

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.

Entered as Second-Class Mail Matter July 2, 1915, at the Post-office at Omaha, Neb., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES, \$1.50 PER YEAR
Advertising rates, 50 cents an inch per issue.
Address, The Monitor, 1119 North Twenty-first street, Omaha.
Telephone Webster 4243.

TIME TO CALL A HALT.

A suit for damages against the management of the Strand theatre has been instituted by attorneys for Mrs. Erlius Stephenson and Mrs. Leon A. Smallwood for ejection from that picture show house November 10, 1915. The matter has been kept quiet until the suit was filed and the particulars of this disgraceful outrage to which these cultured and refined gentlewomen were subjected has only recently come to our attention. The facts as we have learned them are substantially these:

On the evening of November 10th, 1915, Mrs. Stephenson and Mrs. Smallwood, women of education and refinement, went to the Strand theatre to see "Damaged Goods." They stood in the line of patrons for a long time, passed to the ticket window and purchased balcony tickets. They went quietly to their seats; but they had no sooner been seated when an usher told them they could not sit in the balcony. They were finally told by the manager that they would have to go out of the theatre or up in the gallery. They quietly but firmly refused to go. In a few moments after this refusal, two uniformed policemen went to Mrs. Stephenson and Mrs. Smallwood, and, taking them by the arms, roughly pushed them out of the theatre. These officers had no business to touch these women. Their names should be learned and charges filed against them.

Mark you, the patrons did not complain of the presence of these ladies; they doubtless did not know they were there, until they were humiliated and assaulted by officers who are charged with enforcing the laws of the state of Nebraska.

These ladies are citizens, and as such are entitled to the full protection of the laws of this state and all the laws. They knew, too, that the Civil Rights Law should guard them against such an outrage, as indeed it does. And that the story we are telling here may be complete, we set it down. Here it is, read it carefully:

Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Civil Rights. Enacted in 1893.

Sec. 1. Civil rights of persons. All persons within this state shall be entitled to a full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, restaurants, public conveyances, barber shops, theatres and other places of amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to every person.

Sec. 2. Penalty for Violation of Preceding Section. Any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person, except for

reasons of law applicable to all persons, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges enumerated in the foregoing section, or by aiding or inciting such denials, shall for each offense be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, and pay the costs of the prosecution.

You will see by this law that this act complained of was not only an outrage; it was a crime. You know, too, that the City Commission has the power to grant licenses to theatres and places of amusement, and that it has power to revoke licenses for a failure to observe the laws of this state.

But what do we see? Policemen who are sworn to enforce the laws against discrimination, not only seeing the laws violated but themselves violating the laws by assaulting respectable gentlewomen in a theatre in a civilized and enlightened community. Gentlemen of the Commission, what do you think about it? Your action will be your answer. Do you think we are going to stand for this in Nebraska? Not on your life.

But in this outrage there is bitter tragedy. Not a tragedy for these women, whose only offense is that God in His wisdom carved them in ebony instead of ivory, but awful tragedy that such a thing as this can happen in the Great West in the twentieth century. Can it be that Omaha wishes such a thing as this Will she tolerate it? We do not believe it.

Whence came this insolent theatrical manager who would rear up such a monster of prejudice and caste? There is no call for it here. This practice should have no place in a great city in the American Republic, certainly not in Omaha.

We hereby serve notice on all those whose duty it is to protect us under the law that we will not sit supinely by and witness such an infamous RAPE OF JUSTICE AS THIS.

It is time to call a halt. Our people as a class are law-abiding and self-respecting. We should and will keep the law and others must.

We have asked thinkers and workers along certain lines to write special articles for The Monitor on topics in which they are interested and upon which our readers should be informed. These articles will be published from time to time. We are pleased to publish in this issue an article from our good friend, Jesse T. Brillhart, on Socialism. This is a political movement which is making its influence increasingly felt not only in this country but in Europe.

Hon. John L. Kennedy for United States senator. To our race out in the state who may not know him we commend him to their attention. Talk about him to your friends and neighbors.

I. L. Beisel, who is a candidate for county treasurer, subject to the republican primaries, is well qualified for the position which he seeks, inasmuch as he has been deputy for twelve

years. He is a native of Pennsylvania and has been a resident of Omaha for thirty years. He is well spoken of by all who know him intimately. He has always impressed us as a courteous gentlemen and we believe he has earned the promotion sought.

Our choice for president is Henry D. Eastabrook.

Grow with Growing Omaha.

NEW ADVERTISING MANAGER FOR BRANDEIS STORES.

Mr. Charles Koethen has arrived from New York and has taken charge of the advertising department at the Brandeis Stores. Mr. Koethen was born in the east and has had a wide experience in the advertising business, not only in the United States but in Canada.

Charles Koethen began his advertising work sixteen years ago in New York City. Graduating from one of the oldest agencies, he made a place for himself with the Royal Baking Powder Co. After two years with this concern, he became associated with Abraham & Straus, the largest department store of Brooklyn, and one of the largest in the world. His connection with this establishment covered a period of more than thirteen years, during which he was first assistant advertising manager of Justin McCarthy and then upon the death of Justin McCarthy he took over the management.

He comes to Omaha with the highest recommendations and the very best wishes of hundreds of newspaper friends in the east. He, no doubt, will receive the very best wishes from Omaha and all will wish for his success in his new field.

Mr. Koethen is a gentleman with a most pleasing personality.

For Rent—2 room house, East Omaha. A good place for a garden and chickens. Web. 5361.

Down-Down-Down!!

—Down so far in price that even though the original prices on this King-Peck Men's Furnishing Stock were phenomenal, these are so much less that they're simply amazing

Last of the Men's Furnishings From the King-Peck Stock



—All the Odd Lots of Men's Shirts from the King-Peck stock, worth to \$1.00, at **35c**

—All the Men's Wool Shirts and Drawers from the King-Peck stock that have sold here every day for 79c; now **49c**

—All the Men's Linen and Soft Collars from the King-Peck stock, broken sizes and plenty large sizes; worth 15c. Special at 2 for **5c**

—All the Silk and Knit Four-in-Hand Ties from King-Peck stock; worth 25c, at **12½c**

Brandeis Stores