

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 necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

THANKFUL HEARTS

By Rev. John R. Harris
 Quinn Chapel AME Church

"—May cause the thanksgiving to abound unto the glory of God" 11 Cor. 4:

This American country of ours should make every heart throb with gratitude to almighty God. Think of its natural resources. Think of its vast plains, its fertile valleys. Think of the vast crop produced by the farmer.

I Thank God for the farmer: He gives us our food. Some one has well said "We are what we eat." He gives us our clothing. He fills the deep-freeze with meat. Let the farmer die and there would be a nation wide funeral. But he will never die. He will do something that is much harder. He is going to live. All honor to this unsung hero.

II—We thank God for the home-makers. They shape the future for God and humanity. We do not underestimate the work of the physician, the minister, the educator, the bankers but we cannot overestimate the importance of the mother of men. One distinguished writer puts it in these glorious words: "No blocks of marble do they round into statue. No canvases do they adorn with glowing colors; no books do they write with scholarly taste; no music do they compare with sweet strains; no platforms do they occupy with persuasive speech. Yet they are all these, and more, because they are God's disciples of the unexplored and the unexpressed. Sculptors, they chisel the veined marble of flesh and blood into living, breathing, human statues; artists, they write the literature of godliness on the hearts of their sons; musicians they sing the song of chastity into the souls of their daughters; orators their lives speak so eloquently of the invisible things of God that they, being dead, speak on high places of eternity."

Yes, while being thankful for food, clothing, mother, and friends let us not forget that God is the giver of every good and perfect gift. This leads us to the final consideration. As we sit under our own "vine and fig tree" here in this city (Lincoln, Nebraska) in this great country of ours:

III—Let us thank God for the church. "My church," "Your church," "God's church!"—and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." There are two things that I think Christian people should do. (a) They must quit apologizing for the gospel. A seat companion on a recent journey by train boasted of his golf and hunting expeditions "every Sunday" he said, "except once in awhile my wife drags me off to church, mind you, I don't go often" with apologies. "I answered, "hear a lot of people are going these days. I wonder why?" I am the minister but he preached a better sermon than I could preach on Why the

Christian church could more definitely promote peace in the world than the United Nations or any other organization or person. Simply qualified to speak but very timid. (b) They must stop their projected programs of unworthy competition with the world.

The world will never be converted to Christ by adopting worldly methods. We like to think ourselves modern and up-to-date by endorsing worldly methods of financing the budget, increasing the membership and developing the program. No, with all our cleverness we are no match for the world when we preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified though he be a "stumbling block unto Jews and foolishness unto Gentiles."

No man is a good citizen, a good father or a good patriot; no woman is a good mother, a good wife or a good neighbor who belittles the Christian church. Let us sing at Thanksgiving "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above Ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Notes of Interest

On Friday, November 28, 1952 the Rev. and Mrs. Melvin L. Shakespeare will be honored at a reception given by Miss Dorothy Green and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Adams. The reception will be in the Urban League lounge.

Rev. John R. Harris will be honored at a reception Monday, December 1, 1952 given by the church. Mrs. J. H. Dean is in charge. The affair will be held at Quinn Chapel church at 8 p.m.

Siloam Choir to Appear On CBS "Church of Air"

BROOKLYN—(ANP)—The Siloam Presbyterian Church choir under the direction of Charles Higgins will appear on the C.B.S. Television "Church of the Air" program, Sunday, Nov. 30, at 10 a.m. EST.

The choir will be accompanied by Carl Inniss, Dr. George Sweazy, Secretary of the Department of Evangelist Board of the National Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Churches will give the message.

The program will be heard over the national hookup.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent
 STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Buffalo County (10)

Though not organized until 1870, Buffalo County on the overland trail was the scene of much activity in territorial days and even earlier. The old Mormon Trail ran through Buffalo County, and from 1847 on each summer saw long lines of covered wagons wending their way west through the county. Fort Kearny, established in 1848 just south of the river, became the nucleus of white activity in the region.

The earliest settlers in the county were Mormons who made a settlement on Wood River in 1858. Among their number was Joseph E. Johnson, founder of the Omaha Arrow, the first paper published in Omaha, who settled on the present town site of Shelton and started a paper the *Huntsman's Echo*. We have a few issues of that paper in the library of the State Historical Society, and a lively, vigorous sheet it was. It well lived up to the slogan on its masthead, "Independent in Everything; Neutral in Nothing."

Though Johnson pictured the country in glowing terms in his papers — most of each issue of which circulated among the traders and travellers—and set out one of the finest flower gardens in the West, he wearied in a few years and went on to Utah.

As late as 1870, settlement in the county was confined to the few farmers living along Wood River. Nevertheless, they persuaded Gov. David Butler to issue a proclamation formally organizing Buffalo County—hitherto it had existed only on paper and had been attached to Hall County for judicial and revenue purposes.

At first, Buffalo County had no permanent county seat. Each officer kept the records pertaining to his office at his home, and the commissioners met at first one place and then another. As was true in most Nebraska counties there was considerable difficulty in locating the county seat. Gibbon was first selected as the permanent county seat, but when the B. & M. railroad joined with the Union Pacific at Kearney (then

U.S. Department of Labor Reports On Laws Banning Employment Bias

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The U.S. department of labor here last week in its monthly Labor Information Bulletin on state laws banning discrimination in employment announced that the fair employment practices acts of two states were amended in 1952.

A New York amendment now makes it unlawful to discriminate on account of race, creed, color or national origin in any place of public accommodation, resort, or amusement.

A Rhode Island amendment changes the name of the "State Fair Employment Practice Commission" to "Rhode Island Commission Against Discrimination" and authorizes the commission to enforce certain laws prohibiting discrimination in public places in the same manner as it enforces the fair employment practice act. Similar amendments had already been adopted by Connecticut and New Jersey in 1949 and by Massachusetts in 1950.

Eight states (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington) have mandatory fair employment prac-

called Kearney Junction) settlement began to develop rapidly at that point and soon it was the largest town in the county. A movement got underway to move the county seat. The people of Gibbon resisted it for a while, but in 1874 the efforts of Kearney Junction were successful.

Kearney was for many years a free and easy town. A railroad junction in the midst of a great cattle county, it became a rendezvous for cowboys. It retained this character until the country began to settle up with farmers, and then it began to quiet down.

An important early group of farmers in the county consisted of a group known as the Free Homestead Colony. They arrived at Gibbon in 1871, and their story has been ably told by C. S. Bassett.

tice laws applying to private employment. Laws against discrimination have also been enacted in Colorado, Indiana and Wisconsin; these provide, however, for voluntary rather than mandatory compliance.

With the exception of Connecticut and Washington, the state laws provide that employers and employment agencies may not print advertisements or publish any expression of discriminatory preference unless it is based on a bona-fide occupational qualification.

Independent commissions have been created to enforce the acts in Oregon where the administrative agency is the bureau of labor, and in New Jersey, where it is a division of the department of education. All of the acts provide for advisory committees to make studies and recommendations or for using voluntary services offered by private individuals or organizations.

Anti-discrimination laws which rely on educational measures to obtain compliance were passed by Indiana and Wisconsin in 1945 and by Colorado in 1951. The agencies administering these laws may investigate complaints, make recommendations to the parties, and in Colorado and Wisconsin may publicize the findings regarding complaints. Each act requires the governor to appoint an advisory committee to assist in making studies and planning educational programs.

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