

THE MONITOR

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ARTICLE XIV. CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. Citizenship Rights Not to Be Abridged.

1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

THE WORLD AT PRAYER.

WE do not know how many of our readers have seen or were among those who offered up the prayer set forth by a committee of the Interchurch World Movement and which was said or supposed to have been said, by millions throughout the world at the ushering in of the New Year. It was printed in every known tongue. Doubtless, millions repeated it with fervor. With one voice, though in many tongues, it calls for the "elevation of justice and brotherhood," and appeals for the hastening of that Kingdom in which mercy and love rule in the hearts of men.

It is rather significant and stresses the unity of the human family that Christian people of the white race, the black race, the yellow race and the red race heard and joined in the prayer that went round the world for guidance to replenish a devastated earth and stay the unrest of perplexed people.

No one can estimate the power of prayer. The individual, race or nation that genuinely believes in it and sincerely offers it is sure to triumph over all its foes, spiritual and temporal, and what counts more than all, to conquer its own sins of hate and greed and selfishness. These are the sins which keep men and nations at variance.

Let prayers like this one continue to be offered throughout the world and strife and hatred and discord will speedily cease. The world was called to prayer and here is the prayer that millions were requested to offer as the old year closed and the New Year dawned:

"Almighty God, Father of all mankind, at the end of a year in which realize has so often thwarted love, we join the prayers of all Thy children around the world for peace, the elevation of justice and of brotherhood.

"Thou Creator, Possessor of all things, Who didst make the earth for the races of men and didst set bounds for their habitation, forgive us our greed as we repent of our sin, and restore to all hearts the recognition of the transcendent right of human life to live.

"Open our eyes, we beseech Thee, to the dignity of labor, the sacredness of human service, and the privileges of production, that nation may join nation and man may join man justly in honest work to replenish a devastated earth.

"Quicken the sympathy of hearts made dull by reports and sights of suffering, incomprehensible and needless.

"Call us again that we may bow before the eternal laws of creation, putting aside malice, envy, covetousness and brutality, to enter into the peace of the sons of the Most High.

Hasten by Thy gracious Providence and by the consecrated efforts of Thy children the coming of Thy world wide Kingdom where justice, mercy and love shall rule the hearts and hands of men.

"Create in us, O Lord, clean hearts, and renew right spirits for the coming year.

"This we ask in the spirit of Jesus Christ, our holy Hope. Amen!"

MONITOR MISTAKEN.

THE Monitor will always be found manly enough to acknowledge its mistakes and make due apology for the same. We try to be absolutely sure of our facts before making a statement or taking a stand. We have the reputation of being reliable and dependable and we are jealous of maintaining this reputation. We find that we are mistaken in the purpose of the advertisement for waiters and bus boys which we withdrew from our advertising columns last week, because, as we said, we had reason to believe that its purpose was to find men to take the place of waiters who refuse to have their wages cut. We

have been reliably informed that this is not true, and that these men are wanted for other projects. We therefore reinsert the advertisement.

The insertion of advertisements comes under the business management of the paper. This department uses the same care in trying to secure dependable advertisements as the editor does in maintaining the literary standard of the publication and it frequently occurs that the editor does not know what advertisements are in until the paper is published. We have absolute confidence in the business management and, as yet, have never had any reason for calling their good judgment into question. This advertisement was received in the regular way. Later, the editor, knowing that there was a proposal to cut the wages of certain waiters and having been informed that the advertisement was inserted by an employe of that house, concluded that here was an underhanded effort to supply the places of these men. Having, however, since learned that the gentleman who inserted the advertisement is not now an employe of that house and having been assured that these employes are not to be displaced, The Monitor acknowledges its mistake and will continue to list the names.

APPRECIATE COMPLIMENT; BUT DESIRE CREDIT

THE Monitor feels complimented that so many of our exchanges consider us a model in news matter and editorial comment. Several borrow our news items, headlines and all. News, of course, is common property. It is in the matter of headlines where originality is shown. Where, therefore, our contemporaries borrow our news items, headlines and all, it might not be amiss or lacking in courtesy to occasionally give The Monitor credit. This is not absolutely necessary in the matter of news, but when it comes to editorials credit should be given. Not infrequently are editorials from The Monitor published in full in the editorial columns of our exchanges as their own editorials. This is dishonest and unethical. Our editorial on the New Year is one of the most recent cases. We are glad to have our editorials quoted, but please, brethren of the quill, give us credit.

SELF-RESPECT.

UNFORTUNATELY through a long process of wrong education many members of our race have, perhaps unconsciously, imbibed the spirit of self-depreciation which is most regrettable and must be overcome. What we mean is this: Because of the enslavement of our forefathers there has arisen, very naturally, the disposition to believe that the race which furnished the master class is an inherently superior race. Consequently, there is a tacit concession to his right to rule and to be deferred to in any and all matters of moment. This process of thought has engendered and bred upon the part of one insolence and arrogance and upon the part of the other fawning and servility. Too many of our people, even those who lay claim to more than the average degree of intelligence, assume this latter attitude. They speak in laudatory terms of the dominant race and in deprecatory terms of their own. They reflect in their tone and attitude those of the dominant race toward our own race. This is a serious mistake. It is a fatal mistake. No individual who is constantly under-rating and belittling himself can win, nor does he merit, the respect of others. This is equally true of races and nations. Would we gain the respect of others we must not be wanting in self-respect.

We must not accept for one minute the popular American doctrine that a dark skin is the infallible and unquestioned credential of inferiority of race

jurisdiction. We should have to accept without criticism or protest the vile condition of affairs that prevails now in the southern states or be tried for sedition and hanged for criticizing and protesting against the condition. There is plenty of trouble ahead for the Negro people. The republicans and the democrats in congress are working together to hitch upon us the awful condition of affairs that has been allowed to grow up in the southern states, and to try and hang us when we criticize and protest against it.—The Amsterdam (N. Y.) News.

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THE ANTI-SEDITION BILL.

Organized labor is opposing the anti-sedition bill now before congress on the ground that it would violate the constitution and rob the whole American people of their most cherished and basic guarantees of free government.

"If the American people, and in fact a majority of the members of congress," says Mr. Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, "were awake to the dangers concealed in this bill, a storm of indignation would sweep the nation. It has been widely advertised that this measure protects free speech fully, but prevents advocacy of forcible revolution, bolshevism, and anarchy. In fact, it would perpetuate an autocratic censorship over the entire American press. It can be used to kill free speech and free assembly.

"Section 6 perpetuates the censorship of the postmaster general over all newspapers and printed matter. The so-called Borah amendment, providing a court review of the postmaster general's action, is sound in principle, but is inadequate to afford protection as a practical matter to a publisher against the autocratic action of the postmaster general.

"More amazing still, the proviso sets up a censorship over any man's private correspondence by the postmaster general. It would be criminal, for example, for a man to send a letter advocating resistance to an injunction issued by a federal judge ordering workers on strike to go back to work.

"Moreover, this section can be used to prevent the organization of colored labor on the grounds of inciting racial prejudice, the intended or probable result of which appeal is to cause rioting, etc." No doubt advocacy of, or opposition to, the cause of Irish freedom would in some sections be prohibited."

We have seen enough of the workings of the espionage act—during the war and after—to be suspicious of these so-called anti-sedition bills. The espionage act was in many instances used—not as an instrument for the protection of the nation—but as a weapon for autocracy and petty tyranny. Too often private malice found it a convenient cloak to hide sinister purposes.

Just now, a widespread effort is being made to bring all labor organizations into disrepute by classing them all as bolshevist. During the steel strike and the coal strike this was especially noticeable. We have little doubt that the anti-sedition bills now before congress have been designed to hamper labor organizations, even at the cost of taking away the liberties of the rest of us. We should not allow ourselves to be carried away by the present "scare" that has been worked up for a purpose. Let us preserve our liberty even though a few "Reds" sometimes abuse it. Our present laws are sufficient to deal with them.—The True Voice (Omaha).

LEADING EDITORIALS

Dangerous Times Ahead for the Race

When the politicians of a nation become convinced that a proposition is popular, that there are many votes in it, they usually fall over themselves in adopting and advocating that proposition, even if it amounts to a radical curtailment of personal and political rights and liberties. The activity of alien socialists, Russian Reds and the like has been seized upon by both the dominant parties as an excuse for favoring such legislative enactments as will amount practically, to the enslavement of the people to the party in power, whichever party that may be.

The action of the New York legislature in refusing to seat the five socialist members because of their political beliefs is a case in point, and one that has drawn out a strong legal protest from Judge Chas. E. Hughes, the last republican candidate for president, and from other strong men in the nation, as being illegal and subversive of the political freedom of thought which has always been freely tolerated in this country, and denial of which is bound to lead to confusion and, perhaps, violence.

If the sedition law passes congress as it has been adopted by the house of representatives, any of the states of the south can have arrested and ultimately hanged any Negro editor who should protest against any injustice, such as is now commonly practiced against the Afro-American citizens, including denunciation of mob law and of the state government that allows mob law to prevail within its

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