established at Des Moines, Iowa, in connection with the training camp for colored troops. About 150 nurses will be selected for service, fifty being assigned to immediate duty and 100 held in reserve.

While the Red Cross states that there will not be any probability of foreign duty for the colored nurses just yet, it promises that the colored nurses will be accepted under precisely the same status as the white nurses.

STORM DOES DAMAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C.—Property damage reaching several hundred thousand dollars, heavy damage to crops and drowning of three colored men resulted from the heavy rains of the last few days in eastern North Carolina.