

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VCL. III-NO. 40.

LONDON, CANADA, APRIL 3rd, 1944

Price 5 Cents

Easter Greetings!



MAY A JOYFUL

EASTER BE YOURS

Amidst the clash and tumult of a

world at war, Easter comes again

with God's wondrous message of love,

triumph, victory in the end for the

forces of evil. The cross stands out

in mystic glow in this world torn by

strife and sin as a rebuke to sin, and

as a promise and symbol of victory

over those forces contending against

righteousness. We do not know what

the immediate future holds for us. We

cannot say what shall be on the mor-

row whether this or that; but we do

know that we have the promise that

Christ must reign until He hath put

all enemies under His feet, and de-

livered up the Kingdom of God, and the last enemy that shall be destroyed

is death. We do know that Jesus'

resurrection confirms that instinct of

immortality implanted in human kind.

This instinct is not peculiar to Christ-

ians alone but is shared by all hu-

manity; but for Christian, this in-

stinct of immortality is confirmed-

strengthened, and we can say: "O

death, where is thy sting O grave,

where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." In the light of that belief everything is altered. The discipline of life is altered. Love is different, hope is different, changed is the face of pain, suffering, infirmity, weakness. Changed is the loneliness of dying, and the darkness of the grave. Christ says to us. "If all this were a delusion, an error, do you suppose I would allow you to hold to it? Ye believe in God, believe also in me-if it were not so, I would have told you." Believe if you like that the world is flat or the sun goes around the earth, that does not influence your life very much but what is important is your belief in immortality, for to know that life is eternal makes a difference to your conduct. it touches your life at every point; it molds and colours every action of the common day. So Christ corroborates humanity's deepest longings for immortality and union with those whom we long to see

I pray that the Easter Festival will bring comfort, hope and courage to all Christians in this year of anxiety.

Easter Soloist



Dorothy Maynor sings songs of the season on "The Pause That Refreshes on the Air" Sunday afternoon (4:30 EWT) over CBS. The brilliant soprano will be back in New York for the broadcast after a coast-to-coast concert tour of 25 cities.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE TODAY?

We shall do so much in the years to come,
But what have we done today?
We shall give our gold in a princely sum,
But what did we give today?
We shall lift the heart and dry the iear,
We shall plant a hope in the place of fear.
We shall speak the words of love and cheer.
But what did we speak to-day?

We shall be so kind in the afterwhile,
But what have we been today?
We shall bring each lonely life a smile,
But what have we brought today?
We shall give to truth a grander birth,
And to steadfast faith a deeper worth,
We shall feed the hungering souls of earth,
But whom have we fed today?

We shall reap such joys in the by and by,
But what have we sown today?
We shall build us mansions in the sky,
But what have we built today?
'Tis sweet in idle dreams to bask,
But here and now do we do our task?
Yes, this is the thing our souls must ask,
''What have we done to-day?''

-Nixon Waterman, in "In Merry Mood"

DOROTHY MAYNOR ON AIR SUNDAY

If many of the stirring spirituals sung by Dorothy Maynor are unknown to her concert and radio audiences, it is because she gathers them from rather unknown places.

The brilliant soprano, Easter Sunday soloist on "The Pause that Refreshes on the Air" with Andre Kostelanetz (CBS, 4:30 EWT), learned many of her numbers at revivals and camp meetings, including an inspiring spiritual, "Were You There?" which shell sing with chorus accompaniment on Sunday.

A "gold mine" for students of African song and culture, Miss Maynor has discovered, is the little known island of St. Helena off the coast of South Carolina. A small atoll with a farming population of 500, all Negro—whites having deserted during the Civil War—St. Helena, Miss Maynor finds, is virtually unchanged by modern civilization. In recent visits there she has picked up strange and fascinating music which she now is adding to her repertoire.

The complete Easter program with David Ross as master of ceremonies, follows:

Voices of Spring J. Strauss
Orchestra

In the Gloaming Harrison Miss Maynor

Easter Parade Berlin
Orchestra

Medley: The Strife is O'er, the Battle
Won and Christ the Lord, is Risen Today Traditional
Chorus and Orchestra

Were You There Negro Spiritual
Miss Maynor and Chorus

Ave Maria Bach-Gounod
Orchestra

Morton Downey's watch chain on both ends is watchless. It carries good luck charms.

Dorothy Maynor, brilliant young soprano who will be Andre Kostelanetz' guest Easter Sunday is not only the daughter of a minister; she married one. Serge Koussevitzky discovered her six years ago singing in her father's church choir in Norfolk, Virginia. In private life she is Mrs. Shelby Rooks, wife of the pastor of a church in Harlem.