

# The Muskogee Cimeter.

Vol 6.

Muskogee, I. T., Thursday, May 4, 1905.

No. 30

## DARING HOLD UP ON SECOND ST.

Under Glaring Electric Lights and With  
Streets Crowded with people

### JONES' GANG ATTACKS A PROSPECTOR.

About 10 o'clock Wednesday night, with South Second street illuminated by the electric lights of its numerous stores, an attempt to rob was made by the Negro booster gang of desperadoes which has taken possession of that part of the city. The cry of "murder," "murder" uttered in loud tones was the first announcement of an attempt to assault and rob Mr. Peter Perry, a Negro prospector who recently arrived in Muskogee from Evansville, Ind. Perry had been approached by three Negro footpads, one of whom hit him with a club from the rear and another struck him a hard blow in the face with brass knucks, felling him to his knees in the gutter. The cry of murder attracted the attention of many people in the vicinity, and when they came up the boosters disdained to run but coolly walked across the street and disappeared in the gloom surrounding Elgin avenue and 3rd street.

Bob Johnson, the head booster of the gang was taken into custody early Thursday morning and identified by Mrs. Perry as the man who struck him with brass knucks.

This Bob Jones is leader of the boosters who are kept up

and clothed by certain well known prostitutes, and who are depreciating the value of property on South Second and 3rd streets by their nightly assaults upon men made with assistance of their women who lure strangers into dangerous and dark places.—Reporter.

The crimes committed here by Negroes must be assigned to the worthless loafer transient element of Negroes who have recently come into town. It is this class of people that we have objected to and it is this class of people that we have objected to and this class that causes decent Negroes so much trouble. It's the dude who has some woman making his living honestly or dishonestly, and the other transient cuss who robs and plays the part of burglar, while his co-partner plies her trade. They are all transient people and should made move on; when they commit crimes they leave town and the innocent Negro whose home is here often bears the blame. We reiterate there are too many worthless loafers black and white in town and they should be given an invitation to quit instantly.—Ed.

We hope our people will ask the school board not to appoint the colored teachers (at least the subordinates) at this time, the next meeting in order that protest of any may be heard and acted upon, this is not a hit at any particular person but only a request that justice may be done. We want no innocent person punished (by not being reappointed) and we want no guilty one to escape. Is not this a fair proposition? The Cimeter makes this request now and if there is any other fellow fce's the same way get in your request before Monday night, May 8.

Money to loan on Furniture.  
SHARPE & THOMPSON,  
Room 14, Jones Building.

There is one republican on the school board that is worse (against the Negro) than any member on the Board, the Democrats on the Board are in the main inclined to be fair and so are some of the republicans, but there is one cuss there that we fought for and thought was our friend, and yet, he is as dangerous to the Negro child's interest as hell to a powder magazine and the part we hate so bad is that we were buncomed into supporting the cuss and getting his nomination when even the white folks were fighting him at that time, had he gone down in defeat (and the Negroes saved him in convention) he would, in our opinion, stood forever disgraced in the estimation of the best white citizens of the town regardless of their political affiliation.

### NEGRO vs UNIONISM

A well known skilled Negro mechanic, who is member of a union, recently wrote from a city in the North to a friend and brother unionist in this city, and stated that "Unions were not worth a dime to Negro laborers in the North." As this message was written on a postal card, it is quite likely under more favorable circumstances the word "dam" would have been used instead of "dime." It is a plumb line on truth, when we say what is true in the North, so far as Negroes and labor unions are concerned, is more than true here in Muskogee. In fact, the trades council and labor unions of Muskogee, all boiled down, are not doing a tinker's dam bit of good for the Negroes who have been deluded into joining its ranks.

The white capitalist and the white labor unionist are working through different channels but toward the same end, and that is to eliminate the Negro as a factor in the moulding of the territorial and statehood future. With the restrictions removed from the Freedmen's lands, the white capitalists with their golden coated and seductive wiles are seeking to oust the Freedmen root and branch from their possessions. On the other hand, the walking delegates of the white white union organizations with honed phraseology are persuading skilled Negro mechanics to enter the unions where the laws bind them with a bear like grip that prevents them from striking out for themselves in a manly straight forward effort to accumulate enough to establish homes and comforts for themselves and families.

The instances of unfair dealing with their Negro adherents by Muskogee labor organizations are too numerous to attempt to outline them in these columns. The action of the labor unions in passing entirely over the five colored candidates on the Republican ticket, and

the making up of a so called Union Labor ticket of all white men, should be sufficient to show the blindness and most ignorant in Muskogee, that the unions are of, by and for white men only, first, last and all the time.

Hard as white unionists may labor to conceal it, it is well known that discriminations against employment of Negro union men are made every day upon the building in process of erection all over Muskogee. Any old excuse is deemed to be satisfactory enough to give the Negro unionist who has walked up and applied for work. If in the beginning the workmen on a job are white men, it is understood at once "no Negro need apply." When, on the other hand, Negroes start off the job, the white men unwilling to work with Negroes are put on in preference to Negroes. In short, it is the opinion of many Negro unionists that many opportunities come to them only when it is absolutely impossible to get along without them.

We believe we have a fairly comprehensive knowledge of all the purposes and aims of union organizations because the great majority of Negroes everywhere are found in the laboring class. Yet we can not in justice to ourselves and our race acquiesce in influences tending toward eliminating the Negro laborer from industrial fields. Skilled union Negro men in various lines have been paid by local unions to seek employment elsewhere. It is the custom in Muskogee to restrict Negro labor unionists to two or three days work in a week, perhaps bringing them one-third of the wages made for the week by their so called friends and allies—the white union laborer. So long as Negroes meet all the requirements of the union in the payment of high priced entrance fees our monthly dues, they are entitled to a just and equitable distribution of all work conducted by union bosses. This is not done, and it is the

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## TO THE LADIES!

LADIES you can't afford to miss this, this week. We will sell nice long WIGS for \$2.75; SWITCHES 25c to 50c; HALF WIGS \$1.25; PRIME FRIZZLES, 15c to 25c.

Hair is a woman's glory.  
**SHAFER & ROBINSON.**  
217 South Second St.