

# The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

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### EDITORIALS

The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

## Non-Compromising FEPC Bill to Be Brought to the Senate

By Alice A. Dunnigan

WASHINGTON, (ANP). Senate Democratic Leader Scott M. Lucas of Illinois has scheduled the administration's non-compromising FEPC bill to be brought to the senate for action about March 10, according to a recent announcement.

Senate leaders hope to "put teeth" in the toothless FEPC measure which passed the house last week by pushing the strongest bill possible through the senate. If the McGrath bill (which is a companion to the defeated Powell bill) goes through the senate it will have to go to a compromise between the provisions of the two bills will have to be reached.

Sen. Hubert Humphrey (d., Minn.) who helped force the compulsory FEPC plank into the democratic platform thinks that the house passed voluntary bill is at least a beginning and hopes the senate will be able to improve it.

Some other senators think the McConnell bill will have a better chance of invoking senate cloture against a southern anti-FEPC filibuster, and in getting through the senate. In rechecking the republican support for the forthcoming motion to shut off debate, G.O.P. leaders discovered that their party was mainly in favor of the voluntary FEPC bill and expressed reluctance to pledge their cloture votes to call up the administration's compulsory bill.

A spokesman for the republican party estimated that 35 or 40 republican senators would vote for the cloture "if they think there is a fair chance to substitute the voluntary bill once the filibuster is broken." Under the so-called "Wherry cloture rule" adopted in the last session, 64 votes are necessary to cut off debate. If the republicans can supply 35 cloture votes, only 29 will be necessary from the democratic ranks to kill the filibuster which the southerners are already planning.

Senator Humphrey said the republicans will have a lot of explaining to do in the next campaign if they force anything less than the McGrath bill. He said that in case the Taft voluntary bill come out of the senate, he is prepared to offer an amendment requiring the proposed five-man FEPC commission to report back to congress within two years time, recommendations for "the next legislative steps." The Taft bill is a companion bill to the McConnell bill which was passed by the house last week.

Every member of the senate received a round robin letter last Wednesday signed by nine individuals who represented national organizations on the

round-the-world Town Meeting of the Air seminary, appealing to them to refrain from obstructionism and undignified discussion aimed to prevent a fair discussion and vote on the civil rights measures. "We appeal to you to think of this issue of human rights as an American and from NAACP: Alfred A. Albert not a politically partisan one."

The letter was signed by Walter White, secretary on leave of the American Civil Liberties union; Irving Brown, European representative of the A. F. of L.; Edith S. Sampson of the National Council of Negro Women; George W. Welsh of the U. S. Conference of Mayors; Sadjia Stokowski; Dr. Clarence Decker; Robert S. Byfield, and Robert Hansen.

Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP referred to the House passed FEPC measure as an "emasculated bill, which is little more than a declaration of principles." The task is now to carry the fight to the Senate, he said, "in an uncompromising effort to strengthen the toothless and inadequate McConnell bill."

Among those who voted in the House for the McConnell bill as a substitute for the Powell bill were 115 Democrats, one Democratic-Liberal, and 124 Republicans. Those voting against the McConnell substitute with the hope of eventually getting a stronger bill through, included 134 Democrats, 42 Republicans and one American Laborite.

"The best proof that the substitute is weak and ineffective," declared Wilkins, "is the fact that southern Democrats went down the line for it with even Representative Rankins voting for it in the initial test."

Elmer Henderson, director of the American Council on Human Rights, said his organization would "devote its resources to breaking the inevitable filibuster and passing an FEPC bill with enforcement powers."

Henderson denounced the scuttling of the Powell bill in the House by the coalition of Southern Democrats and Northern Republicans. What passed the House, he said was "merely a pious resolution. Even its piety was tarnished by numerous frivolous and insincere amendments tacked on to it by the coalition . . ."

"The whole exhibition, particularly the dilatory maneuvers of the southerners, was a travesty of parliamentary democracy and, if not quickly repaired, may have the tragic consequence of lessening the faith of many people, at home and abroad, in our system of government," declared the ACHR director.

Immediately after the passage of the weak-kneed FEPC bill by the House last week, President Truman renewed his stand for the original compulsory bill. Al-



With Nebraska quietly passing its 83rd birthday March 1st, it is a little difficult to realize the extent of the controversy which raged around admission of the state into the Union in 1867. That controversy was national as well as local.

Nationally, the struggle over Nebraska's admission was part of the postwar conflict between President Andrew Johnson and the radicals. The radicals, who controlled congress, insisted that Nebraska include no restrictions on voting because of color, in its constitution. Johnson, who opposed typing up the admission of a state in this fashion, had yet another reason for opposing Nebraska's entry—Nebraska's two republican senators (already elected) would be sure to throw their weight against him in the struggles that were to follow.

Locally, the population was split along lines of the national controversy, with the democrats opposing admission and the republicans favoring it. In addition, local republicans pointed to the advantages that would accrue from statehood while local democrats argued that a state government would be too expensive.

Reaction of Nebraskans to admission is reflected in the editorial columns of the newspapers of that day.

The Nebraska Herald, a republican paper published at Plattsmouth, heralded news that the act of admission had been passed over President Johnson's veto with the following: "UP WITH THE FLAG—FIRE THE BIG GUN—NEBRASKA A STATE!—Nebraska is no longer a territory, but assumes, from this day henceforth, the proud position of a state in the great American Union; not only a state, but a FREE state, recognizing the rights of all men, whether white or black . . ."

J. Sterling Morton's ardently democratic Nebraska City News greeted the announcement with sarcasm: "According to the promises made to her inhabitants, they will now enter upon a career of

though he had not read the voluntary House version at the time of his press conference last Thursday a few hours after the passage of the bill, he said he had made his FEPC position perfectly plain in his message to Congress.

Sen. Owen Brewster (r., Me.) said if the voluntary bill came to the senate his party would support cloture.

Sen. Kenneth S. Wherry, G.O.P. leader from Nebraska said he would vote for cloture on FEPC and would favor voluntary legislation, but would oppose "controls upon millions of Americans such as would prevail under the proposed compulsory FEPC legislation."

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## It's New at N.U.

By Charlene J. Colbert

An International Friendship dinner was given last week under the joint sponsorship of the Religious Welfare Council, the Nebraska University Council of World Affairs, and the Cosmopolitan club. Foreign students representing more than 40 countries, were guests of American students. The meal featured Ukrainian dishes which were prepared by Ukrainian cooks.

Dr. G. W. Rosenlof presided over the program for the evening. Included in the program were vocalists from Latvia and Norway, a Persian instrumentalist, and a group of Latin-American students who provided South-American music.

Following the program was a style show in which students modeled costumes of different countries.

The University Theater is going to present the play, "Home of The Brave" at the Nebraska Theater Monday, March 13th. The play treats the adjustments of a Jewish soldier. In the popular movie, the main character is a Negro.

unexampled prosperity. Taxes will be low. The prices of labor will be high. Flush times will drive out lean times, wealth will be the rule and poverty the exception among out-people. And the total expense of this beneficial change, will not exceed, remember, according to the eloquent advocates of statehood who perambulated Nebraska and harangued her people during the pleasant months of May and June 1866, the inconsiderable sum of twelve thousand dollars each year."

The Nebraska Advertiser, published at Brownville, hailed word of statehood as "glorious news," and predicted: "Nebraska . . . will grow in importance and strength henceforth and forever."

Dr. Jan O. M. Broek, head of the geography department at the University of Minnesota, addressed a university convocation last week. He discussed some of the problems of Asiatic countries, and the importance of

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## Filming of The Robinson Story Is Completed

By Harry Levette

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (ANP). By rushing the shooting of the film, the Jewell company ended production of the Jackie Robinson movie biography last week so Jackie could rush down to Veró Beach, Fla., in time for the opening of spring training March 1. It will be released under the Eagle-Lion banner. Jackie's early life was filmed at Pasadena where he grew up, then at Anaheim and Burbank.

Baseball games were filmed in the Hollywood baseball park, home of the Hollywood stars of the Pacific Coast league, a farm connection of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Ruby Dee, who gained prominence for her work in "No Way Out," plays the role of the baseball star's wife; Louise Beavers is cast in the sympathetic role of his mother. Among others featured in the picture were:

Joel Fluelllyn, Marjorie Elliott, Bill Walker, Bernard Hamilton, Roy Glenn, Mildred Boyd, Doris Ake, Lens Benjamin, and Elmer Fain.

The picture appears to follow his life very closely. Among others featured were Kenney Washington, Jay Loft Lynn, Jimmie Payne, Jack Williams and Minor Watson as Branch Ritchey.

their relations with the United States. Dr. Broek presented a few possible means by which our relations with these countries could be bettered.

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