

## The St. Louis Argus

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

BY THE  
ST. LOUIS ARGUS PUBLISHING CO.  
341 MARCHET ST., ST. LOUIS, MO.  
Tele. RO 1-1463

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\$1.00

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year	\$12.00
Six Months	6.00
Three Months	3.00
Single Copy	10¢

Advertisement Rates Purchased On Request

Entered as second-class matter April 8, 1923 at the Post Office at Saint Louis, Missouri, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

## MEMBER

MISCELLANEOUS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCED NEGRO PRESS  
NATIONAL NEGRO PRESS ASSOCIATION  
Parsons Advertising Representatives

W. H. Ziff Co., 603 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

## THE POLICE AND THE KU-KLUX-KLAN

According to a statement appearing in The St. Louis Post-Dispatch of Aug. 6, A. G. Clegg, of New Orleans, one of the grand gobblins of the Ku-Klux-Klan, is quoted as saying that the membership of the St. Louis branch of the Klan, which has about 3,500 members, include men in the Police Department and the City Hall.

This statement may or may not be true. But one part of the statement in which we are particularly interested, is that which refers to the Police Department. We are thinking of those burning words of Victor Miller, president of the Board of Education, who said he felt that no man can serve two masters. He added that if the police owed his allegiance to the Klan, he could not render honest service to the Board. In this we heartily agree with Mr. Miller. But what about the police who are members of the Ku-Klux-Klan? Each member swears allegiance to William J. Simmons and his organization, which defies law and order. That being the case, how can a police officer be a member of such an organization?

## One Hundred Police Dismissed

Recently, in an Oklahoma city, the chief of police, acting on the instruction from the mayor, dismissed more than a hundred police officers who were members of the Ku-Klux-Klan. This is a precedent that should be followed in St. Louis. Every member of the Police department should be questioned as to his membership in the Klan, and those found to be affiliated should be summarily dismissed from the police force. This ought to be done at once. We believe that Victor Miller is the man with the nerve to do it.

## WHAT MEANT THIS UNREST?

If the question we put squarely up to us and we were pressed for direct answer, as to what the unrest among the Negroes of the country mean, we could give a better answer than the fact that they are dissatisfied.

Now that we are brevailing the fact that we have a real cause for grievance, but on the other hand, we are pleased to see this condition at this time. Dissatisfaction is to me the best growth. It means that as a group will move up higher in order to satisfy our state of mind.

The Negroes in Virginia, Kentucky and Georgia have declared themselves against the treatment of the Race by the Republican party. They are now making a bid for the support of their brethren in the North and Border states to join them in an "Independent" movement, as a resentment of the actions by the Republicans in dealing with the Negroes of the country.

The thoughtful among us are beginning to ask the question, just metioned this way:

"They can not doubt about the effects that these independent moves will have upon the masses. They have waited a long time for some movement that will lead them out of the wilderness. They are tired of present conditions—they want to get away."

The Argus is willing to support any movement that will set the leaders to thinking and acting together. All we ask is to think and act wisely. We must go from here, or we die.

## LEADERSHIP

As never before, in the Negro race a field and a demand for a strong leadership. The narrowminded, short-sighted and selfish majority of those who are styled in the official circles of the Negro race as leaders are doing more to offend, alienate and demoralize their people than do the unmaskered scoundrels which openly seek to precipitate their undoing. No race of human beings has ever advanced very far in the scale of humanity which did not at the critical periods of its existence develop within itself and of itself men of brains capable of turning the tide of its fortune. To such men and not to the unscrupulous of the masses does the civilized globe owe its advancement.

The state of the black race in America today is analogous to a ship in a billow sea, over-burdened with rudders, each of which tends to steer it in a direction contrary to all others. The result is that we are getting nowhere, or rather, under the influence of these conflicting forces we are drifting aimlessly. See where we stand. We are a nation and nations who failed to fulfill the standard of their age are for men. That a race of nearly fifteen million souls, physically and temperamentally distinct during fifty years of racial conflict with an almost idealistic civilization, has failed to develop a head capable of sheathing the destiny of the body, seems incredible; but never before, in the case of the Negro race it is true. And in all the history of the world there is not a parallel.

Our leaders of today are but the leaders of groups and each group is aligned against every other group—so much so that there is created an internal disorder in which lies the whole secret of the weakness of the Negro people. And therein it will remain unless some method of uniting the disintegrating masses into a compact union is discovered and according to the rule established by precedence, the experience of all who have preceded us—there is need of a strong and able leadership. When the man or men rise who do not yield to open and unavoidable unit of the Negro factions, the problem of the black race that has been so long in issue-to-come—However, until that does, symbiotically, they shall be like a deadbeat flock of sheep—the victims of every foraging dog that chooses to prey upon them.

Josephus, the Jewish historian in his pathetic recital of the siege of Jerusalem by Titus, the Roman general, is a lesson by which the Negro race should profit. At the great crisis in their nationality, after standing before the Roman soldiers like men, they blotted, among themselves and divided into warring factions. The result was the undoing of the Hebrew nation, and those who did not become victims of the sword were scattered to the four corners of the earth. So it ever has been and ever will be with the race who fail to develop a strong and dependable leadership.

There is not one man in a group of men, living today to whom the black millions of America will give the function of leadership. The fault lies not in the fact that the Negro is omniblitz different in his natural make-up, from other races of men, but in the weakness and softness of those who would do aspire. No man who is weakly through the narrow vision of his individual perception is likely to become a leader of other men, and the failure of the Negro race is due to this, "nothing very thing." As a consequence of their deterioration/ideological decline, the Negro race is destined to be the unscrupulous machine, the white Negro sheep of human thought, hopelessly diverted against itself.

We are now facing a crisis. And while it is true that we have a good many who have had a certain amount of success in life, we have little, if any, who have achieved their status by an honest and honorable

which thus seeks to satisfy the longing and aspirations of its followers in delimiting the boundaries of what will make it easier all the more difficult. Leadership calls for the sacrifice of the material for attainment of the idealistic. The black man may be as wealthy as gold can make him or he may be as cultured a product as ever the greatest institution of learning produced, but he is a black man still, and as such he must endure the scorn of the rest of humanity. Therefore those leaders who advocate wealth as the "open sesame" for the race are as众多 as the uncompromising advocates who insist that the advantages in combination with a man free to give to him the advantages and opportunities of other men make him is looked upon with respect by his kind, regardless of color or other considerations.

To end this the new Negro leadership must direct its united efforts. The old ideas and conception held by some of the past as to what constituted freedom and manhood must be swept aside. There should be only one standard and that is the highest of which man is capable. The Negroes must realize that the institutions of a condition of servitude in part free and in part slavery, must go. To demand all the things which other men enjoy may call for sacrifice—then let that sacrifice be made. The men of the future broad enough and far-sighted enough to lead the black people out of the slough of despair, must give themselves in the doing. And such men may it please God to give us now.—Weekly Review.

THE NEW AGE BUILDING  
AND LOAN ASSOCIATION  
OF ST. LOUIS MISSOURIStatement of the Condition As  
of the First of August  
August 24, 1923

Resources

Cash on Hand &amp; Bank and Stock

Securities

Investments

Delinquent Interest

Delinquent Premium

Investment Tax Advanced

Furniture and Fixtures

General Accruals

Accrued Interest

Accrued Accruals

Total Assets

Liabilities

Investment Stock

Investment Bonds and Credits

Borrowed Money

Accrued Profit

Capitalized Profit

Total Liabilities

State of Missouri

City of St. Louis

F. Fred P. Blair, secretary and F.

T. E. Clegg, president

South Statute that the above and foregoing statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief, as shown by the books and records of solid information.

Signed:

F. D. Williams, President

F. D. Williams, Vice President

Submitted and sworn to before me this day of September, 1923

F. D. Williams, Notary Pub.

My signature expresses my belief

KANSAS CITY, MO.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICE

The law firm of Langdon &amp; Harmer has received from their office from New York, Jefferson Avenue in the Midway Building, 21st Street, telephone: Langdon 1-2000.

R. C. Adams of Princeton, Penn., received a most wonderful sermon at the Second Avenue Baptist Church Sunday evening, Sept. 2, 1923, at 7:30 p.m. He fully related with him his own remarkable religious conversion.

We have a glorious

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F. D. Williams, Accountant

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