Growing. **Thank You!**

THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

\$1.50 a Year. 5c a Copy

A Message of

That of Others is Equally Safe," of Abraham Lincoln, whose name is Letter to Chicago Branch of Na- democracy. tional Security League.

Washington, D. C .- Secretary of with success, I am cordially yours, War Newton D. Baker has written the following letter to be read at a mass meeting to be held in the Coliseum, Chicago, Ill., on February 12 (Lin- QUALIFIES AS coln's birthday), under the auspices of the National Security league, with the co-operation of representative Colored citizens of Chicago:

War Department,

Washington, D. C., Feb. 6. National Security League, Chicago West, Fla., as an aviation machinist. man Exectuive Committee.

On Behalf of the Colored People: Rev. White case. Dr. A. J. Carey, Dr. George C. Hall, Rev. W. D. Cook, Rev. N. J. Mc-Cracken, Major R. R. Jackson, Mr. Morris Lewis.

Gentlemen-I am in receipt of your telegram inviting me to be present and to deliver the principal address at a mass meeting to be held at the Coliseum in Chicago on the afternoon of February 12, 1918, under the auspices of the Chicago branch of the National Security league in connection with the representatives and leaders of the patriotic Colored citizens of your community.

As stated to you in the telegraphic reply which Mr. Emmet J. Scott, my special assistant, forwarded to you at my instance and request, I sincerely wish it were possible for me to be present on the occasion referred to, for I would then have a splendid opportunity to tell of the fine spirit with which the great test of the quality of America is being met by the Colored people of our country. But the pressure of my official duties here compels me to forego this pleasure.

I wish, however, in view of my enforced absence to send, especially to the Colored Americans of your community and elsewhere, just a few words of encouragement and confidence.

camp, recently held at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, representative young men imported will be sent to the south

country, I am sure, will prove faithful and efficient and will uphold the tra-Encouragement ditions of their race. It is, indeed, most fitting that you

should hold your patriotic meeting on "One's Own Freedom Is Safest When the day set apart in honor of the birth

Says Secretary of War Baker, in synonymous with freedom and true

Hoping that your meeting and all of your worthy efforts may be crowned (Signed) NEWTON D. BAKER, Secretary of War.

AVIATION MACHINIST

Dallas, Tex., Feb. 15.-Oscar B. Polk has successfully passed the required examination and has been assigned to the United States naval station at Key Branch; Mr. H. H. Merrick, Presi- He took his trial fight under the tutordent; Mr. Edgar A. Bancroft, Chair- ship of Pilot G. I. White, the son of Stanford White of the notorious Thaw-

Will Employ **Colored Labor**

The Federal Department of Labor Makes Preparation to Import Citizens from the Virgin Islands and Porto Rico to Supply Demand for Workmen.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15 .- The most important statement recently issued in regard to the situation of black labor in the United States is that given out which has put a final quietus to the rumor that 500,000 Chinese laborers were to be brought here for farm and railroad work.

Arrangements for the early transportation of 50,000 common laborers to the United States from Porto Rico are being made by the employment service of the Department of Labor. As soon as tonnage is available 60,000 others will be brought from Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands, sufficient, the department announced Monday, to take care of any shortage in the domestic supply of railroad and agricultural workers.

Director General McAdoo has asked the employment service to assist in In our reserve officers' training supplying the railroads with labor for maintenance and shop work. The first

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, FEBRUARY 16, 1918 Independence Heights

Is a Colored Community sees the wisdom of becoming land owners and they prefer to acquire

Has the Commission Form of Government; Was Set Apart as a Municipality Three Years Ago; Has a Population of Seven Hundred.

BY FRED C. WILLIAMS.

It is not generally known that | mayor and commissioners, respective-Texas boasts a municipality which is |ly, assisted by the heads of the specific governed exclusively by members of departments. Forum of Commerce.

the Colored race. The city of Independence Heights, with a population

It was set apart as a self-govern- shows its progressiveness by having ing municipality in January, 1915, its Forum of Commerce, the object of and entered upon its first fiscal year which is to promote business enter-February 1, 1915. It was launched prises after the pattern and by the as an experiment to prove the Color- methods employed by Chambers of ed citizen's ability to administer the Commerce. affairs of government and so far has

Has Commission Form.

justified the movement.

business enterprises. Among its mer-Independence Heights has the com- chants are G. A. Allen, A. D. Sterritt, mission form of government, its elec- William Cummings and S. A. Branttive officers being a mayor and two ley, who enjoy a liberal patronage. commissioners, who constitute the Here is also located the Beacon Light

Larger cities may have their Comof about 700, has this proud distinc- merc al clubs and Chambers of Commerce, but Independence Heights

Business Enterprises.

And Independence Heights has its

the population.

pelled to accept a smaller mortgage, pay a higher rate of interest, a bigger bonus-in short, terms that are unequitable.

Food Expert Goes to Washington

Government to Make Experiments with Sweet Potato Products Worked Out by Tuskegee Teacher.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Feb. 8.—Prof. George W. Carver, director of the Tuskegee experiment station, has just returned from Washington, D. C., where he went at the invitation of the Department of Agriculture to demonstrate the sweet potato products which he has been experimenting with successfully during the past year.

Prof. Carver reports that his meeting in Washington was most encouraging and states that it is the purpose of the government to make future ex- HAVE ANSWERED FINAL CALL periments with the sweet potato to ascertain how some of the eighty-eight products which he has worked out may eral Pershing in his last report of be used in connection with the nation's deaths occurring in his forces "over war program of food economy.

one of the products which Prof. Car- Charleston, S. C.; Aleck Cummings, ver has been experimenting with, the Rural New Yorker says:

"Prof. George W. Carver of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama recently sent dore regiment, and Abraham Clausen,

Either Tips or Good Salary

Vol. III. No. 33 (Whole No. 136)

Lifting.

ft, Too!

Delle Hier

their property in a manner in which Dining Car Waiter Says Average Monthly Income From Patrons \$75.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8 .- The organized in attitude against this class philosophy of tipping was expounded of property for mortgage accommoda- to an interested audience at the railway wage hearing today by Robert L. necessity, only the courageous mem- Mays, a dining car waiter, who spoke bers of the race dare acquire property. for unorganized Negro employes. He said they received \$25 a month wages

for sixteen to eighteen hours' daily work. When asked if they would consent to the elimination of tips and subestate, or white owners of Colored stitution of a higher salary, he said he believed both waiters and porters would be glad to forego tips if their

"Then your tips average \$75 a month ?" asked Mr. McChord.

"Yes, on a good run. We serve possibly thirty persons at meals every day, the tips averaging 10 cents each, or about \$90 a month. Some of the men on the big eastern lines, between here and New York, for instance, would kick on a salary of \$100 and no tips, but the men in the west, on the long desert runs, where they have to buy their own food and get back home the best way they can, would be glad of the change."

"And what difference does the tip make in the kind of service received ?" "Absolutely none. We are not merely required to give good service, but our superiors see that we do give it, for any dissatisfaction means loss of patronage by the road.

"I suggest a very small addition to each check-about 12 cents would care for the increase in wages. A slight advance in berth rates would pay the porters a living wage."

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15 .- Genthere" included the names of Rufus Concerning the dried sweet potato, Graham, Colon, Ga.; Thomas Murray, Sanderville, Ga.; George H. Jones, Newport News, Va., and William A. Jones, Houston, Tex., all of the steve-

SECOND OFFICERS' TRAINING



G. O. Burgess, Mayor of Independence Heights, Tex.

Colored men presented themselves for and southwest for railroad work with city council, which appoints the other Manufacturing company, which is captraining. They devoted themselves and southwest for railroad work with the understanding that they will be re- officers. The government is distrib- italized entirely by Colored people. Of the first we have ever seen. They came officers and they are now with zeal to the task and they are now the understanding that they will be re-leased for farm service during the uted under the following depart-course such a community has a school in excellent condition, and our people

fer to have their identity unknown, principally for the reason that since the mortgage lending institutions are

tion, and since the mortgages are a This may seem a broad statement, but it is nevertheless a fact.

this city. The rest is distributed among

The Negro population of the city

sees the wisdom of becoming land

no publicity is given to it. They pre-

There is nowhere in the city of New York, where Colored owners of real tenements, seeking mortgage accommodations can receive the same consideration that owners of other proper- pay was increased to \$100 and up ties receive, and wherever such mort- monthly. gages are secured the owners are com-

imparting to the men under their charge the military lessons which they this, they are teaching to their fellow men the principles for which America is in the war-those vital principles which are the foundation of the hopes of free people and the keystone of national security.

After all, what is this thing we call so much nowadays? Surely it is no catch-phrase or abstraction. It is demonstrating too much vitality for gin Islands. He condemned agitation that. It is no social distinction 'or privi- for importation of Chinese and Mexilege of the few, for were it that it could not win the hearts of peoples and make them willing to die for its establishment. But it is, it seems to me, a hope as wide as the human race, inothers will have our respective rights, ed at this term of court in Bastrop founded in the generosity of nature county. and protected by a system of justice which will adjust its apparent con- NOBLE M. JOHNSON flicts. Under such a hope nations will do justice to nations, and men to men. Nor can I believe that this democracy will be attained as a finished and complete thing, but rather with increased education and knowledge its application will enlarge and new meanings be discovered in it. It is not the philosophy of disorder, but of progressive the first time in the history of the film which, as near as I have been able to the message was carried to their teenth century. order; not the doctrine of restraint by industry a race actor is to be featured determine, represented about one-half brothers in the lower districts of the force, but rather of self-restraint im- in the greatest serial photoplay yet million dollars. At that time the pop- city. posed by men who realize that one's produced, "The Bullseye," produced by ulation was small-I presume 15,000 own freedom is safest when that of the Universal Film company, featurothers is equally safe.

In a most encouraging degree it is allies across the seas.

The Colored men who were subject years ago, to the leading male support west side, but, on the whole, this has of property is controlled by them. to draft are to be commended upon of a famous star in the largest film never been very promising in the way Among the big single owners St. Philtheir promptness and eagerness in company in the world is a record that of developing. The apartments were ip's P. E. church controls about \$1,registering their names for service in not only he but the race may well be antiquated and the section, being gen- 500,000 worth of realty and it is manthe national army, and likewise men- proud of. Mr. Johnson has won his erally bad, there was never any evi- aged exclusively by Negroes. Mme. tion is made of the relatively low per- reputation as a race man, being known dence of purchase on the part of Col- C. J. Walker, of the Walker Manufaccentage of exemption claims filed by as such and recognized as such in spite ored people there, and the better ele- turing company of Indianapolis, owns them. Those in the service of their of existing circumstances.

press of the agricultural season.

themselves learned. But more than department, will leave for Porto Rico gess is mayor; C. M. Mitchell, public next week to arrange transportation, registration of the men having been street and bridge commissioner; M. D. tants of Independence Heights are nary way. These potatoes came in such completed some time ago.

Louis F. Post, assistant secretary of labor, asserted today that all requirements for common labor can be met by "democracy" and about which we hear proper distribution of the domestic supply and by the use of American citizens from Porto Rico and the Vircans as "unnecessary and prejudicial."

MILLENIUM DRAWETH NIGH

Bastrop, Tex., Feb. 8.-There were volving men everywhere-a hope five convictions in the district court which permits each of us to look for- the past week, all for burglary, all ward to a time when not only we but white men. Not a Negro was convict- New York's Negro Population Has the founding of the Negro section of

STARS NEW SERIAL

Famous Colored Movie Star Has Heavy Part in "The Bullseye," the Greatest Serial Photoplay Yet Produced.

ing the noted Eddie Polo.

Noble M. Johnson, the only recogbeing regarded by Colored civilians nized race actor among the leading which all peoples joined, the Negroes nues. It is safe to say that perhaps throughout the country as a privilege companies, has been chosen from took up residence in and around what nowhere in the United States does a and as a duty to give liberally of their among thousands at Universal City as is now the Pennsylvania zone, and dursubstance, of their time, of their tal- the leading heavy in support to the ing this period of their history in the ents, of their energy, of their influence furious, fighting Eddie Polo. Mr. John- city St. Philip's P. E. church acquired and in every way possible to contrib- son's recognition as an actor of ability property on West Twenty-fifth street, caught the spirit of purchasing real ute toward the comfort and success of has only been won through hard, per- and later the Bethel A. M. E. church our fighting units and those of our sistent efforts, and his rise from an acquired property on the same street. by a recent census of their real estate

ments: Police, health, tax, finance and churches, there being three of the F. C. Roberts, special agent of the and public improvement. G. O. Bur- latter. Home Owners.

improvement commissioner; H. Davis, mons, superintendent of health.

The public finance is appropriated east of Houston, to which it is conto the general fund, public improve- nected by a single street trolley line. produced from any other crop growing ment fund and street and bridge fund; each with the departments supporting G. O. Burgess, is an attorney by proand being supported by the same being fession, who has had an extensive carefully it is short-lived. Some one under the general supervision of the practice in the Houston courts.

Colored Folk

ings in Spite of Handicap of Diffi- start with two or three houses being

BY JOHN E. NAIL.

New York, Feb. 7 .--- The Negro population of New York City for the past and from time to time more houses thirty years has, in some measure, street a small amount of property was type than they had ever occupied bemate.

"extra" with the Lubin company, three Finally, here and there, a few Colored holdings that about \$20,000,000 worth ment took up residence in Harlem.

The city's present and first mayor,

Quite a number of Negroes went to selling sweet potatoes." Harlem in 1900 when white owners of Control Millions properties were unable to rent to white WEST POINT FAR tenants. These Colored tenants saved

the day for these owners. This was

through this medium it would be poswere opened. The Colored people

The neighborhood today has a popor 20,000 people would be a safe esti- ulation of easily 1,000,000 people, and stretches from 131st street to 144th With the northward movement, in street, between Park and Eighth aveondition like this obtain.

Big Holdings of Negroes.

Naturally the people gradually estate, and since 1900 it is estimated easily \$350,000 worth of property in

pronounced them quite equal to the fresh product when cooked. It was only necessary to soak them for a A very large per cent of the inhabi- short time and then cook in the ordi-Lilly, tax assessor and collector; Wil- home owners and others are home buy- excellent condition, and were so near here today with 100 Colored candiliam Cummings, treasurer; G. T. Tay- ers. Many neat homes, largely of the to the fresh product, that it seems as dates. A cantonment contract has been lor, city marshal, assisted by Police- bungalow type, house its population. if this preparation of the sweets ought awarded calling for the completion of man E. J. Eldridge, and Dr. D. S. Sim- It is situated on the Trinity & Brazos to become a great industry. It is pos- a camp by May 1, when it is expected Valley railway, about six miles north- sible to produce more food from an that drafted men will be called for acre of sweet potatoes than can be training. in this country, and the very nature of MME. WALKER MADE DIRECTOR the sweet is such that unless stored

in the south will find it possible to develop a great business in drying and the wealthiest members of their race

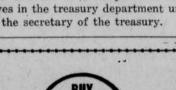
BEHIND TUSKEGEE

New York, Feb. 8.-Charles Zueblin Steadily Increased Its Realty Hold- Harlem, as it is known, and it had its of Boston, an expert on municipal problems, addressing the Women's culty in Securing Equitable Loans. opened to them on West 134th street. City club at the Hotel Vanderbilt, ac- to enlist in the technical positions of Finally other owners realized that cused the government of imitating the Colored division of the army. The sible to keep their properties rented, itiate measures that would win the ganize a mobile repair shop, or a maowned real property. Back in the days quickly realized that in Harlem they kegee," and said that the best engi- trucks. The list of men required inwhen Negroes lived around Macdougal were being offered houses of a better neers graduated from West Point are cludes experts to act as superintend-Universal City, Cal., Feb. 7.-For owned by various members of the race, fore, and it was not very long before archaic methods of the early nine- around auto mechanics, men on small

ORGANIZE HOME DEFENSE LEAGUE

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8 .- A number of Colored men here have organ-Rifle Guards. It is composed of em- vision, Camp Funston, Kansas. ployes in the treasury department un-

der the secretary of the treasury.



ANOTHER

AR SAVINGS

CAMP OPENED IN PORTO RICO

San Juan, P. R., Feb. 8.-A second officers' training camp was opened

New York, Feb. 15.-Mme. C. J. Walker and Frank H. Gilbert, among in this city, have joined the leading Colored clergy as directors of the Watt Gerry Holding company.

ARMY WANTS

COLORED MECHANICS

The government wants Colored men Prussia rather than attempting to in- ordinance department is going to orwar. He criticised Annapolis and West chine shop on wheels, consisting of a Point as being "100 years behind Tus- large number of powerful motor not permitted to stray from the ents, first-class machinists and alltools for saddlery, leather and canvas repair, machinist apprentices and helpers, cooks, stenographers, typists and clerks. Men who desire to come into the service for the special purpose of joining the mobile shop of the Ninetysecond Division (Colored) should write ized a company of the Home Defense at once to Major P. S. Gage, division league, to be known as the Treasury ordinance officer, Ninety-second Di-

OFFICERS TO BE TRAINED IN TEXAS

San Antonio, Tex.-A training camp for Colored officers has been opened at Camp Stanley, Leon Springs, Texas. Fifty men will be trained there, thirtyfour from the Twenty-fourth Infantry and sixteen from the Tenth Cavalry. The war department seems determined to keep Colored troops in the South, though it means a hardship for the Colored patriots.