

# THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS

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

## FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is to be cultivated. It is a rare possession which should be carefully guarded. Shakespeare gives excellent advice when he says: "The friends thou hast and their affection tried; Grapple to thy soul with hoops of steel."

## "BE PREPARED"

The Boy Scouts have a fine motto. It is this: "Be prepared." This, of course, is but a repetition of the injunction given by the Divine Master when He trod the earth, when He said: "Be ye also ready."

This is a good rule of life for all of us and especially our young people. They should prepare themselves for larger economic and industrial opportunities which will surely be theirs. The dawn is brightening to a more glorious day.

## A CONGRESSMAN

The election of Oscar De Priest as congressman from Illinois marks a new era in the political life of our people. Twenty-seven years ago Congressman George H. White sang his swan-song and voiced a prophecy. "I leave this hall the last of my race; but phoenix-like we will rise from our ashes to return and when we return we will return to stay."

The election of De Priest from Illinois means that two years hence, New York will follow this example and then, or subsequently, St. Louis, Detroit, Philadelphia and Cleveland will send representatives to congress and democracy will vindicate her claims. The election of a congressman after twenty-seven years is a significant event in which all should rejoice.

## RECEIVING ATTENTION

It is a matter of more than passing interest that so much abundant data can be found that the Annals of the American Academy of Social Science deems it worthy to devote its entire November issue to articles on the American Negro. The subjects listed and discussed will be found in an instructive article in this issue. The race is certainly receiving attention. The array and classification of subjects is illuminating and significant.

## PATRONIZE YOUR BLACK NEIGHBOR

By G. H. Lemons, Durham Branch National Business League (For Associated Negro Press)

**BUSINESS and INDUSTRY**  
One sees, from time to time, many plans and predictions concerning the development of this country for the next fifty years. Machines are being invented to cut down the use of man power. Engineers are being pressed to increase production. Factories are expanding, million dollar banks are merging, and the stock market is breaking all records. With all of this we wonder if the Negro is progressing with the times.

We hear many people say that the Negro race in America has made more progress in the last half-century than any other race of people has ever done. We point with pride to our banks, real estate firms, professional men, insurance companies, and the like, but the question of most vital importance to us is, "What will they be doing fifty years from today?"

Negro farmers, laborers, porters, maids, and cooks, when speaking of their children, invariably say that the children shall have the educational advantages that they were denied. But what are these same people doing to assure themselves that their children are going to have something to do when they complete their education? Nothing!

These same Negro parents put their money in white banks, buy in white stores, and insure themselves in white insurance companies, all of whom have absolutely refused to give employment, unless it be menial labor, to the educated children of the Negro worker who has invested his money with them.

It is distressing but true fact that one white insurance company alone carries more insurance among Negroes than all of the Negro companies combined. And the highest executive position that a Negro may hold with this company is assistant head janitor in their palatial main office building. But even he cannot use his own initiative for the head janitor is a white man.

Yet, when Negroes buy a policy in this, or any other white insurance company, they firmly believe that they are doing their best to prepare for the welfare of their children. They never think that if they were to insure themselves with a Negro company, and influence their friends to do so also that their educated son or daughter may be one of those employed.

Ask a Negro why he does not put his money in a Negro bank and he will probably tell you that he "just doesn't like the idea of giving those Negroes his money to keep." He gets the same rate of interest and the same service, but still he is "giving" his money to those Negroes. Just because he gets his pay from some white man he feels that he must turn around and put it in the hands of an-

other white man who will, of course, use the money to make for himself a profit.

Watch the grocery stores on any Saturday. The poor Negro merchant, who has given credit all of the week, paid a delivery boy, kept a wagon or truck going, and has given good service, is passed by the shoppers, who, having just been paid, have their pockets full of ready cash to go to the white chain store because the sign in the window says the price is a few cents cheaper. But they must pay cash (sometimes bus fare two ways), carry their own goods, and be half-heartedly served by a disinterested white clerk. Unnecessary to say, the profits are received by a white corporation and the luxuries that profits buy go to them also.

We cannot get now, the book learning that we want our children to have, but we can get, and use, more common sense. If we want the world to keep marvelling at our rapid progress, we must be progressive. And the only way to progress in these United States is to build our future upon that most solid of structures, "Economic Independence."

In other words, we must learn the lesson of co-operation. If we help our black neighbor he will help us. Not because of gratitude or sentiment, but because it is simply good business. To all Negroes we say, patronize your own kind, for by so doing, you are making an investment which shall return to you a profit which shall always increase as the years go on.

## CHICAGO SENDS FIVE NEGROES TO ILLINOIS STATE LEGISLATURE

Chicago, Ill. (By A. N. P.)—The size of the Negro minority in the

Illinois general assembly, lower house, was increased by one at last Tuesday's election, when William J. Warfield, a valuator in the tax assessor's office, was elected from the Fifth senatorial district. Others elected were Harris B. Gaines and George Blackwell from the First district and William E. King and George T. Kersey from the Third.

Kersey and King have served terms before. Gaines and Blackwell, both lawyers, are newcomers.

## OLD RESIDENT DIES

Mr. Ezekiel Phinney died at his home, 1115 North Twenty-first street, early Saturday morning. He had been in poor health for some time but had been confined to his bed about three weeks. Mr. Phinney was an old citizen of Omaha, having lived here about 40 years. The funeral will be held Saturday from the J. D. Lewis Funeral home, with interment in Mount Hope cemetery.

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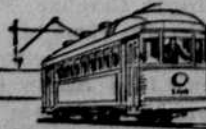


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