

THE TALE OF SIX CITIES

BY PERRY J. THOMPSON

Well, who do you think will win the next election? This question is being asked a million times a day by your friends, your enemies, your co-workers, the policeman on the beat, the cab driver, and your mechanics.

The question might arise from a passenger on a bus or a train, a stranger at a depot or your parson might pop the question after a sermon. Either a short "I don't know" or a long "well here's what I think about it," may follow; but the important thing is...

what active part are you taking to elect the right man? or for that matter what are you doing to elect anybody? are you voting?

As a matter of fact if a non-voter who was eligible didn't take time out to cast his vote, it wouldn't be worth while discussing the subject with him just to satisfy his whim to make conversation.

Too often we go about talking about who and what we ought to have while doing absolutely nothing to gain our needs.

If we want anti-poll tax, civil rights and all that goes for first class citizenship, we must put our ballots where our mouths are.

Of the many things that can be said against the way our government has been and is being operated, one thing is certain, whether they bought their way, worked their way up, fought their way up or fooled their way in, the men that run our government were voted in and that's the way they'll leave.

Voting is a privilege and a duty. Though denied some, there are still thousands among us who can and don't, still others who use the ballot for personal gains only.

Yet, pick and category you choose, you'll hear the cry, we ought to be out. Yea, I repeat, "Are you voting?"

Remember when the minority in the nation couldn't vote? They sweat blood in more ways than one to be like any other American citizens, they laid the groundwork for you. Are you building on it?

In many quarters the cry used to be, "If we only had a vote," now that we have that "American right," it seems that what we want now is a mobile voting station to roll up to our front doors with a private secretary for every citizen.

If this is what you want you may be sure of this, if our next president stays in office for as many years as our late President F. D. R. then the so-called minority will be worse off twenty years from now than they were 120 years previous.

In this world of fast moving sinners and slow acting Christians men have got to watch as well as pray. "Seek and ye shall find," may be defined, "Work, fight, assume your responsibility in life," or don't spend all your time with your eyes closed and arms folded expecting the answers to your prayers to fall from the heavens at your feet. God does not discriminate. He is just as busy listening to sinners as he is to Christians. In fact busier since there seem to be more of them.

This brings me to the story of a farmer who didn't attend church or even worship the Lord in his own home, despite the continued pleadings of his family, whereupon his wife persuaded the local minister to talk to him.

"Young man," said the parson one day, "your farm doesn't seem so perk. Guess it's because you don't worship the Lord. Why don't you try praying to the Lord to give you a fine healthy crop on this barren land?" The young man said thoughtfully, "Yes, guess I ought to." A few months later the parson passed by and saw the farmer in his field which now looked like he would have a prosperous yield.

"See here brother," he called, "The Lord has given you a beautiful farm this year. See what the Lord will do for you if you pray?" "Yes," smiled the farmer, "But I would have been in a heck of a mess if I hadn't helped Him."

Right now the heavens are loaded with prayers for and against Truman, Dewey, Wallace and other aspirants for the White House, but prayers are not counted in the ballot box. Are you voting?
108 W. GORDON ST.

Two Win Commissions In Army Competition

CHICAGO (ANP) — Two Chicagoans, John J. Sarazen and F. A. Titus, were among 11 army and 50 air force men commissioned upon successful completion of the first annual competitive tour that began in July, 1947.

Sarazen was commissioned a first lieutenant in the army and Titus, a second lieutenant in the air

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MUSICIANS CONFAB AT COLUMBUS DRAWS NATIONAL INTEREST

CHICAGO (ANP) — Interest is growing throughout the nation in the 25th annual convention of the National Association of Musicians to be held at Columbus, O., Aug. 22-26.

Features of this year's meeting will be various clinic groups, talent night, conferences, the national scholarship contest, national artists' concert and the honours program.

The honours program will feature such personalities as W. C. Handy, national board member; Miss Nora Holt, charter member and music critic, New York Amsterdam News; Mrs. Florence B. Price, Thelma Waide Brown, J. Roy Terry, Kathleen H. Forbes, Grace W. Thompkins, Alpha M. Holmes and the past presidents of the association, Theodore Chas. Stone will be the featured soloists on this program.

Among the clinic leaders will be Dr. O. Anderson Fuller, Lincoln University (Mo.), voice; Miss Margaret Bonds, composer-pianist; Prof. Nevell Fitzpatrick, Knoxville college, church music; Theodore Charles Stone, critic and baritone publicity; Orrin Southern, Dillard University, organ; Charles Kenneth Billups, chorus; and Albert McNeil, public school music.

Mattie Willis, soprano from Michigan; Lorenza Jordan Cole, pianist from California; and John Anglin, tenor from Ohio will be featured on the National Artists' night program.

This group was organized in the city of Chicago in July, 1919, and has been active ever since.

Officers: Clarence Hayden Wilson, St. Louis, national president; Clara K. Hill, Indianapolis, recording secretary; J. Wesley Jones, Chicago, executive secretary; George H. Hutchinson, Chicago, treasurer; and Theodore Charles Stone, Chicago, director of publicity.

Headquarters for the convention will be at Shiloh Baptist Church, Helen Carter Moses of Columbus is general chairman of the convention.

Bianche K. Thomas of New York and Alveda Ward of St. Louis will be in charge of youth activities, and Florence J. Mills of Brooklyn and Eliza Ellsford of St. Louis will take of junior activities.

Roscoe Polin, Indianapolis, will be in charge of the national scholarship contest in voice and piano. J. Wesley Jones will be attending his 25th annual session, a record.

Millinder Program Is Called Hottest Show On A National Network

Acclaimed by music critics and radio listeners as the finest, fastest-paced variety-musical show heard in the air today, "Swingin' at the Savoy," starring Lucky Millinder and his orchestra, will continue indefinitely, to be aired every Wednesday night, 8 p. m. EDT.

The program, only network radio show with an all-Negro cast, originates in Radio City, New York and is broadcast coast-to-coast over the entire NBC network facilities.

The exciting half-hour music and comedy program already an established radio institution, is written by Nobis, favorite with the nation's Ole Sisle and Langston Hughes in collaboration with Lucky Millinder.

Headed by the dynamic Lucky is master of ceremonies, the permanent cast includes Paul Breckenridge, golden-voiced singer of spirituals and traditional folk songs, the King Odam Quartette, popular vocal group, the singing Hall Sisters of "Money, Money, Money" fame, with the incomparable Jackie Morns' Mabley and Miller and Lee, "those funny business-men" supplying hilarious comedy.

In addition to his radio activities and mighty appearances at the famed Savoy Ballroom, New York, the effervescent Millinder is also directing daily rehearsals of his new musical-variety revue, "Millinders Mighty Modern Minstrels" full-length stage production, scheduled to commence a lengthy tour of principal cities of the south, southwest, west and midwest following a special one-week engagement at New York's Apollo Theatre, starting September 3rd.

Tolerance Films Are Shown During Boston Lunch Hours

BOSTON (ANP) — Recently the Boston Labor committee, by special arrangement with both management and labor, has been presenting racial tolerance pictures during the lunch period in various industrial plants.

Actively supporting the project are the AFL, CIO, the Catholic Interracial Council, the Presbyterian Institute of Industrial Relations, the Jewish Labor committee, the Negro Labor Committee, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, of Catholics, Protestants, and Jews, and the Massachusetts Committee.

Editorially, the Boston Globe has praised the effort "because bigotry and bias obviously do not make for teamwork in the plant." The films suit the need of labor unions in that they stress unity in the ranks.

TAN TOPICS

By CHARLES ALLEN



"Good Gracious, Melvin George, I Feel Like A TWO YEAR OLD Today!"

New York Weekly Drops Plates For Musical Festival

NEW YORK (ANP) — The highly publicized musical festival of the New York Amsterdam News, scheduled for Wednesday, August 11, at Lewisohn stadium, was suddenly cancelled a day or two before it was to be presented.

In a statement to the public, the sponsors of the festival, the Amsterdam News Welfare fund, gave no cause of the cancellation. The festival is slated to be held at a later date. The fund announced.

"Announcement to all who have purchased tickets for the musical festival: It is with deep regret that we are compelled to announce that the musical festival has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control."

The fund was to present special awards to Irving Berlin, W. C. Handy and Bill Robinson for their achievements in music and dancing. Among the stars that were to be featured on the program were:

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Canada Lee Will Not Perform In Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica, W.F. (ANP) — A proposed personal appearance of Canada Lee on the Jamaican stage was cancelled here last week when theatre operators refused to give more than two days a week for a stage production.

The Little Theatre movement, because of a ruling made by the KSAC, operating corporation controlling the Ward theater, had to give up its plans for restoring the legitimate theater to this nation. The KSAC action opened the Ward for only two performances a week.

The world famous actor was slated to give the world premiere of a new play which is later scheduled for Broadway. The actors of the new production had even rewritten scenes for the Jamaican production.

Commenting on the KSAC ruling which follows six weeks of negotiation, the Little Theatre movement said that it could not consider any production as long as the twice-a-week ruling lasts. This action makes it impossible for Jamaica to attract first-rate actors to this nation, and reputable companies would not visit the country as they did before the war.

This date is to be followed by two stanzas at the Club Moderne in Long Beach.

The Trio's lengthy stay on the coast is due to the fact that Nat and the boys have been signed to do eight guest appearances on the Chesterfield radio program from Hollywood. The show also features Peggy Lee and Dave Barbour who have been signed as regulars.

WOMEN MAY ENLIST

June marked the opening of the ranks of the Navy to Negro women, accompanied by a request for officers. This is in line with the idea of opening opportunities in all jobs to women.

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