THE MONITOR

Petition Presented to Congress

Extension of Remarks of Hon. Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts, in the House of Representatives, Saturday, June 29, 1918.

(Congressional Record, June 29, 1918) Mr. Gillett. Mr. Speaker, under the leave granted to me to extend my remarks in the Record I include a petition to the house of the National Liberty Congress Colored Americans that has been sitting here this week. The petition is as follows:

PETITION.

To the House of Representatives of the United States of America: Honorable Speaker and Representatives, hear and receive, we pray, the petition of the National Liberty Congress, composed of delegates from ali sections of the country in behalf of all Colored Americans, those of African extraction, 12,000,000 strong,



LEE AVERETT

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and resort; yes, from such places

within government buildings. distinction, based solely on our race and color, in public carriers in onetrol of the federal government.

Third. We are the victims of caste family, their sisters, wives, mothers ulations are: and race prejudice in government from the lynching mob; military and naval schools and in of-

below deck. Fourth. We are the victims of the awful sacrifice from accomplish- pounds at one time. proscriptive discrimination, based on ing the war's moral purpose-democour race and color, in the executive ratizing of the nations of the world- pounds for each ninety meals served. departments of the federal govern- and that our own republic may not Less essential manufacturers may ment, refused employment in many be a part of the world not safe for have one-half the amount they used after appointment through the civil democracy;

service, segregated at work, in the We do now petition you, the constates, even in the election of federal world democracy; officials, in violation of the federal First. To abolish and forbid all trator or his representative after statutes and constitutions.

Sixth. We are the victims in many white men or murder by the mob. Inasmuch as our country is now pitals.

man of the allied nations which are by the federal government, resisting Germanic aggression having Fourth. To open the doors of all

ple everywhere, that we are embarked based on race or color. democracy" which, meaning rule of vious condition. all people, necessarily carries the pre-

privilege, which means autocracy.

respective of race or color are sub- courts, for in the words of Presiject to draft, or are drafted into fight- dent Wilson, "Democracy means, first

loyal citizens desiring liberty and the be weakened in moral position, pres- Declaration of Independence dreamed rights of democracy, we petition you tige and power by violations here of of for themselves and their fellow to hear our grievances, to wit, that- the noble pronouncements of its presi- countrymen shall be fulfilled to all First. We are the victims of civil dent;

proscription, solely because of race In order that the morale and esprit and color, in three-fourths of the de corps in this war, both of the sol- NEBRASKA HOUSEHOLDERS states and in the national capital dier and of the civilian part of an (federal territory), barred from places element of the American nearly oneof public accommodation, recreation, eighth, may not be weakened by the consciousness of the present denials

to it at home of those conditions and

In order that when this awful world this month for each person in their ficer schools with other citizens solely war is over and victory comes to the household. In cities and towns they on the basis of race and color, and entente allies, the condition of life of can buy only two pounds at a time, in the navy itself, except as to service 12,000,000 human beings in the United no matter how large the family. Cus-States of America may not prevent tomers living on farms may buy five

appointments of health and comfort. gress of the United States of Ameri-Fifth. We are the victims of po- ca, as an act of justice, of moral con- actually need. To get this sugar for litical proscription in one-third of the sistency, and to help win the war for canning they must secure a certifi-

gressional representation 'based on criminations based upon race or color disfranchisement and directly through in places of public accommodation. intimidation, trickery, or state recreation, and resort in federal build- rules," says A. C. Lau, deputy food

Second. To abolish and forbid all states, as a consequence of the fore- distinctions, segregations, and dis- tion." going civil and political prescriptions criminations based upon our race and of imposition, robbery, ravishing, mob color or upon prejudice of race or violence, murder, and massacre, be- color in the emoluments, the rating, cause of our race and color, denied the promotions, the placement of emprotection by police, of sheriffs; de- ployees in the facilities provided by nied trial by court or jury, rendered the government for eating, rest, recimpotent to protect our daughters, reating, health for government emwives or mothers from violation by ployees, or for others in federal government buildings or in federal hos-

engaged in the most gigantic war in Third. To abolish and forbid any recorded history, going to Europe to distinction, separation, or discriminafight, our President, Woodrow Wil- tion based on race or color in any son, now the moral leader and spokes- coach of any public carrier operated

officially declared that our country schools of the federal government has entered the fight for the pur- and all branches of the army and pose of democratizing the nations of navy to citizens on the same basis, the world and liberating the free peo- without distinction or discrimination

upon "an enterprise which is to re- Fifth. To exercise the mandatory lease the spirits of the world from powers of the thirteenth, fourteenth' bondage," that we are "fighting for and fifteenth articles of the federal the rights of those who submit to au- constitution, to the end that there thority to have a voice in their own shall be no involuntarily servitude, government," to "make the world at no denial of the equal protection of ast free" for "security for life and law, no denial of the exercise of sufliberty," to make the world safe for frage because of race, color, or pre-

sumption of the same public rights ing the protection of the federal govfor all without difference or distinc- ernment to all citizens of the United tion because of the accidents or race States of America at home by enactor creed, thereby not creating class ing that mob murders shall be a crime against the federal government," sub-Inasmuch as American citizens ir- ject to the jurisdiction of the federal

mankind." MUST EAT THIRD LESS SUGAR

Second. We are the victims of class ideals which they are sacrificing or the month of August is 4,153,000 are risking life to secure for others, pounds, one-third less than the amount with their soldiers witnessing the con- we received in July. This cut of onethird of the states, segregated even tinuance of indignities, oppressions, third means that Nebraska consumers when passengers in interstate trave and killing of their kin ere they leave must reduce their consumption oneand with the railroads under the con- for the battle front abroad, and with- third if everybody is to have sugar out assurance of protection to their throughout the month. The new reg-

ings and in federal territory.

Sixth. To pass legislation extend-

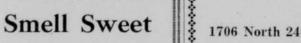
Gurdon W. Wattles, Administrator Nebraska's allotment of sugar for

Householders may buy two pounds Public eating places may buy two in the corresponding period last year. For canning and preserving purposes housewives may have what they

cate from the county food adminis-

the administrator. "There are no exceptions to these administrator, "and any report to the

contrary must be given no considera-

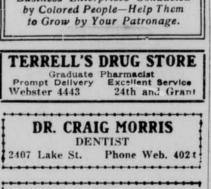


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