

# THE MONITOR

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

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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 DEMOCRACY OF WORK.

THE Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway company was putting a switch in at Twentieth and Cuming streets. The Monitor was interested in watching the workmen; not merely from the nature of the work being done, but because of the workmen engaged. From the faces of the workmen it was easy to recognize several racial types. Two brawny black men were wielding pickaxes beside two men from Italy or Greece. A black man lifted one end of a heavy oak tie and a white man the other and carried it to its place where it was duly set to support the heavy steel rail. As we watched these workmen, black and white, working peaceably, good-naturedly and helpfully, side by side, the thought that swept across our mind was a most pleasing one touching the democracy of labor as exemplified in this group of workmen. Toilers of men, toilers for daily bread, engaged in a common work, why should there be a separation among them or strife between them? In this band of laborers, workmen at a common task, we see the lesson that America must learn before true democracy shall be supreme. Men of various racial groups must be given the opportunity to do and be taught to work side by side, each lifting his end of the oaken tie, respecting and respected by each other.

### RECOGNITION OF MERIT.

As a recognition of merit, The Monitor notes with pleasure that Desdunes' Band has again been engaged by the Chamber of Commerce to accompany its delegation on its trade excursion through Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado. When it is known that many bands are applicants for this coveted honor, the fact that it has been won by Desdunes' band for two consecutive times is a high testimonial to the superior standard attained by this splendid musical organization. This standard has been reached and maintained only through the hard, persistent work of years. It is being maintained, and can only be maintained, by regular and diligent rehearsals. The Monitor compliments the band upon this merited recognition again given it by the Chamber of Commerce, congratulates it upon the high standard it has set and indulges the hope that our own people generally, in this and other lines, will appreciate, encourage and aspire to reach and maintain the high standard set by Desdunes' band. Among the many lessons that we may learn from the success of this band are these: It pays to set a high standard and to work unremittingly to attain that standard and having attained it, to work doubly hard to maintain it; that the price one must pay for success in any line is work; and that although it may be slow in coming, recognition will eventually come where it is deserved.

### REMOVING BARRIERS.

OUR Washington correspondent sends information which seems almost too good to be true. It is that two of the most important Roman Catholic educational institutions in the country have opened their doors to color students. These are Georgetown University and the Catholic University of Washington. The Monitor hopes that no embarrassing limitations have been or will be placed upon any students who wish to avail themselves of the educational advantages of these institutions.

One of the factors which has been playing a large part in the American program of de-Americanizing the colored American is the growing disposition to exclude colored youth from many of the higher institutions of learning and particularly those under religious auspices. Roman Catholics have not been less guiltless than other Christian bodies in this respect. They have all, speaking generally and disregarding, for the nonce, the few ex-

ceptions, pursued the same un-Christian, un-democratic and illiberal policy. The so-called secular institutions of learning have followed a more liberal policy than those claiming to be animated and dominated by the religious spirit. Of late years technical and professional schools have, in increasing numbers, been barring colored students. This is unquestionably a short sighted policy and subversive of the very foundation upon which all true education and culture rests, which is the widening of one's mental horizon and the broadening of his sympathies. The well-educated man is too broad-minded to be dwarfed by racial or religious prejudice. A man trained in an institution which excludes any class of students on racial or religious or social grounds, cannot be a well-educated man because he starts out with a disqualifying mental bias.

Since so many institutions are barring colored students, we are gratified to be advised that the influential Roman Catholic communion is removing the barriers to admission to its leading universities. We hope that no subterfuge will discredit its just policy, that all students will be admitted on equal terms, applicable alike to all, and that the example set will be followed by other colleges and universities which claim to rest upon Christian principles and to stand for liberal culture.

### PECULIAR ASTIGMATISM.

THE Monitor is in a most hearty accord with the sentiment expressed by the congressmen, eighty-eight of them, who signed a protest against the imprisonment, without arraignment or trial, of persons arrested in Ireland for political offenses. We believe such a practice, wherever or by whomsoever put into effect, reprehensible and violative of human rights which are fundamental and sacred. At the same time we cannot but marvel at the peculiar astigmatism of these same eighty-eight American statesmen, or politicians, which—the latter, if they are, as we suspect, more interested in securing Irish-American votes, than animated with genuine sympathy for Irish political prisoners—which blinds them to similar conditions here at home. Here scores of American citizens are "deprived of life and liberty" without due process of law, and yet these same gentlemen, whose righteous souls burn with indignation at the wrongs of Irish political prisoners are as loudly clamorous and eloquent as oysters as touching crimes against American citizens. True, in one case, the wrong is done by representatives of the English government; while, in the other, it is done by mobs who defy the American government and courts and yet our law-makers say and do nothing. Is this due to a peculiar species of astigmatism or is it directly traceable to unsuspected, though malignant, simonpure hypocrisy?

### GETTING THEIR EYES OPEN.

THE Monitor is gratified to note that recognition was given to our people by the election of four delegates to the republican state convention. It looks as though "the-time-is-not-ripe, etc." bunch, who have been running republican politics hereabouts are getting their eyes open.

### HANDICAPPED.

WHEN smarting under some injustice we are inclined to make wholesale charges against the dominant race and upbraid all for the unfairness of the few. This is not right. The majority of men are kind-hearted and justice loving and wish us well. Many of them are, unfortunately for themselves as well as for us, the victims of wrong education. The whole process of American education is to stress the fact that we are an innately inferior and vicious people. As long as this form of education prevails, and

newspapers persist in keeping it up, the two largest groups of American citizens are handicapped in under-We must show by our manliness, honest and appreciating each other. esty, sobriety, intelligence, industry and self-restraint that we are not inferior. Handicaps develop strength.

### GOODBY, TOM.

BIG-hearted, good-natured Thomas J. Flynn, United States marshal, at the age of 50 years, has answered the final summons. All who knew him will sincerely mourn his leaving us. He was a man from the ground up. Realizing his end was near he called for some of his closest friends to bid them goodbye. His final message was characteristic of the man. "I always tried to be square with everybody, and I want them to know it. Will you please tell them, goodbye for me?"

Goodby, Tom. The Judge Eternal before whom all must appear will be as square with you as you were with everybody. Goodby, warm-hearted and true friend of many years.

### AN ABSURD OBJECTION.

THE length to which race prejudice will lead men is shown in the absurd reason given by the United States Chamber of Commerce, recently in session at Atlantic City, for its opposition to granting a bonus to the soldiers of the world war. If it were not below the dignity of The Monitor to use such language, we would call the reason assigned, which is not a reason, but a very transparent excuse, asinine. The opposition, according to the language of the resolution adopted, is based upon the fact that it would place millions of dollars in the hands of colored soldiers, in sums of from \$500 to \$600, who coming into possession of such princely wealth, would immediately quit work until the money was spent, in which "orgy of spending labor would be disorganized and production decreased." And just to think that men of supposed intelligence from other sections of the country fall victims to this southern stultification stuff! Such stuff is an insult to every American soldier, white and black, who risked his life to make the world "safe for democracy."

While many of these gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce were safe at home piling up fortunes by profiteering, these brave soldiers were offering their lives for high principles. Soldiers are entitled to the bonus and such absurd excuses as these ought not weigh for one moment against their just claims.

### PROPERTY SECURED FOR BRANCH OF Y. W. C. A.

The Young Women's Christian association through its chairman of colored work, Mrs. Charles Offutt, has purchased property at Twenty-second and Grant streets which will be open soon for branch association club rooms and general activities for girls and young women. After undergoing necessary improvements very comfortable and attractive quarters are anticipated. The provisional committee consists of the following ladies: Mrs. J. Alice Stewart, finance; Miss Lena Paul, house and economics; Mrs. D. W. Gooden, membership; Mrs. J. H. Hutten social education; Mrs. Jessie Hale Moss, religious education; Miss Modre Penn, girl's work; Miss Frankie B. Watkins, branch secretary in charge.

The Monitor—Phone Douglas 7074.

### CONFERENCE TO SELECT TWO COLORED BISHOPS

Who Will Be Chosen Is Matter That Causes Much Speculation.

### BEGIN ELECTION FRIDAY

Des Moines, Ia., May 11.—The general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church yesterday voted to elect two Negro bishops for work among the Negroes in the United States.

A canvass among delegations reveals that Dr. R. E. Jones will probably be the first choice of the white delegation, and certainly of the Negroes. The next election, said some delegates, lies between Dr. J. W. Bowen and Dr. C. A. Tindley. In the minds of others of the conference, Dr. Jones probably leads in support, while Dr. Bowen, W. A. C. Hughes and Mathew Clair will probably be in the running for second place.

Dr. Jones is the editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate and is one of the two Negro members on the unification commission.

Dr. Bowen is vice president of Gammon Theological seminary, and received a heavy vote for bishop four years ago.

### Hughes High in Church.

W. A. C. Hughes has been field secretary of the board of home missions and was in charge of a group of colored conferences in the New Orleans area during the centenary. Mathew Clair has been one of the leading colored ministers in Washington, D. C., for a number of years and is now district superintendent in that city. C. A. Tindley is one of the greatest orators in the church and has a popular following.

Abolition of the office of missionary bishop was the import of report No. 3 of the Episcopal committee. The passage of character of bishop was eliminated by the recommended election of those now in that Episcopal state to the general superintendent. Heretofore a missionary bishop has been only the supervisor over the particular district to which he was elected.

### COLORED COMMERCIAL CLUB HAS SOCIAL GATHERING

Hears Interesting and Instructive Address On Republic of Liberia.

The Colored Commercial Club held a well-attended smoker and good fellowship meeting last Thursday night at Community Center. Mr. Harry Dean, who spent twenty-one years in Liberia, and is well informed on African affairs delivered an excellent address on Liberia. An opportunity of which many availed themselves was given to the members to ask the speaker questions and the promptness and thoroughness of his answers, together with his lecture, gave his interested audience much appreciated information concerning Liberia. The speaker stressed the importance for Liberia of maritime interests and a national bank. In appreciation of his lecture the members of the club voluntarily presented him with a donation of \$32.

Several new members joined the club.

### THE N. A. A. C. P. ELECTS PRESIDENT DELEGATE

The Omaha branch held an interesting session Sunday afternoon, listened to an address on Liberia by Harry Dean and elected Mrs. Jesse Hale Moss, president of the branch, delegate to the national conference soon to convene at Atlanta.

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