



—By Courtesy of the World-Herald.

### New Poetry Surrounds Dan Desdunes' Boys

Greenleaf and Bloodhart, funny men of the World-Herald, pay tribute to famous local Colored band:

Music  
Hath charms  
To soothe the savage breast,  
Even ours  
And that is why  
We have so long  
Been ardent pluggers  
For Dan Desdunes  
And his motely array  
Of rollicking jazzists  
Who prance our streets  
In nearly every  
Parade  
And block the traffic  
With the gang  
That follows 'em  
But it was only recently  
That we realized  
The real caliber  
Of this curly wolf  
Desdunes  
And we take  
This occasion  
To do him homage  
And to hurl wads  
Of sweet-smelling nosebags  
In his direction  
And to strew his path  
With our encomiums  
And other vegetables,  
For in peering  
Over the war map  
The other evening  
We discovered  
That Dan has a fort  
Named after him  
On the English channel  
In France  
Which is probably the reason  
Why he snorts  
These patriotic airs  
So grandferously  
Fort Desdunes  
France  
Must be some village  
And we hope  
To move there  
After the Kaiser  
Croaks.

### The Colored American In War Work

Issued From the Office of Emmett J. Scott, Special Assistant to the Secretary of War.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 24.—There are now fifty chaplains in the United States army.

The September call for selective draftees, issued by Provost Marshal General Crowder, included 29,016 Colored men.

In the total of 1,900,000 American troops sent overseas, a goodly proportion may be accredited to the Negro race. This total was given by the war department officials at a recent hearing before the house committee on military affairs.

Many press reports, commenting on the American army in France, intimate that the Germans have a wholesome fear of Colored troops in action. General Pershing is lavish in his praise of the Colored soldiers and has testified officially that they show marvelous coolness under shell fire, and an entire regiment, as well as individual Colored soldiers has been cited for decorations of honor.

Preliminary to the recent session of the National Baptist convention at St. Louis, a patriotic meeting was held at the Coliseum, in the course of which 10,000 enthusiastic Colored people proclaimed their loyalty to the United States. A long parade, a chorus of 300 voices and a program of stirring addresses and songs, featured the celebration. The general theme of the orators embodied a review of the part which the American Negro is playing in the destiny of the nation from the time that slavery was first introduced, through the civil and Spanish-American wars, into the present conflict.

Detroit, Michigan, has opened a well-appointed club house for Colored soldiers at 282 St. Antoine street. Mrs. E. D. Trowbridge is chairman of the committee in charge. Roscoe S. Douglas, of the Detroit Urban League, is general director.

At a recent meeting of the California Federation of Colored Women's Clubs at Los Angeles, the governor of the state delivered an address that stirred the audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm. The governor was escorted to the platform by William Edgar Easton, the well-known journalist, orator and literature author of "Dessalines," etc., and member of the speakers' committee of 100 for California.

#### DRESSMAKING SCHOOL

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#### (Advertisement) IMPORTANT

During these times of high prices it should behoove every family to seek the prices that will best suit their pocketbooks. You cannot do that without investigating the prices and goods of the various business firms. During these war times the cheapest goods are almost too high for the poor man to reach, and for that reason the big business firms are curtailing their expenses and so co-ordinating and systematizing their operation that they can sell their goods at the lowest possible margin.

It is, therefore, in keeping with this theory that the Obee-Hunter company, undertakers and embalmers, have purchased their own auto livery. They purchased a black and grey hearse, one closed and one five-passenger touring car. The same can be inspected at their garage, which is adjoining their undertaking parlors at Twenty-fourth and Hamilton streets.

Their object was to handle only the livery business through the Colored undertakers. They offered them their livery cheaper than they were getting it from the other fellow. They were of the opinion that the Colored undertakers would readily give them their livery business, because they were all Colored and should work together in order to give their people the benefit of lower prices and at the same time open up a new field of employment for them. But, with the exception of Mr. Russell, the other Colored undertakers could not see it that way, so the firm has determined not to let their cars stand idle.

There has been so much just complaint on the part of our ladies about the rough and uncouth manner in which they have been handled by the white drivers is another reason why the Obee-Hunter company thought that the other Colored undertakers would be glad to patronize a race firm. But not so with them.

How they can ask Colored people to patronize them because they are Colored, and THEY themselves will not patronize a Colored man, is hard to see.

Mr. Obee endeavored to combine the undertaking firms in order to cut out two of them and thereby lower the overhead or running expenses of all, which would have finally resulted in lowering the cost to the public; but they were afraid that Obee was convincing to put them out of business. Mr. Obee pointed out the various men that he had been in partnership with and had done business with and for, and asked them to inquire of these people as to his business honesty and integrity. He told them that he was in the grocery business with Rev. W. F. Botts; in partnership with Mr. George Watson, jr., several years; was in partnership with Messrs. John Dickerson, J. G. Jewell, George Watson & Phannix in buying and building the Mecca. He was president of the company and largely handled all the business end of the firm. He invites

YOU to inquire of these people anything you wish to know about him.

Mr. Obee offers this explanation to all strangers: that the people who knock his business, as a rule, are the ones he has defeated in politics or people who owe him.

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