

Growing.
Thank You!

THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

Lifting
Lift, Too!

\$2.00 a Year. 5c a Copy

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, JULY 27, 1918

Vol. IV. No. 4 (Whole No. 160)

Drawing Towards Half-Hundred Mark

Moorfield Storey Drive Increases Membership of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People From Less Than 10,000 to 36,000.

MANY BRANCHES MAKE GAINS

Drive Manifests Growing Appreciation of the Value and Necessity of Organized Efforts—Membership Widely Distributed.

NEW YORK, July 25.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its national office in New York, makes public the results of its Moorfield Storey drive to increase the membership of the association as a tribute to its national president for his services to the colored people in winning the famous segregation decision in the supreme court of the United States. At the close of the drive on June 15 the association's total membership had increased from 9,869 before the drive to approximately 36,000, and is still going up. This total number of 36,000 members does not include any branches which are regarded by the association as inactive, but includes only active branches and paid-up memberships.

The eighty-five active branches of the association which were in existence when the drive began report a total membership of 32,300. Thirty-two new branches have been organized during the drive with a total membership of 2,600. These totals, together with something over 1,000 members at large not affiliated with any particular branch, makes the 36,000 given as the total for the drive. The association now has 117 active branches.

Some of the branches, the association reports, did remarkable work in increasing their membership. The branch at Washington, D. C., for example, has gone from a membership of less than 700 to nearly 7,000; the branch at Boston has gone from a membership of about 750 to more than 2,500. Seventeen of the association's branches have memberships of more than 500 members each; 29 branches have more than 300 members each.

"The colored people of the nation," says Mr. Shillady, in announcing the results of the drive, "and their white friends appreciate as they never did before the value and necessity of organized effort. The association's branches are widely distributed, which is a second cause for gratification," said Mr. Shillady. "In only thirteen states is the association not represented. In the New England states there are six branches with a total of about 4,400 members; the North Atlantic states have 16 branches with more than 4,000 members; the east north-central states, composed of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, have 26 branches with nearly 7,000 members; the west north-central states, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas, have 11 branches with 3,150 members; the Southern states, exclusive of the District of Columbia, have 43 branches with 7,500 members; in the mountain and Pacific states the association has twelve branches with over 2,000 members. Two states, Ohio and Illinois, have as many as 10 branches; Virginia, the Old Dominion state, the state of the aristocracy of the South, has 8 branches.

"Another striking feature of the drive," said Mr. Shillady, "is the spontaneous growth of new branches. The thirty-two branches organized were organized without direct assistance of the association's officers or field secretary. In some cases nearby branches assisted in the organization, but as a whole these branches were the outgrowth of the spontaneous desire of the people themselves to affiliate with a national organization which they regard as one that stands for their

rights and for their advancement. One of these new branches, San Antonio, Tex., has more than 500 members and another at Greene county, Ohio, begins with 450 members.

"Mr. James W. Johnson, field secretary of the national association, who has been on three extended tours, one of them through the South, reports that colored people everywhere are alive to the responsibilities of the times; that they are supporting the government loyally in Liberty loan and war savings drives; that they are watching with interest the valorous deeds of colored soldiers abroad, and that they are looking forward to greater participation in civil and political rights at home."

Colored Nurses to Be Used In Army Camps

Orders Issued by War Department Makes Opening for Hundreds at Six Base Hospitals in This Country—Many May Go Overseas.

Special to The Monitor:
Washington, D. C., July 22.—The war department authorizes the following statement from Emmett J. Scott, special assistant to the secretary of war:

Orders were issued today by the war department to the office of the surgeon general, which will enable colored nurses who have been registered by the American Red Cross society, to render service for their own race in the army. Colored nurses will be assigned to the base hospitals now established at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas; Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois; Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa; Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky.; Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, and Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J. At these camps a total of 36,000 colored troops are stationed. General Pershing has been asked by cable whether the services of colored nurses can be utilized to advantage among the American Expeditionary forces.

WANTS TO ORGANIZE A BATTALION

New Orleans, La.—George Doyle, former president of the colored pastor's union and connected with the Red Cross, has gone to Washington to obtain authority to organize a battalion of French speaking race men above the draft age for service at the front.

Doyle first took up this project last September and received a letter from the French ambassador at Washington stating France would be glad to have the services of such a battalion. Government authorities then suggested Doyle help in the organization of a regiment of stevedores and he did. Now that this regiment is in service at the front, Doyle is anxious to take up his original project of organizing a battalion of active service men.

WOMEN'S CONVENTION OUTSPOKEN IN DEMANDS

Requests the War Department to Appoint Colored Nurses—Demands the Abolishment of Jim Crow Cars.

Denver, Colo.—The National Association of Colored Women which met here in annual session was a great success, and women were in attendance from all states in the union.

They have made an impression that will be lasting in Denver. Among the noteworthy things that were done, the convention adopted a resolution asking the war department to assign 2,000 colored nurses for hospital duty in the war zone to care for wounded negro soldiers.

Another strong resolution was drawn, adopted and forwarded to Secretary McAdoo demanding that the "Jim Crow" car be abolished, and denounced it as "filthy, unsanitary and undemocratic."

CURRY INSTITUTE RECEIVES A GIFT

Urbana, O.—Miss Ella Dunn (white), of West Virginia, bequeathed \$7,500 to the Curry Institute, and friends have contributed a like amount, making a total of \$15,000.

SALESWOMEN IN ST. LOUIS STORES

St. Louis, Mo.—Department and other stores of this city are employing colored women and girls as saleswomen and are meeting with success.

Colored Troops In Allied Offensive

American Soldiers of Color Are Demonstrating Their Heroism, Intrepidity and Bravery in Picardy and in the Vicinity of the Marne—Have Made Wonderful Impression Upon French Population—Beg to Go Into the Thickest of the Fray—Rendering Conspicuous Service.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 18.—American colored troops helped to hold the allied line against the fifth German offensive. They requested the favor of being permitted to take over a part of the line of attack, though they have been holding part of a French sector for the last three months without relief. They are now rendering conspicuous service in the allied offensive launched against the Teutonic forces and their valorous conduct has evoked high praise from the commanding officers.

The American soldiers of color, particularly, have made a wonderful impression upon the French population, both civil and military, and they have received the unstinted praise and commendation from high French officers. Their remarkable courage, cool-headedness and bravery under fire, as well as their desire to engage in the fiercest engagements—all these things and many more have demonstrated conclusively that the colored American soldiers are fighters unsurpassed and unprecedented and they are acquiring themselves creditably and nobly whenever called upon or given an opportunity to defend the Stars and Stripes on the western front.

The ancient Huns had little or no respect for the colored Americans' fighting ability until they encountered these American blacks in several fights and now they have the utmost respect for the fighting qualities of Uncle Sam's black warriors, who are playing no small part over here to bring victory to the allied side.

ATLANTIC CITY PREPARES FOR THE BUSINESS LEAGUE

Atlantic City.—Elaborate preparations are being made by the various committees of the Local Negro Business League of this city to welcome the National Negro Business League which will meet here August 21, 22, 23.

His Excellency, Governor Walter E. Edge, has consented to deliver one of the addresses of welcome, and His Honor, Mayor H. Bacharach, has also consented to speak on the opening day. Other features of the day will be yachting trips and a reception at the city hall to the delegates by the mayor and his staff.

Mr. J. C. Napier, Nashville, Tenn., president of the National League; Dr. R. R. Moton, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, chairman of the executive committee, and Mr. Emmett J. Scott, Tuskegee institute, secretary, together with the other officials, are working out the details of the program and the first session promises to be one of vital interest to the race.

PORTO RICO TO DRAFT 15,000 MORE MEN

San Juan, Porto Rico.—Orders received from Provost Marshal General Crowder direct the local draft boards in Porto Rico to proceed with the selection and preparation for mobilization of 15,000 men, in addition to the 13,000 now reported at Las Casas. The first men of the new draft are to report in September and a fixed number monthly thereafter.

The final figures on the registration of men who have reached the age of 21 years since July, 1917, will show 11,000 registrants, according to Adjutant General Wilson.



WEST AFRICAN CHIEF OF FRENCH COMMISSION

Receives Complimentary Address From the Residents of Gambia Expressive of Their Pleasure at M. Blaize Diagne's Appointment.

M. Blaize Diagne, a full-blooded Negro who represents the Senegal in the French chamber, has visited West Africa as chief of French commission. His suite consisted of several white officials of the French government and a black French military officer. On his departure from Gambia an address was delivered to him in part as follows:

Sir: We representing the natives and residents of the colony of the Gambia of Negro blood, take this opportunity of your visit to our shores of publicly tending to you our heartfelt congratulations on the high honor conferred on you by the French republic, as deputy of the colony of Senegal and chief of a commissio to French West Africa, an honor which, we fully believe, you have very well earned.

One of the blessings which we believe will come to the world through this great war will be a just estimate and due recognition of the worth and merit of all, irrespective of race or color.

That you, a Negro of the Wolof tribe, should lead the van in this respect, is to us a matter of great thankfulness to God, and affords us much impetus in our efforts to do our best in whatever sphere we may be, fully believing that as the day has come for such recognition from the French republic, it will also come from the British empire, to which we are glad and proud to belong.—The Crisis.

THE HEALTH AND MORALS OF COLORED TROOPS

Captain A. B. Spingarn says in the August Crisis:

Few matters are of greater concern to the war department than the proper safeguarding of the health and morals of its soldiers. It is significant that it has detailed to the consideration of the problem of safeguarding colored troops and colored civilians an officer, who, as a director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the chairman of its legal committee, has definitely put himself on record as opposed to discrimination against the Negro in any form for any cause.

The war department can control conditions in the cantonments, but the formulators of this program realize that no permanent improvement can be expected if all the effort is to be from without; no lasting help is possible for twelve million people unless the major effort comes from within. The health and morals of colored people for generations to come will depend largely on how much help and co-operation the colored leaders of today give to this program.

WHITE SOLDIER HANGED; ASSAULTED COLORED GIRL

Government Takes Righteous Stand That There Shall Be No Discrimination in Punishment for Heinous Crime Against Wmen.

Waco, Tex.—Nat Hoffman, a white soldier, was hanged July 11 at Camp McArthur. He was convicted of attacking a colored school girl last April. The government has one treatment for all who commit crime. Just a few days ago at Des Moines, Ia., colored soldiers were given the same treatment for the same crime against a white girl.

CUBA PASSES BILL FOR COMPULSORY SERVICE

Havana, July 19.—The bill to establish compulsory military service in Cuba, following four days of bitter debate, was approved by the house by a vote of 45 to 26. By previous agreement a committee consisting of three conservatives and an equal number of liberals was then appointed to revise the provisions of the bill and is expected to report Monday, when the debate will be taken up on the amendments.

ESTABLISH COMMUNITY CENTER HOUSE

Youngstown, O.—The citizens of Youngstown, with the assistance of white friends, have purchased a home for girls, the property is said to be worth \$10,000.

"Chesterfield" Of The Southland

Baton Rouge Given This Title by Monitor Representative, Who Is Delighted With Southern Hospitality—Visits Sociological Congress at Gulfport, Miss.—Turns Northward.

ALEXANDRIA AND SHREVEPORT

Former Omaha Minister Now the Pastor of a Large and Flourishing Congregation in Louisiana Town.

BY FRED C. WILLIAMS

Baton Rouge, La., July 14, 1918.—Monday of this week found me still plugging the old city of New Orleans. There are so many interesting things about this old town that one cannot visit them all in a day.

Summer in New Orleans is exceptionally attractive. The city is clothed in all the verdant grandeur of the tropic; palms, palmetto and drooping cypress line its streets and avenues, and its numerous front yards and neutral grounds of its many miles of double lined boulevards are one mass of bright and beautifully colored flowers, including the sweet scented magnolia, cape jasmine, tube rose and Japanese wisteria, which fill the atmosphere with the perfume that reminds one of the "Nectar of the Gods."

Sociological Congress.

Wednesday I ran to Gulfport, Miss., where the Mississippi State Sociological congress was in session. The features were the address by Bishop Theodore D. Bratton of the Episcopal church and president of the congress, on "The Mission of the Southern Sociological Congress," in which he said: "Our mission is plain. We have but one duty to perform; service to our fellow man, through which all men rise to one level, that of equality."

The other was the address of Mr. Geo. E. Haynes of the National Labor Council, who spoke on "Improvement of Living Conditions of Labor as a Necessity for Efficiency." He scored many points, demonstrating the necessity of the acquisition "of more faith in one another and in each other's projects by both of the races." And also that the black man wished to be the brother of the white man, only as brother in industry, brother in agriculture, brother in democracy; brother in war, without being his brother-in-law.

Home of Billy Kersands.

Left Gulfport and picked up my itinerary north. My first stop being Donaldsonville, La., the former home of the one time famous minstrel, Billy Kersands. I was now in the heart of "sugar land," the cane fields lining the tracks on either side, and extending back along the bayous for many miles.

Plaquemines the place of my next visit is situated at the head of a number of connecting bayous which give an outlet to the overflow of the waters of the Mississippi river to the Gulf of Mexico.

Baton Rouge Prosperous.

Baton Rouge, the capital of this famous state from which point I am writing, bears an air of refinement and culture. Strange to say its population of thirty thousand is composed of 50 per cent Negroes, who in a large number are wealthy, residing in every part of the city, in beautiful, well appointed homes. The courtesy extended to The Monitor and its representative was so cordial and hospitable, that Baton Rouge will always be cherished as one of the most chivalrous of the Chesterfields of the southland.

Leaving Baton Rouge behind I took a fast train on the L. R. N. By the way, this road is causing the federal authorities to do some serious thinking. Mr. Eatonbourn, the sole owner and operator of this line is "in dutch" with the federal authorities, being charged with making seditious remarks. As to whether they will discontinue the operation of the road or confiscate it is the question.

I was soon in Alexandria, a thriving little city in the rich cotton and lumber section of Louisiana. Here is located Camp Beauregard, which at present has only 200 of the race draftees, but the call of August 5 is to bring 2,000 of our boys to this camp. The many business and professional men, as well as prominent citizens of the race, are making big preparations for the reception for these boys.

Alexandria is proud of her new high school, a new brick building with all conveniences, erected at a cost of \$30,000.

My next stop was Mansfield, in the western part of the state, in the rich oil fields. Here we find our race controlling the mercantile business, and also engaged in the oil and real estate business.

At Holly I spent half a day investigating a community farming proposition of which I will tell in a special article.

Friday afternoon found me at Shreveport, the second city of Louisiana, and here in the hurry and bustle of this busy railroad and commercial center I plugged up and down Texas avenue meeting old friends and making new ones, and always pushing The Monitor, which always makes a good impression whenever given a fair hearing. I spent Sunday here visiting the churches among them the Antioch Baptist church, pastored by the Rev. Dr. James Bingaman, formerly of Omaha, who warmly welcomed me and after a brief eulogy presented me to his large congregation to whom I in turn presented The Monitor which was warmly received.

Nurses Convention to Meet In Louisville

This Strong and Efficient Organization Expects to Hold Epoch-Marking Meeting—Will Discuss Professional Matters and Take Action Demanding Employment in Army.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 25.—Colored nurses in Washington are preparing to go to Louisville in numbers to attend the convention of the National Association of Colored Nurses August 21-24.

While they are going there to discuss matters relating to the ordinary everyday work of their profession, they are also going to see what combined action may accomplish in breaking down what they believe is a color line in keeping 2,000 professional nurses from rendering service to the army.

The association's membership is strong in New York and Washington. Miss Jane A. Delano, who is organizing the members of the association into a Red Cross section, is the Washington representative of the association. Miss Lena Machale, superintendent of nurses at the Freedmen's hospital, and her assistant, Miss Emma May Erwin are prominent workers for the recognition of the association by the government.

"Miss Machale and I were among the nurses who called on Surgeon General Gorgas on May 27 and asked him for his real reason for denying our nurses' service," Miss Erwin says. "He stated it was lack of housing facilities. From this I gathered that some one had expressed objections to our being housed with white nurses. Neither he nor any one else can make the claim successfully that we are not as competent as any other nurses, no matter what their color. The general told us he was personally desirous of utilizing our services. We shall not be ignored much longer. Anyway, Miss Delano is registering nurses for army service, and at the convention we shall not only voice our sentiments, but we shall do our best to bring pressure to bear that will make further excuses out of place."

MUSKOGEE PREACHER TO BE MADE CHAPLAIN

Muskogee, Okla.—The Rev. E. C. W. Cox, pastor of Spencer Chapel church (Negro Methodist), has been recommended by Bishop W. M. McDowell of Chicago, as chaplain in the army. He is the first local colored minister to be suggested for a position as chaplain of the army.

ERECTING APARTMENT HOUSE

Washington.—A company headed by John W. Lewis, president of the Industrial Savings bank, is erecting a \$100,000 apartment house here.

TO OUR READERS

We are glad The Monitor pleases you. It will also please your friends and neighbors. Show them your copy and get them to subscribe. Help us double our circulation this year by getting one of your friends or neighbors to subscribe.

TO OUR ADVERTISERS

We appreciate your patronage and are pleased to know that The Monitor is bringing you good results. It could hardly be otherwise, since our circulation reaches the best class of buyers in the world.