

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.

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ONE WHO IS MAKING GOOD.

Among the men of our race who are contributing, according to their talents, abilities and opportunities, to the upbuilding of Omaha, and making their influence for good felt, should be mentioned Dan Desdunes, whose cut adorns the front page of this issue. He is a good example of our energetic, ambitious, progressive and self-respecting men, of whom we have many more than the general public believe.

Dan Desdunes is the son of R. L. and Matilda Cheval Desdunes, highly-respected people of New Orleans, La., in which city he was born June 18, 1870. His early education was received at home after which he attended Straight university. While quite young he learned the painter's trade. At 17 he began the study of music and soon thereafter entered the theatrical business, which he followed with marked success for several years. He began his theatrical work with Cleveland's Consolidated Minstrels, forty white and forty colored. Subsequently, he traveled with Dudley & Andrew's Minstrels, "In Old Tennessee," P. T. Wright's Nashville Students, Gideon's Minstrels and "The Georgia Camp Meetin'," which play he wrote. While with this company he was married, in March, 1904, to Miss Mada Mabry. After his marriage he decided to leave the road and settle in some progressive western city. In April, 1904, he came to Omaha and was most favorably impressed with it as a city offering good opportunities for a musician.

Showing commendable judgment, he decided to make Omaha his home, and he has never regretted his decision. He found here a good field for his talents. He organized Desdunes' Orchestra, which rose rapidly into popular favor. He then organized Desdunes' Band, which also soon found its place among the musical organizations of the city. This band subsequently consolidated with the Omaha Military Band, the final outgrowth of which was the First Regimental Band, which is meeting with such marked success and has its well-recognized place in the musical life of the city. This band, through Mr. Desdunes' efforts and because when, through his persistency with the chairman of the committee, it was given an opportunity to show what it could do, it made good, has now its annual place in the Ak-Sar-Ben parades which are such an important feature of our civic fall festivities. This band has been employed by the city, with others, to give the municipal band concerts in the various parks of the city.

It is only due Mr. Desdunes to say that while he works untiringly as band master to keep this splendid

organization up to the highest standard of efficiency, he receives no salary for his work. He is an enthusiastic musician, thoroughly in love with his work. He takes delight in training and helping young musicians, believing that the study of music and the love of music makes men better citizens, and so he is always willing to do what he can to contribute in this way to the general good of the community.

Mr. Desdunes is the author of a number of meritorious compositions, which, owing to the peculiar "system" of the East, he has been unable as yet to publish.

In addition to his musical work, Mr. Desdunes is a trusted and respected employe of the Omaha Commercial Club. He is buying a cozy little bungalow at 2516 Burdette street. His home, like that of so many of our worthy and progressive citizens, bears every mark of good taste and refinement.

He furnishes another example of those of our American citizens of color who in every community are striving to and succeeding in making good.

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALSHIP.

Of course, we are interested in the principalship of the Omaha High school. Why shouldn't we be? We are interested in all the children of the city and are anxious that they should have the best educational facilities possible. On several occasions we have been called upon to visit the high school in the interest of some of our students, and it was a great pleasure to come into contact with such cultured, earnest and broad-minded educators as Professor Lewis, Miss Kate McHugh, Mr. Reed, the retiring principal, and Mr. J. F. Woolery. On two or three occasions grievances had arisen which were speedily adjusted. We found those in authority above named exceedingly anxious that every pupil under their charge should be treated with justice and fairness. We want to see this policy continued. We would therefore deprecate the election to the principalship of the high school of any man or woman whose policy would be reactionary and subversive of the fundamental principles of democracy which the public school should conserve. Personally, we do not believe that the Board of Education will gain by going outside of the city. Why not choose a man like Mr. J. F. Woolery, the assistant principal, who knows the work and whose worth has been proven by his years of faithful service in the educational work of Omaha? Why would he not make an efficient principal of the important position of principal of the Central High school?

The fact that the Ford Automobile Company has purchased ground for the building of a large plant here for the assembling of their automobiles is a cause of congratulation to our city and to our live Commercial Club, if they have been instrumental in getting this enterprise to locate here. It emphasizes the fact that Omaha is the most advantageous distributing point for the mid-western territory to be found anywhere in the United States. The coming of the Fords means the coming of a good class of workmen, and the increase to our population; and while we, as a people, as yet, unfortunately, are given scant recognition or employment in any of the large manufacturing enterprises, we nevertheless rejoice to see them come, and indulge the hope that we may in some slight measure share in the benefits that through them may come to our city. The coming of the Fords means the coming of like concerns, all of which ought to make for the material betterment of the city.

If you chance to own desirable property in any section of the city and some one offers you what seems a pretty good price and is very anxious to have you sell, think twice or thrice before you sell. There is generally a big deal behind it. Some one on the inside has got what they call a "tip." It will probably pay you to wait.

With apologies to Edgar Allen Poe, we stand repeating, to our street commissioner entreating, to North Twenty-first retreating, take the trash from out the street which runs hard by our door, and we will praise thee evermore.

"What a good line of advertisers you have got." Yes, thank you, we have. And what is better, our increasing list of subscribers know it and are patronizing them.

July, yet. But winter is just over the hill. Better be thinking about filling that coal bin.

PRESS OPINION OF THE MONITOR

The Monitor, edited by John Albert Williams, is a new, nicely-printed 8-page weekly paper being published in Omaha in the interest of the colored population. It follows in the wake of the Progress, the Enterprise and the Sentinel. It is well edited and printed by the Waters-Barnhart Company.—The Western Laborer, July 10.

The first number of The Monitor came to our office this week and we are pleased to find that it is to be "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."

It is edited by the Rev. John Albert Williams and ought to fill a great need here in Omaha as a special publication and mouthpiece for the 8,000 colored people in the city and suburbs. This first number is extremely well edited and contains some very interesting information on various aspects of the race question in this country today.—Omaha Excelsior, July 10.

East Africa has now come forward with a new wood suitable for lead pencils at a time when the supply of American cedar, so largely employed for that purpose, is approaching exhaustion.

Culinary Hints and Recipes

BY E. W. PRYOR,
Steward Omaha Commercial Club

ACID.

The harmless fruit acids used in cooking are those obtained from fruits of the citrus family, lemons, limes, etc., the lees of wine and from vinegar.

Oxalic acid is a poison though obtained from the weed oxalis or sorrell, which we cook and which is harmless.

Prussic acid is a poison although it is present in minute quantities and gives the pleasant bitter flavor to the leaves and fruits of trees of the almond tribe, which are freely used.

Stir an acid into a solution of cochineal. Notice the change of purple to a scarlet, hence cake icing and other substances colored with cochineal have a brighter tint if they are slightly acidulated.

Lemon juice and other acids stirred into such mixtures as boiling pudding sauce, tapioca or starch jelly and some soups, generally will change their bluish appearance to a clear transparency.

Lemon juice or other acid is often required to make similar change in gelatine and in strong consommés, which sometimes become too rich and viscid to pass through a strainer until cut with a dash of acid.

Acids are used to brighten the surfaces of brass or copper. Acid and salt will clean a copper or brass vessel, but the brightened surface soon tarnishes unless dry polished afterwards.

Acids act upon copper and brass vessels in such a way as to produce a poison called verdigris, which forms at the edge where the air, acid and copper or brass are in contact.

Stewed fruits, cranberries, pickles, salads, etc., acquire a bitter taste and become poisonous if allowed to stand in brass or copper vessels, and brass spoons from which the plating is worn off, become coated with a bitter tasting poison if left standing in fruit, jelly, sauce, salads or anything that contains an acid.

Lemon juice or vinegar will whiten boiling chickens, fish, turkeys, sweetbreads, etc., provided the vessel used to boil in be bright and new, but if an iron vessel or tin one much worn the action of the acid will often spoil the appearance of the fish or meat entirely by turning them blue and of a dirty color and when such vessels must be used, with the tinning mostly worn off, the vinegar and lemon juice should be omitted.

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