

# THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Eight Thousand Colored People in Omaha and Vicinity, and to the Good of the Community

The Rev. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

\$1.50 a Year. 5c a Copy.

Omaha, Nebraska, April 22, 1916

Volume I. Number 43

## Segregation Law In Supreme Court

Arguments For and Against The Validity of Louisville's Noxious Measure Being Heard.

CASE IS ONE OF IMPORTANCE

Became a Law in Baltimore First—Cities Have Approved It—Custom Rapidly Spreading.

Washington, April 21.—The United States Supreme Court heard arguments for and against the validity of Louisville's segregation law Monday and Tuesday, April 3 and 4, Moorfield W. Storey, former president of the American Bar Association and present head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, took up part of the two days in contending against the law. He said that it not only violated the principles of justice but was an infringement upon property rights.

The case is one of grave importance to the Colored residents of Baltimore, where the law was first passed; Atlanta, St. Louis, Dallas, Texas., Richmond, Va., and other places. The Maryland Court of Appeals recently sidestepped a decision as to the validity of the Baltimore law, awaiting the decision in the Louisville case.

Clayton S. Blakely, Louisville, appeared with Mr. Storey, having been retained by Colored citizens and organizations of that city.

Justice Pitney asked many questions of Mr. Beckley concerning those features of the ordinance which prevent a Negro from living in a house after he has purchased it provided the house is on a "white" block. He wanted to know if, under the law, a Negro purchasing such property would be required to allow it to remain untenanted until enough white people moved from the block to give the Negroes a majority and thereby make it a "Negro" block. Mr. Beckley replied that the law did provide this but he held that white people were subject to the same provisions in such sections of Louisville; he said the population was constantly shifting and such property seldom remained idle for more than a few months. He pointed out that the law did not affect the right of a Negro to live on a "white" block if he owned the property prior to enactment of the law.

Mr. Storey declared the ordinance to be in violation of Section I of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution in that it deprived one set of American citizens of rights and privileges given to others. He held that it made no difference whether the denial of these rights affected whites or blacks.

"The Constitution gives to every American citizen the same rights,"

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Use the Monitor to Reach the Colored People of Nebraska.

## Will N. Johnson Wins the Republican Nomination For Public Defender



WILL N. JOHNSON, Attorney  
Republican Nominee for Public Defender

The primaries are over and we have triumphed gloriously.

Will N. Johnson has won the nomination for the office of public defender on the Republican ticket, defeating his nearest competitor by more than 500 votes. John W. Long, candidate for state representative, also made a good showing, being defeated by a very narrow margin. These were the only two of the three Colored candidates, who in our judgment, had any show of winning. We did not believe that G. Wade Obee who filed for the Water Board had the remotest chance of success, and yet he received a fair sized vote. He was not the lowest man on the ticket. The good showing that all these men made demonstrates what we as a race can do by united action.

It was definitely known at the outset that the Colored Americans of this community whose registered voting strength, according to the official returns from the election commissioner's office is about 2,000, ninety per cent of whom are republicans, were very much dissatisfied with the political recognition they had been receiving and were organizing for effective work. This led the powers that be to believe, and they are correct in this belief, that, if they desired to pull through their slates they

must give recognition on their slate to the Colored voters. And so both Johnson and Long were placed on respective slates. This undoubtedly brought strength to the slates and also to the candidates. An analysis of the votes shows that the race vote was loyal to its candidates and to their friends. If the unregistered Colored voters had registered and voted Long, in all likelihood, would have been nominated, too. But be that as it may, the result shows the wisdom of united action upon the part of our people, and justifies the acumen of the slate-makers.

The nomination of Will N. Johnson is indeed a victory. It shows a regaining of lost ground.

The indications are that this will be a republican year. In the event that it is, Mr. Johnson ought to be elected. We must see to it that every available voter of our race is registered and votes. Mr. Johnson ought to be elected. He has had the training which qualifies him for the position and in it he can and ought to make good. Let it be known that the race is solidly and unitedly for him and he will win out at the election in November as he has won out at the primaries in April.

Unite. Concentrate. Act.

## A German Problem Threatens America

Chicago University Professor Thinks This Will Result Should Teutons Be Defeated.

GERMANS WILL BE ISOLATED.

Their Position and Attitude Will be Similar to That of Colored Americans.

A Chicago University professor has expressed himself rather forcefully on the present war in Europe. He thinks after the defeat of Germany there will be a German problem similar to the present Negro problem. He thinks the Germans will be a "sore" and will be isolated socially, as are the Colored people today. His own words follow:

"Sir—The German-American problem as it touches our national life and interests has not, in my opinion, been fairly stated or discussed since the beginning of this world war. From the point of view of history, and of natural social evolution, most of our editors of newspapers and other periodicals have contented themselves with straight partisan treatments. To me it is as natural for the well-to-do German, whether born in Germany or in the United States of German parentage, to side with Germany in the present crisis as it was for the well-to-do Southerner in the Northwest to side with the South in 1860.

"What I fear from the present discussion of the problem is that when the war is over we shall have a permanent German problem not unlike the Negro problem. With Germany defeated, our German element will be sore in feeling and isolated socially. Our best men are making this certain by their speech and conduct. To me our interest requires us to become a nation as soon as possible; but every great mass of men who vote en bloc, especially if they speak a foreign tongue, defers that day. The one justification of disfranchisement of the blacks in the South, if there is any justification, would be that, as the ex-slaves regain their privilege of voting, they would or might, if carefully treated, divide and become simply American voters.

"As things now stand, we are soon to have a solid German vote, a solid labor vote, a solid capitalist influence, all added to the solid South or set up against it. I am not sure that this is not inevitable as things stand in the world; but why make things worse by ignorant discussion?

"Possibly I ought to say that I am not in any sense a pro-German trying to influence opinion. My feelings and my judgment as well are with the allies. But I think a newspaper which gives the news and comments on the news is so important in this country that an understanding of the

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