

Growing,  
Thank You!

# THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

\$2.00 a Year. 5c a Copy

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, AUGUST 31, 1918

Vol. IV. (Whole No. 165)

Lifting  
Lift, Too!

## Places Matter Before Secretary of Navy

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Makes Protest to Secretary Daniels Against Discrimination on Account of Color in Department.

### CLEVER CASES OF CAMOUFLAGE

Common Custom Prevalent in Some Departments to Advise Applicants Summoned to Report That There Are No Vacancies.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its secretary, John R. Shillady, makes public a letter addressed to Hon. Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy, in which the Association directs the attention of Secretary Daniels to the case of two young Colored women, graduates of the high and normal schools at Washington for employment in response to a recent press item in the Washington papers in which it was stated that women between the ages of 18 and 35 years, possessing high school education and good health, were wanted for immediate service, and were told by the department that no Colored people could be enrolled. The Association asks whether it is the intention of the navy department, when offering opportunity to women for service in the department, to exclude from such service Colored women who may be able to meet the requirements for the positions offered, and says that while it would feel bound to protest against the restriction of employment in the navy department to white women, it would suggest that, if Colored people are to be excluded from employment offered, public announcements so stating be made.

In making public this letter to Secretary Daniels, the Association says that it is a common practice in the departments at Washington, when Colored people apply for positions to which they have been certified, for them to be informed that there are no vacancies. The Association says that its Washington branch is practically deluged with complaints of this character. The most recent one coming to national headquarters at New York is the case of a young Colored woman who on August 13 received from the treasury department an official notification that her name had been certified to one of the bureaus of the treasury by the civil service commission for a temporary position as clerk and requesting that she call at the bureau at her earliest convenience. Reporting in less than an hour after receiving this notice, the applicant was told that there were no vacancies. The young woman in question alleges that this is the second time she has been treated in the same manner.

"In view of the great need for workers in all the governmental departments to help win the war," said Mr. Shillady, the association's secretary, "the Association wonders how the great majority of the general public, not addicted to color prejudice, will regard the continued denial of opportunities to serve the government merely because the applicants happen to have dark instead of white skins."

### DINING CAR WAITERS ESSENTIAL. RULES BOARD

St. Louis, August 29.—Waiters in Pullman dining cars are not non-essential, although waiters in restaurants, cafes and lunchrooms must seek other employment or join the colors. This order was received by the District Appeals Board August 15, and a decision in one case was reversed.

The only case of a Pullman waiter to go before the District Appeals Board in St. Louis was that of James P. Hurst, 1724 Pendleton avenue. He was ordered to seek essential work but his case was reversed when the order was received.

### 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.

## NATIONAL RACE CONGRESS TO MEET AT WASHINGTON

Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—An anti-lynching session of the National Race Congress of America will be held in this city beginning October 1st and ending on the third. The organization proposes to endorse the bill that is now before congress to make lynching a federal crime. All phases of race interest will be discussed by men who have made a special study of the same.



Aline Bentley  
Crowned Queen of Carnival 1918.

## Urges National Equal Rights

President Gunner Appeals to Colored Americans to Assemble at Chicago in September to Deliberate on Organization by Colored Americans to Get World Democracy.

Hillburn, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1918. Dear Fellow Colored Americans: The National Liberty Congress which recently convened in the city of Washington, fully accomplished its avowed aim and object, viz: "To press the just claims of Colored American citizens to share in the world democracy, and to take positive measures to secure from the government guarantee of the abolition of discrimination and of all caste discriminations, civil and political."

Expressed in plain uncompromising English, our just grievances were brought squarely before the house of representatives, and before the American people, by said Liberty Congress, and were made a prominent and permanent part of the Congressional Record. (June 29, 1918.)

It seems providentially fortunate therefore, that this noteworthy achievement on the part of the Liberty Congress is to be so soon followed by the Eleventh Annual Convention of the National Equal Rights League, to be held in September, in the city of Chicago.

Our league is to convene in one of the most wide-awake political and social centers in the United States and during a most critical period in the world's conflict. From this important center we shall urge our people to remain loyal to our country and to the cause of humanity. We mean to stand by Old Glory to the death; we intend also to contend to the death, if need be, for an equal share in that same democracy for which so many thousands of brave Colored Americans are cheerfully pouring out their life's blood. To secure these blessings to ourselves we must organize quickly those who are proscribed seeking to combat proscription.

Therefore, let us get together for organization as a race to enforce our claims to world democracy. Every church, civic, educational, fraternal, political and business organizations among our people, without regard to sect, sex or party, are invited to be represented in the Chicago convention by one, two or several delegates to deliberate on the organizing of our race for self-defense. An special appeal is made for the quick formation of equal rights and democracy leagues or committees for the purpose of sending delegates to this national convention for race organization for liberty.

Let every community join this Colored Liberty Organizing Drive. Let us as a race get ready to enforce our claim to World Democracy as an issue of this world war.

Yours for democracy now,  
BYRON GUNNER,  
Pres. Nat'l Equal Rights League.

## Government Must Stop Discrimination

Deplorable Case of Miss Tucker a Sample of the Treatment Accorded Applicants for Positions for Which They Have Qualified.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Miss A. Tucker, one of the efficient teachers in the Colored public schools of this city, was twice turned down for appointment to a clerical position here last week in the government departments because she was Colored. On being certified to the federal trades commission for appointment by the civil service commission, that department wrote her to come to Washington to take a position. After going to the expense of railroad travel to Washington, on presenting herself, and it was discovered she was Colored, she was refused the appointment. The following day, she was told by the federal trades commission that she had also been certified, wired her to come to report for duty at Washington, August 1, at \$1,000 per annum, for "permanent" appointment. Again she returned to Washington, only to be brutally advised by division chiefs that they would not take her because she was Colored. Miss Tucker returned to her home in Baltimore in such a highly nervous state because of the injustice she had encountered that she had to take to her bed. She is a prepossessing young woman, and one who had made a high average in her civil service examination.

### GENERAL PERSHING COMMENDS COLORED SOLDIERS

Personal Letter to Y. M. C. A. Secretary in France Tells Its Own Story.

American Expeditionary Forces, Office of the Commander in Chief, June 27, 1918. Mr. William Stevens, Care Y. M. C. A., A. P. O. 701.

Dear Sir: In reply to your recent letter I wish to assure you that I place the greatest confidence in the patriotism and devotion of our Colored soldiers, and their splendid work both in the front line and in the service of supply. It also gives me pleasure to inform you that they have made a fine impression on our allies by their soldierly bearing and exemplary conduct. Yours very truly,

(Signed), John J. Pershing, General U. S. Army.

### OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR TO INVESTIGATE DEWEY MOB

Dewey, Okla., Aug. 23.—Gov. Williams of Oklahoma has been appealed to by citizens of both races throughout the state to order a rigid investigation into the conduct of white residents of the state who composed the mob that set fire to twenty-one homes occupied by our people in this city when N. Widlow, a barber, was sought by police for beatings his wife. The mob, after having captured Widlow, aroused to a frenzy, set out to destroy the settlement of our people here. Torches were applied to every house in town and the sky was soon ablaze. Several thousand people stood idly by and watched women and children dash from the burning dwellings. The governor has promised to investigate.

The action of the mob rendered many good citizens homeless and destroyed thousands of dollars worth of property for which the county and state exact taxes. A personal letter from A. J. Smitherman, editor of the Tulsa Star, has been made public.

### OFFICERS PLEASED WITH SOLDIERS

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 29.—Officers in charge of the Colored organizations at Camp Zachary Taylor report that to a man the Colored soldiers have rallied to their duties and the morale in the Colored units is very high. The officers state that their soldiers are continually in the best of spirits, and Son Leader Dawson has met with an overwhelming success in organizing mass singing among the Negroes.

The Y. M. C. A. has become the center of the gatherings at night. These buildings for the soldiers are always filled to their capacity. Schools have been started for the purpose of teaching uneducated Negro soldiers. Some who could not read or write when they came to the local camp are now able to write home.

## Speaks Twenty-Seven Languages

An Abyssinian, Reputed Relative of King Menelek, Private Soldier at Camp Upton, Surprises Authorities With His Polylingual Proficiency.

Camp Upton, N. Y., Aug. 30.—Among the naturalizations in the soldier court here August 23 was Count Ben Ossa De Kelscritta; a Colored private, born in Abyssinia, who claims blood relationship with the late King Menelek.

He has been a citizen of Italy, being born in that section of Abyssinia known as Italian Samoliland. A slight regret at losing his title of count was the only thing that marred acceptance of American citizenship.

Kelscritta speaks twenty-seven languages fluently and his knowledge was tested by naturalization interpreters in English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Polish, Italian, the Scandinavian languages, Hindu and several Indian dialects, Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, Turkish, the Balkan tongues and various dialects. He studied for rabbinical orders at one time and his knowledge of Hebrew is almost perfect. Milwaukee is his home. In view of his qualifications, the Negro Jew will probably be used in the intelligence service.

### HOW "OUR BOYS" ARE IDENTIFIED

Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—The war department authorizes publication of the following order from general headquarters, American Expeditionary Forces:

Two aluminum identification tags, each the size of a silver half dollar and of suitable thickness, will be worn by each officer and soldier of the American forces and by all civilians attached thereto. These tags will be worn suspended from the neck and underneath the clothing, by a cord or thong passed through a small hole in the tag, the second tag to be suspended from the first one by a short piece of string or tape.

In case of officers the tags will be stamped with the name rank, regiment, corps, or department of the wearer and the letters "U. S." either in such form as "U. S. Infantry," "U. S. Air service," "U. S. Tank Corps," or simply the letters "U. S. A." when an officer is not a member of an organization, corps, or department.

In the case of soldiers, the tags will be stamped with the soldier's name and his army serial number on the other side. The stamping on tags previously issued will be altered as practicable to conform with this order.

This is an added means of identification.

### WITNESSED FIVE GREAT WARS; DIES AT AGE OF 147 YEARS

New York, Aug. 23.—Declaring that he was born in 1771, William Mason, who lived for years in the basement at 183 West One Hundred and Thirty fourth street, died last Thursday in Bellevue Hospital at the age of 147 years. His only companion during his last years of life was a big St. Bernard dog, and neighbors claimed that the animal possessed almost human intellect. According to Mason, who up to a few weeks ago made his rounds on crutches and did street-corner preaching, he had been through five great wars.

### ENLARGE CAMP DODGE TO ACCOMMODATE 60,000

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 30.—Rumors, which appear from their sources to have originated in authentic quarters, are that an entire division of Colored troops and a division of white soldiers are to be trained at Camp Dodge this winter. It is reported that the camp is to be enlarged to accommodate the 60,000 men this would bring to Des Moines. More than 10,000 Colored men, enough to form an entire infantry brigade, now are at Camp Dodge.

### THREE U. S. VESSELS SUNK; SOME OF CREWS MISSING

Washington, D. C.—Sinking of three American vessels by foreign submarines has been announced by the navy department. The steamer Lake Edon, an army chartered cargo transport, was sunk on August 21; the U. S. S. Westbridge, 8,800 tons, on August 16; and the U. S. S. Cubore, 7,300 tons, on August 15.

## FORMER OMAHAN RECEIVES HONOR APPOINTMENT

Washington, D. C., Aug. 29.—Mr. Walter J. Singleton, who has been connected with the Bureau of Insular Affairs, War Department, for twenty years, has been designated to inspect and superintend the shipment of all currency made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Treasury Department, for the Philippine Government. This is a distinction won wholly by merit. Mr. Singleton is rated as one of the most efficient and painstaking officials in the federal service and is a potent factor in many fields of civic endeavor in addition to his labors for the general government.

Mr. Singleton is a brother of M. F. Singleton of Omaha, and was appointed to the war department from Omaha when Geo. D. Meiklejohn of Nebraska was assistant secretary of war.

## Letters From Our Boys In France

The Monitor will be very pleased to publish letters or extracts from letters from our boys who are "Some-where in France." Let us have them. The letters published in last week's issue were eagerly read and appreciated and The Monitor was called up by several and thanked for publishing them.

Here is a letter written under date of July 28th by Andrew T. Reed to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reed of Sixteenth and Dorcas streets. Among other things, it shows how our boys "over there" are thinking of home.

My Dear Mother and Father:

No doubt you will be glad to hear from me after such a lapse of time, but the fact is I have never gotten settled. As you see by the beginning of my letter, I am not with Headquarters Troop any more. I received my commission the 19th of July, but it was dated June 1st. I was assigned to "K" Co, 368th Infantry, which was at Camp Meade, Maryland before they came to France. I left the Troop this morning and arrived at my new company this afternoon. The officers all seem to be very nice at first sight. Clyde Brannon is in "M" company, which is just across the way from me. He is looking fine and sends his best regards to you. I hope I will succeed in my new field. There is not much that I can say to you. I suppose you have received my cards and other letters a long time ago. I have only received one letter from you as yet and it was one addressed to Camp Funston. Of course, it takes a long time for a letter to get here. I hope mamma and papa are both well and getting along fine. It won't be long, I hope, before I again see the good old U. S. A. and home. I am in the best of health. I have a ring made out of a piece of aluminum and a piece of silk off of a German Zeppelin that was shot down where I am stationed. I suppose you eagerly look at the papers every evening for the news "over here." How is little old Omaha at this time? I suppose it is hot as the dickens there. Give my love to all inquiring friends and tell them I am trying to go as high as they will let me go. I think of home as much as I can under the conditions. Well, I guess Dannie is barking and wants to know what is in this letter. I suppose I must close as there is not much that I can say only pray for me and be good and keep well until I return. As ever I close, hoping you will write every week. Much love and a billion kisses. As ever, Your loving son, ANDREW.



Lieutenant Andrew T. Reed

Address, Andrew Thomas Reed, 2nd Lieutenant Infantry N. A., Co. "K," 368th Infantry, 92nd Division, Camp Funston, Kan.

## Eighty-Selects Leav Tomorrow

Program Will be Given at Court House at Half Past Eight O'Clock; Headed by Band March to Depot.

### CAMP LEWIS IS DESTINATION

The Rev. W. F. Botts, Pastor of Zion Baptist Church, and Mayor Smith Will Deliver Addresses. Roster of Fourth Contingent.

Sunday morning at 9:45 Omaha's fourth contingent of Colored draftees will leave from the Union Station for one of the nation's great training camps. Eighty-one men will leave for Camp Lewis, Washington, this being the first contingent to be sent to the west from the city. The first two contingents went to Camp Funston and the third to Camp Pike, Ark.

Today the men will be the guests at dinner of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. The program for Sunday morning is as follows:

Court House, 8:30 sharp, "The Star Spangled Banner," by the Band.

Address by the Rev. W. F. Botts. Music, Old Soldiers Quartette.

Address by Mayor Smith. "America," sung by audience, led by band.

Instructions by marshal.

At nine o'clock sharp the march to the station will start in the following order:

Platoon of police.

Band.

Delegation Chamber of Commerce. Colored Red Cross.

White Red Cross.

Selectmen in order of draft boards, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Organizations.

Citizens. Citizens generally are requested to march.

Farewells must be said at the Court House, because for the purpose of safety, the people are not permitted to go through the gates to the train. Details of soldiers are on guard to keep the crowds back. The people are requested to march four abreast in orderly manner and not to crowd promiscuously or in a straggling way in the streets. The citizens generally should turn out carrying small American flags. It adds to the appearance also to decorate automobiles with the national colors.

### The Selects Who Leave Tomorrow.

This is the list of our boys who start for Berlin tomorrow by the way of Camp Lewis:

Will Jackson, Bennie Collier, Lesh Neely, Marion Ekans, John Llewellyn Campbell, Frank Williams, Leroy C. Broomfield, Paul Muldrew, Clarence A. Brooks, Milo Yancy, Richard Joyner, Enoch E. Bryce, R. J. Carter, Homer Collins, Lucius Prater, Lewis Hatten, William Carter, Charles M. Wiley, Clark Rye, Arthur Jones, Geo. Wilson, Cyrus A. Boyd, Arthur Causby, Jesse M. Shields, Oliver Napue, Sam Reeves, Charles Davis, Walter Cagle, James Gibson, Julius Bass, Robert King, Henry Scott, Jr., John Stoneham, Arthur Bradley, George Benson, Will Miner, Lennie Crawford, Alfred Green, Vern Mitchell, Herbert R. Parks, King Pinkston, Thomas Knight, Charles Tatum, Otho Patton, Elliott H. Falling, Arthur R. Watson, Charles Howard, David A. Green, Harry Hanger, Thomas Richardson, Allen Martin, Archie Smith, Walter Byers, Richard Harris, Richard E. Johnson, Lloyd Allen, Thomas Roulette, Christopher Cochran, Louis Hibbs, Hozeal Cottrell, Benjamin F. Kirkpatrick, Carl Woodson, Ben Harrison. King David Smith, Richard Dailey, Silas Lipscombe, Albert Johnson, Philip Mitchell, Amos J. McCann, Robert Johnson, John B. Webb, Wilson Alston, and William Perkins.

### MAJOR DAVIS MADE LIEUT.

COLONEL OF NINTH CAVALRY Philippine Islands, Aug. 29.—Major Ollie B. Davis, for a number of years a member of the Ninth Cavalry, now stationed at Camp Stotsenburg, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

### 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.