

March of Events OPINIONS COMMENTS

THE OMAHA GUIDE

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All News Copy of Churches and all organizations must be in our office not later than 1:00 p. m. Monday for current issue. All Advertising Copy or Paid Articles not later than Wednesday noon, preceeding date of issue, to insure publication.

THE MODERNIZATION PLAN

The Douglas County Commissioners are wresting with the so-called modernization plan of bookkeeping especially in relation to tax records. The plan, it seems does not have legal authorization, but is desired by a large element of the larger tax payers, the Tax Payers League, some of Omana's news papers and other important interests.

During the last session of the Nebraska legislature, an effort was made to enact a law legalizing the modernization plan. The law was not passed. The people of Douglas county have not expressed themselves on the matter at the ballot box.

The Treasurer of Douglas county insists he is following the law; that the modernization plan, if followed by him would jeopardize his bondsmen and his own liberty. The County Clerk and the County Assessor take a similar view.

Meanwhile, some of our newspapers are demanding that the modernization plan be revived. And like a ringmaster in a circus, it has the officials performing, except Otto Bauman, who insists he intends to follow the law—that if the law is bad and stands in the way of human progress or the convenience of large property owners, it should be repealed and an acceptable law enacted. But as long as the law is as it is, he must follow it.

Friday last the County Board called in Mr. Paul Garrotto, Chief Deputy County Attorney, and he advised the board that he thought the modernization plan should be tried out "within the law", with the cooperation of the county officials affected by the plan, namely, the Treasurer, Assessor and County Clerk.

Many persons in Douglas County suspect that this modernization plan is a prelude to the county Manager Plan, and that that PLAN will take the government out of the hands of the people. This opinion is widely held and it based upon observation of the workings of such plans elsewhere.

The common people are feeling very deeply now that if they count as "cannon fodder", they should count as citizens.

JOHN L. LEWIS

The blitzkreig against John L. Lewis, growing out of the strike of coal miners in the "captive mines", reached an all-time ferocity. The news papers ignored the fact that the question involved was primarily, in principle, the right to strike. Because this was involved John L. Lewis, tenaciously held his course.

And John L. Lewis, the friend of all workers, black as well as white, will win through in this instance as he has done in so many others for all the sons of toil.

One fact cannot be refuted: John L. Lewis is the unfaltering friend of Negroes. And we wonder if that fact has not had something to do with the vicious attacks made upon him by the Metropolitan dailies of the country.

Ninety percent of the Negro workers in the commonly accepted use of that term, and one hundred percent of them are hoping that only good may come to John L. Lewis whose religion is HUMANITY and love of it, his HIGH PRIEST.

HALLOWE'EN

The festival of fun which bears the name of Hallowe'en, annually brings out four or five hundred youngsters of the Negro Community, who parade up and down North 24th Street and demonstrate how noisy and harmlessly gay they can be for a few hours on such an evening.

Last Friday the elements interfered and the "FUN FROLIC" was transferred in doors where the merry makers held their shows.

We know many white men and women who come out this way to see "the show" on Hallowe'en were disappointed.

Come out next year, unless Hitler forbids it. The war may be over by that time, and a rip roaring jamboree may be in order.

Remember, the mask of fun you see, hides many tragedies.

SABOTEURS PREFERRED TO NEGROES

Admidst the hue and cry for National United and an all-out effort for defense, the monster of COLOR PRE-JUDICE bulks large upon the scene. A recent story from Baltimore, Md., describes the exploits of the FBI. in tracking down and arresting a young man of German descent whose specialty was sabotaging parts of bombing planes in the Martin Bomber plant at Baltimore. When arrested, the young man explained that he was crippling the planes because he did not want them used to injure the German people. In other words, the young man was pro-German. When he was employed at the plant no questions were asked: he was "white" and, therefore, preferred to non-white Americans.

While the young pro-Nazi and many like him were being employed, Negroes, about whose loyalty to America there could be no doubt, stood at the gates of the Martin Bomber plant, begging for a chance to work. But the management said no! Better a Nazi bent on sabotage, than a loyal black workman.

The incident at the Martin Bomber plant in Baltimore, is but one of hun dreds throughout the land where traitors and wreckers are preferred to skilled black workers. Thus, it would seem a majority of the whites in America would rather hand the country over to Hitler than give the Negro a chance to work.

All this, and we are not engaged in a "shooting war". What will happen when that time comes; when our soldiers will be on the high seas and beyond them, needing vitally the products of our factories. The precent trickle of sabotage will then become a deluge, and the leaders in government and industry who have placed color prejudice above NATIONAL SECURITY will rue the ruins of their folly.

The Negroes themselves must be awake to this danger to their country, because their interests and security are identical with those of the NATION. And, therefore, the men and women who oppose including the Negroes in our all-out effort are the enemies of their country of civilization and mankind.

They shout stop Hitler while they employ Hitler agents in defense industries whose duty it is to make such victory impossible.

For our own safety, we had bet-

ter recall and remember Washington's admonition during the American Revolution: None but AMERICANS ON GUARD TONIGHT". May we change this splendid charge and say: LET AMERICANS ONLY WORK IN OUR FACTORIES FOR DEFENSE.

PRACTICAL DREAMERS (by Ruth Taylor)

The present decade may be an age of realism, and the time may call for realistic thinking, as some men say. But too often realism has meant stooping to the mire, reflecting only the ugly rather than reaching upwards toward the beauty of the stars. Realism has its value—but the great things of life have been done by the dreamers—by those who looked ahead and then made their dreams come true.

Thoreau once said: "If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost: that is where they should be. Now put foundations under them"

This is the task confronting the practical dreamers of today. They do not deny the evil and ugliness abroad in the world. They do, however, look through and beyond and build, even if only in visions, the world as it should be—a place where all groups and individuals can and will recognize each other's rights as they recognize their own obligations, where all peoples, regardless of race or creed or color, can work together in a spirit of cooperation, and live together in mutual trust, friendship and brotherhood.

The dream of a world such as this must be fulfilled. Firm foundations must be built for it, if the world is to emerge from the chaos which now envelops it. We must begin to dream now and to build now, for foundations are not built all at once, but stone by stone, slowly and laboriously. There must be no defective material used, nothing that will not stand the strain and stress of the winter's gales. The foundation must be absolute justice toward all-not justice according to man's deserts, but justice which affords to every living soul the opportunity to build his life without fear, and with freedom from want, to worship in his own way, and to hold his head up as a free man.

Such a task will require the self-less devotion on the part of all those who honestly desire a permanent peace based on international understanding. In our common reliance on one another in a time crisis, we are linked together as never before. Not only is there a national unity developing steadily, but there is a unity of thought and purpose among those whose interests inplude the future as well as the present. Now is the time for all dreamers to get together and work to put a firm found ation under their dreams for a better world for all mankind.

NEGRO PARTICIPATING ACTIVELY IN DEFENSE SAVINGS PROGRAM

Washington, D. C.—The American Negro, both individually and thru his organizations, is participating actively in the National Defense Savings Program, according to information reaching the Treasury Department.

Of 50 Negro insurance companies of various types, in the United States, more than 25 already have notified the Treasury of initial purchases of Defense Bonds amounting to a total of \$469,074. Six of these companies bought \$50,000 worth of Series F and G the maximum amount any corporation is permited to buy in one year. They are: Mammoth Life and Accident, Louisville; Supreme Camp of American Woodmen, Denver; Atlanta; Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Richmond; N. Carolina Mutual, Durham; and Universal Life, Memphis.

The Federal Life Insurance Company of Washington, D. C. reported purchasing \$33,800. Other companies include the Pilgrim Health and Life, Augusta, Ga. and the Metropolitan Funeral System Associations, Chicago each \$20,000; Virginia Mutual Benefit Life, Richmond, \$15,000; Domestic Life and Accident, Louisville, \$15,000.

Five companies reported purchases of \$10,000 worth of Defense Bonds each. They are: The Great Lakes Mutual, Detroit; Golden State Mutual Life Los Angeles; United Mutual Benefit Association, New York; Guaranty Life Savannah; and Afro-American Life of Jacksonville.

In Memphis the Negro Division of the Defense Savings Committee has laid out for itself the following fivepoint program: (1) Canvass all Negro business houses to explain the allotment plan; (2) "Buy-a-Bond" Sunday; (3) A speakers bureau to serve club and lodge meetings; (4) School parades; (5) Distribution of posters and placards, etc., by Negro Boy Scouts.

The Litchman chain of Negro theatres in Washington, D. C. has inaugurated the sale of Defense Savings Stamps in their theatre lobbies, and a notice on the screen asks patrons to take their change in Defense Stamps.

Many business organizations, churches and social clubs are actively interested in promoting the sale of Defense Bonds and Stamps, the reports

show. In addition, special meetings designed to stimulate interest in the Defense Savings Program have been arranged in Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, O., Indianapolis, Ind., Brad dock, Pa., Durham and Greensboro, N, C., St. Louis, Mo, St, Paul, Duluth and Minneapolis, Minn., Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., Portland, Ore., Stockton, Sacramento, Salinas, Venice Los Angeles and Pasadena, Calif., El Paso, Texas; Pueblo, Colo. and Omaha, Nebraska.

DEFENSE BOND QUIZ

Q. I cannot find the word "Defense" anywhere on the Defense Savings Stamps I have bought. Are they merely Postal Savings Stamps, or does my money invested in these stamps go into the Defense Program?

A. The money you use to purchase these Stamps goes indefinitely into the Defense program. The Stamps bear the words "America on Guard," which indicates that they are an integrad part of the Defense Program.

Q. What is the Treasury's purpose in putting Defense Savings Stamps on sale in retail stores throughout the Nation?

A. To make it as easy as possible for Americans everywhere to buy these Stamps, which, as everyone knows, may be exchanged at many post offices and banks for Defense Savings Bonds.

Note. -To buy Defense Bonds and Stamps, go to the nearest post office, bank, or savings and loan association; or write to the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C. Also Stamps now are on sale at most retail stores.

Dark Laughter . . . BY OL HARRINGTON



"Well Jest tell me this Bootsie-How tha devil can Hitler whup us with our great wealth".