

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 all sections of the country in behalf of all Colored Americans, those of African extraction, 12,000,000 strong,

loyal citizens desiring liberty and the rights of democracy, we petition you to hear our grievances, to wit, that—
First. We are the victims of civil proscription, solely because of race and color, in three-fourths of the states and in the national capital (federal territory), barred from places of public accommodation, recreation, and resort; yes, from such places within government buildings.

Second. We are the victims of class distinction, based solely on our race and color, in public carriers in one-third of the states, segregated even when passengers in interstate travel and with the railroads under the control of the federal government.

Third. We are the victims of caste and race prejudice in government military and naval schools and in officer schools with other citizens, solely on the basis of race and color, and in the navy itself, except as to service below deck.

Fourth. We are the victims of proscriptive discrimination, based on our race and color, in the executive departments of the federal government, refused employment in many after appointment through the civil service, segregated at work, in the appointments of health and comfort.

Fifth. We are the victims of political proscription in one-third of the states, even in the election of federal officials, in violation of the federal constitution, both indirectly by congressional representation based on disfranchisement and directly through intimidation, trickery, or state statutes and constitutions.

Sixth. We are the victims in many states, as a consequence of the foregoing civil and political proscriptions of imposition, robbery, ravishing, mob violence, murder, and massacre, because of our race and color, denied protection by police, of sheriffs; denied trial by court or jury, rendered impotent to protect our daughters, wives or mothers from violation by white men or murder by the mob.

Inasmuch as our country is now engaged in the most gigantic war in recorded history, going to Europe to fight, our President, Woodrow Wilson, now the moral leader and spokesman of the allied nations which are resisting German aggression having officially declared that our country has entered the fight for the purpose of democratizing the nations of the world and liberating the free people everywhere, that we are embarked upon "an enterprise which is to release the spirits of the world from bondage," that we are "fighting for the rights of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own government," to "make the world at last free" for "security for life and liberty," to make the world safe for democracy which, meaning rule of all people, necessarily carries the presumption of the same public rights for all without difference or distinction because of the accidents or race or creed, thereby not creating class privilege, which means autocracy.

Inasmuch as American citizens irrespective of race or color are subject to draft, or are drafted into fighting, while all citizens regardless of race are expected to aid the government by moral support, by propaganda, by sacrifice at home to help the government, all of which our racial element is now doing with a loyalty unsurpassed by citizens of any race or color in every war, and, even now, under present treatment, morally greater than that of others because the only vicarious loyalty;

In order that our country may not

be weakened in moral position, prestige and power by violations here of the noble pronouncements of its president;

In order that the morale and esprit de corps in this war, both of the soldier and of the civilian part of an element of the American nearly one-eighth, may not be weakened by the consciousness of the present denials to it at home of those conditions and ideals which they are sacrificing or are risking life to secure for others, with their soldiers witnessing the continuance of indignities, oppressions, and killing of their kin ere they leave for the battle front abroad, and without assurance of protection to their family, their sisters, wives, mothers from the lynching mob;

In order that when this awful world war is over and victory comes to the entente allies, the condition of life of 12,000,000 human beings in the United States of America may not prevent the awful sacrifice from accomplishing the war's moral purpose—democratizing of the nations of the world—and that our own republic may not be a part of the world not safe for democracy;

We do now petition you, the congress of the United States of America, as an act of justice, of moral consistency, and to help win the war for world democracy;

First. To abolish and forbid all distinctions, segregations, and discriminations based upon race or color in places of public accommodation, recreation, and resort in federal buildings and in federal territory.

Second. To abolish and forbid all distinctions, segregations, and discriminations based upon our race and color or upon prejudice of race or color in the emoluments, the rating, the promotions, the placement of employees in the facilities provided by the government for eating, rest, recreating, health for government employees, or for others in federal government buildings or in federal hospitals.

Third. To abolish and forbid any distinction, separation, or discrimination based on race or color in any coach of any public carrier operated by the federal government.

Fourth. To open the doors of all schools of the federal government and all branches of the army and navy to citizens on the same basis, without distinction or discrimination based on race or color.

Fifth. To exercise the mandatory powers of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth articles of the federal constitution, to the end that there shall be no involuntarily servitude, no denial of the equal protection of law, no denial of the exercise of suffrage because of race, color, or previous condition.

Sixth. To pass legislation extending the protection of the federal government to all citizens of the United States of America at home by enacting that mob murders shall be a crime against the federal government, subject to the jurisdiction of the federal courts, for in the words of President Wilson, "Democracy means, first of all, that we can govern ourselves."

Herewith endeth the petition of the Colored Americans asking that the words of the president of the United States of America be applied to all at home:

"As July 4, 1776, was the dawn of democracy for this nation, let us on July 4, 1918, celebrate the birth of a new and greater spirit of democracy, by whose influence we hope and believe that what the signers of the

Declaration of Independence dreamed of for themselves and their fellow countrymen shall be fulfilled to all mankind."

NEBRASKA HOUSEHOLDERS MUST EAT THIRD LESS SUGAR

Gurdon W. Wattles, Administrator

Nebraska's allotment of sugar for the month of August is 4,153,000 pounds, one-third less than the amount we received in July. This cut of one-third means that Nebraska consumers must reduce their consumption one-third if everybody is to have sugar throughout the month. The new regulations are:

Householders may buy two pounds this month for each person in their household. In cities and towns they can buy only two pounds at a time, no matter how large the family. Customers living on farms may buy five pounds at one time.

Public eating places may buy two pounds for each ninety meals served. Less essential manufacturers may have one-half the amount they used in the corresponding period last year.

For canning and preserving purposes housewives may have what they actually need. To get this sugar for canning they must secure a certificate from the county food administrator or his representative after complying with the requirements of the administrator.

"There are no exceptions to these rules," says A. C. Lau, deputy food administrator, "and any report to the contrary must be given no consideration."

UNIFORM TAXI CO.

Calls Answered Day or Night.
Rates \$2.00 Per Hour. New 5-Passenger Car.
Office For
FIRST CLASS CLEANING AND PRESSING.
Neatly Done. Work Guaranteed.
LEE AVERETT
2414 North 24th St.
Tel. Office Web. 5220.
Res. Web. 2219.

1888 1918

St. Paul Normal & Industrial School

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA.
Thirty-first Session
Opens September 24, 1918
COURSES
Primary, Grammar School, Normal, Industrial
Graduates receive State High School Certificate, which will admit to Standard Normal Schools and Colleges.
Summer School for Teachers
Extensive Trade Courses
Enrollment 1917-1918, 496.
Athletic Training, Football, Baseball, Tennis, etc.
Full Course in Military Training
For Catalogue and Further Information address—
REV. JAS. S. RUSSELL, D. D.,
Principal,
Lawrenceville, Va.

The Kashmir Beauty Shop

FOR LADIES
We Also Make a Specialty of TREATING MEN'S SCALPS
220 S. 13th St., Upstairs
13th and Farnam.
JESSE HALE, MOSS, Manager
Douglas 7150.

Invest In Michigan Orchards

Fortunes in It. Easy Terms.
\$10 Down; \$7.50 a Month
SEE JESSE HALE MOSS,
13th and Farnam. Douglas 7150

HOLSUM AND KLEEN MAID

Why Buy Inferior When The Best COSTS NO MORE?
JAY BURNS BAKING CO.

Liberty Drug Co.

EVERYBODY'S DRUG STORE
B. Robinson, Manager
1904 No. 24th St.
Webster 386 Omaha, Neb.

Fifteen Days of Reckless and Ruthless Price Slaughter in Men's, Women's and Children's Wearing Apparel and All Kinds of Shoes.

Quick Action Prices

TO CLEAN UP ALL STOCK AT ONCE

A Few Items From an All Star Bargain Cast:

\$1.00 Value Ladies' Sport Hats in white, blue and Fancy, for.....	25c
\$2.00 Value Boys' Wash Suits	98c
\$20.00 Value Men's Wash Suits	\$9.95
\$1.50 Value Shirts on sale	98c
\$4.00 Value Men's Oxfords and Shoes	\$1.98
\$6.00 Value Boys' Suits	\$3.95
\$4.00 Value Ladies' Oxfords, Black and Tan	\$1.98
Special Men's Work Pants	\$1.98
\$3.00 Wash Skirts	\$1.65
25c Value Men's Sox	14c
\$3.00 Hats in Black, Brown and Pearl Gray	\$1.98
\$2.50 Value Ladies Slippers	\$1.00

J. HELPHAND CLOTHING CO.

314-316 North 16th Street

Smell Sweet

Anything in the line of Toilet Articles, Perfumes, Soaps, Face Powder; also Household Articles, Olive Oil, Extract, etc.
Mrs. E. Britton
AGENT
2114 Erskine St. Webster 2927

The Business World

Business Enterprises Conducted by Colored People—Help Them to Grow by Your Patronage.

TERRELL'S DRUG STORE

Graduate Pharmacist
Prompt Delivery Excellent Service
Webster 4443 24th and Grant

DR. CRAIG MORRIS

DENTIST
2407 Lake St. Phone Web. 4021

PATTON HOTEL AND CAFE

N. A. Patton, Proprietor
1014-1016-1018 South 11th St.
Telephone Douglas 4445
62 MODERN AND NEATLY FURNISHED ROOMS

Automobile and Open Horse Drawn Hearse Day and Night
JONES & CHILES
FUNERAL HOME
Lady Attendant
Calls answered promptly anywhere
Web. 1100 and Web. 204
Licensed Embalmer.

AUGUST ANDERSON

GROCERIES AND FRUITS
Good Goods—Fair Prices
Webster 2274 24th and Clark.

Res. Colfax 3831 Douglas 3181
AMOS P. SCRUGGS
Attorney-at-Law
3807 Camden Avenue.

Repairing and Storing
Orders Promptly Filled
NOETH SIDE SECOND-HAND STORE
Auction Every Saturday
R. B. Rhodes
Dealer in
New and Second Hand Furniture and Stoves.
Household Goods Bought and Sold
Rental and Real Estate
2532 Lake St. Webster 908

Annie Banks Cecill B. Wilkes
BANKS-WILKES
Funeral Directors and Embalmers
Lady Assistant Satisfaction Guaranteed
1914 Cuming Street
Res. Doug. 4379, Office Doug. 3718

Graduate of N. E. Conservator of Music, Boston, Mass.
Florentine F. Pinkston
Teacher of
Pianoforte, Harmony, Solfeggio
Webster 2814
Boston Studio
2214 No. 28th Ave. Omaha.

Thompson, Belden & Co.

The Fashion Center for Women
Established 1886

Warden Hotel

On Sixteenth Street at Cuming.
STEAM HEATED ROOMS—HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER—BATHS
By Day for One.....50c, 75c, \$1.00
By Day for Two.....\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50
By Week.....\$2.00 to \$4.50
BILLIARD PARLOR IN CONNECTION FOR GENTLEMEN WHO CARE
EASY WALKING DISTANCE TO HEART OF CITY
Douglas 6332. Charles H. Warden, Proprietor.
—BUY THRIFT STAMPS—

First Class Hand Laundry

FINISHED AND ROUGH DRIED
All Work Guaranteed
1706 North 24th St. Tel. Webster 1091 or 2712

Trade at the Washington Market

The Most Sanitary and Up-to-Date Market in the Middle West. Visit Our Branch at the McCrory 5c and 10c Store in the Basement.
Washington Market
1407 DOUGLAS STREET
Office Douglas 7812.

Dr. C. H. Singleton

DENTIST
Office Hours 9 to 12 A. M. 1 to 6 P. M.
109 S. Fourteenth St., Omaha, Nebraska

MORROW'S HAND LAUNDRY

First Class Work Guaranteed. First Class Colored Laundry.
CLOTHES CALLED FOR AND DELIVERED.
Webster 5322. 25th and Grant Streets.

MARSHALL & LEE

RELIABLE TAILORS
SUITS MADE TO ORDER FOR \$18.00 AND UP
Experts in the arts of repairing and remaking. Our dyeing and cleaning is unexcelled. Our assistant manager, Mr. Harold Bentley, who recently returned from Western University, is rendering his most efficient service in our shop.
Call Red 7306 103 So. 14th St., Omaha, Neb.

WESTERN INDEMNITY COMPANY

Incorporated
PROTECTION FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
This Company issues policy contracts from age six months to sixty-five years.
PROTECTION THAT PROTECTS
INSURANCE THAT INSURES THE INSURED
314 Baird Building, Omaha, Neb.
For further information call Douglas 1733.

WEBSTER 1412 2506 NORTH 24TH ST.
OSBORNE
West Side, 24th and Lake Sts.
Shirts, Men's Arrow Brand, \$3.00 value for.....\$1.98
Shoes, Men's Dark Brown, \$10.00 value for.....\$7.95
Women's Black K'd, High Top Shoes, \$8.50 value for.....\$6.50
Buster Brown Children's Shoes, all sizes.
Corsets, all sizes and styles, just arrived, Special Sale.
Women's Waists, special \$1.25. Boys' Wash Suits, sizes 2 to 6.....\$1.45
Men's Dress Pants, \$3.50 value for \$2.75 Men's Hosiery, pair.....25c
Millinery, Bungalow Aprons, Child's Wash Dresses, Hosiery, Notions.
25 PER CENT UNDER DOWNTOWN PRICES