

The Voice

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EDITORIALS
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President Gives Message to Nation

By Alice A. Dunnigan

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—President Truman appealed to America and the world, on Christmas Eve, to try "to do all things in that spirit of brotherly love that was revealed to mankind at Bethlehem on the first Christmas day."

A small, quiet group of special invited Negro and white guests assembled around the Christmas tree on the White House lawn, heard the President's sad but hopeful Christmas message delivered by radio from his home in Independence, Mo.

"At this Christmas time, the world is distracted by doubt and despair, torn by anger, envy and ill will," declared the President. "But our lesson should still be the same message of love symbolized by the birth of the Redeemer of the World . . ."

Mr. Truman spoke of the hearts which were saddened on this Christmas Eve by the suffering and the sacrifice of American troops in Korea. But, he reminded the audience that these brave men and women "are protecting us, and all men, from aggression. They are trying to prevent another World war. I honor them for the great job they are doing. We pray to the Prince of Peace for their success and safety."

The President's message was resounded from loud speakers on the south lawn of the White House immediately following the lighting of the giant Christmas tree. The 40-foot Norway spruce was decorated with 900 electric bulbs and more than 1,200 ornaments.

The glow of Christmas colored lights gleamed forth at exactly 5:15 when Mr. Truman lighted the tree by remote control from his Missouri home. When the President touched the gold key in Independence as a signal to light the tree, the message was relayed to a telegrapher beside the tree, and a 14-year-old boy at the scene actually flicked the light switch.

All during the ceremony the tree was encircled with a group of young people representing the Girl Scouts of America, the Boy Scouts and the Campfire Girls.

Five Negro girls were included in the tree encirclement. They were under the supervision of Mrs. Mildred F. Welker, Girl Scout leader of troop 34. The girls were Scarlet Nelson, Marva Marshall,

Earline Grant, Ann Bailey and Carole Carter.

The program got under way at 4:30 when the U.S. Marine Band gave a half-hour concert under the leadership of Lt. Col. William F. Santelmann. At 5 the Rev. Dr. Lucian Lauerman of Catholic university delivered the invocation. This was followed by an address from John A. Remon of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Greetings from the people of Washington were sent to Mrs. Truman by Camp Fire Girl Nancy Van Arnam; and to the President by Eagle Scout Edward H. Defendorf. Immediately following the carol singing by the McKinley high school band, the President gave the signal to light the tree.

Then he began his Christmas message to the nation. Mr. Truman concluded his message by wishing a Merry Christmas "to all my countrymen, and to the world."

Newcombe May Be Drafted

NEW YORK (ANP)—Big Don Newcombe, ace of the Brooklyn pitching staff is physically fit for induction into the army, it was announced Friday by the public relations department of the army.

During the 1951 season, Newcombe won 20 games, and lost 9 for the Dodgers. His loss to the service would be a big blow to the Brooklyn nine's pennant hopes in 1952.

This announcement ended two months of speculation about Newcombe's draft status following a pre-induction physical. Newcombe is married and is 25 years old.

When he will be drafted will be up to his draft board, local 42 in Union County, N. J. Newcombe lives in Colonial, N. J.

He is 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 220 pounds.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The winter of 1819-20 saw lots of activity around the Council Bluff, that eminence in Washington County where Lewis and Clark conferred with the Indians in the summer of 1804. Two expeditions, both part of a larger plan for extending United States influence over the trans-Missouri West, halted there for the winter. One was destined to remain to build the first permanent military post in the Nebraska country; the other was to go on the next year to explore the Platte Valley.

The one which stayed was the so-called Yellowstone Expedition under the leadership of Col. Henry M. Atkinson, the other was a scientific and exploring party commanded by Major Stephen H. Long. Both left St. Louis at the same time, and both wintered near the Council Bluff.

Both expeditions were to ascend the Missouri in steamboats. Only Major Long was successful in this venture, however. The two steamboats carrying the military party all had to be abandoned on the lower Missouri, and only Major Long's "Western Engineer" reached the Platte—in so doing, incidentally, it was the first steamboat to ascend the Missouri to that point.

Major Long's party reached Manuel Lisa's trading post, a few miles below the Council Bluff, on September 17. There they went into Winter Quarters, called "Engineer Cantonment." After establishing his men in their camp, Major Long returned to Washington for the winter.

Meanwhile, the Sixth Infantry and other troops under Colonel Atkinson, making their way upriver in keelboats, arrived at the Council Bluff on September 29. Here they prepared to build a military post. In accordance with their instructions, this was to be but one of two posts built along the Missouri—the other was to be at the Mandan villages or possibly even farther upstream.

Back in Washington, however, Congress, impatient with the results of the expedition and fearful of its cost, decided that the

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George Washington Carver

BOOKER WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE, Va.—"To enter this world a slave . . . and to become a practical chemist whose achievements were recognized by many honors—such was the career of George Washington Carver. A material age hailed him . . . Yet unlike these materialists . . . he was touched not only by something like genius but by a noble spirituality . . ."

"He regarded himself an instrument in the hands of Providence . . . He might have died rich. Instead he gave his discoveries freely to the world . . . All Americans have reason to be proud of the dauntless spirit that triumphed over every handicap."

The New York Times carried the above editorial January 6, 1943, the day after Dr. Carver died.

George Washington Carver was more than a mere practical chemist—he was the reincarnation of the spiritual concept of the divinity. He was a living example of the great Samaritan giving succor to those who needed it. When he heard about a missionary who had died with tuberculosis, a Great Voice told him to find something that will help other missionaries suffering from this

fort at the Council Bluff would have to do. When Major Long returned in the spring of 1820, it was with instructions to explore the Platte River to its source, returning to the Mississippi by way of the Arkansas and the Red.

The Sixth Infantry remained at Council Bluff to develop Fort Atkinson, which instead of being simply an intermediate post became the post of the far frontier

dread disease. He went to his laboratory and from some peanuts he made a creosote emulsion which he used himself to cure a cough. He discovered both food and medicine in the lowly peanut. As a matter of fact over 300 products were developed by him from this one source. Carver was more than a chemist—he was a genius with a consuming passion for the Almighty. The Bible was his guide to service. His favorite passages, spoken often to students were:

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Truly his was a rich and rewarding life. Although he died poor, millions benefitted from his contributions to humanity. His reward was found in the relief of the oppressed people in his own area, and the rehabilitation and industrialization of an impoverished Southland.

We have dedicated a new coin to the memory of Dr. Carver, and it is both fitting and proper that January 5th, which is National Carver Day, inaugurate this historical event.

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