

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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

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LEND LEASE PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE

More than a billion and a half dollars in lend-lease aid went to Africa and the Middle East between March 11, 1941 and March 1, 1943, Edward R. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administrator, revealed in his eighth quarterly report to Congress on March 11, 1943.

As the struggle in North Africa progresses, the report stated, it becomes ever more apparent that lend-lease is playing a vital part in the United Nations' war effort in that theatre. A constant flow of lend-lease aid is helping to sustain the allied battle lines in Tunisia. Lend-lease aid which was supplied to our allies many months ago is only now bearing its full fruit there. The Tunisian campaign is in every sense a united military effort.

Both the British Eighth Army on the east and the first Army on the west are supplied in part with lend-lease equipment. The British Air Forces are flying American light and medium bombers, British ground forces are using General Sherman and General Lee tanks. American fighter squadrons are flying British Spitfires, and the British have furnished us with over 3,800 tons of ammunition, 30,000 tons of engineering equipment, 80,000 tons of coal, over 2,000 tons of army rations, and many other essentials of war, as reciprocal aid.

The French forces, under General Giraud, are now being equipped with American lend-lease arms, Mr. Stettinius said. The Fighting French column which came 2,000 miles across the desert from Lake Chad in Equatorial Africa to join the British Eighth Army in the attack on Tunisia was equipped with lend-lease trucks and other supplies.

REPORTS PROFIT ON ANNUAL DANCE

New York, N.Y.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced this week that the sale of tickets for its Annual Birthday Ball here has to date shown a profit of \$2,016.18 and that sales of 2,319 of the tickets have not yet been reported. The NAACP party, which attracted a capacity crowd to the Golden Gate Ballroom on February 26, had the donated music of Count Basie and his Orchestra.

DECENT HOUSING IS BEING SOUGHT

Chicago, Ill.—Critical housing conditions for Negro families here were brought to the attention of the Chicago Area Rent Director, the Metropolitan Housing Council, and the President of the United States this week by the housing committee of the Chicago NAACP.

Unless some specific plans are made immediately to assure decent shelter for the children of drafted Negro fathers untold hardships will be suffered.

It is expected that before long the young fathers of these young families will be sent into battle, many of them never to return. These men will make the supreme sacrifice to preserve the properties that the landlords now consider too good for the children of these fighting men of our country.

President's Valet Is Now a Bluejacket

The nation's number one gentleman's gentleman, George Clinton Fields, 31-year-old Negro who served as President Roosevelt's valet for the last four years, has turned bluejacket.

A butler at the White House for six years prior to becoming the President's valet, Fields was drafted in February and chose the Navy. A week after being sworn in he reported at the U.S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., where he is undergoing recruit training at Camp Robert Smalls—training centre for Negro men.

Now in the first month of a 12-week training period, Fields is learning the fundamentals of seamanship, knotting, rifle and semaphore drill, and other phases of training.

The care of his own clothes rather than the President's is now among his chief concerns. In his spare time he wields the whiskbroom, shoebrush or scrub-brush. Throughout the recruit training period, he will be given aptitude tests to determine whether he should receive further advanced training at one of the Navy's fifty-odd trade and service schools or be sent directly to duty.

HASTIE IS GIVEN SPINGARN AWARD

New York, N.Y.—Judge William Henry Hastie has been selected as Twenty-eighth Spingarn Medalist for his distinguished career as jurist and as uncompromising champion of equal justice. Though young in years his record of achievement is notable measured by any standard, however absolute or high. His scholastic career as honor graduate from Amherst College and as Doctor of Juridical Science from the Harvard Law School has been continued in quality of service in several capacities. His was a distinguished career as Assistant Solicitor of the Department of the Interior. He made a brilliant record as the first Negro to serve as Judge of a United States District Court, serving in the Virgin Islands. He established a high standard of scholarship and of service to mankind for the students during his period as Dean of the Law School of Howard University. As Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War he refused to temporize with racial bigotry.

NAACP SEES THREAT TO NEGRO WORKER IN CONSCRIPTION OF LABOR

Washington, D.C.—Because of the nation-wide concern among Negro workers for the implications of the proposed Austin-Wadsworth Bill, Walter White, NAACP Executive Secretary, will testify Monday, March 29 before the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

The NAACP has urged a careful scrutiny of the bill designed to provide for the successful prosecution of the war through a system of Civil Selective War Service. The Austin-Wadsworth bill will permit the drafting of males between the ages of 18 and 64 and women between the ages of 18 and 50 or possibly 64.

Before the committee, White will restate the NAACP's conviction that there is no need for a drafting of labor until all available voluntary labor is utilized. In support of the Association's stand, White pointed out that in a poll of 9000 industries reported in the February issue of Fortune, three-fourths of the war industry plants still refuse to employ Negroes.

ASSAILS FAILURE TO USE INSTRUCTORS

Chicago, Ill.—The failure of the Civil Service Commission here to appoint qualified Negro groundschool instructors to the Navy Department was protested to President Roosevelt this week by the Chicago NAACP.

In a telegram to the White House the NAACP pointed out that although it has been more than a year since some of the instructors completed their training, not one has been assigned while a number of the whites trained at the same time are now teaching.

The appropriate use of manpower requires, said the NAACP that these men be assigned to the highest and best use for which they have demonstrated their qualifications. Recently some of them have been classified for immediate induction into the armed forces because the Navy Department has not given them the assignment for which they have been trained. These men have no fear of induction. They are loyal citizens who want to serve their country to the fullest extent of their ability. It will be a great injustice to deprive them of their rights simply because of racial prejudices. It may mean the loss of the war for the United Nations.

Clergyman Awarded Damages by Railway

New York, N.Y.—The Rev. J. C. Jackson, distinguished Hartford Connecticut Baptist minister and president of the New England Baptist Convention who was beaten September 8th by a white passenger on a train in the South has received a settlement of \$3750 from the Southern Railway Company. Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Special Counsel and Arthur Garfield Hays of the national NAACP legal committee, handled the case which was settled out of court.

The settlement was made on the grounds that a public carrier is responsible for the safe delivery of its passengers to their destination and the protection of such passengers against harm inflicted by fellow passengers if the proper authorities have been duly warned of the imminence of such harm.

Dawn of Tomorrow

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THE NEGRO SHOULD PLAY HIS PART IN PRODUCTION

Discrimination limits production — because it keeps needed workers out of war plants; it keeps skilled men on unskilled jobs; it creates artificial labor shortages.

Every time you pass over a Negro worker, for no other reason than his color, either in hiring or in promotion, you place one more obstacle in the path of all-out production. Let's take a specific case.

Here's what happened in one mid-eastern city.

The contractors received huge orders for aircraft, ships, electrical and radio equipment, steel, iron, copper, and brass products. A labor shortage was inevitable, but despite repeated warnings employers maintained rigid bans against local Negro workers. They resorted instead to labour scouting and to the importation of white workers.

At the very time that this policy was being followed, the National Industrial Conference Board was completing a countryside survey to compare the performance records of Negro workers with those of white workers.

Over 100 selected managements of industries employing Negroes were asked to grade colored and white employees on comparable skilled and semiskilled jobs. In ability and skill, 70 managements ranked Negro workers as equal to their white colleagues. In productivity, 85 managements found Negroes equal to their white workers. In regularity in attendance, 64 managements reported Negroes to be equal to their white fellow workers. The Conference Board's survey closed with a suggestion that all firms having suitable work of any nature should make an honest effort to hire colored workers in proportion to the total population of the area.

Negroes are being used today in all branches of war industry. In United States Navy yards, in arsenals, in Army cantonments, and at naval bases thousands of skilled and semiskilled Negroes are at work.

Before the Government tackled the problem nearly three-quarters of all our defense plants refused to hire Negroes except as janitors. Many of those which did hire Negroes for industrial work confined them to jobs below their skills.

Can we afford to limit production

—merely because of the color of a worker's skin?

We're Only Interested in Production

The employment of Negroes is a production factor. As an outstanding industrial magazine recently pointed out, "Today it is more profitable to management to upgrade Negro janitors to semiskilled or skilled jobs than to train white workers from outside the plant; it is more profitable to use the employed Negroes of the community than to import white workers from other cities. The Battle of Production will be won by skills and by manpower—recruited, trained, upgraded and fully utilized regardless of race, creed, color, nationality, sex or age.

"The full impact of the labor shortage has not yet been felt; it may not be felt until late this year or next year. When it comes, some employers, having already trained Negroes and begun to work them into their employment pattern, will be better able to continue production unimpaired by labor stringencies."

Unless British industry uses qualified Negro workers, and trains thousands of additional Negroes, just as we train white men and women, we cannot have full production

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LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Special resources for the summer to come,—this is nature's motto every year. Winter by winter trees and every form of vegetation fill trunk and branch with sap, so that foliage may be bright and abundant; so that blossoms shall be rich in perfume and beget fruit in perfection. Up in the mountains snow is secreted in every nook and crevice. Then when the spring-time sun shines out in its strength, there are fountains high above the plains to gladden every valley with refreshing stream; our cities have their unfailing supply of water for lawn and household needs; autumn fields stand so thick with corn that they laugh and sing.

Why should not man have a replenishing time like this for his true usefulness on earth? He needs it, as we all must know. The Church as a good Spiritual Mother provides for this necessity of the spirit. She bids us come apart each Lententide from worldly distractions, as much as possible, and get near the Good Master. Like vegetation in winter we all should store up vigor of soul, that our living be nobler and more useful to the world.

The world's great painters and sculptors, so it is said of them, attain no success, unless from time to time they get away from their studios, look at their artistic ideals from a distance and thus have the calmness, the corrected vision of life, and the renewed vigor their work demands.

It is just the same with us all in the characters we are carving out for ourselves in the workshop of human life. Would we not amend many an error of thought and action; would we not bring out many a trait in us a little more strongly and gracefully, if only we would draw nigh each Lententide to the Great Exemplar, and get more of His grace and spiritual beauty in our souls? Then how differently many things would look to us! How better would be our heart's ideal! And how grander would be the fabric we should all strive to create of ourselves!

"I was afraid and went away and hid thy talent in the earth."—Matt. 25:25. Our Lord's story of the talents is still pertinent. How easily we deceive ourselves in thinking what great things we would do if we possessed the larger abilities of our more favored friends. "If I had his money . . . if I had his knowledge and experience . . . if I had the opportunity he has" . . . Let each one fill out the long list of things that would be accomplished if he possessed the talents of some one else. Our influence may be small, our opportunity limited, our resources not great, but are we using the talents we DO possess? People say they would teach in the Church School if they knew enough. One wonders. Others suggest how generous they would be if they possessed the larger wealth of some of their friends. One wonders again. Who of us can be sure what he would do or be if he were some one else?

The world is suffering today from the cowardice of one-talented people who are afraid to use such gifts as they do possess. Not possessing brilliance, they depreciate what plain, faithful mediocrity can do. Let us unearth our buried talents during these six weeks and let our "light shine before men."

What a wider appreciation of life we always get from the work we do! It is when the mechanic is busy with his tools that he sees how his work can be done in better ways. This is the secret of nearly all the useful inventions of the ages. Activity opens up a whole vista of thought before one. Through his experiments in his laboratory Edison saw visions of how the weird power of electricity could be put to practical devices and work soon made the vision a reality.

Precisely the same is it in the realm of religious advancement. When we are doing good works, we see other deeds of beneficence still before us. When we stop to appreciate what service others are rendering to the world, we have an enlarged vision of what good deeds really are, and we are spurred on to nobler effort ourselves.

A Lent spent in striving for a broadened charity and a broadened view of life cannot fail to be a blessing to our own souls; nor can it fail to be a season which the world will hail with delight.

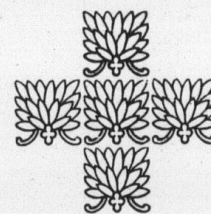
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LONDON NOTES

Rev. Johnson and members of the B.M.E. Church are getting in readiness for the Annual Conference which will be held in this city this year.

Mrs. Emma Harris who has been quite ill at Victoria Hospital has returned home and doing nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Turner and family of Detroit will be the guests of their parents for a few days.

Mr. Wm. Berry is doing very nicely at this time.

Mrs. Kathleen Jenkins-Livingstone passed her examinations as an elocutionist making a mark of 92.

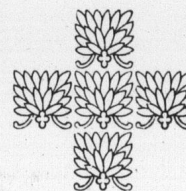
Many of our boys in training here have been moved to various stations.

To Mr. and Mrs. F. Jenkins of Windsor a fine baby boy.

Mr. Lewis Groat has taken a position on the railway.

Mrs. M. Harris is suffering with an infection in her hand received from a bad sliver.

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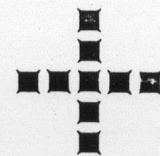
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VOL. III—NO.

Baptist Shows

Hartford, Conn. gift of \$450 m. Citizens Comm. C. Jackson was week by the N. bution was ma successful effort Jackson, promi who was beaten passenger on train while en Baptist Convent N.A.A.C.P. came Jackson's aid. by Thurgood Garfield Hays, the legal depart

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On April 7, taan was bombe erything was Patients, even a falling and rol decker beds. Fr. Cummings, threw up his h 'All right, boys. Just stay quiet on the floor. I fusion and scre He had it— peace.