

—THE—
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LAUNDRIES ARE NECESSARY

Half a million housewives went to war during 1942. They took jobs on production lines, in offices and in all the innumerable places where women are releasing men for the armed forces. Women make up the bulk of our labor replacements and many thousands more must be employed in the months to come.

Some women are employed in direct war work but the majority are helping to maintain those vital civilian services without which it would be impossible to continue turning out the tools of war.

Laudry work is an important civilian service which has been hard hit by the manpower shortage. In increasing numbers women are being relied upon to keep this industry functioning—many laundries have rearranged their hours so that housewives can help out part-time while their children are in school. In Providence, R. I., the situation became so desperate that women over 70 are called on. One older woman of 75 recently was sewing on buttons in a local laundry and another, five years her junior, was pressing handkerchiefs five days a week although she had an independent income and would not ordinarily be working. In upper New York State, two married women have been driving pick-up trucks for a laundry and dry cleaning establishment. People were mildly surprised to see them doing this work, these women said, "but they are getting used to it." One of the women had had some experience along this line since she used to drive a milk truck on her husband's milk route. And both were enthusiastic about the job which includes checking over their trucks every day. There are openings here in Greensboro for hundreds of women at attractive wages.

SINGING MARINES AT CAMP LEJEUNE

One of the most stirring war songs of the armed services is "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" — but the official Marine Corps Hymn is only one of many songs which get a daily workout at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, N. C., where 2,000 Negro Marines are being trained.

In admitting Negro recruits last June, the Marine Corps received new voices and — like all other branches of the armed

services — a large number of Negro musicians.

Most popular aggregation at the post — and in all the neighboring cities and towns in Eastern North Carolina — is the Montford Point Choir of 30 voices. Nucleus of this group is the Exotic Harmonies — five sweet voices from the Deanwood section of Washington, D. C., which started harmonizing in high school days.

When Marine enlistment was opened to Negroes last year, the Exotic Harmonies volunteered in a body, but one failed to pass the physical examination. Four were accepted and they immediately took charge of the musical program in the camp at New River.

Today, one of them, Cpl. Ivan Randolph Elmore, directs the large choral group, and three others, Private Tom and Bill Branch, brothers, and James W. Brown join in on the harmonizing.

The choir doesn't hold the whole spotlight at Montford Point, however. Included among the many other vocal and instrumental musicians on the post is Cpl. Walker Manley of Raleigh. Corporal Manley is not only the organist for the Montford Point chapel, he is also the organist for the large chapel at the headquarters branch of Camp Lejeune. In his spare time he gives organ lessons to several recruits at the Marine base.

Before entering the service, Corporal Manley was organist of the Christian Church of Raleigh and a demonstrator of the Hammond Organ for the Stevens Music Company of that city.

All of the boys can get together on the "The Halls of Montezuma," but a few of the old standbys of the Exotic Harmonies make pretty good singing, too.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?

Golden Text: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin.—I John 1:7.

MARKS OF A CHRISTIAN

What are the distinguishing marks of a Christian? We often ask that question today, and it will be interesting to learn how the elder leaders of the Church characterized a Christian.

Many Christians can be identified only by some artificial monogram or ecclesiastical signature they wear on the outside of their lives. Others have indelibly stamped upon them the marks of the Lord Jesus.

The author of this Epistle of John is here attempting to describe the distinctive character that results from an acceptance of Christ. It is quite as difficult to define it as it would be to analyze the perfume and beauty of a flower. Picking it to pieces will not lay bare the sources of its charm, but for the sake of clearness there are some traits that can be distinguished.

First, it goes without saying that a Christian should be Christ-like. "Hereby we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments." The Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis, is an effort to show how we may reproduce Christ in ourselves



ALL HE NEEDED WAS A LITTLE MORE GAS!!"

by following his example and thinking his thoughts after him. The touch of the spirit of Jesus upon the nature of the man intensifies the sense of personal Christianity has no monopoly of righteousness. Many a pagan is honest in his business, faithful to his friends, kind to his family; but when he becomes a Christian, he accepts an interpretation of life which demands an extension of the ideals of Christ to every field of human relationship and activity. It is not enough now to be honest in his business; he must deal justly with all men everywhere. He must be kind not only to his friends and his family but also to every Child of God.

A second mark of Christian character, according to this lesson, is the quality of love and good will. "If we love one another, God abideth in us, and his love is perfected in us." This attitude forbids all racial prejudice and national egotism. It reproves every sense of superiority based on class or rank or wealth. It encourages sympathy with all sorts and conditions of people. It demands an effort on our part to understand them and see life from their point of view.

This leads naturally to a third mark of Christian living. It is a certain poise, steadiness, and peace of spirit. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear" (I John 4:18). Jesus said, "My peace I give unto you" (John 14:27). This has always remained a distinction of Christian character: It is not dependent on outward conditions. It is freedom from inward conflict, anxiety, and fear. It is the tranquillity of the soul in harmony with God, itself, and its neighbor. Christianity is pre-eminently the religion of hopefulness. The follower of Jesus goes on his way through life, sometimes in sunshine and again in shadow; but through it all there is a song; in traveling homeward, and lights are kindled for him in the win-

dows of his Father's house. He does not journey alone, for he has the fellowship of the Divine Companion and a great company of like-minded spirits.

If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin. (I John 1:7).

MARTIN A. MARTIN OF DANVILLE, APPOINTED ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

Washington—Attorney General Francis Biddle announced on May 31, the appointment of Martin A. Martin, of Danville, Virginia, as an Associate Attorney in the Trial Section, Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

Mr. Martin is the first Negro Attorney to be assigned to this branch of the department.

Mr. Martin is 33 years old, a native of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and a graduate of Howard and Ohio State Universities. He was graduated from Howard Law School in 1938 and

the same year was admitted to the Virginia bar.

As president of the Danville branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he served as associate attorney in the appeal of the Odell Waller case to the Supreme Court. At the time of his appointment to the Department of Justice, Mr. Martin was attorney for the Danville Savings Bank, the oldest Negro banking institution in Virginia, and for the Negro Building and Loan Association in that city.

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