

The Voice

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

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EDITORIALS

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COMMUNISM AND OUR SCHOOLS

By Edward J. Sparling, President, Roosevelt College, Chicago
EDITOR'S NOTE: On March 2, the Illinois House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling upon the Chairman of the State Editions Activities Investigating Committee to take steps to investigate "any and all subversive activities which may now exist in any form" at the University of Chicago and at Roosevelt College. The following article by President Edward J. Sparling of Roosevelt College is reprinted for Voice readers because it typifies the trend of education throughout the country. Only through liberal-minded, truth-seeking educators will we be able to continue to break down the wall of prejudice that exists in many areas of education and living.

The issue of Communism and the schools is being hotly debated throughout the nation. This crucial problem challenges America's best thinking and leadership to find a workable and democratic answer. This issue has flared into headlines with the news that Roosevelt College will be investigated for possible subversive activities.

I wish to repeat a statement that I made publicly; Roosevelt College will welcome and cooperate with a fairly conducted investigation. We are content to stand on our record of sound development in line with the objectives of the college "to provide a teaching faculty for the discovery and dissemination of truth; and to provide educational opportunities to persons of both sexes and of the various races on equal terms."

"I should like to make clear my own position on Communism in the schools. I am opposed to Communism, its theory, its practice and its methods. I have opposed Communists in community organizations and I, as well as the college, have many times been attacked by the Communists. I am thoroughly devoted to the liberal democratic principles of freedom and equality, and I have always tried to be known for what I am for and not what I am against.

Roosevelt college is an educational and not a propagandistic institution. In the interests of truth all viewpoints can be heard.

In choosing the faculty of the school we try to make sure that each professor is free to search for the truth, i. e., that each faculty member chosen has no higher loyalty which would take precedence over his loyalty to the truth. It is obvious that it would profit the college nothing if the college guaranteed academic freedom for faculty members who were not free to discover and disseminate truth because they are bound to a greater loyalty.

Students are free to learn unhampered by dogma, superstition, or prejudice, and they are all admitted on the basis of ability and training which enable them to complete successfully college requirements for graduation. All student activities groups are required to register with the Student Activities Office the names of their officers and a statement of their aims and membership policies.

It so happens that this kind of college is the most deadly of all the enemies of Communism, since

Communism cannot thrive in a fertile soil of freedom of expression. As proof of this we have a Communist Club which is free to get 6,100 members in Roosevelt college but has never had more than from five to ten students. If the doctrines for Communism were attractive to Roosevelt students and if the faculty were propagandists for Communism, I am quite sure that there would have been far more than ten converts out of 6,100 students.

The truth is that as long as the average American produces about ten times as much of the good things of life as the Russian Communist, there is little likelihood that American youth will desert their American freedom of self direction for the yoke of prescribed directions of Communism with its curtailed freedom and regimentations.

We are in hopes that the students of this college will be socially conscious of their responsibilities and privileges as American citizens to leave the world in a bit better condition than they found it.

Lou Boudreau Makes Tribe Nine Tick

The resurgence of Bill Veeck's Cleveland Indians as we near the July 4th "Gypsy-guessing" deadline, brings us around to a discussion of a man, Lou Boudreau, Cleveland's playing-manager, often called by writers a "class guy."

Now we cannot agree with that statement in its entirety as far as Boudreau is concerned. The Cleveland "front office," and we do mean President Bill Veeck, has not seen eye-to-eye with the debonair Frenchman in this or other baseball seasons. But all baseball men agree on one thing: Lou Boudreau does an honest and extremely creditable job on the diamond whether as shortstop (where he has few equals around) as catcher, first or third baseman and, of course, as a first-rate field thinker for the whole skyboodle.

That he has been more than kind to his members whom we know best as Larry Doby, Satchel Paige and Orestes Minosa (Bow in PCL circuit) etc, etc., is laudatory but might we also say mandatory ala Bill Veeck.

OUT OF OLD NEBRASKA



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
When William A. Richardson

was appointed governor of Nebraska territory in 1858, he enjoyed the distinction of already having a county named in his honor. Richardson county was so named by Acting Governor T. B. Cuming when the territorial government was organized in 1854. At that time, Mr. Richardson was a member of congress from Illinois, and had been instrumental in the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill.

Born and reared in Kentucky, William A. Richardson moved to Illinois as a young man, where he engaged in the practice of law and soon became active in politics. He served several terms in the Illinois legislature, and during one of these was speaker of the house of representatives. He represented an Illinois district in the house of representatives from 1847 to 1856, when he resigned to run for governor of Illinois on the democratic ticket.

Richardson's appointment as governor of Nebraska came after his defeat for the governorship. The first time President Buchanan offered him the post he refused, but finally in December, 1857, he was persuaded to accept.

Governor Richardson served Nebraska territory only a year, but it was one full of problems resulting in many a headache for the chief executive.

The basic difficulty arose out of a conflict in the legislature which had torn that body asunder, and when the governor arrived he found that part of the legislature had vacated the territorial capital at Omaha and was in session at Florence. This group invited the new governor to co-operate with them, but that he refused to do. Instead, he insisted that they return to the regular territorial capital.

One of Richardson's principal acts as governor was to call the legislature into special session to take action correcting the "great confusion and uncertainty" which in his judgment characterized the laws of the territory. He issued this call on Aug. 14, 1858, just two days before he penned his resignation to take effect Jan. 1, 1859.

He left the territory about a month before his resignation was to take effect, returning to Illinois to run for his old seat in the house of representatives. He was elected, and in 1862 he was sent to the senate to fill out the term of his old friend, Stephen H. Douglas, who had died.

Although his term of office was short, Governor Richardson succeeded in bringing order out of the chaos existing in territorial affairs when he arrived. He has been credited with having "produced the best state papers ever submitted to this commonwealth," marked by "maturity, brevity, and straightforward simplicity, with a strong paternal appeal."

Answers on an Exam:
A gulf if a piece broken off a peninsula.
Monsoon is a French writer.
All people were petrified during the Stone Age.

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Cards Split Games With Merchants In Alliance Contest

BY BEATRICE MOTLEY.

ALLIANCE, Neb.—The Muskege Cardinals, baseball champions of the Southwest, met the Alliance Merchants in two thrill-packed games June 9 and 11. The Cardinals won the first game after twelve innings by a 10 to 4 margin. The score was tied at 4 to 4 in the first eight innings. But the Cardinals bowed to the Merchants in the second short game of seven innings with a score of 3 to 7.

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