

# 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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## "OCCUPIED BY COLORED TENANTS."

The following letter was received by a real estate firm a few days ago:

"Omaha, July 22, 1915.

"Gentlemen:

"We issued on July 20th, 1914, American policy No. 105710 to et al., covering on frame building at street. The company inspected the premises and found it occupied by colored tenants and inasmuch as they prefer not to continue the risk, they have asked us to cancel. Would you kindly return the policy to us and we will be pleased to send you the return premium thereon.

"Yours very truly,

"....."

For obvious reasons we withhold the name of the local insurance firm making this unusual request and also the name of the real estate firm to whom the letter is addressed, as well as the name of the owner and location of the property. We have no desire to injure the insurance company, or to bring the owners of the property into any undue notoriety from which being modest people, they would naturally shrink. Our sole purpose is to protest against the unjust spirit manifested in this letter and to indignantly resent the implication that property "occupied by colored tenants" furnishes more hazardous risks than like property occupied by white tenants of the corresponding class or classes.

This property is in a good neighborhood and is occupied by respectable people. The absurdity of this request becomes the more striking when it is recalled that this company has carried the insurance on this same property for about twenty years and all this time it has been OCCUPIED BY COLORED TENANTS, and there has been no destruction by fire there yet. Surely this shows that tenancy by colored people does not necessarily constitute an unusual risk, although this company seems to think so. The fact that this firm has just discovered, after these many years, that this property has been "occupied by colored tenants" does not, in our humble judgment, speak any too well for the business acumen of this firm who for all these years have been running the hazardous risk incurred, evidently from their point of view, in carrying insurance on property "occupied by colored tenants."

It is to be noticed that the reason assigned is not that the property is in poor repair or defectively built, and might therefore be a bad risk, but that it is "occupied by colored tenants." Colored people have been accused of many things, some true, some

false, but this is the first time that we have ever known them to be accused, by implication at least, of being by nature so inflammable that their mere occupancy of a house was liable to set it on fire. Heat means energy. By this sign, therefore, we must be becoming mighty energetic.

We have advised returning the policy as requested, and placing the insurance with another firm. Among our advertisers there are firms who will be pleased to write insurance for houses "occupied by colored tenants." Colored people are under no obligations to spend their money with people or firms who say they don't want it.

## A SUCCESSFUL PHYSICIAN.

Omaha has many citizens of color who are making good in their chosen or enforced fields of occupation. Some are doing the work that pleases them and for which they have prepared themselves. Others are doing whatever work they can get to do awaiting an opportunity to do that which is more to their liking. For example, we know of a fine young man, who is a registered and experienced pharmacist, who came to Omaha hoping that he might find employment along his own professional lines. He has not been able to do so as yet; so he wisely took the first thing he could get to do, namely, the position of a waiter, which is an honorable and honest occupation—just as honorable as that of a pharmacist, but it is not that for which he studied and prepared himself and naturally prefers.

Among our physicians, of whom we have six, namely, Drs. Hutten, Edwards, Gordon, Britt, Gooden and Hill, a prominent place is occupied—and deservedly—by Dr. Jesse Howard Hutten, whose cut it gives us pleasure to publish in this issue. Although a comparatively young man he is our ranking physician in time of residence and practice.

Dr. Hutten was born in Newberry, S. C., June 20th, 1870. He is the son of Ransom and Martha (Johnson) Hutten. His primary education was received in the public schools of his native town. He was graduated from Biddle university, the famous Presbyterian institution of Charlotte, N. C., with the degree of B.A. in June, 1893, receiving his master's degree from the same university later. He taught school for one year at Augusta, Ga., and entered the medical department of Howard university, Washington, D. C., in the autumn of 1894, from which he was graduated in 1897. He was employed as interne at the Freedmen's hospital for one year, after which he decided to come west. He came to Omaha in 1899, where he has since resided, and has built up a large practice. He has been very suc-

cessful as a physician and he owes his success to his studious, conscientious and strict attention to his profession. He has been frugal in his habits and industrious, and has invested his earnings in Omaha real estate, which have turned out well. As a result the day is not far distant when he will be in reasonably comfortable circumstances. He is one of the partners in the Peoples Drug Store and has a pleasant home at 1105 North Nineteenth street graciously presided over by Mrs. Hutten, who is a woman of marked culture and refinement.

Dr. Hutten like all men whose place is assured in a community, is entirely void of professional jealousy. He has given cordial welcome to younger physicians who have come to Omaha and has been only too happy to aid them in any way possible.

His brother practitioners of the other race have high regard for his professional skill, and his gentlemanly bearing.

Dr. Hutten has been successful in his chosen calling because he has been willing to pay the price—painstaking, persevering work.

Did you attend the Saengerfest? Then you don't know what you missed. The local committee it to be congratulated upon bringing that inspiring organization of trained singers and artists to our city and upon the great success which attended the concerts. As one listened to the glorious music of those well-trained voices of the music-loving Germans, he could not but think of the thousands of similar voices which are being stilled in the trenches of Europe and earnestly pray that the day of peace, honorable peace, to all might speedily come. When you listen to the Germans sing, you can understand why the Germans can fight; but we would rather hear them sing that hear of their fighting, and we believe that they would rather sing than fight. May peace speedily come to war distracted Europe.

Have you seen the August number of "The Crisis," that splendid magazine published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People? If you are not a subscriber, you ought to be. This magazine is kept on file at the Omaha public library. The August number contains a symposium on "Votes for Women" by some of the brainiest men and women of our race. The able articles from their pens show the ability of our people as thinkers on this important subject which is ultimately going to win.

We desire to extend our most sincere congratulations to our good friend, Thomas J. Flynn, upon his appointment to the important position of United States marshal for Nebraska. Mr. Flynn has discharged the duties of the various offices which he has held with faithfulness and efficiency and we are confident that the same intelligence, ability, fidelity and efficiency will characterize his work in the position to which he has just been appointed. We wish him every success.

The Monitor is being read in many of the best homes of both races in Omaha and elsewhere. It is on file in the reading rooms of the public library, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A. and the Commercial Club. It is on sale at many of the news stands of the city. Its list of subscribers is steadily growing. Advertisers tell us that it is bringing them results. That

is what they want and that's what we want. We are helping advertise Omaha.

And that rubbish never quitting, still is lying, still is sitting, in the street so mud bespattered, and with brick bats sadly scattered, running by our chamber door. MUST IT LIE THERE EVERMORE? Street Commissioner, I implore: Remove or fence that unsightly rubbish, and stop complaint for evermore.

Next month Omaha is to welcome a large convention of well-behaved, self-respecting colored people. Citizens should and doubtless will extend them every courtesy to which they will be justly entitled.

Better get in your next winter's coal.

## BIDS US WELCOME.

The Nebraskan has received the initial copy of The Monitor, "a weekly newspaper devoted to the interests of the eight thousand colored people in Omaha, and to the good of the community." This new publication is printed on eight pages of fine paper and is well edited by the Rev. John Albert Williams. The Nebraskan bids welcome to the Monitor.—The Omaha Nebraskan.

## A GOOD ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

Omaha, Neb., July 23, 1915.

Rev. John Albert Williams,  
1119 North Twenty-first Street,  
City.

Dear Father Williams:

We like the appearance of the Monitor and believe your paper affords an especially good, new medium through which to advertise our lines of real estate, insurance and rentals. As an evidence of this we enclose herewith some advertising copy for your next issue. With our best wishes for the Monitor's success,

Very truly,

CHARLES E. WILLIAMSON.

## SEQUENCE.

If at my door I plant a tree,  
And nurture it with care,  
No wonder will it be to me  
If birds come singing there.

If I cast anchor by a bog,  
It should be no surprise  
That noisome vapors, in the fog  
Enshrouding me, arise.

If I encamp beside a lake,  
Whose depths reflect the sky,  
What marvel if, when morn shall break,  
White swans come sailing by!

—Harriet Appleton Sprague.

If  
The Monitor  
Pleases You  
Subscribe  
Now  
One Dollar  
a Year