

POPULAR OMAHA CITIZEN FOUND DEAD IN HIS RESIDENCE BY FATHER-IN-LAW

OMAHA'S COLORED CITIZENRY AND ITS MANY ACTIVITIES

Forming One-Sixth of the Population Our Group is Building Its Part Well in the Building of Community.

SERIOUS BUSINESS PORT

Hundreds of Thousands Invested in Small but Growing Commercial Enterprises by Our Progressive People.

(By H. J. Pinkett) Note: This is the third of a series of articles on the Omaha Colored People. Subsequent articles will be: The Professions, Musical Progress, In the Labor Field, Fraternal Societies, in the Schools, Civic Effort and in Politics.

BUSINESS EFFORT

Prior to the twelfth century the Negro races were among the foremost nations of the world in trade and commerce, if we are to accept the sum of their contribution to human progress. At this time the rape and exploitation of Africa began, and it did not cease until Africa had been robbed of one hundred million black inhabitants and the whole empire, with its teeming millions and untold wealth, had become the vassalage of Europe.

Out of this barbaric trade the American Negro came to the "land of liberty" to serve three hundred years as a chattel slave. He was suddenly lifted from this thralldom by the cataclysm of war, suffering from the handicaps which American slavery alone imposed upon the slave.

Under the slave system, in the slave states, it was a felony to teach a colored person to read or write, and it was generally regarded as quite the proper thing to destroy morality and to treat the slaves with a little more harshness than was accorded the mules on the plantations. Imagine, if you can, the result of six generations thus trained, and you have a fairly accurate picture of the handicapped black man as he entered his state of freedom, so-called. Add to this the blighter master class and the more blighted non-slave holding element, and you have some faint idea, as an onlooker, nearly sixty years later, of what a tremendous problem the black race in America had to meet.

Four million blacks, free, with the sky as their covering, in a beaten, but unconquered section of our Republic. In that very year nearly every Confederate state passed "black codes," which provided that all persons who were not land owners and who could not show that they had been regularly employed at gainful occupations for a considerable period of time, were vagrants and that they should be arrested and placed at hard labor. The former slaves, therefore, for the four years after 1865 until 1869, found themselves in a worse plight than they had endured under chattel slavery itself.

Then came RECONSTRUCTION, and for the first time in the south-land we had free public schools. Young men and women of the North went into the South to teach and help; millions of money was sent to aid in completing the unfinished task.

The race which had been worked for three centuries was taught to work to help build homes, and schools and churches. For the first time in all human history a race but recently freed was given the ballot. That mistakes were made and excesses committed was inevitable. But these things had to go to lay the foundation to overcome the handicaps of six centuries of social paralysis.

After the establishment of the home, the church and the school, humble, tough all of them were, the momentous labor of economic and social and business progress began.

Under chattel slavery the colored people learned to be good artisans and masters of domestic labor and service. It was natural, therefore, that the first successes of this group should be in these two fields of labor.

In the South today there are colored men who are among the most suc-

cessful contractors and builders, and some of the best hotels in some good sized cities are owned by colored men. They have there, also, the largest and best equipped barber shops.

In some of the large cities of the east, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, colored men and women have been markedly successful as caterers, undertakers, in the insurance field, the real estate business and, in, in some instances, in banking.

Placed against this background is Omaha, with its twelve thousand colored people, and the mite they have contributed in a business way.

There are one hundred colored men and women engaged in small business efforts here. They are listed under caterers, taxi companies, tonorialists, restaurateurs, grocers, real estate, expressmen, undertaking, tailoring and cleaning establishments, pharmacists and druggists, furniture dealers, job printing and chemical manufacturing.

There are five or six well known and successful caterers. They sell their food and their services to white persons and successfully meet the competition of white men and women in the same field of labor. One of the successful men in this field of labor put it this way in explaining their success: "We have always been successful in the preparation and service of foods during our residence in America; what we had to master was the business part of it. This we are doing more and more as the years go by, as is evidenced by the fact that here, as elsewhere in the country, a few of the men in this line of work have won a competency in it. We hope to see here in Omaha, as is now seen in Philadelphia, Pa., in the third generation from the catering line, men in a successful banking business. I believe this will be accomplished."

The taxicab business is successful, although of very recent development. These companies own their machines and render good service in competition with the larger companies. There are several large barber shops operated by this group which constitute a distinct business asset. Their proprietors are good business men. The restaurant are very numerous. Some of them are run on a first class basis from a business standpoint, while others not so advantageously located

(Continued on Page 2.)

OMAHA RESIDENT FOR THIRTY FIVE YEARS IS CALLED

Mrs. David Morris, Apparently in Good Health, Dies Very Suddenly Sunday Night at the Family Residence.

FUNERAL HELD WEDNESDAY

Mrs. David Morris, apparently in the best of health, retired Sunday night about half past 9 o'clock. Shortly before 10 she called her son Wilbert and told him that she was dying and he believed she was dying and asked him to call Mrs. Crawford, her next door neighbor. This he did, and also called his sister, Mrs. Grace Hutten, and his brother, Dr. Craig Morris, who lives but a few blocks distant. Mrs. Crawford rushed right over, but had scarcely more than got into the house and taken Mrs. Morris' hand before she expired. She passed away before her children who had been summoned could reach the house.

Mrs. Morris, whose maiden name was Lucy Griffin, was born in Kentucky December 15, 1851. She was married to David Morris, who survives her, at Osceola, Ia., in 1874. The family moved to Omaha thirty-five years ago where they have since resided and reared a family of five children, three boys and two girls who are a credit to their parents and to the community. These are Wilbert, who is unmarried, and lived with his mother, lovingly, ministering to her in every way; Dr. Craig, a successful and progressive dentist, who is actively interested in the Boy Scouts and civic activities; Elmer, a prosperous druggist of St. Paul, Minn., with whom his father, who had been in poor health for sometime, has been

making his home for the past few months. Mrs. Grace Hutten, who was a successful government teacher in Porto Rico, and is now Commissioner of the Colored Commercial Club; and Mrs. Myrtle Goodlow, wife of one of Omaha's progressive young men. Mrs. Morris is survived by these and two grandsons, Jesse Charles Hutten and Gerald Summitt.

Mrs. Morris was a quiet retiring woman devoting herself to her home and children.

The funeral was held from Zion Baptist church, of which she was a member, under the auspices of Western Star Court, and eulogies by Chapter O. E. S., Wednesday afternoon. Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor of the church, officiating, assisted by the Rev. John Albert Williams. Interment was in the family lot at Forest Lawn cemetery. A large number of friends who attended, evidenced the esteem in which the deceased was held.

OUTBREAK IN INDIA AS GHANDI PROTEST

Calcutta, March 20.—There was a demonstration here following the sentence Saturday of Gandhi, the Non-Co-operationist leader. A bonfire was made of foreign cloth, but otherwise the demonstration was orderly.

It is officially announced that the railroad strikers are resuming work at many places in satisfactory numbers, but that elsewhere the strike continues. Chowdhury, a labor member of the Bengal legislature, has telegraphed the viceroy that a serious development in the strike is probable, owing to a threatened sympathetic strike by the Bengal and Nagpur railwaymen and local miners.

GIANT RECREATION CENTER OPENS ON NORTH SIDE

The Lincoln Inn and Rest Room, a recreation center in North Omaha, opened for business on Friday night, March 24th. The establishment is located in Columbia Hall, 2420 Lake Street, under the management of C. C. Galloway. The hall has been completely renovated to contain what is undoubtedly the biggest recreation center among our people in town. The center has 18 pool and billiard tables, one six-chair barber shop, soft drink and refreshment counter, light lunch pavilion, cafe, cigar and confectionery counter, shine parlor, and a complete news stand. The news stand will handle every colored newspaper and magazine published in the country. The cafe will make a specialty of home made pastries. The upstairs will contain offices and lodging rooms. The formal opening of the center will be held later.

SILAS JOHNSON NOT THE FIRST

Attention has been called to the statement published in last week's Monitor that Silas Johnson was the first of our undertakers to use a tent to protect the funeral parlor at Forest Lawn cemetery as being incorrect. Within a few weeks after the custom was introduced Jones & Company used one at the funeral of Herman Washington, February 23. The Monitor having been misinformed by persons whom we believed knew, assumes full responsibility for the statement and gladly makes the correction.

CHAPLAIN GLADDEN DIES

Los Angeles, Calif., March 31.—Chaplain W. W. E. Gladden, U. S. Army, retired, died March 11th at his home, 1445 Dana street. Death came suddenly and unexpectedly. He had been ill with heart trouble for several months. Funeral services were held Monday, March 20th, from Independent church. Major G. W. Prioleau officiated. Chaplain Gladden is survived by his wife, mother and four children.

STUDENTS TO CALL AT WHITE HOUSE

Lincoln, Pa., March 31.—Arthur D. Williams is organizing representatives from twenty-four colored colleges to call at the White House to urge President Harding to "jam through" the Anti-Lynching bill.

SPECIAL TRAIN TO TUSKEGEE

Washington, D. C., March 31.—The special Southern Railway Pullman to Tuskegee, carrying visitors to witness the unveiling of the monument to Booker Washington, will leave here Sunday, April 2, Dr. Emmet J. Scott announced today.

PARADE IN CUMBERLAND

Cumberland, Md., March 31.—A parade of the Ku Klux Klan, focal chapter, took place through the streets following an initiation recently.

MASKED MEN IN CHURCH

Hagerstown, March 31.—Two Ku Klux members dressed in sheets and pillow cases entered the United Brethren church last Sunday night and presented the pastor a money contribution.

MOTHERS' CLUB MAKES REPORT

Report of the Mothers' club from February 4, 1921, to March 31, 1922: Balance in treasury from 1920 \$ 4.90 Dues 23.25 Donations 7.95 Entertainments 69.87 Total \$105.97 Expenses 83.13 Balance \$22.84

New members, 5; club federated May 6, 1921; picnics, 1; visits to welfare board, 1; visits to parent-teachers' association, 1; visits to school, 2; money for Y. W. C. A. drive, \$5.50; donations to Y. M. C. A. for victrola, \$4.50, also wicker desk and chair; donation to federation state president, \$1; flowers to sick families, 6; clothing distributed to 10 families; cash to families, \$9; funeral expense for one family, \$12; flowers for two funerals, \$4.75.

Respectfully submitted, LULU JOHNSON, Recording Secretary. MRS. J. F. SMITH, Pres.

MONUMENT OF WASHINGTON TO BE UNVEILED

Great Throngs Expected to Be Present on Founder's Day When Impressive Ceremonies Take Place

STATUE VIEWED BY FRIENDS

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., March 31.—The friends of the late Dr. Booker T. Washington will be glad to know that the Booker T. Washington Memorial, which is to be unveiled on April 5th, has been erected. Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, and Hon. William G. Wilcox, New York City, chairman of the board of trustees, were present when the eight-foot bronze figure was placed upon the granite pedestal which stands in the center of the campus.



The monument was uncovered for a few minutes for inspection and immediately teachers, students and visitors gathered around eager to catch a glimpse of it. Those who saw it joined with others who had had the privilege of seeing it, in declaring that Mr. Charles Keck, the sculptor, has produced a masterpiece of art. Dr. Moton announced today that present indications are that the unveiling exercises will bring together the largest number of white and colored people ever assembled on such an occasion. Telegrams and letters have been received from all sections of the country signifying the intention of individuals and groups to attend this event. (Tuskegee Institute, Press Service.)

SIMMONS ARRESTED WHILE LECTURING

Chicago, March 31.—Roscoe Conkling Simmons was arrested and lodged in jail when he stepped from a platform after lecturing at the Bethel A. M. E. church. Mr. Simmons was arrested on a capias or body execution to satisfy a judgment of \$8,000 against him growing out of an auto accident recently.

AFRICAN FAKER IN PHILLY

Philadelphia, March 31.—Madarika Denzil, who calls himself an African prince and who has been lecturing in this part of the country for a year attempting to secure a sufficient sum to pay his passage to Nigeria, West Africa, is billed to speak at the Royal Theatre, Fifteenth and South streets, Sunday afternoon.

MAYS ELECTROCUTED

Knoxville, Tenn., March 31.—Maurice P. Mays, convicted of shooting up a white family, thereby causing the Knoxville riot in September, 1918, was electrocuted at the State Prison here last week.

HISTORY DAY BY DAY

Friday, March 24.—As early as 2500 years before the birth of Christ the Ethiopians appeared to have had considerable civilization.

Saturday, March 25.—Alexander Du-mas, born at Jeremie, Haiti, 1762. In 1793 this Negro won the rank of Division Commander in the French Army.

Sunday, March 26.—Joseph Boulogne Saint-George, known as le Chevalier de Saint-George, honored by France 177 years after his birth. He won fame as a musician, a violinist. Born 1745.

Monday, March 27.—Osborn P. Anderson was the first colored printer. Born 1830. A New York Negro is a member of the Lenin-Trotsky Revolutionary Government Cabinet in Russia.

Tuesday, March 28.—A Negro editor addressed the House of Representatives of Nebraska on the Doctrine of Lincoln. This was the first time in the history of the house that it had been addressed by a Negro, 1920.

Wednesday, March 29.—Federal authorities discover that peonage is being practiced extensively in Georgia, and is also common in Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, 1920.

Thursday, March 30.—The 15th amendment of the Constitution, granting equal suffrage to all citizens, regardless of creed or color, ratified, 1870.

LINCOLN NOTES

Last Sunday was quarterly meeting at the Newman M. E. church. Rev. Logan, presiding elder, was present and conducted services, which were well attended by the members.

Mrs. Della Alexander is yet suffering from ailment in her limbs, one foot having been amputated some time ago.

Mrs. Agnes Knight is reported improving from illness.

Mrs. Mays returned to the city last week and is with her daughter, Mrs. Mabel Williams.

Mr. Willis Sellers is yet confined at home with illness.

At the A. M. E. church Sunday Rev. McClendon preached the continuation of his sermon which will be finished on Easter Sunday. The Sunday school and other societies held usual meetings.

Last reports from Mother Brown was to the effect that she seems to have improved some.

Mrs. J. A. Harris, President of the State B. Y. P. U., will make her annual visit to Lincoln April 9th.

Mrs. M. H. Wilkinson, President of the State Mission Society of New Era Baptist Association arrived in the city Monday to attend the executive board meeting on Tuesday at Mt. Zion Baptist church.

The Council of Deliberation of the Consistories of Nebraska is called to meet in Masonic Hall, Lincoln, Neb., Sunday, April 2nd, at 2 p. m. Princes, take notice.

Rev. Prince Condelee, the native African, made a visit to Lincoln on Monday, and spoke to a representative crowd at Mt. Zion Baptist church Monday night. His message, which was given with force, was full of pathos, when he spoke of how his people lived in Africa. But through the help of God and the people of the civilized world, the Gospel will eventually reach them. Rev. Prince Condelee returned to Omaha Monday night.

The Knights and Daughters of the Tabernacle gave a banquet in their hall on last Thursday night as a token of their prosperity in the past years of existence. An elaborate spread was partaken of by something over fifty of the members and their friends. After which the toastmaster, Prof. W. R. B. Alexander, was introduced. After narrating on the occasion of so many jolly folks being present a program consisting of addresses, papers, songs and music was rendered, which was quite inspiring to the many present.

At Mt. Zion Baptist church Sunday, the Sunday school was well attended. The pastor preached a fine sermon at 11:30. At night a pageant was given under the auspices of the B. Y. P. U. Title, "A Kingdom and the Nations," was rendered to an appreciative and enthusiastic audience. Each character proved to be a adept in their various costumes and parts. Much credit is to be given to the chairman of the program committee, and the President of the B. Y. P. U. In the selection of the efficient characters that represented the various nations. Many visitors were present and expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the entertainment.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

Thos. A. Taggart, Pastor We had an extraordinary attendance last Sunday. The pastor spoke at his best both morning and evening. The theme for the morning service was "Trading with the Devil," and in the evening he preached from the subject, "The World's Hope." Everybody enjoyed the message. The Pastor's Aid gave a "tacky" party which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large crowd. The sick of the church are Sisters Guy and Birdie Blackson, but they are improving. The Mission Circle had a splendid time and well attended last Thursday evening, when they gave their "Slabtown Convention" in the T. D. C. Hall, 29th and T Streets.

The Books of the Pastor's Life will be ready at the church Sunday. Covenant in afternoon and Lord's Supper. Everybody is expected to be present with their envelope Sunday. Let us all come out praying for the success of the big revival which starts the 16th by Dr. Kimble.

PROVIDES HOUSE OF WORSHIP

Rev. M. H. Wilkinson Asks for Small Sum to Finish the Job.

About eight months ago State Missionary Rev. M. H. Wilkinson started to raise \$1,800 in Norfolk, Neb., to give the forty colored people a place of worship, buying the frame building from the white Presbyterian. This colored population of forty consists of Methodist, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Holiness, Presbyterian, etc. This one church takes care of the whole situation. Of the \$1,800 only \$135 is needed to finish the job. Call up Rev. M. H. Wilkinson, Webster 1038, give your name and house number and tell him you have a dollar or so to help to finish the job. This closes on the 12th of April. All who give your names will appear in our two Negro papers.

KAFFIR LABORATORIES HAVE BIG INCREASE IN SALES

That good times are on the way is shown by the fact that the sales of the Kaffir Chemical Laboratories increased from \$75.00 last month to \$225.00 for March and this without advertising. One can see how the sales will increase as soon as this company can put on an advertising campaign.

THE ROYAL CIRCLE SOON TO INITIATE A LARGE CLASS

Over One Hundred Members Have Been Added to This Popular and Rapidly Growing Organization in One Month.

SUPREME SUPERVISOR HERE

Supreme Supervisor A. L. Richmond of The Supreme Royal Circle of Friends of the World will make another large class in The Royal Circle on Monday night, April 3d, 1922, at 8:30 p. m., at Mt. Moriah church, 24th and Ohio streets. The public is invited to hear the order explained from 8 p. m. to 8:30 p. m., after which the class will be made. Joining fee, \$3.50.

The Royal Circle pays to its members \$7.00 per week for sickness or accident, \$150 at death, erects a monument at the grave of each deceased member, free hospital treatment, medical and surgical attention room, nurse and board. The advantage of a loan and charity department, old folks home, school and home for the orphan children of the members. After a membership of 90 days policies may be increased as high as \$1000. Monthly dues, \$1.25. No taxes—no regalia except a small badge, no marching, no rough initiation, strictly modern and progressive. 15 years old. Men and women belong to same local bodies. Three hospitals in operation at the present time at Little Rock, Ark.; Hot Springs, Ark., and Memphis, Tenn. Membership over 200,000 in all states of the United States and the District of Columbia. Total assets over \$500,000. For information call A. L. Richmond, Webster 1760—2814 N. 25th street, or Mrs. George Riley, 2122 N. 24th street—phone Webster 0982.

Ask your grocer or merchant, if he does not, why he does not advertise in OUR NEWSPAPER.

SUDDEN DEATH OF JOHN W. PINKSTON SHOCKS COMMUNITY

Popular and Well Known Citizen Found Dead in His Home by His Father-in-Law Monday Night After Absence Noted.

WIFE STUDYING IN EUROPE

Death Probably Due to Acute Indigestion While There Is Some Evidence of Accidental Asphyxiation

John W. Pinkston, care-taker of the Happy Hollow club, was found dead in his home, 2415 North Twenty-second street, late Monday night by his father-in-law, John H. Crawford, after his unusual absence from his work was noted and repeated failures to reach him by telephone at his home. Mr. Pinkston's body was found seated in a rocking chair in the kitchen, a favorite seat of his, with his overcoat still on and his cap and half-smoked cigar fallen on the floor. One of the burners on the top of the gas range, and another in the oven were lighted. Another burner in the oven was partially turned on, but not lighted and from this gas was slowly escaping. This fact lends some weight to the belief that death was due to accidental asphyxiation. Against this it has been pointed out that the odor of gas in the house was not strong and that with two jets burning, had there been sufficient gas escaping to asphyxiate a man, the escaping gas in the lapse of so many hours would have so filled the house that there would have been ignition and explosion from the lighted burners. Moreover, Mr. Pinkston had on former occasions suffered from indigestion.

After leaving his work late Sunday night he was at a local restaurant with Fred Thompson and Holland Harrold, where they had lunch. His custom of late has been upon coming home to light the gas range in the kitchen and read and smoke in a favorite rocker before going to bed. On going home Monday morning about one o'clock, he turned on the light in the front part of the house and went to the kitchen where he lighted the gas range, one of the jets in the oven, being only partially open failing to ignite. He then evidently sat down in the rocking chair where he expired.

Failure to keep an engagement with Mr. Thompson Monday lead to inquiries at the Happy Hollow club and later at the home of his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Crawford of the Drake apartments. Mr. Crawford, receiving no response to his telephone call, then called the residence of Mr. Vizzard, next neighbor of the Pinkstons, asking if they had seen him. The reply was that they had not, but that the lights had been on in the house all the evening. The Crawfords hastened to the Pinkston home and forcing an entrance found Mr. Pinkston dead.

"Jack" Pinkston, as he was known, was well liked by hosts of friends. He was industrious, ambitious and exceedingly proud of and devoted to his talented wife, Florentia F. Cassells-Pinkston, whom he has encouraged in every way to complete her musical education. She is now studying in Paris and he was looking forward to going to New York to meet her upon her return early in June. The home life of the Pinkstons was ideal. Mrs. Pinkston has been cabled and will leave for home on the first steamer possible. The body will be held until her arrival. Mr. Pinkston was 46 years of age, and his death is sincerely mourned by scores of friends among both races.

IMPERIAL KU KLUX PLEDGES TO RETURN BULLOCK TO U. S.

Hickory, N. C., March 23.—A million members of the order of the Ku Klux Klan from Texas to Maine are pledged to see that Matthew Bullock, colored man wanted at Norfolk, N. C., on a charge of attempted murder, is brought back from Canada for trial. Dr. Arthur Talmadge Abernathy of Asheville, lecturer of the Klan, declared in an address here.

Dr. Abernathy said Bullock would be brought back to North Carolina within ninety days, but did not say how.

FREE FREE In order to introduce the Monitor into every home, we will for a limited time only, give absolutely free, a handsome thirteen-inch, fancy dressed KEWPIE DOLL, with real hair, to every person obtaining five six months subscriptions to the Monitor, at fifty cents each, or three one-year subscriptions at one dollar each. These dolls can be seen at South & Thompsons Cafe, 24th and Lake Sts., and Sol Lewis Jewelry Store, 24th and Parker Sts. Subscription blanks may be obtained at the above stores or at the Monitor office.

Subscribers who owe us must pay and pay now, if they wish to receive the Monitor regularly or want to have us continue the publication. We have enough money outstanding in small amounts to meet our obligations, but it will be utterly impossible for us to pay our bills and continue going unless you pay us. Send or bring us what you owe us. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor.