

# THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper Devoted Primarily to the Interests of Colored Americans.

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## Letters From Our Readers

Short, timely letters are invited. We prefer that writers sign their names, but in all cases letters signed with a nom de plume or as "Reader," "Subscriber," etc., must be accompanied by the name and address of the author for the editor's information.

**An Unnecessary Question**  
"Upright men shall be astonished at this, and the innocent shall stir up himself against the hypocrite. The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger."

A few days ago, the writer of this article was in the District Court representing a white client. A certain official surprisingly asked the said client: "Why are you represented in court by a colored attorney, are you a Catholic?" (Sounds like the Ku Klux Klan).

Can you understand why an official should ask a question like this? Do you suppose that same official has ever asked a colored client why he is represented by a white attorney? And whether said colored client so represented by a white attorney, is a Catholic? What difference does it make so long as the business is legitimate, whether one comes into court with a colored attorney or with a white attorney.

I am an attorney engaged in the general practice of law, and my office is opened to the general public; I do not think that I am too good to represent a white client in court if one happens to need my assistance and is willing to employ me as some are.

This court official had no business to so question my client to whom my services were satisfactory.

Very respectfully yours,  
NOAH W. WARE.

**Moves Rapidly.**  
A department store wag recently told of one Bostonian dis using merchandising with a breezy traveling salesman in a Pullman car, saying that the vocabulary of the average woman was only 800 words. To which the salesman replied: "That may be true; but think of the turn-over."—Boston Globe.

**Overcrowded.**  
Billy's nose was out of joint, all on account of the arrival of little sister. He took his overcoat and hat to the nurse and asked her to put them on him, as he was going away. She asked him if he hadn't better wait and see his father. He replied: "I'm going to my father now. This house is getting too crowded."

**Handicaps of Age.**  
Men of age object too much, consult too long, adventure too little, repent too soon, and seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a mediocrity of success.—Bacon.

## 21,763,275 IN SCHOOLS OF U. S.

Census Bureau Gives Out Statistics for 1920.

### VARY IN DIFFERENT STATES

The school attendance in the United States in 1920, according to statistics just made public by the bureau of census, was 21,763,275 of both sexes between the ages of five and twenty years.

Of these 10,886,703 were male and 10,876,572 female. The percentages are based on the population five to twenty years, inclusive, for the reason that the number of persons attending school at ages above and below these limits are insignificant.

"The statistics of school attendance compiled from the returns of the census of 1920 are based upon the population schedule as to whether the person enumerated had attended school between September 1, 1919, and the census date January 1, 1920," the bureau's report continues.

"If the person had attended any school, college or other educational institution for any length of time within the period in question an affirmative answer was to be made.

**Figure Exceeds Daily Total.**  
"The total number of persons returned as attending school is, therefore, larger than the number who were simultaneously in attendance at any one time between September 1, 1919, and January 1, 1920. Although this period represents considerably less than half the entire school year 1919-20 the number of persons who attended school in that year subsequently, but not prior to January 1, would form an insignificant proportion of the total enrollment. The figures are, therefore, fairly comparable with those for preceding censuses, at which enumerations were made later in the year.

"The statistics on school attendance presented are limited to continental United States as a whole, the states and cities having 25,000 inhabitants or more. Less detailed statistics for states, counties and for incorporated places having 2,500 inhabitants or more, and complete statistics for the outlying possessions enumerated at the fourteenth census are presented in Volume III of the fourteenth census report.

**Vary in Different States.**  
"Ages of compulsory school attendance vary in the different states, beginning at seven years in 21 states and at eight years in 27 states and the District of Columbia.

"The differences among the proportions attending school for the several classes of the population are due in part to differences in distribution as between urban and rural communities. The native whites of foreign-born or mixed parentage and the foreign-born whites are found mainly in urban communities, in which school attendance begins and in general ends at somewhat earlier ages than in rural communities. It is probable, however, that the decidedly higher proportions for the native stock, fourteen years of age and over, are due in part to the better economic and social position of this class of population. Attendance at school, college or any other educational institution at the older school age is more clearly indicative of a higher economic level than school attendance at the younger ages, when local school facilities and legal requirements are dominant factors.

**PAYS 44-YEAR JUDGMENT**  
\$75 Debt That Grew to \$450 "Bothered" Farmer's Conscience.  
J. N. Wiggins of Palmyra, Neb., has achieved a little fleeting fame in the newspapers. He appeared at the court house at Winterset, Ia., the other day and said that he came to pay a judgment rendered against him forty-four years ago.

Wiggins was a farmer in Iowa and a friend went surety on a note for \$75. When it came due the surety had to pay. Wiggins having to leave. It was entered for \$57.50, February 22, 1879.

The surety, J. S. McGinnis, took an assignment, but died years ago. Wiggins paid McGinnis's heirs \$450, which was the amount with 10 per cent interest compounded. Wiggins said that the statute of limitations had run against the claim, but it had "bothered" him and he wanted to get rid of the uneasy feeling before he died.

**WARNS OF STEAM BOILERS**  
Engineers Issue Safety Rules to Prevent Explosions.  
Steam power is taking the place of strong right arms and "elbow grease" on West and Middle West farms, according to the boiler code committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The use of steam for scalding milk pails, cream separators, churning machinery and other dairy apparatus is fast becoming general. Steam power is being used to pump water and saw wood.

With the announcement of the increased use of steam on farms, the committee has sounded a warning that the application of safety laws to guard against explosion of high-pressure boilers is needed. The high-pressure boiler is as potentially dangerous as TNT, the committee declares.

**At Least One of the Causes.**  
Every year sees one-time luxuries added to our list of necessities. That is the main cause of the high cost of living, directly as well as indirectly.—Exchange.

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## DOCTOR SAYS CITY FOLKS ARE BECOMING GERM PROOF

Constant Contact Produces Immunity, Is Conclusion After Research Work.

City dwellers are becoming immune to many diseases because of constant contact with the germs which produce them, said Dr. William H. Park, director of the research laboratories of the department of health in New York. In making the observation that city dwellers are an aid to health rather than a detriment, Subway travelers breathe in so many germs their systems become used to them.

Scientific determination of the truth of this statement, Doctor Park explained, resulted from examination of public school children for diphtheria germs.

The examination disclosed that many children had diphtheria germs. During the period they carried the germs, deaths from diphtheria declined rapidly, partly due to the anti-toxin and partly to natural immunization.

Tendency of city dwellers to become immune was first noticed during the war. It was found at camps that men from larger cities did not succumb to epidemics as easily as men from rural districts. The country dweller is not stricken by disease so often, but when he is the disease is more serious in form. Another reason for the city dweller's resistance to disease is that country houses are not so well ventilated in the winter as city homes.

Immunity, Doctor Park added, is not found only in the suburbs, for every congested portion of a city breeds the same resistance to disease. But in the suburbs, he said, the air is full of millions of germs which would produce terrible epidemics if the human body had not learned to assimilate them. Strengthening of resistance tends to reduce the germ vitality, and the fact that there is less tuberculosis now than fifty years ago is partly because the tuberculosis germs have decreased in virulence, Doctor Park said.

**Fig-Tree Emblem of Home.**  
The fig tree, from earliest times has been a garden tree cultivated for its shade and general usefulness. "Beneath the vine and fig tree" is used more than once in the Old Testament to designate "home." For centuries the fruit, fresh or dried, has made up a large part of the food of the natives of Western Asia and Southern Europe. Its juice is used to make a drink, and also to dye cloth. Its leaves polish ivory, and the bark makes cord. The sap of one species is poisonous. The fig tree, in climates congenial to its growth, produces two and sometimes three crops of fruit the same year, on distinct shoots. The trees grow rapidly from cuttings, and are propagated by budding, grafting and seeds. The large, beautiful leaves are deciduous, palmately veined, three-to-five lobed, wavy-margined, and somewhat rough and leathery.

**Village Bars Domino Games on Sundays**  
Dunbar, W. Va.—Blue laws of ultra-marine hue are being enforced in this municipality. The policy of the administration is to keep the lid down tight. Somebody slipped over the line of demarcation the other Sunday and played dominoes. News of the crime reached the ears of Mayor R. H. Garrett, and he forthwith caused the following notice to be published in the Dunbar Advance:

"Must close Sunday!  
"Notice is hereby given that the playing of dominoes in any public place in Dunbar on Sunday will not be permitted after this date. B. H. Garrett, mayor."

# OVERCOATS

## Small Payments

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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.

### INSANE OR JUST PLAIN FOOL?

IS THE MAYOR of Johnstown, Pa., insane or just an ordinary fool "cracker" from some benighted Southern section obsessed with the idea that Negroes have no rights which white men are bound to respect? Surely no man in his right mind or with a modicum of common sense would promulgate such an order as that issued by Joseph Cauffie, mayor of Johnstown. Because of a melee between a few Negroes, one of whom is said to have been crazed with moonshine whiskey, and police officers, in which two police officers were killed, this sapient mayor issues a drastic order ordering all Negroes who have resided in Johnstown less than SEVEN YEARS to leave the city immediately; furthermore, he says that no more Negroes will be permitted to take up residence there; and he forbids any Negro residents, to have any parties, socials or public gatherings, divine service alone excepted; moreover any Negroes VISITING Johnstown in the future must register and report to him or the chief of police, telling their whereabouts and activities during their sojourn within the limits of the city. Doesn't it seem incredible that a man with brains enough to be mayor, even of a dog pound, would be foolish enough to issue such an order as this? He ought to know that he has no right to order any law-abiding citizen to leave Johnstown whether he has resided there FIVE MINUTES or FIFTY YEARS. If one be a law breaker it is his duty to see that he is arrested and prosecuted and made to pay the penalty of his crime. He has no right in law or morals to issue a wholesale deportation order against a race or group because of the criminal acts of individuals of that group. The action of this obscure Pennsylvania official, aside from its assnity, is interesting only as illustrative of the attitude of some shallow-pated individuals towards the constitutional rights of colored Americans.

### POLITENESS PAYS

WE WANT to urge upon our people the necessity of politeness, good manners and consideration on all occasions. There is one place in particular where many of our men can show much more politeness and consideration than they do and that is on the street cars. We know what some will say. It is this: "White men don't get up and give their seats to colored

women on street cars and why should we not follow their example?" Because others are inconsiderate and wanting in politeness, does not justify our being the same. Gentlemen should set examples. We would like to see our men politely proffer their seats to women, any women on cars, and particularly to elderly women. The custom of doing this is passing we know; but we believe that such acts of politeness on the part of our men would be wise and profitable. Suppose we all try it.

### NEVER NAPS ON ITS JOB

DID YOU NOTICE how quickly the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People got on the job in the Johnstown affair? Did you notice how intelligently they went at it? Did you notice that the Governor of Pennsylvania promptly responded to their telegram, giving assurance that the whole power of the State would be invoked, if necessary, to protect the rights of all citizens? Do we not need such an efficient organization? The N. A. A. C. P. never sleeps on its job, but works 365 days in the year intelligently safeguarding our rights as citizens which may be imperilled in the North as well as in the South. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

**Time Well Spent.**  
Time is money, and sometimes very much more than money. To spend our lives dollar-chasing may get us wealth, but not refinement. Time devoted to improving the mind and heart results in far greater satisfaction.—Grit.

### TYPES OF HOMES OWNED BY COLORED CITIZENS



RESIDENCE OF DR. AND MRS. L. E. BRITT, 2519 MAPLE STREET

# Nebraska Civil Rights Bill

Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Civil Rights. Enacted in 1898.

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 some private part of the house. Ferguson vs Gies, 82 Mich. 356; N. W. 712."