

# 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

\$1.00 a Year. 5c a Copy.

Omaha, Nebraska, January 1, 1916

Volume I, Number 27

## The Color Question and a Millionaire

Mrs. Frank Leslie, Wife of the Publisher, Supposed to be Daughter of a Slave.

### DETECTIVES TRACE ANCESTRY

Facts Leak Out in Attempt to Set Aside Her Will. Lawful Wife. Money Her Own.

New York, Dec. 30.—The fact that the news has leaked out that the suit brought to set aside the will of the late Mrs. Frank Leslie, widow of the millionaire publisher, is based upon the allegation that she has Negro blood in her veins has created much surprise here. The fact was not known, as the case has been held in secret before Judge Fowler, but when William Nelson Cromwell and Louis H. Cramer filed an accounting the executors of the will let the cat out of the bag.

#### Claim Mother a Slave.

The contention is that Mrs. Leslie's mother was a slave. Her father, it is also claimed, was a rich Southern planter. These claims result from the investigation carried out by the detectives hired by Mr. Westcott, who has been employed by the grandson, who is the main heir. The accounting refers to a payment of \$1,080 to the Schindler National Detective Agency for services in connection with the investigation of the family history of Mrs. Leslie. Another item is a payment of \$100 to an A. S. Wren for a trip to Charleston, S. C., for the same services.

#### History Hard to Find.

The executors have learned that Mrs. Leslie was 78 years old and that she was born in New Orleans. As to the other facts the executors say that Mrs. Leslie's family is hard to trace. Concerning the suit to set aside the bulk of the \$1,800,000 which Mrs. Leslie left to surfrage, the executors said: "The general nature of the claim was that Mrs. Leslie was the illegitimate child of one Charles Follin and a slave, and that she left no heirs at law or next to kin on the part of her mother." According to the heirs on Frank Leslie's side the money should go to them, as the deceased got the money from her husband.

What difference does it make whether she was white, brown or blue? She was his wife and the money was hers to bequeath as she saw fit.

This case is interesting as showing that color and blood have subtle and far-reaching ramifications in many unsuspected quarters in American life.

#### INSTRUCTOR OF PORTERS.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Mr. J. F. Smith, of 4764 Dearborn street, after thirty years of faithful service, has been appointed instructor of porters for the district of Chicago. Under his jurisdiction there are nearly 2,000 men.

## A Happy New Year



SCENE IN RIVERVIEW PARK

## Something To Make You Think

### STRANGER THAN FICTION.

(From Editorial in New York Age)

We reproduced the opinion from the Maine and Massachusetts papers only to throw into stronger relief the opinion from the Courier-Journal. Here is a writer calmly asserting that the slightest tinge of African blood is discernible, if not in the complexion, then in some trait or characteristic betraying inferiority. This is, of course, laughable. Seven-tenths of those who read these lines know of one or more persons of colored blood who are "passing."

But the cause of our digging through our files of clippings about "The Autobiography of an ex-Colored Man" was the recent news in the New York dailies concerning the sensational developments in the proceedings to break the will of Mrs. Frank Leslie, widow of Frank Leslie, the great magazine publisher, in which it was alleged that she was a daughter of Charles Follin of Louisiana, and that her mother was a Negro slave.

Mrs. Leslie was one of the remarkable women of this city. On the death of her husband, the various Leslie publications were in a precarious condition. She took them in hand and, by energy and intelligence, placed them on a paying basis. When she died she left an estate of almost two million dollars.

If Mrs. Leslie was a colored woman, and there are reasons to believe the allegation to be true—a large sum was spent by those who make the allegation in an investigation of Mrs. Leslie's history and pedigree; and in "Who's Who" no mention is made of Mrs. Leslie's mother—we say, if she was a colored woman, her case is stranger than any fiction.

### HORRIBLE THOUGHT.

(Editorial in Chicago Defender)

What can be the feelings of the aristocracy upon learning that they have wined, dined and taken to their bosom for many years one who in the final analysis is discovered to have a drop of dark blood coursing through their veins? How can they ease their conscience? Why was it not discernible in some manner? It could have been done if we are to believe the testimony of some noted experts along the analytical line.

It is said that one rotten apple in a barrel will spoil all the other apples, and to the prejudiced American mind, one drop of colored blood is sufficient to taint all of the rest in the body. At least if it is known it is sufficient to subject the owner to all the indignities heaped upon one more pronounced in

(Continued on third page)

## Improving New York Housing Conditions

Plan the Erection of Modern Tenements For Small Salaried Colored Tenants.

### URBAN LEAGUE IS INTERESTED

Will Conserve Integrity of Family Life Now Endangered by Surroundings.

New York, Dec. 30.—A movement to provide modern and up-to-date model tenements for colored people in New York is being planned by a group of organizations of the city, including representatives from the City and Suburban Homes Company, the National League on Urban conditions among Negroes and the Property Owners' Improvement Corporation. It is contemplated that these houses containing small apartments, will meet the needs of a larger number of small salaried people who are unable now to find suitable living apartments excepting large apartments in which they are compelled to take roomers to meet the high rents.

The committee from the various organizations which has been appointed to carry out this plan consists of Cyrus C. Miller, chairman of the executive committee of the Advisory Council; Allen Robinson, president of the City and Suburban Homes Company; L. Hollingsworth Wood, president of the National League on Urban Conditions among Negroes, and Frank W. Shaw, vice-president of the Property Owners' Improvement Corporation. The project embraces also the erection of hotels, the providing of which, it is hoped, will overcome certain bad conditions which now exist.

#### Negro Tenants Pay Higher Rents.

Notwithstanding the claim that invasion of certain localities by Negroes has depreciated property values, the committee makes the declaration that it has discovered that owners of tenements are getting higher rents from Negro tenants than was received from white tenants in the same houses. The committee estimates also that 32 per cent. of the Negro population of the Harlem district consists of lodgers. This condition, it is claimed, forms a danger to the development of family life.

The model tenements contemplated will be under the supervision of the City and Suburban Homes Company, which has already built a number of model houses for Negroes, and lodging houses will be provided with reading and lounging rooms for the use of tenants. Co-operation is promised to a group of Negro business men who are contemplating the organization of a bank. It is proposed that the board of directors of the bank be composed of both white and colored men, and that the deposits be utilized in taking care of mortgages on properties owned or occupied by Negroes, thus preventing depreciation in values.

# General Race News

## ARMED NEGROES SAVE MEN.

**Men Accused of Killing Indian Police-  
men Spirited Away After Jail  
Doors Were Battered.**

## WERE GARBED AS MILITIAMEN

Muskogee, Okl., Dec. 26.—While a mob of several hundred men surrounded the county jail here tonight threatening to lynch two Negroes accused of slaying a patrolman, 200 armed Negroes kept silent guard in the underbrush of a vacant lot across the street, with the announced intention of opening fire to rescue the accused men should the mob obtain custody of them.

Company F of the Oklahoma National Guard was called out early tonight, when the mob assumed serious proportions and which repulsed two assaults on the jail, waited with fixed bayonets and rifles loaded with ball cartridges for another attack.

One of the repulsed attacks resulted in the battering down of the jail door, but the men in the forefront of the mob, carrying a piece of railroad rail as a battering ram, were driven back before they could get inside.

## Indians Give Aid.

To add to the complicated situation it was rumored that a posse of Cherokee Indians had organized at Talequah and started for Muskogee, twenty-five miles away, determined to avenge the slaying of their fellow tribesman, Sam Neal, the patrolman whom the two Negroes, William Green and Mathis Foreman, are accused of killing while resisting arrest.

While the mob still waited before the jail near midnight the two men were dressed in the uniforms of militiamen and hurried out a rear door. Under heavy guard they were taken safely around the mob to the outskirts of town where automobiles were waiting to carry them to another city, presumably Tulsa.

## Mob Disperses.

Later when it was announced to the mob that Green, the man accused of killing Neal, had been taken away the mob dispersed quietly. The armed Negroes across the street also abandoned their vigil and thus ended a situation which had been growing more serious momentarily, finally, causing threats from the white men that they would charge unless the Negroes went home.

## MAJOR CHARLES YOUNG RETURNS TO AMERICA.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Captain James Gillespie and Lieut. William Roundtree were formally commissioned last week by Secretary of State Lansing and Dr. Ernest Lyon, Liberian Consul-General to the United States, as members of the Liberian constabulary. The ceremony took place at the State Department.

Captain Gillespie will take the place of Maj. Charles Young, who has been ordered home. He will receive \$1,600 a year with \$250 for quarters. He is a former member of the United States army.

Major Young may be placed in charge of the Haitian constabulary should the United States Senate ratify the pending treaty between that country and this.

## DR. DAN WILLIAMS R. R. SURGEONS' GUEST.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 30.—The ninth annual meeting of the Surgical Association of the Chicago and North-western Railway was held this year at Rochester, Minn., December 10 and 11.

The program consisted of clinical demonstrations, advanced bone work, the showing of slides of interesting and unusual fractures, and the reading and discussion of papers on the more practical subjects in railway surgery. The morning of each day was devoted to special clinics at St. Mary's Hospital, to which all members were invited. The afternoons were devoted to addresses, one of which was by H. C. Richards, general claim agent, and the reading of short practical papers and discussions.

There was a short business session the second afternoon for the election of officers. On Friday evening, December 10, a session was held at which addresses, illustrated by lantern slides were given by Drs. E. C. Rosenow, L. B. Wilson, W. A. MacCarty, Wm. F. Braasch, R. D. Carman and Samuel Robinson. The Chicago and North-western Railway also extended the courtesy of a luncheon in honor of the association given at the Kahler Hotel on December 11, at 1:30 p. m.

Dr. Daniel H. Williams, the well known surgeon and physician, was present as a guest of the association. He was the only colored surgeon present. It is at Rochester, Minn., that the famous Mayo Brothers' Surgical Sanitarium is located and Dr. Williams was shown many courtesies and honors during his visit here, participating in the various clinics and otherwise contributing to make the meeting a success.

## COLORED WAITERS USED AS CONDUCTORS.

Easton, Pa., Dec. 30.—For the last three months the Lehigh Valley District Commissary Department has been using waiters as conductors in place of the regular white conductors. The men have made good and there are six colored waiters now running as conductors.

Their names are Joseph Hortman of Philipsburg, N. J., R. C. Hoff of Easton, N. S. Spurlock, M. C. Dalney, C. Oliver and T. M. Jones of Jersey City. The new superintendent, A. Ellaman, who was formerly traveling chief, and who is responsible for giving the colored men the opportunity, is pleased at the showing the men are making.

## CHIEF ENGINEER OF BIG FIRM.

Toronto, Can., Dec. 30.—The Ontario Aeroplane Company, Limited, has appointed as their chief engineer and technical adviser, Mr. Daniel F. Cole, a prosperous and hustling young race man of Detroit, Michigan. This company will make flying machines for the British Army and is promoted and financed by capitalists of this city.

## ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPENED.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 30.—A school for the Negro Roman Catholics was opened at 432 Queen Lane, Germantown, on Monday, December 20, with an attendance of 146. The archbishop blessed it on Saturday and called it St. Catherine's School.

## U. S. GOVERNMENT FIGHTS ENTRY OF FILMS

**Johnson-Willard Bout Pictures to be  
Kept Out of This Country—  
Government Lawyers File  
Answer to Appeal.**

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—There was filed in the supreme court today by Assistant Attorney General Warren the government brief in reply to the appeal of the Jack Johnson prize fight film case, in which the constitutionality of the law of 1912 against the importation for purposes of public exhibition of prize fight films is involved. The owners of the films assert that they only wish to bring the films in for their own use for exhibition and not for sale, and therefore congress has not the constitutional power under the foreign commerce clause to enact a law against them.

The films were taken at the fight at Havana last April between Jess Willard and Johnson. The contention is that showing pictures of a fight is not commerce in the sense that the word is used in the constitution.

The government compares prize fight films with the importation of women under the white slave law, and insists that there need not be sale of the actual objects imported in commerce, but that the use of them after importation constitutes commerce, although ownership is retained by the importer.

The government argument goes still further and holds that even if the thing imported should not be used for public exhibition and should be used only for private enjoyment by the owner, if the law says films "that may be used for public exhibition," that forecloses the whole matter.

## Seals Again Plentiful.

Under the precautions taken to prevent the extinction of the fur seals in Alaska and the Pribilof islands the species has multiplied so rapidly that the bureau of fisheries now recommends that the killing of male seals be resumed.

Ever since the signing of the pelagic treaty between Russia, England, Japan and our own nation, prohibiting the destruction of cow seals upon the high seas, the government has taken an occasional census of the seals. The last of these fixed the number of seals owned by the United States at 301,844, as against less than twenty thousand in 1906.

Besides fur, other possible use of the seal is being considered by the bureau of fisheries. The scarcity of the world's meat supply and the tremendous increase in seals as revealed by the last census suggest the shipping of seal meat to the United States for food. Those who have tasted it say that meat from a young seal is delicious in flavor and that seal steak would be a popular addition to a fashionable hotel menu.

## English Writer's Ignorance.

Duke Chalmers, the essayist, was talking about war writers.

"A great grist of English literary hacks," he said, "were thrown out of regular work when the war began, and so they all turned themselves into 'our military correspondent,' and laddled out optimistic soothing sirup to the public in the daily press at a guinea a column.

"One writer reminds me of the young lady who once carried on a glib naval argument with Admiral Mahan at a dinner. A third person said to her in some astonishment:

"Why, how well you talk up to the admiral on these abstruse naval topics!"

"'Oh,' said the young lady, 'I've only been concealing my ignorance.'"

"'Not at all,' said Admiral Mahan, gallantly. 'Quite the contrary.'"

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**SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU THINK.**  
(Continued from first page.)

color, which proves that color, after all, isn't really the thing that causes friction—if it were so, what would happen to the other dark races who stand in high favor? It is only a reminder that immediately opens a chasm between the two races. Why, no sane person has ever given a plausible solution.

Thousands of instances could be cited where members of the race are successfully "passing." By successful is meant they are giving entire satisfaction in every way to their employer, have reached the highest points along life's social and economic highway. But let it be known that one drop of dark blood is theirs, and the employer discharges them, friends and business associates drop away from them one by one, until they find themselves either alone or back in the fold with their darker brother.

Today the world is startled to find that Mrs. Frank Leslie, who recently passed away, was the child of Charles Follin of New Orleans, and a colored woman who had been a slave. She moved all of her life in the highest social circles, and left by her will something like \$2,000,000 to the woman suffrage movement. Let us suppose she had been discovered some years ago; instead of soaring like an aeroplane she would have dropped like a parachute. Such is justice in this land of the free and home of the brave, even when the almighty dollar is in the balance.

There is honor even among thieves and we who are a shade darker than our brother who is "passing" can brush elbows with him daily, and for his sake, not know him. It is well for the peace of mind of seventy-five per cent of real Americans, especially in the Southern states, that their lineage is not traced as was Mrs. Leslie's.

**EVENTS AND PERSONS.**

The beautiful home of Dr. and Mrs. L. E. Britt, 2519 Maple street, was the scene of unusual gayety on Wednesday afternoon when Shaffer chapter O. E. S. entertained its members with a kensington, followed by a five-course luncheon. The house was artistically decorated with holly Christmas bells and flowers. The members of the chapter look forward to a series of these meetings during the coming season.

The funeral services of John Bone who died Sunday morning at his late residence, 3330 Miami street, was held from the Obee undertaking parlors Tuesday, December 28. The Rev. W. F. Botts officiated.

Miss Margaret Harris of Hudson, Kans., is the guest of Mrs. Josiah Brown, 1514 Burdette street. Miss Hudson formerly taught in Reeves, Okla., and Topeka, Kans.

The Woman's auxiliary of the Church of St. Philip the Deacon give their annual birthday party at the rectory today from 3 to 9 o'clock.

**PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS.**

Mrs. Allen of Marshall, Mo., who has been visiting her daughters, Mrs. E. Vincent and Mrs. Reynolds, left for her home Sunday.

Mrs. T. P. Mahammitt entertained Thursday afternoon of last week in honor of her house guest, Mrs. Barbee of Denver, and of Miss Margaret La Cour, who has returned from California.

Woodrow Macklin, the 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Macklin of Lake street, who has been sick, is recovering.

The Leap Year club will give a ball January 3 at Peterson hall, Twenty-fourth and Burdette streets.

**NEW RECORD MADE.**

The authorities at Muskogee have just established a record that is highly creditable to themselves and very promising for the further advancement of Oklahoma. In withstanding a mob bent on lynching two accused Negroes, these officials have performed a real service not only to their community, but to civilization generally. It has long been the prevalent

practice in the southland of this country for the sheriff, or whoever happened to be in charge of the prisoner, to make a "little resistance," after which the mob would have its way. Mobs have even penetrated into a state's prison and taken therefrom a man later on to be lynched. This practice has not been entirely confined to the south, but is reprehensible wherever it exists. It is lawlessness carried to the limit, and is subversive of every element of freedom. Our liberties finally rest upon the law and under our form of government, no sophistry nor inverse logic should be permitted to excuse or palliate mob violence. If the example of Oklahoma has its proper effect, we will hear of fewer lynchings.—Editorial Omaha Bee.

**NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.**

Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned, in order to form a corporation for the purposes hereinafter stated, under and pursuant to the provisions of the laws of the State of Nebraska, do hereby certify as follows:

**ARTICLE I.  
NAME.**

The name of the corporation shall be, Obee Undertaking Co.

**ARTICLE II.  
LOCATION.**

The location of its principal and registered office shall be in the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, but this corporation is empowered and authorized to maintain and conduct offices in any part of the United States.

**ARTICLE III.  
NATURE OF BUSINESS.**

The objects for which this corporation is formed are: To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, lease or otherwise acquire, and to own, hold, buy or sell, convey, lease, mortgage and incumber real estate, and other property, personal or mixed.

To enter into, make, perform and carry out contracts of every kind or for any lawful purpose, with any person, firm, association or corporation, so far as the same may be necessary and incidental to the carrying out of the purposes of this corporation.

To mortgage, sell, convey or otherwise dispose of real, personal or mixed property.

To carry on a general undertaking business; to manufacture any and all goods necessary for use in or about the conduct of a general undertaking business.

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Without in any manner or in any particular limiting any of the objects or powers of the corporation, it is hereby expressly declared and provided, that the corporation shall have power to issue bonds and any other obligations in payment for property purchased or acquired by it, or for any other object in or about its business.

To mortgage or pledge any stocks, bonds or other obligations, or any property which may be acquired by it; to secure any bonds or obligations by it issued or incurred; to guarantee any dividends or bonds or contracts or other obligations; to make and perform contracts of any kind and description; and in carrying on its business, or for the purpose of attaining or furthering any of its objects; to do any and all other acts and things and to exercise any and all other powers which a co-partnership or natural person could do or exercise and which now or hereafter may be authorized by law.

The foregoing clause shall be construed both as objects, and powers, and it is hereby expressly provided that the foregoing enumeration of specific powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of this corporation.

**ARTICLE IV.  
CAPITAL STOCK.**

The total authorized capital stock of this corporation is twenty thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars, divided into two hundred (200) shares of the par value of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars each, to be fully paid at the commencement of the business of this corporation.

**ARTICLE V.  
COMMENCEMENT OF BUSINESS.**

This corporation shall begin business on the 27th day of December, 1915, and continue fifty (50) years unless dissolved by the vote of four-fifth of the capital stock of the corporation, or unless otherwise dissolved according to law.

**ARTICLE VI.  
INDEBTEDNESS.**

The highest amount of indebtedness

or liability to which this corporation shall at any time be subject to, shall not exceed two-thirds of the paid-up and subscribed capital stock of the corporation.

**ARTICLE VII.  
DIRECTORS.**

The directors of this corporation shall be three in number and the incorporators of this corporation shall act as directors of the same until the first annual meeting of the stockholders and until their successors are elected and qualified.

**ARTICLE VIII.  
OFFICERS.**

The officers of this corporation shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer; and the President Vice-President and Treasurer shall be members of the Board of Directors. The holding of one office by any member of the Board of Directors shall not preclude such director from holding any other office to which he may be elected by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IX.  
ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the stockholders of this corporation shall be held at its offices in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, on the second Tuesday in February of each year.

**ARTICLE X.  
AMENDMENTS.**

These articles of incorporation may be amended at any regular meeting of the stockholders by a two-thirds vote of the stock represented at such meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment, however, to be served upon each and every stockholder of the corporation not less than thirty days prior to the date of such meeting.

The affairs of this corporation shall be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the corporation.

G. WADE OBBE,  
ELNORA K. OBBE,  
THOMAS ADAMS,

Incorporators.

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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. Fryor, Associate Editors.

Joseph LaCour, Jr., Advertising and Circulation Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES, \$1.50 PER YEAR

Advertising rates, 5¢ an inch per issue.

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## A NOTABLE EDITORIAL.

A highly esteemed Omaha friend, who is an enthusiastic Socialist, has thoughtfully sent us a notable editorial on Booker T. Washington, which was published in The Call, of New York City, the leading Socialist daily of the country, in its issue of November 16.

The editorial discusses Washington's influence and the future task before race leaders with a breadth of vision rarely found among the newspapers of the day.

The Call perceives clearly that there is still a task before the race in this country and that is the securing of equality of opportunity and privileges as American citizens.

That contest is here and now. The American Negro, because he is an American, with American ideals, will never be satisfied until he receives every right to which he is entitled. He will not shirk his duties, but he will be and must be, insistent for his rights.

The Call well says: "It IS necessary to fight, that the rights of citizenship, of the franchise, of education, of the right to live their lives be given to the Negroes."

But here is the editorial. Read it, meditate upon it and take courage:

"It is difficult to speak of the late Booker T. Washington without enthusiasm. The story of his life is a romance, a miracle. The story books tell of such careers as the one that has just closed at Tuskegee, but real life shows few of them.

Washington was one of the most vital leaders of a great race, and he came in a time when leaders like him were needed. He made his mark. And long before he died other leaders, other messages and other ideals were the need of his race.

The South never loved the Negro unless he was a slave. Today the South hates the Negro unless he is a good lickspittle. After the civil war had closed its murderous course the Negro was in a position that would have meant massacres on a terrifying scale if it were not for leadership of the kind that Washington furnished.

At the close of the war the Negroes were free men and women, and the Confederate soldiers, were, temporarily no longer citizens. That meant that practically every white man in the South was without a vote and that every Negro had a vote. The Negroes had just come up from slavery; the whites were thrown into spasms at the sight of their former slaves in the saddle politically. Hence, the Reign of Terror of the Ku-klux bandits; hence the blood that was shed.

The Federal Government was in the hands of Union veterans, and the motto was: "To the victor belong the fruits of victory." And that meant the degradation of the South and 'the

galling yoke of Negro domination' on the high-spirited Southern Bourbons, slave holders, aristocrats and sublimated gangsters. Into this atmosphere surcharged with electricity, into this country full of hate and terror, came Booker T. Washington with his message to the Negroes to be gentle, to cease being arrogant, to learn to be good workers in various trades to fit them for their new citizenship before learning the classics and the frills of education.

That was Washington's message, and it was well taught. The Negroes who followed him, the thousands of children who went through his school, the hundreds of thousands who looked up to him, felt that the one thing to be desired above all else was the goodwill of the Southerners. And they proceeded to get it. They got it by personal service. They got it too often, by making themselves nothing but men and women with the souls of servants and Pullman porters.

Washington's work is done. Other men and women with the broad outlook of life that Washington never had are taking it up and teaching the Negroes to be men, to demand the rights of American citizens.

The war is fifty years in the past. It is over. The wounds have healed. It is no longer necessary to lick the boots of lynching parties in order to be allowed to live. It IS necessary to fight that the rights of citizenship of the franchise, of education, of the right to live their own lives be given to the Negroes. That fight was not Washington's fight. Other men are taking that fight up. But when Washington began his work his task was as great as the task of the present day's fighters for absolute equality of opportunity for the Negro. And for the courage, the intrepidity, the heroism of that fight there is the greatest honor due—the former illiterate, fatherless slave."

## BETTER HOUSING CONDITIONS.

We publish elsewhere in this issue an item from New York City dealing with an effort to provide better housing conditions for the colored people of that city. To one who is only slightly acquainted with rental conditions confronting the race in all large cities and especially where there is such congestion as obtains in New York, the need for such a movement cannot be questioned.

In Omaha such congestion does not obtain, but the situation controlling proper housing conditions for respectable colored tenants is relatively as acute here as elsewhere. This condition must be met here sooner or later. Morality depends to a large degree on proper housing conditions and the segregation of the vicious and depraved.

Press dispatches from Muskogee, Okla., tell how two colored men accused of shooting a policeman, while resisting arrest at his hands, were prevented from being lynched by the presence of 200 armed men of the race who announced their intention of opening fire on the mob should the mob obtain custody of the prisoners. The presence of these determined men prevented the lynching. The authorities managed to get the militia on the ground, the sheriff managed to remove the accused. If these "200 armed Negroes" had not been on the ground, the same old bluff of pretending to protect the accused would have been given to the public and the

bullet-riddled, dangling bodies of two Negroes, murdered by a civilized American mob, of "the superior race" would have been "viewed by thousands, etc." We are pleased to note in Oklahoma this evidence of manhood. If this spirit is manifested elsewhere lynchoeracy will go.

February 1st we raise our subscription price to \$1.50 a year. Send in your subscription now and get the benefit of the \$1.00 rate.

Make one good resolution and keep it. Don't attempt too much at one time.

A happy and prosperous New Year.



## Our JANUARY WHITE SALE Begins Monday, January 3

This sale is going to be the greatest of its kind in our history. Although cotton prices are at a great height, we placed our orders months ago under favorable conditions, and we have plenty of the fine, dainty materials for this great sale.

It comprises the following departments, which will offer their best values and best assortments: American Muslim Underwear, White Petticoats, Kimonos, Corsets, Boudoir Accessories, Negligees, Yard Goods, Linens, French Underwear, Silk Petticoats, Infants' and Children's Underwear, Lingerie Dresses, Blouses.

And all departments in which white merchandise is a feature.

And, quite as important to the success of the sale, we found some of the best manufacturers more than willing to co-operate and make concessions to secure large and early orders. The results of patient and painstaking preparations are splendid and well assorted stocks of white goods at prices that make it well worth while to buy a plentiful supply.

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# Events and Persons

In Which You Will Be More or Less Interested.  
News for This Department Must Be Received by Wednesday Night.

Our telephone number is Webster 4243.

The Crescent Whist club met with Mrs. S. Long Tuesday. Mrs. P. White won first prize, a handpainted plate. The booby was won by Mrs. L. A. Sayles. The hostess was presented with a handpainted plate.

The Eureka Art class met with Mrs. W. M. Jackson last Wednesday and closed a very successful year. Many beautiful pieces of art and crochet being completed by the members of the club. The next meeting, Wednesday, January 5, will be with Mrs. Lucinda Smith Davis, the teacher who will entertain the club with a doll party, and all work completed during the year will be exhibited.

Miss Helen Hagan, famous pianist, winner of Yale University Conservatory scholarship, will give a recital in Omaha February 10th, under the auspices of the Church of St. Philip the Deacon.—Adv.

The North Omaha Woman's club wishes to thank St. John's A. M. E. church, Daughters of Bethel and the many friends who so willingly donated towards the Christmas offering for the people of our race at the county hospital. We were enabled to fill large Christmas boxes with apples, oranges, nuts, candy, a glass of jelly, two pairs of woolen socks, two handkerchiefs and 50 cents in money for each man, and a similar box with a large white apron, two pairs of woolen stockings, two handkerchiefs, for the women. We also gave candy and apples to many of the white inmates, and socks and handkerchiefs to some of the men. We donated \$1 to Mrs. Bessie Early. Again we thank you, for without your help we would have been unable to make our people happy this Christmas. Lulu Rountree, president; Josephine Harris, secretary.

Mrs. Josephine Daniels of Denver, Colo., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John W. Bell, 913 North Twenty-third street.

Mrs. C. G. Garrett, 2754 Harney street, left for St. Louis, Mo., Monday night for a two weeks' visit with her sister, Mrs. Mattie Franklin.

Helen Hagan, February 10.

The rehearsal for the cantata, Queen Esther, will be held January 11 at 8 p. m. at St. John's church. Each one is expected to have his own book. They can be purchased at A. Hospe's for 45 cents.

From over the hills and far away jolly old St. Nicholas came bounding early on Christmas morning and left a nine-pound baby at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Butts. Mother and daughter doing well.

Arthur Campbell, who was seriously injured some weeks ago, is improving and will soon be able to leave St. Joseph's hospital.

Harold Bently, one of Omaha's promising youths, who is learning the tailoring trade at Quindaro, Kans., is home for the Christmas holidays. He is much pleased with his school.

Mrs. Isaac Bailey has sufficiently recovered from her recent serious operation to be able to be removed from St. Joseph's hospital to her home, 2816 Pratt street.

Mrs. Grace Hutten, who has been spending her Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Morris, left yesterday for Buxton, Ia., where she resumes teaching.

John R. Taliaferro, who has a homestead near Keystone, Neb., with his son, Sylvester, has returned to Omaha for the winter months.

The children of St. Philip's Sunday school had a pleasant time at their Christmas tree and party Tuesday night.

The Elite Whist club gave a glancing party at Holmes' hall Monday night.

The New Era Dramatic club held their regular meeting Friday night, December 24, and rehearsed the play, "Kentucky Belle," which they are preparing for presentation at an early date. At the close of the rehearsal the club attended the Christmas tree exercises at St. John's A. M. E. church and spent a pleasant evening.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of St. Philip the Deacon will give their annual birthday party at St. Philip's rectory, from 3 o'clock to 9 p. m. on New Year's day.

The funeral of Mrs. Lulu Thomas, who died suddenly Christmas day, was held Tuesday from the residence of Mrs. Ella Sizemore, North Twenty-third street. The Rev. G. G. Logan, pastor of Grove M. E. church, officiated and Banks & Wilks were the undertakers.

The Elite Whist club met at the residence of Mrs. T. S. Riggs, 3112 Corby street, Wednesday of last week. The prize was won by Mrs. Edward West.

Mrs. Hockley of 2517 Lake street, is quite ill.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Reed entertained at dinner Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Reed and their son Andrew.

W. D. Brown and Asa May Johnson were married at the Mecca Roller skating rink Wednesday night, December 29. The Rev. W. F. Botts officiated.

Miss Bobbie Turner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Turner, has been confined to the house for two weeks.

Miss Lena Paul gave a surprise whist party on her sister, Mrs. William Peebles, Christmas night. The prizes were won by Mr. Lee Allen, Mrs. J. S. La Cour and Miss Margaret Harris.

Mrs. Gertrude Marshall has returned from Chicago to spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Tolson.

The Mecca roller rink was opened with a dance December 23. On Christmas day the rink was formally opened to skaters.

## A. P. SIMMONS

1322 Dodge St.

The Ess-Tee-Dee Man, wishes his many friends and patrons a most hearty and happy New Year, and many thanks for your patronage. A continuance of same will be appreciated.

RICH FLAVOR: APPEALINGLY FRAGRANT

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The barber who made Omaha famous, desires to thank his many friends and patrons for their past patronage and wishes them a prosperous New Year.

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Listerine.....12c, 19c, 39c 59c  
25c Laxative Bromo Quinine...19c  
25c Mennen's Talcum.....12c  
Mentholatum (genuine).....14c  
50c Pape's Diapepsin.....29c  
25c Packer's Tar Soap.....14c  
\$1 Pinkham's Compound.....64c  
50c Pebecco Tooth Paste.....34c  
\$1 Pinaud's Lilas Vegetal.....59c  
Sal Hepatica.....19c, 34c 64c  
50c Syrup of Figs.....34c  
Scott's Emulsion.....34c  
25c Tiz, for Tender Feet.....14c

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Studio Patterson Bldg.

## Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards.

### OUR RESOLUTION

We are entering upon the threshold of a new year. Another year freighted with its sorrows, its joys, its despairs, its hopes and its great possibilities. It is a time when we make new resolutions, and many of us, when we fail in the keeping, fall back into the "old rut" and "give up."

Each day is the beginning of a new year; each day is full of fresh opportunities for doing good, for "going and growing." Each day we may gain fresh impetus, new strength, greater desires to attain our ideals. "Just for today" the poet pleads for strength and grace. Today alone is ours and each day is given us that we may lift and be lifted. It matters not what the past has been, not what yesterday was; today is ours to make of it what we will.

Let us then each day be "still achieving, still pursuing," for "today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope."

L. S. E.

### LEARN FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

No fault of child training is as frequent or as glaring as the general assumption that the child should be taught to think as it elders think, and that the point of view and the motive of the child are the same as the point of view and the motives of the parents.

The mother who is most successful in training her children is she who cultivates most carefully the memory of her own childhood, and retains the freshness of mind, the openness to impressions, the habit of unconventional thinking, which enable her to view each circumstance of her child's life separately, and deal with each of its problems with sympathy, reason and justice, regardless of the habits and customs of her neighbors or friends toward their children.

There is no fixed single rule that applies to all children under a given set of conditions. The problem may be the same in a thousand cases, and yet no two out of the thousand children can be handled in quite the same way, with satisfactory results.

Keep your memory of your own childhood fresh. Cultivate wholesome sympathy toward nature, and especially toward every small living creature. You cannot train your child effectively unless you first understand it. Therefore, instead of trying to force it to understand you, devote your best energies to arriving at full understanding of the child. Learn from your children.—Mothers' Magazine.

### THE NEW YEAR.

Amid a world-wide hush, the old year dies;  
Its every word and deed beyond recall,  
By all our vain regrets, and tears and sighs,  
For the Recording Angel has them all.  
But hark! Upon the list'ning ear doth fall  
The chimes, which herald that the year is new;  
Bring out the swaddling clothes, and hide the pall,  
Take up thy work, thy destiny to hew,  
What has been done is gone, be heedful what ye do.

—Mrs. W. B. Hogan.

### MISS HELEN HAGAN.

The Sunday Register of New Haven, Conn., says of Miss Helen Hagan, the brilliant concert pianist who will be heard in Omaha, February 10th:

"Her playing brought down the house. Her natural gifts consist of a musicianly instinct, a certain emotion and sensibility, with rather more than a spark of the divine fire, the possession of which is beyond money and beyond price."

### HE WASN'T EVEN MISSED.

Proof That a Bridegroom is the Least Important Part of a Wedding.

There was to be a wedding of great importance in colored circles. Preparations were made for weeks and a big crowd turned out on the auspicious evening.

Next day the wife of a judge chanced to meet the happy bride, who had formerly been her maid.

"Well, Martha," said Mrs. J. "did you have a big wedding?"

"Deed Ah did, missus; 'deed Ah did; the mos' splendiferous occasion of de season."

"Receive many handsome presents?"

"Yes'm, yes'm, de hull house was just crowded wiv de gifts."

"Did you have your house nicely decorated?"

"Yes'm, yes'm. Everybody done wear der very best, look jes' lak a white folks' dress affaia, yes'm."

"And yourself, Martha, how did you look?"

"Ah was suttinly some scrumptious, yes'm. Ah done wore mah white bridal dress, an' orange blossoms, yes'm. Ah was some kid."

"And the bridegroom, how did he appear?"

"De bridegroom? Aw, dat trifflin' low down houn' dawg, he didn't show up at all, but we had a magnificent occasion wivout him, jest de same."—National Food Magazine.

### PLAYING SANTA CLAUS.

We received the following letter, with enclosure, for which we are grateful and which we were pleased to use for the purpose designated:  
Dec. 20, 1915.

Rev John Albert Williams,  
Omaha,

Dear Sir—Could I ask you the favor of buying a gift for some colored child, who will not have much of a Christmas.

I am sending only \$2.00, but the good wishes that go with it are large. Kindly do not publish my name.

Very truly,

### OLD FOLKS' HOME FUND.

No one is authorized to solicit for The Monitor's Old Folks' Home fund. Contributions must be sent or brought to the office of The Monitor. A receipt on a printed form will be given to each contributor. His name and the amount will be published in our columns. As soon as \$100 is received it will be turned over to the treasurer of the Negro Women's Christian association to be paid on the property, and a copy of the receipt from the treasurer and from the real estate agent to whom payment is made will be published in this paper.

Acknowledgments.

Nov. 1, E. W. Pryor.....\$5.00

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## We Wish You a Happy and Prosperous New Year

"Ring out the old  
Ring in the new,  
Ring out the false  
Ring in the true."

These lines from Tennyson are suggestive at this season. And that reminds us to remind you that we have some rare bargains in books.

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## Science Notes

BY WILLIAM G. HAYNES.

### MASTICATION AND FOOD UTILIZATION.

Again and again in every day life we find that some dictum which either commends itself to common sense or lends itself freely to argumentative proof is being made the basis of a widespread propaganda. What was more reasonable than to assume that water ingested with meals would dilute the gastric juice and thus diminish the proteolytic efficiency? And what was more logical than to urge the abolition of such an assumedly harmful custom of water drinking? Yet, investigation has showed that some of the postulates in this contention are wrong, and that unsuspected factors further vitiate the conclusions. Indeed, under certain conditions water may even promote the gastric secretion, and thus upset the revered traditions.

The proper mastication of food has certain obvious justifications. It promotes a more extensive insalivation, which is not without advantage to certain types of foodstuffs, and it permits a speedier admixture of the alimentary digestive secretions with the individual comminuted food particles. Enthusiasts have not been content with the insistence of these indisputable advantages, but have attempted to infuse far-reaching effects into the habit of very complete mastication. We may be ready to admit that insufficient mastication is the cause of direct or indirect evils which may be greatly exaggerated in certain pathologic conditions. When, however, we are urged to chew our food with unremitting vigor because it "secures proper insalivation of food, increases the quantity of alkaline saliva passing into the stomach, stimulates the heart and circulation, influences the nutrition of the jaws and their appendages by stimulating blood and lymph circulation, and, finally, tends to diminish the amount of food consumed because it is more economically disposed of in the system," one may well pause to make a few related inquiries. Where is the borderline between "truth and poetry" in these matters?

The two extremes of practice are doubtless represented by under-mastication, as involved in the hasty bolting of food, and over-mastication, to which the epithet "fletcherizing" is sometimes applied. Foster and Hawk have completed studies of the utilization of typical protein as influenced by different degrees of mastication. The principal protein constituent of the diet was cooked beef in the form of 15-millimeter cubes. It happened that protein utilization was most complete as the result of good mastication, and least complete when bolting was practiced. The output of fecal nitrogen was highest during the food bolting, and macroscopic meat residues appeared in every stool under such conditions. Yet the discrepancies in the protein utilization during these extremes of mastication averaged only 1.6 per cent.

Such insignificant differences surely cannot be used in support of any enthusiastic claims for the alleged marvelous efficiency of the excessive mastication of food, even when judged by the other extreme of food bolting.

In another recently published series of experiments on man in which vegetable products, notably potatoes and

cereal breads, formed the prominent articles of diet, utilization was apparently improved by good mastication. Neither these nor the earlier quoted results are to be taken as an appeal for the complete indifference in the matter of eating, but rather as an indication of the rationality of that happy medium of performance in mastication which is usually a sign of physiologic wisdom in other functions. —Journal of the American Medical Association.

### PRESERVING "CASTE" IN ENGLISH HOSPITALS.

The employment of men from the East Indies, among whom caste customs are strictly observed, in the British fighting line in France has brought about unusual conditions. How this "caste" question affects a hospital is told in a London letter in the Medical Record. The hospital referred to is located at Brighton, and the correspondent says:

"Major S. James, chief of the hospital, which is equipped for two thousand patients and is run by officers of the Indian medical service, described the provision made for enabling Indians to live in accordance with the customs of their own country, and pointed out various conditions which must be strictly observed to prevent patients losing caste. They had to serve eight separate diets, cooked in twenty-one cookhouses in the hospital grounds, for the patients. For the staff sixteen other cookhouses were in use in the village. The Hindu cooks have to be of the same caste as the patients they cook for, or else higher. No beef is allowed inside the hospital, as the cow is a sacred animal to Hindus. Bacon and pork are also prohibited. As Indians must themselves slaughter the sheep they use for food, and in their special manner, a slaughter house has been provided for them. Hindus sweep off the head of the animal with a single stroke of a talwar or sword. For Mohammedans the mouth of the animal must be pointed toward Mecca.

"The hospital requires 60 or 70 gallons of water per man a day—not so much when it is remembered that an Indian must bathe before prayer, and that a good Mohammedan must pray five times a day. The flooding of the bathrooms is a common trouble, as the patients neglect to turn off the water. Before the electric light was in use they persisted in blowing out the gas, so there was always danger of poisoning. As Hindus who die must be cremated by members of their own caste, a site has been set apart for this, and the funeral ceremonies can be carried out as precisely as in India.

"Mr. Clement (Deputy Surveyor) estimated the consumption of water at the Kitchener Hospital as over 100 gallons a day. He added that one amiable failing of the Indian was to turn on the hot water and wait till it cooled to a comfortable temperature for bathing."

### INFECTION FROM THE CIGAR-CUTTER.

To the list of utensils in common use that are being stigmatized as carriers of infection is now added the cigar-cutter, as it appears on the counter of the tobacconist, in hotels, restaurants, and other public places. To quote and condense an article in American Medicine (New York):

"When it is recognized how easily the cigar cutter may be the means of spreading infection, and infection of a dangerous nature, the days of this article of convenience will be numbered. To illustrate, a person will often after he has first held his cigar in his mouth

step to the counter and put his cigar into the cutter. This thoughtless yet dangerous habit is so common that it can be witnessed time after time at every cigar stand. Undoubtedly it has been one of the principal means of spreading infection among those who smoke cigars, and it is high time that an agent so potent for harm was abolished."—Literary Digest.

### EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE ELECTS OFFICERS.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 30.—At the eighth annual convention of the National Equal Rights League recently held in this city, the following officers were elected: The Rev. Byron Gunner, New York, president; William Monroe Trotter, Massachusetts, corresponding secretary; Dr. J. L. Johnson, Ohio, recording secretary; Thomas Walker, Washington, D. C., treasurer; the Rev. Reverdy C. Ransom, New York, national organizer; J. E. Churchman, New Jersey, assistant organizer; Dr. W. A. Sinclair, Pennsylvania, financial secretary; the Rev. E. George Biddle, Connecticut, chaplain.

**REMEMBER**—That the firms who advertise in this paper expect and appreciate YOUR PATRONAGE. Advertising is a BUSINESS, not a charitable proposition. If you wish to boost The Monitor—if you wish to help make it the best Race Paper in the country—patronize these firms and tell them that you saw their advertisement in The Monitor.

### Tenant Defense Leagues.

The workers' war emergency committee of Great Britain, in consideration of the increase of house rents throughout the country, are organizing conferences to be held in all the chief industrial centers within the next few weeks with a view to forming tenant defense leagues. These leagues are to organize the tenants with the object that they shall refuse to pay the increased house rents during the war. It has been indicated that the government would take action against the abusive demands of landlords, but the workers' war emergency committee will carry out their present plans.

### Dawn Near Armentieres.

One of the most poignant memories, it may be that I have brought back from the war is the unearthly beauty of the dawn in that low country, writes a British captain in the Atlantic Monthly. Morning after morning I watched it, and the wonder never ceased. Water, mirroring willows and the silvery sky, stood ever in the foreground; the low farm houses lay mysterious; the battered church was whole again. With the full light and an awakened world the picture was commonplace; in the half light and the silence its beauty seemed the one spiritual element in a ravaged world.

### First Telegraphing.

New world's records for fast and accurate telegraphing were made at the international telegraphic tournament in San Francisco a few weeks ago.

Richard C. Bartley transmitted the fastest and most perfect "Morse" by ticking off 40 railroad messages without an error in 28 minutes and 13 seconds, and beating the automatic transmitters.

George W. Smith, Jr., won the receiving contest by taking and transcribing without an error 40 railroad messages in 31 minutes and 12 seconds.

### American Linotype to Africa.

The first American linotype machine has recently arrived in Tripoli, Africa, and been installed by La Nuova Italia, the only newspaper in the colony.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

RATES—1½ cents a word for single insertions, 1 cent a word for two or more insertions. No advertisement for less than 15c. Cash should accompany advertisement.

### FURNISHED ROOMS FOR RENT.

Room for rent with heat; hot and cold water. Mrs. M. C. Sands, 2709 Corby street. Webster 5017.

For Rent—Five room furnished cottage, modern except heat, 2413 No. 29th St. On Dodge car line. Call Webster 1931.

Comfortable furnished rooms, 2409 Blondo street. Mrs. W. B. Smith. Webster 6376.

Mrs. L. M. Bentley-Webster, first class modern furnished rooms, 1702 N. 26th St. Phone Webster 4769.

Nicely furnished room for respectable lady; private family, home privileges with board if desired. Web. 7551.

Nicely furnished front room. Modern except heat. Mrs. R. Gaskin, 2606 Seward street. Webster 4450.

Furnished rooms for rent, modern, reasonable, for men only. 2899 Cumming St. Hubert Thompson.

Modern furnished rooms, 1819 Izard street. Tyler 2519.

Nicely furnished rooms with hot and cold water. \$1.50 and up per week. Close to car line. Mrs. Hayes, 1826 North 23rd street. W. 5639.

Nicely furnished room for married couple; hot and cold water; on Dodge and Twenty-fourth car lines. Mrs. Annie Banks, 912 North 20th St. Phone Doug. 4379.

WANTED—Correspondents and subscription solicitors for The Monitor in Nebraska cities and towns.

Furnished rooms, modern; two blocks from car line. Mrs. E. M. Bryan, 2615 Patrick.

### FOR SALE—REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE—An eight-room house, strictly modern, 2722 North 30th St. Terms. Webster 3602.

If you have anything to dispose of, a Want Ad in The Monitor will sell it.

### WANTED.

Respectable young widow woman wants position as housekeeper. Will exchange references. Mrs. Esters. Call Harney 6385.

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## News of the Lodges and Fraternities

### Masonic.

Rough Ashler Lodge No. 74, A. F. & A. M., Omaha Neb. Meetings first and third Tuesdays in each month. J. H. Wakefield, W. M.; E. C. Underwood, Secretary.

Excelsior Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursdays in each month.

Zaha Temple No. 52, A. E. A. O. U. M. S., Omaha, Neb. Meetings the fourth Wednesday in each month. N. Hunter, Ill. Potentate; Charles W. Dickerson, Ill. Recorder.

Shaffer Chapter No. 42, O. E. S., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Friday in each month. Maggie Ransom, R. M. Elhora Obee, Secretary.

Rescue Lodge No. 25, A. F. & A. M., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Monday in each month. Lodge rooms, Twenty-fourth and Charles streets. William Durrell, W. M.; H. Warner, Secretary.

Omaha Lodge No. 146, A. F. and A. M., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Fridays of every month. Lodge room 1018 Douglas street. Will N. Johnson, W. M.; Wynn McCulloch, Secretary.

Keystone Lodge No. 4, K. of P., Omaha, Neb. Meetings first and third Thursday of each month. C. Lewis, C. C.; A. Marshall, K. of R. S.

Western Star No. 1, K. of P.—Meetings second and fourth Thursdays in each month. J. N. Thomas, C. C.; E. R. Robinson, K. of R. and S.

Omaha Lodge No. 2226, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. Meeting nights, the first and third Thursdays of each month. Lodge rooms, 2522 1/2 Lake street. L. S. Moates, N. G.; J. C. Belcher, Cor. Secretary.

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