

# THE MONITOR

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

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**F**OR 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.

### A NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT

THE Monitor extends heartiest congratulations to the Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor of Zion Baptist church, and his congregation for their notable achievement in raising in seven weeks the magnificent sum of \$10,700 in cash. Even in these days when people have learned to do things on a large scale, the raising of a sum of this magnitude from a people of such limited means as our people generally possess is a marvelous achievement. It demonstrates what united, determined and self-sacrificing effort can accomplish. It shows, too, the advantage of having a stimulus in the way of a challenge.

A committee of prominent white business men, pledged the sum of \$10,000 towards the \$20,000 required to complete the building of Zion Baptist church, provided that by a given date the people of the congregation raise an equal sum. The people of Zion went to work with a will, under the efficient leadership of their pastor, with this splendid result. Of course most Monitor readers may not understand our figure of speech when we say Botts and his bunch of boosters have called that business men's committee's hand. They will have to come across with their \$10,000. The challenge has been met.

We hope that this notable achievement, demonstrating as it does what can be done by a determined and united effort, may serve as an inspiration for similar corporate and united efforts along other lines.

The Rev. Mr. Botts and his congregation have made a record of which all Omaha may be proud. In this splendid effort they have had as they deserved to have, the co-operation of many members of the race outside of their communion, but undoubtedly the self-sacrificing spirit and liberality of the members of the congregation is primarily and chiefly responsible for this notable achievement.

### "GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN"

**L**AST Sunday's papers carried the story of the drowning of three little lads—the oldest only eleven—in the reservoir at Council Bluffs. We wonder how many read it. One little lad playing on the edge of the reservoir lost his balance and fell in. Without hesitation one of his companions went to his rescue. He succeeded in swimming with him to the edge of the huge basin, but the slippery incline gave him no foothold and he could not make it with his younger playmate. Seeing the predicament the third lad fearlessly dived in hoping that he might help. Three little heads bobbed in the water helplessly for a short space and then sank from sight.

Brave little lads! True to the divinely-implanted instinct of trying to save others, you paid the supreme sacrifice! How your self-forgetfulness shames our sordidness and selfishness! The more abundant life, brave little lads is yours; for the loving arms of One now enfold you, Who said—

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

### SCOTT TO BE COMMENDED

**T**O the impartial-minded who are able to take a sane and unprejudiced view of the situation the work of Emmett J. Scott, special assistant to the secretary of war, on behalf of the Colored troops is worthy of all commendation. That he was not able to accomplish all that he desired goes without saying, but that he honestly, conscientiously and efficiently strove to do his full duty none who has any sense of fairness or justice will attempt to deny. That Colored soldiers were victims of atrocious discriminations, and the Colored officers, in many instances, were subjected to shameful treatment is lamentably true. The record has been kept and when the story has been given to the world, as it will be some day, many Americans will blush with shame and humiliation that representatives of their country could be guilty of such unworthy conduct, believing our ideals,

towards their fellow countrymen because of their African descent.

When the facts are known broadminded, and justice-loving white Americans, and thank God, despite apparent evidence to the contrary, our country has millions of such—will gladly pay homage to the type of manhood which our race possesses and displayed in doing its full duty despite infamous injustice. Not only so, the display of these rare qualities will make us prouder of our race. That we proved our manhood in the face of much that was galling and hard to bear is an asset to be coveted.

We feel keenly the unwarranted indignities put upon our men and denounce them as unworthy of our republic. But conditions would have been immeasurably worse were it not for the fact that Emmet J. Scott did his work so well. Occupying admittedly a most difficult position, his services have been invaluable both to the race of which he is such a worthy representative and the country of which he is an honored and useful citizen. Whenever cases of discrimination have been brought to his attention, he has taken them up most promptly and with salutary effect.

The Monitor most heartily commends Emmett J. Scott for his splendid services as special assistant to the secretary of war, believing, as we do, that he has done all within his power to secure justice and fair treatment for the Colored troops. We are glad that the government is going to retain his services in the work of reconstruction which presents as serious problems as those evoked by war. In this work he should be sustained and will be sustained by the assurance of the confidence of his people in his unselfishness, honesty and integrity.

### PRESS GLEANINGS

Every State Interested  
(St. Louis Republic.)

Representatives of every state in the union are attending the National Conference Opposed to Lynching in New York and there is need that every part of the country should be represented. Some states have long and honorable records of abstinence from mob violence, but no state is absolutely free from danger that it may break out, and since the question is highly important in its national aspects, every state is interested.

Nothing but the anarchy that succeeded war and revolution has permitted violent acts to occur in western Europe that are in any degree comparable to the barbarous conduct of mobs in this country in times of settled peace and high prosperity.

That fact helps one to measure the difference between the best governed countries in Europe and this country. What they do only in the throes of anarchistic convulsion this country does sometimes under the best government it can devise and administer. Is it any wonder that in times past critics of America across the sea have questioned whether certain parts of this country could be called civilized?

The evil is not in the government, but in a state of mind, and that is a much harder thing to change than government is. Some such organization as that which met in New York is needed to change the mind and attitude of many thousands of people on the subject of lynching, and until it is done there will always be a skeleton in the national closet.

Confidence in Race Business Men  
(Portland Advocate.)

During the ante-bellum days our people learned to distrust each other to a very large degree, and this relic is handed down to the present time in a large measure. Many Colored business enterprise can trace their lack of Colored patronage to the lack of confidence in their business ability by people of their own race. Sometimes it is pure meanness and cussedness on the part of many Colored people that they do not patronize their own business enterprises and go to whites, but it is largely due to the lack of confidence.

Haven't you known of an error happening in some business transaction between parties, both Colored? Resulting from this error the patron gets

angry with the business firm and very often makes the assertion, something like this: "I knew that nigger wouldn't do the right thing." He gets angry and vows that he will never again patronize a Colored business house, and if he stopped there our story would end. But he goes about spreading lies and suggesting suspicion to others. But let this be a business conducted by whites and an error is made he would think something like this: "Course that's a white man and he'll do the square thing even though he made an error about it; he will correct it if I give him a chance." Notice he didn't say anything about giving the Colored person a chance.

As long as we have that distrust about the business qualifications of each other, we can never hope to build up paying business enterprises. We must learn to have confidence in each other, learn to patronize each other and build up business of our own where our own boys and girls may find employment.

Some time ago a certain Colored man opened up a certain business in this city; a young Colored person dropped into our office and happened to speak of this particular business, and said that they had some work they wanted done, but wondered if this man could do it as well as (here they named a white concern doing the same kind of work).

Of course, the Colored business man is not always as careful and painstaking in the conduct of his business as he should be. That is another story. Nor is the white man always as careful in the conduct of his business as he should be. That, too, is another story. But in this we take for granted that the businesses are on a par with each other, one white and the other black.

Let us patronize our own where they are deserving. Let us build up business places of which we may point with pride; let us make room for our young men and women with business aspirations. This can be done through confidence in our race to conduct businesses.

### THE PERISCOPE

"White Man's Country"

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

There is a real improvement in conditions in the South. The better class of Colored people and the better class of whites are "getting together" in a serious effort to better the conditions of all concerned. But there is yet a determined group of whites, including several newspapers, all professing to be "without prejudice" and "the best friends of the Negro," who cling to the false theory and the musty, ancient belief that "this is a white man's country." The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle, white daily, and the Macon (Ga.) Telegram, same, in recent editorials have sought to say that none but fools will say anything else, except this is a "white man's country," regardless of what we have done, in whole or in part, in peace or in war. It is very evident that much missionary work is yet to be done.

DuBois, Moton, and Scott

"Contending forces" best describes the present state of affairs between W. E. B. DuBois, R. R. Moton and Emmett J. Scott. Dr. DuBois, with a wonderful vision of the ideal, has definite ideas of the proper pathway to travel in getting to the goal of success, justice and happiness. Dr. Moton and Mr. Scott, with equal vision, are "pressing on" in all seriousness with the hope of reaching the same goal. It will be many days and months, no doubt, before there will be "unity of action" with definite ends in view, and hence the two groups will continue to defy or ignore criticism from each other and go on their individual ways.

The Grand Army of Americans Being Formed at Capital.

For the moral, social, economic, educational and political welfare of its members, a society is being formed at the national capital under the name of the "Grand Army of Americans," its membership to comprise the officers, soldiers and sailors of the world war, together with their sons and daughters.

No lines of distinction of race or color are to be drawn and the ramifications are to reach the entire United States.

The opinion of Colonel Charles Young having been asked in regard to the project, the following is his statement:

"I deem the venture an important and commendable one, but would suggest (1st) that the provision that includes 'the sons and daughters' of officers and soldiers and sailors would weaken the prestige of the organization. Let them form a separate organization if they wish. (2d) The word 'political' should be understood to shut out party politics or fall kinds and to include only the higher political aspects of Americanization, safe and sound policy in our external and internal relations, and reverence for law and order in a common country only. It is a dangerous word in any constitution. (3d) I submit that overtures should first be made toward merging such an organization with the Amer-

ican Legion, now being organized by Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt, if possible. By so doing, we all working to a common end, presenting a more solid front to the difficulties and problems of this new day, may be better able to reach the goal of our ideals. In this regard I believe the opinion of a majority of American soldiery is now saying: 'It was not simply for white humanity and for white freedom that the United States threw her sword into the balance with the allies, but for us all, irrespective of race, color or condition. Let America be friendly and free.'

"I counsel, for one, that a rapprochement with the larger organization be made, if possible.

"In the 70,000 dead in the fields of France black blood freely and generously mingled itself with white. It is, therefore, unbelievable that the surviving comrades should not honor these heroes by standing shoulder to shoulder for the principles for which they perished and for which the Almighty God has spared the living, black and white."

Change in Trend of Negro Migration  
(By the Associated Negro Press.)

In three years more than 500,000 black people—men, women and children—have gone out of the South to various parts of the east and north, encouraged by economic conditions and rich promises. Now the tables have turned and many Southern communities are in great need of labor and some northern communities, particularly Coatesville, Pa., and latest Chicago, in another fashion, are seeking to repopulate the South. Comes a large portion of the South, saying, "We need help, but we don't want the 'niggeroes' back with their new-fangled northern ideas." Outside of a natural flow of people returning to visit relatives and a few 'homesickers' take it for unquestioned truth the black folk are not returning South. If there is industrial quietude in some localities, and there is further movement, it is further north and west, rather than South.

MUST PLEAD GUILTY TO INDICTMENT

Documents Show Present Indubitable Evidence of Injustice Against a Large Class of Citizenry.

**I**n a very carefully prepared address, delivered to the Bethel Literary club, Washington, D. C., April 29, and printed in the May issue of the Crisis, Dr. W. E. DuBois has made quite an exhaustive statement of his Pan-African Council, held in Paris last February, together with an account of the steps taken by him preparatory to its authorization to be held by the French government, and of the results for good which he believes this council has accomplished.

The address included a very graphic recital of the steps and incidents leading up from his determination to cross the Atlantic, to the final authority given by Premier Clemenceau after the American authorities had side-stepped the undertaking.

Quite as important as the report of the council was the discovery of two important documents which were not intended for publication. They contained the policy of the United States which discriminated against the employment of the Negro as a commissioned officer and laid the foundation for prejudice and discrimination against our soldiers by the soldiers and officers of the United States with whom they were supposed to be fighting against a common foe. The documents to which Dr. DuBois referred in his address are printed in the Crisis and completely fix the blame upon our country for what heretofore rested only on rumor. The address and the Crisis make a distinct issue, a complete indictment to which in the face of the indubitable evidence filed, our country must plead guilty before the bar of the world, condemning it for false practice, injustice against a large class of its citizenry.

The Crisis had been held up by the postoffice department for several days primarily because of these publications herein indicated setting forth the policy of our government. Resentment on the part of the administration will appear later on when the investigations of congress into the conduct of the war will bring to the light of day this and other indefensible matters of policy.

What will follow in the wake of these declarations by Dr. DuBois we do not here and now predict. We should not be surprised if they will lead to new departures, possibly to more vigorous steps and statements that will figure in the contest next year when the peace conference will be an element of discussion that may mean the determination of electoral votes and the election or defeat of candidates, senatorial or presidential.

J. W. CROMWELL,  
Washington, D. C., May 10, 1919.

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