

The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

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EDITORIALS

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Judge Waring Denounces Segregation

CHICAGO — J. Waties Waring, former federal judge who opened the South Carolina primary to Negroes, electrified delegates and visitors at the 34th Quadrennial General Conference of the AME church by denouncing segregation, gradualism, and calling on presidential candidates to state their positions on civil rights.

Speaking on the subject, "The Church and Social Justice," the liberal South Carolinian addressed the sixth meeting of the conference in the Coliseum in Chicago and called on the church to fight for social justice.

He traced the relationship of Negroes and whites from the time they were brought to this country to the present day. He pointed out that the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments which were supposed to rid Negroes of their shackles had not been lived up to. This was true of the North as well as the South, he added.

In discussing the south, he referred to it as the land behind the "Iron Curtain." Judge Waring said the customs, mores, laws and constitutions of these states support bias.

He added that as long as we have legalized segregation and white supremacy, the poison will spread to the rest of the nation. The "States Righters" and the "Dixiecrats" came in for denunciation. He said:

"Dixiecrats stand for one thing alone and that is the continuance of the Negro as a second class, no good citizen."

In regards to civil rights and political candidates, the former federal judge said Negroes should make every candidate state his position on this issue.

However, he pointed out, the fight for civil rights is not as bleak as it may seem. He said that wherever there has been a fight, civil rights has won. As an example, he cited the case of David Brown, Beaufort, S.C., who

attempted to register to vote. He was refused, but sued and won.

One of the issues close to colored persons today is segregation in schools. On this Judge Waring said he believed that integration should begin in the elementary schools. He added that attempts to equalize schools would cost between \$60-80,000,000, and still would not be equal. He said it is a futile effort.

In conclusion, Judge Waring said a "Church Militant is a Church Worth Standing."

After his address, he told reporters something of the treatment he and Mrs. Waring had received in his native state because of his stand in support of Negroes.

He said that most of the abuse directed at them came in the form of obscene letters and threatening telephone calls. He added that he had been shot at, but pointed out that this was not in line with the plans of the brains behind his opposition.

He explained this by saying that it would be bad for the "white supremacist" to have a federal judge shot. Russia would gobble this up and exploit it for all it was worth. Consequently, the people behind America's "Iron Curtain" would lose face.

He said he decided to leave the south and work from outside the "Iron Curtain." He felt that he could be more effective this way.

Mrs. Waring was equally as outspoken as her husband. She shared his sentiments in regard to the theory of "gradualism" as an approach to the problem.

They said that "gradualism" would work only after you have laws which opposed segregation. They added that in the North you can employ "gradualism," but in the south you cannot.



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The state historical society recently secured photostatic copies of some letters written by Ohioans who took part in the California gold rush and originally published in the Daily Ohio Statesman at Columbus. One of them, dated "Little Blue River, May 25, 1849," describes an adventure of the emigration which I think will interest you. I'm going to devote my space this week, therefore, to giving you extracts from it. The letter was written by Edward S. Gaver to his father.

"As circumstances have so turned up that some of our company are obliged to return to the states, I take the opportunity of informing you of our progress.

"We left St. Joseph on the 25th of April, and encamped five miles above on the opposite side of the river. On the 4th of May we encamped on Wolf-creek, a distance of 30 miles from St. Joseph, where we remained three days on account of heavy rains.

This country is inhabited by the Sioux, Fox, and Iowa tribes of Indians. On the 13th we crossed Nimehaw creek, which divides the lands of the Sioux, Fox, and Iowa tribes on the east, from those of the Pawnee Indians on the west. So far from the Indians being troublesome, as some apprehended, I have not seen one since we left Wolf creek, at which place a number showed themselves, with faces painted and hair closely shaven, making, as fantastic appearance as I ever saw.

"All things seemed to go well with our company until the night of the 18th of May. That night we encamped six miles west of this, on Sandy creek. About one o'clock in the morning the cattle broke out of the corral, formed, as is usual, by wagons hitched together,

in a circle. Stretched from one wagon to another were ropes about ten yards long, for the purpose of increasing the room inside. Within this enclosure the cattle were placed for safe keeping. The night the cattle had their stampede was so dark and rainy, and there being several mule camps near, it was deemed not advisable to pursue until after day light. The danger of going through mule camps of a dark night, consists in the fact that these animals are each fastened with a rope 15 to 20 feet long to a stake driven in the ground.

"When it became light enough to see, we started out in all directions, and by the 23d we succeeded in recapturing all our oxen but thirteen yoke...

"After securing a portion of our cattle on the 23d, the company resolved to divide the property and effects into eight equal parts, making four men to each wagon, except one, which had but three. Twelve of us put our interest together and drew three shares. One of the wagons which fell to our lot we sold for \$95, cash; to an emigrant whose wagon broke down. We have now one wagon and four yoke of oxen to six men. To lighten our load, we have been compelled to throw away all our trunks and all the boxes and barrels...

"The company dissolved by mutual consent. The causes which led to the dissolution was our misfortune in losing our oxen, and the rule or ruin spirit evinced by some of its members..."

Georgia Medics Admit Negroes

ATLANTA, Ga. (ANP)—Negro physicians were declared eligible to become members of the Medical Association of Georgia last week during a convention here attended by more than 1,000 doctors. They will be admitted to "scientific" membership.

The resolution amending the association's constitution held that "any Negro physician by meeting qualifications may be granted membership by the county society upon application and may be awarded the privilege of participation in all scientific sessions."

By the same token, the resolution permits the "scientific members to make application for full membership in the American Medical Association."

Norfolk Housing Program Booms

NORFOLK, Va.—(ANP)—One of the most ambitious and far-reaching slum clearance projects in any city in the United States is under way in Norfolk. Most of it will benefit low income Negro families. Four public housing projects are for Negroes.

The three housing projects now being completed are Diggs Park, Moton Park and Bowling Park. Diggs Park will provide homes for 428 families and will cost about \$1,380,000.

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