

**"THE NEGRO AND THE SOUTH AFTER THE WAR"**

(Continued from Page 1)

which lasted several days, an active counter-propaganda, through the Committee on Public Information, was prepared, articles were written denying statements of this character, and, as a net result, the President issued a statement on Friday, July 22, 1918, deprecating and denouncing mob action, and that is about the last that was heard of the German propaganda among the Negroes."

I have particular pleasure in bringing this testimony to your attention because of the fact that the Conference referred to was composed of some fifty leaders of Negro thought and opinion; it was called under the auspices of the War Department and the Committee on Public Information. I am glad to have had the honor of presiding at the conference referred to.

The fear that now seems to prevail in the South over the Negro's homecoming after the war is, in my opinion, equally without foundation. This is the Negro's natural home and here the masses of the race will continue to reside, it is to be hoped, for many years, in peace and profitable industry. The Negro soldiers will soon be returning to their native land—the only land they have ever known, in defense of which they have been willing to give their lives in time of war, and in the reconstruction of which they are eager to give their best energies in time of peace. Thousands of them volunteered for military and naval service regardless of the Selective Service Law, and they will return no less anxious to perform their full duties as citizens and to live in peace with their fellowmen, asking in return only the full protection of the law of their land—the guarantee of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The returning Negro soldier will not be the foul wretch from which to shrink in terror, or a plague from which to flee in fear, as some seem to think. He will return both by physically and mentally benefited by reason of his military training and experience during the Great World War and, naturally, he will return to the Southland and other sections with a broader vision and appreciation of American citizenship, as well as with new ideas of what Liberty and Freedom (not license) really mean. He has clearly shown his eager willingness to discharge the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship, and it is devoutly hoped that fair-minded Americans in all parts of the country will calmly and justly recognize the fact that he is, therefore, entitled to all of the rights and privileges which the laws of our country offer to all other classes of our common citizenship.

Primarily the Negro is the means by which the people of the Golden Southland are nourished and strengthened through his diligent efforts to coax out of the ground life-sustaining food products. According to the last official census, Negro farmers in the South numbered 893,370, constituting 14 per cent of the total number of farmers of all classes in the country as a whole, while in point of population the Negro race constituted but 10.7 per cent of the total population of the United States.

The Negro is the greatest labor factor in the South. His loyalty and patriotism remain unquestioned. A race composed of such people cannot be other than an asset. It is true that here and there the undesirable and criminal abound, as in all races you will find them, but the sane, law-abiding, industrious Negro is legion, and millions of them have justly earned the respect of their various communities.

**Unfounded Fear Concerning Return of Negro Soldiers.**

Have no fears that when these soldiers to whom I have referred return from the war, having aided in their country's triumph, that they will, overnight, as it were, become a menace to public peace and order. The Negro soldier will return a better citizen because he has learned the value of discipline. He has improved in health and has a knowledge of what to avoid, and what to do in order to maintain and stimulate a healthy mind and body. It may be safely assumed that his heretofore abnormal high sick and death rate will be lowered, and this, incidentally, will mean much for our southern communities.

It would be most unfortunate, indeed, if threatened conditions in the South, which have been repeatedly referred to and rightly discouraged by southern editors and many of the leading white and Colored citizens of this section, should make the returning Negro soldiers feel that he cannot return to his former home in safety, thereby keeping out of the South a large element which heretofore has contributed to the upbuilding of the industrial North.

To a vast majority of Negro soldiers, as well as civilians, the word "morale" has taken on a new significance and hundreds of thousands of them have cheerfully responded to military discipline and other rigorous requirements and restrictions made necessary by the war, and have demonstrated the fact that the thoughtful mind, the conservative voice and pen, the industrious hand, the patriotic dollar, as well as the effective gun and bayonet, can all be utilized as vitally important factors in the winning of a great war.

**Lynching Should Be Stamped Out.**

The Negro soldier's conduct overseas has won for him the commendation and gratitude of the greatest governments on the face of the earth and, as homeward he turns his face, his resolve for better citizenship is even more firmly fixed. He will not, I am sure, seek to jeopardize or impair the honor and fame his race has won in this war by any thoughtless or unmanly word or deed. On the contrary, he will be anxious to renew and strengthen the friendly relations that he left behind, confident that a spirit of justice abides in the land to which he is returning. Rightly required to be law-abiding himself, he confidently expects that law and order will prevail, that lynchings and all forms of mob violence, which have driven so many of his race from the South, will be stamped out by duly constituted authority and that every man, regardless of color, who has fought or served under the Starry Banner or who has been loyal to that emblem of liberty and justice, will be granted that recognition to which all true Americans are entitled. Nearly 400,000 gallant Black soldiers, "fruit and flower of the Negro race," have helped to make the world safe for Freedom and Democracy; many of them have fought, bled and died that their country's ideals might triumph. If, in the hour of her travail and danger, the Negro has neither faltered nor failed in pledging his life, his labor, his money, his ALL, in defense of his country's safety and honor, surely he will not be denied fair treatment and the recompense accorded other soldiers because of his valuable services and unswerving patriotism. The Negro asks the full protection of the law, to be left unhindered and unhampered in his industrial and commercial pursuits, to be given a fair deal and full opportunity to educate his children, and to work out his own destiny—being loyal to his family, to

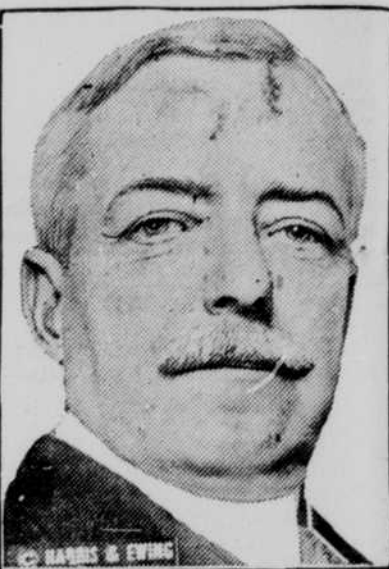
his community, to his country and to his God!

**The Negro Entitled to the Product of His Patriotism.**

Despite all else, the Negro loves the South. He knows no North, no East, no West, as he knows no South. Here in largest numbers he was born; here, in the sacred soil of the Sunny Southland, his parents and relatives lie buried; here, in southern fields and amid exceptional business opportunities, he has made the most amazing progress; and here he wishes to remain in peace, in friendly and helpful relations with his fellowmen! He was willing to make any sacrifice that the highest principles of civilization might triumph and he has emerged, like all others, I trust, chastened by the rigors of self-sacrifice and the horrors of war; these same principles of civilization and humanity should be applied to him impartially, for certainly he is entitled to the product of his own patriotism. He asks no more, and no equally helpful and loyal race could expect less. And today, as the world eagerly awaits those decisions and understandings which shall be finally reached and agreed upon at the Peace Table; while there sit in counsel at Versailles those who in large measure control the future destiny of millions of mankind, the Negro still toils on in faith and hope that America, his native land, will see to it that he is included in that new covenant which shall guarantee justice and fairness without regard to caste or creed, and which shall vouchsafe freedom of opportunity to all of the lowly and oppressed races and groups of people on the face of the earth!

The South need have no fear about the returning Negro soldier; his return is not in a hostile spirit, but one of friendly helpfulness. Justly proud of the record his race has made as courageous, self-sacrificing soldiers and as equally courageous and self-sacrificing civilians, he is coming back home and the only thing he asks for is a man's treatment and a man's chance! Let us all, therefore, bravely and calmly face the new conditions occasioned by the trend of the great times in which we live.

**SECRETARY LANSING**



Next to the president in the American peace delegation comes Secretary of State Robert Lansing.

Our voluntary food-saving not only saved the Allies and made vital contribution to the winning of the war, but saved to ourselves in administration expenses the outlay out of our own pockets that any effective system of rationing would have extracted. It would have cost us about \$45,000,000 to have policed ourselves as against the 2 cents per capita for co-operating.

By saving and sharing America kept the world together during the war crisis. By saving and sharing America will help to bring the healing of nations.

**U. S. HEALTH SERVICE ISSUES WARNING**

**Increase in All Respiratory Diseases After the Influenza Epidemic Probable.**

**Influenza Expected to Lurk for Months. How to Guard Against Pneumonia. Common Colds Highly Catching—Importance of Suitable Clothing—Could Save 100,000 Lives.**

Washington, D. C.—With the subsidence of the epidemic of influenza the attention of health officers is directed to pneumonia, bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory system which regularly cause a large number of deaths, especially during the winter season. According to Rupert Blue, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, these diseases will be especially prevalent this winter unless the people are particularly careful to obey health instructions.

"The present epidemic," said Surgeon General Blue, "has taught by bitter experience how readily a condition beginning apparently as a slight cold may go on to pneumonia and death. Although the worst of the epidemic is over, there will continue to be a large number of scattered cases, many of them mild and unrecognized, which will be danger spots to be guarded against." The Surgeon General likened the present situation to that after a great fire, saying, "No fire chief who understands his business stops playing the hose on the charred debris as soon as the flames and visible fire have disappeared. On the contrary, he continues the water for hours and even days, for he knows that there is danger of the fire rekindling from smoldering embers."

"Then you fear another outbreak of influenza?" he was asked. "Not necessarily another large epidemic," said the Surgeon General, "but unless the people learn to realize the seriousness of the danger they will be compelled to pay a heavy death toll from pneumonia and other respiratory diseases.

**Common Colds Highly Catching.**

"It is encouraging to observe that people are beginning to learn that ordinary coughs and colds are highly catching and are spread from person to person by means of droplets of germ laden mucus. Such droplets are sprayed into the air when careless or ignorant people cough or sneeze without covering their mouth and nose. It is also good to know that people have learned something about the value of fresh air. In summer, when people are largely out of doors, the respiratory diseases (coughs, colds, pneumonia, etc.) are infrequent; in the fall, as people begin to remain indoors, the respiratory diseases increase; in the winter, when people are prone to stay in badly ventilated, overheated rooms, the respiratory diseases become very prevalent.

**Suitable Clothing Important.**

"Still another factor in the production of colds, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases is carelessness or ignorance of the people regarding suitable clothing during the seasons when the weather suddenly changes, sitting in warm rooms too heavily dressed or, what is even more common, especially among women, dressing so lightly that windows are kept closed in order to be comfortably warm. This is a very injurious practice.

**Could Save 100,000 Lives.**

"I believe we could easily save one hundred thousand lives annually in the United States if all the people would adopt the system of fresh air living followed, for example, in tuberculosis sanatoria. There is nothing mysterious about it—no specific medicine, no vaccine. The important thing is right living, good food and plenty of fresh air.

**Droplet Infection Explained in Pictures.**

"The Bureau of Public Health, Treasury Department, has just issued a striking poster drawn by Berryman, the well-known Washington cartoonist. The poster exemplifies the modern method of health education. A few years ago, under similar circumstances, the health authorities would have issued an official dry but scientifically accurate bulletin teaching the role of droplet infection in the spread of respiratory diseases. The only ones who would have understood the bulletin would have been those who already knew all about the subject. The man in the street, the plain citizen and the many millions who toil for their living would have had no time and no desire to wade through the technical phraseology."



COLDS, INFLUENZA, PNEUMONIA, AND TUBERCULOSIS ARE SPREAD THIS WAY

Copies of this poster can be obtained free of charge by writing to the Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

**A Classified Directory of Omaha's Colored Professional and Business firms**

Web. 875  
J. HALL Prop.  
**Progressive Tailor**  
1614 N. 24th St.

**South & Thompson's Cafe**  
2418 North 24th St. Webster 4566  
SPECIAL SUNDAY DINNER  
Stewed chicken with dumplings, 40c  
Roast Prime Beef au Jus, 40c  
Roast Pork, Apple Sauce, 40c  
Roast Domestic Goose, dressing 50c  
Early June Peas Mashed Potatoes  
Salad  
Coffee Dessert  
We Serve Mexican Chile

**Mmes. South & Johnson**  
Scientific Scalp Specialists  
Sole Manufacturers of  
MAGIC HAIR GROWER AND  
MAGIC STRAIGHTENING OIL  
We teach the Art of Hair Dressing, Shampooing, Facial Massage, Manicuring, Scalp Treatment and the Making of Hair goods.  
Hair Grower, per box 50c.  
Straightening Oil, per box 35c  
FOR APPOINT CALL WEB. 889.  
2416 Blondo St., Omaha, Neb.

**J. H. HOLMES**  
TAILOR  
All work Guaranteed. Ladies' and Gents' Suits Remodeled, Cleaned, Pressed and Repaired. New Hoffman Press.  
2022 N. 24th St. Web. 3320

**E. A. Williamson**  
DRUGGIST  
Competent and Reliable  
2306 North 24th St.  
Webster 4443.

Office Phone Residence  
Douglas 2842 Web. 5519

**G. B. Robbins**  
NOTARY PUBLIC, REAL ESTATE, INSURANCE  
Office Room 20 Patterson Bldg., 1623 Farnam St. OMAHA, - - NEB.

Telephone Webster 248  
**Silas Johnson**  
Western Funeral Home  
2518 Lake St.  
The Place for Quality and Service  
PRICES REASONABLE.  
Licensed Embalmer in Attendance  
Lady Attendant if Desired.  
MUSIC FURNISHED FREE.

**THE DOUGLAS-WASHINGTON INVESTMENT COMPANY**

BONDS, INVESTMENTS, RENTALS AND FARM LANDS  
Cash for Your Liberty Bonds  
List Your Property With Us  
ALL BUSINESS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
Phone Webster 4206 1413 North 24th St.

**TOP NOTCH CAFE**

24th and Hamilton Sts.  
Under new management. Week days, 8 a. m. to 11 p. m. Sunday, breakfast 9 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. Dinner, 1 p. m. to 8 p. m. Short orders, 9 a. m. to 11 p. m.  
Mrs. Ioma Banks and Miss Mary Anne Logan, Props.

**A. F. PEOPLES**  
Painting  
Paperhanging and Decorating  
Estimates Furnished Free. All Work Guaranteed.  
4827 Erskine Street.  
Phone Walnut 2111.

**J. H. Russell & Co.**  
UNDERTAKERS  
Successors to Banks & Wilks  
1914 Cuming Street  
GEORGE MILLER, Embalmer  
Day Phone, Red 3203  
Night, Call Douglas 3718

**Ware's Candy Kitchen and Ice Cream Parlor**  
Fresh home made Candies of all kinds made daily.  
Ice Cream, per quart, 50c; per gallon, \$2.00.  
Orders delivered promptly.  
1508 North 24th.

Automobile and Open Horse Drawn Hearse Day and Night  
**Allen Jones & Co.**  
FUNERAL HOME  
Lady Attendant  
Calls answered promptly anywhere  
Web 1100 and Web. 204  
Licensed Embalmer.

**Arbor Garage**  
Fire proof block with steam heat. Repairing and storing. Will accommodate 50 cars day and night. Connection taxi service. Business at 2506-08 South 32d Avenue. Tel. Harney 3371, Omaha.

**C. R. Boyd**  
Colored Prop.  
Funeral and Wedding Taxi by Hour or Trip  
Service Day and Night

**North Side Taxi**  
J. D. LEWIS, Prop.  
Stand Phone Web. 1490.  
When not at stand please call Res. Web. 949.  
NEW CLOSED CAR.  
Stand 2414 N. 25th St., Omaha.

**R. H. ROBBINS & CO.**  
Groceries and Meats

An Up-to-date Store

**Now Open** at 1411 No. 24th St. Near Hamilton

Come in and see us—we know you will give us your trade

Prompt Delivery Phone Webster 241