

COMMENTS

EDITORIAL PAGE

OPINIONS

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Race prejudice must go. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man must prevail. These are the only principles which will stand the acid test of good.

All News Copy of Churches and all Organizations must be in our office not later than 5:00 p. m. Monday for current issue. All Advertising Copy or Paid Articles not later than Wednesday noon, preceding date of issue, to insure publication.

..EDITORIALS..

Lighted Cigarette—\$70,000 Gone

A short time ago a careless Oregon motorist tossed a cigarette from his car. An area of 5,000 acres, covered with good young timber, was burned. At the present average lumber price, that means \$70,000 in payrolls and supplies was lost to the state. And, according to a conservation authority, "It will really amount to a loss of over \$1,000,000 in the future resources of the state."

Every individual owes his fellow citizens an obligation when he goes into the woods, or drives in timbered country. That obligation is easily discharged—but failure to do so may result in the loss of millions, and the ruin of irreplaceable natural beauties. Take the utmost care with smoking materials—and don't throw matches and butts, even if you do feel they are out, from your car.

Remember forests are our heritage, and it is up to us to dissipate or conserve that magnificent legacy.

He Saved Money—But!

Some years ago the Pulitzer Prize award for the best cartoon of the year went to John T. McCutcheon. It was of a sad and shabby man seated on a park bench. A squirrel playing in front of him asked: "Why didn't you save your money?" The derelict replied, "I did."

Thousands of men have saved their money—only to lose it at an age when their fortunes could not be rebuilt. For saving is one thing, and security of principal is another. Unhappily, they don't always go together.

Every man should place a large part of his savings in some plan such as life insurance, that guarantees the maximum of security. Only the spare dollars should be used for speculation—for ventures, though they may return a great profit, may also result in 100 per cent loss of the principal employed. Before taking risks, it is essential to build a sound financial bulwark for the future.

The Price of Speed

As everyone knows, speed is the great highway killer. A motorist who drives at an excessive speed endangers not only his own life, but those of everyone else on the public streets and roads. He can offer but one "excuse" for his conduct—that superfast driving gets him to his destination sooner.

The truth is, the minutes we save by excessive speed are pitifully few in the light of the risk involved. Some time ago a test was made in Chicago. A radio announcer was told to drive his car on an eight mile trip in heavy traffic, observing not only every traffic regulation, but every rule of courtesy. At the same time a police officer followed the same route under instructions to take every risk and reach the destination in the shortest possible time. Twenty three minutes later the reckless driver pulled in at the stopping point. The safe supposedly slow driver who had taken no risks at all, got to it two minutes later.

We have all met the motorist who makes a trip in a length of time requiring him to risk a hundred lives, and spends twice the time he saved over a normal, safe passage, boasting about it. None of us are so busy, none of us have so great a need for saving a few minutes or a few hours, that we can afford the "price of speed."

"Save ten minutes—take a life." That should be the motto of the driver who "opens her up" on every possible occasion. Speed alone is the dominating factor in the great bulk of the nation's serious traffic accidents. Look at it from your own point of view and from a purely personal standpoint—is it worth it?

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Economic Review

The Social Security Act has created an interesting paradox. Practically everyone believes the purpose of the law is good and the public interests demands that provision be made for the aged and unemployed. At the same time, practically every competent economist believes the present act is badly drawn, contains the gravest kind of legislative errors, and must be drastically revised.

This has been the feeling ever since the law was passed. However, there was no strong movement for revision, for the reason the act was immediately taken to court in a test of its constitutionality, and there was no point in doing anything about it until that had been determined. When a few weeks ago, the Supreme Court held the act constitutional in two decisions (one upholding the unemployment benefit part of it by a 5 to 4 vote of the justices, the other upholding old age benefits by 7 to 2 majority) it came again into the public eye and a definite movement to maintain its virtues while ridding it of its vices is under way.

It is a notable fact that liberal and radical commentators wish revision no less than the conservatives. The more or less socialistic League for Industrial Democracy has published a monograph criticizing the act, and so has the Twentieth Century Fund, which has a board of directors consisting largely of prominent industrialists. And in some instances, both radicals and conservatives make identical criticisms.

Objections to the act are of varying kinds. Some of the more important are:

1—Under the wording of the existing law, all of the funds raised by taxing employers and employees for old age insurance must be invested in government bonds. It is estimated that the money will total over \$47,000,000,000 by 1980. The national debt (which means the amount of government bonds outstanding) is now at a record peak of about \$35,000,000,000. As a result, if the act is left unchanged, it will be necessary to increase our debt by \$12,000,000,000 in the next 40 odd years to take care of the old age insurance funds alone.

Speech of Hon. A. Phillip Randolph

(Continued from Page 1)

mations of the world is about to sacrifice democracy under the assaults of Fascism. This represents a grave situation to mankind. If democracy is destroyed in Spain, it may mean the destruction of Democracy all over the world.

"We here have seen the plight of Spain, and have been through the great depression. We have seen the attack upon Ethiopia and the subjection of white people. So you see in the study of strains and stresses a conflict between class-

es, nationality and religion. Therefore, the great cause today is the cause of peace, because under the strains of war, minorities that fight for progress have their efforts arrested.

"Millions of peoples are slaughtered and property wasted. Workers are victims. We are also concerned about the maintenance of the institutions of democracy, because under the maintenance of the frame work of democracy mankind moves forward in the van of progress. The workers are able to fight for liberation, and for that reason all the people in the world, Jews, Negroes, Catholics and the other groups in America must fight for the preservation of democracy. The Negro people are essentially the working people, and our problems are those of working people. In other words, we have to sell our labor in the market from day to day, to get the means to buy clothing, food and shelter. When wages are low, living is low. It is the interest of the workers to fight for higher wages because it means life. White workers have the same exploiters that we do, and have the same goal. All workers want security on the job in order that they may not constantly face fear. The workers want a higher standard of living which may enable them to enjoy the culture of our civilization, and the work of our artists, and writers, and philosophers, etc.

"Workers need leisure, time in which to develop the mind, spirit and soul. Negro workers must build power because it is obvious that in this machine age that it is utterly impossible for the workers to secure the things they need without power. Business interests have power. It is a historical fact that groups that possess power, keep it. All groups must build power. The only way Negroes and whites can build power is to form industrial unions.

"We have come to the point in America where the forces that control our lives, the great trust and holding companies, etc., will crush the workers unless they are well organized.

"Because of the rise of mass production in America today, the march of specialization and technological advances, workers must build structures to combat these forces; as a result the old craft form of unionism is now giving away to Industrial Unionism, because it has the power to combat the organized powers in steel, rubber, automobiles, and various mass industries of the nation. It is evident that this must constitute the new form of industrial organization in this country. And the Negroes are now participating in and building these industrial organizations.

"In Chicago, they have marched in the van of industrial progress to win economic security and freedom. So the problem of the Negro today is shifting. It is tied up with the problem of workers in this nation, with the problem of peace, and with the problem of world democracy.

"No Negro is safe while one white worker is in bondage, and no white worker is safe while one Negro is a slave. Workers in America today know that we face a crisis. The Liberty League, United States Chamber of Commerce are attempting to make an association of American Manufacturers laws for the incorporation of unions.

"The reasons for the 14th and 15th Amendments not being observed comes not from outside, but because of fundamental weakness on the part of the Negroes themselves. In other words, it expresses an age old saying that whoever is weak somebody will trample upon him, black, white, yellow or brown, somebody will subjugate him. He is subjugated because he is weak. He is weak because he lacks organization. Therefore, the problem of the Negro people today, is a problem of organization, unity to build trade and industrial organization to achieve things. This does not mean that Negro people should build for themselves alone. The trade union movement is a movement of white workers, and black workers, for every body who sells his labor in the market for wages.

"The unity of Negro workers is tied up with the unity of white workers. The unity of black and white peoples on the industrial fields is necessary. It is not because of our disunity in the industrial fields that we are now in the

Scepticism In Education

By Wilfred Payne,

Professor of Philosophy at The University of Omaha

(Editor's Note: Dr. Payne has been interested in progressive colleges since 1926, and is the author of five articles on that subject.)

When a railroad president announces that a college education is useless, the professors are troubled.

This is because they have observed that he controls jobs, and they fear that he may discriminate against the product of their institution, and thus discourage students. They believe he thinks a liberal education is useless because it does not equip the student with specific skills, but only with a sane understanding of life. They fancy he wishes to employ young men who have learned to run comptometers, typewriters, and bookkeeping machines.



Dr. Payne is the fabric of society. But they do not suppose it is their duty to train artisans.

Tormented by the conflict and a stubborn loyalty to the ideal goal of a liberal education, they compromise. They propose that the students be liberally educated and trained in practical arts concurrently. Thus is born the curriculum content of the contemporary college.

However, the professors are wrong. They are not wrong in their loyalty to ideal values. They are wrong in their guess as to the

situation that our economic organizations cannot meet adequately, the problems of the Negro people?

"The state changes the forces of things, and the Negro workers of America must have political expressions. This political expression must not be under business interests.

"President Wilson said, 'An invisible empire has been built in American democracy, these forces impinging upon all phases of our lives because in their hands political powers are concentrated to shape our lives and that of the people of the nation.' The only way this power can be broken is by the workers to build their political power to form a farmer labor political organization so that workers and farmers may give expressions to their political aims.

"At this time the Negro people must take their place in the band of independent political movements that will express the interests of workers and all minority groups.

"I am happy to say that Negro workers are awakening all over the land. This conference here in Omaha is an example. Here today is an effort to unify all dining car groups. An effort to bring into being a National Organization. When this is formed, white and Negroes will take their place beside the Pullman Porters Organization.

"To build these structures we need to develop the new spirit of struggles, a spirit to fight, a will to suffer and sacrifice because the great battle of the people of the world is bound to be won through blood and tears. Somebody must pay the price, somebody must sacrifice, somebody must be willing to go to jail, and even give up life itself.

"The Negro has entered this struggle into this stage where the problem is to build power for the people.

"I am happy to be here to share in this struggle. To help build this organization. That is the spirit of the Negro worker and white worker. I am reminded of the words of Eugene V. Debs, that great fighter and leader as he was lodged in a Cleveland jail persecuted for his fight against the war.

"Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever Gods may be For by unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced or cried aloud Under the bludgeoning of chance My head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond the gate of wrath and tears Looms but the horror of the shade

grounds on which the world condemns a liberal education. It is the scepticism of the liberally educated man which affronts the world, not his lack of artisan's skill, and his scepticism affronts because it is mistaken for cynicism.

It is inevitable that the man blessed with the opportunity of leisure should deny that there is a single road to culture and liberalism; yet his consistent scepticism about formulas affronts the less fortunate and they account him a cynic.

Professors are too easily shaken, and need leadership. The induction of Dr. Charles Seymour into the presidency of Yale University, in October, should give them renewed courage. He chose that occasion to announce, with singular clarity, a defense of the simple scepticism of the liberal mind, confirming the conviction that freedom, and not technical skill, is the goal of education.

Here is reason enough for the professors to hail the new Prexy as master, but there is another, and a very positive reason for the acclaim. He avers that education must not content itself with freedom to seek truth without let or hindrance. Education must recognize that devotion to an ideal larger than itself is requisite. Thus Seymour adds his name to a long list of masters who have agreed that man's life needs justification; that to live, without living well, and without a goal, is ungodly.

THE LOW DOWN from HICKORY GROVE



BY JO SERRA

I was skimpin' through my paper and I see where it costs 650 million to run the U. S. Farm Dept., which is nearly 2 million a day; and it is considerable money.

And I also see that farmers will raise maybe 800 million bushels of wheat. And if they was to sell it for one dollar a bushel, they would have enough left over, maybe, after payin' the cost of the Agriculture Department, to buy the seed to plant next year.

And when us boys was there helpin' our father, he told us how to tell whether it was gonna rain by listenin' to the car over on the Wabash, and the Govt. it don't predict any clothes now. And we raised as much corn as they do today, and we didn't have any Govt. feller followin' us around tellin' us things that we could tell him better than he could tell us.

But I reckon if I had a U. S. automobile and free gas line, I would be ridin' around too, and tellin' some farmer how to feed a calf or some thing.

Hot ziggity! Yours, with the low down, JO SERRA

And yet the menace of the passing years Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.

It matters not how straight the gait, How charged with punishment the scroll, I thank whatever Gods may be For my unconquerable soul.

"Now I bid you forward to unity for black workers everywhere, for the future belongs to the working people."

BRONZE Standouts

Advertisement for Bronze Standouts featuring Rhoden D. Skyles, Rose Griffin, and Lulu King. Includes text: 'A WASHINGTON THEATRE PORTER WHOSE FINE BARITONE VOICE WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE THEATRE MANAGER', 'THE GOLDEN VOICE PRIMA DONA WHO SINGS NIGHTLY OVER WDAS', 'WHO PLAYS A FEATURE PART IN THE WPA PRODUCTION THE TRIAL OF DOCTOR BECK'.