

GROWING,  
THANK YOU!

# THE MONITOR

LIFTING.  
LIFT, TOO!

A NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS  
THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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## WOULD VOTE—IS LYNCHED

### VICTIM OF FLORIDA MOB, A SUBSTANTIAL AND SELF-RESPECTED CITIZEN

#### DRIVEN FROM HOMES BY MOB AND DWELLINGS SET ON FIRE

Reign of Terror Instituted in Florida Town Because Colored American Who Had Registered Sought to Vote—Julius Perry, Whose Effort to Exercise Right of American Citizen, One of Best Respected and Most Substantial Men in His Community

#### WOUNDED TAKEN FROM JAIL AND LYNCHED

Thirty Houses, Two Churches, School house and Lodge Building Burned—Inhabitants Driven Into Surrounding Woods Some Being Killed in Flight—Mock Coroner's Jury Returns Usual Verdict: "Came to His Death at the Hands of Persons Unknown"

(Special to The Monitor)

OCOOE, Fla., Nov. 18.—The true story of the murdering here of offensive men and women November 2 and 3, growing out of the effort of Julius Perry to vote, is best told in the language of an open letter addressed by the Hon. George B. Lockwood of Washington, D. C., to Governor Catts requesting him to use his authority to bring the guilty persons to justice. The facts, which were furnished Mr. Lockwood by a reputable gentleman residing in that community, thoroughly conversant with the situation, are reliable. No doubt the general impression given by the press dispatches was to the effect that Perry was a worthless member of our race. If so, this is erroneous. He was one of the most intelligent, self-respecting and substantial citizens in the community. But here are the facts as given by Mr. Lockwood who, not being a member of our race and therefore not biased in our favor, would have no object in misrepresenting the facts:

"At Ocoee, Orange county, Fla., on November 2, a Negro offered to vote. He had registered as a voter under the laws of the state, but it was claimed that he had not subsequently paid his laws of the state, but it was claimed he had not subsequently paid his poll tax and therefore was not eligible to vote. His ballot was refused. He went away and later returned to the polling place, got into an argument with democratic watchers, some hot words passed and he was knocked down and went away. It was claimed, though not proved, that he had a gun hidden in his automobile. It is not claimed that he displayed it, or offered to shoot.

"About eight o'clock on the evening of November 2, a so-called 'posse' composed of about a dozen democratic leaders, went to the Negro settlements, as they claimed, to 'disarm' the blacks. One man forced his way into a house and was shot. The 'posse' then opened fire on the house. The fire was returned by the inmates and two white men were killed and several wounded. Then the posse set the house on fire, and the inmates, including several women, were burned to death. Then the 'posse' went from house to house burning homes and murdering the occupants. Thirty houses, two churches, a school house and a lodge building were burned. The 'posse' drove all the inhabitants into the surrounding woods, some being killed in flight. They chased the Negro who had attempted to vote into a clump of bushes and shot him to pieces, tearing off one arm. He was sent to a hospital, where his wounds were pronounced fatal. He was put in jail at Orlando, Fla., whence he was taken before morning by a mob, and hanged. This man was one of the best Negro men in the county, respectful, law-abiding and owner of a fine grove. His name was Julius Perry. A mock coroner's jury was assembled under the color of law, and returned the verdict on Perry: 'Came to his death at the hands of persons unknown.'

"Inoffending Negro men, women and children were attacked next day in the locality without their knowing why; in one case a Negro boy was driven from a wagon he was driving and chased under a corn-crib, where he remained, fearing to come out,

#### NO CLEMENCY FOR MEN CHARGED WITH MURDER

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 18.—No clemency will be shown in the cases of six Negroes under sentence of death for participation in the Elaine, Ark., riots of last year, and the fixing of dates for their execution awaits only official notice from the United States supreme court that the cases will not be reviewed by that tribunal, Governor Charles H. Brough announced.

The governor said he had reached a definite conclusion that these men were guilty of murder in the first degree and that the sentence imposed by the courts of Arkansas would not be commuted by him. The statement was made following a conference with several residents of Elaine, who urged the governor to allow the sentences to stand.

#### INDIANS TO ASK FULL CITIZENSHIP BY LAW

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 18.—Enactment of federal legislation "to grant citizenship without reservation" to members of their race will be urged by the Society of American Indians, according to delegates to the ninth annual conference, which opened here Tuesday.

Every tribe in the United States is represented in the society, it was asserted, and delegates from virtually all are expected to attend.

A present, delegates said, approximately 300,000 Indians, representing about two-thirds of the population of the race in this country, are not citizens.

#### MAY BE COURT-MARTIALED OVER HAITI KILLINGS

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti, Nov. 18.—The United States naval court resumed its sittings Tuesday. It is probable that a dozen marines will give evidence relating to charges of individual violence toward natives.

Major Jesse F. Dyer, judge advocate, returned Monday from Cape Haitien and other points, where he went to round up witnesses who had been ordered to report here.

Although officials are silent, the correspondent learns that the naval court is gathering evidence on which it is likely several court-martials will be ordered, some of them on charges of murder committed last year.

#### SEEK TO AMERICANIZE CALIFORNIA JAPANESE

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—An active Americanization campaign will be carried forward among the Japanese in California, K. Kanzaki, secretary of the Japanese Association of America, announced here, following a meeting of the executive committee of the organization.

#### ALDERMAN ELECTED IN TENNESSEE

CLEVELAND, Tenn., Nov. 11.—In the municipal election held here recently, Dr. T. E. Stevens, prominent physician of the race, was elected alderman of the Third ward, receiving 107 votes, whereas his closest opponent, a white man, received seventy-six votes. The vote of the women figured prominently, they having cast a majority of votes.

#### ASK ENFORCEMENT FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

The National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People Through Its Board of Directors Urges Congress to Enforce Constitution and Reduce Southern Representation.

#### IMPORTANT ISSUE MUST BE FACED

Many Newspapers Urgent in Their Advocacy of Enforcement of the Amendment—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph Editorial Representative of Attitude of Many Northern Newspapers.

(By the Associated Negro Press)

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—The board of directors of the N. A. A. C. P. at its regular meeting voted that a telegram be sent to Representative Isaac Siegel, chairman of the house committee on the census, urging enforcement of the fourteenth amendment, and consequent reduction of representation in southern states in which colored voters are disfranchised. The telegram follows:

"The board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in behalf of 12,000,000 colored people of the United States, urges upon the congress of the United States a reapportionment of representation in accordance with the terms of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution.

"Open and flagrant disfranchisement of colored voters in a number of states has occurred in the presidential election of 1920, of which this association is prepared to furnish evidence. The board of directors of the N. A. A. C. P. therefore urges that the qualifications for voting be defined by the congress of the election laws enforced by the federal government.

"Enforcement of this proposal naturally falls within the providence of the United States government as much as enforcement of woman suffrage and prohibition."

Reduction of southern representation is going to get an inning in congress. A number of outspoken newspapers have spoken frankly on the subject. The Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph, one of the leading daily newspapers of Pennsylvania, speaking on this important subject, says:

"With the 1920 census figures before it, congress will soon have to take up the question of reapportioning the membership of the house. There are now 435 members, on the basis of one for 210,504 persons. A reduction rather than an increase of membership is being strongly urged. This could be accomplished by apportioning representation on the basis of the presidential vote instead of upon the basis of population. This would reduce the entire membership, but would especially affect the southern representation. The states which do not allow Negroes to vote would be particularly hard hit. Section 2 of the fourteenth amendment to the constitution provides that 'when the right to vote is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such states being

21 years of age and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the same proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens 21 years of age in such state.' The eleven states of the 'solid South' have a fifth of the nation's population, but out of a total presidential vote of 18,528,743 in 1916 they cast only 1,366,108 ballots. A condition where eleven southern states, plus Oklahoma, have fewer voters than Illinois, but five times its representation in congress and in the electoral college certainly calls for correction.

"The situation mentioned does not take into consideration the new woman vote. Southern members of congress did not hesitate to declare, when fighting the enabling resolution for submission of the woman suffrage amendment, that Negro women would never be allowed to vote in their section. If the South persists in its policy of deliberate disfranchisement it cannot complain if it suffers the direct legal consequences of its course and has its representation reduced in congress and the electoral college to accord with its actual vote at the polls."

#### JAMES WELDON JOHNSON CONFIRMED

(By the Associated Negro Press)  
NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—The board of directors of the National A. A. C. P., at their regular meeting, confirmed the appointment of James Weldon Johnson as secretary.

Mr. Johnson, who has been serving as acting secretary, succeeds John R. Shillady. Mr. Johnson was formerly United States consul to Venezuela and Nicaragua. He is the author of "The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man" and "Fifty Years and Other Poems."

Mr. Johnson this spring undertook an investigation of the administration of Haiti for the N. A. A. C. P. and his charges were reiterated by Senator Harding, resulting in the appointment of a naval board of inquiry and the promise of a congressional investigation.

#### ALLEGED BANDIT IS HELD TO DISTRICT COURT

Chris Cochran, giving his home and address as Twenty-fourth and Grant streets, was bound over to the district court on \$2,500 bonds on a charge of robbery Tuesday, after being positively identified by L. S. Smith, 4802 South Thirty-sixth street, as the man who held him up Friday night at Thirtieth and L streets and robbed him of \$8, a watch and fob.

Cochran was arrested on suspicion by Officers Buford and Ransom Sunday. He had a gun, which Smith said he used when he robbed him.

#### JAILED FOR ILL-TREATING CHILDREN

(By the Associated Negro Press)  
PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 18.—The Rev. T. H. O. Messer is under arrest accused of ill-treating minor Negro children who were in his care as the superintendent of the Fairfax Children's Home. He will be tried in the criminal court.

#### JEWISH REPORTER MAKES DISCOVERY

Unclears Colony of Colored Jews in Gotham Who Claim Descent From Esau and Call Themselves "True Jews"—Hold to Old and New Testament Scriptures and Wear Crucifixes.

#### HOLD PECULIAR SABBATIC NOTIONS

(By the Associated Negro Press)

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—A cult of self-styled "true Jew" Negroes have been discovered in Harlem by B. Levitin, a reporter on the Jewish daily, the Forward. They are led by a chief prophet, a certain mysterious Roberson, who has never yet been produced, and claim to have seventy members in this country. Twelve elders head the board of directors of this organization, which, on its letterheads, calls itself "The Hebrew Settlement Workers' Association."

When Mr. Levitin, in the interests of American Jewry, traced the claimants to the title of "true Jews," he found them holding their meetings in the back of a co-operative grocery store at 2367 Seventh avenue. This part of the store they considered too sacred for his intrusion, but they consented to give him the interview under a tree at the corner of 135th street and Third avenue.

The secretary of the cult was at first afraid to say anything on the ground that the "white Jews" were going to persecute these "real Jews." "You white Jews are afraid," he said, "that we, the real Jews, should not tell the world the whole truth, that we, the colored, and not you, are the real Jews."

He then declared that the cult considered themselves descendants of Esau, brother of Jacob, who was colored. Most of the following, he said, had been born in Palestine, while others came from Calcutta, India, but had been in Palestine. Most of them speak an eastern dialect, possibly Arabic, which they call "God's language." Only one of the elders was American born, but he said that his parents came from Palestine. The American-born elder said he had learned this "God's language" in five minutes.

Though they claim to be Jewish, many wore crucifixes on their persons and affirm their belief in both Old and New Testaments. They do not seem to know of any of the Jewish holidays, according to Mr. Levitin, and do not keep the Sabbath. This omission they explained by saying that since a day of eternal time was equal to a thousand years of earthly time, and since the Jews, by their own intimation, are in the five thousandth temporal year or fifth day (in eternal time) of their existence, the Sabbath, or seventh day, had still two thousand years in which to arrive.

The "Hebrew Settlement Workers" live on the communistic plan, following earthly occupations and paying their wages into a common fund, from which they draw all their necessities. They claim to be maintaining an orphan, asylum for white and Negro children at Obsecon, N. J., and also somewhere on Long Island.

#### LITTLE JULIUS SNEEZER



BY BAKER