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

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Black Star Line Steamship Reported Sinking

BLACK STAR LINE SHIP COMPLETES FIRST TRIP

Steamship Yarmouth, owned and officered by colored men, makes successful maiden trip to Panama and returns—Captain Cockburn, officers and crew are given reception at Panama City.

DOCKED AT NORTH RIVER PIER TUESDAY

Brings Back Assorted Cargo and Thirty-nine Passengers—Returns in Good Seaworthy Condition—Another Vessel to Be Added to the Line Soon—An Important Venture in Commercial World.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The steamship Yarmouth, to be renamed the Frederick Douglass, first of a fleet to be known as the Black Star Line Steamship Corporation, owned exclusively by men and women of African descent in the United States, Africa, the British West Indies and the canal zone, completed her maiden trip last Wednesday when she was moored to her dock in the North river. She brought back 38 passengers in addition to a valuable miscellaneous cargo and returned in a good seaworthy condition. The Yarmouth arrived Tuesday night, but Captain Cockburn was forced to remain outside the harbor entrance on account of the ice flows.

The Yarmouth, which is a British built steamship, with a length of 220 feet and 1,200 tonnage, was purchased by the Black Star Line, sailed from New York Sunday afternoon, November 23, bound for the British West Indies. This event was one of profound historical significance for it marked the entrance of the Negro race into the maritime field. For the first time in history a steamship owned and officered, from captain down, by Negroes steamed out of New York harbor. She landed at Sagua Grande, Cuba, December 3, where she discharged a cargo of cement. Leaving that port December 7 she proceeded on her voyage and arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, where she was given a gala reception December 10. Thousands of cheering people lined the waterfront as the ship headed to her berth alongside the pier of Leonard de Cordova. During the Yarmouth's stay in port she was visited by thousands of proud and enthusiastic Jamaicans.

Leaving Kingston she proceeded to Colon, where she docked at pier No. 10 at Cristobal, Canal Zone, Wednesday, December 17, discharging passengers and cargo. On her return voyage she stopped at Kingston and other ports and arrived in New York last Wednesday.

In the Canal Zone the colored citizens took a holiday in honor of the ship's arrival. Captain Cockburn, his officers and crew were feted and lionized. At a reception tendered him at Panama City, Captain Cockburn, who is a native of Nassau, made an address in which he said that it was an honor to bring the Yarmouth to Colon, not because it was the first ship which he had commanded, but because it was the first of the Black Star Steamship corporation which marks an era in the history of the Negro race and means that Negroes have entered the commercial field and are out to win.

The Black Star Line Steamship Corporation owes its origin to Marcus Garvey, founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities' League of the World, which has as its object the consolidation of the sentiment and aspirations of the Negro race throughout the world, for racial progress industrially, commercially, educationally and politically.

Its first work commercially on a large scale is to be the establishment of a steamship line plying between New York, Cuba and the West Indies. The Yarmouth or the Frederick Douglass is the first of the line and it is proposed to put on the Phyllis Wheatley soon. The steamship line has opened. A big undertaking has been successfully launched.

FOUND GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY TO MURDER

A. Novak was found guilty of conspiracy to murder in district court last Thursday in connection with the lynching of Will Brown. This is the first conviction on this charge.

POPULATION ONE-EIGHTH OF A MILLION NOW

Chicago Has Jumped From Fifth Place to Second Within the Last Decade With Upwards of 125,000 Colored Residents.

URBAN LEAGUE REPORT GIVES IMPORTANT FACTS

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—Chicago is the second largest city in the United States in Negro population. The district known as "the black belt" contains a larger number of colored people than any similar area in the country. These are the findings of the Urban League as stated in its annual report by the secretary, T. Arnold Hill. A noticeable increase in employment of colored girls and women is pointed to.

"Since 1915 Chicago has added approximately 75,000 people to its colored population," the report says. "This is true of no other city. Detroit and Newark have increased their Negro population between 300 and 400 per cent during the last four years. But neither of these cities has a Negro population half as large as large as Chicago's, now a total of 125,000.

Ranked Fifth in 1910. "In 1910 Chicago ranked fifth among the cities of the north having large colored populations. Today she is second only to New York, and this, by the way, only because New York includes the population of Manhattan Island, Brooklyn, the Bronx and certain other Long Island towns.

The greater part of Chicago's increased Negro population had accrued at the close of 1918. While we have had a steady increase of population since January 1, 1919, the new arrivals have come in smaller numbers and with less confusion, thus permitting us to give more personal supervision, to spend more time with individuals.

Employ Many Colored Girls. Since November 1 of last year, 20,315 separate individuals used our office for a total of approximately 37,350 different times. Most of them were people looking for work, and most of them who were in earnest received it. Many needed vocational guidance, a friendly hand, a constructive suggestion."

Mention is made of the employment by Sears-Roebuck & Company of 1,400 colored girls at 310 West Washington street. At the same place there were employed last year 600 colored girls, and the company said it was willing to again employ during this holiday period 575 of the same girls. It was found, however, that less than half of these were available, although wages were \$2.00 a week higher than last year.

"This was due to the fact that the others were employed," the report states, "the labor field for colored girls having expanded beyond all calculations."

TEN-CENT STORES IN LIBERIA.

Native African Student in Yale Theological School to Start Business.

Three native Africans, in Des Moines to attend the student volunteer convention, were speakers at an African conference in St. Paul's African Methodist church.

The Rev. Isaac Steady, jr., student in the theological school of Yale university, declared that Africa needed Negro business enterprises as well as churches and that he already had plans under way for the opening of a 5 and 10-cent store when he returns to his home at Sierra Leone Liberia, which he says is a town of 150,000 people, 145,000 Negroes and 5,000 whites.

Africa needs expert farmers, William Masumma of Capetown, South Africa, told the conference. Masumma is taking a course in agriculture at the University of Minnesota, from which he will graduate in 1920.

The third speaker was a young African girl, Amanda Mason, who is a student in Wilberforce university, the leading school of the African Methodist church at Wilberforce, O. She made a strong appeal for American Negroes of character and education to come to Africa to teach their brethren anything and everything that tends toward civilization.—Des Moines Register.

JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY, POET-PATRIOT, ON POSSIBILITIES OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO

"No Man Ever Came Into the World With so Great an Opportunity as the American Negro. He is Like New Metal Dug Out of the Mine. He Stands on the Threshold of History, With Everything to Learn and Less to Unlearn Than Any Civilized Man in the World."

THIRTY-FOUR years ago, in 1886, John Boyle O'Reilly, the famous Irish poet and patriot, delivered a notable address to the colored citizens of Boston, in which he paid high tribute to the intellectual and spiritual endowments of the colored race and pointed out the wonderful possibilities, because of these endowments and other characteristics, lying before our people. The truths he then stressed will bear repetition now. In this materialistic age it cannot be too frequently repeated that true greatness is greatness of soul, and that individual, race or nation who possesses this will unquestionably find and hold his place in the sun.

Before and since O'Reilly gave his address the Negro "has given the world proof of the truth and beauty and heroism and power that are in his soul." This, it cannot be doubted, he will continue to do. He has given not only the "one poet (who) will be worth one hundred bankers and brokers," but several, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Stanley C. Braithwaite and James Weldon Johnson, to mention no others. He has given great musicians to the world like Harry T. Burleigh in America, and S. Coleridge Taylor in England, and great painters like Henry M. Tanner, and sculptresses like Edmonia Lewis and Meta Warrick Fuller. With enlarging opportunities the Negro will continue to develop great men and women.

This is what John Boyle O'Reilly said over three decades ago and his words are applicable to the present day and generation:

I know nothing and care nothing about your politics or party preferences, but I know that if I were a colored man I should use political parties, as I would a club or a hatchet, to smash the prejudice that dared to exclude my children from a public school, or myself from a public hall, theater, or hotel. The interest you have to protect and defend is not that of a party, but of your own manhood. Use party as they use you—for your own best interests.

Politics No Panacea. But the thing that most deeply afflicts the colored American is not going to be cured by politics. You have received from politics already about all it can give you. You may change the law by politics; but it is not the law that is going to insult and outrage and excommunicate every colored American for generations to come. You can't cure the conceit of the white people that they are better than you by politics, nor their ignorance, nor their prejudice, nor their bigotry, nor any of the insolences which they cherish against their colored fellow-citizens.

Basis of Social Equity. Politics is the snare and delusion of white men as well as black. Politics tickles the skin of the social order; but the disease lies deep in the internal organs. Social equity is based on justice; politics change on the opinion of the time. The black man's skin will be a mark of social inferiority so long as white men are conceited, ignorant, unjust and prejudiced. You cannot legislate these qualities out of the white—you must steal them out by teaching, illustration and example.

Like New Metal. No man ever came into the world with so grand an opportunity as the American Negro. He is like new metal dug out of the mine. He stands on the threshold of history, with everything to learn and less to unlearn than any civilized man in the world. In his heart still ring the free sounds of the desert. In his mind he carries the traditions of Africa. The songs with which he charms American ears are refrains from the tropical deserts, from the inland seas and rivers of the dark continent.

Music and Color-Loving. At worst, the colored American has only a century of degrading civilized tradition, habit and inferiority to forget and unlearn. His nature has only been injured on the outside by these late circumstances. Inside he is a new man, fresh from nature—a color-lover, an enthusiast, a believer by the heart, a philosopher, a cheerful, natural, good-natured man. He has all the qualities that fit him to be a good Christian citizen of any country; he does not worry his soul today with the fear of next week or next year. He has feelings and convictions, and he loves to show them. He sees no reason why he should hide them.

NOT OUR WAY. An advertisement for waiters and bus boys was inserted in last week's Monitor. We now understand, or have reason to believe, that its purpose is to find men to take the place of waiters who refuse to have their wages cut. The Monitor will not knowingly lend itself to any scheme to undercut the wages of any class of working men. We therefore withdraw the advertisement from our columns. The Monitor is not in that kind of business.

ORGANIZE TO MAINTAIN CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Chicagoans Form Aggressive Organization to Combat by Legal and Educational Methods Efforts to Restrict Them to Certain Districts.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—The Protective Circle of Chicago is the name of an aggressive organization that has been established for the purpose of combating by legal and educational methods the efforts to prevent colored people from living in the Kenwood and Hyde Park district. Particular attention will also be given to the mysterious series of bombing of property on the south side and which, up to the present time, has been unsolved by the Chicago police.

The preamble of the very brief but comprehensive constitution of the Protective Circle states:

"This organization is committed solely to the policy of offsetting and suppressing in every legitimate and legal way lawlessness that has recently been evidenced in intimidation, bombing, threatening and coercion of colored and white citizens of Chicago.

"We propose to rest upon our constitutional rights enunciated in the recent decision of the supreme court of the United States, which in substance affirms the right of any person to buy or sell wherever one is willing to buy and the other to sell."

A Militant Slogan.

The Protective Circle has a militant slogan: "No backward step. Anywhere, providing it be forward!" The work of the organization is vested in an executive committee and four standing committees. The president of the organization is Rev. Dr. J. W. Robinson; secretary, Charles S. Duke; treasurer, Anthony Overton. The chairmen of the committees are: Investigation, A. Clement McNeal; publicity, Nahum Daniel Brascher; legal procedure, Oscar De Priest; propaganda, Jesse Binga.

STEAMSHIP YARMOUTH REPORTED SINKING

Wireless Messages Brought Relief to the Black Star Line Freighter Carrying Valuable Cargo of Liquor.

New York, Jan. 18.—The British freighter Yarmouth, which left New York for Havana yesterday with a cargo of liquor, reported in radio messages today that she was sinking. She gave her position as latitude 39 north, longitude 74 west, and said she was "twenty-four miles northeast of Light Vessel, No. 3." The message said:

"Forward ballast tank leaking into engine room."

A heavy mist prevailed. The Yarmouth registers 725 tons.

Loaded Too Swiftly.

New York, Jan. 18.—The cargo of liquor carried by the freight steamship Yarmouth, consisted of whisky, gin and champagne, is valued at \$2,000,000. She left this port yesterday for Havana, with a heavy list to starboard, owing to the haste with which longshoremen loaded her in an effort to get her away before prohibition became effective at midnight Friday.

The Yarmouth flies the colors of the Black Star Line Steamship corporation, the first company of its kind to be owned entirely by Negroes. The officers and crew are of that race.

On the Way Back.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 18.—A wireless report received late tonight at the navy yard said that the coast guard cutter, Itasca, had taken the Yarmouth in tow and was proceeding with her to New York.

APPOINT EASTERN MANAGER OF GEN. WOOD CAMPAIGN

New York, Jan. 20.—Representative Norman J. Gould of Seneca Falls, N. Y., has accepted appointment as eastern manager of the Leonard Wood national campaign committee, it was announced here by Colonel William C. Proctor, national chairman. The national committee now includes, it was stated, Colonel Proctor, chairman; J. I. McGraw of Oklahoma, vice chairman; Governors Allen of Kansas, Burquist of Minnesota, Shoup of Colorado and Norbeck of South Dakota and former Governor Stokes and Senator Runyon of New Jersey.

REDS STIR UP RACE RIOTS IS ALLEGATION

Department of Justice Report Shows Radical Agitators in Various States.

FINANCED FROM MEXICO CITY

Article Designed to Rouse Negroes Paid for by Linn A. E. Gale, Senate Committee is Told—Colored Organization Asks Federal Anti-Lynching Law.

(Special to The Monitor, by Walter J. Singleton, Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 15.—Enactment of federal legislation to prevent lynchings and race rioting was urged at the initial hearing yesterday of a senate judiciary subcommittee conducted under the resolution providing for investigation into recent riots and submission of a report to the senate suggesting means of preventing recurrence of the disorders. Yesterday's session was devoted entirely to the question of federal jurisdiction.

Senator Curtis of Kansas, author of the resolution, presented to the subcommittee a copy of a report of the department of justice showing the activity of radical agitators among the Negroes in various cities where rioting has occurred in the last six years and describing the manner in which these agitators have conducted a propaganda among Negroes for the purpose of arousing unrest.

Blames Radical Agitators.

The report outlined an article by Frederick A. Blossom, secretary of the I. W. W. local of Paterson, N. J., textile workers, designed to arouse Negroes. This article, the report said, was printed in the offices of the Gary (Ind.) Post at the expense of Linn A. E. Gale, of Mexico City, who, the report said, was believed to be a German agent.

"It seems to me," said Senator Curtis in presenting the report, "that there is a very strong reason why the general government should take hold of this question and make a thorough investigation of it and into the activity of the radical element in this country in working up race riots."

U. S. Bratton, a white attorney of Little Rock, Ark., who said his son narrowly escaped lynching during the recent race riots in that state, argued in favor of federal legislation, declaring the federal constitution guarantees all citizens an impartial trial, which mob rule denies. He declared, however, that the recent trouble in Arkansas was not due to racial agitators, but to the system of peonage which he alleged prevailed in Arkansas.

Tells of 36 Lynchings.

James Weldon Johnson, former United States consul in Nicaragua, but now field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, told the committee that there recently had been suggestions that the United States intervene in Mexico because about six Americans had been killed, while during the same period 36 Negroes had been lynched in this country.

Legislation to prevent race riots and lynchings clearly comes within the constitutional powers of congress, said Mr. Johnson, who added that it has taken no radical action to make the Negroes feel they were being oppressed.

The Rev. J. G. Robinson of Philadelphia, national organizer for the Equal Rights League of America, told the subcommittee that he had been driven from his home because of his work on behalf of the Negro. Other witnesses were John R. Shillady, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, and Archibald H. Grimke, president of the Washington branch of the organization.

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 21.—W. Justin Carter of Harrisburg, Pa., bar, has just been appointed as private secretary to Lieutenant Governor Biedelman of Pennsylvania, in recognition of his splendid services in the political successes which have marked the career of Mr. Biedelman, who was formerly a state senator and who is a man with a political future. Mr. Carter succeeds Harry F. Oves.