

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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Commission Named To Aid Missourians

Jefferson City, Mo.—Governor Gardner December 27 announced the appointment of a commission on Negro education and social workers to inquire into the educational, social, moral and health conditions of the Negroes of Missouri.

The commission was appointed upon the suggestion of N. C. Bruce of Dalton, head of a Negro vocational institution, and other leaders of the race.

Governor Gardner said in a statement issued:

"I have decided to appoint a commission to be known as the Missouri Negro Industrial Commission, for the following purposes:

"First, for the general welfare of the Negroes of this state; second, better education; third, the retention of the Negroes on the farm; fourth, the study of their moral and social conditions; fifth, food conservation; sixth, improved health conditions; seventh, obligations of citizenship."

PROMOTED FROM CAPTAIN TO MAJOR

Washington, D. C.—The Negro race now has a major in the regular United States army in the person of Major Ollie Davis, who, according to reports, has been promoted from a captaincy and is in command of the Second Squadron of the Ninth Cavalry, which is stationed in the Philippines. Major Davis was born in Washington, D. C., and is a graduate of the public schools here. It was while in high school that he received his first military training. During the Spanish-American war Major Davis enlisted in the First Separate Battalion, National Guard, District of Columbia, and was commissioned a second lieutenant. At the close of the war he was first lieutenant. Later he joined the Ninth Cavalry and became its regimental sergeant-major. His next move was to enter the military school at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and he returned to the regular army a second lieutenant. Major Davis has been military instructor at Wilberforce university and military aide to the United States minister to Liberia.

SERGEANT JOHNSON THINKS THAT THE BOYS MAY SOON BE "OVER THERE"

Sergt. Lloyd Johnson of Camp Funston spent a few days last week visiting his aunt, Mrs. Jennie Alexander and other relatives. Sergt. Johnson is looking well and enjoys army life. His company expects to leave sometime in the spring for a mid-western city where they will be given two weeks' training in the mechanism of motor trucks, after which they may proceed to Newport News. Sergt. Johnson says, "Of course we do not know just when we will go; but you will readily see that should we get as far as Newport News, Va., we are pretty close to the ocean."

ALPHONSO WILSON IS "GRANDPA AG'IN, B'GOSH!"

The boys around the University club say that the good-natured but sedate Alphonso Wilson was discovered dancing a jig a few days ago and singing—yes, that's what they called the unusual noise he was making—"Grandpa, Ag'in, B'Gosh!" The reason for this hilarity became apparent when it was learned that a fine son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham Wilson Saturday afternoon at the residence of the maternal grandmother, Mrs. William Burrell, 3905 North Twenty-first street. It is a little difficult to decide which is the prouder, Cunningham or Grandpa Alphonso.

COLORED GIRL WINS FIRST PRIZE

Richmond, Va.—The National Emergency Food Garden Commission of Washington, D. C., has awarded a prize of \$5 and a national certificate of merit for the best collection of canned fruits and vegetables to Miss Ada Mae Peace of Waverly, Va. The collection was made from fruits and vegetables raised on a war garden and were exhibited in the Colored building of the Sussex County Fair, held at Waverly October 30 to November 2, 1917.

COLORED GIRL MADE MAIL CARRIER

Chicago, Ill.—Miss Dorothy Hill, 19 years old, was the first of ten women appointed as mail carriers in Chicago because of the scarcity of men for that work. Miss Hill is Colored.

DALLAS, TEXAS, BUSY AND PROGRESSIVE

Its Prosperous Weekly, The Express, Employs Many Members of the Race.

Dallas, Texas, Dec. 28, 1917.

To the Readers of The Monitor:

Christmas day found me at Dallas. That business industrial and shipping point of North Texas, situated near the head waters of the Trinity river. Dallas is a city of approximately 125,000, one-fifth of which is claimed by the race, which has progressed along with the city. Their fraternal organizations, which have taken front rank, have erected two large and creditable buildings—the Pythian Temple on East Elm is very imposing and attractive. Its numerous business and professional men have protected a substantial and creditable local of the National Negro Business League. They have also established a number of local insurance companies, which are growing rapidly, and prove that the Negro realizes the value of supporting race institutions.

A visit to the plant of that large and prosperous weekly—the Dallas Express—was greatly enjoyed by your representative. I found it thoroughly equipped and giving employment to a number of progressive and intelligent young journalists and pressmen. Dallas offered nothing during the week in the way of excitement, that is, of any interest to our readers, but your humble servant was the guest on the evening of his arrival at a stag party given by Mr. Joe Ashley at his residence, 3405 Greenwood, where I met any number of old friends and made many new ones. Of course, at the same time introducing the Monitor. Later the guest of Mrs. David Hughes of State and Clark streets. Mrs. Hughes is an old school mate of mine.

I established the headquarters for the Monitor at Hooper's drug store in the Pythian Temple of East Dallas, where it will be found for sale at all times in the future. Am leaving tonight to spend Sunday in Waco, Texas. Until next week, I am

Corresponding yours,
FRED C. WILLIAMS,
Traveling Representative of
The Monitor.

REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS

Kansas City, Mo.—The Negro National Educational Congress began a campaign to obtain the election of Negro congressmen from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Chicago, according to a statement given out here by J. Silas Harris, the organization's president.

"It is the contention of the congress that 12,000,000 American citizens are without representation in the legislative department of the government," the statement sets forth, "and that in each of these cities Negroes are in a position to force the nomination of a member of their own race."

Since the close of the Fifty-eighth congress no Negro has had a seat in the National House of Representatives, George White of North Carolina being the last.

LIEUT. AMMONS AN OMAHA VISITOR

First Lieut. Benjamin Ammons, 317 headquarters mounted police, 92 division, Camp Funston, has been in the city for a few days' furlough visiting his sister, Mrs. Moseley. Lieut. Ammons spent ten years at Tuskegee as student and teacher of military tactics and prior to his entrance to the Officers' Training Camp at Des Moines, where he received his commission, he was commandant at the Western university. He is an officer and gentleman of most pleasing personality and it is predicted that his rise in the army will be rapid.

RECENT FOOD RULINGS

These recent rulings of the food administration will be of information to all Nebraskans:

Traveling salesmen, representing mercantile establishments selling direct to the consumer, must be licensed as brokers. This applies to those who take orders, which are shipped either direct to the consumer or to the salesman and distributed by him.

Bakers in making bread may use ten ounces of skimmed dried milk instead of six pounds of fresh skimmed milk, if they desire, to every 196 pounds of flour or meal used. Bakers may donate their products to churches and charitable institutions.

Some Significant Events of 1917

THE following summary of more or less important events show substantial progress made toward the attainment of that true democracy for which America ideally stands and will ultimately attain. Gains greater than losses. The future looms large with promise:

Jan. 5—Matthew Harris awarded \$42,500 in a suit against the sheriff at Memphis, Tenn., upholding the principle that a man's home is his castle. A posse had dynamited the home of Harris.

John W. Parks, lawyer, appointed assistant in the office of Governor Brumbaugh at \$15 per day.

Congress passes a resolution to probe Southern election methods.

Jan. 9—Mayor Mitchell of New York City appoints Dr. E. P. Roberts on the Board of Education.

Madame C. J. Walker, the world's wealthiest Colored woman, purchases \$100,000 home near the estate of John D. Rockefeller.

Jan. 19—Elijah J. Graham, jr., appointed law librarian at Wheeling, W. Va.

Colonel Dennison of the Eighth Illinois National Guard, appointed assistant attorney general of the state.

Feb. 9—Tennessee supreme court sustains the ruling of lower court upholding the will of J. H. Jennings, white, who left an estate valued at \$100,000 to his Colored common law wife, by whom he had ten children.

Feb. 16—Howard university, Washington, D. C., holds fiftieth anniversary.

May 9—Liberia breaks with the kaiser.

May 17—Harry Burleigh of New York, famous composer, wins third Spring-arn medal, awarded for most distinguished service by N. A. A. C. P.

May 22—Eli Parsons, chained in steel cage at Memphis, Tenn., and burned to death by a mob.

June 15—Officers' reserve camp for the training of Colored officers for the army established at Des Moines, Iowa.

Ten thousand move to Cleveland from the South in one year.

June 22—Lieutenant Colonel Young, the highest ranking Colored officer, U. S. A., retired against the protests of the country.

July 2—East St. Louis massacre, in which 200 Colored men, women and children were mutilated, burned and killed.

July 3—Dr. James Wilson of Freedman's hospital, Washington, D. C., first Negro physician to become licentiate National Board of Examiners.

July 5—Records kept by Monroe W. Work of Tuskegee show that the lynchings for the first six months of the year totaled 14, or 11 less than the first six months of 1916. Of these 13 were Negroes and 1 white. One Colored woman was lynched.

July 6—Colonel Roosevelt denounces race riots and makes a heated reply to Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, at a meeting in New York City.

July 29—Wonderful silent parade of 10,000 Negroes in New York, as a protest against acts of discrimination and oppression inflicted upon us in this country, and particularly in East St. Louis massacre.

Aug. 1—Negroes of nation carry to White House their protest against East St. Louis horror.

Aug. 12—National Business Men's league convenes at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Aug. 20—Grand jury indicts 105 race rioters at East St. Louis.

Aug. 23—Troopers of Twenty-fourth Infantry clash with police at Houston, Tex., and seventeen civilians killed.

Aug. 28—Independent B. P. O. Elks of the World hold convention at Cleveland, O.

Fourteenth annual session Federation of Women's Clubs of Pennsylvania at Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Sept. 5—Five members of Twenty-fourth Infantry who clashed with police at Waco, Tex., sentenced to five years and one to ten years.

Nineteenth annual session of Medical Association at Philadelphia.

Sept. 18—Cleveland men organize housing company, to provide homes for 3,000 newcomers.

Oct. 10—Emmett J. Scott appointed assistant to Secretary of War Baker.

Oct. 15—Six hundred and twenty-four Colored officers commissioned in United States army.

Oct. 27-30—Colored draftees throughout country leave for cantonments 'mid patriotic scenes.

Secretary of War Baker issues circular letter to Colored people.

Nov. 1—Colored men called to the colors.

Nov. 6—Dr. Furness elected to Indianapolis city council. T. W. Fleming elected to Cleveland council. J. C. Thomas elected to New York aldermanic board. E. A. Johnson elected to New York assembly.

Nov. 11—United States supreme court declares segregation laws of Louisville unconstitutional.

Nov. 20—Entire division of 80,000 Colored soldiers formed, including engineers' brigade, for service in France.

Dec. 2—Lation Scott chained to stake at Dyersburg, Tenn., and burned to death.

Dec. 12—The Venerable Edward Thomas Demby elected Bishop Suffragan of Tennessee.

Dec. 13—Thirteen soldiers of the Twenty-fourth Infantry executed for alleged mutiny at Houston, Tex. Forty-one sentenced to life imprisonment; four given two years, and five acquitted, the result of findings of army court-martial.

THE YEAR OF 1917

THE Colored American has every reason to take courage. The past year may have taken something away, but it gave more than it took.

From the Twenty-fourth Infantry we have lost three score of the best soldiers in the world, who, up to the bear-baiting of Houston, had an enviable record for discipline and soldierly courtesy. But we have gained the unprecedented total of 700 commissioned officers in the United States army and have an equal status for service in the ranks.

We have heard the greatest court in the land, by an obiter dictum, reaffirm its approval of ordinary "Jim Crowism." But the same court at the same time wiped out the very worst form of "Jim Crowism" in the segregation ordinance and removed from us the threat of an American Ghetto.

We had in East St. Louis a supremely savage effort to beat us back industrially. But far from being beaten back we have broken down the industrial wall that hemmed us in the southeast and have sent our hardy cohorts to every industrial center of the greatest industrial nation.

We have Chester in Pennsylvania and Memphis in Tennessee! Oh yes, Memphis with all the savage instincts that still infest its purlieus. But we also have Detroit in Michigan, and we still have and have still better the Harlem in New York City, The Harlem!

We have to pay more for our butter and eggs. But we have more to pay with. What boots it to the Colored man if eggs be a dime a dozen and his wages so low and his chance to work so slim that he cannot spare the ten cents? It were far better for him that eggs should sell at fifty cents a dozen if he can earn from three to five dollars a day.

We are still stalked by the shadow of government—departmental segregation. But in substance we are represented in every Department of government service, and have a high civil officer in the War Department.

As a racial element in the world war we have earned the hate of Germany. But we have deepened the love of France. And one of the acknowledged assets of America is our loyalty and magnanimity.

Like all the gentler folk of the world we stand horrified and aghast at this world war and world murder. But the Colored American has gained, in both material and immaterial goods, and will gain proportionately more from this world conflict, perhaps, than any other single element in the world.

"THY WILL BE DONE."
WILLIAM PICKENS, Dean of Morgan College.

MAKE YOUR WAR INCOME TAX RETURN

Mr. Salaried Man, Wage Earner, Farmer, Merchant, Professional Man, Tradesman and Others:

Don't you think the income tax law doesn't apply to you. You can be pretty sure that it does.

Did your salary, or wages, or income amount to over \$84.33 a month (that is, over \$1,000 a year) during 1917? If so, and you are not married, you must make a statement of this income to the government. If you are married, or support a family, it will not be necessary for you to make an income tax return until it amounts to over \$166.66 a month (that is, over \$2,000 a year).

You must immediately see the internal revenue expert in your community, and he will tell you how to make out your income tax return on the form which he has. He will also tell you what deductions you can make in figuring up your income.

If you are a member of a firm, or a partnership, or a corporation, make sure that your organization renders its statement fully and promptly.

Be very sure that you make your income tax return—sure! Your country is at war and needs the loyal, patriotic and ungrudging support of all its citizens. You want to do your share. Besides the law is full of very severe penalties to be visited upon those who fail. Don't fail!

NOTE—In Omaha information regarding the war income tax may be obtained at the office of collector of internal revenue, located in the Omaha Federal (postoffice) building, or at the office of the deputy collector at the city hall, South Side. Persons residing in other cities, towns and rural districts in Nebraska may secure this information from postmasters, banks and county officials. Income tax return forms, properly filled in, must be in hands of federal authorities not later than March 1, 1918, under penalty, and this tax must be paid not later than June 15, 1918.

WORTH, NOT COLOR, COUNTS IN FRANCE

Paris, France.—France's treatment of her Colored soldiers is so much fairer and just and unprejudiced than the United States' treatment of her black legions that there is no comparison. In the French army today there are two Colored generals, four colonels and 150 captains, and lieutenants too numerous to mention. This is a much better showing than is made by the United States, which country has not even an officer as high as colonel in the regular army, although the United States' population numbers more than 10,000,000 of black folks. There is absolutely no color line over here in dear old France. Here merit alone limits a man's possibilities and opportunities.

SHOCK PROSTRATES MOTHER OF EXECUTED SOLDIER

Washington, D. C.—The widowed mother of Larson Brown, one of the thirteen Colored soldiers executed at Fort Sam Houston, resides in this city. Larson was her only son. His father before him served thirty-four years in the United States army, dying just a short time before eligible for retirement. Larson, who was but 24 years of age, wanted to emulate the career of his father as a soldier. Mrs. Brown knew nothing of the fate of her son until she read it in the papers. She was prostrated by the news.

FARMERS HOLD MEETING

Topeka, Kan.—The Sunflower State Agricultural association, which is composed of farmers, met here recently. President W. E. Carter delivered the annual address. J. C. Groves, known as the "potato king," was in attendance. W. R. Carter was elected president, J. C. Carson, Mrs. M. Rolin and S. T. W. Canaway vice presidents, J. G. Groves treasurer, J. R. Rogers chairman of executive committee and Mrs. H. W. Wilson director of woman's department.

DR. L. N. BUNDY TO BE TRIED IN MARCH TERM UNDER \$24,000 BAIL

Belleville, Ill.—The bond of Dr. Leroy N. Bundy has been fixed at \$24,000 by the circuit court here and change of venue granted to Monroe county. An effort is being made to raise the large bond. He is charged with having furnished arms to Colored men during the recent race riot at East St. Louis. The case has been set for the March term.

AFRICAN TROOPS READING HONORS IN FRANCE

Paris, Nov. 1.—Two hundred and sixty-four personal citations for bravery have been conferred upon one battalion of Somali warriors since they went into active service in June, 1916. They were in the thick of the fight on the Aisne and at Verdun. These African fighters have few peers in France.

ENGINEER MERCHANT MARINE FLEET

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—George Gardner is the first Colored engineer to be appointed to the United States merchant marine fleet, he having passed the required examination. Mr. Gardner is a resident of this city.

SEEK SKILLED FOR ENGINEER CORPS

Splendid Opportunity for Colored Volunteers in Most Desirable Branch of Service; Barred if Subject to Draft.

Washington, D. C.—Acceptance authorized by the war department, December 11, 1917, with view to enlistment for foot service, Colored regular army men qualified for engineer troops with view to subsequent transfer to Engineer Regiment, Ninety-second Division, also Colored men qualified as Morse and wireless telegraphers, telephone construction and repair men, telegraph line construction and repair men, gas engine men, switchboard operators, chauffeurs and auto repairers, motorcycle drivers and others whose previous training and experience qualify them for the Signal Corps, for subsequent transfer to Field Signal Battalion, Ninety-second Division.

Men qualified for Field Signal Battalion will be sent to Camp Sherman upon enlistment.

Those for engineers will be held at depot pending orders for assignment. Colored applicants will also be accepted for stevedore regiments, quartermaster corps, national army.

Note—Men who have registered for the draft are not eligible for voluntary enlistment. Those between the ages of 18 and 21, and 31 and 40 can volunteer at any time as heretofore.

All registrant applicants interested, who apply too late for voluntary enlistment, should write direct to Volunteer Department, 119 D street, N. E., Washington, D. C., for information regarding selection for all service.

GREGG SUCCEEDS
FRISSELL AT HAMPTON

Hampton, Va.—The appointment of Rev. James E. Gregg of Pittsfield, Mass., as principal of Hampton Institute, to succeed the late Dr. H. B. Friswell, was announced here. Dr. Gregg is 42 years old and was born in Hartford, Conn. He was graduated from Harvard university and the Yale Divinity School, and for the last five years has been pastor of a Congregational church in Pittsfield.

A statement issued by the trustees of the institute calls attention to the fact that its founder and first principal was General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, a leader of Negro troops in the civil war, and adds:

"Today America is again making the fight for democracy and Hampton is making history as well as the race which it serves. Eighty-three thousand Negroes are now in the national army, with many Hampton and Tuskegee men among the commanding officers."

"BIRTH OF NATION"
HELPS DEFEAT MAYOR

Boston, Mass.—Andrew J. Peters, former assistant secretary of the treasury, supported by democrats and independent republicans, defeated Mayor James M. Curley for re-election by 9,000 votes. Mayor Curley had incurred the enmity of the Colored citizens by permitting "The Birth of a Nation" to be shown in Boston, and they put up a strong fight against him. There were five candidates in the field.

BUY
ANOTHER
WAR SAVINGS
STAMP