

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Nebraska and the West, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and uplifting of the community and of the race.

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“AMERICAN ATROCITIES”

We may well believe that German and Turkish newspapers carry some such headline as the above over news reaching them from this country.

And they are justified in doing so. They are absolutely right in denouncing Americans as bloodthirsty savages just so long as we permit the torture and burning of human beings at the stake by brutal mobs of lawless men.

Three within less than eight months have black men, accused of crime, been tortured with almost unbelievable savagery by white men who boast of their culture, refinement, civilization and superiority, and burned at the stake in Tennessee, one of the sovereign states of this great American republic. The attendant brutality of the Negro-baiting at Memphis, Dyersburg and Estill Springs is too revolting to be dwelt upon or rehearsed here. It is sufficient to say that however heinous may have been the crime of which the victims of the mobs' fury were accused it was surpassed in fiendishness and heinousness by that of the mob. Murder is no less murder when committed by a mob than by an individual. And every willing and wilful member of a mob who participates in a lynching is a murderer. They who delight in torturing a human being and then collect his charred bones as souvenirs are savages. These things have been done thrice recently in Tennessee. They may well be styled “American atrocities” and truly so, for America is responsible for them. Until Americans, north, south, east and west, arise in their might and put a stop to this savagery, so long must the nation rest under the indictment of being party to such crimes.

Of course we know that Americans as a class are humane, kind-hearted and justice-loving. Even in the communities where such terrible things occur with far too much frequency there are those who are horrified by such deeds; but there seems to be an apathy and an indifference that palsies action.

But whenever the people of the United States make up their mind that mob-murder must cease it will cease. Whenever the government of the United States, be the administration republican, democratic or coalition, really considers it worth while to suppress mob-murder and lynching and savagery which make us a byword and a hissing in the mouths of autocratic Europe this reproach will be rolled away.

How long shall America permit the Huns of Tennessee to practice such savagery that Germany and Turkey can burn with jealousy because out-classed in deeds of ruthlessness by American atrocities?

It is high time for decent people in the United States to suppress the Huns of Tennessee.

BABY MARIE AND SANDY

Every movie fan knows Baby Marie Osborne, because she is the greatest child star in all the firmament of film-dom. What Mary Pickford is to the grown-ups, Baby Marie is to the children and the grown-ups as well. She is a charming little tot and her acting and histrionic ability are such that the mere announcement of Baby Marie Osborne picture crowds a house.

One thing especially of interest to us as a people, and the thing that has prompted the writing of this editorial, is that Baby Marie's partner in her stellar roles is invariably a little Colored boy. Just why this is we cannot explain, but the Pathe company has established it as a real feature of all Baby Osborne's pictures. And, believe us, the little Colored chap can act, too. Marie and he are always the life and fun of every picture. They are inseparable little pals and the suggestion of one is the command of the other. In the latest release, “The Little Patriot,” Baby Marie starts out to emulate Joan d'Arc, and Sandy, her leading man, does all he can to help her realize her ambition. All the rest of her army is white. The play is a perfect scream and every move of Sandy's brings an outburst of hearty, genuine laughter.

We do not know to what degree Baby Osborne pictures are shown in the South, but we venture the opinion that they are not received with the same rich relish that they find in the North. Two such little pals, eating, playing, plotting, planning and executing together are hardly agreeable to the Southern palate. But such pictures are doing their bit in abolishing the arch-demon of color prejudice. The theater in starring men like Bert Williams and Sam Dudley with white companies, vaudeville including Colored acts in its repertoire and the movies releasing films like Baby Osborne and “The Bullseye,” in which Noble M. Johnson is taking the leading heavy, are sure to sow desirable seed. They are more effective than all the preaching and arguing and political fighting in the world. If you ever see a Baby Osborne picture advertised go see it and convince yourself.

WILL IT BE DIFFERENT NOW?

In the Danish West Indies, recently acquired by the United States, where the blacks far outnumber the whites and where the former control the bulk of the government and commercial operations, there is no complaint from the Caucasian element. According to advices from the Virgin Islands, civic and business matters run along as smoothly and there is as much general prosperity and satisfaction as if the whites were administering affairs. The natural order of things is accepted and there is nothing for agitators to do. Problems solve themselves if left to the logic of events.

WHAT THE RACE PRESS SAYS

Driving Nails Into Prejudice.
 Every American Negro that does his duty in the war, whether on the farm, in the factory, at the front on the firing line or in the trenches, is driving a nail squarely in the coffin of American prejudices.—The Light (Columbia, S. C.)

Reason for Taking Heart.
 If there be any who are discouraged over conditions as they appear, let them take heart. There are more strong white men working for justice to the Colored people today than ever before.—Southern Indicator (Columbia, S. C.)

All Are Not Enemies.
 The Negro must recognize and appreciate the favors which come to him and stand with the man, or men, who stand by him. All men in the white race are not enemies to the Negro. There are thousands of the Caucasian race who sincerely and genuinely wish us well, and when we find them we should show by our attitude that we appreciate their kindness.—The Torchlight (Danville, Ky.)

No Room For Prejudice.

No Colored man can afford to entertain prejudice because a man may be born in a foreign country. For our race should learn to judge a man by his worth, his logic and practices; not by the land of his birth, the color of his eyes or hair, no more than we appreciate being discriminated against because of our colored skins. There is little patience for the fellow that smirks or snubs at the foreign-born. Let us adopt the metre of a man's a man for all of it. If that is what the Colored citizen would ask of the world it is what he should practice toward others marked by nationality distinction or what not. In short, we will be applying the golden rule, and that is the greatest thing in the world. Try it some time—all the time.—The Detroit (Mich.) Leader.

Do Your Bit
 Lest we forget! We are at war, and it is not a mere outing like the Spanish-American war, but a serious war in which the little things that each person is asked to do will prove as special importance as the larger ones. You are asked to make the small sacrifices so that the larger sacrifices will not be necessary.—The Searchlight (Sedalia, Mo.)

Obvious Observations

The epidemic of spring fever is now the next performer on the boards. But don't take it too serious. You won't die.

With Mr. Hoover and Lent both on the job things look auspicious for fasting.

Socialism clamors for human liberty and the right of free speech, but the way the Bolshevikians are raising hell in Russia and Finland makes us think they never meant a word of it.

Now that France has decided to shoot Mr. Bolo we reckon that the noted Mr. Calliaux is busy interviewing his undertaker.

Did you ever stop to think that The Monitor is the only Colored newspaper in the U. S. A. with a staff member handling the Frenchy end of the human language?

The newspapers have been telling us for three years that the Germans are starving. It may be so and it may not be so, but if it is so they are certainly the hardest folks to starve to death we have ever heard about.

We honestly thought that the all star court house fracas was between Sheriff Clark and Commissioner Lynch, but it now looks like it is between Johnnie Lynch and Tommy Denison. What they have to say about each other reads better than Snappy Stories.

Remember, please, that the street cars stop on the NEAR side of the street. Don't stand on the FAR side and then cuss the motorman out for not stopping.

It embarrasses us greatly to ask you again to please look in your pocket-book and see if you haven't a bone and a half with “Monitor” written on it. It takes more money to run a newspaper than it takes garbage to feed a pet hog.

Thanking you kindly for your undivided attention, we will now borrow father's best razor and trim our corn crops.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

Restaurants

Restaurant is one of the words of the English language wherein the pronunciation is only second cousin to the spelling. A restaurant is a place where one visits to quench an appetite. No person ever goes to a restaurant unless he has to or because he forgot and left his lunch at home on the piano. This is not the restaurant's fault, but the fault of that which goes to make up a restaurant. For instance, if you feel like eating sausage on a pork day you whisper to wifey and slip her a ten dollar bill. She buys the ground hog, mixes in minced onions and sage, puts out little cakes, dips them in egg, rolls them in flour and then fries them. When they reach the family feeding board you remember the admonition of Mr. Hoover and clean the platter to the last atom. But when you go to the eat shop, the synthetic operation is some different. The chef drops a hunk of moleculed pig in a pan of muscular cottonseed oil, fries it to steel-like consistency, slips it on a two-inch platter and then condescends to decorate the slippery oilcloth in front of you. You pound and saw and jab, loosen a half-dozen teeth, scrape your throat, bruise your esophagus, insult your stomach and beckon to indigestion. Then you slip the dough to the cashier and go out hungrier than when you went in.

That is why a restaurant is always the clinching argument for matrimony. Legend has it that to make a man happy is to feed the brute, but this is a libel upon man. Any man who eats at a restaurant deserves to be happy, and if any winsome woman's waiting arms stretch out to greet him it isn't any wonder that he disregards all the woes of wedded bliss for the sake of his gastronomic hopes. The expectation of eatable eats knocks the daylights out of the spectres of bills for dresses, bonnets, shoes and lingerie. Many a man hollers on the spectres later, but few of them are willing to swap them for restaurant feed. Of course restaurants are a necessity, but that's all—a mere necessity.

HUESTON VISITS OMAHA IN INTEREST OF COMMUNITY HOUSE

Mr. W. C. Heuston of Kansas City, Mo., chairman of the Camp Funston Community House committee, spent Saturday and Sunday in Omaha in the interest of this movement. Sunday morning he delivered an address in St. John's A. M. E. church and Sunday night in Zion Baptist church. He made a most favorable impression which will bear fruit when the campaign for funds will be launched by the local committee for Omaha's portion of the fund.

The city will be districted, coin cards and literature circulated and a day appointed for collecting the coin cards.

Watch The Monitor for full particulars and make up your mind to do your bit for the community house for Colored soldiers at Camp Funston.

NOT SLOTHFUL IN BUSINESS.

Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards

GOVERNMENT READY TO SERVE

We wish to call attention again to the helpful bulletins and leaflets published by the Government. They can be had for the asking and our women will find them helpful. The suggestions here given are taken from United States Food Leaflet No. 3.—L. S. E.

A WHOLE DINNER IN ONE DISH

The youngsters will like it. Father will like it. You will like it. Your pocketbook will surely like it. Your bodies can't help liking it. Uncle Sam is bound to like it.

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This dinner helps you do your part for our country. You can save wheat and meat to ship abroad. Our soldiers and the allies need them more than we do.

Try the one-dish dinner.

FIRINGS FROM FUNSTON

Nebraska Boys Working Hard and Anxious to Go After the Kaiser.

Camp Funston, Kan., Feb. 18.

Editor The Monitor:
 After a lapse of two weeks I again find a few moments to write you a few words.

Funston is still the scene of busy activities and as the days roll by it is certain that the time is not far distant when the “Fighting Ninety-second” will be after the boches' scalps with a determination that will long live in history. To be in this large army city and view the determined faces and actions of these Colored boys, who are being tempered as is steel, for the raging prey on the other side, one cannot but stop and think of what a desperate fight they will put up when they reach the trenches of the beckoning land far across the sea to battle for democracy.

The Colored officers are working with firmness and kindness. They are driving in the duties of a soldier as it was driven into them at the never-to-be-forgotten training camp at Fort Des Moines, showing that what they learned they remembered. They are able instructors and drillmasters. Too much cannot be said for them, for I am sure all who are being instructed by them will benefit thereby.

Then, too, the drafted men are learning with a zeal which shows that the American Negro is “there” with all the “goods” that any one can expect.

The weather here has been warm but very windy and dusty, which is typical of Kansas. The Funston boys are looking forward with great expectancy toward the community house that is to be erected here. A theater for the Ninety-second Division is also being built.

The boys were all surprised to hear of Sergeant Faucett's marriage and wish him much success. The Omaha boys are all making it as usual.

The officers' training school has been extended two weeks, which will make it close the 8th of April instead of the 5th. This is due to the large amount of recent data, etc., received from the trenches which must be included in the course.

I must say right here that The Monitor is a paper that is enjoyed very much here in camp, not only by the boys of the “Gate City,” but by those from other cities as well. It is eagerly watched for by all. Wishing it continued success and hoping to be able to see you visit our camp soon, I close with best wishes from the boys at Funston for all at home.

CORPORAL A. L. REED.
 Third Company, Officers' Training Camp.

DETACHMENT 25TH INFANTRY PASS THROUGH OMAHA

A detachment of about 100 soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry passed through Omaha Monday morning from Schofield barracks, Honolulu, en route to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Much of the success of this war depends upon the workers in the munition factories, and at the same time much depends upon the housewife. Upon each rests the grave responsibility. Do not interfere with friend wife, for she is not only doing her bit but her BEST.

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