

The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

"Dedicated to the promotion of the cultural, social and spiritual life of a great people."

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EDITORIALS

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Dr. Frazier 1st Negro to Head American Sociological Society

CHICAGO. (ANP). A new first was achieved last week when the American Sociological society, the nation's leading professional group of sociologists, elected Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, a Negro, as president in its 43rd annual convention held here at the Congress hotel.

This marked the first time in America that a Negro ever headed a national professional scientific society.

Dr. Frazier heads the department of sociology at Howard University. In 1935-36 he was director of the economic and social survey of Harlem for Mayor LaGuardia's Commission on Conditions in Harlem. He also was a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim foundation to study the Negro family in Brazil and the West Indies in 1940-41.

His learned writings include "The Negro Family in the United States"; "The Negro Family in Chicago"; "Negro Youth at the Crossways" and "The Free Negro Family."

Besides Dr. Frazier, 9 other Negroes attended the meeting, they were Dr. Harry Walker and Dr. Frank Dorey, Howard University; Dr. and Mrs. John Alston, Wilberforce State College; Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Fisk University and former vice president of the group; William Hale, Atlanta University; Prof. A. F. Yarborough, Wilberforce State College; Theodore Blackburn, Flanner house, Indianapolis, and Sydney

Williams, Executive Secretary, Chicago Urban league.

Dr. Frazier, Dr. Walker, Dr. Joseph D. Lohman of the committee recently making a report on segregation in Washington, D. C., and Jitsuichi Masuoka of Fisk spoke at the meeting.

In his speech Dr. Frazier traced various race theories and explained the ones that worked against good race relations. He welcomed bi-racial organization and activities and urbanization as breaking down racial barriers. He also praised the integration of Negroes into industry and labor organizations.

In his discussion Dr. Frazier introduced the general topic of the meeting, "Race and Culture Contacts in the Modern World."

Dr. Johnson of Fisk was elected as a member at large to the executive committee.

Dr. Walker in his talk divided Negro-white relations activities since the Civil war into three periods: the adjustment state following the war; segregation era during which Negro leaders acted as liaison men between the two races, and the integration period still in progress in which Negroes want equal participation in activities with whites.

A paper, "Negro leaders in a Southern City" by Masuoka, expressed this hope:

"We may eventually come to learn to see other men as men and not merely as a sample of a race, a nationality or a creed."



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Convening of the 61st session of the legislature at Lincoln this week calls to mind that Nebraska's capital city was the scene of its first legislative session in 1869, just 80 years ago.

Although that meeting was known as the first regular session, it actually was the fifth session of the state legislature. Four sessions were held in the old territorial capitol at Omaha while the new state capitol was being constructed.

In his message to the legislature, Governor David Butler reviewed Nebraska's progress in little less than a year of statehood, and outlined what he considered to be the most important problems facing the lawmakers convened in Lincoln. In certain respects they were problems which are faced by today's legislators—schools, support of the state government, and care of the dependent and unfortunate.

They had other problems which Nebraskans do not face today. One of these was protection against the Indians. The governor urged that provision be made for a regular militia, so that "those who go out upon the frontiers should be made to feel that the strong arm of the State will be swift and constant to extend to them full protection."

Another problem facing the legislature in 1869 was the management of the Lancaster County salt deposits. These were expected to become large producers of salt and were one of the reasons why the state capitol was located at its present site. While still optimistic, Governor Butler was disturbed at the rate of progress being made.

The fault, according to his annual message, seemed to lie with the company developing the deposits. Governor Butler told the legislature: "So far has it failed that the local demand for salt has not been supplied, and that it has been unable at times to supply even a single bushel for home consumption."

Probably the most exciting feature of the legislative session of 1869 was the election of a United States senator to succeed Thomas W. Tipton. After a spirited contest, Senator Tipton was re-elected.

Probably the most notable and enduring legislation enacted in 1869 was the establishment of the University of Nebraska. The act was signed February 15—celebrated each year as "Charter Day."

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KATHRYNE FAVORS

Well, here I am again. Rather late, aren't I? I guess I should make a few apologies. I've thought about "Dark Merit" so often and wished I had time to contribute. I am a housewife now and all of the ladies understand just what that means. Well, when the New Year comes, the resolutions come rolling in. Yes, I'm making them too. Besides contributing to the "Voice," I've resolved to work more in the Y.W.C.A., to play ping pong more, to study ceramics at Tech's adult night school, to take a course to refresh my French at any school here which offers it, and all in all, to get more done in 1949. And say, do you know what else has eaten up so much of my time? Well, I'm writing a book. It's a big job and requires much research. You should see this stack of books I've been reading to find out more information. It's so much fun and maybe I'd better resolve to finish it in 1949. With teaching, working as school librarian, working in the Y.W.C.A., playing ping pong, studying ceramics, studying French, writing a book, and DOING HOUSEWORK, I'll be one of those hard shelled objects which you eat at Christmas by the time the year is over. I left out something too — important things like my church work which I am going to find even more time for.

Well, readers, after all of that I guess you're waiting for "Dark Merit." Well, we're moving along now. Soon we'll be at the part I like best—contemporary personalities. When we get to that I'll be able to use many interesting books, but for history, (and I've looked high and low), I just can't find a book to equal Carter G. Woodson's "The Negro in Our History."

One cannot afford to have one ounce of race prejudice when you think of all of the people of the Caucasian race who fought so hard to free the slave and some who gave their lives for that cause. In the South there were

such people who wanted to free the slaves but because of their location, they could not. They left their homes and moved to territories in the Northwest principally to offer their services. Many of these ideas were carried to students as the students of Maryville College in Tennessee. By 1841, more than half of the students were anti-slavery. Berea College in Kentucky actually opened their doors to Negro students. Its charter contained these words: "God hath made of one blood all nations that dwell upon the face of the earth."

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