

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Nebraska and the West, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and upbuilding of the community and of the race.

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THE REV. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor and Publisher.
Lucille Skaggs Edwards and William Garnett Haynes, Associate Editors.
George Wells Parker, Contributing Editor and Business Manager.

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AGITATION AGAIN WINS

The tremendous protest that went to Washington against the retirement of Lieut.-Col. Young has again demonstrated what the race can do by united action. It shows, too, the power of the Negro press. The press was a unit in its dignified, but insistent demand, that Col. Young's physical incapacity for active service be fully established before he be retired. The physicians' finding that his "blood pressure was too high" was taken with a most liberal allowance of salt by the race throughout the country. His forced retirement would have aroused resentment, as in the light of events which reasonable and thoughtful men cannot ignore, it would have been regarded as a clever ruse to rob us of representation in the higher ranks of the army. Fortunately, however, "for the present," to quote the suggestive words of Secretary Baker, Col. Young is not to be retired. He has been restored to active duty and promoted to Colonel, his promotion dating from June 22. This is a victory won through alert and united action.

Just how elastic the term "for the present" will prove, remains to be seen. But "for the present," agitation again wins. It is now Colonel Young. We indulge the hope that in due time this gallant officer whose record is un tarnished, may become General Young.

ASTOUNDING NEW YORK

The fact that a real estate firm, composed exclusively of Negroes, could purchase property in the city of New York at a cost of \$1,300,000, rub your eyes, you are not dreaming—ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS—for housing our people in comfort, is a striking evidence of the progress we are making.

We wish that we could publish cuts of the magnificent apartments which this enterprising firm has purchased and which made financial New York, accustomed though it is to big deals, catch its breath. Negroes, pooling their own money to swing a deal like that! Astounding!

That this firm should have the confidence, which is not misplaced, that they would be able to secure tenants to make the investment pay is a most hopeful sign. Despite limited opportunities for business training, the race is developing keen, alert business men, who are capable of financial deals that can astound even New York.

This same thing in lesser ratio is happening all over this country.

OMAHA'S NEW COLORED POPULATION

Last week when North Omaha Colored folk were tremblingly awaiting the outburst of a race riot that never happened, a woman called up on the phone and said that certain of The Monitor staff ought to be hanged for bringing so many southerners to Omaha. She didn't leave her name, she was so excited. We hope, however, that she will read the following facts and get busy trying to teach some of the old Omaha Colored folk how to become an asset instead of a liability. About two hundred have been brought to Omaha and about two hundred more will be brought before the cold weather starts in. Of these two hundred, every one is working hard from eight to fourteen hours a day. About sixty have brought their families and half that number have gone to house-keeping. More than eighty have started bank accounts and those who have not are saving their money. Many of them are pooling their earnings and helping friends in the south who have not railroad fare to come west. Quite a number are planning to buy small homes next spring. Two want to lease or purchase small farms near Omaha for truck gardening purposes. All the men's wives who have come north are doing domestic work in an effort to help their husbands gain a foothold and to have their children take the fullest advantage of the excellent system of education furnished by Omaha. One man, a minister, who isn't too proud to work every day with his hands, has started a mission on Lake street to minister to the spiritual needs of those among whom he preached while in the southland. More than seventy intend to go to night school when opened next fall. All of them are good, law-abiding people and of upright Christian character.

This is the type of people The Monitor has brought to Omaha and we are

mighty glad they are here. Possibly they will be able to teach some of Omaha's old citizens something about thrift.

PEOPLE

There are all sorts of people, but they have common sorrows, common experiences and common joys. Let us be kind and helpful and sympathetic towards all people, simply because like us they are people, beset with sins and infirmities. No, this is not a sermon, but it will help you to think about it.

DRAFTED

A proportionately large number of our race have been drafted. We hope to publish the complete Omaha list in our next issue and will appreciate it if those who were drawn will send their names to The Monitor office, as we desire to have the list as accurate as possible.

SKITS OF SOLOMON

The Goat

Be kind to the goat. Not the rocky mountain goat that hurdles the big boulders playing hide and seek with the sportsman; not the back yard goat that makes a dainty breakfast off tin cans and comic supplements; not the trained goat that boosts a new member into the first degree of secret secrecy; nor yet the ancient satyr that wore peg tops of his own woolery and spent his hours flirting with forest chickenry, flutes and rah rah grape juice; but the modern human goat who makes the big mistake of talking the way he feels about things generally. He is the poor mutt who must be satisfied with the bouillon off boiled eggs while the loud mouth patriot who doesn't mean a word he says gets the chance to eat the eggs. If the newspaper reports that the Allies took forty-four miles of trenches and are still a long way from the German base and the goat, knowing that the Germans aren't holding forty-four miles of trench embroidery, essays to say that the paper must be mistaken, he has to make it to the tall timber to keep from being hanged as a traitor and a German spy. The goat believes that reason should have a part in all deliberations, but the scoundrel who clothes himself in patriotism for the chance of snatching a patch of the needful, calls reason sinful. The moral of this symposium remains that if you want to cut a caper and call down the clapping yell yourself hoarse for the flag, cuss anyone who wants to find a reason for our entering the war, and don't forget to boot the goat.

Obvious Observations

The Colored population of Omaha is now over the agony of the terrible psychological riot which took place last week.

Anyone who thought that the draft lottery wouldn't hit the local race boys hard has another guess coming. It was a real sure enough jolt.

If any evangelist could prove that it is hotter in hades than it has been around here this week, heaven ought to be overcrowded.

Russia has the stomach-ache again.

The Allies have temporarily abandoned their drive until a few million "Teddies" can get over to help out. The job proved a bigger one than they bargained for.

Mr. Murphy Spudd has dropped down to a bone and a half per bushel. He has been an aristocrat so long that it must be a hard blow to fall into the plebian class again.

The food control bill has passed congress and the next thing is for prices to come down—that is, if prices can be persuaded to come down.

The old legend that living in the south is cheap, has passed. Southerners coming north say that living is one-third higher down in Bam than north of the M. D. line.

Three million German spies were arrested in the U. S. last week. The country will never be safe until the other twenty millions are all safely eating sauerkraut behind the bars.

Please pass the chipped ice. Thanking you for your most earnest attention, we will now grab the hook and line and find a soft spot under the bending maple beside the old fish pond.

John Ruskin Cigar, 5 cents. Biggest and Best.

ST JOHN'S A. M. E. CHURCH NOTES

Mr. Edward Penn, the only son of Mrs. Nettie Rollins, was buried from the residence of Mrs. Tolsons on No. 25th street Monday afternoon. Mr. Penn though only 22 years old, because of his most excellent disposition had a large number of friends who turned out and gave showers of beautiful floral bouquets and designs in sacred memory of him. When 14 years of age he began working at Jacob Rosenblatt's Grocery and Meat Market as an errand boy at \$6 a week. At the time of his death he was meat cutter and seller at the same store at \$16 a week, the only Colored man in Omaha holding a position of that kind in a store. His ambition and honesty won for him this honor.

The Willing Workers gave a private picnic at Elmwood park, which was the most pleasant and enjoyable outing of the club this season. Several visitors were guests of honor.

The principal characters in "David, the Shepherd Boy," to be presented at the Brandeis theatre August 6th, are: David, tenor, J. Andrew Singleton; Saul, bass, Leroy Kelley; Samuel, baritone, Leon Robinette; Jesse, tenor, W. G. Haynes; Elder tenor, I. R. Maxwell; Abner, bass, J. A. Graves; Abigail, soprano, Miss Darlene Duvall; Michal, alto, Mrs. Maude Ray; attendants, soprano, Miss Pearl Ray; Alto, Mrs. Myrtle Moore. Others will appear in duets, trios and quartettes.

TO THE PUBLIC

Omaha, Neb., July 27, 1917.

To a Kind, Generous Public who have for five years given their hearty support to every literary and musical effort put forth under my management: I take this opportunity to announce that on August 6, at the Brandeis theatre, will appear some of the best singers from the five Negro churches in Omaha, in the sacred cantata "David, the Shepherd Boy." And let me say, when you hear this chorus, the consensus of opinion will be, for quality and range of voices you never listened to more effective harmony and phrasing in solo and chorus work by local talent than will be rendered by this most excellent, large chorus, under the thorough and artistic training of Mr. Ben Stanley, who says: "I am sure of a good rendition." That statement alone is an assurance of a real musical treat. While we have appealed to you at different times to support us in our efforts, we have never before made the appeal with the personal feeling that if there is any consideration to be given our many efforts to render service, not only to St. John but to the public at large whenever called upon, there is no time in our five years' varied career that the demonstration would have been more appreciated by us than now. We are not appealing to you for a large crowd, the great number of cash tickets already purchased assures us of a large crowd. But we are asking for the Omaha public at large to turn out in full. We ask it first, because it is a representative chorus composed of members and friends from Negro churches in Omaha, and truly they are going to make a lasting impression which will effect the entire race for good in this community. Secondly, every day we hear complimentary words of praise, and we appreciate them, from the public who say to us that we have given opportunity to many splendid talents that have been dormant and created an enthusiastic desire and appreciation on the part of the public for the same. You call to memory the hours spent at the phone locating persons regardless of denomination for work by day and by week, which has numbered hundreds of assignments; and the hours spent locating strangers in your homes when asked for rooms, all this without even a desire for recompense. As we go about among you day after day and listen to your kind words of praise, and realizing that we are nearing the end of our assigned work at this place, the thought is, if there is really a public appreciation and gratitude for our feeble efforts in this community these past years at a sacrifice of time and even health itself, if it was known that we would feel the earnest sincerity of the many good things you are saying more keenly at this time because it is our last laborious effort, realizing that a public demonstration would mean much to us, I am sure an advantage would be taken of the very small prices to make it possible for you to have first class seats without much sacrifice. And let me especially invite the Engineers and Firemen's Protective association, whom we had the very great pleasure of addressing in their grand opening over a year ago; the ladies of the N. W. C. H. who have done a great work, who have found us ever ready to render service and every individual and the public at large, we especially invite to be present August 6, at the Brandeis theatre.

Yours for lifting as we climb,
MRS. W. T. OSBORNE.

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SUNDAY

Elmo Lincoln in MIGHT AND THE MAN

Jimmie Dale alias THE GREY SEAL

Ham and Bud Comedy

Jerry Comedy

MONDAY

Triangle Night

Enid Bennett in SEEKING HAPPINESS

Other Features to be Announced.

TUESDAY

Vitagraph Night

Mary Anderson and Antonio Moreno in THE MAGNIFICENT MEDDLER

And Other Interesting Features.

WEDNESDAY

ADVENTURES OF STINGAREE

Hearst-Pathé News

Triangle Comedy

THURSDAY

Helen Holmes in THE RAILROAD RAIDERS

Clara Kimball Young in Triangle Comedy

FRIDAY

Metro Night

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