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VOL. XXIII.

DENVER, COLORADO, SATURDAY, MARCH 31 1917

NO 32

RACE NEWS

GATHERED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

Mansfield, La., March 20.—The shortest sentence for murder on record is that served by E. L. Calhoun, a white man convicted of the murder of a Colored man named Green Columbus, who is alleged to have made improper advances to Calhoun's daughter. The murderer spent thirty minutes in a cell and was discharged.

Boston, Mass.—The loyalty of colored Americans to the country and flag was editorially commented on by the Boston Post in its issue of March 19, which, under the caption "A Weird Nation," says: "If the German Government had not thought and done so many strange things in the course of the great war, it would be impossible to give a moment's credit to the New York Herald's assertion that one of the plans considered feasible by Berlin was the fomenting of an uprising of the Negroes of the United States against their government. But as it is, the story is fairly believable. Apparently Germany thinks our colored citizens are still nursing resentment at the slavery of their ancestors. But how can she fail to know that the Negro is as good and as loyal an American as exists to-day? Their is no half-hearted allegiance to the flag with him, not the slightest suspicion that he would fail to do his whole duty, and perhaps more, in time of the country's need. "As the New York Herald itself well says, 'the patriotism of the American Negro is 100 per cent. American.'"

The news comes from the little Republic San Domingo that the people are still defying the United States. They are more than suspicious of the brand of justice offered under any kind of arrangement with this country. They are descendants of the great general, Toussant L'Overture, who did not hesitate to lead his soldiers against the "Legions of France" under Napoleon, and who was only conquered through treachery. The spirit of their great leader still flows in their veins and they demand freedom in its highest sense. They point with scorn to the so-called justice accorded the other Colored citizens of the great United States and say the great republic had better learn how to treat the loyal Colored men of their own land before they seek to add more Colored men to their so-called

burden. So say we all.—Philadelphia Tribune.

AMERICAN NEGRO IS REWARDED IN FRANCE

According to a Paris dispatch to the Philadelphia Bulletin, Francis Kane, a powerful six-foot Negro, formerly a soldier in the Twenty-fourth United States Infantry, but now fighting in the French Army, and whose home is in Chicago, has arrived in Paris after many stirring experiences. He has been wounded five times, but is still undaunted. His adventures started immediately he left America, when he caught a spy with three valises loaded with explosives with which the man was about to blow up the steamship. For this Kane received the red, white and blue salvage medal.

Enlisting in the French Army in August, 1914, he was in a battle four miles from Rheims when a German rifle bullet traversed his leg. He received another leg wound at Rheims in March, 1915; when exhausted and cold he spent eighteen hours on the ground with nothing to eat. After being sent to Algeria for convalescence he next took part in the Dardanelles expedition under General Gouraud.

The French advanced more than four miles to Sedul Bahr, where they were forced to entrench. Here he was twice wounded the fifth time before Monasir, and once by a shell fragment in the leg. He was attended by English doctors and his skull trepanned.

Kane was visited in the hospital at Saloniki by General Sarrall and was proposed for the military medal. He has three colonial medals for bravery and distinguished conduct.

While fighting in the trenches in France, Kane's captain told him to take two men, cross "No Man's Land," and bring back a prisoner, as certain information was needed. Kane went alone at night, and covered by straw he lay quiet each time an illuminating rocket exploded. He advanced slowly until he finally jumped into the German trench, grabbed the first Teuton he saw and rushed back. Kane who was born in Baton Rouge, La., and is about to return to Salonika, says: "I am seeking only to do my duty."

THE COMING SCHOOL ELECTION.

IF there ever was a time in our educational system and government of our public schools when the electors of this city should be specially interested, it is now, as it is clearly shown, that if politics must dominate the lever of education in Denver we will not only be assailed with severe criticisms which will be merited, but a reduction of our status in the educated world would necessarily follow as a possible retarding of the progress of the children.

Former Laxity Must Be Abandoned.

The mothers and fathers and the general body of electors who have hitherto looked upon school elections as a kind of special election only to require the interest and attention of a few representative people of the community must give up that idea and cease their laxity which has been very prominent in former elections, as their disinterestedness to a great extent has helped such actions as what we are now experiencing in our present school board troubles. The public school system of Denver being a great undertaking, its management should be placed in the hands of persons who would govern with the same principles that make for a successful and profitable business, and unless a thorough study of the character and competency of individuals who come forward to represent the people in this particular and most important position is made the proper training of the children is bound to suffer.

Politics Must Be Absent.

This feature should be absent in its entirety, as no purpose can be served successfully that will be to the advantage of teachers and pupils. We have had a lot of political fuss and fury over the disposition of our school lands and the appropriation of revenue derived therefrom; we have tried to enact laws to invite borrowers of school funds so that moneys to the credit of the schools may not remain idle; we have used this agency and that agency in the administration of our state and city affairs with all the political influence, intrigues, etc., at our command, to satisfy the selfish ambitions of a few, but we do say with all earnestness and implore the powers that be KEEP THE SCHOOL BOARD OUT OF POLITICS AND POLITICS OUT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, and the only way this will be done is for the electors to use the power they have in the recall and unseat members who are a menace to the welfare of our educational system, and voting for and electing men whose principles compel them to place a higher value upon the benefits to be achieved by a majority in preference of a minority who would rather be the creators of the greatest obstructions to carry out their selfish ends.

Selection of School Staff.

In agreeing with the legislative bureau of the Denver Civic and Commercial Association when it says, "Specifically, we believe that character and competency should be the standards for the selection of a school staff, scientific methods being as valuable in school work as in any other endeavor, also that a comprehensive plan for the construction of new school buildings and the reconstruction of old, where economically possible, should be immediately inaugurated and that the foundation of such a plan should be the collection of all pertinent information," we cannot help from impressing the voters to give this serious consideration, as men who are determined to carry out such a program should merit our support, and early in the month of May, when the time of election comes round, there should be recorded as large a vote as at a regular municipal election, proving our interest and ability in exercising the franchise in this as well as any other particular period in the history of our schools.

"Let us then be up and doing," etc.

SOCIALIST ASSAILS RACE PREJUDICES

Philadelphia, Pa.—Charles Edward Russell, author and Socialist, praises France because "the narrow, blind hatred of race prejudice is unknown there." Mr. Russell spoke on "Race Prejudices" in the Broad Street Theatre under the auspices of the Socialist Literary Society.

The speaker declared race prejudices were rampant in this country and decried the tendency of the white race to consider itself superior to other races of the world.

This country, he said, was constantly bungling the Negro problem. He denounced the lynchings in the Southern States, and added:

"Unless race prejudices are eliminated in this country the crust of the volcano on which we are sitting will give way very soon." "France" continued Mr. Russell, "has given the Negro true citizenship. In France liberty, equality and fraternity are not hollow mockeries and empty dreams. In the Chamber of Deputies black men sit side by side with whites. France has never deigned to draw a color line."

"The Negroes rallied to France's colors when she was threatened. But what if we had a war here and needed our Negro citizens? What if, when we called for them, they answered truthfully enough: 'You have oppressed us; you have killed our men and women and children; you have shown us no justice in your courts; you have trampled us down. We will not fight for you!' Would not the Negro be justified? But we know the Negro in his loyalty will fight for us despite our great injustice to him. There is no national safety for this country except in strict adherence to liberty, equality and fraternity."

Asheville, N. C.—Asheville Negroes at a mass meeting subscribed funds sufficient to "adopt" fifty Belgian babies.

POURING OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS

"HE SPEAKS, YET HE SAYS NOTHING," could never be applied to Roscoe Conklin Simmons, for he has the happy faculty of saying the right thing at the right time, all of the time, as those who have followed his writings or his speeches can attest. Of late he has been especially active in work which has tended to better the conditions of the people he is identified with. Some newspapers deem it necessary to refer to him as the nephew of Booker T. Washington, but Mr. Simmons needs no reflected light to make him shine. The following extract from one of his recent speeches will serve to show the trend of his thoughts.

"We have a record to defend, but no treason, thank God, to atone or ex-

plain while in chains we fought to free white men—from Lexington to Carrizal—and returned again to our chains. No Negro has ever insulted the flag. No Negro ever struck down a President of these United States. No Negro ever sold a military map or secret to a foreign government. No Negro ever ran under fire or lost an opportunity to serve, to fight, to bleed and die in the republic's cause. Accuse us of what you will, justly and wrongly, no man can point to a single instance of our disloyalty."

The editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, commenting on this particular speech, said: "These words should spread a blush of shame on the Caucasian skins of some who are conspicuous in the eyes of the nation just now. When men of superior learning and vanuted super-race connections, entrusted with the solemn duty of serving and protecting their country's destiny, join with foreign tyrant cut-throats to heap contumely upon the nation's head and tie his hands stretched out to protect the lives and rights of Americans; when sniveling white pacifists join with all the traitor-slacker crew to invite national disgrace and ruin, well may this member of an 'inferior race' boast. We are thankful that we have friends on the other side who have the vision and strength of character to call a spade a spade, regardless of the fact that it is intended to dig their own grave. Doubtless there are thousands who think as these two men think, one white, the other black, but lack the courage of their convictions. Let us have more light."—Chicago Defender.

BOULDER NOTES.

A high day was had at Allen Chapel last Sunday in the second quarterly meeting. Presiding Elder Pope delivered soul stirring sermons. All reports were tip top.

Revs. R. L. Pope and A. W. Ward were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Wilson at their ranch home on Monday. Things were in great shape.

The sick list of the week includes Mrs. Nellie Clay, Mrs. Jennie James, Mrs. Alexander and Charlene Wharton.

Mrs. Fred A. Gibson is expected home from California in a few days.

Mr. Winfield, brother-in-law of W. W. Bryant, spent a few days in Denver this week.

Mrs. Jennie Johnson has just returned from an extended trip to Topeka, Kan., and other points. She reports a most excellent time.

The mother of Mrs. Lenore Rucker is now making her home here.

The choir of Allen Chapel gives its Easter cantata on Good Friday evening. The cantata is "The Seven Last Words of Christ," by Dubois. Special interest attaches to the cantata because the pastor has been preaching a series of sermons on these sayings of Christ upon the cross.

Homer's Soldiers.

The Greek kilts troops, the Euzones, bear a variant of a name which was given to troops in the days of ancient Greece. Euzonal, meaning well-girdled and so girt up for exercise as kilts men are, were light troops or even the heavily-armed hoplites, but without their weighty shields. At first however, the term, as in Homer, was used only regarding women, the "zone" being the lower girdle worn by them about the waist, but by an easy and natural transition this came to mean a man's belt. Then, as the belt supported the short skirts, kilts men were called well-belted.