

# 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 Madree Penn, Associate Editors.  
George Wells Parker, Contributing Editor.  
Fred C. Williams, Business Manager.

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**T**HEN welcome each rebuff that turns earth's smoothness rough.  
Each sting that bids nor sit; nor stand; but go.  
Be our joys three parts pain;  
Learn, nor account the pang;  
Dare, never grudge the throe.  
—Browning.

## EXPERIMENT IN HOUSING

**O**UR news columns, carries the interesting story of the formal opening and dedication last Sunday of Truxton, Va., acclaimed as the first model, modern town constructed by the government, through its housing corporation of the department of labor, exclusively for Colored Americans. This town is one of twenty-four war-housing projects undertaken with marked success by the United States government. The exigencies of war demanding proper housing facilities for workers, skilled and unskilled, in the rapidly multiplied communities where their services were required, the government undertook to supply this need. It was no small problem.

Truxton is one of these war-housing projects. The only unique feature about it is the fact that it has been built exclusively for Colored Americans. As such it will be watched with interest. That the experiment will be successful is assured. There are several exclusive Colored towns in this country, under the sole management of the race, which have demonstrated our ability to conduct such communities.

The housing problem is one of the serious jobs that America has yet to tackle. We can learn a vast deal in this line from certain sections of Europe and particularly from Germany. This problem is particularly acute in the case of our people in almost every community.

We hope that the department of labor will continue its housing corporation and that methods may be devised by which this federal corporation or commission may be able to cooperate with the local authorities, where housing problems are acute—and this we believe is the case in all large centers of population—in securing sanitary and attractive homes for the laboring classes at a fair rental and with liberal opportunities for the tenants to become owners. Industrial corporations may learn from this experiment an important lesson which will prove profitable to them and to their employees.

## PROTESTING SLAUGHTER OF JEWS

**T**HE Monitor is in heartiest accord with the organized protest which is going up from all parts of the country against the slaughter of the Jews in Poland, Galicia, Roumania and other eastern countries. Such barbarities ought not to be tolerated anywhere. We believe that the humane instincts of mankind are powerful enough to prevent such atrocities everywhere and that all selfish interests which make the nations indifferent and voiceless in the face of these terrible tragedies should be subordinated to righteousness and justice. The Jews are a great race. One of the greatest the world has ever seen. They are peaceable, intellectual, industrious, thrifty and kind-hearted. The prejudice against them is outrageous and indefensible. While here in the United States this virile people have not been the victims of slaughter, they have been and are the victims of a cruel, senseless, blighting and unreasoning prejudice, which is, at heart, the same spirit which has manifested itself in murders and massacres abroad. While Americans are protesting, and justly, against Jewish massacres abroad, let them see to it that they eliminate their anti-Semitic and other racial prejudices at home.

## IRISH PRESSING CLAIMS

**A** DELEGATION of Americans of Irish descent are in Paris seeking an opportunity to present Ireland's claim for autonomy before the peace conference. Frank P. Walsh on behalf of the Irish-American delegation, has sent a letter to President Wilson transmitting a number of cablegrams from various parts of the United States insisting that the delegation be given an opportunity to present Ireland's case and protesting against Article X of the league of nations. It will be interesting to watch the out-

come of this demand. The position hitherto taken by the dominant powers at the peace conference is that purely domestic problems shall be left to the decision of the respective countries or government concerned. The Irish question is considered a domestic problem for Great Britain to settle. Similarly other countries, the United States among them, have domestic problems, chiefly, if not exclusively, racial, which they too must be left free to determine in their own way. This, so far as can be learned, is the position taken by the peace conference. The Monitor, however, does not believe that this position is tenable, but that if world peace is to be maintained, there must be some covenant or agreement by which the signatories will be bound to settle their domestic troubles arising from the demand for rights by special racial or national groups, upon grounds of equity and justice. Ireland's right to self-determination, in which Ulster too must have her say, is not a purely domestic problem; nor is the treatment of the Jews in Poland or Russia a purely domestic problem. Nor the Negro's status in the United States a purely domestic problem. Such questions as these are world questions, and the world is interested in their just settlement. The Irish are right in pressing their claim to at least having a hearing at the peace conference. We are interested in seeing how effective their demand will prove.

## LITTLE BIG WORDS

**T**HERE are many little words in the English language which are very significant. They mean so much. To this class belong such words as "If," "No," "Up." Words of two letters only, but with what a wealth of meaning they are fraught. Upon these little big words may hinge the issues of life. Their utterance have been known to spell success or failure in many a life. What issues sometimes hang upon an "IF." What moral tragedies have been caused or averted by a decided "NO." What victories, military, moral, material, and spiritual have been won by "UP." "Up, guards, and at them," was the command that turned defeat into victory in an historic military campaign. "Up, my boy, the morning calls," has sounded the keynote of every successful life. "Up with the sun," has been the motto of many who would achieve great things.

## THE N. A. A. C. P.

**W**HAT is the "N. A. A. C. P.?" It is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This is an organization now numbering nearly 60,000 and rapidly growing, of thoughtful, patriotic American citizens of both races, having as its sole aim and purpose the securing of simple justice for Colored Americans in common with all American citizens. Its specific tasks are these: The abolition of legal injustices against Negroes; the stamping out of race discrimination; the prevention of lynchings, burning and torturing of human beings because they are black; the securing to every citizen of color the common rights of American citizenship; compelling equal accommodations in railroad travel and the securing of equal educational opportunities for Colored children in public schools through a fair apportionment of public education funds. This is the definite, clear

program which the N. A. A. C. P. has before it. Is there one of these demands that is not just? Is there a single demand here made that any fair-minded American will say ought not to be granted? Are they not all in exact accord with the ideals for which our country claims to stand? The means which this association employs to secure these rights are EDUCATION, ORGANIZATION, AGITATION, PUBLICITY, THE FORCE OF AN ENLIGHTENED PUBLIC OPINION.

The Omaha branch has a membership of 700. A campaign is on to secure a membership of 5,000. It costs only \$1 a year to become a member. We believe that everybody is in favor of the principles for which this organization stands and will require no urging to become a member, and in this way do his bit towards securing a square deal for all loyal, law-abiding Americans.

## PUSH THAT PLAYGROUND

**T**HE city commissioners are respectfully requested to speedily secure the much-needed public playground for children in the vicinity of the Kellom school. The proposed site between Nicholas and Clark and Twenty-first and Twenty-second is ideal from several points of view. It will meet the needs of a large number of children within a large area. The district has the largest juvenile population of any district in the city, and they are without playground facilities. The proposed plans are good. Now let Falconer or Towl, or whoever's business it is to push this matter, get busy on the job.

## KENNEDY BECOMES BANK OFFICIAL

**T**HE MONITOR congratulates the United States National bank upon electing the Hon. John L. Kennedy vice president. Mr. Kennedy is one of Omaha's oldest and foremost citizens. He is public-spirited, alert, progressive, liberal-minded and true as steel. The United States National bank has many of our race among its depositors and it will lose none by adding to its officers such a stalwart friend of our people as John L. Kennedy.

## PRESS GLEANINGS

### Radicalism

We used to think that certain of our leading men who continually harped upon and protested against discrimination and injustice were entirely "too radical;" that they ought to go quickly and modestly about their own personal affairs and by the acquisition of property and education make themselves worthy of better treatment; that if they were denied the right to occupy property owned by them in a desirable neighborhood, they purchase property elsewhere and by their own acts improve that neighborhood. And there are lots of Colored people who think that now. But we have long since changed our views upon the subject. We think differently now. We really doubt if it is possible to be too radical in one's opposition to race hatred, discrimination and injustice. Certainly no opposition that has failed to accomplish reforms in this respect can be too radical.

And after all, what is opposition to existing order of things, but radicalism? Can he who opposes present conditions be other than radical? Conservatism is the disposition to preserve what is established—satisfaction with existing customs, things, conditions. Conservatism is the executioner of progress. It obstructs reforms and retards the spread of civilization.

Radicalism is the herald of progress, the handmaiden of reform, a guide to civilization. It forced from the reluctant hands of King John at Runnymede Magna Charta; it broke the yoke of England and gave independence to the thirteen colonies and to the world a great republic. It struck from the limbs of four million human beings the galling chains of slavery and made them the possessors of their own persons, the directors of their own destiny.

Radicalism does things. Be sure your cause is just and be as radical as you can. You cannot be too radical in a righteous cause.—The Wisconsin Weekly Blade.

## CHICAGO'S HOUSING CONDITIONS DISCUSSED

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, June 4.—"The Housing Situation and the Colored People of Chicago," is the name of a new booklet prepared by Charles S. Duke, A. B., C. E., of the city hall bridge division, City Hall Square building, Chicago. The booklet has "suggested remedies and brief references to housing projects generally." It is a very timely treatise of a very acute subject, and the newspapers and public organizations generally, have been praising Mr. Duke for the unusual contribution to this critical economic field.

## THE PERISCOPE

By the Associated Negro Press.  
**"Colored League of Nations."**  
Senator Reed, democrat, of Missouri, on the floor of the United States, in an address opposing the "League of Nations" declared that his chief opposition to the league, as sorry as he was to admit it, comes from the fact that the way the preliminary organization is constituted, the "white peoples of the world will have less representation than the Colored peoples." The cat is at last out of the bag. For some time the clawing and mewing of the cat has been heard, but he is out now, head, tail, feet and fur. At the bottom of the whole scheme of "world wide democracy" has been the underscored word "white." Upon this basis, the whole plan is, sooner or later, bound to fail. The United States, England, France and Italy, combined against Japan on the "race equality" proposition. If the league is to be world wide, and there must be considered the subject of color, there is no plan or scheme, by which the whites can dominate in numbers, for the Colored peoples of the entire world—black, brown and yellow, outnumber the white three to one. The fate of the whites lies ultimately in the hands of the Colored peoples, for with numbers they are getting intelligence and wealth, and with this combination, the world must move forward to a plane of justice.

## Universal Housing.

The subject of "Housing the People" has become one of the big things of the day. Not only in metropolitan centers, where construction has been eliminated on account of the war, but in the smaller communities as well, there is an unprecedented demand for better housing conditions. The United States government with unusual dispatch, took a hand in the war time problem, and the situation is now so critical that it is believed the federal government will take an even livelier post-war part, as well as the various state and municipal governments.

**Playing the World Old Game.**  
Politics, without a doubt, had its beginning with Cain and Abel. Cain slew Abel, as politicians now seek to slay each other, because Abel seemed to be the more favored. Cain had doubtless used all the subtle means known to his hypocritical life, to get on the good side of Grandpa Adam, and when he saw that he had failed, he resorted to four play, even as present day politicians.

For the next year and a half, the greatest "world series" of the game ever known or conceived by human mind, will be played. As between the two great parties, republican and democrat, their star players have been for quite some time on the training grounds.

That they are all getting into form, none can gainsay. There is a disturbing element known variously as socialists, anarchists, bolsheviks, I. W. W., labor and dreamers, that gives great concern to the leaders and managers of the old time regular players of the game.

## A SONNET

In Memory of the Late Mme. Walker.  
**WOMANKIND**, adept in thrifty trade,  
We mourn the loss of one whose husbandry  
A race has watched with pride. The buzzing bee  
Is symbolic of progress that she made:  
Who started out a toiler and ill-paid,  
She artfully accrued goods steadily  
And, rising 'mongst the few, she readily  
Would gladly stoop to give her brother aid.

A folk, 'tis often said, may never rise  
One whit above the women of like mien;  
If 'tis forthsooth—then on! My race, be wise,  
For well has this our sister set the pace;  
Who lived a peer of princesses and queens  
And passed a benediction to her race.  
**G. NORMAN ADAMSON.**  
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If you will engrave upon the tablet of your heart this little word UP and have it lead you, you will never know how to fail.—George M. Adams.

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