

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

We are in receipt of a courteous letter from an esteemed friend, Dr. Ward, in which he joins issue with us on the prohibition question. We give space to his letter in this issue and simply refer him to our leading editorial of last week, in which we hope we have made our position plain. We are tremendously opposed to the evils of the liquor traffic, but our firm conviction is that prohibition does not suppress the traffic, nor make for temperance. If we believed it did, we would be uncompromisingly on that side.

Does Not Agree With Monitor's Position.

Rev. John A. Williams,
Editor Monitor,
Omaha.

Dear Sir and Friend:

In the copy of The Monitor you handed me on the street car the other day, you declared the purpose of the paper to be to help the Negro and also that the paper was opposed to prohibition. How can you harmonize these two statements when liquor is the greatest of all enemies to the human race in general and the Negro race in particular?

The Negro suffers a handicap socially and in the business world because of his color and his long years of bondage and because of these first two, he suffers in the third relation, i. e., morally. Man enjoys the benefits which the restraints of a high social order places upon him; likewise, a healthy economic system which the Negro race as a whole does not share. To illustrate:

The Colored man does not have credit at the store until he gains it, while the white man enjoys credit until he loses it. A condition which the Negro is not in himself to blame for, but rather the social and economic order of which he is a part. Even the white man loses his credit when it becomes known he drinks, so how much more does the Colored man, who never had credit, suffer when he drinks?

Liquor is the producer of suspicion. The number of arrests, when suspects of a crime are gathered in are about three to one against the Negro. Also the penal institutions contain more Negroes than whites, even far beyond the ratio of population on the outside.

I am not reciting these to show the deficiency of the Negro, for I am the Negro's friend. It has been my privilege to contribute to three worthy Negro institutions; namely, Freedman's Aid Society, Tuskegee Institute and an Omaha Colored Mission. The Colored patient receives the same rightful turn and treatment in my office as do others.

I believe, you, occupying the high position and esteem you do in this community, ought to stand for first as an Editor and then, above all, as a Minister of Jesus Christ against the saloon because, three thousand wives are murdered by drunken husbands in the United States annually, twenty-five hundred babes are smothered and a total of ten thousand people are murdered because of liquor.

Of the total of two thousand and forty-five divorces in Nebraska for twelve months, one thousand and eighty-three were granted because of drunkenness and of the cost of \$157,260.39 to maintain the police department for a year in Omaha, \$78,630.20 was used to handle drunkenness and the crimes growing out of it; and because wine is a mocker causing more suicides, misery, despair, disease, suffering, vice, disgrace, poverty, de-

bauchery, death, damnation and failure than any other agency; and because of the brewery's interference and exercise of authority in politics. Their corrupting hand is in evidence of every issue.

No, my brother, you cannot harmonize these statements that you are a friend of your race and not an enemy of the liquor traffic.

Yours very truly,
W. W. Ward.

We are glad to know that The Washington Eagle, one of our exchanges copied, "The Value of Colored Advertising." They are welcome to anything we publish, but they might hand us a mention, a line of noise, or tack our name on the rear end of our dope.

"A tempest passing over a garden of lillies may destroy all or none, or may merely smite down one or two just here and there and leave all the others standing. Why are these things ordained? Ask in the world to come, Mr. Markom—the answer is not to be found in this."—Cleek, the Solver of Riddles.

VOTE FOR
LEE S. ESTELLE
For
JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT.

Franklin A. Shotwell

Republican Candidate
FOR STATE SENATOR
Municipal Light and Power
Less Profit to the Trust—A Saving to You.
Lower Rates for You—A Larger City.

IT'S UP TO YOU, MR. VOTER!

Now is the Right Time

To look for Your Christmas Presents
BUY NOW AND HAVE THEM LAID AWAY
Pay a little down and some every week. Best Stock of
DIAMONDS, WATCHES, SILVERWARE AND JEWELRY
In the City at Very Lowest Prices
SEE US FIRST

BRODEGAARD BROS. CO.

16th and Douglas Streets.
At the Sign of the Crown Up the Golden Stairs.

O'Brien's
CHOCOLATES

"The Utmost in Candy"

THE O'BRIEN CO.
Candy Makers

Nebraska Is Going Dry by 25,000 Majority!
Will You Help Win and Enjoy the Fruits of the Victory?

Read the Following and Think It Over:

There are 2,500 Negro men in Omaha of voting age, engaged in various occupations. Of this number those engaged in work connected directly or indirectly with the liquor traffic are the following:

Hotel, Club and Dining Car Employees	375
Saloon Porters	50
Maids in Houses of Ill Fame	30
Employees in Gambling Houses	25
Gentlemen of Leisure	250
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	730

When Prohibition is Adopted the Figures Will Show a Loss of 25	
Hotel, Club and Dining Car Employees, Leaving.....	350
Saloon Porters, Loss 50, leaving.....	0
Maids in Houses of Ill Fame, Loss 20, leaving for a short time.....	10
Employees of Gambling Houses, Loss 25, leaving.....	0
Gentlemen of Leisure, Loss 250 through work or change of residence, leaving	0
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	360

From the total of 2,500 deduct the 100 persons who will have to change their employment and you have left 2,400 men. Take from this number the 250 gentlemen of leisure and you have left 2,150 men engaged in occupations in no way connected with the liquor traffic and in no way affected by it, as a matter of labor. Let the 2,250 working men join hands and vote for themselves instead of the 250 gentlemen of leisure, and we can and will obtain fully 150 positions from the state, county and city governments.

We cannot get these positions now, because the wets won't let us. We have tried them for twenty-five years and they have been taking positions away from us all the time and giving them to foreigners. Let us vote the state dry November 7th and make a clean slate so that each one of us will have a fair chance. You have been hoodwinked long enough.

You see from this that you will gain positions by the state going dry.

But two other arguments have been offered by the wets against the DRY AMENDMENT. First, Prohibition does not prohibit. Second, Prohibition should be obtained by moral suasion.

It is sufficient to say in answer to the first argument that if prohibition does not prohibit, the wets should favor prohibition.

With respect to the second it is clear beyond successful refutation that the liquor traffic is a powerful force in politics and government, and is determined to control organized government or overthrow it by force. Any suggestion of persuasion, therefore, as to this outlaw is idle; just as idle as the same argument was respecting slavery.

Vote for the Prohibitory Amendment Nov. 7th

The Colored Dry Committee.
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