

# The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

**Rev. Melvin L. Shakespeare**

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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.

Labor Day is the only national holiday recognized by Congressional action.

Lafayette presented the key to the French Bastille to George Washington and it may now be seen at Mt. Vernon.

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James A. Garfield, who died at 49, lived the shortest life of any U. S. President.

In going through the Panama Canal one travels a little more than 50 miles.



by **JAMES C. OLSON**, Superintendent  
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The census for many years has been an important function of government. In Nebraska it was the first official act of the newly-created territorial government, and preceded formal organization of the territory. Indeed, it provided the basis for that organization.

Almost immediately upon assuming office, Acting Governor Thomas B. Cuming (Governor Burt, you will remember, died shortly after his arrival in Nebraska) issued a proclamation directing that the inhabitants of the territory be enumerated between October 24 and November 20, 1854. He divided the eastern or settled portion of the territory into six districts, assigning a deputy to each.

Governor Cuming's instructions to the marshals were explicit. They were to be particularly careful that no names were enrolled except those of actual residents, and if the marshal had any doubt about the residence of a person he was to require the individual in question to subscribe to a written oath relative to his place of abode.

Governor Cuming also instructed the marshals as follows: "The column of 'remarks' is designed to present facts, as to the condition of the inhabitants and character of the country in your district; and you may also embody therein, or in a separate memorandum, such facts as you can obtain without hindrance, as to the

natural and mineral resources of the country."

The returns from this first census—carefully preserved in the library of the State Historical Society—show a total of 2,732 persons residing in Nebraska territory, of whom 929 were white males 21 years of age or older, and thus entitled to vote. Of the total population, 914 lived north of the Platte River, and 1,818 lived south of the Platte. Thirteen slaves were included in the returns.

On the basis of this first census, Governor Cuming divided the settled portion of the territory into eight counties (Richardson, Pierce, Forney, Cass, Douglas, Dodge, Washington and Burt), set up an apportionment, and provided for an election of members to the territorial legislature and of a delegate to congress.

There was much dissatisfaction with Governor Cuming's apportionment, particularly in the South Platte region where the Governor's opponents claimed that it was rigged in favor of the North Platte section.

Unfortunately, the marshals failed to carry out that part of the Governor's instructions relative to collecting data regarding the "condition of the inhabitants and the character of the country." The column "remarks" is almost universally blank.

### If We Only Understood

If we knew the cares and trials,  
Knew the efforts all in vain,  
And the bitter disappointment,  
Understood the loss and gain—  
Would the grim eternal roughness  
Seem—I wonder—just the same?  
Should we help where now we hinder,  
Should we pity where we blame?

Ah! we judge each other harshly,  
Knowing not life's hidden force—  
Knowing not the fount of action  
Is less turbid at its source;  
Seeing not amid the evil  
All the golden grains of good;  
And we'd love each other better  
If we only understood.

Could we judge all deeds by motives  
That surround each other's lives,  
See the naked heart and spirit,  
Know what spur the action gives,  
Often we would find it better,  
Purer than we judge we should,  
We should love each other better  
If we only understood.

—Rudyard Kipling.

### Household Hints

By Mrs. Brevy Miller  
Phone 2-4051

A fast test for active yeast is to stir the yeast with a teaspoon of sugar in lukewarm water. It will begin foaming in 10 minutes if active, and can be mixed with the flour right away.

Chocolate baked goods have a

## E. Stanley Jones Here in October

Dr. E. Stanley Jones, missionary and author, will come to Lincoln in October, the Lincoln Ministerial association announces, to hold an interdenominational Christian mission.

Dr. Jones went to India 32 years ago as a missionary. He has written 13 books, best known of which is "The Christ of the Indian Road," a best seller which has been translated into 12 languages.

Dates of the mission are Oct. 22 to 27.

new taste if you add a little cinnamon.

For hand-dusting Venetian blinds, use as a dust cloth canvas gloves which have been turned fleece-side-out and oiled.

## Umberger's 2-2424

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