

# The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

Rev. Melvin L. Shakespeare

Publisher and Editor

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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.

## SAC Says

(Continued from Page 1)

but not angry; be insistent but not loud.

3. Show them their error. There are many appeals you may be able to make to those discriminating. The first is certainly to their sense of justice and honor, their belief in the democratic or religious system. Since this probably will carry little weight with those who have already decided to discriminate, meet them on their own grounds of economic benefit. Don't they want a cosmopolitan atmosphere in their establishment? Don't they want to serve the largest market possible? Wouldn't it be more efficient to single out undesirable individuals rather than an entire racial group? And do they really believe that their customers or employees would walk out or never come back; that didn't happen to the man across the street who doesn't discriminate; let's try it awhile and find out; or let's ask them now, fairly. If he needs any help while making the change, you'll be glad to help him. Finally, approach him on the legal basis. Under the laws and court decisions of the United States and our state, much discrimination is unlawful (in restaurants, for example). Does he know he's violating the law? That every other proprietor in his business must obey the same law? That the government does not permit its laws to be openly violated?

4. Report the facts. Tell someone else the outcome of all this. The Urban League, the NAACP and the Social Action Council all want to know about it and do something about it. They may be in a better position to work on it, or have someone who can better approach the proprietor. If you don't let them know, nothing will be done about it. If a law is violated and your town has not yet organized any groups to meet such problems, the County Attorney is responsible for the enforcement of all state laws. Other law enforcement officials or a sympathetic lawyer may be consulted.

5. Never let it die. Those who have done the discriminating will continue more convinced or begin to discriminate again if they think it has been forgotten or no one can do anything about it. It's always discouraging, but do not admit defeat. Revisit the place. Press for action. Arouse the community. Use non-violent techniques to win your point. After eliminating the discrimination, follow the case up with the establishment of good relations among all. You will have made a contribution not only to a racial group, but to your entire community—indeed, to all mankind.

## Alliance News

BY THERESA M. MOTLEY

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Quarles of Brookhaven, Miss., are guests at the home of Mrs. Jenkins Butler. Accompanying the Quarles are their daughter, Yella Mae and Mr. Quarles' sister, Gladys. Mrs. Quarles is the former Delores Butler.

Main event of the week was the 31st anniversary party of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Harris, Sunday, April 2. Open house was held at their home from 2 until 5 p. m. The following were among the guests:

Mrs. Percilla Benson and sister, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. James Benson of Crawford, Mr. Al Dandridge of Chadron, Mrs. Mayme Houchins of Lincoln, Grand Worth Matron of Amaranthus Grand Chapter of the Nebraska Jurisdiction; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Banks, sr., Mr. and Mrs. Al Matthews and nephew, Nickle Banks of Sidney, Minnie P. Motley and daughters, Teresa and Beatrice, Mrs. Ella Evans and son, David, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nickens, Mr. Jenkins Butler and daughter, LaVonne, and son Edward; Mrs. Beatrice Woodlee and daughter, Stella Marie and son, Max; Mr. and Mrs. Mills Lear, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Ealy, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Rochell, Mr. William Darnell and son, Bill; Mr. Obbie Waring; Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Chandler, jr., and daughter Beverly.

Refreshments and a buffet dinner were served in the evening. Many lovely gifts were received and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely.

Mr. Commodore Goings, sr., and son of Sidney were visiting in Alliance, Saturday. Douglas Harden and Marie Williams accompanied them. They were enroute to Denver, Colo.

Mr. Wallace White of Sidney also motored to Alliance for the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed McClain and Robert of Crawford were week end visitors in Alliance.

Visitors in the city from Scottsbluff included Mr. and Mrs. Willard Wright, Misses Frankie Mae and Harvey Echols, Lewis Daniels, Warren Wilson, Lennard Robert Guthrie and Paul Juarez.

Miss Beatrice Motley, Harvey Echols and Lennard Nichols were Sunday evening guests at the home of Miss Stella Woodlee.

## OUT OF OLD NEBRASKA



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### NEBRASKA'S GOVERNORS.

Silas A. Holcomb, Nebraska's first Populist governor, probably has the distinction of having served in a greater number and wider variety of high state offices than any other man in our history. He was district judge, governor, judge of the supreme court, chief justice, member of the board of control of state institutions, and chairman of the board.

That Holcomb made a strong impression upon the Nebraska of his day there can be little doubt. This is particularly evident in the best available account of his public career, written by N. C. Abbott, noted Nebraska historian now living in Dallas, Texas, and published serially in *Nebraska History*, 1945-46.

Silas Holcomb was born in Gibson County, Indiana, August 25, 1858. Following a common school education and a term at a normal school, he taught for four years to secure money with which to attend college. The death of his father in 1876, leaving Silas as the head of his family, prevented him from achieving this ambition.

A year later he brought his mother, brothers, and sisters to Nebraska, settling on a Hamilton county farm. Soon after his arrival in Nebraska, young Holcomb began to read law, being admitted to the bar in 1882. He opened a law office at Broken Bow in 1883.

Custer county was a stronghold of the populist movement which swept across Nebraska in the early Nineties, and Broken Bow furnished much of its leadership. Holcomb became one of the most important and effective populist leaders in the state.

As a populist nominee for district judge in 1891, Holcomb—only 33—defeated F. G. Hamer, later a justice of the state supreme court. He served as district judge until his nomination for the governorship in 1894.

A democratic-populist fusion, effected that year, resulted in Holcomb's nomination by both parties and put him into office by a narrow margin over Thomas J. Majors, the republican candidate. All of the remaining state officers and most of the legislators were republican.

Holcomb was re-elected by a large majority in 1896 (the year of William J. Bryan's first campaign for the presidency), along with a complete set of fusion state officers and enough legislators to give the democratic-populist combination control of both houses.

Holcomb was not a candidate in 1898, and the year following his retirement from the governorship, he was elected to the state supreme court as a fusion candidate, defeating Manoah B. Reese. He served

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on the court for six years, the last two as chief justice.

Following his retirement from the court Holcomb returned to his law practice at Broken Bow, but when a constitutional amendment, adopted in 1912, created a "Board of Commissioners of State Institutions" (now the board of control), he was again called into public service. Holcomb served on the board until forced by ill health to resign in 1919. He died April 25, 1920, at the home of a daughter in Bellingham, Washington.

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## Young Van Simpson To Preach at Mt. Zion

Master Van Simpson, age 7, will preach at 3:00 p. m. services, Sunday April 16, at Mt Zion Baptist church.

Master Simpson is the grandson of Rev. W. L. Monroe, pastor of the church.

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