

# The Voice

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## The Freedom Train

The Freedom Train is coming to Lincoln May 16. This train, you'll remember, was originated by Attorney General Tom Clark and the Justice Department to help familiarize millions of Americans with the famed and a few less-known documents and letters that have shaped our American democratic tradition for the past 178 years. "We hold these truths to be self-evident . . . life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" are not words penned by the mighty Jefferson for political occasions and the 4th of July, but a basic philosophy of our laws. Government "of the people, by the people and for the people" was the way Lincoln set American society apart from the overlords of the feudal system.

But all the Freedom Train's documents are not old, there are some more recent ones that set forth the aims of World War II, words for which Americans of every national, racial and religious background spilled their blood in the far corners of the earth.

The documents of the Freedom train remind Americans everywhere they have an individual duty and responsibility for preserving the ideals of democracy and for insuring the dignity of all men. —C.M.G.

## Truman's Impending Triumph

Truman's stubborn stand for his civil rights program has converted this writer long ago. When the civil rights committee was projected, I was one of the first to label it a "political move," a kind of political net to catch Negro votes. But subsequent events have proven that my prognostication was wrong and I am tremendously glad to be able to see wherein I erred.

When President Truman defied the southern bloc of combined Negro-baiters and rabble-rousers and thin-skinned liberals, I was convinced that his purpose was nobly conceived and would be stubbornly defended. Moreover, if Truman goes down he will go down on account of his civil rights stand, and I am not venturing too far afield prophetically when I say that millions of Negroes are going down with him! No other course is open to us, since his magnificent stand has brought down upon his head the wrath of the south and a great part of the deceitful north with its appeasement of the south at any cost.

But it is not yet certain that Truman will be defeated. It is true that the vocal part of the south is heaping upon him malign and pernicious accusations; he is accused of everything but being a conscientious southerner who is trying to face up to reality by trying to do at his doors what we are trying to do across the seven seas. Truman is trying to make of democracy a living and vital principle by which this nation goes up or down, instead of letting it remain merely a pleasing platitude.

The south should be proud of Harry Truman, fearless advocate of political righteousness and, today, democracy's leading champion instead of trying to crucify him upon a cross of outworn tradition and political expediency. President Truman is looking over the shoulders of his traducers and hecklers. When these shortsighted fact-evaders are long forgotten, Truman's name will be a redeeming influence in the history of one of the most sordid political periods of the history of the struggling south.

Nor am I convinced that the carping critics of Truman and Trumanism constitute the majority of the south. It is true this contingent is more vocal, but there is another current flowing through the sentiment of the south that need not be discussed. There are too many things happening in the south of a constructive nature to concede that Truman is lost beyond hope. When Georgia can cast a majority of its votes against Talmadgism, there is no guarantee that a majority of the same Georgians will not cast votes against the anti-Trumanites, come election day.

The south is not as dull and unthinking as her reactionary lead-

## Out of Old Nebraska

By James C. Olson

Superintendent, State Historical Society.

On Sunday, May 13, 1804—Just 144 years ago—two stalwart young men left St. Louis at the head of an expedition bound up the wild Missouri to explore for the United States that vast new country purchased from France the year before.

Meriweather Lewis and William Clark were their names—names that will live permanently in the annals of the West. For theirs was the original American exploration. and theirs was the achievement which extended American knowledge and, to a degree, American control over all the vast wilderness from the mouth of the Missouri to the mouth of the Columbia.

This first American exploration of the Nebraska country was not conducted by a large force of men or with a great show of arms. Lewis and Clark had under them only 40 men. These men and their supplies went up the river in three boats. Sometimes there was enough wind to allow them to proceed under sail. All too frequently, however, it was necessary to drive the vessels upstream by sheer brute force through the use of cars or a tow rope.

On July 11th, almost two months to the day after they had set out, the explorers camped across the river from present-day Nebraska, opposite the mouth of the Nemaha which empties into the Missouri about three miles south of Rulo in Richardson County. There they killed seven deer.

The next day Captain Clark took five men and ascended the Nemaha about three miles. He climbed a mound where he had an extensive view of the surrounding country, which according to his journal, "afforded one of the most pleasing prospects (he) ever beheld."

The expedition was along the Nebraska coast until September 8 when it moved on into South Dakota. Part of the time they camped on the Iowa and Dakota side of the river and part of the time in Nebraska. They made rather extensive notes regarding the country and the native inhabitants. Two councils were held with the Indians in what is now Nebraska. The first was with the Otoes on

ership would have us believe. The fellow with the weak side of an argument always speaks the louder; so the southern reactionaries with the weak side of the tantamount moral question of the day, may be equally disposed to speak loud perchance to impress the outside world with a strength they really do not have.—Gordon Hancock for ANP.

## The Sports Front

### BASEBALL

Well spring is here and one sure harbinger of the warm days ahead has been the ball teams getting in shape. The Lincoln Independants are in fine shape, according to Shorty Botts, team manager. Last year the Independants Club ran up a hard-to-beat record of 27 wins against only 4 losses.

New suits of Old, Gold and Blue have been ordered and the team will be as neatly clad as any nine in the league.

Starting lineup for their first game of the season with the Yellow Cab squad May 10th, was:

- Calvin Rogers—Catcher.
- Hank McWilliams—Pitcher.
- Bill Castron—Pitcher.
- Richard Holcomb—First Base.
- Ernie Wilson—First Base.
- Johnny Vaughn—Second base.
- Sammy Nevels—Second base.
- John Duncan—Third base.
- Shorty Botts—Shortstop.
- Quen Tarpley—Fielder.
- Walter Bell—Fielder.
- George Alexander—Fielder.
- Gardner Brown—Fielder.
- Frank Nevels—Fielder.

### Harrison Dillard

NEW YORK. (ANP). America's number one track hope in the Olympics in London this summer, according to all the experts, is Harrison Dillard, America's greatest hurdler from Baldwin-Wallace college.

Dillard owes his track supremacy to his idol of 12 years ago, a fellow native of Cleveland, Jesse Owens, the 1936 Olympics superman. Then, when Dillard was only 12 years old, he admired the former Ohio State great.

In hurdling his way to the top Dillard has won 55 straight races since last summer when he was defeated in the 220's by Bill Porter of Northwestern. Before that he had won 43 in a row.

While achieving these victory

August 2. The second was held with the Yankton Sioux on August 31st at Calumet Bluff, in Cedar County across the river from Yankton.

On both of these occasions the Indians were informed that the great white father in Washington was now their master and that they must obey his rules. This for the most part seemed to be agreeable to the red men and had all white men treated them with the diplomacy and tact utilized by Lewis and Clark perhaps it would have continued to be agreeable.

## White Policeman Awarded \$25,000

DALLAS. (ANP). For injuries sustained after being struck by a Henderson-Wren ambulance Aug. 5, 1944, a white policeman was awarded \$25,000 damages from Price A. Wren, Negro owner of the company.

The police officer, Chester Paul Smith, 35, originally filed suit for \$90,000 damages.

strings, Dillard has broken or tied nearly every meet record. American record or world mark in both high and low sticks from 60 yards to 220 yards.

Unlike other hurdlers, Dillard has no style. He relies on sheer speed and force and drive to carry him through. He is short for a hurdler, too, only 5 feet, 10 inches tall. Yet his leaping stride takes him 13 feet through the air compared to only 11 for the average sticks man.

His coach, Dick Finnigan said, "Why change his style if he can set world records that way?"

Dillard attributes his drive to his coach: "He taught me to drive at that first hurdle and he improved my finishing form."

A major in business administration, Dillard is a "B" student. He hopes to become the first track ace in history to sweep the high and low hurdles in the National AAU meet in Milwaukee in July for the third time.

After Milwaukee he plans to enter the Olympic trials at North-western and then the Olympic games themselves in London.

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