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EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Roosevelt---World Citizen

The untimely passing of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt came as a severe shock to the nation and the world at large. The nation has lost a capable leader and an inspiring personality; the world has lost a true world citizen and an energetic champion of world peace and international brotherhood.

President Roosevelt's death was widely and deeply felt. He, more than any other individual, was recognized by the peoples of the earth as a lover of peace and democracy and as a dreamer of a workable international organization after the war.

It is our duty to help make real the dreams of international brotherhood for which President Roosevelt sacrificed and to perpetuate the high principles for which he stood.

Of all the tributes made to President Roosevelt, we can think of none more fitting than a statement made by one of the many radio commentators who spoke of him shortly after his death. He was truly a world citizen.

Decide Now

The sudden death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt did more than any single thing to focus the American people's attention on the critical position in which we find ourselves at a time when the decisions we must make can have such vital effect on the world in which we must live in the future. The need for trained personnel capable of dealing satisfactorily with the great political and economic problems is already at hand, and this need is bound to grow as the war nears a close.

The hour has arrived when all the people of this country must make the decision about the kind of a world we should like and must have after this war is over. Just as this country could not remain half free and half slave back in 1862, so today the country must make the decision for a world of international brotherhood, guaranteeing all peoples complete economic, and political freedom or accept the world envisaged by another Hitler or a Mussolini some 25 years from now. A decision must be made; there is no middle ground.

This FREE WORLD which every American desires is in the making now. Teheran, Yalta, Chapultepec and now San Francisco are all steps in the right direction. And concerned as we are about the matter, it cannot be said that the women of America are being educated in the direction of giving the importance to these problems that they deserve. A type of unconscious isolationism seems to have permeated the thinking of the American woman to the extent of believing that the final victory which will send our boys back home is the complete victory for an enduring peace.

To indulge in such idle folly is to invite another World War more devastating than the present one. We won such a victory in 1918 and we inherited a Pearl Harbor in 1941. V-Day is not complete victory day; it cannot be; it must not be. Complete victory day can only come with a peace so lasting, so enduring that all people, wherever they are, speak in the same terms when they speak of morality. A complete victory will be a realistic one when freedom from want, from fear and the other guarantees in the historical "Four Freedoms" and the "Atlantic Charter" signify the identical goal for all people everywhere.

This type of world is being molded today. We, as Negro women, cannot afford to set ourselves apart from this great molding because we are a great gear in this molding machine, whose product must be a world so rich in heritage as to last and serve all humanity well throughout the ages to come. Indeed, this is the hour for the great decision.

DORIS LOWERY, 46.

Inquiring Reporter...

What should Negroes do to crystallize gains made in employment during the war?

The volume of Negroes retained in the post-war period depends upon the number of factories and plants that will remain open, or that will convert to peace time schedule. However, the crystallization of the Negro's gains and the guarantee of the permanency of his position depend upon his participation in union activities. Negroes will only be considered in union policies through the wholehearted cooperation of all the Negroes in industry to exert power in the union.

DOROTHY WALKER.

In order to keep the gains which the Negro has made during the present war, it will be necessary for us to become more skilled and more proficient in all types of skilled industrial labor. We must also take advantage of all labor unions and movements underfoot to the best of our ability.

We must also support pressure groups as the F. E. P. C., N. A. A. C. P., and other groups whose aim is to secure economic freedom for all regardless of race, color or creed. We must fight continuously for all peoples of the world to have economic security and better jobs.

CASSANDRA MOORE.

To crystallize the gains made in employment during the war, the Negroes should work cooperatively and wholeheartedly with organizations as the F. E. P. C. Organizations of their type are better able to have laws passed to insure fair employment for the Negro.

SENORA JOHNSON.

Perhaps the most effective way for the Negro to insure the jobs he now has is by standing behind the F. E. P. C.; putting every possible effort toward its growth with it as our guide there can be no possible defeat.

JOCELYN BLANCHET.

The Negro will be wise to begin now making permanent the gains which he has obtained during the war. To do this he should retain the skills that he has learned during the war period and develop new ones so that he will be as necessary a part of peace time industry as he was war time. He should make a united effort to become an integral part of unions—be solidly behind any movement to open unions to Negro membership. He must learn cooperation and perseverance.

NATALIE LYNN.

One of the most important things that we can do today in order to crystallize the gains made in employment during the war is to organize and back the fight wholeheartedly for a permanent F. E. P. C. We should join unions and make a place of distinction for ourselves by participating willfully and earnestly in them.

BARBARA JEAN SANFORD.

The most important action Negroes can take to crystallize gains made in the war is to support wholeheartedly the F. E. P. C., which is presently being lobbied all over the United States by minority groups. Financial and moral support of this endeavor may mean the passage of the bill, which will make Negroes's dreams in this war a reality after the war.

DORIS NEWLAND.

We should help the current campaign of the F. E. P. C. They are striving to get a permanent F. E. P. C. law passed. Opposition will be met but we can put pressure on our Congressmen by writing to them and getting others to write too. The others we get to write should include other minority groups as well as whites. Once the F. E. P. C. is permanent then the Negro's economic status will be not only visualized but realized.

JANET WHITE.

Reader's Retreat

The Long View---

HILDA MORRIS

Stepney in the 1850's was a little town in New Jersey steeped in Quaker traditions and characterized by the quietness and peace of a Friends' settlement. Asher Allen, a small boy, came from a family of Friends who had a long and interesting history. Asher's grandmother had related this history to him over and over again and she told it so vividly that all the ancestors seemed to Asher to be alive as he thought and dreamed of them. A deep regard and respect for the glories of the past became a part of Asher and throughout his lifetime his favorite indulgence was that of reflecting upon bygone days and the traditions and loyalties which had carried over from these days.

Asher was the youngest of four children of Benjamin and Mary Allen. Hannah, the oldest was married to a wealthy Philadelphia businessman, Deborah, when Asher was still a boy married the Reverend John Griffin. Margery was six years older than Asher and very lovely. Asher often thought of the other Margerys of the family, all of whom had died young. Somehow he feared that Margery might die young, too. The Civil War came and most of the young men of Stepney went away to fight. Asher rebelling against his youth, in a moment of daring, ran away to join the Union Army. Naturally, he was too young to withstand the rigors of battle and was sent back home. He had expected to be thrilled by the sight of battle but he saw only cruelty. It seemed even more cruel when Margery's fiancé, Jonty Chase was killed and he saw the light of happiness leave her eyes.

Asher had always loved to tinker with machinery and to invent new things. When it was time for him to decide what sort of work he would do, to appease his mother, he decided to go to Philadelphia to study medicine and for the first time he left home. His first summer home from school, Asher found a little dull. And then a few days before his return a severe epidemic of cholera spread through the town. Asher himself was stricken lightly and was overcome with grief upon his recovery to find that Margery had died. After that Asher stayed home and took a job at Chase's Machine Shop. Within two or three years Asher was left alone in the big house. His sisters and friends tried to persuade him to marry but Asher was not ready for marriage.

Asher had perfected an invention and sold the patent to a chain and cable factory in New York state. When Deborah and her minister husband left Stepney for a Boston church, Asher too bid farewell to Stepney and took a job in Horatio, New York with the chain and cable factory. For some time after his arrival Asher was so absorbed in business that he found no time to explore the town or make acquaintances other than those in his boarding house. One Sunday, however, he went to church and was invited to Singing School, a form of recreation of the young people. There he met Charlotte Boardman, town beauty and Sybil, her charming younger sister. These two were the daughters of Squire Boardman, the wealthiest man in the town. Asher was soon hopelessly in love with Sybil but that young woman was much too interested in becoming a famous painter to be interested in such "foolish" things as love. However, they had much fun together with the other young people. They became increasingly close. Asher was patient with Sybil and soon she surrendered her ambition to her love for Asher. They were married a year later. After their marriage the whole world was a sunlit place. The two complimented each other—Asher with his modified Quaker sobriety and Sybil with her effervescent joy and delight in life. The two had a home of their own in which Sybil took great pleasure.

Squire and Mrs. Boardman were

much concerned about Charlotte, their older daughter. She was in love with and determined to marry Humphrey Anson, a young farmer. Humphrey was a strange young man, a sort of social outcast and Charlotte could have done so much better. Despite everyone's efforts at dissuasion, Charlotte was adamant and married Humphrey.

In 1883 there was a financial crash and Squire Boardman lost everything except some property. In order to support the older people Asher and Sybil had to move in with them. Charlotte's Humphrey was so close with his money that she could give the older folks no help. A few nights after the crash the old Squire died. The company with which Asher had been working was forced to close so that Asher took over a machine repair shop and at the same time he was perfecting an invention in heat radiation. After repeated efforts to make the machine shop pay and sell his boiler patent Asher finally accepted a good offer with a company in Dune Harbor, Michigan. Sybil was loathe to leave Horatio but she looked forward avidly to new adventures.

Asher and Sybil with their family of five—Ben, Richard, Deborah, and Board and Laura, the twins—liked their new home and soon became adjusted. The business went very well except for a labor dispute. The years passed quickly and Asher and Sybil found their children grown. Ben had become a successful businessman and had married Nell Cheritree. Richard went off to college and came back determined to be a writer and was quite a success. Deborah, the bachelor maid of the family finished college and had a series of interesting jobs. Laura married a young German in the town and Board was working in the Chicago factory.

In 1917 the war came to America. Richard went off to Europe as war correspondent and Board was a member of the armed forces. Richard was killed in Europe and Board married a young Swiss girl and so remained in Europe after the war.

1923 was the golden wedding anniversary of Asher and Sybil. Now that Asher had retired from all work—he was 74 and Sybil 70—he could abandon himself in reflections of his own life. It was a long view and Asher loved to survey it—the lives, experiences, and traditions of his ancestors; his own long life—it had not been exciting and adventurous but pleasant and peaceful; the lives of his children and of his grandchildren.

BENNETT QUARTET RETURNS FROM TOUR OF EASTERN STATES

(Continued from page 1)

Banks, second soprano, Allethia Walker, first alto, and Betty Ann Artis, second alto. Joyce Picot also traveled with the group as contralto soloist. Mrs. Gladys Thomas Gomez was director of the quartette and accompanist. Mr. A. A. Morrisey was manager.

The *Banner* is looking forward to a recital by the group on our campus.

BARGE HALL PRESENTED SILVER SERVICE SET

Mrs. David D. Jones presented a lovely silver service set in memory of Miss Ada C. Ludy to the girls of Barge Hall and their dormitory directory, Mrs. Wallace. The gift was a present of a group of women interested in the welfare of Bennett College and admirers of women of worth.

Wilhelmina Doyle, vice-president of the hall, accepted the gift and expressed the hope that future occupants of Barge will appreciate the gift as much as the girls appreciate receiving it. In addition, each girl is writing to the donor personally thanking her for the gift.

President Jones accompanied Mrs. Jones to Barge to present the set and promised to return to tell the girls of Miss Carrie Barge, for whom the building was named.