

THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of Colored Americans.

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SUGGESTIVE STATISTICS

STATISTICS are generally dry reading. They may indicate much or little. They are quite valuable, however, when they are authentic and reliable as a measurement and indication of accomplishment. This is the light in which the statistics which Congressman Emerson presented in his Lincoln anniversary speech in the House of Representatives should be regarded.

There are times when even the most optimistic among us are inclined to doubt, if, after all, much real progress has been made by our people in this country. There is so much yet to be done that there is often the disposition to underrate the marvelous progress that has been made. Authentic statistics, such as these, compiled by government experts, show the ever onward and upward march of a virile people and present a record of achievement that needs not to make ashamed. Past accomplishments furnish inspiration for greater endeavors. Show men and women that they have really done something worth while and it encourages them to try to surpass their former record. The record of the race during the past fifty years as told by authentic and available statistics we believe will prove an inspiration to all to infinitely surpass that record, not in the next fifty years, but in the next decade.

CO-OPERATION

CO-OPERATION means working together. It means team work. We, as a people, must learn how to do team work; to co-operate if we are going to take our rightful place and secure our rights, commercial, civil, industrial and political in this country or any other country, where we are in the minority. Our status does not differ from that of the proletariat or poorer classes anywhere in the world. As a matter of fact, our status is superior to that of the corresponding groups in other countries. Students of history know that there has been a constant struggle between the classes and the masses for the securing of justice for the masses or the under class. Our position therefore is not unique. The securing of rights denied has been through the united action of the people seeking them. We need to learn to co-operate, to work together, in business and everything else and then the effective force of 12,000,000 people will be felt.

STORY TELLING

LAST week Mrs. Lucile Skaggs Edwards who conducts our Women and Children column in The Monitor, wrote quite a delightful article on the subject of telling stories to children. We wonder how many of our readers perused it and how many have grasped the significance of the possibilities that lay in story telling as a means of developing the mentality of the child? "I have always found children the finest listeners," says Mrs. Edwards, and it is true.

Children always look upon their parents as superior beings and whatever father or mother says—goes. So now comes the question, "Fathers and mothers, what are you telling your children?" Turn this question over and over in your mind and then turn it to account. We would carry the subject a bit further. Are you telling your child that he or she belongs to a great race, or do you tell him or her that their race is a weakling race? Do you ever tell them about Douglass, Dunbar, Phyllis Wheatly, Paul Cuffe, Booker Washington, Benjamin Banneker, or any other of our great men? Do you ever tell them any of the charming African myths or about the great cities and temples and tombs which the African nations have built? If not, brush up on these things and talk to your children about them. Once you begin you will find that the mother's or father's knee will be the sanctuary at which the child will kneel oftenest.

IS IT WORTH WHILE?

THE recent agitation among packing house employees for higher wages has finally resulted in an increase of two and one-half cents per hour. The increase is hailed as a victory for the unions, but is it really worth while? As a result of the raise the employees are limited to eight hours; heads of departments have

been notified to cut down the force to a working minimum; thousands of men have lost their jobs; and production has been lessened.

We believe that the present scale of wages is inadequate to meet the present cost of living, but are the unions really accomplishing much by continually forcing the raising of the wage scale? Does not each raise react against those who force it? Is there not some other way to adjust these economic conditions other than using the force of organized labor? It appears that the employer is ready and willing to join hands with labor and bring about a readjustment of conditions that will be for the betterment of all, and somehow we feel that in the end it will be better for labor to accept the employers offer and see if permanent and lasting results cannot be effected.

DO UNTO OTHERS AS—

IN the Chicago Defender of last week there appears a large advertisement for The Homesteader, a movie that has been made from the book of that name by Oscar Micheaux. The writer of the ad has done well in bringing it prominently before the readers of The Defender, but we take exception to one word and take exception to it strongly.

The ad reads, "After years portraying in a hundred ways the life and problems of the white man, the Indian, the Jap, the Chink—" and we stop right here. Why has the word "Chink" been used instead of the word "Chinese?" If a Chinese had written this ad and used the word "nigger" there would have been a howl from the very source from which came this word "Chink." Can we afford to forget ourselves and use derogative terms concerning others when we bitterly resent such terms being used about ourselves? "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," is a good maxim, even when writing advertisements.

SOCIAL LEPERS

AMONG Omaha's younger set there are two "society" belles who, for some time, have created much admiration among their associates because of their costly and beautiful raiment. Many of the girls of this set have wondered how these young women could dress expensively upon the salary of \$10 a week, but they have never thought for a moment that they were anything except what they pretended to be, namely respectable young women.

In the regular routine of business, a member of The Monitor staff accidentally came upon the explanation of why it is possible for these young butterflies to lord it over the other girls of their clique. Quite recently these two young women went into a well-known and fashionable woman's shop and purchased two new dresses. Instead of paying for them, they had them charged to two young men who were neither relatives nor husbands.

If there is one thing more than any other which our race must combat, it is the immorality among our young people. It is not a savory subject to write about, yet The Monitor feels that it falls in its duty to its readers were it to remain silent in the face of such moral leprosy. We hope that these cases are rare and we advise our young women to dress in rags rather than sell their bodies for a price that renders their debt to honest womanhood forever unpayable.

SENATOR HITCHCOCK CORRECTS MONITOR

IN writing a short editorial recently The Monitor mentioned that Senator Hitchcock voted for the national prohibitory amendment. A letter from the senator's secretary calls our attention to the fact that the senator has voted against national prohibition every time it has been submitted.

The Monitor takes this opportunity to apologize to the senator for the mis-statement of fact and thanks him for the correction.

DID HE REALLY MEAN IT?

ON February 11, Representative Eugene Black of Texas, delivered a speech in the house of representatives against the three-year naval construction program. In closing his address, Mr. Black said: "Then may the vision of Dumas be realized,

when great armies shall vie for supremacy in acts of true charity and benevolence, their war cry being, 'The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man!'"

Here the representative has chosen to mention the vision of a black man, but we wonder if he meant to include the black race in his dream of universal brotherhood?

Obvious Observations

CHICAGO and New York have set the examples of what should be done when the soldier boys come home. What are we going to do? Speak up!

The Herald screamed across its headlines about a Negro attacking a white woman and then shut up all of a sudden. What was the matter? Was it a fake?

The readjustment congress has said some mighty fine things here in the last few days and now we want to see some practice.

We are glad that Clemenceau escaped death and we venture to say that when he sits at the peace table again he will be more of a tiger than ever.

Our winter wasn't so bad after all and a few days ago we got a chance to shovel a little snow anyway.

At last we hear that Chicago has decided to start a real Negro Press association. Hats off to Chicago! It is something we most surely and sorely need.

Traffic stopped in Chicago six hours when the Colored boys came home! Sounds like Chi thinks something of her boys, doesn't it?

Maybe there won't be some fireworks around congress way after March 4th!

Germany is having fitful fevers again.

Thanking you for your most arduous attention, we will now proceed to swing the ax on a few more brothers and sisters who think a Colored weekly can exist on air sauce and wind pudding.

SKITS OF SOLOMON Boils

A BOIL is a circumscribed intensification of excessive pain that decides to inhabit some portion or part of the human anatomy for a long or short period, and has about as much comfort in it as a hot stove on an August day. We never had a boil in our life until just now and we don't care if we never have another. Some of our friends have noticed en passant that our head is geared at an acute angle and doesn't mobilize readily, and when asking the why of the whereas, we explain our acquaintance with friend boil. Thereupon we are told how once upon a time they had from four to two dozen on certain necessary parts of their anatomical architecture and that there was no human way to escape constant notice of their being on the job. We can certainly sympathize with them for this one lone member of our coporeal construction is misery enough. We don't want or need any more. Just now we are thinking of Mr. Job, the famous boilist, who had so many all over him that no mathematician could count them. Somehow we don't blame him for feeling blue and thinking that the world and everything else was handing him the hot end of the poker. We agree, however, that he had SOME patience. Any man who can have several thousand boils and stay constant to the idea that nobody is to blame for them, deserves to get his name on the front page of history and stay there. Solomon will write something more interesting next week, but for the present all he can think about are BOILS.

TO ENCOURAGE THE SAVING HABIT

TO HELP every individual develop habits of wise saving which will lead to his own prosperity and necessarily to the prosperity of the nation, there has been established a newly-organized Savings Division in the United States Treasury.

The immediate object of the work of the Savings Division will be to preserve the nation's war-taught habits of economy and to encourage each individual to accumulate funds which may be profitably loaned to the government. Through the small securities offered by the government, such as Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps, the privilege is not being restricted to a wealthy few, but to practically every man, woman and child in the country, can have a share in helping the government meet its many war obligations, and carry out the plans of peace.

If War Savings Stamps cannot be bought outright, extra pennies can be put into twenty-five cent Thrift Stamps. When sixteen of these are collected they can be exchanged for a War Savings Stamp. Both Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps are obtainable in any postoffice, or bank, and at many factories and stores, etc. The ultimate object of the Treas-

ury's intensive thrift campaign will be to bring home to every American the great personal value of intelligent saving. Stress will be laid on wise buying and investment in absolutely safe securities, such as the government offers, and an avoidance of all waste. It is hoped to make these principles permanent habits of everyday life and thus assure steady prosperity to the nation and to the individual.

It is pointed out that saving does not mean hoarding. Saving means a balancing of present needs against future needs, and putting the money which would be allowed to slip away on unnecessary into interest-bearing investment. Saving means taking care of present needs, and increasing otherwise carelessly spent money, for future needs and even luxuries. It is the road to Easy Street.

In order to reach every place and every person in the country with their message, the Savings Division of the Treasury has divided up the work according to Federal Reserve Districts. Each Federal Reserve Governor is in charge of the campaign in his district. He appoints a Savings Director for the District, and the District Savings Director, in turn, appoints a State Savings Director for each state in the district, who looks out for the organizing of County and Community Savings Committees. At headquarters in Washington the Savings Division is composed of a group of educators, economists, business men and writers.

It is planned to promote the savings idea chiefly through the medium of War Savings Societies. There are already 165,000 of these societies throughout the country, ranging in membership from a handful to a thousand each. The purpose of the societies is to help the members find new and agreeable ways of saving and to make the purchase of Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps exceedingly convenient. Many new societies are constantly being formed.

It is hoped that through the interest and co-operation of every American 1919 will indeed become a year of thankful thrift, and the happy habit of saving will become a permanent American characteristic.—Savings Division U. S. Treasury.

CHICAGO NOW LEADS IN NEGRO POPULATION

Southern Immigration Has Increased Population to 150,000—Large Sections of City Now Occupied by Negro Residents.

BIG INFUX STILL IMPENDING

By the Associated Negro Press. Chicago, Feb. 27.—Chicago, the second largest city in the nation, leads all others in Negro population, according to the latest and best information obtainable. Statistics gathered since the beginning of the migration more than two years ago, place the Negro population of the "Windy City" at 150,000. The section on the South Side formerly known as the "Black Belt" has spread in so many directions that the belt has increased in size until it is now a coat.

Section after section of the big city where white families formerly lived have been turned over to Negro residents because of the great demand for homes. Many of these places run up in values to thousands of dollars, but members of the race are living in them and keeping them, in many instances, in much better condition than their former white occupants. However, there has in too many instances been a disproportionate increase of rentals, and this matter is receiving the attention of civic workers.

Demand for labor, high wages and the awakening of the Negro through travels induced by the war, together with southern discrimination and lynchings, are among the causes of the tremendous influx. While the labor conditions now are greatly affected by the war adjustment problems, there is every reason to believe that 1919 will see another big migration as soon as industrial questions are easier.

T. Arnold Hill, secretary of the Chicago Urban League, said recently: "There have been few labor troubles, because the majority of the men employed are unionized. This probably has prevented troubles which otherwise might have risen.

"There have been some conflicts when Negro families established themselves, but no real racial trouble."

PART IN LABOR PROBLEMS

Boston, Mass.—Frank P. Chisholm, of Tuskegee, in an address before the Twentieth Century club, white, here, stated that in view of the large migration of the Negroes from the south and the likelihood of restrictions on immigration, the American Negro is to play a very important part in the solution of labor problems.

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Every woman knows if she allows her complexion to become sallow and wrinkled, her hair to become lusterless and hard her nails to become long and shapeless, she is placed at a disadvantage beside the woman who is outwardly attractive.

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