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TANGIBLE PATRIOTISM NEEDED

Little short of one hundred years ago, an American statesman defiantly declared to a monarchial government of Europe that, compared with free America, that country's possessions "are but as a patch on the earth's surface."

Boastful? Yes, but more than that, proud—proud of the principles and ideals of this young nation, proud of all it stood for and all it was made of. They of that generation cherished memories of the brave pioneers, of the dauntless minute men, and of them who suffered with Washington at Valley Forge. They loved their country and reveled in its few traditions and many stories of valor.

Today while the totalitarian nations grow in power and strength, and while the once seemingly ridiculous question, "Can democracy survive?" becomes more serious, few people seem to have much national pride. Few people seem disposed to boast of their country. Few people seem to realize that the dictator states have something that American democracy has lost. With their mythology of faultless leaders and united endeavor for the good of the state, with their perpetual parades and celebrations, they have made patriotism simple and glamorous.

That the official history of Russia, Germany and Italy which obedient subjects are

required to swallow is so fictitious as to border upon impossibility is not relevant to the question. What is relevant is that that history reeks with heroism, chivalry and romance. It combines all the boldness and daring of Homer with the beauty and chivalry of Scott. To the people of those nations, it gives the exhilarating sense of living in a great pageantry.

America once had its own pageantry. But through the work of debunking biographers and the press of financial matters, the brilliant stories have faded. Perhaps it is well that we know the truth—that Phil Sheridan never made his twenty mile ride, and that the charge on San Juan hill was an absurdity. But certainly it is a sad state of affairs when our Independence day degenerates to merely a vacation from the office, and Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays are nuisances because the banks close.

At the beginning of this century we were so positive that democracy was the only just and right kind of government, that we believed none who had enjoyed its freedom could ever turn from it. Yet today over a million people in this country are actively engaged in organizations directly opposed to democracy. National loyalty, unfortunately, is not a quality that is born in us. It must be instilled and developed.

A short time ago in a nationwide poll, it was discovered that only one person in eight knew all three verses to the national anthem, and that only one person in three even knew its name! Imagine then the number of Americans who can recite from memory the oath of allegiance or the preamble to the constitution with which they were familiar in grammar school.

If the fervor has drained out of our patriotism, one cause may be the so-called "progressive" education which seems to ignore that youth develops in a democratic United States and not in a gray abstraction known as the modern world. We have debunked too much. It is undoubtedly true that the Massachusetts Bay colony was promoted as a commercial enterprise, but nevertheless the Puritans and the Pilgrims did migrate to worship God in their own way. And no matter what shady information researchers may uncover, they cannot deny the glorious episodes of the little American navy during the Tripolitan campaign of the War of 1812.

If we really want to believe in political democracy and if we want that political democracy to live, we must tell ourselves and our posterity over and over again the stories of the pain and suffering that democracy has cost. We must keep alive the belief and pride in the great men who founded our country and the valorous deeds they accomplished.

How else, without a brilliant, loyalty instilling mythology of our own, can we combat a bloodthirsty one which teaches militarism, and brute force?

Behind world events

With Fire and Sword

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more; or close up the wall with our English dead." Memorable lines from the speech of King Henry before the battle of Harfleur, words which may soon be repeated.

Prime Minister Chamberlain has denounced Hitler as a breaker of covenants. Sir Neville Henderson, British ambassador to Germany, has been recalled. Usually reliable sources report that the proposed trip of the king and queen to America may be cancelled in order that the ties of empire be more solidly cemented. The British "lion" is roaring, venting his displeasure at recent German moves in central Europe. The British attitude is stiffening and the appeasement policy seems to be bowing its way out.

Premier Daladier of France has been granted emergency dictatorial powers to cope with the situation. France, too, has withdrawn its diplomatic emissary to the Reich and joined England in a protest against military aggression in Germany's march to the east.

Russia, threatened if Rumania comes under Hitler's sway, is ready to join hands with other world powers to stop the rapid advance of nazi domination.

King Carol of Rumania, following an all night conference with his ministers, has rejected a German proposal for economic domination in return for guarantees respecting the territorial integrity of the rich oil and wheat lands. The German note is looked upon as an ultimatum, and Rumania has mobilized five army corps as opposed to Germany's 22 divisions on the international border.

Sumner Welles, assistant secretary of state, with the full approval of President Roosevelt, has dispatched a note bristling with strong terms to Berlin protesting German occupation of the former Czech territories of Moravia and Bohemia. "It is manifest that acts of wanton lawlessness and arbitrary force are threatening world peace and the very structure of modern civilization," said Welles, couching the denunciation of nazi policies in stronger language than is usual for such diplomatic communiques.

The American treasury announces the imposition of high "penalty" on all German imports after April 23. This follows the day old withdrawal of the "favored nation" clause in tariff treaties with Czechoslovakia. American trade with Germany will be rigidly restricted.

Hitler has appointed Baron von Neurath, president of the reich's secret cabinet council, as "protector" of the Czech areas which have been taken over in the last 72 hours.

From Berlin comes the announcement that Hitler will unconditionally reject the Anglo-French protests against military occupations of Moravia and Bohemia. German news reports also say that Germany has no designs on Rumania.

Italian spokesmen denounce the democracies as "hysterical." Fascists claim the Czech erasure was "done legally."

The British government is reported to be formulating a "stop Hitler at all costs" movement, which would unite all the European powers in a stand against the reich's expansionist plans.

This time it looks as if the democracies were willing to put "Mein Kampf's" proposals to the test of fire and sword. "Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more; or close up the wall with our English dead." And the English dead will be reinforced by the mutilated bodies of all nations in the world.

Is Hitler bluffing? All signs and portents say he is not. Only a short 20 years since the world was made safe for democracy, it must again be made safe. All the bases for international conflict have been established, and America is not far behind the pack snapping at the heels of Mr. Adolf Hitler.

tary; N. B. Pont, Stanton (Neb.) Register.

Following an address by the new president Saturday morning, circulation and promotion will be discussed by Dave Dandivier, Chickasha (Okla.) Express, and Floyd L. Hockenbuhl, Chicago, publisher of Circulation Management.

Prizes for the year's best editorial, civic promotion, and front page makeup will be awarded Friday by Jess W. Thurber, Tecumseh editor and state editor.

Jenkins writes report

M. B. Jenkins of the forestry office of the conservation division has prepared a written report on the Pine Ridge timberland of western Nebraska which was undertaken at the request of the United States department of agricultural economics.

Singers--

(Continued from Page 1)

orchestrations. W. G. Temple will conduct the university singers. Jean Fisher of Concordia, Kas.; Betty Bennett of Barneston, and Jane Allen of Lincoln will be soloists in the choral numbers.

Three of the four orchestral numbers chosen by Lentz are distinctly Russian. Besides the "Fire-bird," the ensemble will play Musorgski's Prelude to the opera "Khovanchchina;" eight Russian folk-songs by Anatol Jjadov; and the Overture to "Fingal's Cave" by Mendelssohn.

Lentz lauds Strawinski. Of Strawinski's suite Conductor Lentz says:

"It represents one of the most significant and beautiful of contemporary compositions. The composer has made a positive and lasting impression upon the musical world. The "Fire-Bird," with its fantasy, color, and fascinating rhythms, gives one a wide range of human emotions."

The university singers will be heard in Liszt's "Benedictus qui venit; Friml's "Rose Marie" selection; Cain's "Say Thou Lovest Me," and Lawes' "The Bower of Musick." Richard Morse of Lincoln will be accompanist.

Players--

(Continued from Page 1)
ers strikes home at once...inspected prop room where there is a wind machine and props from other shows...all made by the stage crew...back to dressing rooms...was introduced to Marie Poellot, who, say the players, does not kiss platonically...also to Grace Hill, tall, giggling, punning bit player in "Tovarich"...went out to watch stage hands prepare for opening.

Props used all designed and planned by Del Brummer, who also directs construction, saving dollars by the hundreds...graduate of Iowa U...says "Tovarich" set cost around \$250...shipping them from the east, the cost runs into thousands.

Went into Miss Howell's room...where fatigued players rest...sometimes...picture of Shakespeare's birthplace on the wall...Players in throes of makeup look like old people with spiders at corners of their eyes...what a stink!...we get used to it, tho.

Saw tin sheet backstage used to make thunder...went out front to watch first scene.
Backstage again between scenes...girls changing costumes, correcting makeup, everybody laughing...takes four stage hands to lift bedroom scene backdrop...out front again for rest of act.

Intermission...stage hands change set in seven minutes...some kind of record...phone used in second scene is real...Vodka is water in a genuine Vodka bottle...

Fencing scene is great...Bitner and Alexander worked thrusts after instruction first by Dick Rider

After play...downstairs in men's dressing room...makeup box consists of grease paint, eyeshadow, cold cream, tissue paper, face powder...sissies...
Ray Brown wants to know who

put water in the ash tray and made the matches wet...couldn't light his cigarette during second act kitchen scene...sink in that scene was wooden...no running water...refrigerator was a Westinghouse...no food in it...

Onions used in first scene lying in prop room create another smell...counteracting one I guess...getting acquainted now...swell people!

Saber Bob Alexander used in first scene was an I. O. O. F. saber...about 50 years old...Bob used rubber band around handle to keep it from slipping from the sheath.

Champagne bottle is real...with water in it...bottle comes from Heims, France...flowers used all paper...cocktails in second act just yellow tomato juice...warm at that...phooie!

Went to Hap's with cast...what a time...laughed, smoked, drank malted milks, ate hamburgers...one big happy family...Barbara "Baby Snooks" Birk told old pajama story...made it funny tho.

Everyone leaves...some seniors won't be back next year...no one says anything about it...but they all want to...ride home in car...four in back seat...lap situation reversed...swell people...those University Players.

Friendships are the dividends that the long hours pay, the Players think them more than enough salary...swell people!

Editor--

(Continued from Page 1)
banquet Friday night to be followed by a gridiron show written by members of the Lincoln press club and produced by the University Players and Sigma Delta Chi, professional men's journalism fraternity.

The university school of journalism is in charge of the convention's Thursday evening entertainment and will present Major "Biff" Jones, N. U. football coach and

athletic director, as master of ceremonies at a variety show in the Union ballroom. Entertainment will include the Pershing Rifles drill squad, university glee club, Delta Gamma's cup winning Kosmet Klub skit, a roller skating act, and Morton, the Lincoln student magician. Chancellor C. S. Boucher will also speak briefly.

Friday afternoon, editors and state legislators will stand in the reviewing line when the university R. O. T. C. regiment stages a parade and sham battle on the campus.

Prof. F. H. Blood's university advertising class will assist in a demonstration of preparation and sale of advertising schedules at an advertising roundtable discussion Friday morning.

Over 250 expected.

Over 250 state editors and press representatives are expected to register for the convention Thursday afternoon at the Lincoln hotel, according to Fred Minder, association secretary. The annual past presidents dinner will be held at the Lincoln Thursday evening before the variety show at the Union.

Annual reports and election of officers for 1939-40 will be taken up Friday morning. Speakers at roundtable discussions will include Walter Carlile, Jamestown (Kas.) Optimist; W. H. Conrad, Medford (Wis.) Star News and president of the National Editorial association; W. H. Flour, Fullerton, former NEA president; Bill DeVriendt, Lincoln; Arne G. Rae, Chicago, NEA executive secretary.

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