

THE MONITOR

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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.



A TIMELY WARNING

DURING the time that Dean Ringer was commissioner of police, in order to "get him" and show the inefficiency of the police department under his administration the commercialized vice interests of this city were directly responsible for a systematic campaign of vicious propaganda which resulted in the lynching and rioting of September 28, 1919. For several weeks prior to that disgraceful affair there appeared in local newspapers over box-car headlines reports of attacks upon white women by Negroes. Most of these reports were deliberate lies, manufactured and given currency for a willfully malicious purpose. Law-abiding citizens of color suffered keenly from the odium and reflection cast upon them by the alleged criminal acts of members of the race and their persons and property were placed in jeopardy by the mob-mind and spirit evoked by that vicious propaganda which at bottom was political. Put in other words, it was a white man's wrangle, if you please, for political advantage of which the unoffending and inoffensive colored American was made the goat. It centered chiefly upon the control of the police power of this city. The direct attack was aimed against Police Commissioner Ringer and Mayor Smith, who loyally supported him. Our purpose in recalling these facts at this time is to sound a timely warning. In the last few days there has been an upheaval in the city administration. Dan B. Butler, one of the ablest and most efficient commissioners who has ever served this city, and who has openly charged that vice has been protected, has been transferred, under a resolution introduced by Mayor Dahlman and passed by a vote of 6 to 1, from the Department of Finance to that of Commissioner of Police, Police Commissioner Dunn taking Butler's former department. In other words, Butler and Dunn have been compelled to swap jobs. The Monitor opines that there is more back to this adroit movement than appears upon the surface. Judging from Dan Butler's past record, we have every confidence in him that he will do his level best to make good on this job as he has

done in every department of the city government of which he has hitherto been placed in charge. We are not, however, so sure that he will receive the hearty co-operation of his colleagues in carrying out the far-reaching and drastic reforms which he has indicated that he will inaugurate for the betterment of the service. Clashes in the Council Chamber attendant upon the transfer presage friction. Hence our scepticism as to sincere and whole-hearted co-operation from his colleagues. It appears to us that the difficult office of Police Commissioner is again to be made a storm-center as it was during the Ringer incumbency. If so the same tactics may be used as then. Propaganda of the same kind, damaging to our people may be circulated. We hope not. But we sound this note of warning. Watch developments. If there should begin to appear numerous reports of alleged crimes by Negroes, with corresponding inability upon the part of the police to apprehend and convict these "Negro" criminals, it will take no Sherlock Holmes to know what's up. It politicians and others are staging a fight around the office of Commissioner of Police we ask them kindly to leave our people out. It is their fight, not ours, and we are unwilling to be made the goat. In the meanwhile we counsel all our people to be industrious and law abiding and to keep their eyes wide open.

ATHLETICS AND AMERICANIZATION

An interesting, instructive and suggestive "cut" appears on the first page of this issue. We are indebted for its use to the appreciated courtesy of the Omaha Daily Bee. The illustration carries its own lesson. It conveys visible and tangible evidence of how the excellent public schools of our city are not only providing for the physical development of all children, but also how these schools are carrying on the work of genuine Americanization by encouraging and providing healthful and legitimate sports in which the children of all racial groups compete upon absolutely equal terms according to merit. Such association and

competition make for comradeship, mutual esteem, respect, good will and understanding that is absolutely impossible under a system of isolation and segregation. America's future depends upon amity and unity among all groups of her citizenry. These are impossible without association and helpful contact. Separation breeds distrust and suspicion. The public school where all children meet, study together and play together is the place where this nationalization of America, which is not yet a homogeneous nation, can best be accomplished. Those who do not realize this fact are wanting in vision and it is as true today as when spoken of old, that "where there is no vision the people perish." Americans who have vision want no "little Italy", "little Germany", "little Poland" or "little Africa", but one great big all-comprehending America and consequently they are willing to do all they can to develop this ideal. As an encouragement to school athletics the Omaha Bee has instituted tournaments for the grade schools. Its basket ball tournament, recently held, evoked great interest. In the finals played last Friday night, the city champion was won by Long, in a spirited game with Miller Park. The players in Long team are all colored boys with one exception, Christenson. Miller Park team are all white boys. Garfield team has one colored member. In Friday night's finals it was an all-colored team against an all-white team and the best of good will prevailed. It was simply a case of picked athletes from one Omaha public school, who by fair competition won their right for a place on the team, contending for the city championship, with picked athletes from another Omaha school. Miller Park teachers have shown what good losers they are by providing a treat Friday night for the four teams contesting in the semi-finals. We congratulate Long school upon its well-won victory and we congratulate Omaha upon the fact that it is broad-minded and large visioned in its work of educating its future citizens by making provision for developing their minds and bodies.

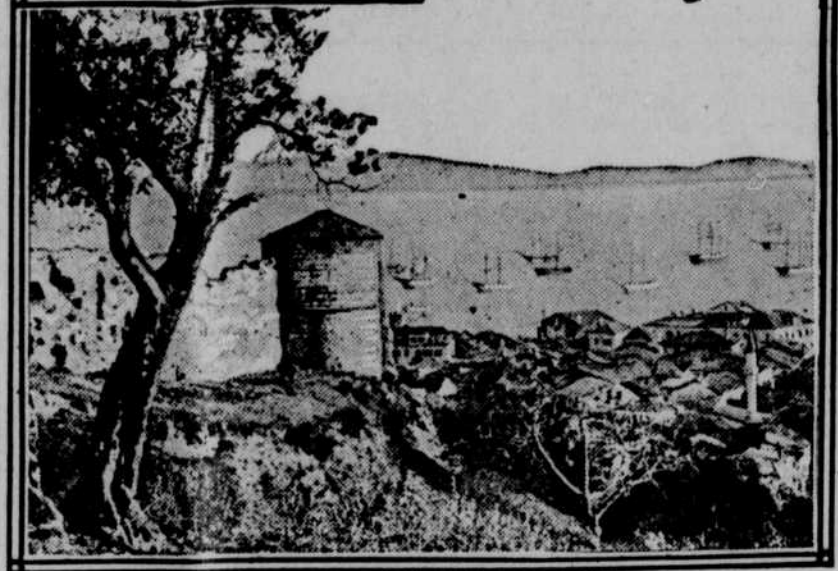
HOLY WEEK

NEXT WEEK is known as Holy Week. It commemorates our Blessed Lord's last week upon the earth during the period of His humiliation. Its culmination is Good Friday. The week should be given up as largely to devotion as our busy modern life will permit by all those who profess and call themselves Christians. The Monitor notes with pleasure that several of the leading religious bodies of the city have planned for a united noon-day service to be held at the Brandeis theatre during the week. Trinity Cathedral will continue its usual noon-day services. St. Mary Magdeleine, in addition to its masses, has also a noon-day service. Ample provision thus seems to be made for Protestants, Episcopalians, Roman Catholics and other Christian folk who so desire it opportunity for worship during Holy Week. We hope our people according to their liking will largely avail themselves of these privileges.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN HOME ECONOMICS

In 1921-22 approximately fifty-six all-day departments for vocational education in home economics, enrolling 2,719 girls, were maintained in public schools for colored children. One state reports that in the past year this work has more than doubled, and that there are keen interest fine co-operation wherever these departments have been organized; another state reports that nine colored schools have signed a blank signifying their interest in vocational education in

New Nation; Ancient People



Harbor of Durazzo.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

While the Near East conference is reshuffling the territorial cards that were shuffled last by the treaty of Sevres, Albania, just outside the most recently disturbed region, will probably be permitted to go on its rather somnolent way. The country was created in 1912 to avert a world war, and when World War did come the troops in five countries occupied various sections of it. Germans, Austrians and Bulgarians were in control in the northern districts where Serbians made after-war attacks, while France and Italy held the south, including the area about Koritza, which later formed a bone of contention with Greece. Durazzo, chief Albanian port, was seized by d'Annunzio.

Perhaps history will recognize Koritza as the scene of the first definite step toward remaking the map of Europe. For there in December, 1916, was set up a government, generally referred to as the republic of Koritza. While most of Albania was in Austrian hands this little republic, under French military protection, started to function as an Albanian republic, issued paper money, postage stamps, and established a national army with a fighting strength of 600.

Before 1914 Albania was the newest country of the Old World, and it is peopled by the most ancient race of southeast Europe. Edward Gibbon called it "a country within sight of Italy, which is less known than the interior of America." And more than a century after that characterization, before the war helped introduce the Balkans to America, a letter addressed "Albania" was sent from England to the United States and was returned from Albany, N. Y., with the notation "Not for Albany, try Europe."

The towns of southern Albania are few and, though strange and picturesque in appearance, are in reality poor in comfort. Of cities there are not any. Koritza, with some 20,000 people, is the largest place, but it is far from being a city. However, if the towns are somewhat mean and squalid, they are interesting to the eye and have the charm of old-world quaintness. There are but four worth mentioning: Arbrokastro, so old, at least in appearance, that its origin falls back into the mists of time; the fertile valley along the river Viosa; Koritza, which was held by the French; and Valona, which became clean and thrived under the Italian army.

Few Modern Comforts There. They are all pleasant places to look upon, nestling among the mountains, in the valleys, and by the sea, with their old gray walls and roofs of stone dotted with storks; but they possess none of the comforts or conveniences of modern life. Such matter-of-fact things as trams, hotels, or cafes do not exist in Albanian towns and would seem wholly out of place. Water is drawn from the wells as it was 4,000 years ago, or maybe from some nearby stream. Inns are represented by the khan, a stone building half house, half stable, where caravans and pack trains stop to rest.

Albania belongs to a time as far back as the annals of the world can reach and is as primitive as if it were in central China, almost as difficult to penetrate as Tibet itself. It is a land unfamiliar to the traveler and shunned by the tourist of today.

If the three or four centers of population in southern Albania are a little disappointing as cities, this is not true of the country or of the picturesque villages which gather like gray splashes upon the gray hills, where they appear to have nestled since the beginning of time. Rough stone huts they are for the most part, with flat stone roofs. For purposes of defense, they are usually situated half way up the lower hills, and the houses and outbuildings are often surrounded by strong stone walls.

The valleys are rich and well cultivated, chiefly by the women, but present a desolate, deserted appearance, except in the daylight working hours. Not a farmhouse nor a stable is to be seen amidst all the fertile acres. The crops cannot be stolen; no bandit would think of destroying them, and so they are left unguarded.

home economics and their willingness to observe the half-time program for vocational education. In one state twenty to seventy-five schools applying for approval in 1922-23 were colored.

Five years ago these schools gave much attention to models in sewing and to individual cookery, and little to large problems of food, clothing, and other activities of the home. Today proper food and clothing for the individual and family, care of the home, expenditure of income, home nursing, and care of children occupy

In Albania it isn't so much that history repeats itself, as that it engages in a process of monotonous reiteration. Albania is the infant terrible among European nations. It simply refuses to grow up.

It does not lurk in the backwaters of Europe because of inferior people; for it has a stock which is sturdy, intelligent and resourceful. The vitality of the Albanians is exemplified in the mere fact that they continue to exist as a homogeneous people amid geographical and historical handicaps that have absorbed or displaced many of their old-time neighbors.

In recent years contacts with Vlachs and Greeks have modified the Tosks or South Albanians. The wilder part of wild Albania, and the more primitive among its people, the Ghegs, are in the north, along the River Drin, which figured in Serbian war news.

The Drin is formed by the confluence of the Black Drin, which rises in the beautiful Lake Ochrida, and the mountain-born White Drin. The Drin proper flows due west before it empties into the Adriatic near Lake Scutari, south of Dalmatia, halting on the littoral of post-war politics.

Land of the Blood Feud. North of the Drin is a mountain land, the Karst, a Sahara of rock, akin to a fireless cooker in its effect after a hot day. Here live tribes, unconscious of national influences, except to fight invaders.

Here is the land of the blood feud, a code by which 25 per cent of the men in some tribes are killed off in their prime. Yet this practice is not to be confounded with mere lawless-ness. Rather it is a poor substitute for any recognized legal system or any central power to enforce justice. It is both more rigid and severe, and more elaborate, than the common law of advanced nations. One student of its workings found that a failure to make good a promise of a trifling present cost a dozen lives in a day. Because one man killed a pig that was eating his crops, the male relatives of the pig's owner killed many of the pig slayer's clan over a long period of years.

Under such a system male relationships assume great importance. A man's third cousin becomes his "brother"; a woman's family ties, outside her parents, husband, or brothers, are matters of small moment. In many places there is no consciousness of kinship between niece and aunt.

But the ramifications of this same code make woman's position higher in Albania than in the Orient, or even in many a more modernized region of Europe. For one thing the man who has a "blood foe" is immune from attack while in company of a woman. During times of feuds which amount to tribal warfare, women attend largely to outdoor duties. Marriage is by contract; generally arranged upon the birth of a child. A woman exercises no choice but has a veto power in respect to her husband. Should she not wish the man of her parent's arrangement she may reject him, but, in that event, must take vows to remain a virgin, assume the status of a man, and in some regions she dons men's clothing. Should she marry another man her rejected suitor's family must seek blood vengeance upon her male relatives.

Our Ways Strange to Them. These customs seem strange, but no less so than some of our ways to the Albanian. When told that in England a woman must hang for murder an Albanian company was deeply shocked. It was beyond their comprehension how a man could be found who would hang a woman and they concluded that England must be a barbarous island, indeed. No less surprise was caused among another group when informed of the flirtatious tendencies of the Anglo-Saxon maid. They couldn't see how the parents of a young woman who flitted a man could escape dire vengeance by his brothers—"brothers" meaning all his male relatives of near and far degree.

Even the minor habits in the daily life of so isolate a people are novel. To be without a mustache is a disgrace in many parts of north, or high, Albania. The Albanian mother tells her child stories in which, unlike our stage melodrama, it always is the hairless man who figures as the villain.

integral and prominent places on the home-economics program. Realizing the great need of qualified teachers to carry out a vocational program of home economics, a special effort has been made to raise the standards of instruction in teacher-training. The results have been very encouraging, both in regard to the number of students and in quality of work.—Adeleide C. Baylor in the Southern Workman.

Take heed and beware of covetousness.—The Bible.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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Nebraska Civil Rights Bill

Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Civil Rights. Enacted in 1893.

Sec. 1. Civil rights of persons. All persons within this state shall be entitled to a full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, restaurants, public conveyances, barber shops, theatres and other places of amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to every person.

Sec. 2. Penalty for Violation of Preceding Section. Any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person, except for reasons of law applicable to all persons, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges enumerated in the foregoing section, or by aiding or inciting such denials, shall for each offense be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, and pay the costs of the prosecution.

"The original act was held valid as to citizens; barber shops can not discriminate against persons on account of color. Messenger vs State, 25 Nebr. page 677. N. W. 638."

"A restaurant keeper who refuses to serve a colored person with refreshments in a certain part of his restaurant, for no other reason than that he is colored, is civilly liable, though he offers to serve him by setting a table in amore private part of the house. Ferguson vs Gies, 82 Mich. 358; N. W. 718."