

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 upbuilding of the community and of the race.

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LIBERTY

ON the Fourth of July, 1776, a handful of men signed their names to a brief document known as the Declaration of Independence. To them it was a matter of much consequence, but little did they dream that it gave birth to a flame that would eventually enwrap a world. Across the Atlantic it sped and in the hearts of Europe it began to blaze. France arose and murdered monarchy, Spain seethed and wrecked its throne. Italy blazed and battled. In Germany the lovers of freedom took up the cry and almost founded a democracy. It was because of this near success that Teuton autocracy made a league with crowns to crush out human liberty and drive it from the earth. Headed by Bismarck, the iron chancellor, Prussia took the lead and through every devilish and hellish mechanism drove liberty out of Spain and Italy, and tried to drive it out of France. But France loved it too well. She remained a government of the people. And with the years her constancy to human freedom remained firm and hope once more began to blossom in the hearts of Germany, Russia, Italy and Spain. Crowns again grew fearful lest their thrones should terminate and under William the Damned, the cohorts of autocracy were turned loose again and first of all upon France. That was more than four years ago and still the battle rages. There is no doubt as to how the war will end. Liberty again will win, but her task is greater than it has ever been before. It is organized autocracy against organized liberty, no more and no less. That is why we fight, and that is why the government is calling upon you, every one of us, to aid in the titanic struggle. Do your part. You have tasted liberty and have not found the fruit bitter. Strive so that your children's children all down the years may taste it also and have with them the blessings of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That is really what the war means.

TWO EXECUTIONS

THE execution of three Negro soldiers at Fort Des Moines a short time ago for a heinous crime, of which they were proven guilty by a court-martial, has been viewed in the right light by our people throughout the entire country. There has not been that tremendous revulsion of feeling, mutinous and bitter, and verging upon a revolution, which swept over the race when the thirteen members of the gallant Twenty-fifth were hung with indecent haste at Houston. May God protect our country and people from another such tremendous strain upon their loyalty as that act entailed.

There, by unbearable acts of brutality, for which the aggressors were not punished, the men of the Twenty-fifth were goaded into desperation, and without the slightest opportunity for an appeal or the reviewing of the evidence the thirteen were hurried to their doom. It was this that caused such a tremendous revulsion of feeling upon the part of our people from the highest to the lowest.

The case at Des Moines was entirely different. Without provocation and without excuse the three condemned men attacked and ravished a woman. That crime by whomsoever committed merits death and should be punished by death. Those lustful men got just what they deserved. And while we all most keenly regret—because of the fact that in America's narrow way of attributing the crime of an individual to the entire Colored race we are all made to bear the blame—that these men belonged to our race, we have no apology to make for their heinous crime, no sympathy for these criminals who have disgraced American manhood.

Men of this character are enemies to our race.

Let all violators of women, be they black or white, receive the punishment by the duly constituted authorities which their crime deserves.

THE CASE OF COLONEL YOUNG

THE MONITOR'S position on the case of Lieutenant Colonel Young is well known. We believe he can render the United States splendid service and ought to be given an opportunity to do so. The circumstances surrounding his retirement did not please us one bit and we did not hesi-

tate to say so. We were the first newspaper to publish the fact that he was in a California hospital for "observation," when it was generally supposed that he was still doing splendid service in Mexico. A mutual friend who had seen him and conversed with him in the military hospital brought us the information.

There is no need of repeating the story here. The whole transaction in our judgment did not impress us as at all creditable when the date of retirement and other incidents were taken into account. Careful scrutiny of these facts and incidents seemed to reflect upon the sincerity, if not the veracity, of certain high officials; and we frankly said so.

However, be that it may, Colonel Young's recent ride from Xenia to Washington, as an endurance test, ought to be a pretty good indication of his physical ability to be of much more active service than living in easy retirement at Wilberforce. Many believe that the place for an officer of his record, experience and ability at such a time as this is on the firing line with our boys in France. The Monitor hopes to see him called before long to active service.

WORK OR FIGHT

THE work or fight mandate which has been issued by the government is one of the very best things that could have happened to the country. It will prove beneficial to all classes of citizens and to none more fully than to our own. Every large community has been afflicted with a gang of lousy loafers, who depended upon their wits for what is almost too low for characterization, the ill-gotten gains of unfortunate females.

These fellows, idlers and loafers, are now compelled to go to work at gainful occupations or to enter the army or navy or other arms of the service. It is quite remarkable how rapidly we are being thrown back upon the teaching of the Bible these days. That good book says, "If a man will not work, neither shall he eat."

Modern civilization has been permitting too many human parasites to fatten and batten upon the community.

The work or fight mandate is all right. It will transform human parasites into men.

NEW YORK WOULD COMMENTS EDITORIALY

On Attitude Towards Colored Nurses for Foreign and Domestic Service for Which They Are Singularly Fitted.

There certainly seems to be something wrong in the attitude of the American Red Cross and the Colored nurses. The following is an editorial from the New York World on the subject:

The Colored Woman Nurse.

When officers of the Medical Department of the Army and of the Red Cross agree upon the statement that "there now exists an extreme necessity for at least 25,000 women nurses" for service at home and abroad, what reason have they for rejecting the one hundred Colored women nurses, trained and registered in New York, who for months past have awaited a summons?

Many regiments of Colored troops are already in the field, but it is said that no quarters have as yet been provided for Negro nurses. It is said that the hospitals in the United States have been left short handed by the dispatch of so large a proportion of their nursing staff to France, but no call is made upon the Negro women who might fill the gaps. It is said that there is no prejudice in these matters on account of color, but Mrs. Thomas, president of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, says plainly that the American Red Cross has never given Colored women the standing to which their training entitles them.

This is a state of affairs which should have the instant attention of the higher authorities in Washington. If there is such an "extreme necessity" as is represented it is not Negro troops alone that need the kindly ministrations of Colored nurses. Many a white soldier in distress would be the better for such attention. Colored women are as naturally fitted for nursing as Colored men are for fighting, and narrow discrimination against either of them should be rebuked and overruled at once.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

Rumor.

RUMOR is a tow headed, bear-eyed, sheep eared, watermelon-mouthed, pug nosed, wry necked, chicken winged, pigeon breasted, pot bellied, spindle legged piece of imagination that truth treats like a stepchild and falsehood like a black sheep. Where it comes from nobody ever knows and nobody has ever discovered that it pays to try to find out. At present there are more rumors running around loose than bottles of water and pepper to be found in a dry town. According to rumor Kaiser Bill has more lives than a black cat and the central empires more revolutions than a South American republic. Two weeks ago we expected the war to end by the Austrians kidnapping Emperor Charlie and choking Mister Burian, but suddenly the papers switched off and began talking about the Fourth of July and the immortal Declaration of Independence. A few days ago rumor yelled that Von Hindy, the super-dutch bully, had croaked himself after a tabasco dust with Kaiser Bill and the next day you couldn't find anything about it in the paper with the Hamilton observatory spy glass. Russia has had more rumors turned out in the cold since the war began than flies mobilizing around a kettle of ham and cabbage. Yet rumor does some good. It helps newsboys get rid of armfuls of extras. If newsboys don't shake hands with Wall street magnates after the war, there is a screw loose somewhere. Sometime ago rumors of peace got loose every now and then and caused tension to break several degrees, but peace rumors now are as quiet as the mummy of Moses. The best thing to do with a rumor is to can it and leave it stand on a cellar shelf. Some day it might ferment into truth, although it hasn't much

chance to do so. Don't look for truth because there isn't any such lady walking about nowadays. Just sit tight and work to win the war. Give rumor the cold mitt and the icy shoulder.

OBVIOUS OBSERVATIONS

If any human being in Omaha knows of anything beneficial to the city commission has done for Omaha since coming into office, kindly communicate with this office. We put our entire detective fore on the job, but it has fallen down like a ton of lead.

It seems that Kaiser Bill gets the best of every row he has with his manikins. If only he could meet Everet True just once.

The crops are spoiled! Now they ain't! Now they are agin! Now they ain't again!

When that new tax law comes into effect we're going barefooted and wear overalls, believe muh!

Just half a teaspoon of sugar, you son of a gun!

Wife reads the newspapers for the sales and we read them for the headlines. There's not much else to read. Unk Sam has over a million men in France. Unk is some hustler when they make him sore, eh?

The Italians are still bayoneting the Austrians, but they aren't working on their faces. They're working on the heavy parts in the back and just below the belt.

When congress slaps on the ten cents per gallon on gas, we think we'll see more horses around town.

Dig up for your subscription, brother, and keep a good thing going.

Thanking you kindly for your individual attention, we will not take an hour off and figure how to get a good meal out of this last dollar. We used to get a good one for two bits but that was a long time ago, Geraldine. Things wuz different noaw.

The Children of the Sun

By George Wells Parker

OVER the many weeks that I have written these articles we have reviewed many civilizations and we have found that each and every one owed a great debt to either the pure, or to a strong infusion of, African blood. Today I will deal with the greatest civilization the world has ever known. As great as has been the culture of the many peoples of antiquity, none has ever shown with the lustre of that which was created beside the beautiful Aegean sea. Greece was wonderful and even today man scarcely realizes how deeply wonderful and great she really was.

Until fifty years ago it was a sort of common law among historians that the Grecians could have been nothing else than a white race. This supposition was accepted without question and all went well until Count de Gobineau, whom I have quoted before, suddenly dropped this bomb among the scholars of Europe. "The Greeks, Assyrians and Etruscans were nothing but half-breeds, mulattoes, and derived their aptitude for art from their African ancestors." The world of scholarship sat up with a jolt and began to take notice. In the study of the classics they were aware that the Grecian melting pot had been a complicated one and that scattered throughout the literature of its peoples there were scores upon scores of passages which hinted that darker races had much to do with the formation of the Grecian polity and people. The ferment was set and began working, and after a half-century the concession is made that the Grecian civilization is due to Hamitic peoples.

The first archaeologist to afford conclusive evidence was Dr. Schliemann. Armed with a spade he went to the classic lands and brought to light a real Troy; at Tyrns and Mycenae he laid to view the palaces and tombs and treasures of the Homeric kings. His message back to the scholars, who waited tensely for his verdict, was, "It looks to me like the civilization of an African people." A new world opened out of the old and the Aegean became the Mecca of the world. Traces of this prehistoric civilization began to make their appearance far beyond the limits of Greece itself. From Cyprus and Palestine to Sicily and southern Italy, and even to the coasts of Spain, the colonial and industrial enterprise of the Mycenaeans left its mark. "Whether they like it or not," declared Sir Arthur Evans before the London Hellenic society two years ago, "classical students must consider origins. The Grecians whom we discern in the new dawn were not the pale-skinned northerners, but essentially the dark-haired, brown-complexioned race." Almost identical were the words of Mr. Asquith, former prime minister of England, who declared before the same society a year earlier that, "Whether we like it or not, we are forced to accept the fact that the ancient Grecians were a brown race and not a white one."

From Italy came the ringing words of another champion of truth. Prof. Sergi of the University of Rome, and one of the greatest living authorities upon European races, wrote: "Until recent years the Greeks and Romans were regarded as Aryans and then as Aryanised peoples; the great discoveries in the Mediterranean have overturned all these views. Today, although a few belated supporters of Aryanism still remain, it is becoming clear that the most ancient civilization of the Mediterranean is not of Aryan origin. The Aryans were savages when they invaded Europe; they destroyed in part the superior civilization of the Neolithic populations and could not have created the Greco-Latin civilization. The primitive populations of Europe originated in Africa and the basin of the Mediterranean was the chief center of movement when the African migrations reached the center and north of Europe."

I have not the space today to review the mass of archaeological data which archaeologists have produced. They consist of cyclopean ruins of cities and strongholds, tombs, vases, statues, votive bronzes and exquisitely engraved gems and intaglios. That which is most valuable in establishing the claim of the African origin of the Grecian civilization is the discovery of the frescoes on the palace walls. These opened up a new epoch in painting and are of the utmost interest to the world. The colors are almost as brilliant as when laid down more than three thousand years ago. Among these frescoes are numerous representations of the race whose civilization they represent. It was a race neither Aryan or Semite, but African. The portraiture follows the Egyptian precedent and for the first time the mysterious people rise before us. The tint of the flesh is of a deep reddish brown and the limbs are finely moulded. The profile of the face is pure and almost classically Greek. The hair is black and curling and the lips somewhat full, giving the entire physiognomy a distinct African cast. In the women's quarters the frescoes show them to be much fairer, the difference in complexion being due probably to the seclusion of harem life. But in their countenances, too, remain those distinguishable features which link them with the African race.

If you are a student of civilization then you know without any suggestion from me what it means to have such a people as the Grecians classed as Africans. To Greece the whole modern world looks upon as the patron of arts, literature and science. No modern nation has ever surpassed them in sculpture or in architecture, no literature has ever lived beside theirs as to purity and refinement, and even our speculative science is but a reflection of what the Grecian philosophers taught in their academies three thousand years ago. It is great to be able to call the Egyptians, Ethiopians, Assyrians, Persians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Jews, Arabs and Carthaginians blood of our blood, but to be able to add the Grecians to our list is a modern gift that is all too early to truly value.

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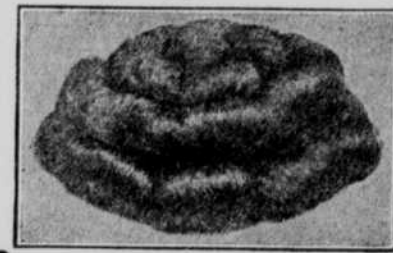
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