

THE VOICE

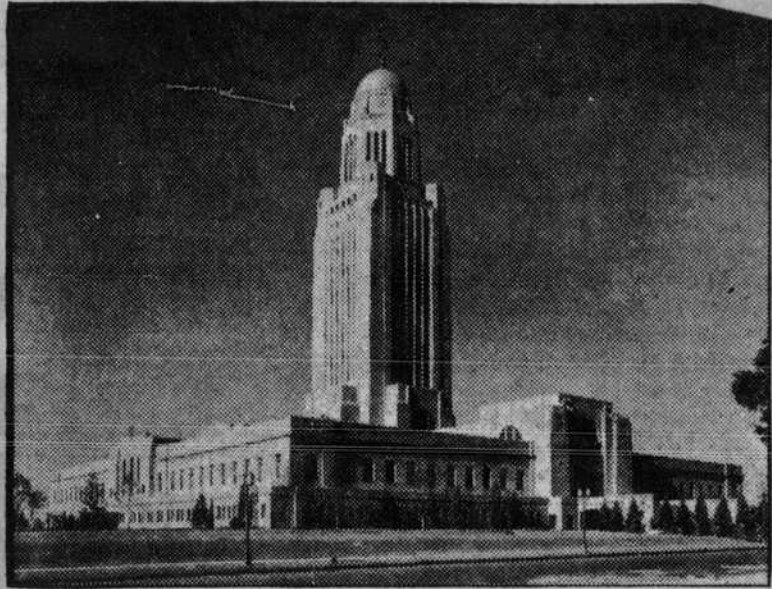


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Democracy It Works In Lincoln



(Courtesy of the Journal)

Mr. George Schuyler, associate editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, visited Lincoln last February to obtain information on the civil rights of the Negroes in Lincoln.

By **GEORGE S. SCHUYLER**

LINCOLN, Neb.—If the Great Emancipator could return to this mortal coil and visit the State capital named after him, he would find little to praise and more to condemn. He would find his dictum that a nation cannot exist half slave and half free honored here too often in the breach.

If it be true that the right to work and advance on the job is a civil right, as President Truman's committee declared, then the Negro's civil right in Lincoln is not too much. The 1,500 Negroes here in a total population of more than 90,000, are all working, but they encounter the usual barriers.

Foundry Work

There is considerable difficulty in getting work in industrial plants such as the Western Electric, Elgin Watch Company and the Cushman Motor Works, although some Negroes do foundry work in the latter. During the late war Negroes were able to get much machine work, but with peace these jobs vanished. There are some Negroes employed as laborers and helpers in the Havelock Shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. They are not unionized, it is said, but they can join if they wish.

Negroes are not hired as bellhops in any of the local hotels, but do work as maids, porters, cooks and waiters. There is dining car and chair car work in and out of the city.

Repair Boss

One colored man is head of furniture repair in the city's largest department store. There is one Negro electrician, but the union will not permit him to join up. It gives him a permit to work. Negroes are in both the plasterers and cement finishers unions. One man drives a truck for the supply department of the Lincoln Telephone Company. The municipally owned electric light company has a colored man in charge of supplies, but the gas company hires Negroes only as janitors. There is one colored stenographer in the Nebraska State Employment Service, and a stenographer and machine and index operator in the Department of Labor.

Hotels, Restaurants

The right to recreation and accommodation is not completely enjoyed by colored people. Only one local hotel, The Cornhusker, will take Negro guests if they are important personages. There is a civil rights law prescribing fines of from \$25 to \$100, and it has been invoked on several occasions recently, but nevertheless Negro hotel guests are a rarity. However, Negroes have eaten

frequently in the dining room of the Cornhusker Hotel and in the better restaurants of the city. But the cheap restaurants frequented by the white proletariat discourage Negro patronage. No civil rights suits have been brought against any of them as yet by the ninety-member NAACP branch or other liberal groups.

Right to Swim

There is no discrimination against Negroes in the local theatres and the same is true of publicly owned recreational facilities. Negroes just recently won a fight to use the municipal swimming pool, but one privately owned pool still bars them. Colored patronage is also refused by privately owned roller skating rink and bowling alleys. Privately owned ball rooms are also not available to Negroes.

Colored people are members of both the YMCA and the YWCA. They can use the recreational facilities and engage rooms. There are colored members of the YWCA board, but not of the YMCA. However, it is possible for Negroes to use the swimming pools at both places.

Negro students were banned from the dormitories of the University of Nebraska until February of this year, and girls of color are still barred from dormitories. However, five colored girls stay at the YWCA International House, and this policy has been in operation for several years.

It is noteworthy that some of the University of Nebraska, Wesleyan University and Union College have removed the previous ban on Negro patronage.

Much of the change has been due to the activities of the NAACP and the Committee on Racial Equality (CORE). The summer camps of the YMCA welcome Negroes and they can avail themselves of all facilities, including swimming.

Right to Education

Negroes in Lincoln enjoy full right to education. There are no separate schools as are found in neighboring Kansas. It is said that the city will not hire Negro teachers, but some Negroes say that there is no eagerness on the part of qualified Negroes to apply.

In any event, there are none, although it is reported that white

Randolph Has Defied Draft Law In N. Y.

A. Philip Randolph, chairman of the League for Non-Violent Civil Disobedience Against Military Segregation, deliberately violated the selective service act Saturday night by advising a 22-year-old youth to refuse induction into the army.

In a meeting of over 200 he advised, Robert White "to refuse to register for a Jim Crow army."

Randolph stated that a picket line would be thrown in front of the war department building in Washington on August 16, the day draft registrations will begin.

O. W. Ferguson to Vacation in Calif., Remainder of Year

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Ferguson, former residents of Lincoln, returned to the city for a short visit and proceeded to California.

Mr. Ferguson came to Lincoln in 1916 to work on his master's degree. He remained in the city until 1929.

Ten years ago the Fergusons moved to Florida where Mr. Ferguson teaches in the Science Department and Mrs. Ferguson teaches in the English Department at the Florida Normal and Industrial College.

The Fergusons are on a year's leave of absence and will spend most of the time in California. They have already visited their daughter, Marie, in Chicago and are on their way to Berris, California, to spend the remainder of their time with their daughter, Correne.

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Wallace Aide Charges KKK Sabotage Try

NEW YORK.—C. B. Baldwin, campaign manager for Henry Wallace, said last week that he had learned that the Ku Klux Klan had timed its national "Klonvokation" for July 23—to coincide with the opening day of the national founding convention of the New Party in Philadelphia.

Baldwin said the Klan's "avowed intention" was to make its national meeting "a signal for all-out war against the only political party which is really fighting racial and religious discrimination."

Baldwin said that Grand Dragon Eam Green of the Klan had sent half a million copies of a "fiery summons" to KKK members throughout the country, inviting them to attend the national "klonvocation" ceremonies atop Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Green hopes to have 1,000 new members to "induct into citizenship in the Invisible Empire dedicated to war against Negroes, Catholics and Jews," Baldwin said.

—Selected.

Ga. State Gets Visiting Prof. for Summer Term

Mr. James E. Parker of Knoxville College is serving in the Physical Science and mathematics department at Georgia State College.

He is a native of Missouri and cousin to Lynnwood Parker.

In 1934 he received the Niles scholarship to Fisk University where he earned an A.B. degree in 1938 and a M.A. degree in 1939. He did graduate work at the Universities of Iowa and Chicago in Statistics and Logic. He is a member of the Mathematical Association of America and is interested in student Christian work.



(Courtesy Lincoln Journal)

FRANK SORRELL

Sorrell Regards Civil Right Plank As 'Unnecessary'

By Lynnwood Parker

I greatly suspect that when Mr. Frank Sorrell's great great, great grandparents landed at the docks to enter on American soil, my great, great grandparents were probably there to meet them.

Yet, whether they came here to escape persecution or to help build a country devoid of the evils of the one from which they left, I am not at liberty to say.

I can say that they expected to take part in the making of America—to make it strong and prosperous—a place to raise their children and to worship God as they saw fit.

I wonder what they would have thought if the lawmakers at that time had considered their right to participate in government, or to live happy normal lives as "unnecessary and merely adds insult to injury?"

Just how a man of Mr. Sorrell's standing, who expects to become governor, can countenance such an attitude, is surprising indeed. I would not be surprised if he flew to Birmingham to be a delegate to the Dixiecrats Conference—"To Suppress These Rights" instead of "To Secure These Rights."

Congratulations are in order for those courageous men of the Nebraska democratic delegation, who stood up to be counted. They are Francis Matthews, who served on the President's committee for Civil Rights, Clifford Anderson, and Don Morrow, both of Lincoln. These three men have imagination which is commensurate for the times. I am not quite sure that the same can be said for the other Gentlemen of Nebraska, who would "suppress" rather than "secure" rights for all people.

The men who would suppress the civil rights as expressed in an amendment by the mayor of Minneapolis are: Tom Lanagan, Grand Island; James Quigley, Valentine; Frank Sorrell, Syracuse; Paul Busch, Howells; W. T. Thompson, Cozad; Riley Warren, North Platte; Otto Bogner, Crofton, Alternate for Stanley Long; Jean Kennedy, Norfolk, alternate for William Ritchie; Frederick Deutsch, Norfolk, alternate for Peter Parkert.

The three alternates voted in accord with instructions from the delegates they replaced.

The amendment and Civil Rights plank read:

"The democratic party is responsible for the great civil rights gains made in recent years in eliminating unfair and illegal discrimination based on race, creed or color.

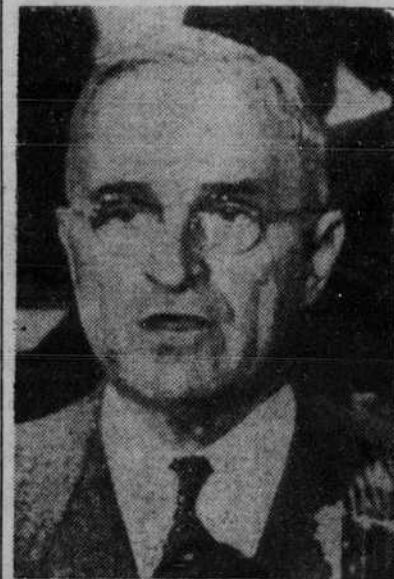
"The democratic party commits itself to continuing its efforts to eradicate all racial, religious and economic discrimination.

"We again state our belief that racial and religious minorities must have the right to live, the right to work, the right to vote, the full and equal protection of the laws, on a basis of equality with all citizens as guaranteed by the constitution.

"We highly commend President Harry Truman for his courageous stand on the issue of civil rights.

"We call upon the congress to support our president in guaranteeing these basic

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)



(Courtesy of Journal)
PRES. TRUMAN

Truman to Fight Segment of Party

President Harry S. Truman was nominated by the Democratic Convention in Philadelphia to be the standard bearer for them in the November presidential contest.

Mr. Truman will face one of the toughest bouts of his political career in November when he will have to answer to the 80th Congress, to the Republican Nominee, to Henry Wallace, to Norman Thomas, and to the Dixiecrat



(Courtesy of Journal)
GOV. THURMOND

Nominee who rebelled against his civil rights program.

The Dixiecrats met in Birmingham to choose a candidate to oppose President Truman on the Civil rights issue. The Nominee chosen to head the Dixiecrat Ticket was Governor J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina.

The question to be answered is whether the Dixiecrats will take the electoral votes away from President Truman and give them to the Republicans.—Peace it's wonderful. A rose by any other name is just as sweet—or is it?