

# 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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## Capitol News

By Melvin Paul

**Redistricting**  
Nebraska's lagging school re-districting program may get a shot in the arm, but probably not before 1955. Three senators—Marvel of Hastings, Cramer of Albion and Duis of Gothenburg—introduced a resolution at week's end calling for a Legislative Council study of the problem between now and the next session of the Legislature.

Observers took this to mean that this session of the Legislature is not likely to do much about redistricting.

The Education Committee, of which Marvel and Cramer are members, last week heard two bills aimed at promoting reorganization but it took no action.

One of the bills, introduced at the request of Gov. Crosby, would allow rural elementary school districts to contract with other districts for instruction for two consecutive years only.

Crosby told the committee contracting is retarding consolidation of districts because "it comes to be a financial advantage for the school contracting pupils out."

State Supt. F. B. Decker pointed out that almost 1,800 districts are contracting their pupils out and said, "the mill levy of the contracting district is considerably below the operating district's levy."

The bill drew opposition from Alfred Gabelman, representing the Rural School Board Association. He said rural districts would reopen their own schools rather than consolidate if contracting is abolished.

George Collins, Atkinson, said 32 districts in his county are contracting their pupils out and said, "the mill levy of the contracting district is considerably below the

operating district's levy."

The other measure, by Sen. Cramer, would set up a county school board under a county board of education. He said the county board would replace the present county reorganization committees and further redistricting work.

This bill drew strong opposition from the Farm Bureau Federation, whose representative, Russell Lockwood of Lincoln, said it contemplates a "compulsory county unit system." He said his organization would not oppose an optional system.

On Friday, too, only one committee will be in action. The Government Committee will hear bills to abolish the State Liquor Commission and to place on the next general election ballot two constitutional amendments affecting state officers.

## Miss. Paper Defends Hot Sprs. In Racial Issue

(Editor's note: The following article was taken from the Sporting News. The Sporting News took the article from the Delta Democrat-Times, Greenville, Miss.)

"It seems to us that the furor over the possible use of Negro baseball players in the Cotton States League has outgrown the immediate importance of the issue.

"These are some of the facts. Negro ball players are on the rosters of major and minor leagues outside the South and are in the lineups of two southern minor leagues, the South Atlantic and the Texas. Hot Springs in the Cotton States League has signed two Negro ball players. Other of the league members have objected.

The Attorney General of Mississippi has ruled in effect that it is against the policy of the state's segregation laws to permit interracial ball teams to play in the state.

"Now what about the significance? We are not convinced that a third-rate baseball league is any place to fight for equal rights because entertainment and not need is involved. Personally, we have no objection to watching a baseball game or basketball game or football game or a prizefight or any other sports event in which Negroes participate with white players.

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## Greenberg Backs Negro Farm Aces

**DAYTONA BEACH**—Cleveland's General Manager Hank Greenberg, after being informed that authorities at Winter Garden, Fla., had refused to permit two Negro players in the Cleveland farm system to perform there, has ordered that no games be played where Negroes are barred.

The Winter Garden officials declined to permit the appearance of Billy Harrell and Brooks Lawrence with Reading in a game here.

"In the future, if our Negro players are accepted, there will be no game," Greenberg said. "These youngsters are just as much a part of our organization as any of the others in camp.

"To the contrary we believe that the excellent performances of American Negroes in national and international interracial competition provide a good answer to the propaganda of our Communist adversaries who say that the Negro has no chance in America. After all, the Cotton States League is not America.

"The principal point we want to make is that young Americans today are playing a game which in some aspects resembles baseball but which is being played for eternal keeps, and there's no yapping about who makes up the team. They do a lot of throwing and some batting in that game, and there are a lot of substitutions in the lineup. But we doubt that the players worry about the color of the newcomers. They happen to be chucking grenades instead of socking baseballs with baseball bats, and we don't think that many GIs from Mississippi are objecting in Korea if some dark-skinned fellow-soldier is the boy who makes the strikeout or the home run.

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## Is 'Good' News?

Mirror of World Opinion

Editor's note: (This article by J. Frank Grimes of IGA Grocergram, was published in The Christian Science Monitor.)

Is "Good" news?

Perhaps there is no single factor in modern affairs that wields such over-powering influence on public and private affairs as does news.

It must be very clear that a tremendous responsibility rests squarely on the press because it is the news they control and print that will largely determine what the future of the individual and of the country is to be.

With these important influences clearly at work it is of the utmost importance that the greatest of care be exercised in the character of the news fed to the people.

To appeal to the baser emotions of people, and then with these emotions aroused and inflamed to feed them more and more of the kind of news that incites appetites for more and more degrading news, will in due time destroy morality in private and public life.

It is now clearly evident that the greatest of stress is being placed on what might very properly be termed "bad news"—and tremendously costly staffs of reporters, photographers, feature writers, copy experts, and highly trained specialists are engaged in ferreting out and dressing up the kind of news that the press believe the people want.

Timidly I asked certain of the press... Would it be possible to print some good news? Good news??? Bah! the public will never read good news. They want sex news—crime news—they want to hear of some one in trouble. Good news?? Good news is not news!

"Evil news flies faster than good." So stated Thomas Kyd.

"All news is swallow-winged but good news walks on crutches."—Messenger.

"Evil news rides post, while good news halts."—Miles.

Yet from the highest authority comes—

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that pub-

lisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation." — Isa. 52:7.

And the wise man of the Proverbs wrote—

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." . . .

I say with as loud read good news when it is present with the same excitement and suspense as is bad news!"

And if we dig just a little we will find more excitement—more suspense—more truly human interest in good news than in the most scandalous and odorous bad news ever to sear the nostrils of men.

I deny that people actually want bad news—they have been educated and trained into believing that all the real news there is is bad news.

People do like success stories. Bad news never deals with success. It always deals with failure—disaster—punishment. Its lurid details are played up—with the admonition, "Crime does not pay," being just a little squeak.

Some wise, far-sighted Christian editor will some day sense the tremendous opportunity to present good news in a dramatic, exciting, and profoundly interesting manner . . . and he will set a pattern that will bring such success and such profits to the press as will put past achievements completely in the shade. . . .

I know some will say that you just can't change human nature. But what is human nature but humans educated by systems of education and news? . . .

Perhaps one might with profit read carefully again and again those momentous words found in Matthew 6:33—and surely no one would be injured by the most careful study of Psalm 1—verses 1, 2, and 3. Here is good news—"I do not question school or creed of Christian, Protestant or Priest. I only know that creeds to me are but new names for mystery. That good is good from east to east

and more I do not know or need To know to love my neighbor well."

—From "Universal Good"—Miller. To single out unfortunate people and bare their most intimate troubles so all the world may gloat over their misfortunes—I wonder if this is good—I wonder if mankind is benefitted? I do know that something good said or published about people does uplift, inspire and help. How wonderful it will be some morning to open up my favorite daily newspaper and find a new feature . . . "The Good News of Today." It would pay to advertise in such a paper—and I think circulation would step up too.

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