

GROWING,
THANK YOU!

THE MONITOR

LIFTING.
LIFT, TOO!

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, MARCH 1, 1919

Vol. IV. No. 190

Amazing Achievements in Fifty Years

Ohio Congressman Marshalls a Great Array of Facts Which Reveal the Marvelous Story of Race's Advancement During Its Brief Period of Comparative Freedom.

SOME SURPRISING STATISTICS

Given in Lincoln Day Speech in the House of Representatives by the Hon. Henry I. Emerson From the Twenty-second Congressional District, Cleveland, Ohio—Future Holds in Store Greater Accomplishments.

(Special to The Monitor by Walter J. Singleton, Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—An address of more than passing interest was delivered in the House of Representatives on Lincoln's birthday anniversary by Congressman Emerson of Ohio. It is of special value to the country at this time, as it forces the attention of the public upon an array of facts which show the remarkable progress made by the race in the United States during the brief period of freedom. Statistics are not generally interesting. These as a revelation of astonishing racial progress will prove an exception to the rule. Congressman Emerson said:

On this, the 12th day of February, the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, it is very interesting to consider for a few moments the progress of the Colored people in this country who feel greatly indebted to him for his efforts in securing for them freedom and opportunity.

On September 22, 1862, President Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation wherein he stated that on January 1, 1863, all persons held as slaves within certain states were to be free. The close of the Civil War found the Colored man free—not only free, but he was invested with all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

How he has progressed since that time is now a matter of history, reduced to figures and facts, and it is well for us to consider them, bearing in mind that the civilization and progress and accomplishments of this race have taken place in the last half of a century.

In 1915 the races of the world were in about the following proportions: Yellow, 703,000,000; white, 560,000,000; Colored, 258,000,000.

To give an idea of the great increase in the efficiency of the Colored race, I desire to submit the following figures:

Homes owned, 1866, 12,000; 1916, 600,000.

Farms operated, 1866, 20,000; 1916, 981,000.

Business conducted, 1866, 2,100; 1916, 45,000.

Wealth accumulated, 1866, \$20,000,000; 1916, \$1,000,000,000.

Now let us turn to educational statistics:

Percentage literate, 1866, 10 per cent; 1916, 75 per cent.

College and normal schools, 1866, 15; 1916, 500.

Teachers in public schools, 1866, 600; 1916, 36,900.

Students in public schools, 1866, 100,000; 1916, 1,736,000.

Property for higher education, 1866, \$60,000; 1916, \$21,500,000.

Expenditures for education, 1866, \$700,000; 1916, \$14,600,000.

The religious progress of the Colored race has been wonderful, but here are the figures:

Number of churches, 1866, 700; 1916, 42,000.

Number of communicants, 1866, 600,000; 1916, 4,570,000.

Number of Sunday schools, 1866, 1,000; 1916, 43,000.

Number of Sunday school pupils, 1866, 50,000; 1916, 2,400,000.

Value of church property, 1866, \$1,500,000; 1916, \$76,000,000.

In 1914, in the state of Georgia, Colored citizens made returns upon \$38,603,307 worth of property and owned 1,592,555 acres of land.

In North Carolina Colored citizens made returns upon \$32,197,890 worth of property.

In Virginia Colored people owned 1,674,823 acres of land and had \$37,851,973 worth of real and personal property.

In 1900 Colored people were interested in 51 banks and insurance companies and held policies to the amount of \$25,800,000.

Colored people have interested themselves in playgrounds for children, social improvement, Negro uplift, civic improvement and health improvement.

They have won prizes in raising corn, pigs, cotton, potatoes and other vegetables.

They have noted preachers, inventors, teachers, sculptors, actors, artists, singers, composers and musicians.

The Colored man in the wars of the United States has always shown himself loyal, patriotic and ready to fight—never flinching from duty.

The blood of Colored men has been shed upon every battle field from the Boston massacre to the time of the signing of the armistice last November.

Crispus Attucks, a Colored man, was the first to fall in the Boston massacre, March 5, 1770.

Samuel Lawrence led a company of Colored soldiers at Bunker Hill.

Peter Salem fired the shot that killed Major Pitcairn.

The Black Legion in 1779 covered themselves with glory at the siege of Savannah.

Over 3,000 served in the Revolutionary War and fought for independence of this Nation.

In the present world war thousands of Colored soldiers went over the top for freedom and democracy.

Over 33 Colored people have received Carnegie medals, 3 graduated from West Point, and they have a lower percentage of crime than many foreign races that come to this country.

What the Colored man needs is education and an equal opportunity. Education is the only safeguard for free institutions, and if this opportunity is given the Colored race what will he do in the next 50 years?

Lynchings are a form of anarchy, whether the person lynched is black, white or yellow. They should be discouraged by all the means and all the power at the government command. If one crowd of people can lynch one person, whether he is innocent or guilty, one never knows who will be the victim of the next lynching.

I am in favor of giving every man, black or white, an even opportunity to work out his own salvation.

Equal opportunity is the essence of free government; without it a free government ceases to exist.

Every child in this country should be given an opportunity to obtain an education. It should be a part of the fundamental law of the land. Republics that have failed in the past have failed because the people were not all educated.

I desire to speak strongly for the education of the Colored people, for the care of their health, and the giving him an opportunity to work out his own future.

Many Colored pupils have graduated from public schools and colleges at the head of their class, and what one pupil has done many others can do and will do if given an opportunity.

In the city where I live—Cleveland, Ohio—there are Colored lawyers and doctors, who stand very high in their profession, and some of the most eloquent preachers I ever listened to. They are but the representatives of the future of the Colored citizens in the professions.

"There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it hardly behooves any of us to speak ill of the rest of us." That is a good policy.

In conclusion let me state that if a people can accomplish these things in 50 of the first years of their freedom, what will they accomplish in the second 50? Time alone can answer the question. (Applause.)

AFRICANS BECOMING STRIKINGLY DEMOCRATIC

Sierra Leone, West Africa.—(Special to The Monitor.)—In the annual report made by the governor to the colonial office at London, the following excerpt is taken and shows the trend of native affairs:

"The native institutions are strikingly democratic, and the spread of intellectual enlightenment and wealth among the lower orders of the population has a tendency to render them increasingly democratic in practice as well as in theory.

"Simultaneously the material conditions of life are undergoing a great change owing to the sudden acquisition of wealth by the inhabitants of the cocoa-producing districts."

COLORED LAWYER APPOINTED SPECIAL COUNSEL

Columbus, O., Feb. 27.—Attorney Robert B. Barcus, well known local Colored lawyer, has just been appointed special counsel in the office of the attorney general.



THE LAST BREATH OF WINTER

ROBERT CHURCH NEW SOUTHERN LEADER

Young Men to Play Prominent Part in Future Political Situation.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 27.—From all indications, the campaign for president in 1920 is now on and promises to be the most extensive ever carried on in the history of the nation. One of the real leaders to be reckoned with in the south, one of the younger men of wealth, education and aggressiveness is Robert R. Church of this city. Mr. Church is in the game of politics as a real profession, and because he believes he can serve the best interests of his race, he frankly admits that he aspires to be a real leader, not for selfish purposes, or for a mere job but to get advantages that are now denied the Negro.

Every returning soldier is coming home with a new vision and grim determination to get the justice he was promised when he was fighting and bleeding on the battlefields of France. There is no hesitation in saying that the "old time politicians" must step down and out for the soldier boys and the men of the younger generation.

"COHORT OF THE DAMNED" TO BE USED IN ALGERIA

Paris, France, Feb. 26.—It has recently been made known in Paris that the French war office intends to use the "Cohort of the Damned" in Algeria to police the desert and hold natives in check. It is assumed that one airplane will be worth more than a regiment of cavalry in protecting the provinces of the African wastes.

"The Cohort of the Damned" is composed of French aviators whose minds have been left more or less unbalanced by reason of their work in the recent war. They are virtually daredevils and wild men and are considered safer in Algeria than in the more civilized regions of France.

EUROPEAN EMIGRATION TO AFRICA INCREASING

London, Eng.—A recent census of the European population of Africa furnished the colonial office is as follows:

Cape Province, 380,771, an increase of 35,103 compared with 1911.

Natal, 120,465, an increase of 22,619.

Transvaal, 497,236, an increase of 77,352.

Orange Free State, 181,292, an increase of 6,469.

Total for the Union, including travelers, 1,418,060, an increase of 141,818 compared with 1911.

BLACK MEN REPRESENTED IN GREAT PICTURE

London, Eng.—(Special to The Monitor.)—The Royal Academy of London is holding an exhibition of nearly 400 paintings depicting Canada's part in the late war. Some of the most striking works are from the brush of Lieut. Wyndham Lewis and in a scene entitled, "A Gun Pit" the painter has included two black figures along with six others. The picture shows the manning and firing of a huge gun.

STRIKES AND GENERAL DISAFFECTION IN TRANSVAAL

Capetown, South Africa.—Mr. Moffat, chief magistrate of the Transkei territories, calls the attention of the government to the prevailing unrest among the natives. The gentleman states that the disposition of the local employers to discriminate against the natives in favor of the white laborers is the primary cause of the discontent. He also proposes the establishment of a dispute board, the withdrawal of the color bar provisions from the mining regulations and condemns certain native dwellings in Johannesburg in which the natives are forced to live.

"NO JIM CROW TRENCHES IN FRANCE"

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. —There is much discussion going on here in various newspapers concerning the proper treatment of Negroes. The daily newspapers are freer with their space on matters affecting the Negro than they have ever been before. Much of the writing is good, and there must be some beneficial results. The Philadelphia Public Ledger contained a long letter recently from R. F. Mintz, a private in the medical department, at Camp Humphrey, Va. The writer, "a southern soldier by both blood and birthright," as he proudly proclaims, really makes a serious effort to defend "jim crowism." His letter was inspired by an editorial in The Public Ledger entitled: "No Jim Crow Trenches in France."

MAY NAME PARK AFTER LATE LIBERIAN MINISTER

St. Louis.—A movement is on foot here to name the public park being constructed opposite the Negro high school in honor of J. Milton Turner, late minister of Liberia.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Columbia, S. C.—Negroes of South Carolina are working for the formation of a new political party to be known as the Union Republican party, which proposes to affiliate with any "political organization that will give us the rights to which we are entitled." Bishop Chappelle is a leading figure in the movement.

FIGHTING SCHOOL SEGREGATION

Topeka, Kas.—A big fight is on in the Kansas legislature where a bill has been introduced to establish segregated schools in cities and towns of the second class. The Negroes of Kansas are bitterly opposed to the measure as untimely and undemocratic and are fighting it with a big lobby.

SIR HARRY JOHNSON ILL

London, Eng.—Sir Harry Johnson, the famous English author and friend of Africa, has undergone a serious operation. His complete recovery is assured, but it will be some time before he can resume his work on behalf of the Africans.

CONCERNING NATION WIDE PROHIBITION

Paralleled in Editorial Comment With the Handling of Various Amendments.

By the Associated Negro Press. Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 27.—The effect of nation-wide prohibition upon the country is being paralleled in editorial comment with the handling of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments. The Valdosta (Ga.) Times (white) says: "In order to find another precedent of the same sort, we need only to go back to the thirteenth amendment, which destroyed many millions of property in slaves with a stroke of the pen, provided far less compensation for slave holders than the eighteenth amendment provides for distillers, brewers and wine merchants. . . . If the institution of private property survived the thirteenth amendment it can survive the eighteenth." There is a growing determined effort that the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments must be enforced.

INTEREST IN PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS

Chicago, Feb. 27.—There has been much discussion here over the Pan-African congress in session in Paris, France, which is attended by delegates from all the countries and colonies in the world where people of African descent are living. There is a general opinion, regardless of the inability of some of the American delegates to receive passports, that the congress is timely, and there are some very important and significant things that may be said to the delegates attending the peace conference.

All are agreed that the rights and privileges of the Colored peoples of the world, which racial division forms three-fourths of the total population of the world, has reached a crisis in view of the principles behind the world war. Bolshevism, which is spreading terror in so many sections of the world, has never found any encouragement from Negro peoples, and because of their loyalty to their respective governments, it is deemed only right that they should be accorded equal and exact justice, say many Chicago leaders.

CHARLESTON TO HAVE COLORED TEACHERS

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 27.—The board of trustees of the city of Charleston have finally agreed to employ Colored teachers to instruct Colored pupils in the public schools of the city. September, 1920, the beginning of the new school year, is the date named for the inauguration of the new plan. Charleston is the last city of the state to adopt this proposal.

HOLD MEMORIAL MEETING

Keokuk, Ia.—A grand memorial meeting was held in honor of the late Theodore Roosevelt and Paul Laurence Dunbar, Rev. J. Sterling Moore presided, and addresses were made by Dr. T. H. Phillips, Rev. C. R. Waters, Alonzo W. Drane and F. S. Johnson.

Chicago Welcomes Colored Heroes

Wonderful Public Demonstration Marks Return of 370th Infantry, Former 8th Illinois, From France.

HALF MILLION VIEW PARADE

"National Negro Capitol," Chicago's Newest Name, Proud of Colored Soldiers and Plans to Give All Employment.

(The Associated Negro Press.)

CHICAGO, ILL.—(Special to The Monitor.)—The most gigantic and wonderful public demonstration ever held in the city of Chicago, took place Monday when the 370th Infantry, the old Eighth Illinois, was welcomed home by the populace. It is not the word of an enthused individual patriot, but the published expression of every daily newspaper in Chicago, and all leading authorities, that never has Chicago seen anything to equal the Monday demonstration. It was more than an event, it marks an epoch, and it is in this light that the story of the occasion is treated.

Never have the Chicago daily newspapers given so much space in news, illustrations and editorials to anything in which the Negro was connected. Great full page wide headlines, full page illustrations and column editorials announced and welcomed the dusky heroes who achieved undying fame on the world battle fields of France.

Let it be thoroughly understood that it was not a race event, it was a truly Chicago event in all that the word implies, and its effect will be felt throughout the nation. More than 500,000 people viewed the parade in which the conquering heroes marched through the principal thoroughfares of Chicago's famous loop business district. Business was suspended everywhere, and the enthusiasm of all the people showed without doubt that Chicago, with its great cosmopolitan population, is the climax American city of true democracy and justice.

There was speech making by Mayor Thompson, Col. Thos. Roberts, Col. Otis Duncan and others, and the one fact impressed on all was this: The day has come when the door of opportunity in the United States is opened for the Negro, and it must be kept open at all hazards.

The men were attired in full military equipment, with steel helmets, rifles, cartridge belts and the paraphernalia with which they chased the Germans back across the Hindenburg line. They were the first soldiers out of Chicago who actually participated in the fighting, to return as a unit.

Looking to the future, after the men have been demobilized, the fighting men have returned home with the same grim determination to enter into civic life that they used in chasing the Huns back into their own country. Captain Lewis F. Johnson, an attorney in civil life, and the man who built the first great Negro Y. M. C. A. in this country at Washington, expressed the sentiment of the men when he said: "We intend to get into political and civic affairs, and we are determined to be heard. We sacrificed that democracy might be made safe, and we are going to have some say in seeing how the game is carried on at home."

Lieut. Col. Duncan, the man of whom it was said: "He didn't have sense enough to know when to stop fighting," stated that the men were all glad to get home, and are very serious in their desire to enter into civic life, now that the fighting is over, and the days of peace are at hand. Col. Duncan also said that he will do all he personally can to keep in touch with the men of his regiment and encourage them.

There is active effort being carried out in Chicago, in an organized way, to give employment to everyone of the Negro soldiers returning home.

BRITAIN SENDS SPECIAL AGENT TO COLONIES

London, Eng.—The colonial office has appointed Sir Alexander Wood Renton, retired chief justice of Ceylon, to visit the West African colonies and inquire for the British government into the conditions of service, life and remuneration on the coast.

Chief among the many things which the natives intend to bring to his notice is the criminal code proposed for Sierra Leone. The Africans are a unit against this code and hope to have Britain prevent its adoption.