

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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Faith Will Hold Against The Years

At the beginning of a new year it is good to remind ourselves of those things that endure. Life at its center must be anchored in some great loyalty, some tremendous faith, some moment of inspiration. That is true even in ordinary circumstances let alone when the world is changing, civilization in a death struggle, and life facing one crisis after another.

We have seen men lose faith in themselves. It becomes difficult for them to make a decision. They no longer are sure of their own action. The light of conviction slowly fades from their eyes. They lose the God-given right of men to dare, to dream, to adventure, to live by some great faith.

We have seen individuals lose faith in someone whom they love. We have seen individuals lose faith in great ideals. You see, you have to keep the faith. It is not hard to have faith in yourself when everything is coming your way. It is not hard to have faith in others when life is one grand romance. It is not hard perhaps to keep faith with God in various periods of our life. But to use Paul for an illustration he was able to keep faith in himself when every avenue and door seemed to be closed. Limping along a dusty road, forsaken by all except the spirit of his Christ, beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, defeated, he marched on. He never for a moment lost faith in the worth-whileness of folks to die for, to work for, to live for. When in jail, knowing there was only one way out, he did not turn his back upon his Christ, but still he kept his faith.

There are many considerations which determine our conduct. We are all influenced to some extent by the opinions of other people. Many who loudly boast about their independence are abject slaves of public opinion. A great American once said that many people thought it wise to "sit on the fence until they discovered which side the crowd was favoring, then drop down on that side." There isn't much independence in that attitude, nor is there much conviction.

The spiritual progress of our

race is due to the fact that in every land, and in all ages, there have been men and women who have had the courage to stand by their convictions. When writing to the Ephesians, Paul urged them to do certain things because he said: "This is right."

There is a canon of conduct for all Christians: not is it customary, is it popular, is it profitable, but is it right? We do know that in our own land there have been many—probably more than we realize—who have had strong convictions and who have moral backbone to resist evil. Thank God for them; may their numbers increase. And, in the end, we know it will be provided that the upright man was the wise man.

Right living eventually pays up all arrears and does it splendidly. One of our spiritual leaders said recently: "Being urged to do right may sound harsh, unpoetic, but—in the long run—it yields all the poetry of life, the secret of eternal blessedness, and the music of heaven."

Well, you and I at least know the history of the first 50 years of this high century of hope, and the strangest part of it all, in spite of the wars and rumors of wars, we are still children of hope. We have high hopes for a lasting peace. We have high hopes for the solution of the world economic problems. We have high hopes of the solution of the tangled race problems of our day. Not only with individuals, but I think with events, the great movements of life, God strives and works.

Plaster of Paris was originally manufactured near Paris, France. Heliotherapy is the treatment of disease by sun baths.

There is an average of 1,690 fires daily in the United States.



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Happy New Year! As we begin this midway year in the 20th century, let's take a look at Nebraska 100 years ago, midway in the 19th century.

In 1850 bills to organize Nebraska territory had been before congress in one form or another for six years, but Nebraska remained—and would remain for four more years—unorganized Indian territory, administered out of the office of Superintendent of Indian Affairs in St. Louis, who in turn was responsible to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the Department of Interior. (The Indian office had been shifted from War to Interior in 1849.)

Principal agencies through which federal policy was administered in the Nebraska country were located at Bellevue and Fort Laramie.

Bellevue, a fur-trading center since the days of the War of 1812, was the focal point of much white activity west of the Missouri. Peter Sarpy, the noted fur trader was there, dispensing merchandise, advice and hospitality. The Presbyterian mission was growing in strength and influence. And of course, there was the Indian agency.

A few miles up the Missouri river, a considerable Mormon settlement was functioning at the site of Winter Quarters, a cold weather haven for the persecuted Saints during the winter of 1846-47. For a number of years, Winter Quarters would continue to be the principal outfitting point for Mormon migrations across the plains to Utah.

About 180 miles west on the Platte was Fort Kearny, just a little over a year old, and moved from the mouth of Table Creek (near present Nebraska City) in 1848. Still further west, on the upper reaches of the North Platte, was Fort Laramie, a fur trading post since 1834, but purchased by the government and established as a military post only the summer before (June 26, 1849, to be exact). In the Scotts Bluff region, a mysterious adventurer named Robidoux had set up a new post near the mouth of Carter Canyon to continue raking in profits from the emigrant trade—as well as warding off compe-

Negroes in Sports

(Continued from Page 1.)

Lloyd LaBeach and Herbert McKenley of Panama and Jamaica B.W.I., respectively, showed Easterners this past track season just why no listing of sprinters and mid-distancers can be complete without the mentioning of their names. La Beach established a world's record for the 100-meter event being timed in 10:2 and did likewise in the 200 meters traversing that journey in 20:2. McKenley was off form a good portion of the season but even at that he was the very-devil-himself to outfoot from 100 up to 66 yards.

Levi Jackson, the gamest player we ever saw in years of sports coverage, bowed out as Yale university's football captain on Nov. 19, 1949, against arch-rival Harvard U. Jackson played a great game and was hoisted to the shoulders of his team mates at the close.

Marion Motley, the "One Man" football scourge who races thru opposition with all the power and technique of a runaway bull moose, was the best player we have seen since "Bronko" Nagurski's day.

Buddy Young was again the fastest thing in moleskins even out-ghosting Joe Perry of the Frisco '49'ers.

Bucky Hatchett of Rutgers, Vernon Teague, Wisconsin U., Earl Banks, Iowa U., Jimmy Robinson, Pittsburgh U., and 50 more Negro football college and pro-football stars made 1949 an unforgettable one. This was also true on the farflung "interracial" basketball scene.

Ray Robinson, best fighter the game has seen in long, long years carved greater fame for himself when he all but annihilated thunder-punching Steve Belloise, bald-

tion from the American Fur Company.

By 1850, thousands had gone across Nebraska to Oregon, Utah and California. The rush westward would continue for years to come. Nebraska in 1850 was at the peak of its career as the nation's great roadway to the west.

On the maps, though, and in the geography books, Nebraska was simply part of the "great American desert." It would take settlement and experience to erase that myth, and settlement in any considerable quantity was still more than a decade away.

headed 160 pounder. Cerden, the promising former French champion, who lost his life in a plane crash admitted he wanted no part of Robinson.

In tennis, swimming, billiards, wrestling ("Black Panther, Jim Mitchell), bowling, checkers, horse racing, soccer, cricket, angling and other sports, Negro athletes also covered themselves with much glory.

The piccolo is the highest pitched of all musical instruments.

In India, the King of England is given the title of Emperor.

Jess Williams Springs

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