

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Omaha and vicinity, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and upbuilding of the community.

Published Every Saturday.

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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor and Publisher.
Lucille Skaggs Edwards, William Garnett Haynes and Ellsworth W. Pryor, Associate Editors.

Joseph LaCour, Jr., Advertising and Circulation Manager.

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Address, The Monitor, 1119 North Twenty-first street, Omaha.
Telephone Webster 4243.

"ONE TO THREE."

A few days ago the Omaha newspapers, in reviewing the statistics of 1915, published the statement that in Douglas county last year there was one divorce to every three marriages. One to three! Think of it! And incidentally it was stated that the ratio of divorces to marriages had been increasing yearly.

This is a serious situation and calls for sober reflection, great searching of heart, and earnest purpose in the creation of a healthy public opinion that will arrest the growth of this malignant social cancer.

We do not know how our own distinct group stands in this alarming ratio. We presume that our people average relatively high. We hope not; but we are rather afraid that an investigation would disclose the fact that we do. Of this, however, we are fully persuaded that our own people, in common with others, are all too quick to seek the divorce court to sunder the family tie rather than to seek by mutual forgiveness and forbearance to overcome domestic difficulties and maintain the family bond inviolate.

Some of the causes which make for the increase of divorce are the frivolity, immaturity, unpreparedness and indiscretion with which so many enter into marriage; the flippancy of tone concerning marriage which is too generally current, the unwillingness to make sacrifices or to practice self-denial; the desire "to have a good time" at any cost and the non-appreciation of the fact that this estate is not one of pure harmony and happiness, and unclouded skies, but one in which there will be lights and shadows, the clash, at times of human wills, but all making for the development of character. There must therefore be a willingness to give and take. This does not exhaust the list of causes. The chief cause will be found to be selfishness.

But whatever the causes, the condition is to be deplored; and every effort should be made by those who realize that marriage is the foundation of the family and the family of the state and a matter in which the rights of children have to be considered, to lessen the divorce evil and eliminate this social cancer from our life.

"One to three." What will the ratio be next year and the next? Think of it. What is your duty?

SPEAKING OF THE MONITOR.

Yes, thank you, The Monitor is still growing; and again we desire to thank our subscribers and advertisers for their patronage and interest, and the many kind expressions we hear from all sides.

We are rather proud of the compliment paid us by a veteran publisher the other day who said, "There is not a neater, more attractive or better-edited publication in Omaha; and there is need of just such a publication. It is a paper that not only you and your people, but all Omaha can be proud of. I like its broad-minded policy."

Said another, a prominent business man, who has advertised with us from the start: "I take great pleasure in reading The Monitor. It's a newsy, bright paper, full of good stuff. It has opened my eyes to a good many things, and I am frank to confess, I have learned a great deal by reading it, that I wouldn't have gotten hold of in any other way."

Such statements as these are representative and show that The Monitor is being read; and since expressions of this kind are being backed up by a growing list of subscribers, it shows that they are sincere.

All of this is most gratifying to us and shows that our efforts to provide a creditable paper are meeting with reasonable success. We hope to improve the publication as the time goes on, and make it one of the best of its class in the country.

There is another gratifying fact worthy of note and that is the loyalty with which so many of our advertisers have remained with us. This shows that they recognize The Monitor as a good advertising medium, which, being the only publication of its kind in the community circulating among a class of people who are far too liberal spenders for their own good, it certainly is. This is a fact which our energetic and gentlemanly advertising solicitor, Joseph LaCour, emphasizes in soliciting advertising.

Help The Monitor grow. Call your friends' attention to it. Get them to subscribe. Advertise in its columns. Patronize our advertisers. Thank you.

BISHOP SCANNELL.

In the sudden and unexpected death last Saturday of the Rt. Rev. Richard Scannell, who has administered with singular ability and consecration the See of Omaha for nearly a quarter of a century, not only do the Roman Catholics of his diocese lose the earthly presence of a faithful chief pastor, but Omaha and the state are deprived of the guidance and counsel of a great religious leader.

Since his translation from the See of Concordia, Kas., to that of Omaha in 1891, he had devoted himself quietly and unostentatiously to the upbuilding of his diocese, which has made great progress under his administration. Loyal, as was right, to his own faith and convictions, he had the reputation of being tolerant to

those of other communions, and addressed himself to the special work assigned him.

As "God buries His workman, but His work goes on," may a wise successor to Bishop Scannell be chosen, who will prove himself a potent factor in deepening and advancing the religious life of the community.

Please bear in mind that we raise our subscription rates February 1st to \$1.50. We were urged to make it that at the start, but deemed it best to start at the lower figure. Send in your subscriptions NOW and get the advantage of the lower rate. Phone in your name and address, many have already done so, and our collector will call for the money.

We know our readers who have been enjoying the delightful articles furnished them by Lucille Skaggs Edwards in the department "Our Women and Children," will join us in heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Dr. and Mrs. Edwards, upon the birth of a daughter January 6th. May the little child be highly graced and gifted.

Candidates have begun to file. The primaries are in April. Begin to do your political advertising now. If you want to get before the Colored voters, don't overlook the important fact of advertising in The Monitor. Our advertising columns are open to candidates of all parties. Our editorial policy is not for sale. We will support the men and measures that we deem best for our people and the community.

Why not start a savings bank account, if you have not already done so, or begin paying on a home? Building and Loan associations offer excellent opportunities for systematic savings. Investments in Omaha real estate will be found to be safe, sound and productive.

What would happen if the Negroes of America, dissatisfied, as many of them are with the two dominant parties, should decide to vote the Socialist ticket?

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS.

A PROFESSIONAL DERMATOLOGIST NEEDED.

A professional dermatologist ought to have no trouble in making a living in this day of color disputes. I. S. Cousins, of Erwin, Tenn., a railroad engineer, was charged by his local lodge of locomotive engineers with being mixed with African blood, and as a result he lost his preferred run. He sued for \$15,000 damages and secured a judgment in the federal court for \$3,800, the jury deciding that Cousins was a white man. In St. Louis an extraordinarily "fair" pastor of a colored church got into trouble with his flock because somebody whispered it around that he was a "white" man, and now he is taking steps to file a suit against his accusers. Now, it would seem that an expert dermatologist who knows all about the skin tints, complexion adulterations and blood admixtures that affect race issues, could get busy and put an end to all this sort of litigation, which is both embarrassing and expensive. Such skin specialists would be particularly valuable on street cars and railroad trains, in restaurants and theaters, and now and then, they might pick up a job in a church or a school house. Even "polite society" might at times avoid complications by drawing on their services.—The Indianapolis Freeman.

Few foreigners came into the United States during 1915. The smallest number in twenty years was the 326,700 who came during the year ending June 30, 1915. There were 1,218,480 the year before. So many went back to Europe in 1915 that our net gain in population was but 50,070. In 1914 it was 769,276.

For one man who is too good for his job there are a thousand whose jobs are too good for them.

Many a man who can hear Pleasure whisper a mile way, can't hear Duty when it shouts in his ear through a megaphone.

No man acquires the secret of popularity unless he has learned to keep his troubles to himself.

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