

THE VOICE



STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 LINCOLN NEBRASKA
 STATE CAPITAL

VOL. 7, No. 14

Nebraska—Official and Legal Newspaper

February 5, 1953

Mr. and Mrs. Colley Lincoln's Pioneer



Mr. and Mrs. Walter Colley

The greatest success story that this writer has ever witnessed, does not involve having accumulated a million dollars, but instead something of which money cannot buy.

Sitting and talking with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Colley one evening, this writer could feel the flow of love and understanding that passed between these two very wonderful people.

I first met these two lovely people while serving as an usher in Quinn Chapel Church. Each Sunday, rain, shine, sleet or snow these two old people would come to church. I found myself looking for them.

Meeting them at the door, I would shake Walter Colley's hands and feel the warmth of friendship flow between two unknowns, yet here was fellowship. After having the pleasure of meeting the Colleys, he would call me The Voice man. Just to have him call me a name was heart-warming.

These two people made me glow with wonder when they related the life they have had in 63 years together. The hardships he experienced while trying to organize his own band; how he joined the church on Nov. 20, 1892, how she joined Pa's church in order to keep the family together, how after all these years they have a piece of the shroud of their 16 month old baby girl whom they lost all these things small but to them they mean everything because they experienced them together.

Ma and Pa Colley as they are fondly referred to, have been Lincoln residents since 1905, and members of Quinn Chapel since coming here from Lexington, Mo. During this time they have served side by side in every capacity of the church. Until four years ago when Ma Colley became ill, they sang in the choir. Even now Pa Colley has a clear and distinct tenor voice that rings out melodiously above the voices of the congregation.

These two very happy people, who have lived, and loved through these years, together, had four children, three of whom are living now. Each having accomplished something in their own right. They are Mrs. Iezetta Malone, widow of the late Clyde Malone,

who was at the time of his death, executive secretary of the Urban League, Mrs. Helen Randol, wife of the President of the Northside Improvement Association, George Randol, and Horace Colley, owner of a very successful fur establishment.

Pa Colley who is 82 being a typical man plays sick when it comes time to help Ma who is 77, wash dishes. The years have been kind to Ma and Pa Colley in that their love and understanding of each other shines as a light in their faces.

What more of a success story could you ask for?

Ma and Pa Colley, The Voice salutes you.

Library Announcement

On Saturday, February 7, there will be four color cartoons presented by the Lincoln Library in the Assembly Room. Cartoons to be shown are: **DIANA IN AFRICA, PUSS IN BOOTS, WACKY WEED** and **SNOW MAN IN JULY**. Showings are at 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. All children are invited to attend.

Names in the News

Charley Jones, Baltimore, Md., and Charles B. Ball, Kansas City, Mo., were mid-year graduates of the University of Nebraska.

Jones received a bachelor of science in electrical engineering. He has several offers but has not made a choice.

Bell received a bachelor of science degree in education. He majored in speech and political science. He is moving to Minneapolis there he plans to enter a law College.

Thomas Estes, who died here Sunday, had lived in Lincoln probably as long as any Negro citizen. He had appeared on a number of programs telling about Negroes in Lincoln's early history.

Understand that John Roberts has been released from the hospital and has gone to Chicago to undergo further examination. Mrs. Corinne Neal is now convalescing at her home. Mrs. Essie Roy has been added to the mounting sick list. Louis B. Henderson

Today's Thought

The excellency of knowledge is that wisdom preserveth the life of him that hath it.
Eccles. 7:12

The First Lady Meets The Voice

The Capital City has been captured by the sweet simplicity and warm graciousness of its first lady—Mrs. Betty Crosby.

In a warm and informal interview with the first lady, this writer was much impressed with her deep sincerity and straight forwardness.

A typical American homemaker, "Muffs" as she is fondly referred to by the Governor, experiences all of the small quirks that make up the average day; such as His Honor, calling 30 minutes before meal time to inform her that he is bringing a distinguished guest home for dinner.

The first lady has just returned from North Platte, after spending the week end with their son, Robert Jr. The trip was made doubly enjoyable, because she saw North Platte High win the Lincoln County Conference Championship for the second consecutive year.

Governor Crosby was on hand to greet this writer, as he was not to be slighted by the recent flu epidemic. Both he and Mrs. Crosby, find the Mansion quite comfortable and pleasant.

They are experiencing two added luxuries, in Television and steam heated garage, since neither was available in North Platte.

The Governor states firmly that he will not let his official duties interfere with his home life. This becomes more evident upon finding that most of his evenings are spent with Betty, and Susan, their daughter who is 12 years old, viewing TV and listening to Susan's latest piano accomplishments.

The family was very disturbed over the poisoning of their Boxer pup, Prince, but very grateful that he recovered.

The Crosbys have as their house guests, Max Denney, Administrative Assistant to the Governor, who will remain with them until his family moves here from Fairbury, Nebraska.

Mrs. Crosby, who loves to read and play golf, has been kept very busy entertaining the various official Women's organizations.

In keeping with his determination to maintain his home life, Governor Crosby limits his speaking engagements to state-wide associations only.

After this very enjoyable and informal chat with the Governor and his First Lady, Mrs. Crosby conducted me on a tour of the Mansion. Lining the stairway leading to the sleeping quarters, are the photographs of all the former First Ladies of Nebraska. The photograph of our present first lady will be added in several days.

Little Susan, who attends the Cathedral School here in Lincoln, takes a short cut by stopping in each morning and kiss the Governor, who is first and foremost a typical American Father.

is reported on the "improving list.

And still a further addition to the sick list is Mrs. Effie Carter.

Unable to perform his duties at the postoffice during the past week because of sickness was Willie Page.

Senator John Adams Tells Why He Doesn't Offer FEP Bill

By BURT F. NEWMAN

"The woods are burning."

That is the opening statement made by Senator John Adams of Omaha when he was asked by The Voice to elaborate on his announcement to Nebraska Legislature that he would not offer a fair employment practices bill at this session.

The senator, only Negro in Nebraska's unique 43 member unicameral legislative body, explained that he received a number of calls and telegrams regarding his decision. One of the calls from his son, Omaha Attorney Ralph Adams. He, too, wanted to know why the decision against sponsoring an FEP bill.

Senator Adams has sponsored such bills in the two past sessions and has seen them defeated.

Before the Legislature, the senator reported that he had prepared an FEP bill but had decided against offering it "because of the remarkable progress in the past year by industry" in solving discrimination problems.

In giving reasons for his decision, Senator Adams pointed out that while he was elected from the Fifth District, includes major portion of Omaha's Negro population, that he was looked upon as the representative of all Negroes in the State. He said that he had not been "unfaithful" or "derelict" in his duties. He showed the prepared bill and in the bill drafting room it was witnessed that it had been duly filed and "receipted."

"Nebraska is largely an agricultural state and only in Omaha and Lincoln are there appreciable numbers of Negroes. Most of the members of the Legislature represent agricultural districts and you can't make them see the need for such a bill," said Adams.

He indicated that a polling of members revealed that sufficient strength for passage of an FEP bill could not be mustered at this session.

He further pointed out that an FEP bill was being readied for the Omaha metropolitan area.

The senator stressed the vast amount of work and time that is required of each legislature. "To consume the time and spend funds necessary for an intelligent presentation of the bill would only serve to antagonize members against other vital legislation in which I am interested, exclaimed Adams.

Senator Adams added that "no member of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) or the Urban League" had consulted with him at this session about the bill.

Senator Adams wanted it understood that he wasn't giving up



on FEP. He was just putting it aside for this session.

He said that while the FEP bill had been twice defeated many of the aims of the bill had been accomplished.

The senator anticipates some criticism for not presenting the bill at this session but feels the over-all legislative picture warrants his decision.

Senator Adams is an attorney and is also presiding elder of the Omaha District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church's Nebraska Conference. Early education was at Atlanta, Ga., he studied at Yale University and Gammon Theological Seminary. In the 1951 session, he served on Public Health, Rules and Judiciary Committees. A member of the Masonic Lodge, he is 68.

His son, John Jr., represented the Fifth District in the 1937, 1939, and 1941 sessions.

Sen. Butler Asks Price Suspension

Senator Hugh Butler (R-Neb.) announced that he has made a personal appeal to President Eisenhower to give prompt consideration to the possibility of abolishing all price controls and grading requirements on meat and livestock in the very near future.

"During recent months, prices of live cattle have fallen off from 10 to 30 per cent," he pointed out in a letter to the President. "Such a price collapse has already inflicted severe losses on cattlemen."

"Present price ceilings are completely meaningless, since all major products of the livestock industry are selling well below the ceiling levels anyhow," he continued. "At the same time, they keep cattlemen fearful of possible future action on the part of OPS. I feel that immediate suspension of the ceilings and other OPS regulations on meat and livestock is absolutely necessary to stabilize the market."

**NORTHSIDE IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION**

HALL OF FAME

Harry Peterson

These people are making history in Lincoln. Just like Lincoln did at Gettysburg and Washington at Valley Forge.