

THE MONITOR

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FOR anything worth having, one must pay the price, and the price is always work, patience, love, self-sacrifice—no paper currency, no promises to pay, but the gold of real service.—John Burrows.

THE CRISIS UNDER THE BAN

THE postal authorities in New York held from the mails the May issue of the Crisis. As we go to press we have not learned whether it has been released or not. We hope it has. Justice has nothing to fear from the truth.

Dr. Dubois has returned from France with his soul burning with indignation at the treatment accorded our brave Colored soldiers at the hands of some American officers, and he has told the story. Perhaps his language in reporting the truth, and he has but reported the truth, as the stories of returning men verify, might be considered intemperate. He has dared to call a spade a spade. This seems to have brought down upon him the wrath of those in authority and the Crisis has been placed under the ban.

His language has not been as temperate as that of Dr. Moton, whom the administration sent over to France to investigate certain rumors that had been set afloat to discredit our soldiers. But, surely, Dr. Moton's allusion to "the whispering gallery" breathes the same righteous indignation which Dr. Dubois more vehemently expresses.

If Dr. Dubois has misrepresented the facts, the administration ought to be able to disprove them. The May Crisis simply tells the truth and all efforts to suppress it will prove futile.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

THAT the democratic party has made a mess of everything that it has touched is becoming the opinion, not only of men of other parties, but among many of the leading democrats themselves. That this party will be overwhelmingly defeated at the next national election is a foregone conclusion, and there is a feeling that its death will be final. We do not believe, however, that the fault lays with democracy in the north. It is really the south that has muddled things. That they would muddle things was to be expected. The southern men into whose hands came the control of the government knew nothing at all about government. They were recruited from the clay banks, the backwoods and plantations, and were ignorant at their very best. The height of their experience, as a general rule, was limited by handling country political newspapers, working convicts and trading cotton. They never had the chance to learn anything about political economy and when they were suddenly thrust into power, they lost their puny mental balances.

The south has been in the saddle and for the last time. It has shown itself criminal, ignorant and vicious, and the north will not forget. The country is doing the best possible to tolerate a situation that cannot be bettered, but when the chance comes again to vote we venture the guess that there will be even states in the south that will repudiate the rule of such men as now attempt to run such a country as the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS, CHESTER

THE MONITOR has just received the initial number of the Call, an attractive, well-edited weekly newspaper published at Kansas City, Mo. Chester A. Franklin, a brilliant, well trained newspaper man, and a practical printer, is the editor. Moreover, he is fearless, honest, level-headed and sincere. We predict for the Call a well merited, successful and influential career. Its first editorial, captioned, "Leadership Is Judged by Results. Not by Intentions," shows that the publication has a definite message for its readers and knows how to deliver it. Congratulations, Chester, on the Call, and may abundant success attend it.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE—SO FAR

THE peace conference assembled at Versailles would be a comedy, were it not so tragic. A year ago the allies heralded across the world a multitude of ideals for which they said they were fighting and now that

Obvious Observations

WE note that Japan got Ky Choo without any trouble. Well, we opine that the allies didn't want to take a chance on her picking up her bonnet and going home.

Burlson sure played a mean trick by holding The Crisis up in New York. Old Burly made all his dough working convict Negro labor in the state of Texas and he should at least have a streak of gratitude instead of a streak of yellow.

The bomb plot certainly woke up the country to the fact that there are a lot of dissatisfied folk up New York way.

Mr. Woody says he is going to keep both his big feet on the fourteen points, but when the allies get through with them (we mean the points) they will be as blunt as the end of a broken chisel.

We certainly were glad to see the sun and hope it will decide to stick around indefinitely.

If the allies don't adopt the League of Nations and Germany doesn't sign the peace treaty, who will the joke be on?

If there is a single Colored citizen in this burg who doesn't know plenty about Liberia, it isn't our fault.

The World-Herald says that Fiume is the only port the Jugo-Slavs have on the coast, while the New York Tribune and the geography say that there are plenty of other ports running around loose. Whose right?

Thanking you for this evidence of kind appreciation and interest, we will now oil up the typewriter so it will make less noise.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH PATRICK?

WHICH Patrick? Judge Robert W. Patrick of the municipal court. He rendered a most astounding decision the other day that does him no credit. Nor do we believe his decision will stand either the test of law or of common sense.

A woman was denied ice cream in a drug store upon the ground that Colored people were not served in that place. She was refused solely on the ground of color. Judge Patrick decided that because the law does not specifically specify drug stores therefore the law was not violated. He held that refusal by a restaurant, cafe, etc., came within the provision of the law, but not by a drug store. What a detestable quibble! No one could have made us believe that Robert W. Patrick could be induced to stoop to such quackery and pettifoggery as this. The revelation fills us with the keenest regret.

A LITTLE QUEER

THE St. Paul Appeal significantly asks why when American Negroes asked passports to attend a Pan-African congress in France our state department refused them; but when Irish-Americans requested passports to attend a meeting to demand Irish rights, the request was readily granted, although the Irish question is entrenching upon Britain's domestic policy? This does look a little queer, doesn't it? And yet people wonder why American Negroes claim that now and then they are handed a raw deal. Never mind, keep your head, for right will ultimately triumph.

HOW ABOUT THAT PLAYGROUND

WHEN are we going to have that public playground in Omaha's most congested neighborhood? Locate it where it may serve the children of Kellom school district. If this is done it will remove one of our city's blighted spots within less than a mile of the heart of the city and provide a recreational center which is much needed. Commissioners, how about that playground?

THE MAY CRISIS

The May Crisis is First War History number, with an edition of 100,000 copies. The cover is Lorenzo Harris' drawing of the Negro soldier's valor, done in colors. The leading article is "Documents of the War," collected by Dr. W. E. Burghardt DuBois, in France. There is also a circumstantial account of the lynchings at Shubuta, Miss. There are pictures of the Pan-African congress, Red Cross nurses at Camp Grant and of Needham Roberts.

The June Crisis will contain a supplement with a complete history of the Negro soldier in the world war.

WOMEN RAISE \$1,650

The lieutenants in the V victory loan with Mrs. Isaac Bailey as captain, did faithful work and secured in all \$1,650 worth of bonds. Miss Madeline Roberts leads with \$1,000 worth. Mrs. F. J. Smith secured \$400, Mrs. J. A. Williams \$100, and Mesdames R. T. Walker, W. Bridges and E. R. West \$50 each. In their canvass of the districts assigned they found many had subscribed through their places of business or employment.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

The Chin

THAT projecting piece of scenery on the human facial map known as the chin is a symbol of civilization, that is, it is supposed to be. When the hefty spade artists dug up the Heidelberg and Piltown jaws it was discovered that the bones forming the chin then and now have changed much considerably and that it apparently decided to change as man has tried to climb up the ladder of refinement. Several other vertebrates have chins, for example, the elephant, but they are not such apparent chins as should make them proud and anxious to enter any chinery contests. Today the chin has become the sine qua non of human beauty, whatever that means, and the Beau Brummel cold cream doll who is short on chin specifications doesn't have much chance for competition with Apollo Belvidere and Veny of Milos. There was a time when a man thought more of a lot of alfalfa growing over his mug and streaming down his frontal fortifications than he did of his chin, but somehow whiskers have gone out of style around urban centers. Scientists say that the chin never got a start in the world until man lost his huge lower canine teeth, although the world isn't quite satisfied yet that man had these dental additions. None have ever been found who had, except made up wild men who travel with circuses. The chin is much sought after by prize fighters and if it receives a good right swing its possessor is apt to take a visit into the stellar world and see more stars than are named and numbered in a book of astronomy. For this reason scientists also asseverate that the guy with the least chin is the one most apt to cop the belt. It is also whispered that the more perfect the jaw the more perfect the speech and that this is the reason why the French, Italian and Irish talk better than Englishman and Germans.

RETURNING SOLDIERS

We are returning from the war! The Crisis and tens of thousands of black men were drafted into a great struggle. For bleeding France and what she means and has meant and will mean to us and humanity and against the threat of German race arrogance, we fought gladly and to the last drop of blood; for America and her highest ideals, we fought in far-off hope; for the dominant southern oligarchy entrenched in Washington, we fought in bitter resignation. For the America that represents and gloats in lynching, disfranchisement, caste, brutality and devilish insult—for this, in the hateful upturning and mixing of things, we were forced by vindictive fate to fight, also.

But today we return! We return from the slavery of uniform which the world's madness demanded us to do to the freedom of civil garb. We stand again to look America squarely in the face and call a spade a spade. We sing: This country of ours, despite all its better souls have done and dreamed, is yet a shameful land.

It lynch.

And lynching is barbarism of a degree of contemptible nastiness unparalleled in human history. Yet for fifty years we have lynched two Negroes a week, and we have kept this up right through the war.

It disfranchises its own citizens. Disfranchisement is the deliberate theft and robbery of the only protection of poor against rich and black against white. The land that disfranchises its citizens and calls itself a democracy lies and knows it lies. It encourages ignorance.

It has never really tried to educate the Negro. A dominant minority does not want Negroes educated. It wants servants, dogs, prostitutes and monkeys. And when this land allows a reactionary group by its stolen political power to force as many black folk into these categories as it possibly can, it cries in contemptible hypocrisy: "They threaten us with degeneracy; they cannot be educated." It steals from us.

It organizes industry to cheat us. It cheats us out of our land; it cheats us out of our labor. It confiscates our savings. It reduces our wages. It raises our rent. It steals our profit. It taxes us without representation. It keeps up consistently and universally poor, and then feeds us on charity and dreides our poverty. It insults us.

It has organized a nation-wide and latterly a world-wide propaganda of deliberate and continuous insult and defamation of black blood wherever found. It decrees that it shall not be possible in travel nor residence, work nor play, education nor instruction for a black man to exist without tacit or open acknowledgment of his inferiority to the lowest white. And it looks upon any attempt to question or even discuss this dogma as arrogance, unwarranted assumption and treason.

This is the country to which we soldiers of democracy return. This is the fatherland for which we fought! But it is our fatherland. It was right for us to fight. Under similar circumstances we would fight again. But

by the God of Heaven, we are cowards and jackasses if now that that war is over, we do not marshal every ounce of our brain and brawn to fight a sterner, longer, more unbending battle against the forces of hell in our own land.

We return.

We return from fighting.

Make way for democracy! We saved it in France, and by the Great Jehovah, we will save it in the United States of America, or know the reason why.—Dr. DeBois in May Crisis.

CHEROKEE FREEDMEN SUING GOVERNMENT FOR \$3,000,000

(By Associated Negro Press.)
Tahlequah, Okla., May 8.—Cherokee Indians have entered suits to recover from the government \$3,000,000, said to be due as interest on an old claim adjudicated some years ago, and in the matter of compensation of lands of their race allotted to the Cherokee freedmen. This land was turned over to Negroes by the government, and is said to be worth \$30,000,000.

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