

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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BEGIN TO HANG LYNCHERS

SIX more Colored soldiers have now been hung for participation in the Houston riot. We cannot, however, forget that not one soldier nor civilian received similar punishment for participation in the East St. Louis massacre, which preceded the Houston tragedy and was in a measure contributory to it.

The president reviewed the evidence in the case of the condemned men and reaffirmed the finding of the court martial, confirming the death penalty for the six, which has now been inflicted and commuting the sentences of ten to life imprisonment. He suggested that this commutation was a gracious largess for the loyalty and patriotism of our race. He found extenuating circumstances in the case of the ten, but not in that of the six, because they had "deliberately, wantonly and with great cruelty murdered civilians."

If the evidence disclosed this, the president undoubtedly stands on firm ground. We are very glad, as we have said before, that in the reviewing of the evidence it was found that there was, as we felt there must be, some difference in the degree of the guilt of the accused. We were, however, under the impression that these men were tried originally not for "the murder of civilians," although they were guilty of that, but for the violation of the 53d article of war, in the disobedience of their superior officers and for rioting and mutiny. We did not know that the other charge entered into the case at all.

The question that arises in our minds from President Wilson's reason for clemency in the case of the ten, and withholding it in the case of the six is this: Upon which charge were the men originally tried—for violation of the 53d article of war or for the killing of civilians?

If found guilty, under either charge, the men brought upon themselves the death penalty and only executive clemency could deliver them from it. If they were tried and found guilty under one charge, we cannot quite see how any other charge, upon which they were not tried, had anything to do either with extenuating or aggravating the guilt of the accused.

However, be that as it may, we are glad that there has been executive clemency in the case of the ten. We hope now with the paying of the death penalty by the last six full expiation upon the part of black American soldiers has been made for their part in the crime of Houston. Concerning those who goaded them on unto this desperate extremity and insane folly and thus far have gone unwhipped of justice, we have naught to say. Discipline in the army must be maintained. Law must be respected. Those who violate the law merit and should receive punishment. Those who love their country and would have her rise to greatness cannot condone lawlessness in soldier or civilian, in black or white.

Surely we have had enough hanging of our soldiers for that deplorable Houston tragedy. It is time the authorities federal, if those of the offending states will not, turned their attention to the hanging of lynchees. Can there not be found some way to reach and punish lynchers who violate our country's laws and are guilty of murder with the same kind of justice that has been meted out to these soldiers?

METHODIST CONFERENCE INDICATES PROGRESS

THE Kansas Methodist conference which closed its sessions here last Sunday night demonstrated the progress which our people are making in things spiritual, which after all are the things which count most, as well as in things temporal.

Bishop Parks presided over this representative body numbering more than a hundred delegates, clerical and lay, with dignity and fairness. Business was intelligently and rapidly dispatched. There was a general absence of the disposition so prevalent in all legislative and deliberative bodies for a few tiresome "regular speakers" to monopolize the floor and "speechify" on every question presented. There was also noted the absence of the delegate with the love of "rizin' to a pint of order." The speeches made, were in the main, terse, direct and forcible. The reports from committees were specific and in good form.

At the religious services the ser-

The Remedy For The Menace

BY FRED C. WILLIAMS

MY previous article describing conditions of law and order in the southland under the caption of The Menace, was descriptive of the general trend of thought among the numerous, yet poorer classes, of the white race. Occupying the position as officer of the law or deputy, he grew to dislike work, thinking it only fit for animals and Negroes. He therefore looked with suspicion upon any law or proposed law that tended to force the idle to work. He even felt that he was greater than the law and reaching that point of imagined superiority, he was defiant of all real law. He misused his power and therefore misapplied the purposes of the law, until this menace has grown beyond the bounds of control of even the upper classes, who have been recognized as the powers that be. The upper classes, finding their position of control threatened, have looked about for a means by which to readjust this unlawful condition of things. I willingly come to their rescue with this simple suggestion as a remedy to this great menace. First, to take the police power out of the hands of the illiterate and ignorant classes by federalizing it and placing it directly under the direction of the secret service division of the department of justice.

This method of the governmental control of police authority is in force in Canada and not only are the innocent let alone, but the really guilty are actually punished.

Secondly, by disarming all police officials acting in any capacity and making the authority of the law the sole power of intimidation.

Thirdly, by doing away with the small justice courts, which are in reality merely kangaroo courts presided over by prejudiced and illiterate magistrates, and have all trivial crimes and misdemeanors tried in municipal courts under judges duly elected by popular vote because of their legal knowledge and standing.

Fourthly, by appointing to the federalized police forces members of both races, who have arrived at the age of thirty-five or over. The attitude of these persons toward their fellow man should be made the basis of their appointments.

Fifthly, to give the ballot box back into the hands of both races and both sexes, and I say both sexes for the reason that woman would be fair and impartial in the matter of preserving those rights guaranteed by the constitution.

Terrors start speculating in Teuton real estate and chickenery, it's all over but the shouting. But Austria fell down. When her dove of peace came hobbling up to the ally camp, one whack at her papier mache head showed up Old Kaiser Bill, whiskers and all. The only way for Bill to get a benediction is to blow off the top of his bean before somebody blows it off for him. But back to Metz. Its days are numbered just as are the days of the bullet out in the chicken yard who is showing such a great degree of edibility. After Metz, through to Berlin. That's the cry that is giving Bill a chronic case of Jim jams.

THE PASSING OF A FRIEND

WORD has sped throughout the length and breadth of this nation that Archbishop Ireland is dying. Sad indeed are these words as they come to the Colored race, who have never found a stauncher and more trusted friend than this Roman Catholic prelate. He has been our friend at all seasons and has never been afraid to champion our cause in every case when a champion was needed. He might have gone through life and never have said a friendly word for our race and have been a great man just the same, but he was the friend of the oppressed. In his own city of St. Paul the citizens can tell you a thousand stories of his kindness and beneficence and under the very dome of the capital at Washington he has spoken out against the wrongs and illegalities practiced upon our race here in America.

May death deal with him gently and when the call comes to him out of the unknown and unguessed void, we know that he will be ready to go with a smile and trustfulness. When the great Mass is said that shall command his soul to the care of the Almighty, there shall ascend with its incense the blessing of twelve millions of blacks for whom he has tried to do so much.

WELCOME TO PASTORS

The Monitor bids cordial welcome to the Rev. William C. Williams of St. John's A. M. E. church and the Rev. J. A. Broadnax of Allen Chapel, South Side, who have been returned to their pastorates in this city by their conference. We wish them every success in their ministerial labors and call upon the people of their faith to rally to their assistance and hold up their hands that they may successfully carry on the work entrusted to them.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

Metz

Metz, the headliner in the papers which is the objective of the Yanks, isn't Metz kegged beer, but a town in Alsace-Lorraine that thinks it has Gibraltar beat all hollow when it comes to untakability. Metz has more breast works about it than a German has belly and it will take several hours to make an impression upon them, but there happens to be a guest at the party now whom the Germans didn't invite and who wouldn't stop at anything short of the yawning chasm of chaos that is opening up for the boches.

The reason the Yanks get tampering with the Metz hardware and stone work is to get a pathway into the Rhine valley so that the way to Berlin will be lined with flowers, Kaiser Bill, up-to-date, has been rather satisfied with himself that all the scrapping has been done off German soil, but when the Yanks put Metz out of commission he will have an attack of acute pain that will be midway between appendicitis and pleurisy. That's one reason why Kaiser Bill is siccing Austria onto the allies to sound them out on what they think about peace. He knows when Unk Sam's Khaki

Obvious Observations

Bishop Parks told the Colored preachers at the conference that this is an age of intelligence and unless a candidate for the ministry brings along plenty of it, his name is Dennis. That's the best thing we've heard in many moons, Bishop. Say it again.

Omaha newspapers evidently think that our city commission can stand any degree of knocking. Why not get a sledge hammer, brothers, and strike one good blow from which there will be no recovery?

Why shouldn't policemen have more money? Of course they can lift a peach or an apple from a fruit stand now and then, but peaches and apples don't keep up their muscular corporosity. It takes beans and bacon to do that and these come just as high for a policeman as for a pick juggler.

What the heck does an automobile need with a devil horn when a speed nut never uses it? Is it just there for an ornament?

Kaiser Bill is being pounded upon so many regions of his anatomy just now that he doesn't know where to spend the linament.

The Metz brewing people ought to be able to give us some dope on how to dispose of the city over there. One thing is a cinch; if the city is anything like the beer, there won't be much left of it when the Yanks get through.

Who said Omaha was a dry town? That collection of whisky bottles found outside the court house doesn't sound like Camelville by Sahara.

If the boches thought the British couldn't fight, it will be a long time before anybody will dare to tell one of them anything different.

Thanking you for your kind attention, we will now give the muny ice plant the grand go by and give the coal man some hot air about next payday.

Save Now for the 4th Liberty Loan Sept. 28th to Oct. 21st Buy a Bond and Keep it

ATCHISON, KANSAS

W. A. Covington, Agent

Dr. G. G. Brown of Wichita was in the city Thursday to attend the funeral of his brother-in-law, A. A. Davis.

Mrs. Effa Potter of Kansas City, Mrs. Hazel Williams of St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. Samuel Trueheart of Omaha are here at the bedside of their sister, Mrs. Emma Dysert, who is very sick.

Rev. Felix Pillows preached at St. Paul's Baptist church Sunday evening.

Rev. Charles Bratten, who will leave in a few days for Macon (Mo.) Theological college, to resume his studies. He preached at Port Williams Sunday to a good audience.

Albert Moten and E. P. Hoy, privates at Camp Funston, were in the city Sunday.

The Monitor now is \$2 per year, or \$1 for six months, in advance. Your time will expire October, 1918. Come and renew your subscription and learn what our boys are doing at home and abroad.

Earl Marshall went to St. Joseph Sunday to visit his mother, who is sick.

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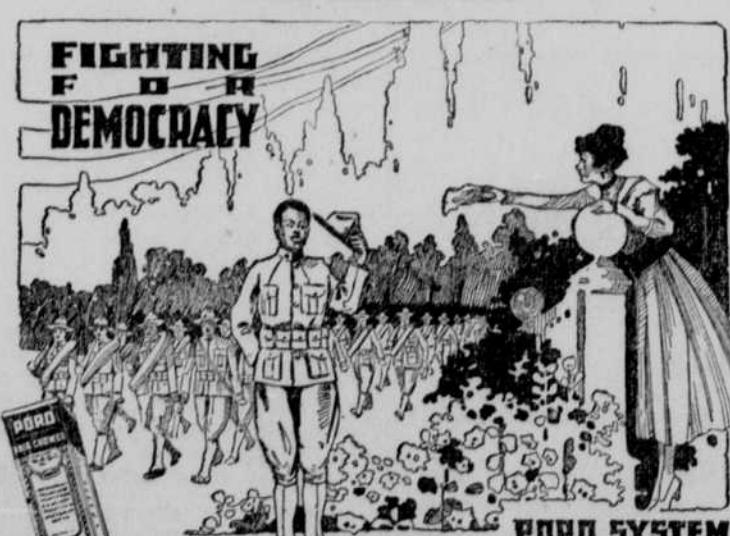
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