NEWS LETTER

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Don't Overlook The Signing

Our intense interest in negotiations between the Western Powers and Russia should not cause us to overlook the importance of events in London which are strengthening the West.

Ten European nations have signed the charter for a Council of Europe which will set up a joint cabinet and parliament. Thus France, Britain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway Luxembourg, Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, and Italy have taken an important step toward the formation of a United States of Europe.

When the Nazis in June of 1940 were rolling over France, and the spirited Reynaud government was tottering, De Gaulle, Lord Vansittart, and a few other Englishmen and Frenchmen conceived the idea that a declaration of joint citizenship would bolster the falling regime. The British war cabinet was persuaded. The document was drawn up in England, and enthusiastically received by Reynaud and other Frenchmen who wished to continue the fight. However, the French Cabinet angrily voted to reject the generous offer. Some charged that it was a plot to make France a British Dominion. It was related by some that it would be better to be a British province than a Nazi district. The Reynaud government went down in the fury of the quarrel, and aged, defeated Marshal Petain became the head of the French government. One of the great tragedies of history ensued.

Today vital component parts in a new and broader scheme of union are Britain and France. To disregard these important events in London because of interest in the Berlin situation is indeed shortsighted. For the measure that will strengthen the union of the West will increase the bargain power in negotiations with Russia.

Safe, Satisfied And Selfish

Too often today these three words are characterized in the lives of young people. In their very actions toward one another. Their speech and general conduct seem to echo: safe, satisfied, and selfish.

Youth has a way of taking too much for granted, believing that they will be safe no matter what changes may take place in the future, believing that the world will always be as it was when their parents were very young—putting too much confidence in the fact that we shall continue to progress as we have done during the past century. They seem to realize that only when danger is present is there a desire to achieve. Complacency can and may cause a serious handicap in the advancement of civilization.

On the other hand, a lack of the feeling of safety may bring men and women to the points of great accomplishments. Booker T. Washington who became one of the greatest leaders of the South, knew that unless his people were educated, the South would be an unsafe place for them. He, therefore, strove to the best of his abiilty to convince his people, not only in matters material, but in things spiritual.

Education has helped immensely, but as time marches on, certain types of education are not enough; we must learn more by actually doing. After we shall have completed our graduate courses, we shall find that as educated citizens, we must keep on learning, that we shall need knowledge of many things. Only in this way can we be safe in a world of insecurity.

"I'll be satisfied" as the Negro spiritual goes, can only be possible when the soul reaches its eternal home. It seems that mortal man can never be satisfied, for no matter how much wealth he acquires he has a longing for more. However, this is not always true with our youth. At times, they are too satisfied with what they have. They remain happy and jolly regardless of the conditions that are around them.

A young lady once remarked that her aunt's home was so very beautiful that people came from miles around to admire it. I wondered why people would come from such a distance to see a six-room dwelling when they could have had beautiful homes for themselves if they had put forth a little more initiative. Why were they satisfied simply to admire something that did not belong to them?

It has been said that some groups have always been able to get along with very little and still maintain a great sense of humor. This along with a little carelessness and a don't-care attitude can do wonders to keep our youth from progressing; whereas, an attitude that is dissatisfied, with knowledge and is willing to work can do a great deal to solve the problems of a nation of equal rights for all.

Distinctions within groups will breed selfishness, or in a broader sense "prejudice." Though social background, wealth, or physical makeup are important, they are not the determining factors in the life of an individual. Often they lead to selfishness which may become so powerful that it threatens not only our individual citizens, but also our ship of state. It is not with selfishness alone that we must deal, therefore, but its results in such as class divisions. We seperate ourselves into groups and refuse to speak to or to be seen with "Mary Jones" or "John Smith" because he is homely or poor. Many other similar situations inflict great blows upon us, both physically and mentally.

Why are we safe, satisfied and selfish? Is this the attitude that we wish our children to have? What will happen to them as students, and as citizens who are expected to make the world a happier place in which to live and work?

GRADUATES

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would be more realizable. The spread of our potentialities would be less selfish, more universal; more people in all parts of the world would profit. Out of such understanding and strength would come a new prosperity, better because it would have been earned by the individuals and made expansive through the distribution of opportunity on equal basis for all who would use it."

"As a by-product of the use of such resources there would come fresh and enjoyable friendships. They would be friendships with ideas and with persons, and would be the means of opening new paths of service to all of those who would seek, and seeking find new ways of expanded and joyous living."

"It is no idle dream", he said in closing. "It is the vastness of all that God planned for his people. It may become the personal and intimate possession of all those who deliberately dedicate themselves to something higher than themselves."

Music for the commencement program included Mendelssohn's "Priest's March" as the processional; Ivovsky-Gore's "Hospodi Pomilui" (Lord, Have Mercy); and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."

President S. D. Williams conferred the degrees and awarded prizes.

Inez Manning of Ahoskie, N. C., received the trophy presented by the class of '42 for maintaining a high scholastic record through the four years.

The Beta Alpha Award for character and loyalty to religious activities on the campus was won by Ossie Robinson.

Percy Daniels of Rocky Mount, having been chosen by the football squad as the most valuable member of the year, was awarded an engraved plaque and medal.

The B Natural Prize for excellence in Music was given to Ruth Inez Jones of Raleigh.

Alpha Kappa Mu Award to a member of the Freshman Class whose scholastic record was highest was presented to William Jefferson of New York.

Beulah Henderson, Jacksonville; Mary A. Bowden, Hampton; and Byrtle H. Mitchell, Dover, were winners in the Junior Oratorical Contest sponsored by the Alumni Association.

The Norfolk Chapter was awarded the Alumni Association trophy for the highest paid membership for the year.

FIELD

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ous communities into which they would go.

Miss Turnage not only met Seniors, but also Juniors in classes in Personal Hygiene. To make the presentation interesting she made use of slides, films and test forms. In this way she received impressions that were invaluable and was able to correct mistaken conceptions.

"I found the group of young people to be genuinely interested", said Miss Turnage. "They had much to offer and asked good questions which enabled me to clarify the subject for them."

On a whole her plans were successful, and she expressed appreciation to Miss G. L. Long, instructor in Public Health, who gave her assistance in arranging the program for the week.

—Nellie R. Drew