

The Voice

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

Rev. Melvin L. Shakespeare
Publisher and Editor

Business Address 225 S Street Phone 5-649)
No Answer Call 5-7508

Rubie W. Shakespeare Advertising and Business Manager
Charles Goolsby Associate Editor, Y.M.C.A.
Lynwood Parker Associate Editor, on Military Leave
Rev. J. B. Brooks Promotion Manager
Mrs. Joe Green Circulation Manager

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EDITORIALS

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BRASS FACTS

By M. L. Shakespeare

At last the Committee on unAmerican activities has become truly American by dropping from its roster a well known race baiter, namely Rep. Rankin, who believes in the worst kind of unAmerican activities—the segregation and discrimination of Americans.

This, I say, is one step in the direction of fighting unAmerican activities.

Now they are rid of one source of evil within the ranks, Mr. Rankin.

With some lynching, much race hatred and the KKK growing larger and bolder everyday in dear old Dixie, evidently my dear friend, Mr. ("What's-good-about-the-South") Schuyler, could not find too much that is good about the South. So the boys down below the line of demarkation lost a good champion for their cause.

One would wonder just what kind of a crime some people in this country must commit before they will be convicted. If he can commit murder and get by, where is the stopping point? Or why did they hang Tojo? Well I guess that is the dear old South.

Widow's R.R. Annuity Worth More Than 'Residual Payment'

CHICAGO. (ANP).—Widows of deceased railroad employees should think twice before waiving their rights to monthly survivor benefits at age 65 in order to accept a "residual payment" under the Railroad Retirement act.

In a recent statement, the Railroad Retirement board urges widows to give the matter careful consideration before accepting what appears to be a substantial lump sum and thereby forfeiting their rights to future monthly benefits. Ordinarily, there is no reason for a widow to make a hasty decision, since under the law she may make her choice any time before she becomes 65.

If she remarries, the residual payment becomes due immediately because by remarriage she forfeits her rights to monthly benefits at age 65. If she should die before receiving either the residual payment or the monthly benefits, the residual payment will be made to other eligible survivors, or to the employee's estate.

The board warns that once the widow has made her decision, her choice is irrevocable. It also points

out that in the majority of cases it is against her own best interests to accept the residual payment, since the value of the monthly benefits is generally substantially greater.

The residual payment is equal to 4 percent of the employee's taxable railroad earnings from 1937-46 plus 7 percent thereafter (including compensation credited for military service), minus any retirement and survivor benefits which have been paid. It is made to the widow (widower), children, parents, or estate of the employee, in that order of precedence, unless some other person has been designated by the employee to receive it.

Through the residual payment the law guarantees each railroad worker that he and his survivors together will receive benefits greater than the amount of his retirement taxes. It is certainly not intended to replace the regular monthly survivor benefit system.



by **JAMES C. OLSON**, Superintendent
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

One of the best known and most universally respected men in Nebraska territory was Rev. William Hamilton, the Presbyterian missionary at Bellevue.

Father Hamilton, as he generally was called, was born in Pennsylvania in 1811 and arrived at Bellevue on June 6, 1853, having been sent there by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions to take charge of the Otoe and Omaha mission.

The new missionary at Bellevue was no novice when he arrived. For 15 years he had served in the capacity of preacher and teacher among the Iowa and Sac Indians, and was well acquainted with both the Indians and the Indian country.

The mission, in turn, was well established when Father Hamilton arrived. It had been set up by the Presbyterians in 1846, under the direction of Rev. and Mrs. Edward McKinney, who had constructed a building and started a school. When Rev. Hamilton took charge of the mission, 42 Indian children were enrolled in the school.

At the time Nebraska territory was created in 1854, the Presbyterian mission was the only dwelling of any size in Bellevue, the territory's principal settlement. Consequently, Rev. and Mrs. Hamilton entertained a wide variety of guests under their hospitable roof.

Most notable of these guests was Francis Burt of South Carolina, who had been appointed the first governor of Nebraska territory by President Franklin Pierce. His visit was not a happy one, however. The long journey to Nebraska had so exhausted the governor that he went to bed at the mission as soon as he arrived—a bed from which he never arose.

In 1857, ill health caused Rev. Hamilton to retire from the work of the mission. A decade later, though, he returned to the mission and spent the rest of his life (until 1891) among his Indian friends. He was highly respected by the Indians and exercised a great deal of influence among them.

As an old man, he told a story



"It is well to keep in mind, however, that President Adams was not an anti-slavery man. His career had shown pro-slavery tendencies. In the Senate in 1807, when the prohibition of the slave trade was brought before that body, he voted against the measure. As a member of the mission negotiating the treaty with Great Britain, by which the war of 1812 was closed, he demanded compensation for slaves who had been carried away from their masters by the British army.

During his incumbency as Secretary of State he was unfriendly to the proposal of Great Britain's slave trade treaty in the interest of the Africans, and as president he manifested no particular interest in the bondmen. When the House in 1835 tabled an anti-slavery petition, presented by John Q. Adams, Henry A. Wise of Virginia, took occasion to remark: "Sir, slavery, with our very political institution is guaranteed by our Constitution, and its consequences must be borne by our northern brethren as resulting from our system of government, and they cannot attack the institution of slavery without attacking the institutions of the country, our safety and welfare."

Wm. Hightower Gets 20-Yr. Pin From Power Co.

Mr. William M. Hightower, 1924 "T" street, received a pin recently from the Consumers Public Power District for having been in their employ for the past twenty years. At present he is in the maintenance department.

Mr. Hightower is a member of Lebanon Lodge No. 3, AF&AM (PHA), Robert Huckles Consistory and Mt. Zion Baptist church.

which in many respects summed up his work. When he arrived, he related, he saw a man riding horseback, with his wife walking and carrying a load. Fifty years later, he saw the wife on the horse and the man walking.

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Teacher: "Did your father help you with this problem?"
Willie: "No, I got it wrong myself."

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