

LIFT
LIFT
State Historical Soc.
10

THE MONITOR

GROWING —
THANK YOU

NEBRASKA'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS
THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor.

\$2.00 a Year
Cents a Copy

Omaha, Nebraska, Friday, March 30, 1928

Vol. XIII—Number 39

Whole Number 660

Monitor Publisher Has Libel Grounds

HOOVER ADVISED OF SEGREGATION IN DEPARTMENT

Committee Waits Upon Secretary of Commerce Requesting Abolition of Humiliating Conditions

PROMISES AN INVESTIGATION

New York City—Herbert Hoover, United States secretary of commerce, has granted a hearing to a committee which protested to him against segregation in the census bureau and, according to report from Neval H. Thomas, president of the Washington branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Hoover has promised to investigate the entire situation. Mr. Thomas writes as follows:

"Secretary Hoover granted our committee a hearing on Monday, Messrs. Nelson, Pinkett and Johnson. We presented complaint against segregation in the census bureau where there are 18 competent colored clerks segregated behind a pile of boxes under a colored sub-chief. There are also five colored clerks confined in a room by themselves in another wing of the large building of this same bureau.

"We presented the arguments against segregation and the whole injury it does us. The secretary said he sympathized with our protest and that he didn't know it existed in his department. He said he would look into the matter at once, and that he disapproved of segregation.

"We told him of the small number of Negro clerks in the main building of his department on Pennsylvania avenue. Of the hundreds in this vast structure, only three are colored. We told him of the superior quality of the colored people who are in the civil service because the whites of their caliber could get far more remunerative employment. We showed him that if his subordinates and the civil service adhered to the merit system, there would be dozens more of Negro clerks appointed.

"He promised to look into the whole situation and let us know. He sent me a letter recently, saying that the director of the census had just returned from Europe and that he is taking the case under advisement with him."

Mr. Thomas also reports that the Washington branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and allied groups are seeking to obtain some definite statement from Ogden L. Mills about segregation in the treasury department.

PORO AGENTS' CLUB HAVE FIRST OPENING

We were very pleased to welcome over 150 guests at our opening at the Y. W. C. A. Sunday afternoon, March 18, and an excellent program was rendered. Those who participated and the program are as follows: Song, "America," by the audience; Lord's prayer, Mrs. A. R. Mills; Introduction of Mrs. A. R. Mills of Poro substitution by Mrs. Ada Woodson; Mrs. Mills introduced Mrs. Anna E. Tubbs, president of Poro club, as mistress of ceremonies; Paper, "Beauty," Mrs. Wm. C. Ricks; Song, Mrs. Lulu Wheeler; Paper, "The Negro's Greatest Needs," Mrs. Hiram Greenfield; Solo, Miss Stella Roberts; Remarks, "Race Pride, Loyalty and Co-operation," Attorney Scruggs; Instrumental Solo, Mrs. Blanche Griffin; Address, "Opportunity," Mrs. Joseph D. Lewis; Introduction of Poro agents, Mrs. Anna E. Tubbs; Solo, Miss Luella Caldwell. A delicious menu was served each one present. We feel very grateful to the public for the wonderful attendance. Music was furnished by Miss Margaret Dallas.

Mrs. Fred Thompson, who has been very ill for several days at the home of Mrs. Charles H. Hicks, 2530 Maple street, is reported to be convalescing.

Re-elect Barnett to State Legislature.—Adv.

OIL STATION UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

John Crawford and His Son Lovejoy Take Over Well-Equipped Oil Station at Twenty-Fourth and Erskine Streets

John Crawford and his son, Lovejoy Crawford, have leased the Nicholas Oil service station at Twenty-fourth and Willis avenue and will operate it as the Lovejoy Oil company under the management of Lovejoy Crawford.

"Love," as all his friends know him, is very well equipped to render real service as he has had a great deal of experience with automobiles.

The station will continue to handle Nicholas products exclusively. At the present time Lovejoy Crawford is becoming familiar with the routine under the supervision of the former manager of this station.

Mr. Crawford invites all of his friends to pay him a visit and let him demonstrate the service he has to render. The station is well equipped to thoroughly grease the chassis of a car, clean out transmissions and differentials, test batteries and radiator solution, fill and test tires to proper pressure, etc.

The Monitor sincerely congratulates the Crawfords upon this venture and wishes them abundant success. It is gratifying to note that our young men are gaining confidence enough to enter legitimate fields of business.

PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH

Bishop E. V. Shayler will visit St. Philip's Episcopal church Sunday at 5 o'clock in the afternoon to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. The other services on Palm Sunday will be as follows: Holy communion, benediction and distribution of palms at 7:30 a. m.; Church school at 10; matins, holy baptism and "The Story of the Cross," at 11 o'clock.

During Holy Week there will be a celebration of the holy communion daily, except Good Friday, at 7:00 a. m., and evening prayer at eight o'clock.

Good Friday there will be the customary service at 10:00 a. m., and the "Three Hours' Service" from noon until 3 p. m., with meditations on "The Seven Last Words" and evening service and sermon at eight o'clock. The public is invited to all services.

HAS GONE TO CALIFORNIA

It is reported that Police Lieutenant Buford has gone to California with Tom Dennison, Omaha's well-known and influential political boss, who has gone in quest of health. Mr. Dennison has been in poor health several months. The veteran of many political campaigns on the eve of his departure was reported as saying he had retired from the game.

MEETINGS IN INTEREST OF THE URBAN LEAGUE

A mass meeting in the interest of the Omaha branch of the Urban league was held at Zion Baptist church, Sunday afternoon. Dr. J. H. Hutten, vice-president, presided. About 150 persons attended and the work of the Urban league was lucidly presented by Mr. T. Arnold Hill of New York and Mr. John F. Hall, executive secretary of the Omaha Community Chest. A good number of memberships were secured at the meeting.

Monday night another meeting in the interest of the league was held at Allen chapel A. M. E. church on the South Side. Addresses were made by T. Arnold Hill and Dr. Craig Morris.

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH HOLDING REVIVAL

Morning Star Baptist church, 2608 Franklin street, Rev. W. M. Hall, pastor, is conducting a successful revival which will continue until after Easter, and to which the public is cordially invited. Six candidates were baptized Sunday.

EDITORIAL

Readers of The Monitor will recall that in our issue of March 2, we published an editorial calling attention to the fatal endangering of our racial and political prestige by the eleventh-hour filing of colored candidates in the Ninth and Tenth legislative districts against the present incumbents, early announced candidates for re-election, also colored. We analyzed the situation, candidly and fairly, simply stating plain, indisputable facts.

The position was so logical and sound that we received commendation from scores of our readers, by telephone, by verbal messages on the streets and in public places, and by written communications. We published several of these voluntary endorsements of our position in our issue of March 9.

For some unaccountable reason, since we had made no reference whatsoever, either by name or by the remotest implication, to our local race contemporary, The Omaha Guide was very indignant because of our publication of these endorsements. It was rumored that in its next issue our contemporary would publish repudiations by many persons of the statements quoted by The Monitor. The rumored repudiations were not forthcoming. Upon the contrary finding that public sentiment was strongly with The Monitor in its sensible position, our contemporary made a lamentably weak attempt to attune itself to public sentiment by publishing in its issue of March 16, an editorial captioned "Ain't Politics Grand?", in which it awkwardly straddled and wobbled like the wobbliest of newly-born calves. We criticized that editorial, not by calling bad names, the inevitable refuge of those who have neither logic, reason nor intelligence on their side—but by dignified and logical argument. Now whether the indignation of our able contemporary because of the commendation of our editorial was due to envy, jealousy or ignorance, we shall not presume to say. We will leave that to others. Its indignation and anger at The Monitor caused our contemporary to lose its head; for in its issue of last week it published an article against us, which in the opinion of the county attorney's office, and that of other learned jurists whom we have consulted, brings it squarely under the charge of having committed a felony. Legal authorities tell us they are chargeable with criminal libel.

This is the statute covering libel:

Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1922. Section 9578. Libel.—Whoever writes, prints, or publishes any false and malicious libel of or concerning another, or causes or procures, any such libel to be written or published, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined in any sum not exceeding \$500, or be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding six months, or both, and moreover, be liable to the party injured; provided, if said libel is published in a newspaper having a general circulation, the person so offending shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than three years.

Having no desire, however, to cause The Guide any unnecessary trouble or expense, and willing to give it an opportunity to make amendment for any injury done us, we have sent to it the following letter, in which we make a reasonable demand, with which, if they will comply, we will accept as vindication.

Omaha, Nebraska, March 26, 1928.
H. J. Ford, Managing Editor, The Omaha Guide,
2124 North Twenty-fourth Street,
Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sir: On the front page of your issue of March 23rd, 1928, column 3, there appears an article captioned, "Charge Editor Forged Names," which is of such a criminally libellous character that I respectfully demand of you a public retraction of and an apology for the malicious false and libellous charges therein contained.

You make a specific charge of forgery. Forgery, as you no doubt know, is a criminal offense punishable by a term in the penitentiary. I demand therefore that you retract that charge or stand ready to prove it in a court of law.

You state in paragraph 2 of said article: "Many persons whose names were signed to letters of approval on an editorial appearing in The Monitor have called the Editor and upbraided him for his trickery and chicanery in unauthoritative use of their names to letters he originated himself."

Give us the name of not many, but ONE person who called the Editor and upbraided him for his "trickery and chicanery," giving time and date of such call.

This statement is false because not a single person called me to upbraid me for an "unauthoritative use of" his or her name. I therefore demand that you withdraw this statement.

In our issue of March 9, we published nineteen comments on our front page on our editorial of March 2, six signed letters of commendation under the "Letters From Our Readers," on our editorial page. Of the nineteen comments appearing on page one, ten were signed by the persons making them; four were telephoned in, and the other five were comments voluntarily made to the Editor in the presence of witnesses.

The burden therefore is placed upon you to give the names of persons whose names were "forged," as you specifically charged, to letters originated by the Editor of The Monitor, with proof thereof.

I fully realize, sir, that in the heat of controversy we do not always weigh the force of our words and so due allowance may be made, but there are certain bounds of propriety which must not be passed even in the heat of controversy without due reparation being made and this gentlemen are always willing to do without coercion.

Hoping, therefore, that the requested retraction will be made in your next issue repairing thereby, as far as you possibly can, whatever injury your ill-advised article has done, I am,

Respectfully yours,
JNO. ALBERT WILLIAMS,
Editor of The Monitor.

FOR "NEGRO TRADE WEEK"

As the outcome of a movement started by the Ministerial Alliance Omaha is to observe a Negro Trade Week the latter part of April. The purpose of Negro Trade Week is to stimulate interest in all legitimate lines of business conducted by the race.

Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock a meeting of the business and professional men and women of the city held at the office of Joseph D. Lewis, Rev. J. H. Garner, presiding, committees on program and publicity were appointed and a practical and profitable discussion, led by the Rev.

Z. C. McGee, was had. The next meeting will be held at the same place next Tuesday night at 7:30 p. m. sharp, to which all business and professional people are invited.

The committee on program for Negro Trade Week consists of the following persons: Rev. John Albert Williams, chairman; Milton L. Hunter, Rev. Z. C. McGee, Mrs. Isaac Bailey, and Mrs. Bertha Bell.

The publicity committee is headed by Mr. Jacob Carey with Messrs. H. J. Ford, Lovejoy Crawford, A. F. Peoples, Y. W. Logan, E. A. Williamson, A. J. Davis, and Mrs. W. W. Peoples, as the other members.

Mr. Burnett was chosen secretary.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICAL AUXILIARY

One year ago this month there was formed in Omaha, the Medical Auxiliary, small, feeble, but kicking and crowing lustily. The organization is made up of wives of the druggists, dentists, and doctors. What is its purpose? First, and foremost, is to help establish a colored hospital, which is a vital and pressing need in our community. (Perhaps your family physician has never told you how embarrassed he is at times, in trying to get you into one of the city hospitals.) Then the Dorcas box, which provides little garments for needy babies. We try to bring cheer to shut-ins. Occasionally, we remember the inmates at the Old Folks' Home, with fruit, flowers or some such token.

Now this group of earnest women have come to the end of their first year's work together and as we look back upon it, it is with mingled emotions: Pride in the work which we have accomplished; regret for that which we have left undone, and chagrin for that which we could have done but didn't do. We have shared joys, sorrows and criticisms together. We are still working together with the same earnest view of purpose, but with clearer vision, a broader horizon, a truer conception and a greater determination to go forward with this work of serving the community.

NEW EXTRADITION ATTEMPT FOILED

New York, N. Y.—Additional attempts on the part of Missourians to extradite a colored man, William Brown, for a murder committed 14 years ago, after a Missouri sheriff had failed in his attempt, have been foiled. Report of the new efforts on the part of citizens of Missouri are contained in a letter from the Columbus, Ohio, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"Monday, March 12, five men from New Madrid, Mo., arrived to identify William Brown," says the letter, "whom the deputy sheriff several weeks ago failed to sufficiently identify. The Negro man in the party declared that after seeing Brown at the city jail he had never seen him before. The white physician who had taken stitches in a cut above the man's eye and had treated him for some nervous trouble due to infected teeth, down in Missouri, identified Brown. It was brought out that within the past 60 days he had received a photo of the boy from here!

"A Columbus dentist was called in by the governor's secretary to examine Brown's teeth: all perfect! The would-be identifiers insisted that their county had spent large sums of money on this case and they (the men) could scarcely return without the boy! The governor insisted rather heatedly that he would protect every citizen in Ohio from injustice. He declared they had quite plainly erred. This Will Brown is not the man."

CALCUTTA PAPER PRINTS LYNCHING FIGURES

New York City—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received a clipping from The Guardian, a newspaper published in Calcutta, India, containing the lynching statistics for the year 1927 sent out by the N. A. A. C. P., also the news that two members of the N. A. A. C. P. staff have been invited to contribute to the new edition of the encyclopedia Britannica.

100 N. A. A. C. P. BRANCHES CAMPAIGNING FOR MEMBERS

New York City — One hundred branches, representing 35 states have now entered into the nationwide membership drive of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it was announced recently at the national office. These represent territory from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean.

"SHOCK TROOPS" FURNISHED BY RACE FOR THE MINORITY

N. A. A. C. P. Annual Report Asserts Race Tests Reality of American Democracy

New York, N. Y.—The foreword to the annual report for 1927 of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to be published shortly, refers to the Negro as representing the "shock troops" in behalf of all the minority groups in America. The foreword in full of the N. A. A. C. P. annual report will be as follows:

"The record of the year 1927 has again demonstrated that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is the only organization of national scope effective on a national scale in its efforts to secure, reaffirm and safeguard the fundamental citizenship rights of the American Negro. It is the Negro's instrument. And the Negro represents the 'shock troops' in behalf of all the minority groups in America which test the reality of American democracy.

"As in 1926, the association's work has been focused in the courts. And the courts have again shown that where the Negro is organized and prepared to defend his rights, American public opinion, as the courts of the land represent it, is prepared to accord him justice. It is worth pointing particularly to the eminent legal minds which the association's cause enlists. The association's entire annual budget would hardly cover the cost of a single case before the U. S. supreme court if the association's legal advisers charged for their services instead of generously donating them.

"The association's work, as everyone knows, radiates into every phase of race relations. Its small staff performs many functions, from giving radio talks to investigating riots. It receives hundreds of appeals every month from all parts of the country for aid. It sends lynching statistics to California in an extradition case; investigates discrimination in the Mississippi flood area and calls the facts to the attention of the authorities; fights for the Negro's right to vote in the south; blocks anti-intermarriage laws in the north; continues to fight the Klan with publicity; establishes the Negro's case in newspapers and magazines not only in America but throughout Europe; holds hundreds of public meetings; where it is able, defends the poor and ignorant from injustice issuing from race prejudice; and continues to build up bulwarks in United States supreme court decisions for the protection of the Negro's fundamental rights.

"The appeals coming in to the association from all sources, for information as well as for aid, are increasing in number. It is now realized that the association is unique in its field. Anyone who will even hastily scan this summary of its activities for the year will see at once that the work of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People vitally affects the welfare of every colored person in the United States."

URBAN LEAGUE SECRETARY FROM AKRON, OHIO, MAY ACCEPT POSITION HERE

Mr. George W. Thompson, executive secretary of the Akron, Ohio, Urban league, is in the city overlooking the field before deciding as to his willingness to accept charge of the Omaha Urban league.

Mr. Thompson, who is a graduate of the University of Indiana, taught school in that state for nine years, and then went overseas with the 370th as physical director. He has been in Akron for nine years, engaged in Y. M. C. A. and Urban league work.

Mr. Thompson will be one of the speakers at a mass meeting to be held Sunday afternoon at 3:30 at St. John's A. M. E. church in the interest of the Urban league to which the public is invited.