

The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

Melvin L. Shakespeare

Publisher and Editor

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EDITORIALS

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

Our Mistakes . . .

People always criticize newspapers—and The Voice is no exception. We make mistakes, many of them inexcusable. Reporters misinterpret facts, notices are left out, or we put the wrong time and place for the meeting.

The editorial staff of The Voice is glad readers complain, because it is only through these complaints that we can correct our errors, and bring to our readers a better paper. In the selection of news stories, we try to be impartial, and give every organization its due amount of publicity. There is an old newspaper theory that a press is only as free as the

people want it to be—and only as bad as the people allow it to be.

The purpose of The Voice is to print news you—the people want to read—about meetings you go to, events you take part in and about the many sidelights of social life which go to make up a good community.

We have a space provided for the expression of our readers opinion. If we miss something, or are wrong about something, we want to know about something, we help of our readers The Voice will become what it strives to be—a paper for the expression of what its readers want it to be.

R. W. S.

Why The Voice Is Important What It Is Doing For You

YOUR RESPONSE TO IT

Since the founding of The Voice in October 1946, no other publication of its type has reached as many people and done so much good in such a short period of time.

First of all, The Voice was founded upon the belief that a Christian approach to the news would do more good than a non-Christian approach. It subscribes to the principles of fair play and reporting the news value of the truth as it is.

Second, it attempts to serve all the people by human interest stories and contests that are important to all people without regard to race.

Third, The Voice is doing everything in its power to prove to the people of Lincoln and anyone everywhere it is read that the Negro has arrived; that the time for democratic action through education is now, that if

we believe in the risen Christ we have no choice other than the Christ-likeness that is expected of us.

How can you respond to such an attitude, a platform, a program? Can it survive without your help? Do you support it with a large ad, a subscription, or calling in news? Its progress and growth is dependent upon how much you believe in the course of freedom, liberty and equality.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It may be difficult to believe in this era of the high cost of living, but the pioneers had their problems with high prices, too. This was particularly true of the overland emigrants, and many of the contemporary accounts of the emigration contain complaints against the high prices charged in outfitting towns and at points along the trail.

John Henry Coke in 1850 described rising prices in St. Louis—resulting from the heavy demands of the emigration—in words that are painfully descriptive of our own day: "For one of my horses I have paid 125 dollars, and for a mule 140. Three years ago I could have bought the two for less than half of what I have given for either."

Toll bridges and ferries were a constant source of irritation. John Hawkins Clark, who went overland to California in 1852, described the situation at the Wolf River bridge in Kansas: "A large Indian sat at the receipt of customs demanding \$1 per wagon for the privilege of crossing over."

This bridge must have been particularly notorious, for others who went along the trail that year commented unfavorably

upon the rates charged. The bridge was something of a bottleneck, too; travelers found themselves forced to wait long periods for the privilege of paying the price to get across. One diary noted: "Such was the crowd of people and so exorbitant the price that our party joined some other trains and built a new bridge."

Clark, mentioned above, did not confine his complaints to the Wolf River situation. In writing of it he stated, "California should be full of gold if the immigrant expects to get back all his outlay in getting there: \$5 per wagon and fifty cents for horses, mules and oxen for crossing the Missouri river at St. Joe; and here again, \$1 per wagon for passing over a bridge fifty feet in length, costing perhaps \$150."

Later, when the stage coaches and heavy emigration had brought about the establishment of way stations, prices charged for meals were \$1.00 or \$1.50, regardless of the fare or how little was served. Passengers frequently complained of what they got for their money.

Particularly notorious was Kearney City, the civilian community just west of Fort Kearny. Maurice O'Connor Morris described a shopping expedition there in 1863 as follows: "My sole purchase was a sheet of vile newspaper, for which I paid three cents—its weight I should think in silver, if not gold."

FREDRICH BROS.

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CITY LINES

Note of Interest

Thousands of Japanese are attending evangelistic services in a two-months' campaign headed by Rev. E. Stanley Jones. In Shizuoka, where 1,500 came to one meeting, the governor of the prefecture welcomed Dr. Jones, signed a decision card.

St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome is the largest in the world.

Notice to Contractors

Sealed bids will be received at the office of the Department of Roads and Irrigation in the State Capitol at Lincoln, Nebraska, on June 28, 1951, until 10:00 o'clock A.M., and at that time publicly opened and read for SAND GRAVEL FOR SURFACING and incidental work on the LINCOLN-ADAMS Patrol No. 11045 State Road

The approximate quantity is: 3,025 Cu. Yds. Sand Gravel Course Material.

The attention of bidders is directed to the Special Provisions covering subletting or assigning the contract.

Compliance by the contractor with the standards as to hours of labor prescribed by the "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," approved June 25, 1938 (Public No. 718, 75th Congress), will be required in the performance of the work under this contract.

The minimum wage paid to all skilled labor employed on this contract shall be one dollar and five cents (\$1.05) per hour, except that a minimum wage of one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per hour shall be paid to:

Crane Operators

Power Shovel Operators

The minimum wage paid to all intermediate labor employed on this contract shall be ninety-five (95) cents per hour.

The minimum wage paid to all unskilled labor employed on this contract shall be seventy-five (75) cents per hour.

Plans and specifications for the work may be seen and information secured at the office of the County Clerk at Lincoln, Nebraska, at the office of the County Clerk of Beatrice, Nebraska, or at the office of the Department of Roads and Irrigation at Lincoln, Nebraska.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish bond in an amount equal to 100% of his contract.

As an evidence of good faith in submitting a proposal for this work, the bidder must file, with his proposal, a certified check made payable to the Department of Roads and Irrigation and in an amount not less than three hundred fifty (350) dollars.

The right is reserved to waive all technicalities and reject any or all bids.

DEPARTMENT OF ROADS AND IRRIGATION

F. H. Klietsch, State Engineer

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