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FEPC Pushed Aside In House; Rayburn Ignores Rights Leader

BY RAYMOND WILCOVE

WASHINGTON. (INS). Speaker Rayburn (d., Tex.), sidestepped a fight in the house over civil rights Monday, Jan. 23, by calling up for debate a bill to confer statehood on Alaska.

Rayburn declined to "recognize" Chairman Lesinski (d., Mich.), of the Labor committee, who tried to bring up the Fair Employment Practices bill and gave the floor to Chairman Peterson (d., Fla.), of the Public lands committee, for the statehood bill.

Speaker Rayburn, commenting on his failure to recognize Chairman Lesinski, said that the "temper of the house" was unfavorable to the FEPC bill at this time.

Despite Rayburn's decision to delay action on the FEPC bill, southern congressmen launched a minor filibuster consisting of a series of dilatory quorum calls and adjournment motions.

Their maneuver was seen as designed to prevent completion of action on the Alaskan bill Monday afternoon. Such a procedure would give the statehood measure a continuing priority over the civil rights bill.

In announcing that he would call up the Alaskan statehood bill, Rayburn reversed an earlier decision to call up legislation providing for United States contri-

butions to various international organizations.

It is the first time that an Alaskan statehood measure has ever reached the floor of the house, although bills to give statehood to both Alaska and Hawaii were approved by the Public Lands committee at the last session.

Under house rules, Chairman Lesinski must now wait until Monday, Feb. 13, before he can seek recognition again to bring up the FEPC bill. The House voted a year ago that the rules committee cannot bottle up a bill more than 21 days. If it is tied up longer than that, the chairman of the standing committee which approved the bill can move to bring it out on "discharge Monday," the second and fourth Monday of each month if he is recognized by the speaker.

In the meantime, rather than wait until the next "discharge Monday" on Feb. 13, friends of FEPC legislation have launched a movement to get it considered before that time.

Rep. Franklin D. Roosevelt, jr., of New York has started circulation of a petition which if signed by a majority of 218 members will force the bill on the floor.

On Wednesday, two republicans prepared themselves to join four southern democrats in killing a House leadership move to obtain rules committee clearance for the FEPC bill.

A six-man coalition can force a tie vote thereby stopping any action by the 12-member House group on the controversial FEPC measure which is part of President Truman's civil rights program.

The two G.O.P. members, who asked that they not be identified, privately told newsmen that they would turn thumbs down on sending the bill aimed at racial job discrimination to the floor.

The four southern members, who are opposed to the legislation are Reps. Cox (d., Ga.), Smith (d., Va.), Colmer (d., Miss.), and Lyle (d., Tex.).

The house rules committee session on FEPC was scheduled by Chairman Sabath (d., Ill.) after the stormy session Tuesday when Rep. Lesinski (d., Mich.) chairman of the House Labor committee, was unable to call the bill up under the 21-day rule.

Bethune Club To Participate In World Power

Feb. 24 has been set as World Day of Prayer, and millions of women will lift their voices in thanksgiving and a supplication all over the world for peace and Christian growth.

Participating in the Lincoln observance will be the Mary Bethune Literary and Art Club which will render a choral reading. They are being coached for the occasion by George Randol.

Among the other participants will be Mrs. Jennie Edwards and Mrs. Rubie Shakespeare.

U.S. Democracy 'Poor Product' Davis Tells UL

Grice, Riley In Midyear Graduation

Among the 660 midyear graduates at the University of Nebraska Jan. 28 were Alfred Bernard Grice, Omaha, and George Riley, Little Rock, Ark.

Mr. Grice is the son of Mrs. Paul Grice, Omaha, and received his bachelor of science degree in business administration. He plans to continue his education at Omaha University in February with work toward an advanced degree. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and has served Beta chapter as president and two terms as secretary.

Mr. Riley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Riley, Little Rock, Ark., and received his bachelor of science degree in business administration. He plans to work toward his masters degree at the University of Nebraska beginning in February. He too is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Face of South's News About Race Changing

By Charles Goolsby

Perusing the Memphis Press-Scimitar for Jan. 7, I noted a two column item headed "Memphis in 1950 should—" which included the candid comments of four Negro leaders—Dr. E. J. Walker, president, Universal Life Insurance Co., Dr. Hollis F. Price, president, LaMoyné college, J. A. McDaniel, executive secretary, Memphis Urban league and Lewis O. Swingler, editor, the Memphis World, the city's biweekly.



Mr. Swingler.

The item caught my attention because it hasn't been but a few months that the widely read southern dailies have considered Negroes' opinions, much less discussed them in their pages and especially when the suggestions have been so to the point.

Dr. Walker said that above saving buildings, a greater effort should be made to save lives by establishing a hospital and making it possible for more doctors and nurses to train; provide more low rent housing and expand LaMoyné college.

Dr. Price echoed the college expansion and added that a Boy Scout camp site was badly needed; and some effort should be made to "enlarge the area of interracial understanding."

Mr. Swingler, who was the U. of N.'s school of journalism's second Negro graduate and editor of the Memphis World since 1931, has been civically active. He led the campaign for Negroes on the police force in 1948 and now urges: that firemen be added; that the cultural programs of the open air theater be shared; and the furthering of the "commendable situation" between races in the city.

Mr. McDaniel urged 60,000 Negroes to register and vote; that

"The world is not rushing in to buy the American kind of democracy," said Dowdal H. Davis, general manager of the Kansas City Call and president of the Negro Newspaper Publisher's association as he addressed 225 members of the Lincoln Urban League at their annual dinner and election of board members January 25.

He preceded his remark by saying that democracy had not failed, but that there is a feeling of unrest as found among Negroes in economic insecurity, personal insecurity, and insecurity of personal dignity. Too many people love ease, they don't like a situation, but sit idly by in the status quo, preferring to withdraw rather than participate, while they are sold down the river.

Lula Williams Succumbs



MRS. LULA WILLIAMS. Mrs. Lula Williams, 81, of 2026 Q, died Sunday after a short illness. She had lived here three years.

Born in Anderson, Texas, Mrs. Williams moved to Alliance, Nebr. in 1924. Her husband, Henry, preceded her in death. Surviving are a son, David Taylor of Alliance; four daughters, Mrs. Lottie Johnson, Mrs. Joseph Green and Mrs. Jessie Linear, all of Lincoln, and Mrs. Andrew Jackson of Ennis, Texas; one brother, Aler Brent, of Conroe, Texas; 16 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday.

Death Takes Rev. Riley Bell, 37 Years Here

Rev. Riley Bell, 89, 2703 So. 8th Street, succumbed Sunday, Jan. 29 at 10:45 a. m. at a local hospital after an illness of some eight weeks. Rev. Bell was born Sept. 15, 1860 in the Indian Territory of Oklahoma. He came to Lincoln about 37 years ago and has remained here since that time. He has been a member of Mt. Zion Baptist church for many years and served its congregation as Assistant Pastor at various periods.

He is survived by his wife, Henrietta B. Bell, 3 sons, Frank and Bradford Bell of Chadron, Ohio, John of Tulsa, Okl.; half-sister, Mrs. Mary Duncan of Iola, Kas.; a daughter, Mrs. Alenir Kelley of Lincoln; 6 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Funeral arrangements had not been completed at press time.

all school teachers meet minimum standards for the same pay; the establishment of a vocational high school and expansion of adult education a more active and articulate church in the field of race relations and fewer barriers between denominations.

Fold all towels lengthwise before hanging to dry. Prevents "long corners," and they'll be handier for hanging on racks without re-folding.

Mr. Davis continued saying that there are many people who are decent and want to do the right, but live under prejudiced teachings because of the pressures of certain social groups. "I agree with Pearl Buck, we should make up our minds about what kind of government and society we want and work toward it."

In our present struggle with Russia, the problem is not money but a way of life, and our real resources are not arms but the hopes of mankind looking for a way of life.

He reported that Gen. Clay, Berlin airlift chief, told a group of publishers that the most difficult thing about teaching the Germans democracy was trying to define democracy in the face of the situation and practices (i. e. of Jim Crow army units). If being an American is valuable, why should we have to apologize, explain or qualify it abroad.

HOPE FOR DEMOCRACY. "Despite its frame of imperfection," the newsman continued, "it (democracy) can cure itself." Its cure, he averred, lies in the rewards to the state of good citizenship. If more officials in Washington had more integrity, there would be little opposition to civil rights legislation. And if Negroes were given an opportunity to compete in the open labor market, our national purchasing power

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Army Plans More Integration As Javits Probes

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA). As the Army planned to make public its program envisioning the integration of colored and white soldiers, Representative Jacob K. Javits, Republican, of New York, Thursday, Jan. 12, offered a resolution calling for congressional investigation of racial and religious segregation in the armed services.

Under the resolution, the proposed inquiry would be made by a selection committee of 19 representatives appointed by the Speaker from the House Committees on Armed Services, Educator and Labor Affairs, and Expenditures in the Executive Departments. The resolution calls for a report by the special committee not later than next June 1.

In introducing the resolution, Mr. Javits pointed out that the Navy, the Air Force and the Army have each adopted separate policies to assure equality of treatment and opportunity for all members of their personnel in response to an executive order issued by President Truman July 26, 1946, and a directive issued by Defense Secretary Louis Johnson, last April 6.

Sac Says

This is the first in a series of columns prepared by the Lincoln Social Action Council, an organization of religious, civic and social service groups and individuals interested in social action locally. During its three years existence, the organization has been instrumental in ameliorating a number of discriminatory practices in Lincoln and is continuing with a program of study, education and action.—Ed.

Greetings to the readers of The Voice from the Lincoln Social Action Council! Perhaps if we can keep in touch with each other, we can find out how each can help the other. It is our hope that an occasional column in this very fine newspaper will enable us to communicate to you what we are doing and what you can do to help.

I am sure you have heard of SAC and the work it has been doing for several years. SAC believes in a community wherein all members share an equal opportunity in which the color of one's skin is not a bar across any door, whether it be that of employment, services, education, health, recreation or anything else; a community which is not dragged down by the human misery caused by discrimination, nor the human tyranny existing in prejudice. This is no Marxist doctrine—it is found in the writings of our founding fathers and the literature of all the great religions.

Thus our programs, our projects and our publications are aimed at achieving these goals, through education, legislation and a host of other methods. Without your support and interest, we shall fail. Are you a member of SAC? Is your organization represented at our meetings?

Future columns will tell you more of our work, our plans, and what you can do; but let me end our first column by urging all of you to come meet us at our next SAC general meeting Monday, February 6, at 7:30 p. m. at 1417 "R" street. We'd be delighted to have you!

TED SORENSEN, President, Lincoln Social Action Council.