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Oiling Hair, soft, and Beauty Preparations
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NET WT. 2 OZ.
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A Very Interesting Letter From France

Furnished to The Monitor by the Famous Colored Journalist Bruce Grit—Shows Up the Pernicious Activity of White Americans Over There.

IN a letter from the front bearing date Aug. 18th, I take the following paragraphs: "Well, in reference to news, I hardly know where to begin, as it is quite difficult to write in order that the censor will let it pass. Any way, I'll try and say a few minor things which might be of interest. Since last you heard from me I have moved to another vicinity. We are now in one of the most picturesque spots in Europe, an altitude of 10,000 feet above sea level, which is a somewhat level plane surrounded by mirror-like lakes and in the background we have a continuous chain of mountains much higher than where we are located. From the top of the highest peak one is able to see a distance of 50 or 60 miles into surrounding countries. The forests are loaded with all kinds of fruits, grapes, English walnuts, pecans, buckeyes, walnuts, chestnuts and an abundance of blackberries. I have really seen several places where the old Crusaders once slept. A month ago I say and slept in Napoleon's old barrack. We were aroused from our slumber by one of those centimeter guns at 5 a. m., which shoots three times in succession and at a distance of 18 to 20 miles and noise that follows the projectiles sounds like an express train rumbling through the air. This is what one has to contend with on the firing line. Not only the shells of the enemy but the shells of our heavy artillery in back of us shooting over our heads.

Southern of our southern crackers have tried all manner of ways to introduce the American brand of race prejudice over here but their efforts have not been countenanced. It is forbidden among soldiers, and the word "Nigger" is a court martial offense if reported to proper authorities, but few have been reported, for as soon as the epithet is applied to a Negro soldier by a white soldier, a face is smashed and a couple of teeth swallowed.

Conditions in America are going to change in reference to the Negro after this war. They may be better or they may be worse. All depends on the Negro over here and those over in America, for after suffering as we have over here, and fearing not death when we know we are liable to go at any time, we will not fear death in America, since we can die but once. You see just as many Negro soldiers here as white, and they are doing everything that white soldiers are doing. You will soon read of the valor of black soldiers in Europe, and what one American daily (The Herald) refuses to publish to his credit, will ultimately be printed for the whole world to read, as we have plenty of educated and observant men of our own color in action who are taking notes and can give full details of everything. I have a great quantity of actual facts concerning the American Negro soldiers in France packed away in my ivory, and if God spares me, I hope to picture both sides of the burden of the black man. I wish I could write with more freedom and tell you the war news, but the censorship will not permit it. Some of our white southern captains who are our leaders and whom we are fighting for, and for whom many a black soldier has given his life, have told the French people that we, the blacks are degenerates, low bred, illiterate slaves who have been brought over here by force to fight for our freedom, that the white people of America do not associate with us and that French women should not notice us. I have earned enough French since coming here, by having a knowledge of Latin and Spanish, to learn this from the best class of the French, and have been in the company of several French officers, one a major, a druggist in the French army, who have commented on this slander.

The blacks over here are constantly refuting by their comportment in public and private, by their efficiency in every branch of the service, this monstrous and malicious libel. In every little village the French marvel at the knowledge which these "black slaves of America" are displaying and cannot understand how slaves can have intelligence enough to be radio bodies, wireless operators, doctors, druggists, typists, machinists, electrical engineers, auto mechanics, captains, lieutenants, colonels, etc. A French countess said to me "that the slaves could do anything the blanche (white) Americans could do; how is it possible for slaves to do these things?" I wish I could tell you some things. But we fight faithfully to the end and as long as the black slaves can grasp the old standard—the Stars and Stripes—it shall never trail in the dust, and if left to them they will carry it into German territory and defend it with their lives.

Yours sincerely,
K. H.
On active service with the A. E. F.,
Somewhere in France.

I have given over my space for this letter because it contains items of interest which should be generally known. The microbe of race prejudice is not only biting hard in America just now, but in Europe, where black and white Americans are fighting for democracy. The latter's interpretation of democracy does not mean what black mean understand it to mean. White men seem to want the Negro to help them win the victory, but do not want them to share in its benefits equally. Is this democracy? I am very suspicious about this thing called democracy of which we are hearing so much fine oratory these days from gentlemen gifted with eloquence and endowed with perfected imaginations. It sounds good but I am one of those obtuse mortals who refuse to believe that it will have practical application in this land of the free and the home of the brave until the human nature of the dominant race in this country has undergone a thorough metamorphosis, and this won't happen in this century or the next.

BOB SCANLON MET SOLDIER'S DEATH

New York, Nov. 16.—J. E. Sandford in an admirable article for the magazine section of the Sunday newspapers entitled, "Daredevil Americans of the Foreign Legion," after depicting the heroic parts played by Americans from all walks of life in that branch of the allied armies, has this to say of a Colored man who enlisted in the Foreign Legion:

"Bob Scanlon, a Philadelphia Negro pugilist, was among the first of the Legionnaires to gain the trenches. Scanlon had been one of the most undisciplined soldiers that ever donned a uniform. Stories are still told of his appearance on review dressed only in cuffs and hat, and of his snatching a big beam instead of a musket when his company was suddenly called to arms in the night. His very irresponsibility seemed to make him more popular with his commanding officers. "Scanlon's scheme came when the Legionnaires rushed up the slope and into the first trench. A big German with a bayonet-tipped rifle was directly in front of him, trying to stay the attack. Jumping over two dead Germans Scanlon made for him and knocked the rifle from his hands. The Marquis of Queensbury would like to have seen the next minute's happenings, as the Teuton measured his length on the floor of the trench below. Scanlon was too conspicuous to survive long. An automatic revolver laid him low; but he had had his wish for a fist-to-fist fight."

Scanlon, besides being a topnotcher among the pugilists, was an aviator of no mean ability, having created a sensation in London by flying quite a distance in a machine of his own construction and landing in an embankment safe and sound, though his machine was demolished.

He also astounded the nurses and physicians in a London hospital, where he had gone to have one of his fingers amputated so that he might be accepted by the Foreign Legion, by refusing to take an anesthetic and calmly looking on, joking the while with the surgeons during the operation.

ST. PAUL SCHOOL GETS \$10,000

Lawrenceville, Va., Nov. 15.—In the will of the late Miss Mary Benson (white), 214 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, N. Y., who died October 10, there was left to the St. Paul Normal and Industrial school of this city, founded by Archdeacon James S. Russell, the sum of \$10,000.

LODGE DIRECTORY

F. and A. A. York Rite, St. Luke's Lodge, No. 14, will meet the first and third Monday nights in the Knights of Pythias hall, Twenty-fourth and Charles streets. All members take notice. W. H. Payne, N. G.; R. L. Woodard, P. S., 4912 South Twenty-sixth street. South 4459.

Gate City Lodge, No. 6674, G. U. O. of O. F., meets the first and third Monday of each month at Peterson's hall, Twentieth and Burdette streets. W. H. Payne, N. G.; R. L. Woodard, P. S., 4912 South Twenty-sixth street. South 4459.

Omaha Lodge, No. 146, A. F. and A. M., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursdays of every month. Lodge room, 2251 Cuming street. P. H. Jenkins, W. M.; W. H. Robinson, secretary.

Keystone Lodge, No. 4, K. of P., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursdays of each month. H. A. Huzzard, C. C.; J. H. Glover, K. of R. and S.

Weeping Willow Lodge, No. 9596, G. U. O. of O. F., meets second and fourth Thursdays of each month at U. B. F. hall, Twenty-fourth and Charles streets. R. S. Gaskins, N. G.; T. H. Gaskins, P. S.

International Order, No. 631, Colored Engineers and Portable Hoisting Engineers meets at 2225 1/2 Lake street first and third Wednesdays in each month. W. H. T. Ransom, president; J. H. Handly, corresponding secretary; J. H. Moss, recording secretary; S. L. Bush, treasurer.

Faithful Lodge, No. 259, U. B. F., meets second and fourth Fridays in each month at Rescue hall. Visiting brethren welcome. Earl Jones, W. M.; James Tubbs, W. S.

Lodge rooms at Twenty-fourth and Charles streets vacant two nights each week. Persons wanting to rent same call Allen Jones, rental agent, Webster 1100.



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