

# THE MONITOR

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

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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor and Publisher.  
Lucille Skaggs Edwards and William Garnett Haynes, Associate Editors.  
George Wells Parker, Contributing Editor and Business Manager.  
Fred C. Williams, Traveling Representative.

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## EASTER

EASTER is kept throughout Christendom as the queen festival of the Christian year. It stands for and attests a fact. A fact is an event, something which has been done, something which has come to pass—something that has been accomplished. The fact which Easter attests is an historic event—a proven event of history, resting upon indubitable evidence. That fact is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It is upon this historic fact that the whole fabric of the Christian religion rests. Its practical value for the human race is that it illuminates the pathway of death and proclaims man's immortality. It sets the Divine Seal to the longing lodged in the breast of every man for eternal life and proclaims that if a man die he shall live again. Its constant message to men who profess with their lips that they believe in the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come is to strive daily to live upon that high plane of justice and righteousness which such a faith enjoins.

## CONCERNING THE MONITOR

WE have received two letters from esteemed friends which call for explanation. They are from friends of ability and influence whose opinion of The Monitor and interest therein is highly appreciated. One is from our esteemed and talented friend, Roscoe Conkling Simmons, just returned from Europe. The other is from Chester A. Franklin, printer and publisher, and a successful business man of Kansas City, Mo. Both friends inquire why the size of The Monitor has been reduced. Both pay high tribute to the place The Monitor has won and holds among race publications.

Mr. Franklin writes among other complimentary things, "I believe there is no paper of ours that for size, carries the wealth of educational matter, etc., so well presented as The Monitor, but that makes it the more incumbent upon you to live. You must prove that good things can thrive. You know it has long been said that a fine restaurant, and fine anything else is doomed to failure among Negroes. Do not let The Monitor prove it." He hazards the guess that the reduction has been made for the sake of economy and wonders why it is necessary to so economize "when business is expanding and the Negro's future looms larger."

Colonel Simmons' letter is published in full. He, too, inquires why The Monitor has reduced its size and says, in substance, a paper of The Monitor's standard must be maintained. The race needs it. Grateful thanks, kind friends, for your interest. The reduction in size, was merely temporary and as, you may well judge, for the sake of economy. The advertising having fallen off, we followed the example of some of our local contemporaries in reducing the size which made a considerable saving in cost of publication. We return this week to eight pages with a guarantee of sufficient advertising to maintain this standard. The paper is steadily growing in favor and influence and we shall strive not only to maintain the high standard which it has attained, but as time goes on it is our desire to improve it, adding features that will increasingly commend it to our readers.

The cost of issuing such a publication as The Monitor is heavy, but the favor with which it is being received everywhere is proving that our people do appreciate a publication of this class and character, and are ready to stand by it and make it a success. This is most gratifying.

Monitor readers are Monitor friends and boosters. We appreciate their friendship, good wishes, kind words and hearty co-operation.

## THE BALANCER OF THE UNIVERSE

WITH this issue of The Monitor begins the publication of a drama of the race conflict entitled, The Balancer of the Universe, by B. Harrison Peyton, of Washington, D. C. It is a most interesting contribution to dramatic literature and the only regret we have is that we are unable to publish the entire four acts of the drama in one issue. We will, however, publish it in installments and are sure that our readers will find it intensely interesting and pleasing.

## SUPPRESS IMMORALITY

IT is alleged that bootlegging and gambling joints are rapidly multiplying in the northern section of Omaha, where many of our race reside. If this be true, and The Monitor is inclined to believe that there must be some truth in these rumors, such places should be ferreted out and put out of business. We owe it to ourselves as a people to discourage every agency that tends to degrade and drag us down. The acquisition of a few paltry dollars, although they may mount into the millions, can be no compensation for the moral loss and degradation which result from vice and immorality among us. The Monitor appeals to all who have the best interests of the race at heart to see to it that they do nothing to encourage vice and immorality. We appeal to the better nature of the men and women who are under suspicion of conducting gambling places and immoral resorts to themselves eliminate these evils, as a matter of race pride, without making it necessary for the law to do so.

## BUSINESS CO-OPERATION

WE complain that after educating our children their opportunities for employment are limited. This is true, although conditions are improving; but we shall never have opportunities for giving our children the diversified employment which their talents and inclinations seek until we do our part to make opportunities for them. If we want our boys and girls, our young men and young women, to have positions as clerks in stores and counting houses, for example, then we must pool our money and open business establishments of our own in which they can be so employed. And we must support unitedly and enthusiastically these business ventures.

## JAPAN'S PROPOSAL REJECTED

ON Friday, April 11, Baron Makino presented to the peace conference an amendment proposing racial equality and his argument was seconded with great force by Viscount Chinda, one of the most eminent of living Japanese. The amendment was lost and the great peace conference, made up of nations who only six months ago were screaming "Liberty! Freedom! Equality!" goes on record as opposed to the very ideals for which millions of men have died. It was to be expected, because the leading nations of the peace conference have no intention of recognizing the darker races as equals. The day will come when they will regret this action.

There is one thing very significant in the proposed Japanese amendment. Baron Makino and Viscount Chinda did not propose that only Japanese be accepted as equals, but that the preamble of the covenant read: "By the indorsement of the principle of equality of nations and just treatment of their nationals." In this single clause Japan has championed the cause of all the darker races, the Negro of America, the African native, the Chinese, the Jew, the Indian and the down-trodden of the earth. We do not believe that the darker races will forget Japan. She has thrown down the gauntlet to the white races in defense of the dark races, and it will be a bold nation that would dare to pick it up. We wonder what the peace conference would say if the darker peoples propose unity with Japan as their leader?

## DISCONTENT IN THE ARMY

FROM the Associated Press dispatches we learn that recently there have been several instances of discontent manifested by soldiers in the various parts of the United States and the world, and most recently the refusal of an entire company to obey orders in Archangel, where a large number of American troops are fighting the Bolsheviks.

Some of the American newspapers have said that the spirit of Bolshevism is rife among the American troops, but we are not inclined to believe that this is the truth. When Americans were drafted into the army they were drafted with the understanding that they would remain in the army until the war with Germany was over.

That war is now over and the men are anxious to get back to civil life. They have not been instilled with the spirit of absolute obedience to military rule, and for this reason they feel they have the right to demand that the government keep its pledge with them and release them from a duty that is onerous and unpleasant.

In this demand we agree with them. The government should discharge all their drafted men at the soonest possible moment and there should not be a single American soldier required to fight anywhere in the world today. We are at war with no one and until the government recognizes this position, it will continue to have trouble.

## NEW LIGHT ON EUROPEAN TANGLES

THROUGH the courtesy of Hon. John E. Bruce of New York, The Monitor has had the privilege of reading several books published by E. D. Morel, the great English publicist. "Ten Years of Secret Diplomacy," and "Truth and the War," are two volumes of extraordinary enlightenment. They deal with inside political and diplomatic facts with which the ordinary European, let alone any American, is scarcely cognizant. In the light of these facts it becomes patent that our world war could have been avoided had the sense of justice pervaded the minds of the leaders of the various nations. On the other hand the Morel books prove with the most startling logic that the commercial greed of the European nations led their diplomats into unsavory agreements which could have done naught else than bring about the world war.

While the American press has foisted upon the nation the idea that Germany was wholly to blame for the war, it appears that the facts in the case warrant the conclusion that part of the blame rests with other nations. The exploitation of Morocco by France with the tacit understanding and permission of England and Spain, is alone sufficient to make one feel that Germany was grossly mistreated. Again, we are afforded the evidence that Austria had consented to stay her invasion of Serbia and that Paris, London, Berlin and Petrograd, had been so informed, yet in spite of this, Russia refused to stop her preparations to punish Germany.

It is not too late to know these facts, indeed, now is the time to know them and consider them well. The American genete is soon to be called upon to ratify the League of Nations and it is imperative that the American people understand what it means to enter into the whirlpool of European diplomacy. We know of so source of enlightenment more thorough and more clearly put than these books of E. D. Morel. A list of them may be obtained from the National Labor Press, London.

## SKITS OF SOLOMON Cheese

NO mighty annalist has ever wooed from the voiceless past the name of him who first invented cheese—or of the cow who helped him. When first the dim light of history shed its feeble rays upon man's menu, cheese was on it and has been hanging onto it ever since. Step into the delicatessen store around the corner and ask the boss who looks like a Turk and uses our mother tongue as if he had some grudge against it, and he will show you a collection of cheeses which he says came from everywhere, beginning with Iceland and ending with Ceylon. Of course you will swallow the gaff and a few samples of different cheese along with it, but when Mr. Turk tells you that Russia, England, Italy, Hungary, France, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, Iceland, China, Java and Ceylon have sent him those cheeses by parcel post, he is simply handing you the beautiful bunk known as business bull. There is only one foreign cheese that isn't manufactured in the state of little old New York and that is Roquefort. The reason it can't make Roquefort is because the French pass up friend cow and use the milk of the sheep and then pile it up in the caves of Roquefort to ripen. New York hasn't any sheep and no caves, hence no Roquefort. When it comes to Swiss cheese, New York is a wang, because it blows holes into a pile of cheese until you think you can see the Alps in it, but somehow it falls down on the taste. Nobody knows that, however, except the Swiss himself. As far as limburger is concerned, New York duplicates it precisely and goes fifty per cent bigger on the smell. Last year one factory in the empire state turned out 400,000 foreign cheeses and we claim that is going some.

## THE REV. DR. LOGAN PRESIDING ELDER

The Rev. Dr. Griffin G. Logan, for the past five years pastor of Grove M. E. church, has just been appointed by the annual conference, presiding elder of the Omaha district. His well-merited promotion is gratifying to his numerous friends within and without his connection.

## Obvious Observations

WINTER is all right in its place, but we wish it would stay in the winter months and not try to climb into the spring calendar.

The soldiers in north Russia have revolted and we don't blame them. What business have Americans fighting the Bolsheviks anyway?

Simonds says adios to the league. There will be a league agreement, but the prospect is that it won't amount to the paper it is written on.

The coal man is still laughing—or chuckling. Dig, brother, dig, and get that new gown and Easter hat for the madame. You know you've got to do it, so don't holler.

Last week the News came out in headlines about some wife beater who is a prominent leader in Colored society. What does this yellow sheet know about white society, let alone any other kind?

Woody Wilson finds that he has run smack into a stone wall with his armful of ideals. Europe doesn't care anything about ideals.

By the way, are you patronizing our race business men? If not, get busy. If there is any peace at the peace conference, nobody has ever been able to locate it.

Thanking you for your most kind attention, we will now take a swipe at the menu and find out what we can buy for a thin dime and a lonesome copper.

The laws of our country promise to give equal rights, but how are they observed? The Negro under the constitution is regarded as a citizen, at least when he is to pay taxes, and fight for the country's flag, but that ends his opportunity except the privileged of being lynched from time to time. The equal rights of the smallest nation is to be maintained under the league just consummated abroad, but the equal rights of some of the citizens of the largest republic in the world is "a mere scrap of paper." Is it a matter of surprise that the red agitators find material for hellish propaganda among the disfranchised, whether white or black? Congress is busy investigating in many directions. Why not stop such cowardly threats as are contained in the above editorial? I am not waving the bloody shirt, but as an American citizen voice my protest against racial or religious persecution and injustice.

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