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WEST VA. NEGROES GET EXTRA LARGE SLICE OF POLITICAL PIE

"BIRTH OF A NATION" RECEIVES FINAL BLOW. MANY NEW POSITIONS FOR COLORED CREATED BY LEGISLATURE. APPROPRIATIONS LIBERAL. COLORED MEMBERS ON IMPORTANT COMMITTEES.

By J. C. Gilmer. Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 24.—The prohibition against the exhibition during the period of the war of the "Birth of a Nation," and similar pictures and plays, put into effect last summer by an order of the Executive State Council of Defense, was continued definitely by the legislature, Thursday last, when it passed on a measure drafted by H. J. Capehart, one of the three colored members of the lower house. The law provides as a penalty for advertising such pictures and plays a fine of not more than \$1,000 and confinement in jail for not more than 30 days, the latter at the discretion of the court.

CHICAGO LEADS IN NEGRO POPULATION

By The Associated Negro Press. Chicago, Feb. 27.—(Special) Chicago, the second largest city in the nation, leads all others in Negro population, according to the latest and best information obtainable. Statistics gathered since the beginning of the migration more than 20 years ago, place the Negro population of the "Windy City" at 150,000. The section on the South Side formerly known as the "Black Belt" has spread in so many directions that the belt has increased in size until it is now a coil.

NEW YORK SYNCOPATED ORCHESTRA IN CHICAGO

By Associated Negro Press. The New York Syncopated Orchestra, under the direction of Will Marion Cook, took Chicago off its feet in delight at the famous Orchestra Hall last week. The signs of just recognition is evidenced more and more by the daily press, and this occasion was no exception to the rule in Chicago. Every musical critic gave a very serious story in comment of the event, and the general admission was that the Negro people of America are the only producers of native music, and are the only ones who now know how to bring out all that is most effective in tone and harmony.

SENTIMENT FAVORS PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS

By Associated Negro Press. Chicago, Feb. 27.—There has been much discussion here over the Pan-African Congress in session in Paris, France, which is attended by delegates from all the countries and colonies in the world where people of African descent are living. There is a general opinion, regardless of the inability of some of the American delegates to receive passports, that the Congress is timely, and there are some very important and significant things that may be said to the delegates attending the Peace Conference.

RETURNING BLACK HEROES BARRED FROM HOSTESS HOUSE

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its Secretary, John R. Shillady of New York, makes public a letter to Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, protesting against a memorandum issued by command of Brigadier General Nicholson on Feb. 14, at Camp Upton to the Commanding Officers of various colored units now at that camp, directing the commanding officers to instruct their men and their families not to use any Hostess House in the camp except the one set aside for colored soldiers at Second Avenue and 11th street.

NATIONAL CAPITOL WILL NOT BE COMPLETELY DRY

Washington, Feb. 27.—Members of the different embassies located in Washington expect a great increase in their social popularity after the nation-wide prohibition amendment goes into effect. Throughout the country, the embassies will be the only cases for the thirsty.

TREATMENT OF NEGROES CAUSES MUCH DISCUSSION

By The Negro Press Association. Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 27.—There is much discussion going on here in various daily newspapers concerning the proper treatment of Negroes. The daily newspapers are freer with their space on matters affecting the Negro than they have ever been before. Much of the writing is good, and there must be some beneficial results.

KLU KLUX FEVER SPREADS TO PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 27.—Terror-stricken East end Negroes are seeking escape from threatened violence from a gang calling itself the "Klu Klux Klan." Representative Race People have taken the matter up with insurance companies, because property destruction has been threatened. This sign was placed on many churches and homes.

BOB CHURCH TO BE RECKONED WITH IN SOUTH

By Associated Negro Press. Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 27.—From all indications, the campaign for President in 1920 is now on and promises to be the most extensive ever carried on in the history of the nation. One of the real leaders to be reckoned with in the south, one of the young men of wealth, education and aggressiveness is B. Church of this city. Mr. Church is in the game of politics as a real profession, and because he believes he can serve the best interest of his race. He frankly admits that he aspires to be a real leader, not for selfish purposes, or for mere job, but to get advantages that are now denied the Negro.

GEORGIA NEWSPAPER COMPARES PROHIBITION AMENDMENT WITH 13TH, 14TH AND 15TH.

By Associated Negro Press. Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 27.—The effect of nation-wide prohibition upon the country is being paralleled in editorial comment with the handling of the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. The Valdosta, (Ga.) Times (white) says: "In order to find another precedent of the same sort, we need only to go back to the thirteenth amendment, which destroyed many millions of property in slaves with a stroke of the pen, providing far less compensation for slave holders than the eighteenth amendment provides for distillers, brewers and wine merchants. If the institution of private property survived the thirteenth amendment it can survive the eighteenth." This is a strong deterrent effort that the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments must be enforced.

COLORED PHOTO PLAY CAUSES UPROAR IN CHICAGO UPPER CIRCLES

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 27.—Excitement ran high here Thursday, Feb. 20th, when the Board of Moving Picture Censors, acting upon an injunction gotten out by three colored ministers of this city, ordered Oscar Micheaux's mammoth photoplay, "The Homesteader," stopped because one of the ministers stated that the play was actual reproduction of his personal affairs with the writer, and that the drama, acted entirely by colored people, consisting of eight reels, tended to expose his private life. The picture, when stopped by agents representing the Board of Censors, was showing to a crowded house at the Eighth Regiment Armory, 35th and Forest avenue.

CHICAGO WELCOMES HER DUSKY HEROES HOME

By Associated Negro Press. Chicago, Ill., Feb. 27, 1919. The most gigantic and wonderful public demonstration ever held in the city of Chicago, took place Monday when the 370th Infantry, the Old Eighth Illinois, was welcomed home by the populace. It is not the word of an enthused individual patriot, but the published expression of every daily newspaper in Chicago, and all leading authorities, that never has Chicago seen anything to equal the Monday demonstration. It was more than an event, it marks an epoch, and it is in this light that the story of the occasion is treated.

WANTS HOME FOR AGED ENSLAVED.

Nacogdoches, Feb. 27.—A. C. Churchwell, a Negro has been in this community for the last two years getting up donations to erect a home for the indigent Negroes, who were slaves. He has purchased fifty acres of land near town and half of the property is paid for. A movement is now on foot among the white people to aid him to carry out his expectations. There is no doubt about the hearty approval of a large majority of the former Confederate soldiers of this project, as the old time Negro during the war between the states was loyal to his master when he was in the army.

WANTON WASTE IN OUR ARMY CAMPS

MILLIONS ARE THROWN AWAY AND NEGRO SOLDIERS ARE ENSLAVED. NEGRO SOLDIERS BUILD 15 MILES OF CONCRETE WALKS FOR \$30 A MONTH.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Waste of the people in military camps of the country since the signing of the armistice, through extravagant expenditure and carelessness in handling property, and systematic enslaving of Negroes in the South under guise of military discipline, have been proven in unimpeachable evidence presented by Representative Dillon of South Dakota, in a sensational speech before the House.

Declaring that the most flagrant case of the kind uncovered by his committee was that in the vicinity of Newport News, Va., he said that the government had built there, and without the slightest necessity, a cement highway six miles in length, in the construction of which Negro soldiers had been employed; that numerous buildings had been built for the Morrison Aviation Field there and on low ground which had to be abandoned; that 500 cottages and other dwellings of the most modern design were built for workmen who do not and never will occupy them; that arrangements are even now being made to build 800 more such houses there; that though the streets are impassable because of mud and water and the town of Hilton, as it is now called, lies in swampy ground, it is the intention to fill in around the houses, pave the streets and build fifteen miles of sidewalk; and that large ditches are being dug by Negro soldiers at \$30 a month each.

Dillon said that he had found in his personal investigation made on the spot that a mile out of Hilton, in a staved-out camp now a part of Camp Alexander, he had found many open-air storage buildings, 20 by 133 feet in dimension and costed at \$2,500 each, and in them were supposed to be stored 400 caterpillar tractors and fourteen armored tanks, each costing \$55,000, but that the latter were lying in the mud and rain, to become a hopeless waste. A little further on were twenty-four covered warehouses, 150 by 75 feet in dimension, with nothing in them. Nearby he found corrals, operated by the animal embarkation division of the army, and containing several thousand horses and mules, standing in several inches of mud and with nothing but mud on their feet. It was reported to him that some of them had been there since August 1918, and had cost the government \$240,000.

At Old Point Comfort, in the same vicinity, Dillon disclosed several hundred cantonment buildings built on whom it was said: "He didn't have sense enough to know when to stop fighting," stated that the men are all glad to get home, and are very anxious in their desire to enter into civil life, now that the fighting is over, and the days of peace are at hand. Col. Duncan also said that he will do all he personally can to keep in touch with the men of his regiment and encourage them.

There is active effort being carried out in Chicago, in an organized way, to give employment to everyone of the Negro soldiers returning home.

20,000 BOOZERS GO TO BALTIMORE TO LAY IN SUPPLIES OF LIQUOR.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Residents of Washington are making the most of the few remaining hours in which to prepare for the long dry spell which will follow upon the signature by President Wilson of the new prohibition bill, one of the provisions of which will make the Capital dry.

The bill with its bone-dry rider, was taken to Boston by Secretary Tamm and will be presented to the President on his arrival. If he does not sign it forth with it will no less surely become a law during the week which Wilson will spend in the United States.

Washington, in anticipation of the worst, has been buying up the available liquor supply of Baltimore, in last minute shopping in the wet goods district of its sister city having reduced Baltimore to nearly as dry a condition as that in store for the Capital.

Twenty thousand bound trip tickets to Baltimore were bought Saturday, resulting in a congestion greater than any in the history of Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and the necessity of putting three specials of twelve cars each on the Washington train Saturday night. Automobile traffic between the two cities also exceeded all previous records.

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By J. C. Gilmer. insane \$165,000 and current expenses of a colored deaf and blind school. Other institutions and their appropriations are: Colored tuberculosis sanitarium, \$43,000; orphan's home, \$37,000; West Virginia Collegiate Institute, \$146,000; Bluefield Colored Institute, \$67,000; Storer College (a private institution) \$5,400; Barnett, Harrison, Mercer and Lomax Hospitals (privately owned) each \$2,500, a total of \$508,000.

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