

GROWING,
THANK YOU!

THE MONITOR

A NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS.

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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REPORT OF INAUGURAL MEETING OF HAMITIC LEAGUE OF THE WORLD

British Guiana Branch.

(Special to The Monitor.)

GEOGETOWN, British Guiana.—On Thursday afternoon, April 24, there was held the inaugural meeting of the British Guiana Branch of the Hamitic League of the World in the St. Andrew's school hall. There were present: A. McLean Ogle, esq., F. R., who fulfilled the duties of chairman; Rev. J. A. Garner, Rev. A. Angold Brown, Rev. W. A. Deane, Dr. W. W. Campbell, Dr. R. F. Johnson, A. A. Thorne, esq., F. R.; J. A. Bradford, esq.; C. A. Campbell, esq.; S. A. Robertson, esq.; H. D. Durant, esq.; G. H. A. Bunyan, esq.; D. A. Bollers, esq.; D. S. Bollers, esq.; W. W. Sullivan, esq.; John Carto, esq.; Prof. J. M. Cush, Messrs. E. H. Waddell, J. L. Griffith, Conrad Barrow, H. Aaron Britton, W. W. Duncan, A. S. Cambridge, A. E. Small, W. Hosannah, J. Jeffrey, A. V. Crane, R. Baird, M. Simpson, T. A. French, J. Reynolds, Donald Wilson, S. W. Ogle, jr., H. L. Palmer, P. A. Saunders, C. F. LaRose, Duncan L. Jordan, S. N. Collins, E. N. Beckles, with G. McL. Ogle, local representative of the league.

Rev. J. A. Garner in introducing the chairman of the meeting said it gave him great pleasure to do so. There was a great difference between the condition of the Colored man in America and the Colored man in this colony. In America the Colored man was forced through circumstances to hold together, but in this country they were not segregated, hence they observed their own color line, discriminating among themselves. He regarded the situation as one of wheels within wheels, and he was sorry for it. What was required here was a movement of the kind started that day, a system which would make for cohesion among the members of the race for their common good. He therefore took pleasure in introducing Mr. A. McLean Ogle as the chairman of the meeting.

Mr. Ogle, in a few remarks, told the meeting the object for which they had been summoned, which briefly was to cement the relationship between the Colored people of the world. The movement, which originated in America, was represented in England, Africa and elsewhere, and was now being set on foot in this colony. He asked Mr. G. McLean Ogle to inform the meeting how he came to be selected to initiate the movement.

Mr. Ogle said that many years ago, when he was a small boy, he read of the great Booker Washington, and from that time on he had been interested in the Negroes of America. A few years ago he started subscribing to American Colored papers and latterly to contribute articles and to introduce the literature locally. He then got into communication with some American gentlemen, some of whom complimented him first on the interest shown by him in the affairs of his people, and others on his push. When the movement was launched in America he was communicated with and authorized to initiate a similar one here. He had, therefore, convened the present meeting, and it gave him great pleasure in calling upon the chairman to present his address.

The address was favorably received, Mr. Ogle being the recipient of a round of applause by the meeting. He explained that he had made many extracts from the first publication of the league, namely, "The Children of the Sun," a booklet costing only 25 cents, which he would advise every Colored man to purchase. He then asked Mr. G. Ogle to read the plan of the league to the meeting, which was done. The chairman then invited the audience to discuss the subject matter of the meeting. Mr. French said that he expected something practical when he read the circular. What he would like to see is an insurance company started locally, whereby policies of, say, \$200 to \$300 would be offered, enabling poor people to take up same at about the same rates they now pay to the burial societies. The chairman replied to the effect that we must creep before we walk, and that provision is made for the financial side of the question.

Prof. J. M. Cush, late of America, was then invited to address the meeting. He said that agriculture was the chief requisite in this colony and unless the people turned their whole attention to it they would be making no progress and would not be able to support their business enterprises. He said that he was just back from America, where he had gone through agricultural colleges and graduated. Over

(Continued on Page Two.)

SCOTT ANSWERS DUBOIS

Makes Red Hot Reply to Editor of "The Crisis"—Challenges Dubois to Print "Bill of Particulars."

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In the May issue of the Crisis magazine, Dr. W. E. B. Dubois, editor, attempts to "quiz" Dr. Emmett J. Scott, special assistant to the secretary of war, regarding certain conditions said to exist among Negro troops in France and, in the course of public addresses, recently delivered by Dr. DuBois in Washington, D. C., and Richmond, Va., made veiled insinuations concerning the way and manner in which he claims Dr. Scott has been looking after the welfare of Negro soldiers overseas.

When the matter was mentioned to Dr. Scott, he said:

Yes, I have read Dr. DuBois' questions, as propounded and sent around to the Colored newspapers through his advance sheets. Apparently he seeks to discredit one who, according to his own testimony, has been laboring in the war department "under very difficult circumstances" and who has never failed during the war to take a firm stand for the rights of Negro soldiers at home and overseas. In the first place, I do not recognize the usurped right of Dr. DuBois to "call me to account," or as the man to whom I must give an account of my stewardship. I am willing to leave to that loyal, unbiased, and sane jury of twelve million Colored Americans, whose interests I have endeavored to represent in the war department, the verdict as to whether or not I have done my full duty. I am now preparing an account of my stewardship which will be presented to that jury at the right time and in the proper way.

In the representative capacity I have been serving during the war I necessarily welcomed the "loyal and unselfish co-operation" of all Colored Americans, whether of the radical or conservative type, but again quoting the words of Dr. DuBois, my association with him during the war has been "at the cost of suspicion and criticism," for I have been repeatedly warned that he is neither unselfish nor sincere.

It is rather amusing, however, to read on pages 7 and 8 of the same issue of the Crisis, wherein Dr. DuBois assumes the self-appointed task of insinuating my alleged neglect or failure to do certain things or "everything," in the article headed "My Mission" he says: "I went to Paris. . . . What did I do when I got there? First, there were certain things that I did not do. . . . But it did not follow that because I could not do everything I could do nothing."

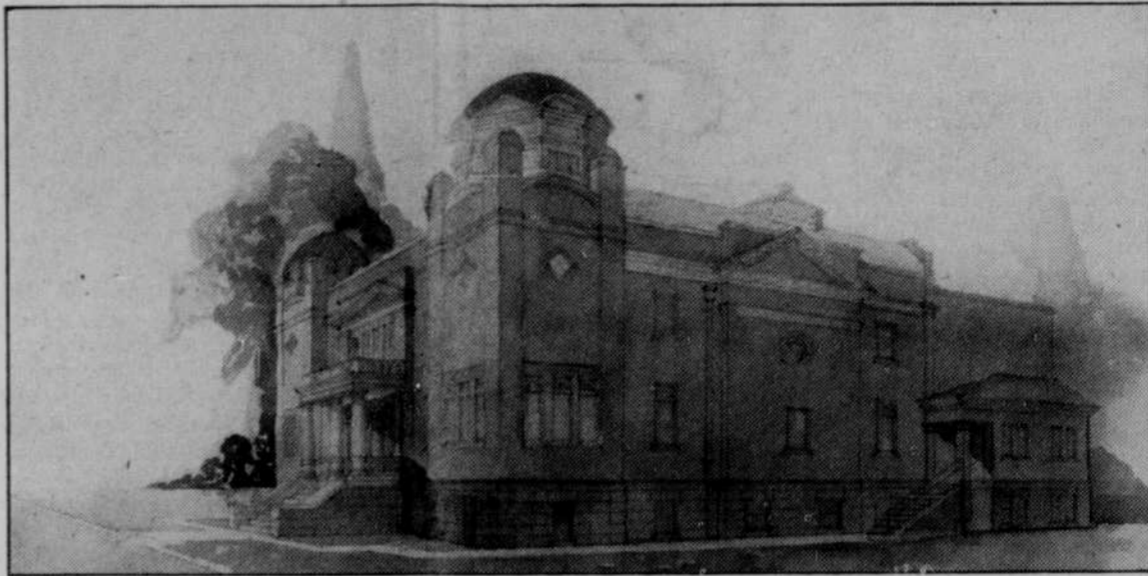
How Complaints Were Handled.

Now, it was precisely the same when I came to Washington and began to labor "under very difficult circumstances" (as Dr. DuBois states) in the war department. "There were certain things that I did not do" and I soon found that "I could not do everything," but there were a number of important things I could and did do for the benefit of Negro soldiers in camps at home as well as overseas. Of course, no sane person would ask or expect a man holding a confidential position in a great department of the government to reveal in public print official and confidential information, but as proof of the fact that complaints concerning Negro soldiers overseas reported to me by Negro officers, Negro chaplains, and Negro and other American civilians, did receive prompt action at my hands, I submit at this time just a few of the many letters which I have received from Negro officers who actually served overseas and from other men who brought specific complaints and grievances of Negro soldiers overseas to my office for attention. These letters express appreciation of the satisfactory and, in most cases, the effective way in which I have taken up and handled all such complaints.

Be it remembered that American white officers and soldiers had their hardships, troubles and grievances, as well as the Negro troops belonging to the American Expeditionary forces—some of which they had to endure and all of which it was not possible for even the war department in Washington altogether to remove or remedy—and yet I offer no apologies for these conditions or hardships!

In order that the exact facts might be secured regarding Colored soldiers overseas it will be recalled that it was upon the recommendation of the Negro Editors' Conference, held in Washington, D. C., June, 1918, which

(Continued on Page Two.)



ZION BAPTIST CHURCH AS IT WILL LOOK WHEN COMPLETED.



THE REV. WILLIAM FREDERICK BOTTS, Pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Under Whose Leadership the Sum of \$10,700 Was Raised in Seven Weeks' Drive.

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH RAISES \$10,700

Notable Achievement by Local Congregation in Seven Weeks' Campaign—The Story of the Drive as Told by Mrs. J. W. Dallas.

And they said we couldn't do it! But did you hear about the greatest victory of the middle west?

Seven weeks ago, after a conference between Dr. York of the state mission board and the executive board of Zion Baptist church, it was decided that the work on the main auditorium must be started June 1, 1919. In view of this fact the contractor announced that \$10,000 would be necessary to put the material on the ground. A meeting was then called of the members of the church, who, as the facts were laid before them, assured the pastor that they would support him to the end.

As in every walk of life, the "doubting Thomas" appeared on the scene and said \$10,000 is too much to be raised in seven weeks, but having implicit faith in the God we serve, who has promised never to leave us alone, Dr. Botts went and out among the ranks, smoothing out a rough place here, strengthening a weak one there, and lending inspiration all around, until all lines of separation and doubt were erased, and all were united in the new idea and accepted as their slogan, "On to Victory."

I think we are safe in saying that there are very few, if any at all, who ever witnessed such an effort materialize. It should be long remembered in the history of the Negroes of Omaha that a Negro church with less than 1,000 members succeeded in raising that large amount in such a short time.

Dr. Botts is a man of no small ability. Though educated along several other lines, he has given himself wholly to religious work; in this he is simple and unaffected, and those who hear him cannot fail to know that his

heart is intensely in the work.

This fact was proved in the untiring efforts that he put forth in this last great effort. Regardless of the doubts and fears that may have crept into the minds of some, all is now well and victory is ours. At the close of the services last Sunday night, the pastor was able to present to the audience a certified check and cash on the table for a grand total of \$10,716.14.

We thank you all kindly who helped us make it a success.

Dr. J. L. Cohron of St. Louis, Mo., assisted the pastor throughout the day.

AGITATION TO REMOVE SUPT. BRUCE CONTINUES

(By the Associated Negro Press.) Washington, D. C., May 23.—The fight for the removal of Roscoe C. Bruce as assistant superintendent continues here with unabated fury. A petition of 10,000 people, many of them prominent in public life, has been presented to the school board, asking for the removal.

Mass meetings have been held in several of the churches, all being attended by great crowds and addressed by prominent men and women. The president of the school board has stated that he will recognize the petition, provided specific charges are preferred against Superintendent Bruce.

OUTLASTS HIS MONEY

Hundred and Eighteen-Year-Old Negro Taken to Infirmary.

(By the Associated Negro Press.) Chicago, May 23.—Squire James, who claims to be 118 years old, was taken to the Oak Forest infirmary. "I was born in Salem, N. C.," he stated. "I was born in slavery, was married in slavery and had my wife and children taken from me. I thought I had enough money to last me, but never figured that I was going to live this long."

DUBOIS DRAMATIC CLUB SCORES A BIG HIT

The great war drama, "Under Two Flags," given by the DuBois Dramatic club at Boyd's theater Friday evening, May 9, for the benefit of St. John's A. M. E. church, was a glowing success.

It was said, by all patrons and patronesses, that this was the best theatrical effort ever put forward by Omaha local talent. Each character seemed so well adapted for his or her part. The leading roles, taken by Mrs. James Jewell and Mr. John Woods, were played with perfection and showed a great deal of real dramatic ability. Lieutenant Reed, who is always good, carried like a professional the tragic note into the play. Mrs. John Smith as Cigarette was imitable. Miss Ruth Washington as the Arabian maid was exceptionally good. Mrs. Jessie Peoples played the lady of rank with poise and distinction. Lieutenant Turner, Messrs. George Parker and Cecil Alexander played their parts with rare interpretation. Mr. Jesse Peoples' voice and presence were both good.

Throughout the play the audience by their uproarious laughter showed their appreciation of the wit and humor brought into the play by the Irish characters played by Mrs. Jesse Moss and Mr. John Smith. Mr. Russell Reese as a Jewish money lender was splendid.

The audience showed at all times their keen enjoyment of the music specialties, furnished between the acts, by Mrs. James G. Jewell, Miss Pearl Ray, Mr. Roscoe Miller and the harmonious Parker's orchestra.

A great deal of credit belongs to Mrs. John Smith, manager, and Mr. Andrew Reed, director, whose efforts made this overwhelming success possible.

The report made of money on May 11 placed the amount cleared at \$350.

JAMES REESE EUROPE LAID TO REST

New York Pays Last Respects to the Great Band Leader; Entire Country Mourns.

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

New York, May 23.—The funeral of James Reese Europe, leader of the famous "Hell Fighters" band, who was slain in Boston by one of the drummers of the band, Herbert Wright, was held in this city Tuesday. Thousands of people of both races viewed the solemn procession as it made its way from the undertaking establishment, 131st street, to St. Mark Methodist Episcopal church, Fifty-third street, where the sermon was preached by Dr. W. H. Brooks, pastor of the church and chaplain of the Fifteenth New York infantry. After the services the body was taken to Arlington cemetery in Washington, D. C., where it was buried in the last resting place of thousands of the patriotic dead.

The funeral was attended by some of the most prominent people in the country, the members of his band being in the procession, but marching in silence.

The members of the band, under direction of Felix Weir, expect to make a national tour, the proceeds to go for the erection of a monument to the memory of the great musical director.

It has been proposed that a national musical memorial day be held to honor the memory of James Reese Europe, the same to be the first Sunday in June. At that time a patriotic memorial address would be delivered and music for the occasion would be entirely the product of our composers.

Stick to your job and save your money.

DISTINGUISHED PRELATE TO VISIT OMAHA

Bishop Camphor of Monrovia, Liberia, Will Preach at Grove Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday; Here in Interest of Centenary Drive.

Omaha is to have the privilege of hearing one of the most distinguished prelates of the Methodist Episcopal church in the person of Bishop Camphor, who will speak Sunday at the Grove Methodist Episcopal church, Twenty-second and Seward streets.

Bishop Camphor is a graduate of New Orleans university, Louisiana; Gammon Theological seminary, Atlanta, and Columbia university, New York City. He was for ten years president of the Central Alabama college, Birmingham, Ala. While president of the latter institution he was elected bishop at the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., May, 1916. He spent more than a decade as missionary in Africa, where he rendered most efficient service as preacher and educator.

Bishop Camphor is recognized as one of the outstanding leaders of the race and the church. His work, both at home and abroad, stands a living monument to the grandeur of his character and greatness of his learning. He comes in the interest of the great centenary movement of the Methodist church, and every man, woman and child should hear him. He will speak at 11 a. m., May 25, and at 3 p. m. the bishop will address a great mass meeting at the Groce Methodist church.

The public is invited to come prepared to help in this final centenary drive. The ministers, their choirs and congregations are cordially invited to these services.

The members are expected to subscribe their full quota for five years, so that an "over the top" report may be rendered at the "world meeting" in Columbus, Ohio, June 20.

AMERICAN LEGION FACES RACE QUESTION

Massachusetts Spokesman Leads Fight For True Democracy.

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Boston, May 23.—Massachusetts, as in former years, steps to the front with a spokesman who demanded at the formation of the American Legion that "all men be treated equal."

Colonel J. F. J. Herbert of Worcester declared that one great fight that Massachusetts must lead is that in behalf of justice to our people. The race question, though not brought to the floor of the convention, was discussed many hours in committees between Northern and Southern delegates. It was finally agreed to permit all soldiers to join on equal terms, each community deciding for itself whether they come in one body or separate.

Colonel Herbert said: "The country will look to Massachusetts for leadership in this great fight for justice, just as it did a half-century ago. In this caucus the north has not faced the issue squarely, but we must make up our minds to go to Minneapolis next November determined that the black man who was good enough to fight beside us is good enough to sit beside us."

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ON

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Has Set the 100,000 Mark.

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

New York, May 23.—The proposal of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to continue their membership drive until 100,000 members are secured is being encouraged by many thousands of people. There is a strong determination and feeling that the time has arrived when there must be united action in behalf of the "true democracy" contended for in the war.

TWO WEEKS' EPIDEMIC OF LYNCHING IN SOUTH

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, May 23.—The people of the country are greatly stirred up because of the recent epidemic of lynching which has been going on almost daily in various sections of the South in the last two weeks.

These occurrences following so rapidly the session of the National Conference on Lynching, held in New York, one lynching occurring while the conference was in session, has stirred the people to a point where summary action is demanded.