



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

The Crisis Vol. 9 No. 1

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The Crisis
Sergeant E.P. Frierson
Sergeant W.W. Thompson

missary Sergeant W.W. Thompson, of the 10th U.S. Cavalry; Quartermaster Sergeant Willian Payne, Quartermaster Corps, and Ordinance Sergeant Stephen T. Bandy, U.S. Army. All of these except the last one were colored.

Sergeant Major Frierson is a veteran of the 10th Cavalry, having been in the service over twenty-two years and enjoys the highest confidence of his superior officers as a non-commissioned officer. He is capable, trustworthy, neat, competent and has a thorough knowledge of administrative functions of a regiment.

Colored Y.M.C.A., Columbus, GA. (See page 33)

The Philadelphia Colored Y. M. C. A. Cost \$110,000 (See page 33)

Opinion

The World War

The Color Line

The Northern Budget of Troy, N.Y., says:

"'Colored Help Wanted.' It is not too much to say that the various warring nations of Europe have hung out this sign. All the principal nations engaged in the war have foreign colonies, and it is not to be wondered at that the suggestion was made at home that it would be well to save as many native subjects as possible and to put into the war such of the colonies as were available."

This has brought the inevitable color prej-udice to the fore. The German Ambassa- dor has announced to the United States that he is "unconditionally opposed" to the use of colored troops. The New York World replies:

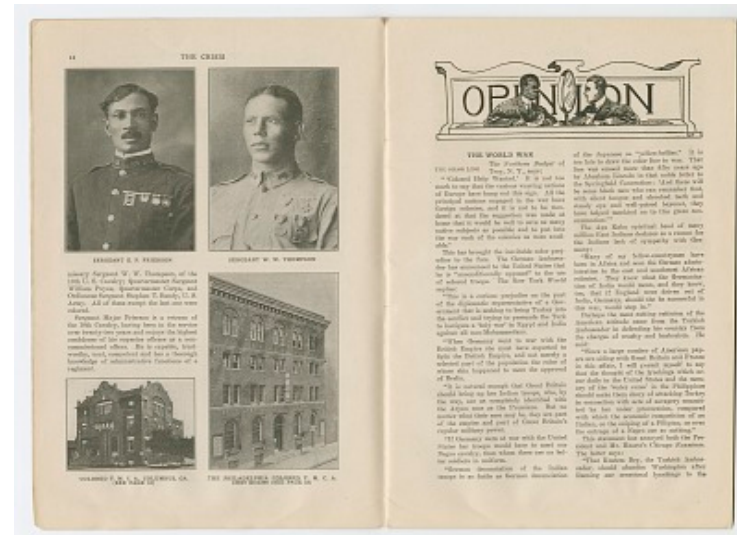
"This is a curious prejudice on the part of the diplomatic representative of a Government that is seeking to bring Turkey into the conflict and trying to persuade the Turk to instigate a 'holy war' in Egypt and India against all non-Mohammedans."

"When Germany went to war with the British Empire she must have expected to fight the British Empire, and not merely a selected part of the population the color of whose skin happened to meet the approval of Berlin."

"It is natural enough that Great Britain should bring up her Indian troops, who, by the way, are as completely identified with the Aryan race as the Prussians. Bt no matter what their race may be, they are part of the empire and part of Great Britain's regular military power."

"If Germany were at war with the United States her troops would have to meet our Negro cavalry, then whom there are no bet-ter soldiers in uniform."

"German denunciation of the Indian troops is as futile as German denunciation of the Japanese as 'yellow-bellies.' It is too late to draw the color line in war. That line was erased more than fifty years ago by Abraham Lincoln in that noble letter to the Springfield Convention: 'And there will be some black men who can remember that, with silent tongue and clenched teeth and steady eye and well-posed bayonet, they have helped mankind on to this great con-summation.'"



The Aga Kahn spiritual head of many million East Indians declares as a reason for the Indians lack of sympathy with Germany:

"Many of my fellow-countrymen have been in Africa and seen the German administration in the east and southwest African colonies. They know what the Germanization of India would mean, and they know, too, that if England were driven out of India, Germany, should she be successful in this war, would step in."

Perhaps the most cutting criticism of the American attitude came from the Turkish Ambassador in defending his country from the charges of cruelty and barbarism. He said:

"Since a large number of American papers are siding with Great Britain and France in this affair, I will permit myself to say that the thought of the lynchings which occur daily in the United States and the memory of the 'water cures' in the Philippines should make them chary of attacking Turkey in connection with acts of savagery committed by her under provocation, compared with which the economic competition of an Italian, or the sniping of a Filipino, or even the outrage of a Negro are as nothing."

This statement has annoyed both the President and Mr. Hears's Chicago Examiner. The latter says:

"That Rustem Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, should abandon Washington after likening our occasional lynchings to the

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