

THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS

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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.

Our Choice for President in 1928 is
WALTER W. HEAD
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FEARLESS EDITOR CALLED

THERE recently passed away a true and tried friend of justice to all men in the person of the late John L. Morrison, editor of the "Rip Saw" of Duluth, Minn. He first attracted our attention a few years ago when a Minnesota friend sent us a copy of his weekly paper containing an excellent article on the Negro's struggle upward. Sometime after that came Duluth's triple lynching of three young Negroes who were with John Robinson's circus and charged with committing rape upon a seventeen-year-old girl out with her escort, a youth of unsavory reputation. According to the newspaper stories the young woman had been ravished by "six Negroes" and was in a precarious condition in the hospital, which would have been the case had the facts been as alleged, but where she was not, as the "Rip Saw" alone fearlessly stated, because the facts were not as alleged. Editor Morrison insisted that a mistake had been made. He secured and published facts which allayed public feeling running high in Duluth against colored people because of the alleged crime and its tragic aftermath. It takes courage to espouse an unpopular cause or to champion the cause of the weak. When a white man has the courage in the face of fearful odds to speak out in the Negro's defense as John L. Morrison did in those hectic days of June, 1920, in Duluth he demonstrates true devotion to the cause of right and deserves to be enshrined in the grateful hearts of mankind. May his inheritance be with the saints in light who have placed truth above expediency.

A PUZZLING DECISION.

THE United States Supreme Court disclaims jurisdiction in the case of residential segregation by contract which was brought before it by the able attorneys of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Attorneys of the ability and international fame of such men as Moorfield Story, Louis Marshall, Arthur B. Spingarn generally know what they are doing when they prepare briefs in important

AN IMPORTANT WORD TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The postal regulations require that for newspapers to be sent through the mails subscriptions must be paid in advance. A reasonable time, thirty days, is allowed for renewals. At the expiration of this period, where subscriptions are not renewed, the paper must be stopped. If this is not done, postal privileges are denied the publication. Those, therefore, who desire to continue receiving The Monitor must see to it that their subscriptions are paid, as the law requires, in advance. Statements are being sent to all those who owe, or our collector will call—and unless your subscription is paid we will be compelled to cut off your paper which, of course, we do not want to do.

We, as publishers, MUST comply with the law or pay the penalty.

cases. We are, therefore, at a loss to understand the ruling of the chief tribunal of the nation and the court of last resort in this case. We are not discouraged. Had the Supreme Court decided for the defendants the matter would have been different, our case, because residential segregation is the case of the American citizen of color today, but tomorrow it will be the case of other American citizens, would indeed be hopeless. Disclaiming jurisdiction would seem to indicate that the case may be again presented in such an unmistakable manner as to bring it within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court of Michigan has recently decided a similar case to that of the Curtis case to be unconstitutional. Wo wonder what technical or legal flaw there is in the Curtis case which removes it from the jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court. We await the opinions of those learned in the law. Of this, however, we can be sure, if an amended petition or brief be required to secure a court decision this will be done. The fight for an authentic opinion from the supreme tribunal of the land touching the constitutional rights of all American citizens to purchase and occupy property for lawful and peaceful domicile will be continued until that opinion or decision is secured.

SIDE STEPS, AS USUAL

The judiciary committee of the United States Senate with republicans in the majority have voted adversely on the Anti-Lynching Bill. Members of the G. O. P. disclose their usual inclination to stand up for any measure that seems favorable to our group, or strongly favored by our group. Our people favor a federal anti-lynching bill because we are so largely victims of lynchers, but it is a matter which concerns the country as a whole, in the final analysis, as vitally as it affects us as a class. Some day not very far distant the colored people of this country will resent the hypocritical palaver and conduct of the republican party. We need a political emancipation. We need to think for ourselves. We need to learn to pool our political strength and throw it to the party that will give us some consideration, be that party Socialist, Bolshevik or What-Not. The G. O. P. believes that it has a first mortgage on the colored vote and so long as it believes that and we permit them to believe that we will continue to get left.

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

"RIP-SAW" EDITOR PASSES AWAY

Duluth, Minn.,
 May 19, 1926

To the Editor of The Monitor:

This is to inform you of the passing or death of John L. Morrison, Editor and publisher of the "Rip Saw." Editor Morrison was a great lover and advocate of law and justice to all.

It was he who first discovered and published in his paper the "Rip Saw" that a great injustice had been done the colored circus hands who were mobbed and done to death in this city in 1920 and when relations were strained to the breaking point between the races and everybody that was able armed themselves and resolved to die before being lynched.

Editor Morrison made a thorough investigation of the affair and published his finding boldly with glaring headline thus—"Negroes Did Not Rape the 17-Year-Old White Girl as Alleged." So eager were the public to know the truth that the first edition was soon bought up entirely, and then the second edition was published because the demand was so great and it was soon exhausted. Then the third and fourth editions and they were still going like hot cakes, so eager were the people to know the truth.

The editor told me himself that his paper was never in such demand before.

Editor Morrison still maintained that a great mistake had been made and it has never been proven that he was wrong, and most people believe he told the truth.

He openly condemned mob violence and all those who were connected with that horrible crime, even the authorities who permitted it to happen, and was not content until the principals of the mob were convicted and the chief of police and the head of public safety had been retired from office.

Previous to this time one caught reading the "Rip Saw" was looked upon with suspicion but a mail carrier informs me that on his route where he had delivered only a few copies before, he was required to carry a great many copies of the "Rip Saw" to the very best people.

Mr. Morrison was born in Tabor, Iowa, near the famous "Mason and Dixon Line" and his family belonged to the anti-slavery group and many were the slaves that domiciled on his father's premises during the day and fled north by night. When he noticed food being carried out to the barn he knew that some fugitive was on his way to freedom.

John L. Morrison had a number of relics of Old John Brown of Harper's Ferry fame and he told me he remembered the noted abolitionist who had stopped at his father's place on his way from Kansas.

If we had more John L. Morrisons or men like him America would have less cause for shame.

As there was only one Fred Douglas, one Abraham Lincoln, one Booker T. Washington, one Wendell Phillips, one Harriet Beecher Stowe, one Julius Caesar, one Brutus, one Toussaint L. Overture, one Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, so I fear we cannot expect more than one John L. Morrison.

John L. Morrison was a friend and member of the N. A. A. C. P. and attended all their meetings when possible and heard all the prominent speakers and commented favorably in his paper on all of them including Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, Dr. Roman and Dr. Pickens.

"Night hangs upon his eyes
 His bones would rest,—
 That I have labored to attain
 this hour

In general honest thought,
 For the common good to all
 His life was good,
 He was the noblest Roman of
 them all."

A law abiding citizen had no cause to fear the "Rip Saw" and its brave editor, but woe unto the grafter and evil doer.

John L. Morrison leaves a wife and two minor children, a girl 14, and a boy 13 years old, John L. Junior.

(Signed) William H. Ray,
 259 E. 5th St.,
 Duluth, Minn.

U. B. F. & S. M. T. NOTES

Grand Master Duke Diggs will arrive in Omaha Sunday morning. He will address the Lodges and Temple at the annual Sermon at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 8 o'clock. The annual Sermon will be preached by Rev. G. W. Day, pastor of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. Beginning Monday night, he will meet the Lodges and Temples during the week. Benson Temple No. 356 will put on a ritualistic demonstration, Wednesday evening, June 2, at 8:30. All temples are invited. Those taking part must be at U. B. F. Hall at 7:30 u. m. Georgia E. White, W. P. of

Benson Temple, Grand Master Diggs will be the house guest of Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Gooden while in the city.

District Deputy Sands is very much interested in making plans to make the Grand Lodge a success. The lodge will convene in Omaha in August.

Mrs. Nettie Nuby was called out of the city on account of the illness of her father at Moberly, Mo.

Mrs. Augusta Stephens was called out of the city on account of the illness of her sister at Emporia, Kans.

Sister Mary Scott and Sister Lada Crumbley of Benson Temple are on the sick list.

Mrs. Idola Stallworth of Minneapolis, Minn., is in the city visiting her mother, Mrs. H. J. Brewer.

WON \$500 NEWSPAPER PRIZE

New York.—Cyril A. Wilson, 71 Irving Place, Brooklyn, was the winner of the \$500 2nd prize in a patriotic game conducted for the past several weeks by the New York Daily News. He is a West Indian and is studying dentistry.

MEETING TO SECURE EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC UTILITIES

A meeting was held at K. P. Hall, Twenty-Fourth and Charles streets, Saturday night to take action with reference to securing representation and employment in the public utilities and the public school system of Omaha. The meeting was called by N. B. Washington who had spent several days in a personal canvass to interest the people. He called the meeting to order, stated the object, outlined at some length the situation confronting us and read a set of resolutions reciting well-known facts as to discrimination in the matter of employment in public utilities which as taxpayers we support. While the attendance was not large, those present, and among the number, the Rev. C. A. Williams, pastor of St. John's A. M. E. Church, and the Rev. John Albert Williams, rector of St. Philip's Episcopal church and editor of The Monitor, expressed themselves in hearty accord with the purpose of the meeting. It was decided to call another meeting at the same place Wednesday night of next week at which time a committee will be appointed to act upon the plan proposed. All interested are invited to attend. There will be no collection or charges of any kind.

NEW ERA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION TO MEET

The Ninth Annual session of the New Era Baptist Association and Auxiliaries will be held at Pilgrim Baptist church, Twenty-fifth and Hamilton streets, Rev. J. T. Walker, pastor, June 7 to 13. The Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor of Zion Baptist church and president of the convention, has issued a letter to all members of the association and its auxiliaries urging a large attendance which is anticipated. An interesting program has been prepared for morning, afternoon and night of the three days' session. The organizations represented will be the Ministers' and Deacons' Union, the Women's Educational Home and Foreign Mission Society, the Sunday School and the B. Y. P. U.

ZION BAPTIST GIRLS CAPTURE FIRST GAME FROM ST. PHILIP'S

A snappy game of ball was played last Saturday afternoon on the Kellom School diamond between the Girls Friendly Society team of St. Philip's Episcopal church and a live wire team from Zion Baptist Sunday school. Some excellent plays were made by both teams. The Baptists defeated the Episcopalians by a score of 16 to 12. Neither team scored until the third inning when St. Philip's chalked up 5 runs. The Zion girls scored 4 in the fourth, and then it was nip and tuck until the last inning. Miss Ruth Collins, girl reserve secretary of North Side "Y" was umpire.

The lineup was as follows:
 St. Philip's Zion Baptist
 S. Brown p I. Williams
 C. Williams c E. Johnson
 V. Walton 1b J. Martin
 C. Smith 2b A. Dodson
 J. Dixon 3b D. Thompson
 H. Singleton 1ss O. Mattison
 S. Adams 2ss H. Gray
 E. Richardson rf M. Gustin
 H. Jenkins cf E. M. Dodson
 M. Dickerson lf T. Powell
 Vera Walton is captain of St. Philip's team and May Gustin of Zion's. The return match will be played Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock on the Howard Kennedy school diamond. A real live peppy game is promised.

TELEPHONE COMPANY TO GIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT ST. PHILIP'S

Employees of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, under the direction of Mr. Secord, "Uncle Ross," who writes the delightful bedtime stories for children in the World-Herald, will put on a unique and delightful entertainment in St. Philip's Guild Room next Wednesday night at 8 o'clock to which the public is cordially invited. There will be motion pictures, demonstrating telephone activities and operations with musical numbers and other features. It will be not only delightfully entertaining but an educational treat. The following program will be given:

1. Remarks—Mr. D. T. Patterson, Kenwood-Webster Commercial Manager.
2. Motion Pictures—"Making Telephone History." Miss Frances Isam, operator, Atlantic-Jackson office, piano. Mr. E. H. Berlinghof, Atlantic-Jackson Commercial Agent, machine.
3. Vocal Duet—Miss Corinne Lindee, Supervisor, Long Distance Department; Miss Hazel Lindee, Operator, Atlantic-Jackson Central office.
4. Motion Pictures—"When the Sleet Storms Come."
5. Whistling—Miss Hester Peters, Recreation Supervisor.
6. "What Happens When You Lift Your Receiver." Demonstration by Miss Clara McGann, Instructor, Kenwood-Central Office. During the demonstration Miss McGann will be assisted in presenting several telephone calls by: Miss Clara Majeski, Instructor, Webster Central Office; Miss L. Kearney, Operators' Training School; Miss Laura Welsh, Supervisor, Harney Central Office, who will act as operators, and Miss Lucille Mauck, Directory Department, Mr. B. H. Barden, Kenwood-Webster Central Office, Mr. Frank A. Secord, Supervisor, District Commercial Department, who will act as subscribers.
7. Motion Pictures—Comedy.

Harry Schwein, who underwent operation some time ago at St. Joseph's hospital is getting on quite nicely, but is unable to leave the hospital yet.

CORNERSTONE LAID

The cornerstone of Cleave Temple, C. M. E. church, Twenty-fifth and Decatur street, Rev. James S. Blaine, pastor, was laid Sunday afternoon by Grand Master Charles W. Dickerson, and by the Grand Lodge. After the ceremonies special services were held in the building.

APPOINTED ADMINISTRATOR

The late Elizabeth Letcher made her will twelve years ago in favor of her husband, Philip Letcher. At the request of Mr. Letcher, Mr. J. Frank Smith has been appointed administrator and has given bond with the American Surety company.

Mrs. W. P. Wade will leave Saturday for Richmond, Mo., to look after her real estate.



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