

# The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

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Member of the Associated Negro Press and Nebraska Press Association  
Entered as Second Class Matter, June 9, 1947 at the Post Office at Lincoln Nebraska under the Act of March 3, 1879.  
1 year subscription \$2.50 Single copy 10c  
Out-of-State 1 Year Subscription \$2.50—Single Copy 10c



**EDITORIALS**  
The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not of The Voice.—Pub.

## Public Housing Is Rejected

The city council has for the third time rejected co-operation agreement presented by its own housing authority.

The vote was 5 to 2. The two supporters were C. W. D. Kinsey, introducer of the resolution to approve the agreement, and John H. Comstock, who has consistently supported public housing. The negative side consisted of Mayor Victor Anderson, Mrs. Fern Orme, Pat Ash, Roy Sheaff and Rees Wilkinson.

The vote, numerically though not in personnel, was the same as when public housing first was rejected by a council which had approved the authority's request to negotiate a loan preliminary to the then planned construction of 700 units. Later the original proposal was reduced to 350 units. Wilkinson then shifted from his original opposition to the side of the proponents, but they were still in the minority 3 to 4. Wilkinson's vote Monday marked a shift back to opposition again. Mrs. Orme and Sheaff have remained constant in their opposition.

R. E. Campbell, housing authority chairman, said the responsibility for low-rent housing now rests squarely in the lap of the council.

"The refusal of the council, by a vote of 5 to 2, to sign the co-operation agreement for a low rent housing program sponsored by the city housing authority, makes it impossible for the members of the authority to carry out the primary responsibility of building low-rent housing. It's now up to the council."

Max Swan, executive director of the authority, said:

"I am disappointed but expected this decision. Whether or not some citizens' group is willing to carry the initiative load under the new state law remains to be seen."

Robert T. Malone, president of Urban League, said: "It is dis-

appointing. I agree with Senator Taft (r., O.) that a limited amount of public housing is the only salvation for extremely low income people. This does not conflict with our system of free enterprise. I feel that the public housing need is particularly convincing as to Negroes."

In support of his minority vote, Comstock said:

"I favor and have favored some low rental public housing to take care of a small group of families unable to take care of themselves. I am not in favor of public housing for those able to furnish their own. I contribute to welfare agencies to help furnish food and clothing for people who are hungry and have no food. I contribute to and hold membership in organizations doing charitable work, some of which even furnish homes for people who are unable to do so for themselves. I consider it only American to do so."

In support of his resolution, Kinsey said:

"The council created the housing authority, a group of fine citizens. This group studied the housing matter from all angles and, after hearing all sides, reaffirmed a stand for public housing. I feel that if we turn public housing down we are not thinking of the city's best interests."

Pro-public housing people gave noisy salutes following the Kinsey and Comstock explanations.

## NAACP Continues Amos-Andy Fight

NEW YORK—The NAACP-initiated campaign to remove the "Amos 'n' Andy" television show from the air because of its "burlesqueing of Negro life" continued to gain strength this week as labor, church and civic groups joined the local NAACP branches and youth councils in protests to



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent  
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Robert W. Furnas usually is thought of in the history of Nebraska as editor, governor, or president of the state historical society. It is not often realized that during the Civil War he played an important role in the defense of the West. Dr. Robert C. Farb, who teaches history at Simpson College in Iowa but who received his graduate training at the University of Nebraska, outlines Furnas' military career in a recent issue of *Nebraska History*.

Furnas' first military venture was as colonel of a regiment of loyal Indians organized to accompany refugee Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes on their return to Indian territory.

This experience failed to go far toward gratifying Furnas' desire to help put down the rebellion. There was confusion from the beginning — confusion of command and confusion of purpose — and after a few months of campaigning along the Arkansas River, Furnas resigned his commission. In his letter of resignation, he told the Secretary of War that, in his judgment, it was impossible to try to make soldiers out of full-blooded Indians, and that to attempt it was "a useless waste of both time and money." He declared that it was impossible to maintain discipline in a regiment where only a few men could understand English.

Much more satisfactory was Furnas' later experience as colonel of the Second Nebraska Cavalry, organized to protect the frontier from the Indians. Furnas was given command of this new regiment shortly after his resignation from the Indian regiment, and took it into the Indian campaign of 1863 under Brig. Gen. Alfred Sully.

Sully's forces ascended the Missouri River to the vicinity of present-day Bismarck, N. Dakota. There they encountered an undetermined number of Sioux who retreated after a pitched battle. In a few days the Second Nebraska was ordered to return down the Missouri, and by October the regiment was back in Omaha to be mustered out.

Dr. Farb states that while the weather was a more difficult opponent than the Sioux, Col. Furnas was well satisfied with the part his regiment had played in the campaign. Though not a soldier by nature, Col. Furnas had carried out his orders and had been particularly solicitous over the welfare of the men under him.

"Probably the most important effect of this military experience," Dr. Farb concludes, "was the large number of friends and acquaintances that he (Furnas) had made. Many of them were to prove extremely valuable in his future political career."

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## Candidate For Mayor Wins In Little Rock

LITTLE ROCK—(ANP)—Mayor Sam Wassoll was re-elected by a substantial majority in the run-off election held last week in which his opponent was R. Loy. The bulk of the Negro vote went to Wassoll, a member of an old-time aristocratic family of Arkansas and who is regarded as having given Little Rock a good administration.

Loy made the mistake in addressing a great mass meeting in a public park which was attended by a number of Negroes, of declaring untrue reports which had been circulated about what he proposed to do for Negroes if elected. He said it was untrue that he promised to put Negro police in squad cars. He said he had not promised that Negroes would get new recreational facilities. He made dramatic denial that he had promised Negroes anything.

Negroes led by Drs. A. H. Powell and G. W. S. Ish, Atty. J. R. Booker, president of the National Bar association, and Harry Bass, secretary of the Little Rock Urban league, went to work. They organized groups of women who were known as "flying squadrons."

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## Urban League

(Continued from Page 1)  
Louis B. Seltzer, editor of the CLEVELAND PRESS.

The Minneapolis Urban League, of which John G. Simmons is president, will be host at all conference activities on Wednesday, September 5th at the Hotel Nicolet, Minneapolis.

## Industrialist and Labor Leaders to Report

On Wednesday, James J. Wadsworth, Deputy Federal Civil Defense Administrator, will speak on the role of the urban League in civil defense.

Wednesday's luncheon will feature top labor executives who will speak on the role that the Urban League and labor must play in promoting equal economic opportunity in industry and commerce. The speakers will be James B. Carey, National CIO secretary-treasurer and president, International Union of Electric, Radio and Machine Workers; and Dr. George W. Snowden, vice-president, Louisiana Federation of Labor and executive director, Louisiana State Conference for Labor Education.

Lester B. Granger, the League's executive director, will deliver his annual address, "State of the Urban League," at the dinner meeting on Wednesday evening. At this affair Lloyd K. Garrison, NUL president, will speak on "Race Relations Over Forty Years." A special feature of the presentation of Service Awards to League staff members.

The Thursday and Friday sessions of the conference will be resumed at Hotel Lowry in St. Paul. Thursday afternoon an industry luncheon will be held. The speakers will be W. W. Wachtel, president of Calvert Distillers, Inc.; and George A. Beavers, president, Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Los Angeles, California.

## Arkansas Governor Discusses the 'New' South

Governor Sid McMath of Arkansas will speak on "The Changing South" at the dinner meeting on Thursday evening.

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