

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.
Madree Penn, Associate Editor.
Fred C. Williams, Business Manager.

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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.

ANOTHER EMANCIPATION.

ANOTHER emancipation is sadly needed. It calls for the signing of another proclamation not by the president of the republic, but by individuals of our group. We refer now to those members of our race who are in slavery to degrading and degraded habits and appetites which are staying our progress and holding us back as a people. They are not vices and habits peculiar to our people, for vice and crime and sin draw no color line, although men may strive hard to make it appear so. Drunkenness, gambling, adultery, fornication, lying, dishonesty and such like are not racial sins nor have our people any monopoly of them. Unfortunately we have our share of these sins, and we ought to realize that there are always to be found evil-minded persons who would encourage us in things which degrade and injure rather than in those which elevate and benefit. That this is true must be realized by any thoughtful person who studies social conditions in almost any given community, urban or rural. Moral conditions in all large centres of population are far from ideal. This is due, not so much to moral turpitude perhaps, as to ignorance, carelessness and indifference. But be that as it may, we all ought to clearly understand that by yielding to things which degrade us we are not injuring only ourselves, or those bound to us by ties of blood, but the race group with which we are primarily identified and then that larger group of all mankind to which we belong. We would that we could make our people, all our people, realize the importance of breaking away from evil practices of all kinds and rising to that high plane of living which alone can exalt a people. Too many, would there none among any people, of our group and we are pleading for and speaking to our own race now, are addicted to gambling, licentiousness and evil living. Emancipation from such slavery is needed and rests wholly with ourselves. Shall we be slaves or freemen?

PROBLEM OR PRIVILEGE.

INTO most of our large northern and western cities our brethren and kinsmen from the Southland have come and are coming. They are a kind, warm-hearted folk. There is, in some respects a marked contrast between them, and those of us who for many generations have had our habitation in the north, where conditions, while not ideal, have given us better educational advantages and opportunities for progress and development. Let us confess it, with shame and full purpose of amendment that we have not used our superior advantages as fully as we should have done. But we have had them and have profited more or less by them. There is, therefore, a difference, speaking of the masses, which is readily discernible. But those who have come and are coming are in the main, industrious, simple-minded God-fearing people. They are our brethren, our people. We should give them kindly and cordial welcome. We should not affect any superior airs towards them, none but a brainless snob will do that, but sincerely and kindly cultivate them and let them realize that they are among friends who want to help them in every way possible to become helpful and substantial citizens. They can help us just as much as we can help them for unselfish service is reciprocal. There are two viewpoints from which we may regard our southern brethren who have been so large-

ly shamefully denied educational opportunities and who are now coming among us. We can consider them as a problem or a privilege; as an asset or a liability. They may become either according to the friendly or hostile attitude of the community into which they come and the reception accorded them by their own people. The Monitor looks upon the industrious immigrants from the South as an asset and bids them most cordial welcome.

GIVE US PAVED STREETS.

THE Monitor desires to again respectfully, but insistently, call the attention of the city commissioners to the fact that the sections of the city in which the greater majority of our people live abound in unpaved streets. Moreover, much of this territory lies well within the mile and a half limit in which you do not have to ask for the consent of the property owners to order pavement. Give us paved streets. This talk about shortage of funds is buncombe. Miles of unpaved streets within two miles of the city hall is not very complimentary to Omaha.

AND THAT PLAYGROUND.

AND, by the way, Mr. Falconer, Mr. Towl, et al., when are you going to give Omaha that much-needed playground between Paul and Seward and Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets? Are you going to wait until those who are now babes in arms have reached the voting age? The Monitor was shown beautiful blueprints of the proposed grounds nearly three years ago. Beautiful plans they were, too, on PAPER, but please get busy on the GROUND.

LOUDNESS.

DO you know we have one among many characteristics that we would do well to get rid of and we can do it, if we just watch ourselves and try. Do you know what it is? It is loudness. We talk so loud on the streets and in public places. We seem to attract everybody's attention. Suppose we all try to be just a little less noisy. Let's try. Say it again, "Not so loud, please." It will be a hard habit for some of us to break, but we can all do it.

EDITOR ATTENDING CONVENTION.

THE editor is attending the Associated Negro Press conference and the Republican national convention. Next week's paper will contain first hand articles and observations written by the editor on these two important topics. Look for them.

"TAG DAY" FOR LAKE STREET COMMUNITY SERVICE

Next Saturday several of the young women and girls of the city under the direction of Miss Lucile Lacour will be in charge of a "tag day" drive to secure funds for the Lake Street Community service. Several of the young white women of the city have consented to help in this drive. Have a dollar or two handy to pay for a tag next Saturday when one of these charming daughters of Eve smiles and sweetly says "Buy a tag, please, for Community Service." Be pleasant and buy one, and come across with more than a nickel or a dime. Make it at least a good round silver dollar; but if you can't give a dollar give what you can. The amount needed is \$4,000.

What a pity that there is an end to a perfect day.

"THE LIGHT BEYOND."
I KNOW there is something that sings in the heart,
So a human may dream as he works;
I know that a man who can dream is a part
Of the thing in his soul where it lurks.

Indifference dissolves 'neath its magical spell,
And one goes to his task with a smile.
I know that a man may survive living hell
If the song thrills his heart all the while.

I know there is something that levels the hills,
And builds empires where once was but waste—
Discovers Life's beauties, but never its ills.
And sees naught in the world but the chaste.

I know there is something that finds in a friend
All the good, but ignores all the wrong;
I know that without it, clear through to the end
Life would miss its most wonderful song.

I know there is something when trouble appears
That comes quietly into the mind.
Like a light in a cavern, and soothingly cheers,
As the Saviour Himself cheered the blind.

I know there is something to strengthen the soul
Of the timid who falter en route;
I know that it leads to the ultimate goal,
And its issues are never in doubt.

Call it hope, if you like! The everyday sort
To which all of humanity clings.
Lost skippers have had it and hove into port,
And caged birds lived on without wings.

With reason I hope, if with reason I may,
And in some Higher Hand place my trust;
God grant me hope, till I pass on the way,
But without reason, God—if I must!
G. W. F.
F. L. IGNATIUS SAMUEL
Cristobal, Canal Zone.

WHAT OUR EDITORS SAY.

BIGGER BUSINESS.

Year by year the colored people are increasing their business activities, the amount of money invested in business enterprises and the number of persons who are employed to give their time to the management of commercial concerns. In the city of Memphis, Tennessee, it is said that a chain of co-operative stores owned by people of our race is being carried on with success and a growing patronage. In the states of Georgia and Florida several large stock companies have recently been organized among Negroes to deal in groceries and general merchandise. Many of these enterprises are backed and financed largely by Negro banks. One of the most encouraging developments in our world of business is that our people are not confining themselves to a few lines of business but that they are now engaging in every avenue of trade.

There are a number of cities in the United States with a population of colored people from thirty to one hundred thousand. The patronage of that number of persons for food, clothing and other necessities of life will amount in the aggregate to many thousand dollars a month. There are open doors of opportunity for colored men with capital and business ability to make money and serve their people. The race also has a chance to build up enterprises that are already established and make them strong and powerful. We must make our own leaders in every department of life. We have already developed distinguished leaders in almost all the professions, and now the next thing should be to make business men of standing and influence in every community. This can be done by giving our patronage to those of our race who are already in business and by encouraging others to venture out into new lines.

There is considerable idle money among our people that could be safely and wisely invested in the business companies of our men who have had the faith and courage to venture into these new but proper understandings. This will not only enable them to succeed, but to do a bigger business. When the Negro race shall have large mercantile establishments, great department stores, extensive manufacturing plants and sound and powerful financial institutions, the progress and the interests of our people will be more generally recognized and protected than ever before. Each one can do their part. Begin now to work for bigger business for the race.—The Charleston (S. C.) Messenger.

CITIZEN'S DEFENSE FUND COMMISSION

"Help Us Finish the Job."

L. H. Payne, Omaha, President.

Dear Friend—The six men who were granted a new trial by the supreme court, have been convicted a second time and again sentenced to die in the electric chair. We have not despaired or given up the fight, but are again making preparations to appeal the cases. We feel that every Negro in the country understands the main feature of these cases growing out of the Elaine riot and it is not necessary to go into details. We have raised a little more than half the expenses of these cases and we must appeal to you for help. When you hold your annual sermon exercises, after you have disposed of your business will you please take up an extra collection for us? Place this letter before the people and urge them to help us. Send all collections to L. H. Payne 1919 Cuming street. Phone Douglas 3217. Respectfully Citizens' Defense Fund Commission: Dr. J. G. Thornton, chairman; J. H. McConico, secretary; Rev. J. P. Robinson, Dr. H. W. Suggs, Rev. R. M. Caver, E. J. Banks, L. H. Payne.

RACE DISCOVERS ANOTHER INVENTOR.

New York, June 10.—Another genius of the Negro race has made his appearance. Isaac P. Stanfield, of 434 P street, northwest, has invented a machine for washing and thoroughly cleaning windows, and the government has issued him a patent for the same. It is a scientific, practical and useful contribution to the industrial world and fills a long-felt want. Thousands of laborers will sing his praises for the assistance and blessings he has brought them.

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