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National Museum of African American History and Culture

Delegate Magazine 1982

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[[image]]
[[caption]] George Brown [[/caption]]

[[image]]
[[caption]] (l to r): Dr. R. Chester Redhead, President, First District Dental Society, New York State Senator Leon Bogues; Mrs. Mary Lopez, wife of Dr. George Lopez, a dentist, of Corona, N.Y., and Cong. Charles B. Rangel, 19th Congressional District, Manhattan. The occasion was Dr. Redhead's installation as President, First District Dental Society, Jan. 11, 1982, at the Princeton Club, New York City. [[/caption]]

in 1950 with Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and minors in Political Science and Mathematics; joined the writing staff of The Denver Post, Denver, Colorado, in June 1950; work assignments at The Post included general assignment, police reporter, rewrite, aviation editor, night city editor; on August 16, 1965, appointed Assistant Executive Director of the Denver Housing Authority; selected as the first Executive Director for the Metro-Denver Urban Coalition on May 1, 1969.

He did graduate study at the University of Colorado in 1959 as one of the first King Fellows (program offered Colorado journalists)--studied international relations, business management and municipal government.

Political Career

Appointed to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1955; elected to his first four-year term in the Colorado State Senate in 1956--becoming the first Negro to serve in that august body; reelected in 1960, 1964, and 1968.

Served as a member of the Legislature's Joint Budget Committee (this committee is made up of six of the 100-member Legislature and is considered the most powerful body of the state's General Assembly) for eight years, and is now a member of committees for Agriculture and Live-stock, Appropriations, Finance, Institutions, Transportation, and special interim committee on Local Government. He is also co-chairman of the special interim committee on the state's Personnel System.

Was first Negro to serve as a State Legislative Committee Chairman--having been Chairman of the Senate's State Affairs and Finance Committees.

Formerly served in national capacity on the National Policy Council of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare; member of Executive Committee of the Southwest Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redeveloping Officials.

Also, formerly was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Denver Opportunity, the Mile-High City's War on Poverty Program. He served that board from September 1966 to May 1, 1969.

Member of Governor's Coordinating Committee on Implementation of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Planning; Governor's Advisory Committee for State-Wide Planning Study for Vocational Rehabilitation;



Board of Directors of the Foster Grandparents Program; Advisory Board of Metro Fair Housing Center; Board of Directors of C.F. Kettering Foundation; Board of Metro Denver Council of Boy Scouts; National Urban Coalition Law and Government Task Force; National Council for the Aged; Board of Trustees of Labor's Community Agency, Incorporated; National Urban Coalition Steering Committee.

Teaching Assignment

Instructor for graduate level Black Politics Course at University of Colorado Denver Center; Instructor of Urban Affairs at University of Denver.

Dr. R. Chester Redhead, who has practiced dentistry in New York City for 26 years, was elected Jan. 11 President of the First District Dental Society (ADA), representing more than 3,500 dentists in Manhattan and the Bronx.

The First District is the largest component Society in the American Dental Association, which represents approximately 140,000 dentists nationally. Dr. Redhead has been active in organized dentistry throughout his career. Installation ceremonies were held at the Princeton Club in Manhattan before more than 300 officials and members of the First District, plus other dentists, supporters and friends, including Rep. Charles B. Rangel, Manhattan Democrat; Fred Samuel, Harlem councilman; Ruth Messinger, West Side councilwoman; and Leon Bogues, Manhattan state senator.

Rep. Rangel delivered keynote remarks at the dinner meeting and Dr. Charles H. Griffiths, of Charleston, Ill., ADA President installed Dr. Redhead and Fellow officers for 1982.

Dr. Redhead urged his colleagues and supporters in acceptance remarks to become more involved in the activities of local government, "...at City Halls wherever they are," so that dentists may be better informed about rules, regulations and laws that affect their practices as well as the quality of dental care they can deliver to their patients.

Noting that the City's Official Directory--the "Green Book"--contains more than 400 pages of fine print listing the numerous agencies and people authorized to, "...watch over what we do as citizens, taxpayers and dentists," Dr. Redhead added, "I am convinced that we as professionals need to know more about legislation and regulations at the local level before they are written into the books." He said a major goal of his Presidency will be to "...monitor aggressively the activities of local government that affect dentistry and patient care," and he urged his colleagues to join him.

Dr. Redhead and his wife, Gladys, a teacher in the New Rochelle school system, live in Scarsdale. Their eldest son, R. Chester, jr., is also a dentist and practices with his father in Manhattan. Another son, Raymond, is an air traffic controller in Cleveland, and a third son, Charles is a senior at Howard University, Washington, D.C. Both Drs. Redhead, Jr. and Sr., are Howard University College of Dentistry graduates.

[[image]]

[[caption]] Board of Directors of Carver Federal Loan Society [[/caption]]

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