

THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA, BY THE MONITOR PUBLISHING COMPANY

Entered as Second-Class Mail Matter July 2, 1915, at the Postoffice at Omaha, Nebraska, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES, \$2.00 A YEAR; \$1.25 6 MONTHS; 75c 3 MONTHS
Advertising Rates Furnished Upon Application

Address, The Monitor, Postoffice Box 1204, Omaha, Neb.
Telephone WEBster 4243

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.

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THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

AS citizens, taxpayers and patrons of the public schools of Omaha we are vitally interested in their management. Just now the Board of Education is receiving some criticism, and we believe a measure of it is merited, for its failure to keep its pre-election promise to provide adequately for grade schools. It is under fire also for its proposal to employ a business manager while totally at sea as to just what his duties will be. Criticism of the sale of the former site of the North High school at a loss of some \$40,000, which the taxpayers must stand, seems to us quite valid. We do not believe that there was any urgency for this sale.

Then, too, the star chamber sessions of the Board are not likely to win the confidence of the public. Of course, there are matters that should be discussed in executive session, but not building programs or like matters. Why so much secrecy? Is the Board of Education ashamed or afraid to let the public know the policy, or lack of policy, it is pursuing that it must hold star chamber sessions?

The Board of Education was elected on a definite platform and is charged with the duty of managing the schools. This management includes the employment of a superintendent of schools, and other officials and necessary employees, clearly defined in the statutes, which make no provision for a special business manager. And what could he do that Duncan Finlayson has not been doing for twenty-five years, without horn tooting? Let the present Board do the work for which it was chosen; let its business transactions be open and above board. If the present members cannot do this, then it is their duty to resign, and if they do not resign let the voters, when the opportunity arises, see to it that they are retired. It is up to us as a group to use our votes, when the time comes, to elect members of the Board of Education who will not only look after the efficient management of the schools, but in so doing will also be fair to

THE NEGRO'S CONTRIBUTION NOT NEGLIGIBLE

A moment's thought will easily convince open-minded persons that the contribution of the Negro to American nationality as slave, freedman and citizen was far from negligible. No element of American life has so subtly and yet clearly woven itself into warp and woof of our thinking and acting as the American Negro. He came with the first explorers and helped in exploration. His labor was from the first the foundation of the American prosperity and the cause of the rapid growth of the new world in social and economic importance. Modern democracy rests not simply on the striving white men in Europe and America but also on the persistent struggle of the black men in America for two centuries. The military defense of this land has depended upon Negro soldiers from the time of the Colonial wars down to the struggle of the World War. Not only does the Negro appear, reappear and persist in American literature but a Negro American literature has arisen of deep significance, and Negro folk lore and music are among the choicest heritages of this land. Finally the Negro has played a peculiar spiritual role in America as a sort of living, breathing test of our ideals and an example of the faith, hope and tolerance of our religion.—Du Bois, "The Gift of Black Folk."

FIND TAX DOUBLED IN TWELVE YEARS

Conference Board Makes Study of Taxation.

New York.—Twelve and a half cents out of every dollar of the combined income of the American people during the last year went into taxes, according to a study in taxation by the national industrial conference board, New York. The total burden of federal, state and local taxes has nearly doubled in proportion to national income since 1913, rising from 6.9 per cent in 1913 to 12.5 per cent in 1924, also showing an increase over the preceding year, 1923, when the total tax burden amounted to 11.8 per cent of the national income.

While the increase of taxation in proportion to national income in 1924 in part was due to increased state and local tax levies, it was in part, however, also due to a decrease in national income during that year, the board points out.

The national income in 1924 is estimated by the conference board at \$63,000,000 as against \$65,000,000 in 1923, representing a decrease of three per cent for the year. Expressed in dollars of current purchasing power, the national income in 1924 was almost double that of 1913; deflated to take into account the decline in purchasing power of the dollar since 1913, the national income in 1924, in terms of "1913 dollars" was \$39,000,000, as against \$32,000,000 in 1913.

While the average gain in population, according to census figures, has been about 1 1/2 per cent annually, federal, state and local taxes together have increased at so fast a pace that according to the board's computation, the total per capita tax burden has risen from \$22.73 in 1913 to \$70.97 in 1924, or more than trebled. The same is true of the average tax burden of each gainfully occupied person in the United States, which has increased 208.8 per cent from 1913 to 1924, from \$59.25 to \$182.94.

Measuring the tax burden per family, the social unit, the board finds that it has nearly trebled, having risen from \$102.12 in 1913 to \$304.23 in 1924. The conference board, however, specifically emphasizes the increase of taxation in proportion to national income as the truest and most significant test of the burdensomeness of taxes, inasmuch as national income is the measure of a nation's capacity to spend.

COPPER IN COLLEGE



Elmer Carlson, a senior at the University of Wisconsin, is working his way through the university by serving as a member of the Madison police force.

Matrimonial Odds Set at 13 to 1 Against Men

Sacramento, Cal.—If you are looking for a wife, the chances are 13 to 1 that you will not have any luck during the next year, according to L. E. Ross, chief of the state bureau of vital statistics.

Women may receive some encouragement in Ross' announcement that their chances are much better than those of the men. The odds against a woman getting married are only 7 to 1. Ross goes further to state that divorced women have a better chance to get married than any other class.

The odds against single men marrying are 14.3 to 1, Ross says, while single girls are quoted much lower, at 8 to 1; widowers have only one chance in 14 to get married within the next year, but widows have only one chance in 29.

Divorced men will remarry within three years and divorced women within two years and a half, Ross predicts.

The annual marriage rate per 1,000 population is twice as high for women as it is for men. He explains that an equal number of each sex marry every year.

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Coins Over Century Old Hidden in Ground

Kansas City, Mo.—Coins dated 1802 were found under a stump by workmen excavating for a home at Westwood road and Mercer street. The coins, eight 50-cent pieces, were discovered after the stump had been removed. According to Jess Kelly, of the John H. Kelly & Sons Building company employers of the workmen, the coins were un tarnished and were slightly larger and thinner than the present half-dollar. They probably will be given to the public library, he said.

Head Hunting in Luzon Replaced by Tame Games

New York.—"I was surprised and somewhat disappointed to learn when I reached the Philippines that head-hunting tribes had given up their ancient pastime under persuasion of American officials," declared Alvin Coombe, who recently has been around the world with his family. "While I didn't get the thrill I expected, my curiosity brought me one of the most interesting bits of information I picked up during the entire trip. "An army officer, who had held some administrative job in the northern part of Luzon island, where head-hunt-

Nearly Billion in Idaho Products for Year 1925

Malad, Idaho.—Idaho's agricultural products for 1925 will total approximately \$200,000,000, according to a careful survey made of the state by the federal crop statistician, the Union Pacific railroad and the Utah Home Industries association. This does not include the lamb crop, estimated at \$15,000,000, wool estimated at \$8,000,000, several million dollars of hogs, several million dollars for beef and dairy cattle and horses and at least \$2,000,000 for Idaho honey. Receipt reports have stated Idaho has enjoyed a prosperous year in the majority of the productive fields.

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RECOGNITION GIVEN LOCAL CHEF FOR CULINARY ABILITY

Joseph S. Thomas, chef to President Carl Gray of the Union Pacific Railroad, has received his certificate and traveling card of membership in the Universal Cookery and Food Association, Inc., of London, England, which admits only those who rank high in the culinary art. The association was founded in 1885 and is under the patronage of the King of England. So far as known Mr. Thomas is the only member of our group in this country who holds membership in the association and naturally he is quite proud of this merited distinction.

WILL PRESENT PUPILS IN RECITAL AND CONTEST

Mrs. Florentine F. Pinkston will present her pupils in pianoforte recital and contest next Thursday night, March 4, at 8 o'clock at Hillside Presbyterian church, Thirtieth and Ohio streets. The public is cordially invited.

EMPLOYS COLORED GIRLS AS DEMONSTRATORS

The Old Home Potato Bread Company is giving employment to two young colored girls as demonstrators of the excellent bread put out by this firm. They are Miss Ernestine Singleton and Miss Nettie Wright. Those who believe in reciprocity should bear this fact in mind. Let us give our patronage to firms which show a disposition to be fair, by buying our labor as well as selling us their goods.

PITTSBURGH MEMORIALIZES LINCOLN-DOUGLASS DAY

Washington.—One hundred and fifty members and guests of the famous Loendi Club of this city fittingly celebrated Lincoln-Douglass Day on February 12, 1926. Judge Albert B. George, of the Chicago Municipal Court, eulogized Frederick Douglass, and Commissioner Karl F. Phillips, of the U. S. Department of Labor, of Washington, D. C., spoke on the subject, "Abraham Lincoln."

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