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# From My Chair-At Midnight

# Your Boy And The Fourth

I have been thinking about the Fourth of July-and what people should say to their boy on that day. I turned to a few wellknown persons for guidance. They are parents, and leaders in their walks of life. First, I saw minister whose oratory and a books have made him a name and a small fortune. He would advise his children to approach the day with reverence, to consider the blessings of this country and our obligation to the rest of the world -and, he concluded, we must bring disarmament and spread play much with each other, cothe word of God among the heathen.

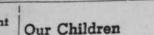
He talked for half an hour and then said, "That is not what you wanted me to say, is it?"

It was not what I wanted, but it is what most of us get, on the Fourth of July. And if we were that minister's child, we would or at least several times a week, know what to do when the sermon ended.

I would like to take the advice of one of our prominent politicians who, when I asked him what he would tell his children on the Fourth of July, said: "Tell them to read the Declaration of Independence-and then go fish- a while when the needs of the ing."

I asked several other Public spirited men the same question -most of them drew a deep breath, came to the soap-box attitude, and delivered the stereotyped day. He makes no fuss the first Fourth of July "Give me Liberty or give me Death" oration. They spoke without serious thought or deep feeling.

The next morning there is a scene Then I turned to a "little old when his mother leaves. That lady" with silvery gray hair, and evening he refuses to let her out asked the same question. Her answer was, "Theodore Roosevelt being put to bed. If she tears once said, and I quote, 'the Fourth herself away, he may cry in fear of July is our great National celefor hours. If she sits by his crib, bration. Around it center the body of traditional ideas for sits still. Her slightest move towhich our country stands. Traward the door brings him instantditions are splendid things for countries or for individuals only ly to his feet. if they are translated into living aspirations. We have all seen men or women who spend their entire time boasting of their ancestors. This amounts to nothing and those who do it are entirely useless. In the same way the country which looks back on its traditions and does not attempt to turn them into action for the present or the future is dying of dry rot. When we celebrate our National Holiday, we should try to make it stand out to ourselves and our children in vivid terms of the present day. We should try to translate our high thought into high action. The obligation laid upon us by our forbearers when they promulgated the Declaration of Independence is not merely to praise and revere them for so doing but really to see that their N.A.A.C.P. Confab doctrines of Democracy, Justice To Kansas City In June, 1948 and equal opportunity are continued, that the great work which they set under way is carried to a successful conclusion. Ninetenths of righteousness is good acts-not good thoughts.'" In thanking her for her little lecture, she said, "and what is your answer to that question"to all the children of America-Long live Democracy, and may God Bless You, Celebrate the Fourth in the best way possible, Drive safely, play safe, keep safe, keep thinking of the future, and that the NAACP has met in the the destiny we are creating for Missouri city since 1923. our children's children.



By Mrs. W. B. Davis

Two is the age to encourage

sociability. At 2 children don't

operatively. However, they love

to watch each other, co-operative-

each other's occupations, and en-

joy playng alongside each other.

It's worth a lot of trouble to bring

a 2-year-old every day if possible,

to where other children are play-

ing. A 2 or 3-year-old child won't

get the hang of sharing, of rough

and tumble, unless he's already

spent months becoming used to

Here's what happens once in

child of 134, 2, 21/4 aren't recog-

nized. A mother decides that she

has to go to work, and arranges

for a stranger to come in and take care of the child during the

day, but when his mother comes

back that evening, he hangs on

to her like a leech and refuses

to let the other woman come near.

of his sight, and fights against

he lies down only as long as she

If your child is around two, be

careful about drastic changes.

If it's almost as easy to wait six

months for a trip or to take a

job, better wait, especially if it's

your first child. If you have to

go now, arrange for the child to

get thoroughly used to the person

who is going to take care of him,

whether it's a friend, a relative,

a maid, or a foster mother. (If

the child is going to be staying

at the other person's house, it's

even more important for him to

get used to the new person and

the new place by gradual steps.)

Allow two weeks anyway.

other children.

# NAACP Asks End Of House Committee

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People denounced what it called the "indiscriminate persecution and condemnation of sincere liberals" by the House Committee on un-American Activities, and called for its abolition.

In a resolution adopted at the thirty-eighth annual convention, the NAACP said the committee "has consistently failed to investigate undemocratic organizations."

# ly. However, they love to watch TEXAS CITY BURIES 63 UNNAMED BLAST VICTIMS

ing place in all generations...We are consumed by Thine anger, and by Thy wrath we are troubled ... Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto

In voice resonant as an organ note, the Rev. F. M. Johnson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, read from the Ninetieth Psalm as this death-seiged city laid race, creed and color aside last Monday to bury its unnamed dead in sol-

### Over 2,000 Witnesses

Over two thousand witnessed the mass burial of the sixty-three unidentified persons killed in the April 16 disaster. The caravan of hearses that brought the bodies from the Camp Wallace morgue was more than a mile long.

Ahead of the six-volunteer pallbearers that bore casket 243 into the gate of the Texas City Memorial Cemetery were a Catholic priest, a subdeacon, three acolytes, a rabbi representing the Jewish faith, and a trio of Protestant ministers, including the Rev. Johnson.

All races and creeds had to be represented in the solemn rites for the sixty-three graves are marked only with a numbered 233 North 22 copper plate .... The race, creed or color of the dead will never be known.

## "It Could Be Him"

An elderly white lady cried loudly. A teen-age white lad tried to climb a fence to "see his 1717 R St. daddy." "You said he was in there he cried to his bereaved young mother as an old man escorted them to a near-by car. Wringing her hands in tearjerking fashion, a colored woman, too heartbroken to even cite her name, placed a spray of white Oleanders on a grave. "It could be him....."

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Lord, Thou has been our dwell-

wisdom."

emn and democratic ceremony.

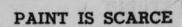
next Fourth of July.

-"Red" the typesetter the convention.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold its 1948 convention in Kansas City, Mo., the delegates to the 38th annual conference decided Saturday.

The Kansas City delegation headed by Carl R. Johnson, branch president, extended the invitation to hold the next meeting in Kansas City's mammoth, air-conditioned Municipal auditorium. It will be the first time

The Kansas Citians presented It's only six months till Christ- letters from the mayor and other mas but a whole year until the city officials to back up their invitation. Cleveland also wanted



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