

Mayor Backs Martin Luther King Holiday Plan: Tate Reads Resolution In Chamber

Dillon, Clay

Philadelphia Tribune (1912-2001); Jan 18, 1969; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Philadelphia Tribune

pg. 1

Mayor Backs Martin Luther King Holiday Plan

Tate Reads Resolution In Chamber

By CLAY DILLON

OF THE TRIBUNE STAFF

An emotion-filled crowd jammed Philadelphia's Mayor James H. J. Tate's reception room in City Hall on Wednesday, to witness the reading of the proposed resolution to make January 15th a state holiday and eventually a national celebration date.

The Mayor said, "The celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a legal public holiday would fill the hearts of the citizens of this great Nation with justifiable dignity and pride; therefore, be it Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring) that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Congress of the United States to support and enact

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)



KING HOLIDAY HOPEFULS: Senator Freeman Hankins (left), Senator Herbert Arlene (center) and Mayor James Tate pledge their full support to enact into legislation provisions to make Jan. 15th, the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a legal holiday.

King Holiday Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

act into legislation provisions to make January 15th, being the anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. a legal public holiday; and be it further Resolved, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officer of each House of Congress of the United States and to each Senator and Representative from Pennsylvania in the Congress of the United States."

DIGNITARIES

The exercise was graced by the presence of city dignitaries in the persons of: Mistress of Ceremonies, Goldie Watson, Judge Raymond Pace Alexander, Judge William Hastie, Judge Robert N. C. Nix, Jr., Rev. Fr. Jesse Anderson, Atty. Sadie Alexander, Sen. Herbert Arlene, Sen. Freeman Hankins, Judge Edgar Cox, Clarence Farmer, Barbara Weemis, Councilman Paul C. D'Ortona, Councilman Edgar C. Campbell, Councilman Charles Durham, Councilman Thomas McIntosh, Commissioner Frank Rizzo, Charles W. Bowser, Deputy to the Mayor, Clara Baldwin, Dr. Victor Pachkis, Mrs. Victor Pachkis, John Bogle, Mrs. Juanita Green, Mrs. Thompson, Georgie Woods, Rev. Leonard Smalls, Rev. James Bethel, Mitchell Melton, Earl Vann,

Herman Wrice, Joel Johnson, Sarah Anderson, James Barber, Mitchell Melton, Delores Tucker, and Fr. Michael Jordan.

"I HAVE DREAM"

All peoples in this great nation and all over the world will long remember when Dr. King spoke to those 200,000 men and women gathered in the Nation's Capital for the "March on Washington." Dr. King's memorable words were, "I still have a dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal'."

Another proud moment must have been on December 10, 1964 when Dr. King became the third Negro to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

Black school children from Philadelphia schools, stood as straight as arrows among the adults, with a seeming sense that they were a part of history in the making, as time and again, rounds of applause were delivered as notables were introduced.

When Mayor Tate spoke, the only sounds in the tightly packed room were the clicks of camera lenses, as photographers clamored to vantage points on the most auspicious occasion. Some of the women were seen to dab moisture from their eyes before the event was finished.

— "85th Anniversary" —

UNICEF has provided enough vitamin capsules to supply one to every person in the world today.