

# THE VOICE



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## 1949 Progressed In Some Areas; Hopes for 1950 Are Much Higher

Before another issue of The Voice reaches you, 1949 will have gone the way of all years, and the old world will begin its 1950th trip around "ole Sol" since the first Christmas. As 1949 bows off the scene, and the great drama of life and time continues with the understudy (that may be greater than the master) taking over as the star. In looking at The Voice for Dec. 30, 1948, we were expecting that in 1949 an FEPC bill would be passed in Nebraska, that Truman's civil rights program would be passed by congress and "with its passage, much of the anti-American propaganda in other parts of the world will be invalidated," and something about America becoming greater than ever, "for it will aid its citizens, all of them, to contribute to society the very best of their creative and productive capacities."

Well, anyone who has kept up with the news at all knows that this hope was not fulfilled during the past year, yet still persists. However, there has been progress in the fight for equality and democracy for all people during 1949.

### CIVIL RIGHTS

Most all of Mr. Truman's program has been studied by congressional committees and those portions that have been passed by committees, will come up in January—FEPC, anti-poll tax and anti-lynch laws.

### FEPC

In Nebraska, after a short campaign for FEPC, the legislative committee tabled the matter, but before the senators went home, they resolved to study the problem. This was a step forward, and has brought increased interest of Nebraskans in the matter of providing unbiased competition for jobs. The last of public hearings on the matter were just completed in December. The legislative council will not have its findings printed, however, until they are ready to report to the 1951 legislature. Meanwhile, fair employment laws were passed by Oregon, New Mexico, Washington, and by the city of Richmond, Calif. This makes seven states and six cities with such laws. FEPC failed in Illinois and Nebraska.

### CIVIL LIBERTIES

In May, American Indians were admitted to West Point for the first time and in June, Indians were extended the privilege of voting.

### EMPLOYMENT

Early in the year (February) the National Urban League announced that this was a banner year for employment but by fall (September) the number of people out of work in the east changed the picture a good deal there. Locally William Hightower received an award for 20 years service with Consumers power, Mrs. Willima Glenn of Omaha was added to the clerical pool of the legislature, in June Joyce Williams also obtained employment with the state under the merit system, and in the summer, Oscar Harriott became sec-

retary for a state board of control officer.

### COMMUNITY

Passing mention of locally happenings should include the Urban League cleanup campaign in April, along with Barbara Moody-Charles Bonds piano recital. Jeanette Vinegar got a drawing in the public school show. Mrs. Ruby Hurley of the NAACP youth branch was our guest here in May. June saw Teresa Littlejohn elected, governor of girls' state then gyped

out of the opportunity to attend girl's nation. July, the Salt creek rampage brought out the Red Cross and the Salvation Army to help its victims which included Mrs. Corena Williams. Clayton P. Lewis was also re-elected for his sixth term as Grand Master of Nebraska PHA Masons in this month. In August Bryan hospital opened its doors to Negro students. September saw Atty. Gen. Johnson crack down on gambling. November saw a change of pol-

## Men of Good Will

By G. Loyd Wilson  
(A Resolution for You)

Believing that peace on earth is possible only by fostering individual and group relationships which are based upon mutual respect, sympathy, and good will, I pledge myself to endeavor always to:

1. Regard those with whom I come in contact as individuals and primarily as members of religious, racial, national, or other groups or classes.
2. Form and develop my business, professional, or social relationships with individuals with whom I am associated without regard to their racial, national, social, or religious affiliations.
3. Speak of no man disparagingly because of his race, nationality, or religious affiliation.
4. Accord to all others the right to their racial, national, social, and religious affiliation preferences that I seek myself.
5. Speak and work, in groups of which I am a member, on behalf of tolerance, mutual respect, and good will toward all groups which may differ from those of which I am a member.
6. Speak pleasantly and respectfully to those of races, nationalities, social classes, or religions other than my own, and attempt to meet even unpleasant reactions of others with consideration of the strain under which men everywhere are now living.
7. Avoid jokes or other references which may give offense to others.
8. Form a contact with at least twelve persons of other races, nationalities, social classes, and creeds, and invite them individually or collectively to luncheon or dinner, either at home or in public, as my guests during the ensuing year.
9. Ask each of these twelve men to do the same with twelve others of races, nationalities, or creeds other than theirs so that the ripples from these pebbles of good will may literally embrace the world.
10. Respect the integrity of each man as an individual entitled to life, liberty, and the quest for happiness according to the preferences and dictates of his own conscience.

I will read this obligation at least once each month to keep it always fresh in my mind and a charge upon my conscience.  
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BEST  
WISHES

### Harvard Student Council Adopts Anti-Bias Measure

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (ANP). Harvard university took on a futuristic outlook here last week when its student council voted 7-6 to ban discrimination for color, race or nationality" in membership of "all college organizations. Backers of this measure said adoption would make it possible to put the ban into the charters of students organizations.

Now that Congressman Dawson has been made vice president of the Democratic National committee, political seers are predicting an increase in topside jobs for qualified Negroes in government agencies; jobs, that is, having political preference.

### Rev. Burckhardt Succumbs After Short Illness

Rev. Oliver J. Burckhardt, 81, formerly of Lincoln, died Friday, Dec. 23, in Omaha where he had made his home since leaving Lincoln several years ago. Rev. Mr. Burckhardt came to Lincoln with his wife, Anna from Jefferson City, Mo. March 25th, 1880. He had lived at 1236 Washington St., for many years.



He had been Rev. Burckhardt, president of the Inter-racial and Interdenominational Christian Alliance. For more than 40 years he had been associated with work at the state penitentiary in Lincoln and served as volunteer associate chaplain there for about 30 years. He was a member and former pastor of the Church of Christ Holiness.

Surviving is a foster daughter, Mrs. Ollie Love Jones of Omaha with whom Rev. Mr. Burckhardt made his home fol-

### Court Awards Boy \$10,000 For Loss Of Fingertips

WASHINGTON. (ANP). James C. Horton, 16, was awarded recently \$10,000 damages for the loss of four fingertips in a grocery store meat grinder.

A jury in the local district court of Judge David A. Pine made the award. It also ruled \$300 damages for the boy's father, George M. Horton.

Loser in the case was Solomon Teichman, grocer, who owns the store where the accident occurred. The jury decided its case on the basis that James, who was 15 at the time of the accident, was too young to operate such a machine and the grocer was negligent without workmen's compensation insurance. The boy worked after school.

All 17 species of penguins live in the southern hemisphere.

Fire claims an average of 22 lives daily in the United States.

Following the death of his wife June 20th, 1945.

Funeral service was held Wednesday at Umbergers with the Rev. Trago O. McWilliams, Jr., in charge.



May the New Year  
Be ever bright -  
Ever right -  
For you and yours!



icy at Lincoln General hospital regarding the use of Negro nursing help.

### RELIGION

In February, Bishop Carey Gibbs, A.M.E., embarked for Liberia and in July, South Africa let down its bans against the church and allowed Bishop Bonner to enter South Africa and Rhodesia.

### POLITICS

In January, President Truman was inaugurated after a surprising victory at the polls and insisted that he still wanted the civil rights program passed. In Nebraska, Gov. Val Peterson was also inaugurated the same week after a similarly sweeping victory in the state. In congress, William L. Dawson (d., Ill.) became head of the committee on expenditures in executive departments (like Agriculture, Justice, etc.). In December, William Hastie was made a federal judge.

### Sociology

In February Mayor Cunningham, Omaha, appointed a human relations committee to study conditions in the community which adversely affect inter-group relations. April saw Dr. Charles S. Johnson, noted sociologist, respond to an invitation of the University of Nebraska to be main speaker at its honors convocation. He advised young Nebraskans to approach social problems with understanding and lack of fear. In July the World Town Hall seminar began its tour and in December, one of its members, Dr. Walter White, NAACP Executive secretary on leave, told campus audiences of his experiences. The National Urban League convention in Denver in August attracted local affiliates of the organization and represented a new interest in solving the problems occasioned by race in this section of the country. Came November, and the UCYM conference attracted many young Nebraskans to Beatrice where Dr. Cleo Blackburn, noted sociologist talked about some practical Christianity. Sad part was that a Beatrice hotel refused to keep the world-famous personality and left a poor impression of the state with one who travels a good deal.

### EDUCATION

The great majority of advances in experimental race relations took place on the nations campuses, there being slightly more enlightenment in colleges and fewer fears due to ignorance. St. Johns university, University of Kentucky, University of Oklahoma and the Texas U. School of Medicine, all admitted Negroes for the first time last year. Racial bias was condemned on another half dozen college yards. The University of Chicago, Harvard added their first Negro faculty members. The American Association of University Women lost a couple of chapters in its insistence on non-segregated admission to the organization, but gained many more members. On the Nebraska campus, the Board of Regents eliminated its discriminatory policy on entrance to the girl's dormitories.

Civic leaders officially welcomed the end of the 85th year old racial segregation policy in the

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