

THE MONITOR

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 THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor.
 George H. W. Bullock, Business Manager and Associate Editor.
 W. W. MOSELY, Associate Editor, Lincoln, Neb.
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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 N. A. A. C. P. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

THE National Association for the Advancement of Colored People deserves the support of every broad-minded, justice-loving American citizen. No American of color who is advised of the principles for which this organization stands, or the work which it has accomplished during the eleven years of its existence, should hesitate for a single minute in becoming a member. Membership costs \$1.00 a year. Half of this amount is kept by the local branch for the work it may have to do at home, and the other half goes to National headquarters for the work which the National organization has to do throughout the country. This organization has been in existence eleven years. In that time its membership has grown to 250,000, about one-tenth of whom are white people, many of them representing foremost places in the realms of business, education and the learned professions. There ought to be a membership of one million colored people alone. To mention only a few things the National Association has done:

Aroused the conscience of the American people to the menace of lynching, resulting in the passage by the House of Representatives of the Dyer Bill, and its introduction in the Senate. In its work of publicity, collection of data, etc., in connection with this measure it has expended over \$50,000.

Exposed peonage in the South, which has led to federal investigation of this evil, and the punishment of several persons guilty of this crime.

Secured better educational advantages for colored children in the South.

Helped to secure justice for innocent Negroes accused of crime.

These are only a few of the many excellent accomplishments of the organization.

It aims through its publicity bureau to place facts concerning race relationship before the American people, believing that the truth will set the nation free from many injustices of which our people are largely victims.

Imagine what a society of this character, ably and wisely directed as it is, with a membership of one million could accomplish. The Spring Drive for Members is now on. Let no self-respecting member of our race hesitate to join.

Omaha three years ago had a membership of nearly 800. The branch was growing in power and influence. Unfortunately selfish interests were set to work which nearly succeeded in wrecking it. The membership dwindled to a low figure. Faithful officers and a comparatively few loyal followers have stood by the organization and done excellent work for which they are to be commended. The Monitor hopes that in the drive which is now on for new members Omaha citizens of both races will respond in large numbers. The N. A. A. C. P. Spring Drive is an earnest endeavor to unite hundreds of thousands of colored Americans to achieve a common end; namely, freedom from the menace of lynching, justice in the courts of the land, equal educational advantages for all children, full enjoyment of the franchise, or in other words, equal rights for all American citizens.

As a self-respecting, law-abiding, industrious and progressive American citizen of color, do you want these things for yourself and for your children? Then join the N. A. A. C. P. Your dollar and your influence are needed.

NOT A LEGAL OFFENSE

LAST WEEK the Monarch Gardens, a popular cabaret with people of both races who patronize such institutions, was closed by the Board of Public Welfare. The superintendent of the board, Wallace Wilson, in two or three interviews, published in two of the local dailies, stressed as the chief reason for closing this cabaret the fact that both races were permitted to use the same dance floor, whereas the permit was granted with the proviso and understanding that the privileges of the place should be restricted to colored folk, or to quote the language of the alleged interview, published by the Bee, "only blacks would be allowed on the dance floor." The violation of this arbitrary rule of the Board of Public Welfare seemed to constitute the chief offense. This was undoubtedly the fact given most emphasis. The Monarch Gardens, like many cabarets, under either white or colored management, may have been a disorderly place and permitted violations of the unpopular law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, as many of them do and officials should know that they do. If this were the case, the cabaret should be closed for violation of the law and the point should be made clear that it was for being disorderly and for violation of the law. But the voluntary patronage of public places by both races does not, however, constitute a legal offense under the laws of Nebraska and when officials for political capital, and this is the joker in the deck, attempt to make it appear so, they make themselves ridiculous in the eyes of thoughtful people.

SHOULD OPEN THEIR EYES

WHEN political tricksters in this community want to pose as paragons of virtue and conservators of public morals and would throw dust in the public eye, they always manage somehow to find some Negro or Negro place of business which they can conveniently use for their purpose. It is to be regretted that a certain class of our people permit themselves to be placed in positions where they can be so used by oily, designing and unscrupulous politicians who are more interested in votes than in the morals and good name of the city, and who will grant privileges and protection when so doing serves their purpose, and withdraw them when they can be made a political asset by bestowing them elsewhere. Some day our people will get their eyes open.

WHAT OTHE REDITORS SAY NEGRO NEWSPAPERS

"To the Negro papers of the country must be given the credit for bringing about a nation wide demand, for instance, for a federal law with enough well preserved teeth in it to put an end to the barbarous sin of lynching. Hence the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which recently was passed by the House and is now awaiting action by the Senate. And who can truthfully deny that during the great war the colored paper did its infinite best to bring that great conflagration to a close with democracy on top? And lest we forget! Did not the colored paper receive also and effectually utilize its opportunity to preach 100 per cent patriotism all during the critical period? Yes, and it did so on a par with the most staunchly American journals of the nation.

"Race consciousness, the development of which everywhere among our people, is decidedly on the increase. A very happy sign, indeed, that natural desire to 'see what our papers have to say about it,' is becoming more and more general among colored people, who are gradually growing more appreciative of the effort that is being expended by those of the race to build up in its interest a strong press.

"Big job, it is admittedly, but it is also one of those ultimate and sacred aims of the now much criticized Negro newspaper that must not and will not fail.

"There is one thing of which we are certain, and that is that the colored press is slowly, but surely, becoming a powerful moulder of public opinion."
 —The Indianapolis Freeman.

PARTIES.

Negroes for fifty years have marched to the polls and voted for men because they called themselves Republicans and hollered the Abraham Lincoln stuff. But the principles or

Abraham Lincoln and his immediate successors seem to be dead and to be forgotten by the generation of leaders of this day.

And now Negroes are awakened to the fact that parties are instruments to be used for the benefit of the country, primarily, and closely following, for the benefit of the people, who give adherence and support to the party of their choice. When the party fails to give recognition to any group or class of its citizens and becomes callous in the matter of the protection of the rights of those citizens to life, liberty and the possession of property, it is time for them to cast about for new alliances. And the time is now ripe for Negroes in every part of the United States to think in terms of practical politics and cast sentiment and tradition to the winds.—Baltimore Herald.

EVEN "DEAD ONES" HAVE FOLLOWERS.

Political candidates who are talking about their "large personal following" should remember that even the corpse at the head of the funeral has thousands of followers.—Harrisburg Telegraph.

CONCERNING SOCIAL EQUALITY (Associated Negro Press)

(From "When Black Meets White," by John Louis Hill.)

By "social equality between the white and black races is generally meant a meeting of the two races upon the same social level, a gracious extension and cordial reception to and from each other of the amenities of social intercourse. This means visiting with and entertaining each other. Social equality of these races means for both colors to sit together around the same social board.

Against this idea the South has always rebelled and with most people in the North it has been but a theory, practiced by comparatively few. As stated in the previous chapter, this question has no legitimate place in the adjustment of racial disagreements because color has nothing to do with character. Only two things of right should determine social equality or inequality, viz., character and intellect. In nothing are there so many strata and gradations as in the make-up of the world's social life. No other word has a more varied significance than the word "society." Primarily, it means the "entire human family in its associated and interrelated contact. In its narrowest and most despicable sense it refers to the "upper crust," the aristocracy of gold, the "400."

There are as many gradations of society as there are levels upon which people meet in mutually pleasant intercourse. There is social inequality between a cultivated individual and an uncouth ignoramus. There is social inequality between a man of high moral character and a libertine; between a pure woman and a courtesan; between an honest man and a thief; a gentleman and a robber. None of

these differences are made by the color of one's skin. We all know of many Colored people with whom we would prefer to associate in any capacity, than with some white people we know. And, there are Colored people so low that self respecting persons of the same race would not think of receiving and entertaining on an equal social basis. From every angle, all of the argument is against the idea of color having anything to do with social position.

Through a half century of struggle and growth, the Negro has learned that his social position, like that of every other man, must be attained—that he must win his spurs before he can wear them. And while the Negro has been learning this truth the white race is learning that when the Negro has merited social recognition it must not—in a free country—cannot be denied him. We must go still further, by gladly co-operating with him, in every way encouraging him, and welcoming him to the highest social standing he may justly earn.

INVITATION FROM ALAMITO DAIRY

The Alamito Dairy is extending an invitation to Women's Guilds, Societies, etc., to visit their sanitary plant. Our people who are such large users of milk and dairy products should accept this invitation. See the Alamito "ad" in this paper.

CARD OF THANKS

We desire to thank our many friends for their marked kindness to us and the expression of their sympathy by many beautiful floral gifts in our bereavement.—Florentine F. Pinkston, John H. Crawford and family.

Previous Training.

"Pretty good rubber you have now," said the fat patron of a Turkish bath. "Yes," said the proprietor. "I thought the fellow would make good when I hired him." "He works like an experienced man."

"He's had plenty of experience, all right. He used to swab decks on a liner."

Embarrassing the Boss.

"Have you any employees who really take an interest in your business?" "Orfe," said Mr. Dubwaite.

"He's in a responsible position, I presume?" "No, he's my office boy. That youngster is so smart and industrious I feel like apologizing to him every time he catches me with my feet propped up on my desk and nothing on my mind but a game of golf."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

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"MAN TO MAN"—Shown at the New Diamond Theatre, Lake St., below 24th.

SIX 'UNKNOWN POILUS' LIVING

French Government Seeks Identity of War Heroes Whose Murmors Are a Blank.

Paris.—France has six living "unknown poilus." The men, their memories a complete blank as the result of horrors undergone during the war, are being cared for by the government, which is seeking to establish their identities.

They have been visited by thousands of persons, but none recognized them, and the minister of pensions has decided to send their photographs and detailed descriptions to the metropolitan and provincial press in hopes that their relatives can be found.

Father's Definition.

"Pa, what's a silent majority?" "A silent majority, my son, is two men trying to entertain one woman."

Enemies.

"Smears says he's an impressionist." "That so? Then from now on I'm a suppressionist."

Again.

"Did Highlee succeed in obtaining a divorce?" "Yes, and he has already been revamped."—Judge.

Civility.

"Who's that fellow that cussed me a minute ago?" "That's the civil engineer." "What's in a name anyhow?"

No Doubt.

"Mrs. Fluddub has a fine new graphophone." "Now she'll put on airs."

Describing the Scenery.

"He's making a mountain out of a molehill." "I see. Getting up a summer prospectus."

When We Really Need It.

Knicker—What is thrift? Bocker—Saving for a sunny day.—New York Herald.

Entertainment at Home.

"You are much more serious in your addresses than you used to be," remarked the friend. "Many's the time when a mass meeting was held in your honor, you'd simply hire a band, tell a few anecdotes and let it go at that?" "True!" responded Senator Sorghum. "Modern invention has changed all that. I've got to give 'em real thoughts. You can't expect a statesman to go through life trying to compete with the photographs and the comic supplements."

It Used to Be.

The exorbitant prices that prevail all over the world led Col. Charles L. Forbes, director of the Veterans' bureau, to say at a reception in Washington:

"These unreasonable prices naturally make men think that post-war morality in the business world is more rapacious than pre-war morality was. "It used to be that a man was content to hold his own. Today he insists on holding other people's."

Adroit Publicity.

"You once told me you were very much interested in the theory of evolution."

"I am," replied the member of the legislature.

"Then why did you introduce a bill to prevent it from being studied?" "People seemed to be forgetting all about it. I thought it would be a good idea to bring it back to popular attention."

Fur Market Shifts to China.

Because of the disturbed conditions in Russia, Liepzig has been deprived of its place as the fur center of the world, which has now been shifted to Mukden, China. Many American firms have representatives located there. Prior to 1915 practically no shipments of furs were made from Mukden, whereas the value of such shipments now amounts to \$2,500,000 annually.

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Announcement

Dr. S. B. Northcross wishes to announce that his residence telephone has been changed to Webster 3222. His North Side office is located at 1516 North 24th St., over the Co-operative Store. Telephone Webster 6194.

He desires to further announce that he will retain his South Side office also, 2731-3 Q Street. For information call Market 2051.

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Come One! Come All!

Vote for Your Favorite Society and

Win a Donation!

Donations of \$50.00, \$35.00, \$25.00 and \$10.00 will be given to the Four Women's Organizations of Omaha and Council Bluffs who bring the most Members, Children and Friends to the plant of the Alamito Dairy during the month of May from the 1st to the 27th, inclusive, at 2 or 3:30 o'clock or in the morning or evening by special appointment. This invitation includes church societies, women's clubs, business and professional women's clubs, labor unions, parent-teacher associations, mothers' circles, sewing and embroidery clubs, social clubs, card clubs, lodges, civic improvement leagues and all other forms of women's organizations. Societies having over 100 members are requested to come in divisions on successive days, all being counted and credited. Officers of organizations which have adjourned for the summer are requested to get their members together by phone. Anyone may vote for any organization whether a member or not. Kindly notify the plant (Phone DO 0409) at least a day in advance that suitable arrangements may be made. Dairy refreshment served and free cartons of cottage cheese distributed. Miss Lutie E. Stearns of Wisconsin, who has endeared herself to the women of Omaha and Council Bluffs through her successive visits and who has been lecturing in the South and East during the past winter, will be with us to talk on "Two Wonders of the World." Reserve an afternoon at once and avoid disappointment later.

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