

COMMENT'S

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.

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..EDITORIALS..

EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

WHERE THE ONUS WILL LIE

(From The Richmond Times Dispatch, Nov. 23, 1937.

It remains to be seen whether the country will stand for a Senate filibuster against the anti lynching bill, after the farm bill is disposed of. Such a filibuster, if prolonged, may tie up all the important recovery measures proposed by the administration, and greatly intensify the business decline.

No filibuster which thwarts the will of better than 2 to 1 majorities in Congress and in the country as a whole, is ever justified. That is not democracy. It is the negation of democracy. And when such a filibuster also wastes the legislative process to hang down at a critical moment, and delays for weeks if not months, the enactment of possibly important economic legislation, it is more indefensible than ever.

The filibuster of the past week against the bill has not benefited such legislation, since the recovery bills are not ready for presentation to Congress. At the same time, if the filibuster had talked sense and

discussed the issues, instead of reading 14 page speeches delivered two years ago, and other wise consuming as much time as possible with a maximum of wind and a minimum of intelligence, the bill would be out of the way today, and other matters could be taken up in their regular order.

Nor will it be the fault of advocates of anti lynching legislation if the opponents choose to filibuster in the future. The advocates would have been more than glad to have had the issue debated on its merits last week, and to have voted upon it immediately thereafter. Thus the onus for putting sand in the legislative gears will be on the opposition, if it decides to filibuster again. This is especially true, in view of the fact that at least one of the senators listed as ready to take a part in such an enterprise has said the bill will certainly pass. If so, why consume weeks in futile talk? That makes the whole thing more inexcusable than ever.

The High Cost of Living

Writing in the New Republic Jonathan Mitchell observes: "Except for war and peace, the high cost of living is now perhaps the liveliest issue before the country."

To anyone who has watched legislative developments during the past two or three years the present situation is not surprising. About forty states have passed laws permitting price fixing of trade marked articles by manufacturers. The federal government has approved this policy through the Miller Tydings Act. Also the Fed-

eral government, through the Robinson Patman Act, has outlawed various established merchandising and distribution practices which tended to reduce overhead and the cost spread between producer and consumer.

In other words, we have steadily jacked up prices by law, until they are becoming clear out of line with the earnings of the people. No wonder the High Cost of Living has jumped to the front rank of public problems.

When John Smith Struck A Match

John Smith worked in a section of a large factory where a dangerous mixture of vapor and air was present. One day, in spite of regulations, John struck a match. Result: John Smith went to the hospital. The factory was destroyed by the subsequent fire. Hundreds of his fellow workmen suddenly joined the lists of unemployed.

Many times each year a similar incident occurs. And every time it happens it means that resources are destroyed, taxes are thrown out of work; pur-

chasing power is reduced in the entire social structure and a barrier is put in the path of progress.

When fire strikes a home or a farm, the tragedy, though it may be on a smaller scale is all so great. Destroyed hopes, ruined plans, lost savings—these are some of the fruits of fire.

Last month the nation celebrated Fire Prevention Week. Pamphlets were issued, and speeches were made, newspaper articles and advertisements were printed—all with the intention of acquainting the pub-

Adults Attend W. P. A. Night Schools



Denied the privilege of public education in their youth by lack of facilities, apathy on the part of the public, or ignorance on the part of their parents, more than 350,000 colored men and women all over the country in the past few years have been going back to school—in leisure daytime hours, evening after work, even late at night. Packing makeshift WPA study centers, they have seized eagerly upon opportunities for learning which before the start of the work relief program

did not exist. Their teachers, too, are benefiting through the program, as their work with the WPA keeps them in trim for a better teaching job.

Shown are an elementary class in reading and writing (upper left),

a shorthand class (upper right) a class in the chemistry of cosmetics (lower left), and a class in radio mechanics (lower right). The inset shows a student in a literacy class learning simple arithmetic with the aid of his teacher.—WPA Photos.

Children In Court

By Judge Malcolm Hatfield

It was learned in juvenile court this week that the child who is permitted to torture and mistreat family pets frequently develops into a hardened adult.

With the widespread sale of rifles and shot guns to irresponsible hunters, there is little wonder that innocent bystanders, live stock, song birds and family pets are shot during the hunting season.

So long as this nation adheres to the erroneous belief that all red blooded American boys must be given toy pistols, air guns and rifles to play with, we can expect a murder to be committed in the United States every forty-five minutes throughout the year. Furthermore, it does not take a misguided youth who is skilled in operating an automatic revolver or rifle long to learn how to manipulate a machine gun.

Flying Doctor

Huge areas of Australia are without a single hospital, and often the nearest doctor is 50 miles or more away. Wireless and airplanes have been used to aid the seriously ill in these vast empty lands. The Australian Inland Mission has devised a special wireless system with automatic transmitters for use by isolated stations in the wilds. As soon as anyone falls ill a relation or friend can discuss the case by wireless with the nearest medical officer.—Pearson's Weekly.

lic with fire hazards and how to eliminate them. It has been a common experience for fire losses to drop during and for a short period after the Week, only to rise again. In other words, during the Week, people do listen and learn—and they apply their knowledge while it is fresh in their mind. Then laziness and forgetfulness take hold, and fire loss zooms once more.

Make 1938 a different kind of year. Practice fire prevention every week and every day. It can be easily done—the expenditure of a few minutes of your time at regular intervals is all that is needed to keep an average building safe. Is it worth your while to put in the time—to save dollars and perhaps lives.

THE LOW DOWN from HICKORY GROVE

BY JO SERRA



About every other day, when you pick up a paper, you will see where they are shooting an other dozen or half dozen, over there in Russia. And pretty soon they are going have to do quite a little lookin' around to find people to shoot. Like in the early days in the early days in the U. S., they had plenty of buffalo and they thought they would never run out of 'em, so they shot 'em just for a buffalo robe.

And some day it will be the same in Russia. And it is funny that you will find people in the United States on soap boxes and in other places, here and there—and you will find 'em favorin' making over our government, and tryin' out some foreign idea, or some new ism that has not been used but, it sounds great.

But the ducks talking up these big ideas, they would not be so hot for them, except they figure maybe they can be the top sergeant, with a nice new job, and a fur lined overcoat—and not the guy standin' up against the wall.

Yours, with the low down, JO SERRA

How to Remove Tight Ring

If the ring on your finger cannot be removed in the ordinary way, you might try one of the following methods: Moisten your finger and rub it with soap, then try to press the ring over the finger-joint, turning it round all the time.

Another way is to procure a piece of fine but strong string. Thread the end under the ring, then wind the string evenly round the finger as far as the middle joint. Take hold of the end under the ring and unwind it slowly upwards, when the ring should move along the string and come off.

Linen Supply of Ships

One move of any housekeeper at house-cleaning time is to count up the linen and china. On a ship this is a major operation; for instance, one of the largest ships afloat has a small matter of 30,000 towels and 45,000 napkins aboard of her when she goes to sea. She needs only 5,000 tablecloths for a voyage, however.

Roman Gold Coins

Roman gold coins were issued about 217 B. C., and were called aurei. The head of Mars appears on the early ones, followed by others with the head of young Janus and warriors swearing an oath over the body of a pig on the obverse. Still later, the issues of gold were resumed by Sulla in 88 B. C., and Julius Caesar in 45 B. C.

The Psychological Mechanisms In Dictatorship

By William H. Thompson, Ph.D.,

Head of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, University of Omaha

The world today is full of conversation about dictatorship. The psychologists are interested in many factors in the political and economic picture. Perhaps their observation is from a slightly different vantage point than is usually taken.

They feel that dictatorship in the modern world has been made possible because of certain psychological situations which arise at given times. I should like to enumerate a few of the situations which make dictatorship possible.

Dictatorship is made possible largely through crowd situations. Dictatorship is essentially a product of the psychological mob, organized around a single focus of interest and attention. Mobs are essentially creatures of feeling rather than intelligence. They are highly suggestible and are subject to hypnotic influence.

Must Have Unity The essential characteristics of the mob must be maintained at all costs by the dictator. He must obtain unity in the mob above everything. Dictatorship cannot thrive upon difference of opinion, or upon freedom of speech. One of the first acts of any dictator is to suppress all forms of expression which do not attribute to the particular unity for which he is striving. Action must be restrained to only those behavior patterns which are consistent with the central theme of the dictator's objective. All thought must bend toward the mental fusion point of the mob.

In political life, this mob may be known as the nation or state. In the crowd the individual is reduced to an inferior position. His personal philosophy becomes one of hopelessness in the face of the power of the group. He asks, "What can I do?" "How can I live independent of the group?" "I am

too small to do anything but go with the others," is the irresistible conclusion.

When an individual becomes thoroughly inducted into the psychological mob situation, he feels a new power for himself. He becomes active. He imagines himself superior. He may assume heroic attitudes, feeling for himself a part of the strength of the group.

Man of Action The master of the mob, or the dictator, is an interesting study. He is a man of action, supremely sure of himself. He knows where he is going, and, in campus language, he knows all the answers. The mob cannot and will not tolerate a philosopher, a scholar, a sceptic, or a man of deliberation.

Every dictator has been a man characterized by superlative action. Every dictator keeps the group intact by appeal to powerful feelings. Every dictator is a master of emotional pyrotechnics. His speech may have the superficial aspect of thought. His thought is always in very simple terms, couched in highly imaginative symbols which are loaded with violent feeling. He is a phrase-maker and a name-caller. He shouts battle cries and coins mottoes. He flatters the feeling of strength and power in the crowd.

The dictator never loses an opportunity to encourage this feeling. He lights the fires of emotion and depends on the psychology of contagion to produce one consuming blaze of national feeling. When this unity is intense, dictators are the absolute masters of men. Higher forms of thought, morality, and ethical action have vanished as the ghosts of some pleasant yesterday, and liberty exists only as a name, profanely spoken by uninformed nockers in a land which was once the shrine of free men.

An Echo From My Den By S. E. Gilbert

As I sit here in my den with pen in hand, meditating as it were, there comes to my mind, a statement that was made to me last week by a young student, who seems to be alarmed at what the future holds for him. His statement was made with reference to certain business houses to be found on 24 street: 'They take all and give nothing.' This statement coming from a student who is forced to grope in the dark on his future, struck me like a thunderbolt from heaven when I stopped to consider that the youth of today is being handicapped by nonthinking adults. They remain in a state of lethargy, therefore, in defense of youth, I write:

Needless to say, many of the merchants on 24th street and in other parts of the city thrive solely on the revenue they garner from the hands and labor of black Americans. As a result of this patronage they own beautiful homes in other parts of the city, educate their children, teach them the principles of merchandising, and in fact launch them on successful careers, business or otherwise, all the while the customer—the black man who foots the bill, hasn't the least idea what he is going to do with his own son who is about to finish high school. In view of these facts, there is one thing this customer should expect and that is reciprocity from these merchants in the form of employment. Not only should this be expected, but black America should develop the habit of trading with those merchants who through their employing of members of our own group, show gratitude for our support and thereby forcing those who decline reciprocity to move.

There is no excuse on the part of black America in Omaha, 16,000 strong, spenders of \$10,000,000 annually, allowing their boys and girls to wonder about their future, when by making every dollar that you spend, play a part in creating jobs for them, through either the direct avenue of building an economic structure or by the indirect avenue of only spending your dollar with the merchant who will employ you. The time has come when we as a group must cease allowing parasites remaining among us: that class of merchant who gives lies in taking all and giving nothing. We must band ourselves together and demand a fair deal, and thereby take our boys and girls out of a quandary and allow them to be able to see a bright and prosperous future.

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