

The Voice

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

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EDITORIALS

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You Can't Vote If You Don't Register

One of the great bulwarks of the American system is the idea of representative government by the free choice of the people. Our entire political structure is built upon the theory that those governed shall determine those who govern them by expression at the polls. It is the method by which political despotism is guarded against. It is the means by which the citizens restates the principals of behavior in office that he considers important.

The greatest danger to that system is to be found in the carelessness and laziness of the citizen himself. It is easy to take the attitude that one vote doesn't really mean much. It is simple to say, "I don't have time to vote this year." Enough people with that feeling means simply that we no longer have a government which expresses the preference of the majority of the people.

In the last presidential election in 1948 less than half of the persons qualified to vote actually cast a ballot. This means that the actual selection of a President and a Congress was made by a little under 25 per cent of the voters. In this kind of indifference lies potential disaster.

Any citizen who meets age and residence requirements can qualify to cast his ballot by placing his name on the registration books. Registering to vote is more than an opportunity. It is a duty that every citizen owes to himself and his community.

The procedure is simple. Registration can be made at the office of the Board of Election Commissioners. If the voter has changed his place of residence the time of the last city election, it is neces-

sary that he have this change recorded.

No citizen can afford not to vote. It is the one positive vote he has in his own government. It is the one means by which he can express his approval or disapproval of those who hold, or seek, public office. The first step in voting is in registering.—K. C. Call.

Council Appoints Seven To Human Relation Group

The City Council has approved appointment of seven members to the newly formed Council of Human Relations.

Appointments and expiration dates are Charles Stuart, 1955, Hyman Rosenberg, 1955, Wyatt Williams, 1954, Dr. Stephen Watkins, 1954, Miss Lucille Ledwith, 1953, Mrs. M. C. Leonard, 1953, Rev. C. Vin White, 1953.

Two members of the solicitations commission, Max Meyer and Msgr. Maurice W. Helman, were also appointed.

Mrs. Roosevelt to Speak In Brooklyn

BROOKLYN — (ANP) — Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt of the U.N. Human Rights Commission will be guest speaker at a rally for The United Negro College Fund, Inc., June 11, at Cornerstone Baptist church.

Mrs. Marguerite V. Brown and Mrs. Dollie L. Robinson are co-chairmen of the program. Mrs. Marguerite Johnson, director of the Brooklyn campaign for the College Fund, stated that the workers are highly confident of success in the first organized drive here for the fund.



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This May 30th marks the 98th anniversary of the organization of Nebraska territory—it was on that date, 1854, that President Franklin Pierce signed the controversial Kansas-Nebraska Act. Come Memorial Day, 1954, then, Nebraska will celebrate its territorial centennial. The occasion can mean a lot to Nebraska, if we will let it. The state historical society now has a committee at work considering the best way to commemorate this important event, not only in the history of Nebraska, but in the history of the nation as well.

The Kansas-Nebraska Act was closely bound up with national and sectional politics in the 1850's. The basic impetus for the organization of the territory came from the needs of the greatly-desired transcontinental railroad. Northerners were much concerned that the road follow a northern route. The Platte Valley, over which thousands of covered-wagon emigrants had travelled to the far West, offered a marvellous road bed. No one was interested, however, in building a railroad through unorganized Indian country. If the Platte Valley were to be utilized for the trans-continental railroad, the territory would have to be organized.

To help make the dream of a Platte Valley railroad come true, Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois, one of the project's most ardent enthusiasts, repeatedly introduced bills in Congress providing for the organization of Nebraska territory. In this effort he ran directly afoul of southern ambitions to build the road west from some city of the South—no one ever dreamed that there would be more than one trans-continental railroad.

He also ran into a nasty complication regarding the extension of slavery. By the terms of the Missouri Compromise of 1820, slavery was prohibited in the area out of which Nebraska would be carved. Southern politicians, unenthusiastic about the organization of Nebraska for railroad purposes, were downright hostile to the idea of setting in motion the chain of events that ultimately would lead to the admission of another free state into the union, thus worsening the South's already dangerous position in the sectional struggle for power.

In his enthusiasm for Nebraska, Douglas agreed to the creation of two territories instead of one, and to the doctrine of "popular sovereignty," by which the citizens of each territory would decide for themselves whether or not they would tolerate slavery.

Many Northerners were highly critical of this concession to the

AME's Elect 3 Bishops

Bishop Frederick Douglass Jordan

Ordained a preacher in 1921, a deacon in 1922, and an elder in 1924. He pastored in St. Paul, Minn., and Moline, Ill., before coming to St. Mary's AME in Chicago in 1929. He later pastored Carey Temple, also in Chicago.

He organized the Bishop Williams School of Religion at Western university. His wife is Mrs. Artishia Jordan, a Chicagoan.

For years he was pastor of Eighth and Towne AME church in Los Angeles. Since 1950 he has been pastor of Ward Chapel there.

Bishop H. Thomas Primm

Born in Brentwood, Tenn., reared in Nashville, and educated at Wilberforce and Fisk universities and Payne seminary, holds B. A., B. D., and L.L.D., degrees.

He has pastored in Nashville, Memphis, Alexandria, La., Port Gibson, Miss., Little Rock, Ark., Hot Springs and New Orleans. He has taught school at Tenner college in Tennessee and Shorter college. He has represented the AME Church in two world conferences, and has traveled and studied in England, France, Italy, Greece, Egypt and the Holy Land. Before becoming bishop he was director of physical education in the AME church.

In New Orleans, Bishop Primm has served the past six years as chairman of the advisory committee of the mayor of the city of New Orleans.

The new bishop is married to Mrs. Edith May Primm. They have a daughter, Rita May, 12 years old. Commenting on his elevation, the bishop said:

"I stand ready to serve my church and race in any part of the world. Knowing I have no empty promises to make, I shall work to establish a record of consecration, sacrifice and service."



BISHOP JORDAN

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Bishop Eugene Clifford Hatcher

Age, 50, born in Eufala, Ala., son of Dr. C. D. and Mrs. Julianne Hatcher. He is married to Mrs. Oretta Tillman Hatcher, a Florida A&M college graduate. They are the parents of two children, Mrs. Ruby Eugenia Crawford, a graduate of Wilberforce university and married to a prominent dentist, Dr. Fred Crawford of Williamson, W. Va.; and Eugene Clifford Hatcher Jr., in 1951 a graduate of Fisk university with a B.A. in physics at the age of 19, now working for his master's degree and an instructor at Fisk.

Bishop Hatcher has studied at Tuskegee institute, A&T college, Edward Waters college and Daniel Walker's business college in Jacksonville, Fla., and at Payne in Birmingham. He is a Mason, an Elk, and a member of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

For the past 12 years he edited the Southern Christian Recorder.

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Club Has Silver-Sip



(Left to right) Mesdames Alma Austin, Clara Wimes, Docia Hamilton, Betty Lintz, Mary Sampson, Delores Griggsby, Lenora Lintz and Geraldine Thomas. Not pictured is Mrs. Evelyn Anderson.

Pictured above are members of the La Foll'etts club who gave a Silver-Sip in the Urban League Auditorium on May 18th between the hours of 4-8 p.m.

The club met at the home of Mrs. Clara Wimes and Mrs. Geraldine Thomas the past weeks. The next meeting will be held at the Urban League on Thursday, May 29th.

The next attraction of the club will be Harlem Review.

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