

Beware!

Some Facts You Should Know...

(from the Better Business Bureau of Omaha, Inc. Lobby Floor, Redick Tower, WE-3033)

SPRING IS HERE! Reports of so-called "Spring Racketeers" have already been filed with the Bureau. Iowa law enforcement authorities warn of two men using the name A. Thomas and R. Howard, alias George and John Williamson, who are wanted for investigation. They are said to be peddling fur coats and driving an Oldsmobile sedan with a Louisiana license. These men are thought to be part of the notorious Williamson gang of peddlers, who come north every spring to peddle their wares of shoddy furs, rugs, fur coats, under various false representations. Should they come to your door, call the Bureau or the Police Dept. immediately.

A LOCAL WOMAN REPORTS paying \$20 to a "lawn expert" for seeding her lawn about three weeks ago on the representation the grass would come up in 10 days or two weeks. Before seeding the lawn, he burnt off the old grass, and while doing so destroyed a valuable evergreen tree which he promised to replace. When he failed to return as promised and when the grass failed to come up, she called the phone number he left and learned that persons at that number had never heard of the man. This case has been reported to city authorities who are on the lookout for further activities by this individual.

PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM—According to the Master Photo Finishers and Dealers Association, thousands of amateur photographers are being sold government surplus film as good new film capable of taking good pictures. Results from the use of this film—which is often out of date, foggy, and improperly cut—are disappointments to the users, and destruction of confidence in developers. After an investigation disclosed that some of this film has been noted in Omaha, a warning was issued to all photographers and interested parties, suitable for posting in shops for the protection of the public. Further investigations are continuing.

CEASE AND DESIST! The following unregistered Canadian gold mine stock promoters have been the subject of cease and desist orders by Harold Ohmson, Nebraska Blue Sky Commissioner. Redmond & Co., Ltd. 330 Bay St., Ont., Canada, W. Roy Marchant, Pres., J. N. S. Dixon, Vice Bowman Stuart & Co., 68 King Street, East Toronto, I. Candad. H. R. Bain & Co., Ltd., 304 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. Canada, Henry Rupert Bain, Pres. Lakewood Investments, 9 Adelaide St., East Toronto, Ont., Canada, ohn M. Baird, sole prop. According to Commissioner Johnson, the above promoters should be placed in the same category as similar Canadian gold stock promoters previously listed in this publication. Persons receiving solicitations by mail or telephone to purchase this highly speculative and often worthless gold stock, should notify the Bureau at once. BEFORE YOU INVEST—INVESTIGATE!

PUZZLE CONTEST—Information is available at the Bureau office about the Facts Magazine Puzzle Contest, in which many Omahans are participating. Contestants should realize that according to the rules of the contest, it may be necessary for them to enter several "tie-breaking" contests each calling for extra cash remittances, before they are eligible for the grand prizes. The promoters of this contest have been the subject of considerable complaint to Better Business Bureaus in the past about similar promotions. Call the Bureau for complete information.

CON GAME—Warnings were issued about a confidence game operated by an elderly pair giving the name Marguerite and Charles Wells. This case, which received mention in the Omaha World Herald was reported to the Bureau by a rooming house-keeper, who had been swindled out of about \$300 by the pair, who borrowed money on the strength of an "inheritance" and then disappeared. After receiving the Omaha warning, Oklahoma City reported a similar experience. It is hoped that the network of 85 Bureaus over the country and numerous cooperating organizations now alerted, may contribute to the stopping of this racket and apprehending the operators.

MISREPRESENTATION Prompt action by the Bureau in cooperation with a local magazine agency resulted in stopping a salesman claiming he was making a survey for the U. S. Army Signal Corps, in order to gain admittance to a customer's house. The salesman's employer when hearing of the report, emphatically stated that his men were not permitted to make such statements, and that those doing so would be relieved of their samples.

CHIEF CONCERN According to James S. Twohey, newspaper analyst, writing in Fortune Magazine, May issue,—the chief concern of the Negro press is the Negro's progress, with editorial policy covering a wide range of attitudes.



(by Ruth Taylor)

Recently at a luncheon an English newspaperman made the statement that the people were always right. One of the intellectuals present said: "Come now. Think of the trashy popular songs. Can you say when the people like them, they are right?"

To which the Englishman replied: "Well, the only things American I don't like are the jazz records my daughter collects—but if the people like a song, I say there must be something to it."

He was right. Here's an illustration. You all know the song I mean. It has a catchy melody—but it's more than the music that put it on the hit parade.

"Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Mr. In-Between."

"Accentuate the positive." Be constructive. Look for the good in people, not the evil. Dwell more on your good fortune than in bemoaning the bad things that happen to you. You can't progress far looking backwards. If you do, you're sure to bump into some obstacle.

"Eliminate the negative." Stop grouching. Don't always look on the dark side. The sun always has risen—why assume it won't tomorrow? Cut out the repining, the wishing that things were different. Make them go your way by getting out and working, rather than by doing nothing other than sitting down and talking.

"Latch on to the affirmative." There is something around you that needs to be done. Do it. Show your boss that on your job whatever you do, you do thoroughly. Don't be afraid to give your best. That way you'll always have the best left.

"Don't mess with Mr. In-Between." Don't always try to straddle the fence. You can't please everyone. Don't be wishy-washy. Nobody likes an in-between. Be a person. Be yourself—and make yourself the best of all possible people.

A sermon is a simple popular song? Why not? What makes a song popular? It is its universal appeal. It is because it strikes a chord in the minds of the listeners. So next time you hear this song—remember what it means.

DYNAMITE

by H. George Davenport

THE RUSHING WORLD

The passing of Roosevelt was a shock to the nation. He'll go down in history as the greatest politician that this country ever knew. He was a master at ridiculing his opponents; he tried to fool them with wise cracks on his return from Yalta, but the photos that preceded him told the story. Roosevelt was a sick man during the campaign, but he showed weakness when he got drenched in the rain in order to show his physical fitness, then joked about it. This thing called life, grows more mysterious with years. One man's life can shake the destinies of nations, one man's death can cause a war to stop or continue. When a man goes up in life he carries many friends with him; when he falls, others fall. The question arises, what will become of Ma Perkins, Wallace and Mrs. Bethune? To my way of thinking Wallace was never Presidential timber, but many Negroes were hoping Wallace would get that RFC job, so she could give government money to some degree parasites, who make their living carrying tin cups around. We hope Mrs. Bethune will go back to Daytona Beach and attend to her school. During the campaign this writer pointed out to the voters that they may not have liked Dewey, but how about Truman? Now Truman may turn out to be better than Roosevelt, who knows? And then he may not. Truman owes you Negroes nothing. You voted for Roosevelt. The Democratic platform eliminated any direct mention of the race. I'll await the decisions of Truman with glee. The late Boake Carter used to say quite often, on the radio, "Man prooves and God disposes"; man said, "Never hang horses crossing a stream." God, with one stroke cuts the life of one of the greatest of riders of modern times, stream or no stream. This thing called life is much, much too much. Wallace almost made it for Vice President Kelly of Chicago threw in the harpoon that killed Wallace. He, Wallace, must have been thinking of that at the swearing in of President Truman because he had to be carried out after the ceremony. If Truman decides to get rid of Wallace, and we think he will, it is good bye for Wallace politically and he can go raise some more pigs to kill, and corn to plow



Davenport

News-letter WHAT'S HAPPENING IN Washington

TRUMAN AND HIS POLICIES — How Good a President a new-comer will be is unpredictable. Lincoln's record before 1860 was largely a succession of failures. A single achievement won for him the Republican nomination, his spectacular debates with Douglas. Their lucidity rested on a lifetime of cracker barrel philosophizing. His experience was limited to that of "a man of words."

Of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Walter Lippmann wrote early in 1932: "He is an amiable man, who, without any special qualifications for the office, would very much like to be President." Today, Lippmann is wondering whether to place Roosevelt alongside of Lincoln. In another way, the Roosevelt career illustrates difficulty of prediction from a pre-Presidential record. Roosevelt's speech in 1932 forecast an orthodox President, a younger Cordell Hull gave little or no clue to the major policies that characterized Roosevelt in office.

No one came to the White House with a greater build-up than Herbert Hoover. His private and public experience in domestic and foreign affairs far transcended that of any other incoming President. We know his fate.

Warren G. Harding was the last Senator before Truman to enter the White House. Few remember today what a profound reverence he had for the Presidency. He promised, then appointed "a Cabinet of the Best Minds"—Hughes, Hoover, Mellon. He respected the place of Congress. Himself loyal, he never dreamed any of his friends could be disloyal, though an honest man with the best of intentions—and the best of advisers—his intimates made him America's greatest failure.

Andrew Johnson followed Lincoln in policy as well as in office. He resisted the policies that brought the ugly Reconstruction Period. But Johnson could not handle a vengeful Congress led by South-hating Thaddeus Stevens. Truman's problem will not be with Congress, which is fond of him and eager to cooperate. Rather, it will be in the international problem—to handle the other members of the Big Three. Roosevelt got along by acting as mediator between Stalin and Churchill, and by accepting in general their interpretations of the Atlantic Charter. The success or failure of the Roosevelt technique still has to be determined.

Institutional versus Personal Government: Roosevelt's leadership was personal. Everything came to and from him. Even after government departments or agencies had rendered decisions which under anyone else would have been final, Roosevelt would accept appeal and modify the decision according to his personal inclinations. Truman's leadership will be institutional. He will tend to uphold decisions made by the proper officials. By instinct he does not want to make all the decisions himself; he respects the responsibilities belonging to others.

TRUMAN'S LOYALTIES are strong. Boss Jim Pendergast made his Senator. Only a few weeks ago, Truman flew to Pendergast's funeral. He made no apology: "He was my friend," Pendergast's enemies are Truman's enemies. As Senator, Truman opposed confirmation of Milligan, U. S. District Attorney, who sent Pendergast to prison. Just recently, Milligan was nominated Assistant Attorney General. Nomination has not been confirmed; now it will be withdrawn. For sponsoring the nomination, Biddle may lose the Attorney Generalship. Biddle has the additional handicap of being a Wallace backer at Chicago.

Invest In Your Country—Buy A War Bond Page 7 The Omaha Guide A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER Published Every Saturday at 2420 Grant Street OMAHA, NEBRASKA—PHONE HA. 0800 Entered as Second Class Matter March 15, 1927 at the Post Office at Omaha, Nebraska, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. C. C. Galloway, Publisher and Acting Editor SUBSCRIPTION RATE IN OMAHA ONE YEAR \$3.00 SIX MONTHS \$1.75 THREE MONTHS \$1.25 SUBSCRIPTION RATE OUT OF TOWN ONE YEAR \$3.50 SIX MONTHS \$2.00 National Advertising Representatives— INTERSTATE UNITED NEWSPAPERS, Inc. 545 Fifth Avenue, New York City, Phone:— MURRAY Hill 2-5452, Ray Peck, Manager



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YOUR IDLE USED CLOTHING IS BADLY NEEDED!

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under; his dream of feeding the world sounds fantastic—but he can go back to Iowa and dream some more. I know there are thousands of sick Negroes in Chicago over the death of Roosevelt, but whatever you or I think, God Knows Best. It's God's Work, this war. The peace to come and after that and there is nothing we can do about it. So get busy and start to work, there's plenty to do. And may the soul of Roosevelt rest in Peace. Amen.

The Day is Comin'

by ERIC HASS, Editor, the Weekly People for CNS

Before me is a very old and very rare document. It was printed in Philadelphia in 1797 and is "The Address of Abraham Johnstone, A Black man, who hanged at Woodbury, in the County of Gloucester, and State of New Jersey, on Saturday the 8th day of July last, To the People of Colour." The dealer in rare books who loaned it to me says it is the first published attack on slavery by a Negro.

Verbose, in the style of the times, the address is nonetheless well written, and mingles logic, satire and sober admonition with amazing felicity. But what is striking about the document is neither this, nor the tragic circumstances in which it was written but the fact that its argument has a remarkably modern flavor. For Abraham Johnstone's address was, above all, an indictment of those who acclaimed democracy, yet practiced despotism. It was a 1797 edition of "The American Dilemma."

"How preposterously absurd," he wrote, "must an impartial observer think the man whom he sees one moment declaring with a most incredible volubility in favour of natural rights and general freedom, and the next moment with his own hands for some very trivial offence inflicting the cruel and ignominious stripes of slavery, and riveting its shackles—surely in the eyes of any man of sense such conduct must be irreconcilable and just reason to doubt the soundness of his principles as a patriot and a lover of freedom."

When Abraham Johnstone wrote this, enthusiasm for slavery was ebbing, even in the South. Compared with wage labor, slaves were becoming expensive propositions, and the system itself had grown uneconomical. Then came the invention of the cotton gin, and with it a tremendous increase in the demand for field labor. Slave prices boomed. Slave owners who had toyed with plans to free their human chattels abandoned them, resolutely closing their minds to the suggestion that slavery was in conflict with the "natural rights and general freedom" they loudly acclaimed.

It was, of course, the material interests of the old South's ruling class that revived enthusiasm for slavery. And it was the wealth wrung from the loins of human chattels which blinded them to the

contrast between their democratic pretensions and despotic practices.

But, if this is true of the slaveocrat of the old South, is it not an equally valid explanation of the American dilemma today? As preposterously absurd as in Abraham Johnstone's day are those who one moment declaim on "democracy" and "human rights" and the next moment justify segregation, discrimination and "white supremacy." The incongruity is there. It palpitates. We protest against it. We pass legislation to curb it. But there it remains, and will remain as long as class rule remains—as long, that is, as material interests are served by it.

The slave system was overthrown, leaving as its dismal heritage the system of color caste. But the caste system cannot be overthrown unless, at the same time, the CLASS system goes with it. For the caste system is now an integral part of the class system. The same ruling class that benefits from the exploitation of labor benefits also from the degradation of the Negro. The employing class needs a ready supply of low-pay labor for arduous and menial tasks. Above all, it needs the racist philosophy it preaches to keep the workers divided on racial lines to their common undoing.

DO'S AND DON'TS:



Do keep your yard from becoming huge garbage cans. Trash-filled yards lead to disease-ridden communities.