

The Voice

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EDITORIALS

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STONEWALL TRUMAN

By Dean Gordon B. Hancock
for ANP.

We have heard much about Stonewall Jackson, a majestic figure in the War of Secession. The name "Stonewall" was given him because in the thick of one of the great battles someone remarked that Gen. Jackson was "standing like a stone wall" and henceforth he was to be called Stonewall Jackson.

May this column present another majestic figure standing like a stone wall? His name is Harry Truman from Missouri! Truman has surprised the nation and has easily become one of the most majestic moral figures of the times. And it is just as well for us to know that Harry Truman is not going to be anybody's pushover in the coming elections. It is true the various "polls" are counting him out but these polls have a way of getting over what certain interests want. It is by no means a foregone conclusion that the doy় Republicans will sweep the country.

There are millions of men and women in this country who admire a real man who will stand up and slug it out. Truman is such a man and to his everlasting credit be it said, he absolutely refused to play dead when the Dixiecrats walked out on him! Instead of retracting his stand on civil rights he came back slugging and these self same polls are now whispering that "Truman is gaining." It was noised about when Truman first took his civil rights stand that certain elements in the south would revolt and say mean things about him. Truman simply replied that he was elected to uphold the Constitution of the United States and that he did not give a whoop what they said.

To date Mr. Truman still had not given his whoop. There are a lot of people in this country with votes to cast who rather like a man who takes a stand for God and righteousness and who does not particularly give a whoop what the hecklers say or do. If Truman had not been serious about what he said, the Dixiecrats would have swung him long ago. But Truman really and honestly was sincere about the whoop-giving-business and because of that millions of whites and Negroes are going to the polls to let the world know what they think of a man who takes a stand for righteousness not giving a whoop what the hecklers and Dixiecrats say.

Truman is on safe ground, why should he give a whoop? He has the Bible on his side; he has decency and civic righteousness on his side; he has the constitution on his side; he has time and right on his side; he has God on his side. Why, will someone tell us, should he be interested in giving whoops? It is true that I cannot use the same language but he came pretty close to expressing my sentiments.

There is another side to this matter that we are tempted to

forget and that is, there are millions of whites in the south who are not Dixiecratic in their sympathies. Negroes therefore not only owe their support to Harry Truman who refuses under pressure to give a whoop for the Dixiecrats, but they owe it to those southern whites who are resolving to support him in this no-whoop-giving campaign.

If the sizeable voting contingent of the white south is added to the sizeable voting contingent of the Negro south there is a possibility that Harry Truman may be swept into the White House on one of the most miraculous political tides of history. Negroes who admire Truman and who plan to vote for him must refuse to believe this hokum that he is already a political dead bird. Far from it. With the Negro vote solid and the vote of the white south split most decidedly, Truman has more than the proverbial gambling chance.

Truman has something of the Roosevelt spirit in his natural outlook and we need just such an outlook today. Honestly this writer is afraid of the Republican party and therefore afraid of Dewey who will be its rubber stamp. If he refuses to be this rubber stamp, we shall have another case of President and congress at loggerheads. The Republican crowd that hopes to take over is the same old crowd that politically destroyed Hoover and came near destroying the country. They may have another standard bearer but it is the same old Republican party that never forgets anything and never learns anything. This column is supporting Harry Truman who refuses to give a whoop even under Dixiecratic pressure!!!

The men who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed.—Lloyd Jones.

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Out of old Nebraska . . .

BY JAMES C. OLSON

Superintendent, State Historical Society

Fifty years ago, in the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha, the West served notice on the rest of the country that it had come of age, and that the once commonly-used description, "The Great American Desert," no longer was appropriate.

As was proper for the age of electricity into which America was moving, President William McKinley formally opened the exposition on June 1, 1898, by pushing a button in Washington, and from June through November Nebraska's first city was host to thousands of visitors from all parts of the world. Later, on October 12, the President and members of his cabinet visited the exposition.

The visitors came to view the wonders of art, mechanics and electricity. They saw exhibit after exhibit which gave proof positive that America west of the Mississippi had developed into the world's greatest breadbasket. They were introduced to the exotic and the strange on a Midway studded with such attractions as "The Streets of Cairo," and "The Chinese Village."

The Omaha Exposition grew out of the success of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893. This success had prompted a number of western cities—notably Kansas City, Denver, and Salt Lake—to consider the possibility of holding an interstate exposition in the West. Apparently, even though the citizens of Omaha got on the band wagon comparatively late, they worked so effectively that Omaha got the official approval of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress, the organization sponsoring the fair.

In preparation for the exposition, the Nebraska State Legislature in 1897, was asked to appropriate \$350,000.00 to construct a state building on the grounds and to gather exhibits for it. There was considerable opposition to the exposition in the western part of the state, and the appropriation was whittled down to \$100,000.

Even so, Nebraska appropriated more than twice as much money as any other state, and from all accounts the Nebraska Building was one of the marvels of the exposition. William Jennings Bryan and Governor Silas A. Holcomb were the principal orators on June 14, the day it was dedicated.

Many other states and the federal government cooperated to turn a section of Omaha into a great, gaudy concourse, which

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Sports Scope

Is Your Answer Here?

Q. In your story or stories on Harrison Dillard, America's top 100-meter find of 1948, I agree with you in everything but one point. I think Dillard would have beaten Owens at his best. Joe Burnham, Chapel Hill, N. C.

A. So, we still differ on that point, Champ. Owens would have whipped Dillard.

Q. Rate these Negro all time pitchers in order of ability: Slim Jones, Whitworth, Buttet Rogan, Dizzy Dismukes and Leroy Paige. Bob Chesnut, Darby, Pa.

A. Paige, Rogan, Dismukes, Whitworth, Jones.

Q. What shortstop of recent years (big leaguer) reminded you of Dick Lundy. Negro baseball great? O. H. C., New York City.

A. Joe Cronin, now business manager of Boston Red Sox.

Q. What divisions did "Kentucky Rosebud," Larry Temple and young Jack Johnson fight in? Pete Crawford, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

A. Bantamweight, light-heavy and middle; 175 pounder.

Boxing

NEW YORK. (ANP). World welterweight champion Sugar Ray Robinson is caught in the middle of a boxing promotion "war" between the established 20th Century club and the newcomer, the Tournament of Champions, Inc. The squabble between the two fight groups broke out last Wednesday on whether Robinson has a contract to fight under 20th Century banners on Dec. 17.

According to 20th Century, Robinson signed a contract for a non-title bout against Middleweight Steve Belloise of New York. The rival club, however, quoted Robinson as saying he had not signed to face Belloise.

After a conference with Mike Jacobs, it was announced that Robinson had agreed to meet

made it difficult for visitors to believe that less than half a century earlier not a building stood in the city which now was host to an impressive international exposition.

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Indiana Univ. Opens Dormitory To Negro Women

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (ANP). For the first time a dormitory on the campus of Indiana university was open to colored women students when the school redecorated and made Lincoln hall available to Negro girls this semester.

Negro men had already been integrated on the campus. The campaign to have women on the campus was led by the N.A.A.C.P. The opening of Lincoln hall was made possible after a conference of N.A.A.C.P. officials with Dr. Herman G. Wells, president of Indiana.

After the opening, Willard B. Ransom, state N.A.A.C.P. president; F. E. DeFrantz and Robert Starns, board members of the Indianapolis N.A.A.C.P., inspected Lincoln hall.

All Negro Town Elects Mayor, Council Members

HOBSON CITY, Ala. (ANP). A new mayor and members of the city council were appointed by citizens of this all-Negro community in last week's elections. H. H. Flowers was elected to the office of mayor to succeed Mayor Ed. Pierce who declined re-election. Flowers was unopposed for the office.

The city's five council seats went to W. M. Bates and A. Snowl, with 29 votes; Willie Mosely, 30 votes; Albert Nicholson, 10; Clyde Atkinson, 21 and Edgar E. Hanna, 27.

Belloise as the best available middleweight to gain prestige for a shot at the crown now held by France's Marcel Cerdan. Robinson is slated to get about 32½ percent of the gate at Madison Square Garden, with 27½ percent going to Belloise.

At the same time, Robinson's manager was having a talk with Promoter Andy Neiderreiter of the Tournament of Champions; hence the conflicting claims over the Dec. 17 bout.