

THE VOICE



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Prince Hall Emphasize Opposition to Communism

TULSA, Okl.—Prince Hall Masonry, proud of its time-proven loyalty to the American concept of government, will launch a nation-wide program this month re-emphasizing its opposition to Communism and stressing its campaign against the infiltration of Communism into Negro groups. According to Amos T. Hall, prominent Tulsa Attorney and Chairman of the Grand Masters Conference of Prince Hall Masons, an important phase of the program will be a series of public meetings across the country to be held simultaneously on Sunday, January 22, a day designated by the Grand Masters of the 38 Prince Hall Grand Lodges of America as "Americanism Day." The meetings will be held in the hundreds of communities where Prince Hall lodges are established and will be addressed by able speakers who will stress the abiding faith of Negro Masons and their neighbors in American Democracy. In planning the national program, Mr. Hall, who is Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, is being assisted by the following committee of Prince Hall Grand Masters: Dr. G. Bernard Key, Missouri; Louis Fair, Jr., New York; Ashby B. Carter, Illinois; Dr. William D. Washington, Massachusetts; John W. Dobbs, Georgia; James C. Gilliam, Mississippi; William O. Greene, Mich.; E. J. Brown, Washington; and L. L. Lockhart, Texas.

A statement issued jointly by the 38 Prince Hall Grand Masters set forth the position of Negro Masons. It says, in part: "Prince Hall Masonry enjoys and protects one of the noblest heritages that has come down to any group of Americans in the history of our beloved land. Generated and nurtured as it was by a Free Negro, who in pre-and-post-Revolutionary days was a courageous champion of human rights for all mankind and an indefatigable proponent of the brotherhood of man and of truth and justice, Prince Hall Masonry has for 165 years adhered strictly to the lofty concepts held by America's first Negro Mason. Prince Hall, a man of learning, a business man, a preacher and a soldier in the Revolutionary Army of George Washington builded so well and so enduringly that generation upon generation of Negro Americans have willingly and proudly followed in his footsteps. Prince Hall, in harmony with his contemporaries, envisioned an America destined to be great because of its advocacy of such ideals as freedom to worship, think, act and speak; freedom from tyranny and oppression; freedom of the people to have and maintain a government of, by and for the people. To these ideals, Prince Hall devoted his life and, since human bondage was as yet an item in the economic system of the young nation, his added task was his labor for an American free of discrimination and differences based upon ethnic considerations. As an institute, Prince Hall Masonry has consistently stood for the best things in American society. It has been and is staunchly opposed to any and every attempt of foreign or alien ideologies to invade our way of thinking, acting and living. Especially is it categorically opposed to totalitarianism, Communism, Facism or any like "ism" having for its purpose a change in the true American concept of

government. Although we recognize the fact that American Democracy has not as yet attained the high ideals of our Founding Fathers; that imperfections still exist, Prince Hall Masonry is happy to reaffirm its traditional position and to continue to labor assiduously for the attainment of those high ideals and for the elimination of imperfections, such labor to be done within the framework of our present government. The contribution Prince Hall Masonry is making in the current fight against Communism and its nefarious doctrines is considerable and is being increased daily. There can be no divided allegiance. There is room but for one ideology in the minds, hearts and souls of all the people of this Christian nation, and that is Americanism—the great light that illumines the path of all of us, black and white, Jew and Gentile, rich and poor. Prince Hall Masonry pledges itself anew to live and die for the ideals and principles that have made our nation the greatest on the face of the globe."

Prince Hall Masons in Nebraska pledge their whole hearted support to this program and will continue to fight for the ideals and sacred principals of this great country of ours.

Clayton P. Lewis, G. M.
J. H. Andrews, G. S.

Dimes Drive Needs Your Dollars Too

Jan. 16, the March of Dimes campaign of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis got under way and will continue until Jan. 31. The National Foundation had hoped that 1949 would be a comparatively light year since 1948 was the second highest then on record. But instead, the dread malady was worse than ever, 42,000 cases were reported.

Dr. R. G. Gustavson, State Chairman of the March of Dimes drive, said last week, "We must continue to wage the fight against this vicious and costly disease, both in the laboratories and at the bed of the afflicted until the conquest is realized. Recent advances bring us ever closer to a solution."

In Nebraska last year there were 678 cases reported (39 less than for 1948) but deaths were up 150 percent (43 as against 29 in 1948).

Fifty percent of the funds contributed to the March of Dimes remains with county chapters for use in providing medical care for polio patients needing that help. The other 50 percent is used by the National Foundation for the three-fold program of (1) research, (2) training of professional personnel for research and patient care, and (3) emergency epidemic aid to areas where local funds have become exhausted in meeting the pledge of the National Foundation that no victim of infantile paralysis shall go without the best medical care available for lack of funds regardless of race, creed, color or age.

The University of Nebraska has received \$15,000 for the study of polio, Tuskegee Institute Polio center, \$143,417 and Meharry Medical college, \$81,150.

Join the March of Dimes! Give your dimes—and dollars!

Truman Calls For Action On Civil Rights Program

BY ALICE A. DUNNIGAN

WASHINGTON, (ANP). President Truman once again called for the enactment of civil rights proposals now before Congress; for a workable farm support program; for the establishment of a labor extension service to encourage educational activities in that field; for legislation authorizing a vigorous program for building houses for lower and middle-income families; for the continuation of rent control for another year; for a broader social security program; for the establishment of a system of medical insurance which will enable all Americans to afford good medical care; for federal assistance to the states so that they can maintain adequate schools; for broadening the existing displaced persons law and remove its discriminatory features; and for strong support to

the UN in bringing about peaceful adjustment of tense international controversies.

In urging Congress to enact the civil rights proposals which he made in February, 1948, the President declared that "These propos-

als for the enactment of federal statutes which will protect all our people in the exercise of their democratic rights and their search for economic opportunity, grant statehood to Alaska and

Hawaii, provide a greater measure of self-government for our home rule to the District of Columbia possessions, and accord

It is the duty of elected representatives of the people to let the civil rights proposals come to a vote whether they oppose or favor them, declared the President.

This duty is placed upon us, he continued, by the religious ideals which we profess, and the heritage of freedom which we have received from the past.

The President reminded Congress that America's objective in the world is peace. This is not an easy task or a short one but one which the American people are determined to see through.

"Our success in working with other nations to achieve peace depends largely on what we do at home." Pointing out that America must preserve her national strength, the President emphasized that "strength is not a matter of arms and force. It is a matter of economic growth, and social health, and vigorous institutions, public and private.

"Our surest guide in the days that lie ahead will be the spirit in which this great Republic was founded. We must make our decision in the conviction that all men are created equal, that they are equally entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that the duty of government is to serve these ends."

In speaking of world peace, Mr. Truman declared that a peaceful, democratic world of free peoples will be achieved in the long run, not by force of arms, but by an appeal to the minds and hearts of men. "If the peace policy of the democratic nations is to be successful, they must demonstrate that the benefits of their way of life can be increased and extended to all nations and all races."

In concluding his statement, the President requested that Americans work for a better life for all, "so that all men may put to good use the great gifts with which they have been endowed by their Creator.

"We seek to establish those material conditions of life in which men may live in dignity, perform useful work, serve their communities, and worship God as they see fit.

"These may seem simple goals, but they are not little ones. They are worth a great deal more than all the empires and conquests of history. They are not to be achieved by military aggression or political fanaticism. They are to be achieved by humble means—by hard work, by a spirit of self-restraint in our dealings with one another, and by a deep devotion to the principles of justice and equality."

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GOP Leader Says Party Can Win In 1950 If It Backs Rights

WASHINGTON, (ANP). The Republican party has a record of "one hit, no runs, and many errors" in its performance on FEPC and other civil rights issues of vital importance to the colored electorate, recently declared Robert R. Church, chairman of the Republican American committee.

In a letter to Guy G. Gabrielson, chairman of the Republican National committee, Church declared that the Republican party has not won a presidential election since the colored electorate deserted the party. Therefore, he urged the new chairman to place some Negroes in policy forming

positions and on the Republican strategy committee.

These principles, he said, should square with the principles of Abraham Lincoln, the man who made the Republicans a great national party. But a statement of principles alone is not enough, continued Church. The Republican party has had statements of principles since 1932, during which time it has lost five presidential elections and eight out of nine congressional elections.

While Lincoln was good on principles, he was better on performance warned Church, and the party today needs a record on performance that will bring voters back into the party—not drive them out and keep them out. Church disagreed violently with the recent suggestion made by Senate Minority Leader Wherry of Nebraska that the Republican strategy committee favored putting other civil rights measures ahead of FEPC. This would be a costly mistake as it would mean torpedoing FEPC, declared the American committee chairman.

For millions who comprise the colored electorate, FEPC means bread and butter, meat on the table, rent, shoes for the baby, and clothes for all, declared Church. These people are entitled to fair employment practices and to equal job opportunities; therefore FEPC for them is literally a life and death matter.

If the Republicans are sincere in their desire to win the 1950 and 1952 elections, declared the GOP leader, they should begin the new year by competing with the Truman Democrats in the good work of making FEPC a law before the primaries and elections of 1950. If they do these things, Church predicts a Republican victory in the oncoming elections.

Our Honor Roll

The following are some of those who are New Subscribers or have renewed their subscription to THE VOICE.

How does your subscription stand?

- Senator John Adams, Omaha.
- Mrs. Lela Becks, Beatrice.
- Mr. A. J. Blackwell, Parsons, Kas.
- Dr. C. A. Bumstead.
- Mrs. Frank Burden.
- Rev. J. B. Brooks.
- Mr. Archie Furr.
- Miss Ruth Odell.
- Omaha Urban League.
- Mrs. Jean Stevenson.
- Dr. Gilbert F. Unterseher.

Merit System Schedules 7 Examinations

Seven groups of examinations for Merit System positions will be offered in 1950, according to Arthur W. Pendar, Merit System Director. The announcement of the year's examination schedule is a new procedure in the Nebraska Merit System intended to provide a continuing flow of candidates for the important jobs that need to be filled. Applications may be submitted at any time.

Examinations for clerical positions will be conducted at about three-month intervals beginning February 18th. A special State-wide examination for high school seniors will be offered in some 85 centers on April 1st, to give an opportunity for commercial department graduates to enter State employment in the county, district and State House offices.

To fill vacancies in professional positions in the Assistance and Child Welfare Department, the Health Department and the Employment Security Division, two additional groups of examinations will be given. The first of these is on May 20th, just before the end of the college year.

The announcement schedule is as follows:

- February 18—Clerical examination, State-wide, closing date February 5, 1950.
- April 1—High School Clerical examinations—Clerk I, Typist, Clerk I, Stenographer, Clerk I, Eighty-five high schools, State-wide, closing date March 12, 1950.
- May 20—Professional examinations, State-wide, for the Departments of Assistance and Child Welfare, Health and Employment Security. Closing date May 7, 1950.
- June 17—Clerical examinations, all centers where monitor service can be arranged. Closing date June 4, 1950.
- September 30—Clerical examination, State-wide, closing date September 17, 1950.
- November 4—Professional examinations, State-wide, for the Departments of Assistance and Child Welfare, Health and Employment Security. Closing date October 22, 1950.
- December 9—Clerical examinations, State-wide, closing date November 26, 1950.