Growing, Thank You!

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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President Federation Commends Monitor

Mary B. Talbert, President National Association of Colored Women, Writes Interesting Letter.

SOME SOUTHERN OBSERVATIONS

Tells Why the Race Leaves The Sout' land. Buffalo Had a "Smith' Case. The Douglass Home.

The National Association of Colored Women, which was organized in 1896 and is affiliated with the National Council of Women, now has a membership of 100,000, representing the finest type of our noblest womanhood. This splendid organization has accomplished wonderful things in racial uplift. Among one of the many things they recently undertook to do was the paying off of the debt on the home of the late Frederick Douglass and its preservation as an historic monument for the race. How well they have succeeded is disclosed in the letter here published. The organization has now undertaken the task of creating a public sentiment which will suppress lynching and mob violence and has adopted as its slogan, "STOP LYNCHING AND MOB VIOLENCE BY LAW."

That these women will succeed in this task no one who knows the patience, persistence and potency of women can for one moment doubt.

Under date of November 14, the President of this great organization sends the following appreciated communication to The Monitor:

Editor Monitor:

I have just returned home after an absence of fourteen weeks, touring the states of Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and parts of Tennessee.

I wish that time would permit me to tell you of my recent observations in the Southland, of the fight that the men and women of our race are making for themselves.

The meanness of Jim Crowism never impressed me as during this trip, when I found cars, especially in Louisiana worse than in any of the Southern states, foul, filthy, unsanitary, and yet after paying first-class fare, we receive fourth class accommodations.

The colored men and women this year were unusually blessed with good crops and plenty of money. Many reasons are given why Negroes leave the South, and it cannot be made more forceful than repeating that first among the many evils, lies the Jim Crow car. Second, unjust treatment of the best class of colored citizens.

At Greenville, Mississippi, Dr. Jones, an old and highly respected colored citizen, possessed with an abundance of this world's goods, a physician of forty years practice, and an elderly gentleman, was forcibly ejected from his carriage, by orders of the police, because he told a police officer (who ordered him to move on, and not stop to see a circus parade, where carriages of white citizens had stopped) that he could not move on, unless the others moved first, as his carriage was wedged in between two white citizens' automobiles,—and for this "impudence" this old, respected, wealthy citizen of color was roughly handled and abused. No wonder Negroes leave the Great South.

I have just read of the stand your paper has made toward seeing that "Smith" gets a fair show, and I am sending you this note commending your position.

Last year here in Buffalo, a similar thing occurred—and a flip young lawyer from Rochester, who had been called in consultation with Judge George Lewis on the opening of the trial, with wild gesticulations told the court and jurors, that HE would prove within a reasonable doubt that no one could commit the crime but a "blue gum nigger," and he did. Please notice the definition now and forever as to what is a "blue gum nigger." The jury decided that the rich, young, white man, a college graduate and Chistian Sunday school scholar, committed the crime.

The lawyer proved that a "blue gum nigger" is a white man, with a college education, who can murder his mother, brother and sister, and then run home, change his clothes, wash off the blood and get back to the scene of the murder and crawl about in the dirt, with a bump on his head and holler "A nigger must have hit me." This Teiper was sent as a Christmas present to Auburn prison for twenty years, after being forced to admit that he saw no "nigger" around. The flip Rochester lawyer has not been seen since, and Judge Lewis who failed to fasten the crime on a colored man died a few months ago—I trust heartbroken.

Keep up your fight, and clear the innocent man. Urge your fellow citizens to join hands with you.

May I also add that our National [illegible]ociation has paid the entire indebt[illegible] on the Douglass Home except [illegible] up to the present time not a [illegible] come in from Nebraska. Su[illegible]aska will make some kind of a [illegible] when the roll of honor is hung u[illegible] halls of "Cedar Hill," showing t[illegible]s of men and women who appreci[illegible] what the great Douglass did for them during the days before the Civil war.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. W. H.) MARY B. TALBERT.

State Historical Society

TULSA AN INTERESTING CITY.

Segregation Everywhere in Evidence But Race Taking Advantage of Business Opportunities.

To the Readers of The Monitor:

I found it necessary to spend a week at Tulsa, Oklahoma, the land of Jim Crowism, Disfranchisement and Segregation. Tulsa, from a racial standpoint, is truly a segregated city.

Crossing the Frisco tracks at Cincinnati avenue, you don't need to ask questions, all you have to do is to use your eyes and ears, for the number of persons of the race that you meet is an evident fact that this is "Darktown."

Cincinnati avenue is the western portion of the business section of segregated Tulsa. For two blocks on each side of the street is crowded with business of all lines, the Brown Cafe, the Thompson-Wright Drug Store, Pool Hall, Soft Drinks and Taxi Line are the most promising.

Bully Smith, proprietor and manager of the pool hall, is a well-kown figure in most of all our Northern cities, having traveled quite a bit. Bully, as he is called by everyone, is a fine young fellow and has a host of friends among all classes.

Greenwood, which is the east end of Archer avenue, the main street leading from the west to the east end of the city, is the heart of the business district and the most prominent features are Williams Theater, the Bryant and People's Drug Stores, Hooker & Elliott's Clothing and Notion Store. This last is a very interesting establishment. It is a large brick building, the first floor being given to general merchandise and the second floor is a special department of ladies, in charge of a very interesting and capable little lady, Miss Elliott, sister of one of the proprietors.

Tulsa offers many opportunities for the ambitious and progressive men of the race and bids fair to become the industrial and financial center of Oklahoma. It is growing rapidly, the population is approximated at 50,000, one-fifth of which comprises the race population and as a city it is only fifteen years old.

The Monitor made a good impression wherever presented and in the future I think the circulation will grow.

Mr. Smitherman, of the Tulsa Star, who is doing much in that community, expressed himself as being proud of having The Monitor on his exchange list and promises to quote all of the articles concerning the race which he claims is found in the editorial columns of The Monitor.

Sunday found me in Muskogee, Oklahoma, the weather having changed from a perfect autumn temperature to a cold, disagreeable chill, finds me housed awaiting and wishing for the sunshine.

Until next week, I am

FRED C. WILLIAMS,

Traveling Representative of The Monitor.

Muskogee, Okla., Nov. 19, 1917.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our most sincere thanks for the kindness and sympathy extended us by everyone during the sickness and death of our beloved husband and father, James D. Winfield. Especially do we appreciate the flowers sent by the Pulman Company, and other friends.

Mrs. J. D. Winfield,

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Payton.

Omaha, Nov. 19.

Nine Jurors for Acquittal, Three for Conviction

Veniremen in Nethaway Murder Trial Deliberate for Forty-Two Hours—Ballot After Ballot Remains the Same—Jury Dismissed—Smith Remanded for New Trial.

Few trials hereabout in recent years have attracted as much attention as the Netheway murder trial, tried before Judge Sears in the District Court last week. The trial began on Monday and went to the jury Thursday afternoon. The large court room was crowded throughout the entire trial.

Acquittal Was Expected.

The impartially-minded who crowded the court room and listened to the evidence by which the prosecution tried to weave a web around Charles Smith which would send him to the electric chair were positive that no jury of fair-minded and sane men would convict the accused upon the evidence introduced. The prevailing sentiment, so far as it could be gathered from remarks dropped by spectators and auditors of both races at the trial, was that the jury would not be long at arriving at a verdict of not guilty. That there was some ground for this opinion is proven by the fact that the first ballot stood **nine for acquittal** and **three** for conviction; and during the forty-two hours the jury was out, ballot after ballot remained the same.

Jury Disagrees.

Saturday morning the foreman of the jury, William Salisbury, said: "The vote stands just as it did at the beginning. Each piece of testimony was discussed thoroughly. Each juror is convinced that he is right in his opinion. Our general opinion is that an agreement could not be reached if we stayed on the case six months."

The jury was then sent back to the jury room while Judge Sears consulted with the attorneys for the state and for the defense. The attorneys' views were that the jury ought not to be held longer. The jury was then recalled and in dismissing them Judge Sears said:

"I am not finding fault with any juror here for your failure to reach an agreement. It looks to me as though the prosecution has had as good a jury as could have been secured to which to present this case. I have consulted with the attorneys and as your opinions seem to be unalterable you are discharged and the defendant is remanded for further trial."

Monday morning Charles Smith, a colored tramp and a stranger in Omaha, was placed on trial before Judge Willis G. Sears of the criminal court for the alleged murder of Mrs. C. L. Nethaway, the wife of a Florence real estate man, near Briggs station, sometime Sunday afternoon, August 26th, 1917.

Story of Crime.

Acording to Nethaway's story, he had made an appointment with his wife to meet her at Briggs crossing, about a mile distant from their home, at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon to take her for a ride in his auto. To reach the appointed place Mrs. Nethaway had to walk this long distance on a hot afternoon in August along the railroad right-of-way. The testimony disclosed that Nethaway could have driven from his Florence office to his home in four or five minutes. Failing to meet his wife, he stated that he drove to his office where he took off his coat and vest and washed his hands. He then drove back to his home and telephoned his wife's sisters asking if they had seen Mrs. Nethaway. He asked his neighbor, Mr. Herdman, the telegraph operator, if he had seen his wife and told him that "there had been foul play." Mr. and Mrs. Herdman both testified that Nethaway was at his home about 3:15, apparently "very excited," where he remained about five minutes, and that it was when he returned later that he acosted Herdman and told him that there had been foul play. He asked Herdman if he had seen anybody around. Herdman told him that he had seen a colored man go up the railroad track. Nethaway said, "That nigger killed my wife." He directed Herdman to take the west side of the track while he took the east and after a short search on the bluff above the track he discovered the body of his wife, with her throat cut and hands tied.

Smith, who had been seen in the vicinity, was arrested at Blair a few hours after the discovery of the body, and charged with the crime. He admitted his presence in the vicinity, but denied all knowledge of the crime. When arrested there were no blood stains on his clothing or person, and he has stoutly maintained his innocence.

Smith was represented by Morrison, Seacat, Timlin and Scruggs, the last named being a colored attorney. Deputy County Attorneys Piatti and Abbott appeared for the state.

Scruggs Opens Case.

Attorney Scruggs in opening for the defense said that the defense would show by the evidence that others had an equal or better opportunity to have committed the alleged crime than Charles Smith, the defendant; that others or another had a motive for committing this crime, while Charles Smith had no motive.

Veitim Not Violated.

The first witness for the state was Dr. S. F. McCleneghan, coroner's physician, who testified to the nature of the wounds. He testified that Mrs. Nethaway had not been the victim of her assailant's lust. There was no evidence that she had been violated.

Mrs. Willgate, 5610 Blondo street, testified to the fact that her house had been burglarized Saturday preceding the crime, and that a trunk supposed to contain the knife found in the vicinity of the murder had been ransacked. She had, however, never seen the knife before it had been brought to her by the detectives. (The Court ordered testimany concerning the knife stricken out.)

There was no material evidence introduced to connect Smith with the burglary in any way.

Herdman Testifies.

C. L. Herdman, telegraph operator, testified to seeing Smith come to the Nethaway home, sometime after Mrs. Nethaway had left, and rap on the door. He then went to the pump and got a drink of water and walked leisurely away. He testified that he saw Netheway's car in front of his house with the engine running, about 3:15. Netheway soon came out of the house, jumped in his car and seemed to be in a great hurry. That he seemed excited. Later, in about an hour ,he returned and asked him if he had seen Mrs. Nethaway, saying that she hadn't met him, and that there had been foul play. Netheway said he had seen a man going up the track and that there was foul play. He asked Herdman is he had seen anybody around and Herdman told him that he had noticed a colored man around. Netheway seemed then more excited than ever and said, "That nigger killed my wife." He asked Herdman to accompany him in a search for his wife. As they started Netheway jumped on a freight engine and told the engineer to "look out for a nigger." At Netheway's direction he took one side of the track and Netheway the other. Soon he was attracted by Netheway's cry that he had found his wife's body. Herdman ran back to the telegraph office and gave the alarm."

Corroborates Husband.

Mrs. Herdman corroborated her husband's testimony as to seeing Netheway at his house and also as to seeing Smith. She had talked to Mrs. Neteway a little after 2 o'clock just before Mrs. Netheway left for home. Mrs. Herdman testified that she heard the dog bark and upon looking up saw Smith walk up on the Netheway porch and rap at the door. The dog came running up to him and he patted it on the head. He left immediately and came to the Herdman yard where he drank from his hand at the pump and then went away.

"I saw Mr. Netheway come home in his car about 3:15. He left again in about five minutes. He left his motor running while he went into the house. He drove away in a hurry," said Mrs. Herdman.

She also testified that she saw Netheway around his house sometime earlier in the day and that he had on dark clothes; when she saw him in the afternoon he had on light clothes.

Frank Turey testified to seeing Smith in that vicinity about noon looking for grapes. He asked Turey how far it was to Sioux City. Turey told him he could catch a northbound freight in the cut about 4:30 which would take him to Sioux City, and that he could catch it for the freight always slowed down in the cut.

Judge Baker's Find.

Judge Baker, who was on the scene soon after Netheway discovered the body of his wife, testified to finding a piece of woman's undergarment hanging on a weed between the ledge on which the body was found and the level of the railroad right-of-way. He found a path where someone had climbed through the weeds up the steep bank. Near it was the piece of underwear; a little further on a woman's hair switch, and further still, spread out on top of a weed, a woman's handkerchief, which Netheway identified as belonging to his wife. It is, however, noteworthy that the piece of underwear found by Judge Baker differs in texture from the torn, blood-stained garments found on Mrs. Netheway's body. They were heavily ribbed, while this oblong piece, white and clean, and apparently cut with scissors, is soft, fine-ribbed material.

Netheway's Testimony.

Netheway testified as to his actions from the time he left his home at 1:30 Sunday afternoon until the time he found the body of his wife between 4 and 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. He denied being at his home at 3:15, despite the fact that both Mr. and Mrs. Herdman testified to the fact that they saw him there.

"Were you at your home about 3:15 p. m., Netheway?" Mr. Piatti for the state asked.

"No, sir, I was not."

"Were you at your home between 3 o'clock and the time you met Learned?"

"I don't see how I could have been," Netheway replied. "I met Learned and went in his car with him to look at some property. We came back and he left me and I got in my car and drove home. That was about 4 o'clock."

He testified that he was worried about his wife's failure to meet him and after going home he called up two of her sisters. He then drove back to his office in Florence where he took off his coat and vest and washed his hands. Then he called the sisters again and got into his auto and started for home.

"There were three soldier boys on the street that I tried to get to ride with me but they wouldn't come. Then I saw the Holseman boy and got him to go with me. I told him that I was worried about my wife because I couldn't find her. Then we picked up another fellow that I didn't know and I got him to go with me."

"We got to the bridge and I told the boys to go up each side of the track. I went up the middle of the track looking on both sides. I went clear home. I saw Herdman and asked him if he had seen my wife. He said that he had seen a negro going away from the house 15 minutes ago."

"Were you worried about your wife at this time?"

"When I heard about that nigger you bet I was," he replied.

Seacat Cross Questions.

Mr. Seacat appeared to a good advantage in his grilling cross-questioning of Netheway.

Asked if he had told the crew of a Milwaukee train that his wife had been murdered "by a nigger" before he found her body he said he had not. He declared that he had only told the railroad men that there had been foul play and he wanted them to look for "a nigger."

"What 'nigger' did you want them to look out for?" asked Smith's counsel.

Netheway half rose from his chair and pointing his finger toward Smith, said : "That nigger there."

"Do you know as an independent fact," asked Smith's counsel, "That Smith committed this crime?"

"Yes, I do," Netheway answered loudly. "That nigger sitting there killed my wife!"

Smith Maintains Calm.

Smith, who maintained his calm demeanor throughout the trial, did

(Continued on Page 4)

"Billy" Crutchfield Buried Sunday

The funeral of the late William H. ("Billy") Crutchfield, who died at his late residence, 2527 Patrick avenue, November 13, after a protracted illness, was held from Grove Methodist Church Sunday afternon at 2 o'clock under the auspices of Omaha Lodge No. 146 A. F. and A. M., P. H. Jenkins, W. M. The Rev. G. G. Logan, D. D., pastor of Grove Church officiated. The church was filled to overflowing, scores being unable to gain admittance. The floral offerings were numerous and costly. Interment was at Forest Lawn cemetery. Banks and Wilks were the undertakers in charge.

"Billy" Crutchfield, who was one of the proprietors of The Midway saloon, and accounted a shrewd business man, was well-liked for his good nature and open-handed generosity. He had been successful in investing in real estate and left an estate valued at $50,000. In his will, which was probated Tuesday, he remembered many of his old friends and bequeathed $500 to the N. W. C. A. Home, to which he had given generously in his life time. His widow receives the Patrick avenue residence, his diamonds and jewelry and $10,000. His mother is given $5,000; a sister, $5,000; and each of three brothers and nephews and nieces, $500.

The several relatives and friends from out of town attended the funeral: Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, his mother; his sister, Mrs. Katherine Wagner; and brothers, Fred, Eddie Crutchfield; his nieces, Mrs. Cora Hennington, and husband, Joseph; Mrs. Elnora Robinson, the Misses Frances, Cecelia and Genevieve Wagner, all of Ottumwa, Ia.; his half sister, Mrs. Nancy Walker and her daughter; and Mrs. Ollie Turner, of Washington, Ia.; Mrs. Versa Rice and J. "Hookie" Tolton of Kansas City, Mo.; Miss Eddie L. Washington, of Kansas City, Kans.; Than Travis, of St. Paul, Minn.; Tony Rogers, of Minneapolis; Charley Phelps and Madison Evans, of St. Joe, Mo.; Hugh White and Ray Munroe and A. G. Gilhspy, of Excelsior Springs, Mo.

ATCHISON, KANSAS.

Mrs. J. W. Stone left Sunday with her sick daughter, Miss Cecil Peniston, for Kansas City, Mo., where Miss Peniston will enter St. Margaret's hospital. Friends hope to see her at home soon.

Mr. Frank White of Excelsior Springs, Mo., passed through the city Sunday en route to Omaha to attend the funeral of Billy Crutchfield.

Dr. W. W. Caldwell, who recently moved to Kansas City, was an Atchison visitor Sunday at the residence of Prof. W. E. Gray.

Tony Taylor, who went to Excelsior Springs with his daughter, Gertie, for his health, writes that he is not doing so well.

Mrs. J. W. Starr, who returned from Omaha a few weeks ago where she had made her home for many years, is a very sick woman, at the residence of Mrs. A. A. Davis.

Ed. Covington left Tuesday for St. Joe, Mo., feeling much better.

Perry Allen of Kansas City is in the city on business.

Mrs. Clara Webster has returned from Danville, Ill., where she has been visiting and looking after her property.

The Hon. Matthew Marten of Holton is visiting his daughter, Mrs. John Jordan. Mr. Marten has made a success in Holton practicing law.

NOTICE

The family of the late William H. Crutchfield are grateful for the kindness and expressions of sympathy from many friends in their recent bereavement.

MT. MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

On Thursday, the 29th, Thanksgiving Day, service will be held at 11 o'clock, and the pastor will preach. Envelopes have been given out, and we hope that the members, friends and others who worship with us, will make this a special effort in showing the real meaning of Thanksgiving. No dinner will be served by the church. Have your dinner at home with your family and friends. Bring an offering and come into His courts with Thanksgiving.

Miss A. B. Anderson, one of our members, is at the University Hospital, 42nd and Dewey avenue. Mr. P. J. Taylor, another, is at 2512 Cuming. They will be glad to see you.