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OVERTONES

By Al Henningburg
Peace for Hong Kong
 Now that victory has come to the United Nations, and the Japanese are giving themselves up on every front, there remains some very ticklish problems to be settled. One of these is Hong Kong, British city in China. The Chinese expect, and rightfully so, that they will accept the Japanese surrender, but the British point out that they plan to have a part too. Chances are that the weight of the Americans will be thrown with the British, who do not seem disposed to give up any part of their empire. If the spirit of the self-determination of nations were made to apply, either the British would get out of Hong Kong and stay out, or the Chinese would be granted territory of like size and importance in England. Strangely enough, no one seems to have thought of that.

Heading for the Breadlines

You don't have to be an expert in labor problems to see what is happening to the workingmen these days. The capitulation of Japan meant the cancellation of war orders, which in turn meant tremendous cutbacks in war industry. The long lines currently forming at the employment offices, and those lines will be much longer when more servicemen return, are but the natural result. And many of those standing in line turn down peace-time jobs because these jobs pay much less than their war jobs. But they cannot reasonably expect to go on earning the wages which the war emergency made possible.

But those who are now organizing spending sprees are heading straight for the breadlines, and there is danger that they may take other more sensible persons with them. Meager savings will soon be exhausted, and prices will climb as demand exceeds

the supply of goods. Many Negroes throughout the country are now buying up old houses and old cars at terrific prices, and without any hope of keeping up the too-high payments demanded.

Bilbo Is Not All Bad
 There is logic in the belief that Bilbo is doing the country some good after all. He manages to make himself so thoroughly ridiculous that even his supporters back in good ol' Mississippi are beginning to get the jitters. If Mr. Bilbo can just keep up his present pace another year or so, the entire country will be so embarrassed and disgusted that even the poll-tax states will be ashamed to send demagogues to the Senate.

What the Public Wants
 Store managers who do not want to employ Negroes as clerks frequently fall back on the dodge that "the public won't stand for it." Not satisfied with this answer, the Chicago Urban

League and the Committee on Racial Equality interviewed customers at ten major department stores in the windy city. Sixty-nine per cent do not object to qualified Negroes as clerks, twenty-three per cent do object, and eight per cent have no opinion. Clearly the majority of Chicagoans polled believe in equality of economic opportunity. All of which proves that you can go on believing that the cards are stacked against you, when a little quiet investigation shows just the opposite to be true.

Nylons on the March
 With thousands of pairs of nylon stockings being placed on the market in one western city recently, with one New York night club promising nylons to each woman guest New Year's eve, and with prospects of an early return to the good old days, the women we know are bubbling over with excitement. And all our sympathy is with them, for many have had

a very hard time. What with unruly rations creeping around the shanks, or leg make-up showing up at its streaked worst on a hot day, the girls have and their problems. Nylons can't get on the march any too soon to look after the much-needed job of covering up.

No Bed of Roses
 Few satisfactions are greater for a hard working man than the thoughts of owning his business, and few headaches are as persistent as those brought on by unwise investments. Veterans who plan to go into business for themselves must not act too hastily. Location, goodwill, the need for that business, present and future competition; all these are important. We hope that those who act will act wisely, for being in business is certainly no bed of roses.

regardless of what has happened to them in the South at the hands of the racial chip on their shoulders.

Too many outbursts of violence between the races are coming about today because agitation among the masses has dangerously incensed people to hate all white faces and to disregard good manners, common de-

Painting Cellar Steps
 When cellar steps are dark and risky to descend and mount, it is a good plan to paint the edges of the treads with a band of white or aluminum paint to increase their visibility. It is also a good idea to paint the bottom step a solid white.

CAN'T YOU SLEEP?



Fresh Plaster
 Fresh plaster inside the house should be permitted to dry thoroughly before paint is applied on the exterior. There is always a danger that the sun will draw moisture from the plaster through the wood and cause blistering and peeling of the paint film.

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A LASTING PEACE

BRANDEIS



In some manner, our leadership has confused the issue and today we are fighting the battles of practically every group on the face of the globe when our real battle is within ourselves—within our own racial boundaries. When we fight that and win it, then we will be in a position to take up the cudgels in defense of others.

How can Negroes talk about unity with Jewish, Irish, Czech, Italian, Chinese, Catholic and Mexican minorities when we don't have unity among ourselves? How can we become members of a "united front" when we haven't learned the great lesson of racial respect and cooperation? There are Negroes around the land busy making speeches about the Zionist Movement and its advantages to the Jewish people; discussing the role of China in the post-war world; taking sides with the Irish Republican Army; casting their lot with the Communists; joining a million and a half churches, all different, trying to "pass" mentally for something they are not when our problem lies in every mirror we look into.

Discipline Badly Needed
 No. 1 on the Negro's "backyard" agenda should be the spread of some sort of training that makes for discipline among our adolescents with plenty thrown in for the adults. Some kind of program should be devised to educate the great masses against harmful vices that are picked up wholesale from a decadent white civilization which offer no return, either financially or in health. The sound things of life should be talked about and examined—such acts as buying one's own home, saving money that is being recklessly thrown away at a time when it comes easy, for whiskey, idle pleasures, and fanciful whims.

A practical code of morals should be taught everybody, particularly on the score of the racially harmful practice of disregarding the institution of marriage and putting male and female relationships on a basis of "free love" or so-called "common law" marriages. In this way, children can have parental respect and hope in the future based on the protection of a family hearth built on firm foundations. As it is, countless thousands of Negro children are being brought into the world through "common law" marriages and "free love" relationships who will start out in life with two strikes already called upon them because of their hazy parental background.

Over-Sensitiveness Bad
 No. 2 on the program should be education against the severe case of over-sensitiveness with which, it seems, the entire race is acutely suffering.

We cannot go far if our people,

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