

The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

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Member of the Associated Negro Press and Nebraska Press Association

Entered as Second Class Matter, June 9, 1947 at the Post Office at Lincoln, Nebraska under the Act of March 3, 1879

1 year subscription \$2.00 Single copy .10c



EDITORIALS

The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

CRISPUS ATTUCKS

By Nimrod Ross

Some folks do great deeds that make the world happy and free and die fighting for the cause without being conscious of its greatness or of how heroic they were or that their work was honorable, or that it could be used as an example set for generations. I am going to make a brief remark on the life of one of the great Negro figures of all time and a true American.

In 1770 there came to Boston, a man, almost a giant in stature, who gave his name as Crispus Attucks. He was one of the leaders of a group of patriots that died in the Boston massacre. There was but very little known of Attucks' life previous to that event which brought him prominence and death. Some believed him to be a sailor, since he was one of the leaders of a group of 50 or 60 men, mostly sailors, who, on the evening of March 5, 1770, Marched from Dock Square to the present State street where battle with a small group of British troops ensued. He knew all the

tortures and abuses one must endure when a slave. He had great sympathy for the American people who had to be governed by the king, deprived of their rights and privileges. It made the American people slaves for the English. But he knew the chain of slavery was about to be broken and by a very little effort on the part of himself, it would help release them.

There are but a few that would have ever had the ability or courage to lead a group of men at that time against the well-trained troops of the English, which were the best in their time.

He shed the first human blood for American liberty, a victim of the British. Attucks body was carried to Tanniel Hall where it lay in state and not only was it buried with honor, but the man who dared has been honored ever since. Every American should remember this great contributor to American liberty, that led the American people into the war against tyranny that gave them their freedom.

DON'T BE TOO SURE

By L. Carol Unland.

Don't be too sure that you are right.
Don't be too sure that those who disagree with you are wrong.
Don't be too sure that you have all the facts in the case.
Don't be too sure that you have not been misinformed.
Don't be too sure that your conclusions are logical.
Don't be too sure that your opinions are not based on prejudice.
Don't be too sure because you might become dogmatic and fail to learn the truth which would set you right.
Don't be too sure because you might become too aggressive and overbearing and then fail to convince your opponent of the rightness of your cause.
Don't be too sure because the first

step toward defeating your adversary is to make him your friend.
Don't be too sure your position is unassailable until you have studied your adversary's position.
Don't be too sure of your facts because times change, conditions change, and even facts change.
Don't be too sure because your vision may be clouded by ignorance, your viewpoint affected by prejudice, your values unbalanced by tradition.
The old song "Be Sure You Are Right and Then Go Ahead" is a good one; but for your own sake, for your friends' and neighbors' sake, and for the sake of the whole world
Don't be too sure.



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

This year marks the centennial of the California gold rush, one of the most fantastic movements of men in all history, and one which saw thousands of Americans make their way across Nebraska in search of riches in the Golden West.

Gold was discovered at Sutter's fort on January 24, 1848. The earliest reports of the discovery were received dubiously in the East, but when on December 5, 1848, President James K. Polk included the news in his message to congress, the country was electrified with excitement.

During the month of January, more than half a hundred ships cleared the eastern ports for California. In February more than a hundred departed for the same destination. The gold fever spread to all parts of the world, and emigrants from Europe and Asia poured into California all during 1849.

By early spring the overland emigration was under way, and the once empty valley of the Platte was filled with countless caravans of eager fortune-hunters making their way westward. Estimates as to the exact number vary all the way from 20,000 to 30,000.

In general, the Forty-Niners followed the earlier Oregon Trail through most of Nebraska. Starting from Independence, Mo., they entered Nebraska along the Little Blue, following that stream northwest across the state. The trail joined the Platte river east of Fort Kearny (established just the year before). Once past the fort, the eager travelers followed the Platte to the junction of the

Ex-BWI Official

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slaves from their masters, giving them economic freedom.

Mr. Harriott and his wife, Minna, are part of the staff of Tabitha Home. Mrs. Harriott is a person of no mean ability, having taught piano in Kingston as a licensiate of the University of London Schools of Music for many years with outstanding success. They have three children in Jamaica: Chester, 16, who will receive his B.A. in music from the University of London this year, a daughter, Minna Love, 12, and Oscar jr., 8.

north and south forks and then went down the South Platte to one of two "California Crossings." The lower crossing was near Big Spring and the upper near Julesburg.

Those who took the lower crossing had to negotiate Ash Hollow, one of the toughest spots on the entire trail. From the upper crossing the trail ascended Lodgepole Creek. Both trails joined just east of Chimney Rock, whence they went along the North Platte past Scotts Bluff to Fort Laramie and beyond.

The Forty-Niners were as colorful a group of emigrants as ever went through Nebraska. Many of them kept diaries. Still more wrote eager—and at times, homesick—letters to family and friends in the East. From these documents, large numbers of which have been published, we have a first-hand account of life in Nebraska just a century ago.

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Last week Mrs. Kathryn Huston was identified by Mrs. Frances Robinson.

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