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THE MONITOR

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

THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

LIFTING.
LIFT, TOO!

\$2.00 a Year. 5c a Copy

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, JULY 22, 1920

Vol. VI. No. 4 (Whole No. 264)

MACHINE GUN FIRE STOPS LYNCHOCRATS

Northern Carolina Governor Means Business—Orders "Shoot Straight If Attempt Is Made on Lives of Prisoners."—Third Time Governor Bickett Thwarts Mob and Saves Honor of State—Men of His Mettle Sadly Not

GREENSBORO, N. C., July 22.—(By Associated Negro Press.) One person was killed and another wounded at Greensboro, N. C., Monday night by fire from a machine company of the North Carolina National Guard on duty at the jail there, where three prisoners (colored) are held on charges of having attacked a woman.

Reports from Graham said the shots were fired by the machine gun company when a crowd in the darkness approached the jail. Threats of lynching yesterday had caused Governor Bickett to order the company to Graham with instructions to "shoot straight if an attempt on the lives of prisoners is made."

This is the third time within recent years that Governor Bickett has proven to the mobs in that state that the law is above them and that a man's life, whatever the color of his skin, must be protected.

In 1916 at Winston-Salem, N. C., a mob threatened to lynch a colored man of that town falsely accused of shooting a police officer. They were met at the Forsyth County court house with three army tanks, three machine guns, and a company of troops. The mob taking for granted that they would be winked at as has been the case in so many southern states where soldiers would render excuses that they had no authority to shoot, or that the officers of the law "were overpowered by the tremendous mob," they disregarded the governor's warning and attempted to rush the jail. The order came to "shoot straight," and the soldiers obeyed, with the result that five members of the mob were killed and over a dozen wounded.

The next case was in Raleigh, the capital, in the summer of 1917 when another mob attempted to lynch Earl Neville, a colored cab driver. This boy was found asleep on his cab within half an hour after the time of the occurrence of the crime for which he was accused. He gave splendid account of himself for every minute of that night, but on account of the same old thing, "She identified him to be the man," he was convicted. The mob first gathered in front of the Wake County Court house, in which the jail was. The governor met them clad in his bath robe and slippers. He mounted a box in front of the mob and warned them "If you attempt to take the law in your hands I shall order the soldiers to shoot straight." The mob had not forgotten the Winston affair and scattered for the night. The next night, however, they gathered at the penitentiary where the prisoner had been removed and again attempted to carry out their scheme. Again the governor appeared on the scene and dispersed the mob.

The would-be victim in the Winston-Salem case was set free, the court finding no semblance of truth in the evidence given. In the Earl Neville case the accused paid his life as the penalty for the crime but the court acknowledged that the evidence before it was insufficient to convict anybody. The outcome of the present case in Graham, N. C., will be watched with keen interest.

DR. WRIGHT WILL ATTEND ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE AT EDINBOROUGH

(By Associated Negro Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., July 22.—Dr. Richard R. Wright, Jr., editor of the Christian Recorder of Philadelphia, was given the degree LL. D. at the commencement of Wilberforce University, Xenia, Ohio, June 30th.

He was also given an appointment to go abroad, being selected as one of seven ministers to attend the Ecumenical Conference of Methodism to be held in Edinborough Scotland, in 1921.

BENIGHTED FOREIGNERS CAUSE OF ORDINANCE

(By Associated Negro Press.) Gadsden, Ala., July 22.—The council passed an ordinance forbidding the serving of white and colored people at the same drinking and eating places. It is said that some foreigners who disregard the color line have been in the habit of serving drinks to both races.

"PILGRIMS IN BRONZE"

Eloquent Congregational Minister Delivers Notable Address Before International Council.

(By Associated Negro Press.) Boston, July 22.—The Rev. Dr. Henry H. Proctor of Brooklyn, N. Y., who has recently come from Atlanta, Ga., where as pastor of the largest Congregational church in the United States, he was a leader in the Atlanta movement for obtaining peaceful relations, addressed the fourth decennial international Congregational recently on "Pilgrims in Bronze," he alluded to the fact that the first slaves were brought from Africa to Virginia a year before the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth.

"The present movement of the Negro is not merely national, but also an international movement," he said. "The path made red by the blood of the slave ships is yet to reappear with a divine light pointing the trained man of African descent back home to save the dark continent. As he returns to redeem the long lost continent, he will be a pilgrim in bronze going out for the great crusade."

THINKS U. S. SHOULD ADMIT MORE JAPANESE

San Francisco, Cal., July 19.—K. A. Kanzaki, secretary of the Japanese Association of America, told the immigration and naturalization committee of the house of representatives recently that he believed in restriction of Japanese immigration in the United States but that 30,000 to 40,000 more could probably be accommodated in addition to the 87,000 already here.

This additional number would help to bring the proportion of men and women to a fair basis, in his opinion, and would not complicate racial or economic questions.

FARMERS ORGANIZE TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

(By Associated Negro Press.) Jackson, Miss., July 22.—Jackson, Miss., reports an enterprise worthy of attention among those interested in Louisiana—a colored farmers' trucking association. It was organized by Prof. Brinkley, a school principal, and has already shipped seven cars of cabbage and one of potatoes this season, netting the shippers over \$5,000, besides \$1,000 worth of vegetables sold in the local market.

BEDOUINS AND FEISAL PLOT AGAINST FRENCH

Beirut, Syria, July 22.—The Bedouin tribes of northern Mesopotamia have formed a coalition against the French while Feisal, head of the Syrian state, is endeavoring to organize the bandits west of Aleppo into a movement against the French.

LA FOLLETTE MAY BE CANDIDATE

Chicago, Ill., July 22.—Senator Robert M. La Follette will decide this week whether he will be a candidate for the presidency if nominated on the liberal party ticket, leaders announced Monday night.

ATTORNEY SCRUGGS RETURNS FROM DULUTH

Attorney Amos P. Scruggs returned Sunday morning from a combined business and pleasure trip to Duluth and the Twin Cities. While in Duluth he interviewed the men who are held in custody there in connection with the alleged assault upon the Truxen girl for which three men were murdered by a mob. They are being held as state witnesses. He was also shown the affidavit of the physician who examined the girl to the effect that there was no evidence of ravishment.

"The general sentiment in Duluth, so far as I could learn," said Mr. Scruggs, "is that the Negroes were not guilty. The grand jury seems to have gone after the lynchers in earnest. Several have been indicted and the lowest bond allowed, I was informed, is \$15,000. I had a pleasant interview with the editor of the Rip-Saw, who is a great, big, whole-souled sort of a man, a native of Iowa, of abolition stock and a socialist. Among his cherished possessions is a silver half dollar given to his grandmother when she was a little girl by John Brown of Harper's Ferry fame, who was often a guest at their home. He is positive of the men's innocence."

Mr. Scruggs saw several former Omahans both in Duluth and in the Twin Cities, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Workuff and Lon Holliday.

Things done by halves never bring many quarters.

THE NEGRO FOURTH ESTATE AND POST-WAR PROSPERITY

A Virginia Professor, Who Has Been Studying America's Primary Race Problem, Has Gained Enlightenment From the Colored Press Which He Finds to Be a Tremendous Power Equalling if Not Surpassing Influence Wielded by the Pulpit. Southern Press Moderate in Tone, But Set in Purpose; Northern Press More Boldly Outspoken.

PRESS PLAYED PART IN NATIONS WAR PROGRAM—DEMANDS RIGHTS FOR RACE

Robert T. Kerlin of Virginia Military Institute Contributes Illuminating and Instructive Article to Reedy's Mirror, Which Is Being Widely Quoted.—Article Demonstrates That Wide-Visioned White Men Who Would Be Intelligent Students of Affairs Cannot Ignore Literature of Our Group.

SPEAKING broadly, there are very few white Americans who consider it worth their while to read a newspaper or magazine published by a man or woman of color. In this they show regrettable short-sightedness, and especially so if they would lay any just claim to being students of affairs, because it is absolutely impossible to know anything about any people unless we know something about their literature. Professor Robert T. Kerlin has made a systematic study of a large number of our publications and has given the result of that study in the following article which was published not long ago in Reedy's Mirror, and has been reprinted in many newspapers of national circulation and influence such as the New York World:

Activity of the colored press of the country in these troublous times, the spirit, the boldness and the influence of it, may well excite alarm, as it has done, even "in the seats of the mighty." There are nearly 400 Negro newspapers published in this country, and they are prosperous as never before. Their circulation during the war period vastly increased, and new papers—all of the more outspoken and able type—have subsequently sprung into existence. The colored people are fully informed of this—their papers make it a matter of rejoicing and pride. It is indeed a sign of the times.

We are informed by this press that a new era has come, brought to birth by the world war; that with the new era has appeared the new Negro; a man who stands erect and looks the white man in the face; a man who asks no odds, but a square deal; a man who does not cringe or fawn, "licking the hand that smites," but demands his rights under the constitution—equal opportunities in the common affairs of life, equal conditions, equal comforts equal recognition for character and worth—in a word, justice.

The world war and the Negro's part therein are responsible for it. Not, of course, for the origin of the principle of manhood in the Negro, but for its swift leaping into evidence, its sudden self-assertion in new tones. What we fought for the Negro fully appreciated. Why should he not have been able to? He was quick to apply that aim to himself—for the Negro is quick. President Wilson's notes and addresses, the treaty and the league covenant, had for the Negro the force of a new emancipation proclamation.

Black Press Demands "Rights." The colored press claims—and rightfully—great credit for itself in pushing the various war measures and promoting the drives. Papers of every kind, denominational, fraternal, secular, gave their columns freely to the situation of patriotism, appeals to rage pride, exhortations to "go over the top," and instruction regarding the various requirements of the government. With all this went a strong championing of our humanitarian purposes in the war—the liberation of subject minority races, the righting of old wrongs, the making democracy prevail.

The Negroes' subscriptions to the Liberty Loan, to Red Cross funds and the whole list they quote as evidence of their patriotism and spirit in the country's time of need. It is a record of which they are justly proud. They make it the basis of democratic demands, quote naturally. Of the valor of their troops overseas they make the same argument. Those troops fought with endurance and heroism at Chateau Thierry and in the Argonne, and mingled their blood with

Their irony, ridicule, reproach, sarcasm and rebuke are conveyed all by the method of "sweet reasonableness;" mild comment, plain statement of fact, inverted exaggeration, subtle indirection, side remarks, and the gentle request to "look upon this picture, now upon that."

Bitterness and Irony. Yazoo, Miss.—Because of her activity in selling colored newspapers here Miss Pauline Willis, a young colored woman, has been ordered to leave town.

Vicksburg, Miss.—A white man raped a colored girl in Bovina, Miss., one day last week. Bovina is only four miles from Vicksburg and in the same county. A charge was promptly made against him and he was arrested and thrown in jail at Vicksburg, but not one word has been heard of the kerosene can, the rope, nor the outraged public conscience.

Effective? I think so. Scores of papers in the Black Belt are masters of the art. News items such as these sprinkle the front page. There is usually a sting in the tail of the harmless appearing little things—not deadly, but disturbing.

Editorials one sentence long exhibit a similar self-restraint. As long as American citizens are disfranchised, segregated, jim-crowed, lynched, brow-beaten, intimidated held in contempt and contempt victims of lawlessness, and mistreated generally because of their color, the riot spirit will be rampant.—Houston Informer.

Some one has said that our newspapers never have anything in them to make one smile. Oh, yes, they do—read what some white southerners think of a "square deal."—Ibid.

Undoubtedly the southern papers are in general milder in tone than the northern, but not less comprehensive in their demands nor less firm in purpose. The same grievances are voiced, the same petitions and pleadings are set forth, the same rights are asserted and urged not less cogently. The southern Negro's utterance of his protests, demands, determinations, and all that weighs upon his soul, suggests courage rather than boldness, and a sober sense of responsibility. The manifest restraint he imposes upon himself for the good of the cause, and for personal safety, only increases the force of his words, adding the pathos of entreaty to the cogency of argument.

Messages "Get Over." Notwithstanding this moderation of tone—or perhaps because of it—the southern papers get their messages delivered and make them understood.

We white people must give the colored people credit for more perceptiveness than we are wont to do. They have quite as good a faculty as we for reading between the lines, for perceiving the force of an innuendo, for perceiving the point of a bit of mild irony or gentle sarcasm. Vague and indirect pronouncements, perfectly harmless in appearance to us, are hand grenades to them. Editorial reticence they well understand to mean "safety first" for the editor, a longer career of usefulness.

But even some of the weeklies from which I take mild cracks—papers published within the bounds of the old Confederacy—can use the artillery of the skies desired by Douglass. Some of their braver neighbors in the large cities make constant use of this heavy artillery as well as of the small arms.

The Negro's ability as a speaker in pulpit and on the public rostrum has always been recognized. It is something new to find him mighty with the pen. But there are editorial writers not a few in the south who are quite a match for their white "contemporaries." They frequently find occasion to contest statements made in the white dailies, to challenge positions, to expose fallacies and inconsistencies, and to set argument against argument. In these polemics the Negro cannot be said to be found wanting. Seldom is there eloquence, seldom any fine circumlocution, seldom any fine writings or pedantry, but there is straightforward speech, very telling in effect.

Colored Syndicate Features.

Besides, many of the papers, large and small, are strengthened by the syndicated editorials of contributing editors. A half dozen able pens, the pens of university trained men, are employed in this work regularly. Practically all the papers also report lectures, sermons, addresses, the resolutions of conferences and congresses, and other such matter that, even when the editorials are weak and inconsequential, carry to their readers the message of the leaders.

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RANKS HIGHEST IN SCHOLARSHIP

Youth of Twenty-Two Receives Degree of Doctor of Philosophy at University of Pennsylvania. Youngest Student in History of Institution Upon Whom This Honor Has Been Conferred.

HARRY SPENCER BLACKISTON WINS MERITED DISTINCTION

PHILADELPHIA, July 22, 1920.—Amidst the halo of glory surrounding the one hundred and sixty-fourth annual commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, June 30, the outstanding and most glorious feature of it all, was the fact that Harry Spencer Blackiston, a colored boy, was proclaimed the greatest of all scholars who ever graduated from that institution since its foundation.

On Blackiston was conferred the highest literary degree of the university—that of Ph. D. (Doctor of Philosophy), and with it goes the honor of being the youngest man upon whom this honor has been conferred since the opening of that institution. Blackiston having just passed out of his twenty-second year.

Winner of Scholarships and Degrees

Harry S. Blackiston, after graduating from the Central High School in February, 1913, matriculated in the course of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania in the following September, at the age of 16 years. At that time he became the recipient of the William P. Henzey Scholarship, 1913-1917, and the Mayor's Scholarship, 1913-17. As an undergraduate he specialized in German and Latin. During the course of the academic year, 1916-17, he was awarded the George Schleicher prize for German conversation, by virtue of which he received a silver medal along with \$15 in gold; and he was also given honorable mention in a prose Latin essay contest. In June, 1917, the degree of Bachelor of Arts (A. B.) was conferred upon him. About the same time he received a university scholarship in German for the ensuing academic year, 1917-18. In September, 1918, he was enrolled in the graduate school of the aforementioned institution, delving intensively into the study of German and Latin, and receiving the degree of Master of Arts (A. M.) in June of the following year. At this time he won a Harrison scholarship in German, together with an additional stipend of \$100. He continued his research work for the next two years at the same institution, winning a university scholarship in the year 1919; and now at the age of only 22 years becomes the recipient of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.), thereby being the youngest in the history of the university to receive such a degree.

CLAIMS JACK JOHNSON READY TO SURRENDER

Los Angeles, Cal., July 22.—Sheriff John C. Cline, Los Angeles, announced recently that he intended to leave immediately for the Mexican border where he expected to arrest Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion, under sentence in Chicago for violation of the Mann act.

Cline declared friends of Johnson visited him and said the pugilist was willing to cross the boundary and surrender to him. Johnson is reported in Tijuana, across the border from San Diego, Cal.

Johnson has surrendered to federal authorities and is on his way to Chicago.

COLORED "MORMONS" SUPPORT REPUBLICANS

(By Associated Negro Press.) Salt Lake Cit, Utah, July 22.—Organization of the Colored Progressive Republican Club was affected recently at a meeting in the Trinity A. M. E. Church. The members decided to support the Republican ticket in its entirety and to participate actively in the political campaign. Officers elected were Charles McSwine, president; George A. Thomas, secretary, and Douglas McMillan, treasurer.

HEADLESS BODY OF WOMAN IDENTIFIED

St. Joseph, Mo., July 22.—The body of the headless woman which was found floating in Lake Conrary June 16 has been identified as that of Mrs. Bernetta Coleman, colored, 25 years old, of St. Joseph. The woman's parents said that she had left their home June 10, saying she was going to a private hospital.