

The Voice

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EDITORIALS

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White Cites Civil Rights Gains

NEW YORK. (ANP). Some of the most far-reaching gains ever made in the field of race relations were attained during 1950, Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, said in a report submitted this week at the association's annual meeting in the Willkie Memorial building.

However, he warned, "we face one of the most difficult legislative struggles in American history in the 82nd Congress, where Dixiecrats and conservative republicans are already ganging up on civil rights legislation.

"If those forces of darkness succeed, then the colored peoples of the world may have their last hope of democracy destroyed, because they will not believe that the United States can place democracy above color prejudice."

The gains made last year, Mr. White said, had been won at greatly increased costs, and had also stimulated "a new respect of the bigots for the Negro's struggle for freedom." Groups, like the Dixiecrats, which formerly disdained the Negro's rights to secure his constitutional rights have "become more devious in their methods because they now respect those who fight against bigotry, especially since the notable victories won in the U.S. Supreme court during 1950," he asserted.

Those Supreme court decisions smashed the color line in higher education in the South, Mr. White

said. As a result, approximately 1,000 Negro graduate and professional students have attended state-supported universities in the South from which they were formerly excluded.

Segregation of Negro passengers in southern dining cars has been banned by a decision of the Supreme court. As resistance continues in some states, the fight for complete equality must be continued and stepped-up, the NAACP leader asserted.

"For forty-one years the bulk of the struggle has been carried by Negroes themselves," Mr. White declared. "It was significant to note that in Ambassador Warren Austin's report to the United Nations on the progress of human rights in the United States more than 60 percent of the specific gains cited were won by minorities, and especially by the Negro.

"This progress, if properly publicized and continuously accelerated, is the most important means of loosening anti-white feeling in Asia, which is one of the chief reasons why Americans die in Korea."

Following the talk, departmental reports were submitted by Roy Wilkins, administrator; Thurgood Marshall, special counsel; Gloster B. Current, director of branches; Clarence Mitchell, director, the Washington bureau; Walter Offutt, church secretary; and Henry Lee Moon, director, public relations.

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche Addresses American Political Science Body

WASHINGTON. (ANP). Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, who returned last week from Stockholm, Sweden where he was presented the Nobel Peace prize, Thursday headed a list of numerous guest speakers at the meeting of the American Political Science association.

In his talk Dr. Bunche criticized the lack of democracy in Washington, D. C., denounced the isolationism of ex-President Herbert Hoover, asked for the end of colonialism, and expressed faith in the United Nations as a hope for world peace.

Of the nation's jimcrow capital, Dr. Bunche said, "Washington still has failed to provide a shining example of democracy at work."

He hinted that Europeans feared the possibility of a return to isolationism by the United States as expressed by Hoover in a recent address. He also asked for alertness on the world front, saying:

"Above all, we must be ready next time to insure that a Korean adventure cannot be repeated elsewhere with any chance of success."

Dr. Bunche pointed out that more than half of the world are darker people of Asia and Africa, "little known, little understood." He said the West must overcome

a "long unsavory history of colonial imperialism to win those peoples for peace and democracy." Finally, he acclaimed the United Nations as a great factor in world peace.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A frequently told tale out of old Nebraska is the story of "The Doughnut Squaw." I'll not vouch for its accuracy, but it's a good yarn, and in this last column of the old year (or the first of the new, depending on when your paper is published) I'd like to pass on the latest version to come to my attention. I got it from [redacted] and Harry [redacted] and veteran Omaha lawyer [redacted] in California.

As they tell it, the mother, Matilda Lundin Peterson, was the original "Doughnut Squaw." With her husband, Sven Johan, she had come to Nebraska territory from Sweden, bringing with her a doughnut recipe such as could have originated only in that Scandinavian home-land of so many pioneer Nebraskans.

It wasn't long before the Peterson home was a favorite stopping place, for Indians as well as whites. Among the former, the comely Matilda's doughnuts became a legend, and she became known as "The Doughnut Squaw."

One day, so the story goes, a visiting chief, completely charmed by the lady of the household and her cookery, offered to trade Sven three squaws for the Doughnut Squaw. The amused husband jokingly agreed and promptly forgot about it.

Not so the Indian. A few days later he appeared at the door with three squaws in tow, all set to demand performance. Scared and angry, Mrs. Peterson loosed Viking thunder and lightning on her penitent and panicky spouse before she ran for help.

Even though Sven was well and favorably known among the Indians, he now was in a desperate situation. The Indians were in no mood to have the bargain cancelled, and it was only after much consideration that they agreed to call it off.

The grandsons, who knew Matilda in later years as a dominant and vigorous figure in an aggressive business community, venture the explanation that the Chief decided to call the deal off lest he and his tribe be ruled by "The Doughnut Squaw." As they wrote me, "he had seen her flash eagle and regal and he was bargaining for docility and doughnuts."

It's a good story.

George Washington's second inaugural address is the shortest on record.

Racial Equality Teaching 'Costly'; Loses Custody of Children to Father

LOS ANGELES. (ANP). Mrs. Jean B. Field, white, is a staunch believer in racial equality, and because she believed that there is no such thing as "white superiority," she taught her two children, Jay, 13 and Mary Kay, 10, to regard Negroes as their equals.

Last week in Judge Harold Schweitzer's court, she lost custody of her two children to their father because of her condemnation of racial discrimination, foreign and domestic fascism and [redacted].

[redacted] had raised the children years after her husband, C. Field, deserted. Jay was three weeks old at the time. Recently the mother sent the children to visit their father, who lives in Oklahoma.

Field refused to send them back to their mother. He instituted a suit in an Oklahoma court to retain custody of the children, basing his claim on letters which his wife had written to them.

At the hearing in the court order from Oklahoma before Judge Schweitzer, a statement by the children's paternal grandmother, Mrs. Laura B. Field, charged that Jay had an inferiority complex because his mother allowed him to invite a Negro boy to their home to view television programs. The grandmother said that because of this incident, Jay spent considerable time in the company of other Negro boys.

The grandfather also accused Jay of having an inferiority complex because the youngster refused to accept the jimcrow laws of Oklahoma. The grandfather objected to the child's belief that "color is the only reason the two races do not mingle."

In addition, the grandparents objected to Kay's admiration for athletes like Jackie Robinson, Luke Easter and Larry Doby, and

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