

THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS

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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.

JIM-CROWISM PETTY THIEVERY

An ex-soldier has written to President Coolidge protesting against the robbery and thievery involved in the jim-crow car system. Negro passengers are compelled to pay first-class fare and yet accept third-class accommodations. The ex-soldier cites as a specific case the transference of himself and some ladies from a first-class coach to a smoker. Now anybody who knows anything about the jim-crow car system of the South knows that it is a system of robbery. It is robbery to deprive a purchaser of any commodity for which he pays. There is no such thing as "equal service" on any southern railroad where the jim-crow system prevails. We have visited the South, Arkansas and Tennessee, on two or three occasions and ridden on jim-crow cars on four railroad lines in those states, and on neither road was there the slightest pretense of providing equal accommodations. Fortunately, the distances we had to travel were comparatively short, except on over-night ride from Little Rock, Arkansas, through Oklahoma, until we struck the Kansas line, when we left the stuffy little compartment, boxed off from the baggage car, for the airy and well-ventilated coach in which other passengers were riding and in which we were also entitled to ride because we had paid first-class fare. That was on the Missouri Pacific. Our shorter rides were on the Rock Island and two other roads. Equal accommodations are not provided. The interstate commission knows that they are neither provided nor contemplated. The thing to do is to compel the railroads to supply "equal accommodations" for all passengers, white and black, who pay equal fares. This will include Pullman accommodation and dining facilities. So long as railroads are permitted to charge first-class fare by the government of the United States and furnish passengers, because of their race or color, with inferior accommodations and not what they contract for when they accept passenger tariff, the government is a party to petty thievery and despicable robbery. Jim-crow laws or customs anywhere are a species of petty thievery.

WATCH IT SPREAD

The decision of the United States supreme court that the segregation school law in Mississippi is constitutional opens the gateway for the enactment and enforcement of similar laws in other states. Watch the virus spread. Perhaps our usual sunny optimism is forsaking us as we are growing older, but we cannot help but feel that the United States is introducing germs of discontent into her system that means her dissolution. America, as nations go, is very young and manifests much of the indiscretion of youth.

state for several years, but it was felt that this was the best meeting since its organization.

The Birmingham meeting was attended by 30 inter-racial leaders, and adopted a program asking for better street car facilities, better accommodations at the L. & N. Railroad station, and sanitation and improved conditions in tenant homes. A special committee of three was appointed to forward the objectives adopted. The general committee will hold regular quarterly meetings, and will meet also on call.

The daily papers gave generous and appreciative publicity to all the meetings, and the work of the committees received hearty editorial endorsement.

CULTURAL CENTER NEWS

Teachers of the Cultural Center demonstrated their classwork by staging active classes in the Orchard & Wilhelm, and Burlington ticket office windows during the Community Chest campaign. These included older girls' cooking classes; older and younger boys' woodworking classes; older and younger girls' sewing classes and clay modeling by the pre-school children.

The cooking classes, taught by Mrs. Russel Taylor and Miss Goldie Mitchell, attracted large crowds. Girls, daintily dressed in white caps and aprons, served samples of the various foods which they had prepared, including salads, fruits, cakes, egg omelets, and vegetables.

The pre-school children made the real hit of the demonstration with their clay modeling and were frequently called for during the campaign.

One of the special features of the demonstration was a four-foot airplane made by one of our boys, Franz O'Neill, aged 19. The plane is made of sheet aluminum, and varnished silk, having movable propeller, wings and tail. It has all appearance of a real plane in the most intricate details.

Clubs and classes are now in full swing. We have four cooking classes, three sewing classes, two woodworking classes, folk dancing, night school. We also have clubs, including Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Golden Stars and Civics. We have four volunteer workers, others will volunteer after the Christmas holidays.

One hundred and sixteen visits were made in October; 1,833 was the total attendance for October.

The Parent-Teacher association recently re-elected officers and Mrs. Lovetta Busch was elected president. Mrs. Powell was elected secretary.

About the only ambition some people seem to have in the world is to take up room.

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DETROIT POLICE COMMISSIONER FLAYS DIXIE OFFICERS ON FORCE

Detroit, Mich.—Twenty-five hundred years in prison is the aggregate amount of prison sentences given thugs and hold-up men in the 165 cases convicted in the courts of this city in the past nine months, according to Police Commissioner W. P. Rutledge, head of the police department, in a talk at the St. John Presbyterian church here.

Commissioner Rutledge was asked to give his views as well as accurate information on many phases of the department as it affects the Negro, such as the attitude of the department as a whole towards the Negro, number of Negroes killed by police officers in past year, number of Negroes on police force, how many appointed by present commissioner, attitude of department towards its appointments, if Southern men are given preference, and the percentage of crime committed by Negroes. To the questions the commissioner read most of the answers from the records of his office.

This information is being gathered and passed on as a part of a unique service conducted by St. John Presbyterian Church Sunday School, having been instituted by Snow F. Grigsby, superintendent, which has adopted as its slogan "Let's know the Negro in Detroit." The various heads of the different departments of the city government as well as other representative business and professional men of high rank are slated to speak, giving their unbiased views of the colored people; that the Negro might see himself as others see him, and know what others think of him.

The belief that has been prevalent here for some time that Southerners were being appointed in greater numbers to the police department because of their dislike for Negroes and because the authorities believed that Southerners could by some means better hold the Negro under subjection, was partly borne out by the commissioner as true. While the au-

thorities did not believe that Southern men could better handle the colored people, but Southern men who could qualify applied in greater numbers for the jobs, is the reason for Southerners being in the majority on the police force.

The commissioner astounded his hearers when he boldly stated that he had found the Southern men on the force here to be cowardly, lazy, low mean, ill-bred men. He further stated that whenever opportunity presented itself whereby any Southern police could be eliminated, the department grasped it; and since his induction into the high office, the early part of 1926, the commissioner said he had replaced 300 of the Ku Klux police with Michigan men. Not alone because they were members of the Klan

but because as a whole they corrupted the force. Three hundred new appointments were made last spring and all of the whites were Michigan men, while 19 were Negroes. He stated emphatically, that no more Southern men would be employed.

While 3,200 compose the police force here, only 32, or 1 per cent, is colored; which is not in keeping with the figures given out by the department some months ago in regards to colored police. When asked why the percentage of colored police was so that he tried to keep the percentage up to that of other big cities, none of which employed more than one per cent colored police. He was unable to give the percentage of Negro police prorate to population with other nationalities on the force here.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30 a. m. Holy Communion

10 a. m. Sunday School

11 a. m. Sung Eucharist With Sermon

8 p. m. Service and Sermon

The Church With a Welcome and a Message, Come