

THE African Way

IN SOUTH AFRICA, the natives say, "He is speaking English," when they mean a man is drunk. The expression dates back to the days when the English were just beginning to colonize Africa. Their language sounded so comical to the Negroes that they compared it to the babbling of a drunken man.

Krishna Shrinivasa, Coronet

KING ABOGLIAGBU, ruler of a part of Dahoney, West Africa, wears a filter over his nostrils, as he is forbidden by law to breathe the same air as his subjects.

Freling Foster, Colliers

THE PLANE on which an actor was flying across darkest Africa crashed in a very heavy jungle. He was the only one of the passengers or crew able to walk so he started out for help. He had gone a few miles when he was set upon by a band of half-naked black men. They quickly subdued him, tied him up and carted him off to their village. He was brought before their chief who shot a string of questions at him.

"So you're an actor," the chief said. "That's fine. Sit down next to me. I want to tell you a few stories."

The stories that the chief told were risqué but they had the actor holding his sides with laughter.

When the chief finished his joke-telling, one of his subordinates came over and whispered in his ear:

"You know we are going to eat this guy," he said. "Why are you making him so happy?"

"I have a yen for spiced ham," explained the chief.

The Joke Teller's Joke Book

IN THE BELIEF that lightning is a message from some god in Heaven, many African tribes will not extinguish fires started by it or mourn persons killed by its flashes for fear of offending him.

James Wood, True

¶ Union of South Africa makes prejudice law of the land

Where RACE HATE IS LAW

Condensed from
American Sociological Review

By James G. Leyburn



THERE IS much evidence to support the contention that discrimination against the blacks in the Union of South Africa is more far-reaching, more cynical, than in any other self-governing country in the modern world.

The Negro in America is at least by law considered a citizen, whose rights are identical with those of any other citizen. The disparity between theory and practice is regarded by men of good will as a

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blot upon America's honor, so that constant pressure is exerted to abolish discrimination.

That goal is far from being achieved, but candor compels the admission that the status of the Negro has, for its present limitations, enormously improved in the past quarter-century.

In South Africa, on the other hand, the Native (as he is called) is not a citizen. There is no statement in any official document that he is the equal of the white man, nor any pretense that he has equal rights with whites.

He and his fellows constitute a group apart, with special legislation to govern every aspect of their life. With minor exceptions, the Native

vacation place for healthy people, too, young or old, colored or white.

The ranch is located a few miles from Victorville, in the heart of the Mojave desert, a three hours' drive from Los Angeles. Grouped around the swimming pool and the tennis court are several white stucco cottages with gay red roofs. Further back you find the stables, cattle sheds, chicken and turkey coops. The place is spotless.

The plain plastered rooms have showers, hot and cold running water, a heater, which is an important item in the cold desert nights, and beds with good mattresses and

plenty of wool blankets.

A small bar, where beer, cokes, and sodas are served adjoins the dining room. The walls of the bar are covered from floor to ceiling with photos of Negro and white celebrities from all over the country, as well as shots of boys from the nearby army camp, who have enjoyed Mrs. Murray's famous chicken dinners.

An amusing odity of the dining room is the array of autographed clothes pins along the walls. Originally used as napkin holders, they now make an effective, if curious, wall decoration.



Maidenly Mischief

TWO NEGRO NURSEMAIDS were wheeling their infant charges in the park when one asked the other: "Are you going to the dance tomorrow night?"

"I'm afraid not."

"What!" exclaimed the other.

"And you so fond of dancing!"

"I'd love to go," explained the conscientious maid, "but to tell you the truth, I am afraid to leave the baby with its mother."

Cavalcade

TWO NEGRO MAIDS were comparing notes at the end of a week of their new jobs.

"I have a perfectly terrible time at my place," one of them said. "All day it is, yes Ma'am; yes ma'am; yes ma'am."

"And me," said the other. "With me it is all night, just, no sir; no sir; no sir."

The New Anecdota Americana

¶ Jack Benny's Negro Star steers clear of race relations

Rochester, Radio And Race

Condensed from Baltimore Afro-American.

By Michael Carter

EDDIE ANDERSON, Jr., known as Rochester on Jack Benny's Sunday night radio show, talks to more Americans than any other colored man.

Some people are critical of the fact that Eddie Anderson, as Rochester, is a comedian, pure and simple. He commercializes the humor of many situations. He "refuses to propagandize" or use his influence—except for fun.

In his own words, "a performer is a performer first and last. He has no business making propaganda. People want to be entertained, not educated."

He thinks that the things a colored performer does on the stage or radio have no serious bearing on the nature of race relations. He has no strong notions about "what ought to be done on the racial front." Eddie Anderson, colored, is always Rochester, comedian.

Rochester first came to the Benny program to fill a one-night stand on an Easter Sunday eight years ago. He played the role of a Pullman porter and people liked his gravel

voice and his independent banter with "Mister Benny" so well he stayed on as a regular member of the cast.

Before that he had been a dancer, a singer and a comedian:

"I was mainly a dancer, but I always liked comedy. We used to finish off our dance with some comedy and it stuck. My father, Eddie Anderson, Sr., was also a comedian.

"I remember that first Sunday," Rochester said. "I wasn't nervous—I had been a performer for years and if I ever had stage fright, it was so long ago I forgot it.

"After the show I was called back for three other performances. Then I signed for thirty-nine weeks. I became a part of the show and lines were written in for me every week."

Jack Benny gave him the name "Rochester."

After Rochester finished his regular weekly stint—in which he actually works for only a matter of minutes—he becomes Eddie Anderson, private citizen, and rests. Radio work is a terrific strain.

Copyright, Baltimore Afro-American (February 3, 1945)

"Sometimes I do a picture or make a benefit performance, but something is doing all the time even when I try to rest," he says.

The Benny program, like all the others, hires a crew of writers who write each week's script. A comedian's chief job is not to ad lib but to read lines. "You can't safely ad lib on a radio program anyhow," Rochester said.

"Everything is timed to a split second. I rehearse once on Saturday. On Sunday we run through the script a couple of times and work in the sound effect. I don't memorize my lines—no radio performer does—I simply read them."

I asked him if he had ever had lines which were radically objectionable. "No, Mr. Benny would not permit that. There's a lot of feeling about that stuff. People are touchy."

It is perhaps because of people's "touchiness" that Rochester abandoned taking part in "Uncle Remus," a Walt Disney production which has been called humiliating by some.

"I think Uncle Remus is one of our most cherished folk tales. There is nothing ugly about it." He has no personal objections to the role.

As Jack Benny's valet in the Rochester character, he has an off-handed, independent bantering attitude toward his boss. I asked him what would happen if a real valet acted like that. "It might not be so funny," he said, "but I don't por-

tray an insolent character; just funny."

Eddie Anderson feels that "the only way to solve race problems is for us to become producers of things."

He formerly owned a parachute factory, but is no longer associated with it.

He plans another business venture, but declined to discuss its nature. Since he felt that our people should produce, and is opposed to "propaganda" in the theatre, I asked how he felt about producing a picture on colored people.

"No, but I'd like to do a national educational piece on juvenile delinquency," he replied.

Again he stressed the point that an entertainer should "keep out of politics and must always appeal to all the people."

To do otherwise is to endanger "the place you have reached in life," he added.

To explain, he said: "People take our broadcasts seriously. Sometimes they complain that Jack Benny doesn't pay his singers enough or that he shouldn't make some of his performers mow the Benny lawn.

"Some think I'm really his valet. Some of them write that he shouldn't let me take such a bantering attitude.

"Others are surprised when I don't hold his coat or dust him off when we are out together."

For these reasons, and others, Eddie Anderson remains in "charac-

¶ Negro and white are welcome
at Murray's Overall-Wearing Ranch

Desert Dude Ranch

Condensed from People's World

By Eva Walt

MURRAY'S Overall-Wearing Dude Ranch is a singular phenomenon in this country and a most delightful one.

For more than eight years Mrs. Lela Murray has owned and operated successfully this unique ranch. She is a Negro—tiny, hardly five feet tall; squarely built and gray-haired; wearing a plaid cotton blouse, jeans, and a huge cowboy hat.

A trained nurse, Mrs. Murray is interested mainly in sick children whom she can nurse back to a full, normal life. Tuberculosis, asthma, sinus and arthritis cases—she does wonders for them.

"Of course, the climate deserves a share of the credit," she admits with a smile. "Our desert sun! Did you know that an ordinary glass dish left in the open for three or four months will turn purple from the violet rays?" Proudly she demonstrates glass ink wells, sugar bowls and milk jars, which have indeed taken on the color of purple lilac.

At dinner you observe Mrs. Murray's method with the children and

you know that there isn't a person in the world to whom you would rather entrust your own, if need be.

"You can't eat, Tony? That's too bad. Well, you don't have to," she says in her kind, friendly manner, "but then you can't go horseback riding either. I'm afraid you won't be strong enough."

Little Tony is surprised at the lack of opposition—if not disappointed, and you may be sure that he will clean his plate the following day and thereafter.

Under Mrs. Murray's supervision, the children take part in sports, such as horseback riding, tennis, hiking, swimming, croquet, basketball, horseshoe-pitching, softball. They all have to do some work around the ranch, and after lunch they nap on a screened-in porch; white beside Negro, 10 little cots in a row.

Many kids who were thought hopeless have gone home strong and healthy and today are sending grateful letters to Mrs. Murray from army posts all over the world.

But don't think that the ranch is exclusively a place for sickly children. Far from it. It is an ideal

Viewed from the narrowest vantage point of the nation's well-being, quite aside from the human and moral considerations, the growth of doctrines of race and group hatreds represents a major economic threat.

America has prospered because it has provided avenues of economic expression to all men who had the urge and the capacity to advance themselves.

Wherever we erect barriers on the grounds of race or religion, or of occupational or professional status, we hamper the fullest expansions of our economic society.

Intolerance is poor economy. Prejudice doesn't pay. Discrimination is destructive.

Freedom of the individual is the most vital condition for creative life in economy as in every other department of human existence.

Such freedom is impossible where men are restricted by reason of race or origin, on the one hand, or on

the other, paralyzed by fear and hatreds of their neighbors.

The withholding of jobs and business opportunities from some people does not make more jobs and business opportunities for others. Such a policy merely tends to drag down the whole economic level.

Perpetuating poverty for some merely guarantees stagnation for all. True economic progress demands that the whole nation move forward at the same time. It demands that all artificial barriers erected by ignorance and intolerance be removed.

To put it in the simplest terms, we are all in business together. Intolerance is a species of boycott and any business or job boycott is a cancer in the economic body of the nation.

These are things that should be made manifest to the American people if we are to counteract pestiferous labors of race and group hate-mongers.



Strictly A 'No' Man

THE DOOR to the County Tax Collector's office swung open and a Negro farmer strode out, pocketing with obvious satisfaction a little slip of paper.

"See you paid your poll tax, Ben," drawled a loiterer on the steps. "You're gonna vote for somebody this year, are you?"

"Not necessarily," was the rejoinder. "I don't pay poll tax to vote for somebody, but to vote against some son-of-a-gun!"

James Sledge, Coronet

ter." Off-radio, he talks in the same gravel voice, but at a lower pitch.

"You can't disillusion the public and stay in their favor," he said.

"Nor can you inject propaganda or take a public position on political and controversial questions." He thinks colored people should not expect him to be a "race man first" and a comedian second.

"I am in this business because I'm a comedian," he concluded.

On stage, Rochester teases about razors, wild trips to Harlem, dice and other stereotypes of character.

On the radio this is toned down by Benny.

"In Los Angeles I lead a quiet, ordinary life. My kid, Billy, 15 goes to Dorsey High School. I have a model railroad which I enjoy. We read and, well just lead lives that anybody would live."

His model railroad has been rented to a motion picture company for use in films.

Eddie Anderson is Rochester and Rochester is a topnotch comedian who could get laughs from reading a "Motherless Child."



A Word To The Wise

A WEALTHY WOMAN employed a new Negro maid. A few days later she found a note written by her former Negro maid to the new one, in which was given a complete accounting of the setup in the house.

The cook, the message said, was inclined to drink. The chauffeur was a lady's man. The housekeeper was a hard customer to get on with. The butler was a pleasant fellow.

After the signature was a postscript: "As for the Mr. and Mrs., they behave as well as they know how."

Ralph Jackson

POTENT PROSE

The colored man must not only have the right to fight for his country, but must be given the right to freedom from shame.

Rev. August Dun

What happens to minorities in our country will in the long run determine the success of democracy.

Will W. Alexander

Any psychiatrist would agree that fear is at the basis of the white supremacy doctrine in the South. The only way the white people in the South will ever prove to themselves and the world that they are free of fear is to give the Negroes real equality and see what happens.

Sen. Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota

The man who fires the bullet doesn't care whether it was made by a Protestant or a Catholic or a Jew, a Negro or a white person, so long as he has that bullet when he needs it.

Rep. Frank Hook of Michigan

Some 700,000 Negroes are serving in the United States Army, and they win as many valor citations, proportionately, as their white comrades. Honor doesn't ask about a hero's color.

New York Times

All of us are brothers in Christ. There will be no Jim Crowism in heaven.

Rev. Richard Gender

The underlying influence in all interracial relations in America is fear.

Richard Wright

Hollywood's not looking for my type. Dis, dat, dese—I can learn to talk that way but not very well.

Todd Duncan, Negro singer

Racial discrimination in any form and in any degree has no justifiable part whatever in our democratic way of life. It is unattractive in any setting but is utterly revolting among a free people.

Justice Frank Murphy

At an altitude of 35,000 ft. with flak bursting around you and Focke-Wulf's snapping at your heels, race prejudice vanishes.

Lt. Felix Kirkpatrick

We do not want the men of another color for our brothers-in-law, but we do want them for our brothers.

Booker T. Washington

¶ Discrimination is bad business, says Chamber of Commerce head

No Profit In Prejudice

By Eric Johnston

RACE HATRED and group intolerance do not jibe with any of the formulas of freedom so dear to the American heart. To the extent they are allowed to flourish, they threaten to change the American Dream into another European nightmare.

Let's not underestimate the threat.

I have been privileged to travel widely in our country and I do not hesitate to offer my personal testimony that race and group tensions are increasing to an alarming degree.

When there's a riot in Detroit or Harlem, it's more comfortable to shrug them off as local incidents. But the truth must be faced.

Widespread though these expressions of group hatred are, it is a hopeful fact that they still afflict only a small minority of the American population. That minority can be curbed and reeducated if conscious and organized efforts are undertaken.

At the very worst, that minority

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can be frightened into desisting. Not by legal or physical threats—you can't legislate love of one's neighbor.

The obstreperous hate-mongers and their stupid or frivolous fellow-travelers can be made to understand that it simply isn't smart to rock the American boat in which they, too, are passengers.

If they achieve the calamity of race persecutions, they will drag our beloved America down to the barbarian level of Nazi Germany and we will pay for it in death and suffering and national degeneration, precisely as the Germans are doing today.

The thing that needs emphasizing, day in and day out, is that the spread of intolerance is not primarily a threat to the intended victims but to the whole country. Once the poison enters a nation's bloodstream, the entire population is doomed.

If the day ever comes in this country when tolerance gives way to internal enmities and persecutions and discriminations, it will be the end of American civilization.

mon one, shared by thousands. He doesn't like dentists. Shortly before the Jack Sharkey fight he was persuaded to go and get four teeth fixed. He went for about three days and each time almost had to be blacksnaked to the parlor.

"Can't pay me to go back for any more," he declared. "No sir, no more for me. Let 'em fall out."

Ten years ago, in a Detroit hospital, he had his tonsils out. He was 13 then and a brother went with him. Both were going to have their tonsils out. They took the brother first. Finally they came for Joe and as they walked him through a pair of big swinging doors, he saw a cart come by and on it was his brother, returning from the operation, still under the influence of ether.

It was too much for Joe. He cut loose with a wild yell—"I bet I

woke everybody in the hospital up," he laughed, "cause it was late at night"—he broke from the interne's side and started for the stairs.

"Boy, I really ran," he remembered. "I got clear to the ground floor and almost to the front door before they caught me. And they'd never got me neither if it hadn't been a doctor was coming in the door and he headed me off. So they dragged me back, and, boy, that ether was just like the beer I drank. I could hear people talking but they seemed to be going away from me. Then all of a sudden I didn't remember anything. Like the beer."

Six years later he had to go through it all again because some of the tonsils turned up in his throat. Compared to lightning, dentists and ether, anybody Joe has met in the ring is a pushover.



Charity Begins At Home

THIS ONE originated in our kitchen—an exchange between our colored cook and her small son.

The kid had asked for a quarter to take to school. "A quarter's a lot of money," commented the mother. "What's it for?"

"Teacher says it's to help poor folks."

"Humph! What you think we are if we ain't poor folks.

You go tell that teacher I say to take you off the givin' list and put you on the gettin' list."

Clinton Campbell, Quote

¶ Church frowns upon interracial marriages but does not bar them

Mixed Marriages and Catholics

Condensed from Interracial Review.

YOU CANNOT be a Catholic and hold that interracial marriage is, of itself an absolute and supreme evil.

There are 42 million Catholics in Brazil, and corresponding numbers in other Latin-American countries, who not only do not look upon it as an evil, but consider it a very admirable thing.

The Blessed Martin de Porres was the fruit of such a marriage, and the church placed no stigma on him for it.

Since there is nothing evil in itself in a marriage between persons of different races, the Catholic church does not sanction the attitude of those who would elevate the fear of such intermarriage to the point of a total absolute. She does not approve of those who make "white supremacy," or its corollary, fear of "social equality," the universal yardstick of all race relations.

The Catholic Church regards *illicit intercourse* between the races as a grave evil, which, if knowingly and freely committed, merits everlasting punishment: not because it is between two races, but because of the moral wrongness of fornication, and still more, of adultery.

The church regards "mixed marriages"—that is to say, marriages between Catholics and non-Catholics—as so apt to be seriously undesirable that she erects special canonical impediments, in order to dissuade faithful Catholics from engaging in them. There are no such canonical impediments expressed as to interracial marriages.

This does not mean, however, that the Catholic Church does not regard interracial marriages as undesirable because of the *circumstances* which would ordinarily attend them. Because of these circumstances, which are as readily recognized by Negroes as by whites, such marriages ordinarily run contrary to the virtue of prudence.

They impose a strain upon the conjugal fidelity of the married couple, who would be sorely tempted to yield to social pressure. They can impose an equal burden upon the children, unless the parents are people of more than ordinary intelligence, goodness and skill, who are fully equipped to meet such a difficult situation. So—again under ordinary, normal circumstances, such as exist here in the United States—the Catholic church would definitely

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discourage such unions. But the church makes no rigid and absolute rule: each merits its own consideration.

American laxity with regard to divorce, birth control, and lack of parental discipline are already a scandal to Catholic Latin Americans,

as they are scandalized by our racial obsessions. No amount of zeal for white supremacy will succeed in removing such a scandal. If the married state itself and the marriage vows are held sacred, the matter of racial prudence will be taken care of in its proper proportion.



Dear Anybody . . .

THE ONLY Negro child in an orphan asylum found herself constantly pushed around by the other children and the head of the institution, who seemed intent on having her sent to an all-colored institution.

She looked vainly for a friend among the other children but they all shunned.

The head of the asylum kept watching for some pretext to get her out and one day believed she had succeeded when one of the children reported that the Negro child was carrying on a clandestine correspondence with someone outside the asylum wall. It was reported that the Negro girl hid a note in a tree near the wall.

The asylum head rushed to the spot and found the note. She opened it eagerly and then tears came to her eyes as she read: "To anyone that finds this—I love you." The Negro girl stayed.

Jack Atkins

¶ It took just two bottles
of beer to down the champ

The Wallop That Kayoed Louis

Condensed from Chicago Daily News

By John P. Carmichael

JOE LOUIS doesn't smoke. He never has. He doesn't drink, but he did once. He drank two bottles of beer.

Found 'em in Manager John Roxborough's icebox one night back in 1934 when he first turned pro. The household had gone downtown and Joe was left alone to go to bed at 9 o'clock sharp.

He slipped down to the kitchen for a cold bite before retiring and found half a dozen bottles on the ice. Always Joe had thought he'd like to taste the stuff and here was a grand opportunity. He took two bottles and lugged 'em up to his boudoir.

Joe pried the top off one and was just about to take a nip when a thought assailed him. Suppose, after he got a drink, he wasn't able to get into bed. He had seen guys who drank beer trying to take a lamp post home with 'em. So he set the beer down and stripped.

"I figured if I was in bed, when

I drank it, at least I'd be there," he laughed, and when stretched upon the coverlets, he finally fastened upon one of the bottles and took a deep draught.

"My eyelids began to wiggle," he said. "I felt kinda funny, but I drank both bottles and then turned out the lights and lay there.

"You know, I could hear the traffic going outside and it kept going farther and farther away and pretty soon I must have gone to sleep because I couldn't hear a thing any more. Roxborough came in the next morning and I still was asleep. He went downtown, did some business and came back and I was sleeping yet. Finally, about 5 o'clock that day I woke up. When I came downstairs he just looked at me and said:

"Man, I never saw anybody who can sleep like you can. If you went to bed at 9 o'clock, you've slept twenty hours." And he never does know yet what happened to me. But I don't drink after that."

Joe admitted once he was afraid of lightning. The other day he confessed to another fear, a very com-

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a *Flag But the Coon*, by Heelan and Helf, two white men, and in 1900 by *Coon, Coon, Coon*, by two others, Jefferson and Friedman, and from that time forward *coon* was firmly established in the American vocabulary.

Pickaninny, in the sense of a Negro child, is not an Americanism. It was in use in England so long ago as 1657, whereas the first American example is dated 1800. The English prefer the spelling *piccaninny*; the word, in the past, was variously spelled *piccanini*, *pickoninnie*, *pick-*

'ny, *piccanin* and *picannin*. It appears to be derived from the Cuban Spanish *piquinini*, meaning a small child, and it was taken into English in the British West Indies. It is used in South Africa precisely as we use it, but is commonly spelled *piccanin*. In Australia it designates a child of the aborigines, and has there produced a derivative, *piccaninny-daylight*, signifying dawn. In the Baltimore of my youth *pickaninny* was not used invidiously, but rather affectionately.



Brains Versus Education

AN OLD SOUTHERN colonel of the traditional Dixie school was sitting in leisure on the porch of his plantation home, sipping the usual mint julep associated with colonels.

His Negro gardener stopped working on the front lawn and was gazing intently at the colonel.

Finally the colonel called him and asked him: "What seems to be the matter, Johnson?"

"Well, Colonel, I've been watching you relaxing while I been working and I just got to thinking that us folks without an education sure got to use our brains to make a living."

Lloyd Allen

¶ Negro and white youths hold secret sessions to crack segregation

The New Dixie Underground

Condensed from Pittsburgh Courier

By Ted LeBerthon

THE NAZI-OCCUPIED nations of Europe are not the only scenes today of "underground" movements. Our Southern states have a most interesting "underground" movement, and it is growing every day.

It is a movement whereby white and colored young people of high school and college age are holding secret meetings to abolish segregated education and all other barriers to creating lasting friendships as equals.

Recently I had the pleasure of meeting a young colored girl who is a leader in the movement in a quite large Southern city. Obviously, I cannot and will not reveal her identity.

"Today," she said, "all over the South, young people of both races are pledging themselves to end discrimination, segregation, and other un-American practices. We are an

underground. But we number among us the sons and daughters of Southern legislators, national and State, and of families often representing 'the flower of the Old South.' And the way they have gotten their parents over a barrel is very interesting and sometimes very laughable."

Then she explained that any young person, white or colored, while not permitted to reveal the identity of other persons in the movement, is free to reveal, at his or her own discretion, his or her own membership to his or her own mother or father.

"The parents can't do anything about it," she said. "There have been a few instances of white parents threatening to put their children into reformatories. But the young people are prepared, through Northern connections, to go to court and raise a tremendous amount of publicity. So the parents keep quiet."

"Most of us young people, white and colored, say nothing to our parents, because we feel they're set in their ways. But there are some parents who have told their children,

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"We know you're right, but we dare not say so publicly."

The way the movement started was in itself poignant, all-too-human, yet inevitable.

A girl who attended a high school for whites only met a girl who attended a high school for colored only early in 1942. They were brought together through a typical Southern situation, that of the colored girl's mother working for the white girl's mother.

The white girl had been getting literature from Catholic, Northern Protestant, Socialist, Communist and other sources through the mails for some time and had been eager to discuss interracial justice with a colored girl.

The two girls surreptitiously mulled all the old problems over and the white girl one evening expressed an interesting view.

"Let's form a secret club," she said, "of white and colored high school students pledged to disobey our parents if they find out and tell us we can't belong."

Then this young white girl explained that she'd had the secret club idea a long while, but knew her parents would bitterly oppose any association as an equal with colored students. Once she had futilely tried to convince her mother that the color line was wrong. Cornered in an argument based on Christian principles, the mother finally had fallen back on the old bromide about "things the young

can't understand," and that this was the reason for the Commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother." The mother added that this meant obeying one's parents in all things.

Unconvinced, the white girl had visited the minister of her church, who told her that in his own heart he believed in complete racial equality, but that his flock wasn't ready for it and would only throw him out if he proclaimed it. But he told the girl that no child need obey any parents whose counsels opposed the teachings of Jesus or the voice of conscience.

Then he mused aloud the quotation from Matthew, 10:37, "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me."

The girl took the hint. That was the seed of a movement that bids fair to becoming a great tree, thronged by youth of both races in virtually every Southern State.

"Police, juvenile authorities and some newspapers in the South know about it, I'm sure," said the young colored girl I talked with. "But they don't know what to do about it, I guess. They're probably afraid publicity would touch too many important white families. In my city they must know. But they don't even try to break up meetings. The old South is going to be licked in a way it never dreamed of, by its own younger generation. More and more they are getting fed up with their backward parents."

away from the forthright but usually inaccurate *black*.

At present the surviving objection to *Negro*, now capitalized by nearly all American publications, takes two forms. First, there is a campaign against using it whenever a person of color comes into the news, on the ground that calling attention to his race is gratuitous, and usually damaging to the other members of it. Second, there is resentment of the unhappy fact that the word is frequently mispronounced, and tends to slide into the hated *nigger*. In the South it is commonly heard as *nigrab*, and not only from white lips. Indeed, *nigrab* is also used by Northern Negroes, including some of the most eminent.

Worse, even the abhorred *nigger* is in wide use among the colored people themselves, especially on the lower levels. Said Lucius Harper, managing editor of the Chicago Defender in 1939:

"It is a common expression among the ordinary Negroes and is used in conversation between them. It carries no odium or sting when used by themselves, but they object keenly to whites using it because it conveys the spirit of hate, discrimination and prejudice."

Negro is not, of course, an Americanism. It is simply the Spanish and Portuguese word for "black," and was borrowed by the English during the Sixteenth Century. By 1587 a Northern English form, *neger*, had appeared, and it was from

this that both the Irish *naygur* and the English-American *nigger* were derived. The New English Dictionary's first example of *nigger* comes from a poem by Robert Burns, published in 1786.

Coon, though it is now one of the most familiar designations for a Negro, apparently did not come into general use in that sense until the 80's. For many years before 1890 the term had been used in the sense of a loutish white man, and in Henry Clay's day it had designated a member of the Whig party. It came originally, of course, from the name of the animal.

The popularity of the term seems to have got a lift from the vast success of Ernest Hogan's song, *All Coons Look Alike to Me*, in 1896. Hogan, himself a colored man, used it without opprobrious intent, and was amazed and crushed by the resentment it aroused among his people. Says Edward B. Marks in *They All Sang*:

"The refrain became a fighting phrase all over New York. Whistled by a white man it was construed as a personal insult. Rosamond Johnson relates that he once saw two men thrown off a ferry-boat in a row over the tune. Hogan became an object of censure among all the Civil Service intelligentsia, and died haunted by the awful crime he had unwittingly committed against his race."

All Coons Look Alike to Me was followed in 1899 by *Every Race Has*

1930, only a week after the Times had come into camp, he broke out in the Courier with the following:

"It really doesn't matter a tinker's damn whether *Negro* is spelled with a small or large *N*, so far as the Negro's economic, political and cultural status is concerned. The gable, mostly senseless, to the contrary has vastly amused me; for, if anything, it is worse to spell *Negro* with a large *N* than with a small one, and if I had my way I would discontinue it. . . .

"There is something ridiculous about a so-called *Negro* bellowing against color discrimination and segregation while wearing out his larynx whining for a glorification of his Jim Crow status in society through capitalization of the *N* in *Negro*."

But Mr. Schuyler's iconoclastic position got no support from the general run of American colored folk. Even so generally non-conforming a spokesman of the race as the late Dr. Kelly Miller was moved, in 1937, to argue for *Negro*.

In the first days of slavery, Dr. Miller said, the slaves were called simply *blacks*.

Then came *African*, which "was accepted by the race in the early years, after it first came to self-consciousness," and still survives in the titles of some of its religious organizations, e.g., the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

A bit later *darkey* or *darkey* began

to be used, and "at first it carried no invidious implication."

Then came *Africo-American* (1835 or thereabout), but it was too clumsy to be adopted.

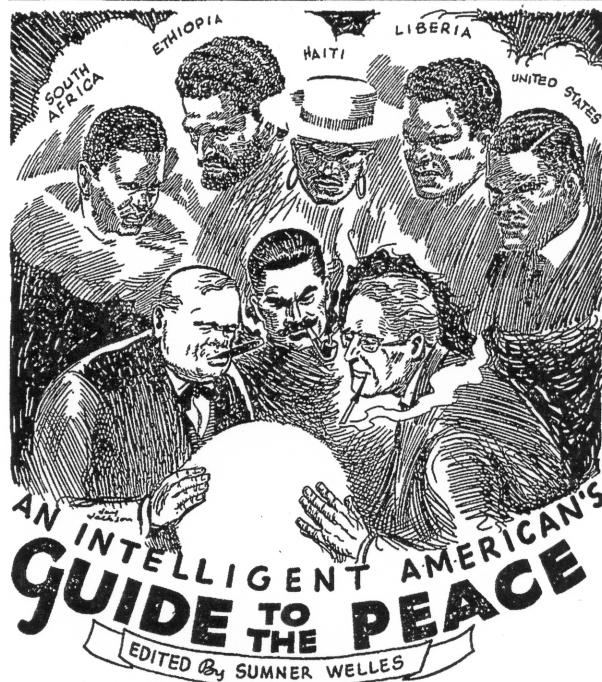
After the Civil War *freedman* was in wide use, but it began to die out before the end of the 70's.

In 1880 *Afro-American* was invented by T. Thomas Fortune, editor of the New York Age, and it still survives, but only in rather formal usage. "Mr. Fortune," said Dr. Miller, "repudiated the word *Negro* because of the historical degradation and humiliation attached to it."

At some undetermined time after 1900 Sir Harry Johnston, the English African explorer and colonial administrator, shortened *Afro-American* to *Aframerican*, but the latter has had but little vogue.

Other Negro publicists have proposed various substitutes for any designation pointing directly to color, among them *race* and *group*. According to Dr. Miller, *racemen* was suggested in 1936 or thereabout by Robert S. Abbott, editor of the Chicago Defender. Dr. Miller himself rejected it as equally applicable to a white man or an Indian and predicted that it would "fall under the weight of its own ineptness." It has, however, survived more or less, and *group* is really flourishing. Many of the Negro newspapers also use such terms as *brown-skinned* and *sepia* to get

BOOK SECTION



Knowledge is democracy's "secret weapon" to keep the peace in coming years, believes the world-renowned former U. S. Undersecretary of State. In a new best seller under his general editorship, Sumner Welles has presented a concise, revealing portrait of 80 lands throughout the world. Here are the stories of the two outstanding Negro nations of the world—Haiti and Liberia—told in frank, fearless fashion. Here are told their stakes in the coming peace.

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An Intelligent American's Guide To The Peace

Edited by Sumner Welles

THE SUREST way to kill unfounded prejudice and suspicion between peoples is through knowledge on the part of each concerning the other.

It has already become platitudinous to say that after the war the development of communications, and particularly the development of civil aviation, will bring every people of the world within forty-eight hours' distance of the people of the United States. The American people, whether they like it or not, will be next-door neighbors of every other member of the community of nations. For that reason alone, if for no other, it is the part of wisdom for us to learn what are the salient characteristics of other peoples and the chief problems with which they will be beset in the post-war years.

It must be frankly admitted that the people of the United States in general have not in past genera-

tions thought well of the peoples of other countries.

It is also true that in the melting pot which is America, large groups of United States citizens have inherited prejudices against other peoples which their forebears brought from the lands of their origin. In all of these cases, while these age-old hatreds may have been justified in the countries where they arose, they have no reason for existence in this New World.

More than all else, the policies of blind isolationism current during the two decades after the First World War have been responsible for stifling a great part of even that normal instinct of interest in the affairs of other peoples which would be natural among a people who have enjoyed that high standard of public education prevalent in the United States throughout its history.

The people of the United States have consequently in past years been too prone to underestimate the virtues of other peoples. They have failed to recognize their special

SUMNER WELLES is the former Undersecretary of State, whose *Time for Decision* was the leading non-fiction best seller of 1944.

What's In The Negro's Name?

Condensed from American Speech

By H. L. Mencken

WHEN the New York Times announced in an editorial on March 7, 1930, that it would capitalize the word *Negro* thereafter, there were loud hosannas from the Aframerican intelligentsia.

The decision of the Times was inspired by Major Robert Russa Moton, then principal of Tuskegee Institute, but he was by no means the originator of the movement, nor was the Times the first American newspaper to yield.

The true pioneer seems to have been Lester Walton, a colored journalist hailing from St. Louis, who, after a varied career on both Negro and white newspapers, was made minister to Liberia in 1935.

He does not give the name of the first newspaper to be fetched in 1913, but by the time the Times succumbed there were already some

important ones in his corral—among them, the New York World, Herald Tribune and Telegram, the Chicago Herald-Examiner (Hearst), the Christian Science Monitor of Boston, the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, and the Brooklyn Eagle. Moreover, he had made some converts in the South, even in the Deep South—for example, the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser, the Durham (N. C.) Sun, and the Columbus (Ga.) Ledger.

But the surrender of the Times was hailed as a crucial victory in the long war, and when it was followed three years later by that of the Style Manual of the Government Printing Office, which sets the style for the Congressional Record and is generally followed by other government publications, there was a renewal of the rejoicing.

The one dissentient was George S. Schuyler, columnist since 1924 for the Pittsburgh Courier, contributor to many white magazines, author of *Black-No-More*, and the best Negro journalist, and by long odds, ever heard of. On March 15,

H. L. MENCKEN is synonymous with the literary era of the 20's when he edited the *American Mercury*. He is also an authority on words and has written several books on the subject.

members and only six cents in its treasury.

Four years went by before the sun came from behind dark clouds. The enthused group sweated days in factories, docks and warehouses, nights they found cheer in stage work. They put on shows now and then, but generally failed even to excite the residents of the community. Not till Abram Hill brought *Anna Lucasta* to the workshop did they begin to touch the rainbow. Written by Philip Yordan, a gifted but comparative newcomer, the drama actually was never intended for them. In the original the action centered around a scheming Polish-American family and their wayward daughter. The theme, however, was universal. It could fit any family. Save for the transition from white folk to Negro folk, plus a happier ending for Broadway, the drama is being presented as it was composed.

Harry Wagstaff Gribble, who penned the memorable *March Hares*, was handed the play as a directorial prospect. It at once became a labor of love and he, probably, as much as any one else associated with the project, is responsible for the gratifying success it has achieved. Gribble gave it heart, dramatic movement, expert staging.

Hilda Simms, twenty-six-year-old beauty, has lit up the Broadway firmament with the sparkle of a meteor. Never on the professional stage, she brings a lusty, earthy vitality to the

role of the Negro harlot in *Anna Lucasta*. She plays with sincerity, conviction, fire, gives a remarkable demonstration of the actor's art at its zenith.

Miss Simms joined the American Negro Theatre upon her arrival in New York after receiving her B.A. from Hampton Institute, where she enjoyed a teaching fellowship. She did well in Harlem in a small role of *Three's A Family* and was hoping to get a part in *Anna Lucasta*. Harry Wagstaff Gribble, the play's director, picked her for the principal role without a reading.

"Just looking at her convinced me she could bring *Anna* to life," he said later.

The eldest of nine children, Miss Simms hails from Minneapolis, loved the stage in childhood. She was *Lady Macbeth* in a high school play, acted summers at camps, appeared with the Edith Bush Players, a semi-professional group, in *Kiss The Boys Goodbye*. Later she had a part in *You Can't Take It With You* under Minneapolis Coach Players auspices. She deserted the stage for a time to attend the University of Minnesota, posing as a model for art classes to pay her way.

Her first New York job was with the O.W.I. as a script writer for special broadcasts to the West Indies. Acting is her chosen career now, hopes some day to bring the classic plays to her people all over the nation.

problems and to appreciate their social and cultural achievements. They have been too ready to view "foreigners" with general antipathy and with inbred suspicion of their motives.

It is a lamentable fact that to the vast majority of the people of the United States the whole problem of foreign relations has been something infinitely remote. It has appeared to be something shrouded in mystery. It has been a matter which they have for generations been willing to relegate to a handful of men designated for that function by their government.

Fortunately today, more than at any other time in the past, there exists a keener realization on the part of the citizenry of this country of the basic truth that the great question of whether this country can in the future remain at peace, or must once more find itself involved in war, will be settled by the foreign

policy which government now adopts.

But there is, as yet, far too little appreciation of the fact that the daily life of every individual within the United States will be correspondingly affected thereby.

There is not yet apparently any full grasp of the inescapable corollary that not only will the lives of the youth of America be saved or sacrificed as the result of the decisions which the people of this country now make, but also that the standard of living, the economic opportunity, and the happiness of every one of us will be shaped accordingly.

This book has been published in the belief that it will facilitate the endeavor of the average citizen to obtain at this critical moment some of the basic and factual information which he will require in order to understand the major problems which this country now faces. This information is presented in no partisan spirit. It is wholly objective.

Haiti

The Land and the People

HAITI is a fabulous name to most Americans, bringing thoughts of Henri Christophe's fortress-castle on the rocky mountain-top and of Voodoo drums among the hills.

Although some of our notions are really mythical—as the one that

most Haitians follow Voodoo in the cinema sense—there is nothing unreal about the romantic history of the Black Republic: her origin as a French sugar-plantation colony, the greatest slave state of her time; her gallant uprising, under the Negro hero Toussaint l'Ouverture, to be the first independent Negro nation

in the New World; her long succession of violent and picturesque tyrannies, of which Henri Christophe's was perhaps the most violent and picturesque; her contemporary emergence as a nation with developing civic consciousness.

Haiti is the one American country whose government is of, for, and by the black race. Her independence dates from 1804 (the first republic established in Latin America).

With her intellectual ruling class, Haiti is regarded with special affection by the two million Negroes of the British West Indies, the thirteen million in the U. S. A., and aware Negro populations throughout the world.

As an active member of the Pan-American Union, Haitian delegates at inter-American Conferences are heard with special interest, and they also attracted interest in the assemblies of the League of Nations by their oratory and forthright commentaries on imperialism.

With an area of 10,000 square miles (about the size of Maryland), Haiti occupies the western third of the large West Indies island of Hispaniola, in the Greater Antilles east of Cuba. A mountainous country, it rises to an altitude of 8,000 feet. The serried mountain mass is broken by four large plains and several smaller ones. In the center lies the celebrated Cul de Sac (Blind Alley), a sea-level valley, in which the capital, Port-au-Prince, is located.

Along the coast are several excellent harbors.

Over 95 per cent of the people are pure Negroes, 5 per cent are mulattoes with French blood. The upper class, the elite, are socially sharply divided from the mass of the population. Such whites as are now in Haiti at all are there as tourists, engineers, priests (many from Brittany, and now, increasingly from the U.S.A.), or employees of commercial houses, banks, or governments.

The French influence, for generations so strong that the governing class (which comes from the French-African mulattoes) looked to France for education, trade, and financial connections, and even cable communications, has latterly been giving way to the influence of the U.S.A., although French remains the official language and the people still speak a creole patois based on French.

But Haitian popular culture is African rather than either European or American. Even Haitian Catholicism is, in remote regions, modified by African patterns.

The population numbers nearly 3,000,000 (over 90 per cent rural); at the time of the French—and Haitian—Revolution, it numbered only 530,000. The present density, over 290 to the square mile is four times that of the neighboring Dominican Republic. The population would be robust if better hygienic conditions prevailed; as it is, ma-

¶ Rescued from obscurity, all-Negro drama becomes Broadway's foremost sensation

Harlem Meteor

Condensed from Stage Pictorial

IT WAS a hot June night when the Broadway critics were roused from their seasonal somnolence to journey by subway to the basement of a Harlem public library to attend the opening of a show with an all-Negro company. They went grudgingly, left ecstatic, amply rewarded. The play was *Anna Lucasta*.

The town was startled next morning by the enthusiasm of the reviews. Sensing a piece of property that might well fit into the Broadway scheme, commercial managers hot-footed to Harlem to look in on this prize theatrical package. They shook their heads sadly.

"It's all right up in Harlem," was the general consensus, "but Broadway will not go for a drama with a Negro cast."

The end result was that for about a month a big hit languished in Harlem without takers, a hit, it is reported, that will pay a \$75,000 return for every \$5,000 invested! The far-seeing man who lifted *Anna Lucasta* from obscurity was John Wildberg, lawyer and courageous entrepreneur, who had a hand in fashioning both *Porgy and Bess* and

One Touch of Venus. He recognized the honesty of the writing, the integrity of the characters, the electric quality known as good theatre.

The play, of course, is one of the saltiest successes of the year. More important, it has been the means of permanently establishing the American Negro Theatre on a full-time basis through a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. Behind all this is the story of a dream fulfilled, a story with overtones of struggles, disappointments, poverty.

The visionary was Frederick O'Neal, a young St. Louis actor, who devoted his days to the secretaryship of the Negro Businessmen's League, his nights to the Aldridge Players, an acting group he founded in 1927. St. Louis was too small for his dreams. He aspired to create a nationwide string of Negro community theatres and therefore moved to New York. Here he filled in at odd jobs, found the going tough, eventually met Abram Hill, a graduate of the Federal Theatre. Thereafter they plodded the long road together and organized an acting group that consisted of but six

It is most difficult to imagine war being good for anybody or anything, but this war has clearly demonstrated that employee prejudices against bringing in Negro workers can be broken down by association and mutual understanding—and that the Negro as an individual can take his part in production on the basis of efficiency.

Management must produce efficiently to compete, and inefficient white workers are no more desirable than inefficient colored workers. I like the spirit of the colored workers who were hired as machine operators by one of the first companies to use Negroes in that capacity in Indiana. Only one of the ten hired proved unsatisfactory. His production was sub-standard and he gave little indication of improving his output.

Not management, but his nine fellow-Negro machine operators ob-

jected to this man because his inefficiency was pulling down their record as a group. Despite management's reluctance to remove this one worker, the group obtained his transfer to other work. They refused to have their own work slowed by his lack of performance.

These men were determined to refute the averages which show the Negro a less efficient producer than the white man. They proved their worth, that they had the ability and the capacity to do machine work as efficiently as other men. This is the key to the Negro's achievement of job opportunity in the postwar world.

The war has expanded his opportunity to prove his ability and capacity, and his vast contribution to the war effort is a matter of record. He goes into the postwar with an excellent achievement score card.

Her Bach's No Bust

HAZEL SCOTT, the busy pianist at Cafe Society Uptown, has attracted much attention because of her swinging of the classics, and recently she fascinated Arthur Rubinstein. He was still in a daze when talking to a friend about her.

"I knew you'd like her boogie-woogie," said the friend, "but a great pianist like yourself—well, I didn't imagine you'd be so impressed with her Bach."

"Her Bach!" exclaimed Rubinstein. "It isn't her Bach, it's her front."

Earl Wilson, New York Post

laria, hookworm, yaws, and tuberculosis are still too prevalent.

Haiti is a Roman Catholic country. Although in remote areas some beliefs and practices of ancestral African Vodun (a folk religion, discouraged by law) have survived in combination with the Christian elements, most Haitians accept and practice a normal Catholicism.

Education is tuition-free and theoretically compulsory, but out of 600,000 children of school age, only 54,000 boys and 33,000 girls attend school—a proportion not likely to speed reduction of the 85 per cent illiteracy rate. Most of these schools are quite defective. English is now an obligatory subject. Among so scantily educated a people, the polished Haitian literature (until recently dominated by French modes) cannot find the audience it deserves.

A radical change in educational directives would help advance agriculture and industry. The elite, if they turned to engineering, agronomy, forestry, medicine, geology, could rapidly increase the popular welfare. As it is, only literate property owners, that is, the richest tenth of the population, can vote, and government is highly centralized.

The Nation's Economy

NOT MUCH of Haiti's territory is arable and a large part of the arable land is poor.

Haitian farmers work with the most primitive tools, and the country's once-great irrigation works

now lie neglected. Farm wages are low (about \$2 a week), but since farm produce is added to the wage, the rural Haitian is not undernourished as to quantity, though he is often malnourished. All in all, though the country is on a mere subsistence basis, most Haitians are not so poor as West Indians generally, except in terms of cash income—\$20 annually per person.

Haiti's leading cash crop is coffee, one of the finest varieties known. Among her other important products are sisal, sugar, cotton, bananas, rubber, cocoa, rum, tobacco, and honey (a superlative variety). Banana production, a new and thriving industry, is dispersed among many individual owners, but marketing is centralized in the Standard Fruit Company. Rubber production has been recently stimulated by a loan of \$9,600,000 from the U.S.A.

Haitian urban workers are badly paid and very poor. At present most of them work at sugar refining, rum distillation, tobacco manufacture, and fruit canning. The Haitian American Development Corporation employs some 75,000.

Haiti's extensive mineral resources, as well as her potential water-power, have not yet been developed.

The monetary unit is the gourde, worth about 20 cents; American currency is also used. Although money in circulation has doubled during World War II, the figure is only

\$1.25 per person, and in the rural districts the people still live by barter. The annual per capita tax rate is approximately \$2; but customs supply about 90 per cent of the revenue and hence internal taxation is only 20 cents a person.

Haiti is not a heavy trader. Before the war, her imports amounted to \$2.50 per capita, exports to \$2.30. About 40 per cent of her exports went to France, 22 per cent to Great Britain, and only 12 per cent to the U. S. A. Now 80 per cent of Haiti's exports go to the U. S. A., who also supplies 77 per cent of the imports. (The pre-war average of imports from the U.S.A. was 47 per cent and 17 per cent was supplied by Japan.)

The per capita rate of both exports and imports has risen (to \$3.50 and \$3.30 respectively). Although Haiti's best permanent customers are gone for the moment, the country has not lost by the war.

History: 1914-1944

IN 1915, President Sudre Dardiguenave of Haiti signed a treaty with the U. S. A. under which the latter country was to appoint a financial adviser and a general receiver for customs. In 1916 President Wilson, fearful of the situation in Haiti, sent American marines to the country and declared a technical state of military occupation.

The following year Haiti agreed

to consult the United States legation before submitting any new laws to her Congress; and the American legation was also empowered to veto any proposed expenditures. These unwarranted measures were assailed not only in Haiti but throughout Latin America.

Considerable friction developed between the American representatives and the Haitians. The U.S.A. sought to remove the old provisions precluding foreigners from owning land in Haiti—a traditional Haitian policy of assuring the Negro republic's independence of white domination. In addition, the American occupying authorities, in pursuing their laudable public works and road building program, enforced the *corvée* (or compulsory labor) without paying adequate compensation to the Haitian workers. The people broke out in revolt in the north, but they were suppressed by the American marines.

In 1922, General John H. Russell of the U. S. Marine Corps, the newly appointed High Commissioner for Haiti, initiated a more flexible and generous policy. In the same year, a compliant President, Borno, was inaugurated in Haiti. The Americans floated a loan; they sponsored dispensaries, clinics, and other health services; and they improved irrigation and extended roads into remote areas of the republic.

But the Haitian elite (mulatto upper classes) resented these Amer-

|| Big business leader sees
peacetime prospects bright for Negro

Is There A Postwar Job For The Negro?

Condensed from Chicago Defender

By Ira Mosher

THE WAR has given the Negro a new and firmer foundation upon which to build his postwar future.

American fighting men and American working men have had the benefit of closer association with the Negro since this war started, and as far as I can learn they have a greater respect for these fellow citizens than ever before. Discriminatory barriers have been leveled at unprecedented speed during the last three years.

I am sure that the Negro's full potential usefulness in this war has not yet been reached either on the battlefield or, on the production front, and much educational work is still needed—on both sides—to conquer the prejudices which hinder his maximum use.

IRA MOSHER is president of the National Association of Manufacturers and heads the Russell-Harrington Cutlery Co. of Southbridge, Mass.

Industrial management is not playing ostrich and ignoring the Negro in its postwar planning. The colored worker will emerge from this war with impressive footholds in skilled and semi-skilled production jobs. He has proved that there is little justification for classifying a job according to race.

Top industrial management has taken a more tolerant and constructive attitude toward the employment of the Negro than almost any other segment of society.

Actually, today's bars to the hiring and upgrading of the Negro in industry in the past has been due largely to the discriminatory attitude of other employes and the labor unions rather than by arbitrary management policy. Management has been more or less in the middle—threatened with strikes and boycotts for attempting to bring Negroes into the factory, and charged with discrimination for not doing it.

Copyright, Chicago Defender (February 3, 1945)

burn or rape—no, they exhibited such a humanity and tolerance as had not been known before.

I would be proud—so damned proud—because today, laying aside their wrongs, their hurts, their miseries, my people have joined fully and whole-heartedly in this war to liberate all people, putting the cause of humanity before petty causes, dying on foreign soil, so that men may be free.

I would be proud because in this recent political crisis, my people un-

derstood so well what was at stake, laid aside old taboos, and acted with maturity and decision.

Of all these things and a hundred more, I would be proud. I would walk with my head high. I would reflect that nothing worthwhile has ever been won easily, and I would join my energies and my forces with the forces of all men, whatever color, who work and fight for freedom, dignity, and the rights of man.



Accentuate The Negative

DURING THE ETHIOPIAN war, a grizzled follower of Haile Selassie was captured by the Italians in a fierce mountain battle. Brought before an Italian officer, the Abyssinian was questioned for military information but refused to talk. Finally the officer impatiently threw his hands in the air and with a tone of contempt asked why the Ethiopian was fighting.

The Ethiopian said his family was poor and that he was fighting for bread.

Haughtily the Italian looked down on the prisoner and said: "We—we are fighting for honor!"

"Well," said the Ethiopian warrior, "everyone fights for what he has not got."

Jay Frederick

ican activities. They conducted a nationalist campaign against material improvement, because, as they charged, these were being imposed from without. At the same time, the elite failed to offer any program of their own for improving the lot of their poorer fellow-citizens.

In 1930 Stenio Vincent became President. President Hoover made preparations for recalling American marines, and with the advent of President Roosevelt's "Good Neighbor" policy, they were withdrawn in 1934. Haitian customs revenues were still pledged to secure interest on the American loan, but American control was made nominal.

Haiti adopted new constitutions in 1933 and 1935, both of which provided for a more centralized system of government. In addition, the functions formerly undertaken by the army were assigned to the Garde d'Haiti (or constabulary) which had been organized by the Americans. This move gave promise of a more stable future, since the army had been a source of disorder and tyranny until the arrival of the Americans in 1916.

In 1937 an event occurred which threatened the peace of the republic. Many thousands of Haitian migratory workers were massacred on the soil of the Dominican Republic. Relations between the two republics became acute, but peace was maintained by outside mediation. The Dominican Republic was finally persuaded to pay a substantial indem-

nity to the government of Haiti.

Elie Lescot was elected President in 1941. Haiti's attitude toward the U. S. A. was now entirely altered; she was confident that the larger country respected her complete independence. The new spirit of cooperation took concrete economic and political form. She concluded economic agreements with the U. S. A. in 1942 and 1943, and the respective legations of the two countries were elevated to embassy status.

Stakes in the Peace

HAITI'S main problem is overpopulation. Given sufficient territory and modern techniques, her ample labor supply could make her a wealthy state. Perhaps the present population could raise its economic level within a decade or two, but not materially unless its rate of increase declines. In order to obviate this classic Malthusian problem, the U. S. A. is assisting in the development of large plantation economies. But here political tradition—that is, dread of white domination—still stands as an obstacle, although a more cooperative attitude now prevails.

No easy solution can be indicated for the problems of Haiti. Birth control is a chimerical remedy, in view of the prevailing education and social orientation of the people.

The development of manufactures based on local production, as with the sugar controls in Cuba, is only one solution. Indeed, any improvement in the Haitian people's condition may, regrettably, prove to be temporary unless an agriculture and industry can be developed sufficiently to absorb the steady increase of her population.

Fortunately, apart from a tiny, though volatile, minority, the Haitian people love peace. They have had enough historical drama to serve ten other countries, and it seems to have satisfied them. Freed from external preoccupations, they can turn to long-term planning and carefully worked out media for better employment and adequate wages.

Liberia

The Land and the People

THE NEGRO republic of Liberia has a special interest for Americans. It was founded by American idealists who, in 1817, thought that Negro slaves should be bought from their masters and then settled in West Africa, and that by this means slavery would gradually disappear in the U. S. A.

The few freed slaves were settled on the Guinea coast and the town established there was named Monrovia after James Monroe, then the American president. Monrovia, her capital, is today a town of 10,000.

Recently Liberia signed a treaty with the U. S. A. for the duration of the war, and President Roosevelt declared that the welfare and defense of the land are vital to American interests. Since Liberia faces the bulge of Brazil across the nar-

rowest stretch of the South Atlantic, the country has extraordinary potential strategic importance.

With a coast line of some 350 miles in one of the wettest parts of the world, Liberia stands southeast of the British colony of Sierra Leone (also established as a slave refuge), west of the French colony of the Ivory Coast, and south of French Guinea.

An area of about 43,000 square miles, she extends inland 200 miles; but the effective territory really controlled by the government amounts to considerably less. Most of the land lies at less than 1,000 feet above sea level; all of it, within the equatorial rain forest belt.

About 2,500,000 people live in Liberia. Those on the coast—12,000 of American descent, centering in Monrovia (offspring of those for whom the enterprise was begun), and about 60,000 native Negroes

IF I WERE A NEGRO

¶ Negro people created civilization when Europe was a lonely forest

Proud To Be Black

Written Expressly for Negro Digest

By Howard Fast

IF I WERE a Negro, I would be proud; yes, I would be so damned proud!

I would be proud because my people created civilizations when Europe was a forest; I would be proud because my people—and my people alone in all human history—made a single step from slavery to democracy; in Haiti, that was.

I would be proud because if forbearance and tolerance are qualities of civilization, then my people can be called one of the most civilized on earth.

I would be proud because under a mantle of persecution, ignorance, and abuse such as covered no other people in modern times, my people

HOWARD FAST is one of America's topflight novelists, author of the recent sensational best seller *Freedom Road*. His other works include *Citizen Tom Paine*, *The Unvanquished*, and *Conceived in Liberty*.

peacefully and legally made their way into the sunlight, giving to America an artist like Robeson, a scientist like Carver, a leader like Douglass, a writer like Hughes, and a thousand more besides.

I would be proud as a black American, because I would remember that in every American struggle for democracy or national liberation, my people were in the forefront, among the first to declare themselves, among the first to fight, among the first to die.

I would be proud because during the Civil War, liberty was not given to my people; they fought for it, 200,000 strong; they poured out a river of blood and earned their liberty. And I would also be proud because during that time, when the women and children of the South were defenseless before their slaves, my people did not kill the helpless; they did not murder; they did not

Negro guards. Then he slowly turned his head away and talked in German to the American officer.

I won't get out of the car, he was saying, until those Negro guards are removed. He folded his arms and sank deeper into his greatcoat and sat staring straight ahead.

The American, who was only a Captain, after all, seemed non-plussed. We who were looking on held our breaths. We felt he was going to comply with the monstrous request. But we should have known better.

The Captain stuck his head back into the car and talked in German.

This is the American Army, General, he was saying. These Negroes are American soldiers and you are a prisoner. I will not have them withdrawn.

But the German General said nothing, looked straight ahead with his hard, staring eyes, the eyes of a dead man.

A slow flush began to tint the American Captain's face. Listen, General, he was saying, I'm afraid you don't understand the American Army. We've got all kinds in America—so we have all kinds in our Army.

You and your kind are being licked by all kinds of people you like to kick around. By the Negroes from the South and the Jews from

New York and the Poles from Pittsburgh and the Italians from Chicago and the Chinese from San Francisco.

They are the people who are beating you, General; all the people of the world brought together in one army, in one uniform, from one country that recognizes all people as one people. By these Negro soldiers standing right here in front of you.

Listen, General, the Captain said, and his voice even in a strange language seemed harder and more cutting, maybe you don't understand what you're up against. You're licked, General, see? What I mean is, you can't just sit there and say what's what any more, understand? You're a prisoner. Your army is washed up. Your whole Nazi set-up is washed up. Now, get up and get out of that seat.

Slowly, as if with superhuman effort, the greatcoat containing the dead man with the dead eyes moved out of the depths of the American car. . . . As he marched past one of the Negro M P's he turned his dead eyes toward the Negro. The Negro stared back with cold eyes that blinked but did not waver.

The General dropped his eyelids for a brief fleeting second. Then he turned and walked on and plunged his hands in his pockets with a sudden gesture.

He almost seemed to be thinking.

who participate in their culture—are the dominant population.

Their government has gradually gained some authority over the northern tribes and the numerous pagan Kroos. There are also some six other fairly numerous native peoples, many of them Mohammedans. The Negroes of the interior retain their native arts and sculpture, much admired by experts, and illustrative of the African influences which have recently impressed art circles of the West.

The electors of the Liberian republic must be Negroes and property holders; thus governmental power really lies in the hands of a small coastal group of descendants of American slaves, who have established a tutelage over part of the population. The "True Whig" party that runs the country has often been described as an oligarchy; but recent economic developments may eventually extend democratization.

The Nation's Economy

THOUGH productive, the soil had been neglected until recently. Its leading products have been coffee, palm oil, palm kernels, and cocoa; but both the extraordinary plant possibilities and the rich forest resources offer far more than the people have yet known how to utilize. The undoubted mineral resources remain untouched, except for a small gold production.

A transformation occurred during

the war. A 1926 concession of a million acres of rubber lands to the Firestone Company of Ohio has now been cultivated up to 77,000 acres, yielding 18,000,000 pounds of dry rubber.

An astonishing upswing has resulted. Whereas in peacetime Liberia, exporting but \$570,000 worth of goods (coffee, palm oil and kernels, cocoa, and fibers for mats) and importing \$1,100,000 worth (mainly cotton goods, spirits, and tobacco), floundered in chronic financial difficulties, imports had trebled by 1941 and exports had multiplied by eight (to \$5,000,000). The "permanent" deficit had become a surplus.

Estimated exports for 1942 stood at more than \$7,300,000. Rubber has been the magic wand behind these startling transformations, and the U. S. A. has become virtually the sole nation figuring in Liberian trade. But communications remain a problem: though there are coastal roads, practically none penetrate the interior, where head-porters are still needed to carry packs through the forest. No railway exists and no good harbor.

History: 1914-1944

LIBERIA entered World War I in 1917, soon after the U. S. A., and was a signatory of the Treaty of Versailles. Her delegate to the Peace Conference, Mr. C. D. B. King, was



elected President in 1920 and served three terms until 1932, when Edwin Barclay succeeded him. Both Presidents represented the True Whig Party. Barclay was reelected in 1936 for eight years.

In 1926 the government granted the Firestone Rubber Company of America a concession of 1,000,000 acres for 99 years; and a financial loan for the country was arranged.

In 1942 the United States stationed American troops in Liberia, where they aided in the construction of roads and airfields. On his return from the Casablanca Conference (January 1943), President Roosevelt visited Monrovia, capital of Liberia, and the Liberian President Barclay subsequently visited Washington, D. C.

The True Whig candidate, William V. Tubman, succeeded Barclay as President after the 1944 elections, the entire Senate and House belonging to the same party.

Stakes in the Peace

LIBERIA must ever be a cultural obligation of the U. S. A., whose citizens conceived of her existence, fostered her origins, and have since sought to enrich and advance her.

The "True Whigs" on the coast clearly lack the means to develop the hinterland or to raise the educational and production levels of millions of natives in the hinterland. Outside of the Firestone concessions

and recent war-inspired activities, capital investment in Liberia compares most unfavorably with that in European colonies nearby.

Hence, the provision of at least as much investment as obtains in the nearby Gold Coast, for example, is a prerequisite of development. The opening up of the interior and the improvement in health and general welfare of the natives will benefit the groups of American culture on the coast, who have exercised a historic, but rather sterile domination.

So long as the development of Liberia permits increasing democratic participation in government and genuine national independence, foreign investment can be only beneficial. The attempts of both the British and French since 1918 to gain political and economic control of the republic have not been successful.

On the other hand, the years of World War II have witnessed a quickening interest in Liberia on the part of Americans. And there are indications that the little country will be the scene of constructive American investment in the future. Doubtless, such foreign capital as will be made available to Liberia will be primarily American, although the U. S. A. has never made any official move that might be even remotely construed as sponsorship, except for the statement that Liberian security is of vital concern to the U. S. A.

NEGRO DIGEST

A Magazine Of Negro Comment

VOL. III

MARCH

NO. 5

¶ A German 'superman' gets a lesson in democracy from a Yank

When General Meets G.I.

Condensed from San Francisco Chronicle

By Lt. Herb Caen

WE WERE waiting at the dusty landing strip in France for the captured German General to arrive. We were all a little excited, for a General is a General, whether he be American or Russian, or German or Hottentot. And a captured General is something very special indeed.

The officer who had been detailed to meet him peered nervously up the road. Negro M P's in a soiled approximation of Class A uniforms,

HERB CAEN is the former popular gossip columnist of the San Francisco Chronicle, now a lieutenant in the U. S. Army.

stood rigidly at attention. Finally somebody yelled "Here they come!" An American staff car roared up. We got our first glimpse of the General, his head deep sunk in the folds of a huge overcoat he looked something like a grey turtle. He wore the exaggerated Graustarkian cap of the Nazis; the braid on his uniform was bright and shiny. You knew, somehow, that the General must have kept himself far away from the fighting to look so clean and well groomed.

The General turned his head slightly and looked out at the reception committee. His cold beady eyes rested for a few seconds on the

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DIGEST QUIZ

Topographic Topics

WORLD WAR II has made an atlas as important in a household as a cook book. Negro soldiers and sailors have travelled to the far corners of the earth and won glory and decorations. But they are also gaining a knowledge of the world.

Each of the names below represents some place on the map that is associated with Negro peoples. Count ten for each correct answer and figure yourself fair with 60, good with 70 and tops in topography if you hit 90. (See answers on inside back cover.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Rand
Liberia rubber region
South Africa gold area
Congo diamond district | 5. The Cameroons
French West Indies islands
Dutch colony in East Indies
Former German colony in Africa |
| 2. The Bottomlands
Mississippi valley
Congo flatlands
Ethiopia plateau | 6. The Transvaal
South Africa section
Dutch Guinea wilderness
Borneo mountain |
| 3. The Antilles
Islands off Africa
West Indies
Ethiopia Mountain | 7. Vieux Carre
Haitian mountain
New Orleans French quarter
French West Africa desert |
| 4. Sugar Hill
Mississippi town
African mountain
Harlem district | 8. Mound Bayou
Congo River island
Southern town
French West Africa city |



Subscription Rates: 25 cents a single copy, \$3.00 a year, \$5.00 two years, life subscription \$25.00. In foreign countries \$4.00 a year, \$6.00 two years.

Publisher and Managing Editor: John H. Johnson

Associate Editor: Ben Burns. *Assistants:* E. M. Walker, G. J. Williams

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Published monthly at 5619 S. State St., Chicago 21, Ill.
Entered as second class matter January 27, 1943, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

The articles in Negro Digest are selected on the basis of general interest and information and do not necessarily express the opinions of the editors.

Coming in the April Issue

THESE OUTSTANDING FEATURES

DOES INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE SUCCEED?

By Mr. and Mrs. William Grant Still

The world-famous American Negro composer and his white wife, Verna Arvey Still, write a provocative reply to this hotly-debated question. This is the first in a series on this subject by leading Negroes and whites who have crossed the color line at the altar.

IF I WERE A NEGRO

By Channing Pollock

The noted author, dramatist and lecturer urges Negroes to demonstrate equality, rather than demand it in a controversial article in this popular NEGRO DIGEST series.

MY MOST HUMILIATING JIM CROW EXPERIENCE

By Harry McAlpin

The only Negro correspondent at the White House press conference tells how the color line works in democracy's world capital and how a Negro father explains racial discrimination to his growing daughter.

ROUND TABLE

"DOES THE CATHOLIC CHURCH FEAR TOO MANY NEGRO CONVERTS?"

YES Harold Fey, field editor of the Christian Century

NO John LaFarge, editor of America



Quiz Answers

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. South Africa gold area | 5. Former German colony |
| 2. Mississippi Valley | 6. South Africa section |
| 3. West Indies | 7. New Orleans French quarter |
| 4. Harlem district | 8. Southern town |



Negro Digest Announces

\$200 PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST

*"Should Negro Students Attend Mixed
Or Negro Colleges?"*

**Open To All Registered College Students
Both Negro And White**

CONTEST RULES

1. Two prizes of \$100 each will be awarded for the best essay on each side of the question.
2. Manuscripts must be limited to 750 words.
3. The deadline for manuscripts is April 15, 1945.
4. No contestant may submit more than one entry.
5. All essays must be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of paper only and should have the name only of the contestant in the right hand corner. Manuscripts should be accompanied by a separate sheet listing name, address, college, class and race of contestant. The essay when submitted to the judges will not include this information so that race will not determine the winner.
6. Winning essays will be published in the Round Table section in the June issue of *NEGRO DIGEST*. Submission of an essay implies agreement to such publication, if chosen a winner. No essays can be returned to sender.
7. All manuscripts should be sent to: College Essay Contest, *NEGRO DIGEST*, 5619 South State Street, Chicago 21, Illinois.
8. The decision of the judges will be final.

JUDGES

Edwin R. Embree, President of Julius Rosenwald Fund
 John Temple Graves, Editor of Birmingham Age-Herald
 James E. Shepard, President of North Carolina College For Negroes
 Charles S. Johnson, Social Science Dean of Fisk University
 Howard W. Odum, University of North Carolina
 Langston Hughes, noted poet and author

NEGRO DIGEST

A Magazine Of Negro Comment

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*3rd Year of
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Negro Digest

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Dear Friend:

Your name has come to us as a forward-thinking reader who feels that
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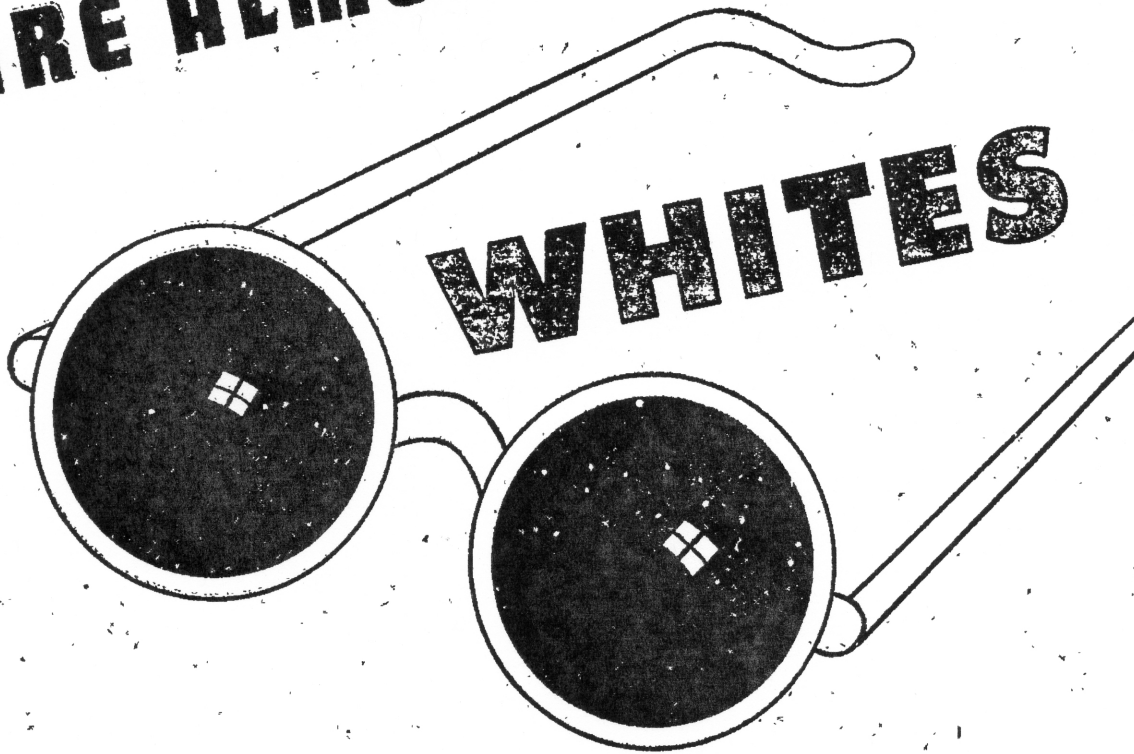
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Your letter of February 4, 1948, with enclosure, has been received and I appreciate your interest in my making a contribution for use in Negro Digest's "Future of Negro Youth" series. I do hope I will be able to do this, but the extreme pressure of my official schedule precludes my committing myself definitely on this matter. Every effort will be made, however, to prepare a suitable contribution and send it to you within the very near future.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
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My dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed with this letter is a prospectus for NEGRO DIGEST's "Future Of Negro Youth" Series which we cordially invite you to join as a contributor.

This project is being sponsored by us in an effort to survey the job future for the Negro of high school and college age today in view of the experiences of outstanding Negroes who have succeeded in their respective fields. We are sparing no effort to include all fields of endeavor.

We feel certain you will agree that the Negro youth of today should seriously consider a career in law enforcement and would benefit greatly by your first-hand advice based on your own experience in this field.

Won't you inform us at once that you, too, will contribute an article for our series?

Your article should be of approximately 1500 words. To serve the best purpose of the project as a whole it could:

- a. give a brief account of your background and youth;
- b. give a short resume of your education, how it was financed;
- c. list the qualifications a candidate for your field should possess;
- d. and end with your views on the future for Negro youth in this field.

May we hear from you at your earliest convenience confirming your willingness to make this contribution to NEGRO DIGEST's "Future Of Negro Youth" Series?

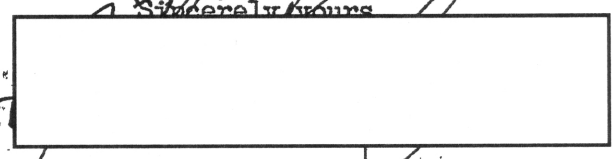
Since this project will be a handbook of the job future as well as of essential, promising job fields not usually considered by young men and women of college age, your contribution will be of inestimable value to young Negroes for many years to come.

With thanks for your interest and cooperation,

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I think we should do this. EBONY is high grade AND HAS BEEN AVOIDED to F.B.I. I am



S. We would also like very much to have any suggestions you wish to offer, especially with regard to subjects or contributors not included in our list.

OK
H.

NEGRO DIGEST

"FUTURE OF NEGRO YOUTH" SERIES SEPTEMBER, 1948-JUNE, 1949

PROSPECTUS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Object: To survey in interesting article form the job and career future for qualified Negroes in all fields of endeavor.

Each article to be written by a recognized expert in this field, giving the author's own experiences and observations along with his view of opportunities this field offers Negro youth and the best way to achieve success in this field.

Presentation: Signed articles in NEGRO DIGEST beginning with the October, 1948 issue (published in September) and appearing each month thereafter through the July, 1949 issue (published in June) and thereby corresponding with the academic year, 1948-49.

Designed to aid high school and college students in choosing their careers (in addition to presenting fields of endeavor not previously considered by them) along with a balance sheet of the opportunities these fields offer Negroes. These articles will also act as aids to vocational advisors in colleges and high schools.

Sponsors: The high schools and colleges of America, Negro and white, will be invited to participate, using the articles which appear in the series as required outside reading for classroom discussion.

In conjunction with the regular articles and features in each monthly issue of NEGRO DIGEST, the survey articles will represent a timely, factual, up-to-date study of Negro affairs and future outlook. Copies of each issue of NEGRO DIGEST will be made available for classroom use at the cost price of sixteen cents (16¢) to students in all classes in participating schools and colleges, a free desk copy supplied for instructor's use in all classes subscribing for five or more copies each month.

Keynoter: Dr. Charles S. Johnson, President, Fisk University

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ENCLOSURE

PARTIAL LIST OF SUBJECTS, JOB FIELDS TO BE STUDIED,
AND CONTRIBUTORS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

ACCOUNTING -- Charles A. Beckett, J. B. Blayton, Theodore Jones, G. Stevens Marchman. ACTUARIAL SCIENCE -- Asa T. Spaulding. ADVERTISING -- William G. Black, Joe LaCour. AERONAUTICS -- Col. B. O. Davis, Jr. ANTHROPOLOGY -- Dr. Allison Davis. ARCHITECTURE -- Paul Williams. ART -- E. Simms Campbell. BACTERIOLOGY -- Dr. Hildrus Poindexter. BANKING -- J. E. Walker. BEAUTY CULTURE -- Marjorie Joyner, Sarah Spencer. BIOLOGY -- Edward M.S. Chandler. CHEMISTRY -- Lloyd Hall, Percy Julian. CINEMA -- Lena Horne, Canada Lee. CIRCULATION TECHNIQUES -- C. M. Ellis. CREATIVE WRITING -- W.E.B. DuBois, Frank Yerby. DANCE -- Kathrine Dunham. DERMATOLOGY -- Dr. T. K. Lawless, Dr. Ralph Scull, Dr. Harold Thatcher. DIETETICS -- Freda DeKnight. DIPLOMACY -- Ralph Bunche. GOVERNMENT -- William H. Hastie, William Pickens. HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT -- Clyde Reynolds. INSURANCE -- T. K. Gibson, Sr., C.C. Spaulding. JOURNALISM -- Bill Nunn, P. L. Prattis, George S. Schuyler, P. B. Young. LABOR -- A. P. Randolph, Willard S. Townsend, Robert C. Weaver. LAW -- T. K. Gibson, Jr., Charles H. Houston, William R. Ming, Jr., Euclid L. Taylor. LAW ENFORCEMENT -- J. Edgar Hoover. LIBRARY SCIENCE -- Arna Bontemps, Mrs. Maurice Gleason, Vivian Harsh, Lawrence D. Reddick. MATHEMATICS -- J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr. MEDICINE -- Dr. W. Montague Cobb. MILLINERY -- Mildred Blount. MORTUARY SCIENCE -- Robert Cole. MUSIC -- William Grant Still. NURSING -- Estell Riddle, Mable K. Staupers. PEDIATRICS -- Dr. Ronald Jefferson. PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT & SELECTION -- J. Bernard Bradshaw, Mame Higgins, George McCray. POLITICS -- William Dawson, Oscar DePriest, Roscoe Simmons, C. C. Wimbush. PSYCHIATRY -- Dr. Walter Adams, Charles Prudhome. PSYCHOLOGY -- Dr. Albert S. Beckham. PUBLIC RELATIONS -- Perry Lieber, Mae Kidd Street. PUBLISHING -- Carl Murphy, Frank Young. RADIO -- Jerome Morgan. SALESMANSHIP -- James A. Jackson, C. Udell Turpin. SCULPTURE -- Richmond Barthe. SKILLED TRADES -- Clifford Campbell. SOCIAL WORK -- Lester B. Granger. SOCIOLOGY -- E. Franklin Frazier, Walter White. SURGERY -- Dr. U. G. Dailey, Dr. Charles Drew, Dr. Roscoe Giles. THEOLOGY -- Benjamin E. Mays. THERAPIST -- Magnolia Bates, Thelma Brown, Ruby Peffner. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT -- Stanley Berge.

All articles which appear in the "FUTURE OF NEGRO YOUTH" SERIES will be made available in reprints to all groups and organizations (upon request) for the cost of postage and handling.

Upon completion of the series in NEGRO DIGEST, the articles will be published in permanent book form, one each of which will be presented free to the library of each participating high school and college and each signed contributor.

End Result: To give high school and college students (both white and Negro) a factual survey of the job and career opportunities available to them, plus the additional information of the experiences of those Negroes who have attained outstanding success in each field. And to provide the library of each of the nation's high schools and colleges with a bound volume of this information for its permanent collection.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS INVITED TO JOIN

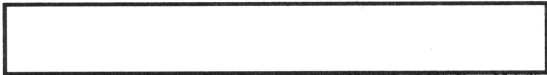
Dwight D. Eisenhower, Marshall Field, Henry Ford, Lester B. Granger, Paul Hoffman, Charles Luckman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Walter White.

- and -

PRESIDENTS OF ALL NEGRO COLLEGES

March 8, 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-80 BY SP-5 [signature]



Negro Digest Publishing Company
5125 South Calumet Avenue
Chicago 15, Illinois
100-71654-14
Dear Mr. Pressley:

b6
b7c

RECORDED

In response to your letters of
February 4 and 17, 1948, I am sending herewith
an article entitled, "Law Enforcement as a
Career," which you may use for publication in
the Negro Digest.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

C. I. C. 4

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR
MAR 10 1948
MAR 10 2 40 PM '48

Enclosure

HDS:ig/SL

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
★ MAR 10 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62 MAR 18 1948

March 8, 1948

LAW ENFORCEMENT AS A CAREER

BY
John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Law enforcement needs young men and women who are well trained and qualified. This field of public service offers many opportunities to those seeking a career in public service. It is one that is intensely interesting but it holds no future unless one is prepared to work hard and undergo personal sacrifices. It is a pleasure for me to recount my career.

I was born and reared in Washington, D. C., and received my basic education in the public schools. My personal inclination was toward the ministry but finances kept me from following such a career. Being obliged to contribute to the support of my home upon graduation from high school I obtained a clerkship at the Library of Congress and enrolled in night school at George Washington University to study law. I graduated from George Washington University Law School with an LL.B. degree in 1916 and subsequently obtained an LL.M. from this university.

The Department of Justice appointed me as an attorney in 1917 and two years later a Special Assistant to the Attorney General. In 1921 I was transferred to the Bureau of Investigation and the then Attorney General, the late Chief Justice Harlan Stone, designated me as the Director in 1924.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

100-71654-14

HDS:SL

ENCLOSURE

A career in law enforcement was a second choice with me but only in a technical sense. Once in law enforcement, I realized that this field offered limitless opportunity to one whose ultimate objective was to serve others.

In 1921 law enforcement in the United States was a haphazard business. Personnel standards were low, equipment was obsolete and inadequate, methods were archaic, suitable training programs were nonexistent and continuous in-service training for people in the profession was unheard of.

The public generally had little respect for law enforcement officers. But worse of all was the attitude of many law enforcement officers themselves: cynicism and disregard for fundamental values were prevalent.

Realizing that honest, efficient law enforcement is an urgent necessity in a social order based upon law, I felt that the profession of law enforcement offered a first rate challenge to my ambitions. Hence, at an early age, I enthusiastically dedicated myself to a career in law enforcement resolved to utilize whatever talents and energies I possessed in the cause of raising law enforcement to the level of the most respected professions.

That enthusiasm still persists and I have never

regretted this choice made more than a quarter of a century

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

The status of law enforcement has improved immeasurably since the 1920's. All of us who have been in the profession during these years of development have enjoyed a feeling of attainment. We have traveled a long way toward the objective we originally set for ourselves; yet, none of us can say complacently that we have arrived. The achievements of law enforcement in the past two decades, like the achievements of science, have simply opened up broader and greater fields for future development.

In 1924 the challenge and the opportunities of a career in law enforcement were exciting. Today, the profession offers even more exciting possibilities of growth.

Yet, before recommending law enforcement as a career for any youth, I would ask him to examine himself carefully to decide what he wants out of life. If he is seeking either fame or fortune, he should not turn to law enforcement. Few achieve fame in law enforcement. Fewer still grow rich. The field offers but limited opportunities to those whose sole or primary objective is wide renown or great wealth. None, however, offers a more

exhilarating challenge to the young men who want a career of service. Law enforcement is a rewarding occupation for anyone whose principal ambition is to lead a useful life.

The qualifications of candidates in the field of law enforcement have changed radically in the past two decades. The people of my generation can remember when brawn seemed to be the exclusive consideration in the hiring of law enforcement officers. Native intelligence counted very little and formal education not at all. Good health, physical hardihood and personal bravery are still important for law enforcement officers; but education and intellect have risen to their proper place as the most essential qualifications.

In some of the larger law enforcement agencies a college degree has become a minimum educational requirement. A degree from an accredited law school or accounting school has been a basic requirement for Special Agent candidates in the FBI since 1934.

Even in departments where a college degree is not a formal requirement, those who have a broad liberal arts education - everything else being equal - have a better than average chance to rise to positions of leadership.

Adaptability is a most essential quality for the successful law enforcement officer. In the normal routine of his work he is likely to meet and deal with people on all levels of society and in all walks of life. If he is to handle

himself well in these public contacts, he must be able to put himself at ease in any environment or situation. The more formal education a man has, the more likely it is that he will develop this quality of adaptability.

Mental alertness is tremendously important for the successful law enforcement officer. In no other occupation does a man more frequently find himself at the center of sudden developments where it is necessary for him to make rapid evaluations and quick decisions. Fundamentally, mental alertness is an inborn characteristic which cannot be acquired; but it can be sharpened and developed in the courses of instruction offered in our public schools and colleges.

Similarly, a law enforcement officer should have a keen insight into the motivations of human conduct. Any kind of training which helps one to understand why people behave like human beings is of great value.

Legal training is also excellent preparation for a career in law enforcement. A special knowledge of the law is obviously helpful to one whose duty it is to enforce the law. It teaches one to distinguish facts from fancies, and facts are essential elements in the dispensation of justice. An officer with legal training, moreover - and most importantly, - recognizes the rights and privileges of others and knows the serious consequences of any abridgment of civil liberties.

Many Negroes have distinguished themselves in law enforcement. Illustrative is the record of Jimmy Young, Negro employee of the FBI in New York City. In 1939 Young and another civic-minded leader, on their private initiative and in their spare time, contacted civic organizations in Yonkers, New York, and solicited support for a youth center in the Nepperhan community where there was a crying need for facilities to provide constructive, leisure-time activities for youth. The two leaders established the Nepperhan Community Center which, in 1943, became a member agency of the Yonkers Community Chest. The Center -- now boasting a 3-story building and providing recreational activities for more than 400 boys and girls -- is still growing, and Jimmy Young is still supervising its growth.

Oliver A. Cowan, Negro patrolman in the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., has also done valuable and widely acclaimed work with youth. A few years ago Cowan, working in a bad section of Washington, caught four young boys in the act of breaking street lights. Instead of taking them to the police station, he talked to them like a big brother and won their confidence. With that experience was born the idea for a Junior Police and Citizens' Corps, which now has more than 10,000 members and is operated by the Juvenile Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Department, under Mr. Cowan's direct supervision. This Junior Police organization has been acclaimed by police and other public officials for its important contribution in the fight against juvenile delinquency.

The long career of James E. Amos, one of the many Negro Special Agents of the FBI, has been widely publicized. The son of a policeman in Washington, D. C., Amos began his career of public service as a personal aide to President Theodore Roosevelt shortly after Roosevelt's inauguration. Teddy Roosevelt frequently referred to Amos as "my head man." Amos came into the Department of Justice in 1921 and has served as a Special Agent in the FBI all over the nation, working on dozens of the Bureau's biggest criminal and espionage cases.

The Negro has proven his worth as a law enforcement officer. He has made invaluable contributions to the profession and has an essential place in the future of this great field of public service.

Negro Digest Publishing Company

Publishers of Negro Digest and Ebony Magazines

5125 S. CALUMET AVE.
CHICAGO 15, ILL.

February 17, 1948

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Pennington.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Office of the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington 25, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-80 BY SP-5 [signature]

My dear Mr. Hoover:

We were delighted to receive your very welcome letter accepting our invitation to contribute an article to NEGRO DIGEST's "Future Of Negro Youth" series.

As you will understand, we would like to have all articles on hand well in advance so as to make the best possible presentation of each article -- as well as of the series as a whole. Fully realizing the pressure of your regular duties we are more than glad to arrange our schedule to fit with your convenience.

With sincere appreciation for your courtesy and cooperation,

Cordially yours,



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JUP/lh

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3-2-48
[signature]

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&
INDEXED
126

100-71654-140
37 MAR 13 1948
K-NAH
File

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Gurnea.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Mohr.....
- Mr. Pennington.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*Free
and*

FBI Chief Hoover Urged Youth Into Law Enforcement Careers

CHICAGO—"The Negro has proven his worth as a law enforcement officer," FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover declares in an October Negro Digest feature, and urges young Negroes to enter law enforcement as a career, saying:

"The Negro has made invaluable contributions to the profession and has an essential place in the future of this great field of public service."

In this article written especially for Negro Digest's "Future of Negro Youth" series, Mr. Hoover warns:

"Before recommending law enforcement as a career or any youth I would ask him to examine himself carefully and decide what it is he wants out of life. If he is seeking either fame or fortune, he

should not turn to law enforcement. Few achieve fame in law enforcement. Fewer still grow rich."

Mr. Hoover continues: "The field offers but limited opportunities to those whose sole or primary objective is wide reknown or great wealth.

"None, however," the FBI head adds, "offers a more exhilarating challenge to the young man who wants a career of service. Law enforcement is a rewarding occupation for anyone whose principal ambition is to lead a useful life."

Among Negroes Mr. Hoover cites as distinguished in the field of law enforcement are:

James E. Amos and Jimmy Young of the FBI and patrolman Oliver A. Cowan of the Washington, D. C. Metropolitan Police Department.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-80 BY SP-5 RTH/100

Bureau

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD, SEPT. 12, 1948

INDEXED - 95
EX-1

1100-1111
NOT RECORDED
65 OCT 4 1948

160

7 OCT 12 1948

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

SUBJECT: "NEGRO DIGEST"
"OUR WORLD"
"THE REPORTER"
MAGAZINES

DATE: September 18, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-80 BY SP-5 RJA/102

Reurlet 9/11/51 in regard to the above-captioned publications.

The records of the California Committee on Un-American Activities are maintained by the Counsel for the Committee, [redacted] at Visalia, California, who is known to the Los Angeles office.

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For the information of the Los Angeles office, the Veterans' Administration, Washington, D.C., has requested the Bureau to determine if the above-captioned magazines are identical to those cited on page 225 in the 1948 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities. No investigation is to be conducted but it has been requested that a check be made of the records of the California Committee to ascertain if the magazines listed by that committee are identical with the following:

"Negro Digest" magazine, Johnson Publishing Company, 1820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 16, Illinois. JOHN H. JOHNSON, publisher and editor, BEN BURNS, Executive Editor, ERA BELL THOMPSON, Managing Editor.

"Our World" magazine, Our World Publishing Company Inc., 35 West 43rd Street, New York, New York. JOHN P. DAVIS, Publisher, DAVID A. HEPBURN, Executive Editor.

"The Reporter" magazine, Fortnightly Publishing Company, 220 East 42nd Street, New York, New York. MAX ESCOLI, Editor and Publisher, PHILIP HORTON, Assistant Editor, ROBERT S. GERDY, Managing Editor, AL NEWMAN, Assistant Managing Editor, WILLIAM KNAPP, Assistant Managing Editor.

The Los Angeles office is requested to ascertain if the desired information is available and, if so, furnish it to the Bureau.

WHK:mme
65-77
cc: (Los Angeles)

RECORDED - 66

INDEXED - 66

100-71654-15
SEP 24 1951
10

EX-15

63 NOV 16 1951

FIVE

COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY
EMPLOYED BY
BEN BURNS (EMPL. CARD)
ERA BELL THOMPSON

RAJ
JH

100-352331-26
100-364570-8

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

SAC, San Francisco

September 11, 1951

Director, FBI

"Negro Digest"
"Our World"
"The Reporter"
Magazines

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-10 BY SP-5 RAB/ml

The Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C. had requested the Bureau to determine if the captioned magazines, which will be identified also, are identical to those cited on page 225 in the 1948 Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities. No investigation is to be conducted in person; however, you are requested to cause a check to be made of the records of the California Committee to ascertain if the magazines listed by that Committee are identical with the following:

"Negro Digest" Magazine
Johnson Publishing Company
1020 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago 10, Illinois
John E. Johnson, Publisher and Editor
Don Burns, Executive Editor
Ara Dail Thomson, Managing Editor

"Our World" Magazine
Our World Publishing Company, Inc.
25 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y.
John P. Davis, Publisher
David A. Haphara, Executive Editor

"The Reporter" Magazine
Ferdinand Ly Publishing Company
120 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y.
Har Ascoli, Editor and Publisher
Phillip Horton, Assistant Editor
Robert S. Gerdy, Managing Editor
Al Herman, Assistant Managing Editor
William Brown, Assistant Managing Editor

cc-Internal Security

BJC:dm

INDEXED - 129

RECORDED - 129

COMM - FBI
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100-71654-16
SEP 14 1951

OCT 3 1951

SEP 14 1951
FBI

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-71654-16

CONFIDENTIAL

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b7c

Date: September 14, 1951

To: Administrator of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Administration
Washington, D. C.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF

RECORDED - 46

100-71654-17
Attention: [Redacted]

DATE: 6/19/80
rem

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-100

Subject: "The Negro Digest"
"The Reporter"
"The World"
Magazines

CLASSIFIED BY: 50-5 RSB/jka
ON: 6-18-80

Reference is made to your letter dated August 15, 1951, wherein you requested that this Bureau advise whether certain magazines which you enclosed with your letter were identical to those cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in one of their 1949 reports. The magazines you enclosed were "Negro Digest", "The World" and "The Reporter". The magazines which you furnished are being enclosed with this letter. You also requested that a check be made of the files of this Bureau for subversive information relating to these magazines.

A review of the 1949 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities reveals that many publications were listed as publications the Committee had found "to be Communist initiated and controlled, and so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin-Soviet sphere." Among those listed were "Negro Digest", "The World" and "The Reporter". After "The Reporter" there appeared in parentheses "National Council of American Soviet Friendship." No other identification was given to enable this Bureau to determine whether the magazines you enclosed are identical with the ones listed by the California Committee.

For your information a check is presently being made to determine if the magazines you enclosed are identical to those cited by the California Committee, and you will be advised of the results of the check.

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Alden _____
- Belmont _____
- Laughlin _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

497462

Enclosure

MAILED 6
SEP 19 1951
COMM - FBI

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APK

MANAGED BY
STODOLSKY
7/2/80

BJC:dmc

In addition a review of the files of this Bureau fails to reveal that any investigation has been conducted by the FBI concerning the magazines you enclosed with your letter of August 18, 1951. However the files of this Bureau reflect that information was received in October, 1948, from reliable confidential informants to the effect that the magazine "Our World" is strictly a racial magazine and is not to be regarded as a Communist controlled publication.

The publisher of "Our World" John P. Davis, is reported to have been at one time a leading member of the Communist Party and he also was formerly the Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress which has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. Other sources, considered reliable, have reported that in the past few years Davis has become anti-Communist and has featured a number of articles in his magazine "Our World" which were anti-Communist in nature.

(100-39058)

For additional information relating to the magazine "Our World" you may desire to consult the records of the Military Intelligence at Washington, D. C.

You are advised that in view of the lack of identifying background data in your letter concerning the other individuals associated with these magazines, no search of their names has been made through the files of this Bureau.

The above is furnished for your confidential use only and is not to be disseminated outside your agency. This is the result of an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance or nonclearance of the magazines involved.

(Files of the Bureau reveal that the magazine "Negro Digest" is published monthly in Chicago by the Negro Digest Publishing Company which also publishes "Ebony" magazine. The files reflect that the Director prepared an article for the October, 1948 issue of "Negro Digest" and also that "Ebony" has been favorable to the Bureau in the past. (100-71654) Bureau files reveal that a report from Military Intelligence at Washington, D. C. dated 3-28-47 referred to "Our World" magazine as a Communist front publication for Negroes. Bureau informants have described it as strictly a racial magazine. Further in 1948 the New York Office reviewed approximately 15 issues of the magazine and stated that no apparent evidence of Communist propaganda was found in these issues. Bufiles also reflect cordial relations with "Our World", a picture magazine similar to "Look" magazine, which is of primary

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Tracy _____
Harbo _____
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Belmont _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

interest to Negroes. In the past the Bureau has cooperated with the staff of "Our World" in preparing an article on the FBI. (100-352331). Records of the Bureau failed to reveal information which could be identified with the magazine "The Reporter".)

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Alden _____
Belmont _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
August 15, 1951

(9) Name checks

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: DI

CONFIDENTIAL

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The Veterans Administration Library Service has had orders from Station Libraries for NEGRO DIGEST, OUR WORLD, and The REPORTER, which magazines bear names of publications listed in House Document No. 137, "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, Revised", dated May 14, 1951. Current copies of these magazines are attached. It is requested, if possible, that you advise whether these are the publications which were referred to on Page 225 in the 1948 Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities, cited on Pages 142, 145, and 148 of House Document No. 137.

It is also requested that a name check be made of subversive files for the following list and that we be advised of pertinent information disclosed.

NEGRO DIGEST MAGAZINE
Johnson Publishing Company
1820 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago 16, Illinois
John H. Johnson, Publisher and Editor
Ben Burns, Executive Editor
Era Bell Thompson, Managing Editor

OUR WORLD MAGAZINE
Our World Publishing Company, Inc.
35 West 43rd Street, New York, N. Y.
John P. Davis, Publisher
David A. Hepburn, Executive Editor

DECLASSIFIED BY *sp-5 RJB/ken*
ON *9-16-80*
DECLASS PER VOT.
ADMINISTRATION W/1
DATED *8-18-80*
sp-5 RJB/ken
AUG 15 1951
EX-105
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100-364570-100
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190-71654-17
SEP 18 1951

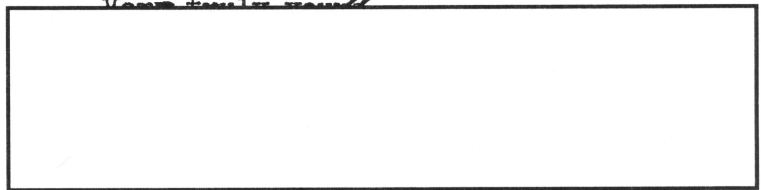
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10/21/51

EX-105

An inquiry by or concerning an ex-service man or woman should, if possible, give veteran's name and file number, whether C, XC, K, N, V, or H. If such file number is unknown, service or serial number should be given.

Conf. Ltr. to Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
frm. Director, I&I, dtd. 8-15-51

The REPORTER MAGAZINE
Fortnightly Publishing Company
220 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.
Max Ascoli, Editor and Publisher
Philip Horton, Assistant Editor
Robert S. Gerdy, Managing Editor
Al Newman, Assistant Managing Editor
William Knapp, Assistant Managing Editor



b6
b7C

Inspection-Investigation Service

Encls:

NEGRO DIGEST, September 1951 issue
OUR WORLD, September 1951 issue
The REPORTER, August 21, 1951 issue

*Returned to
Veterans Administration
with letter of
9-11-51*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: "NEGRO DIGEST," "OUR WORLD,"
"THE REPORTER" MAGAZINES
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 10/2/51 *10/2/51*

7054

Reference is made to Bureau letter to San Francisco dated September 11, 1951, and San Francisco letter to Los Angeles dated September 18, 1951.

For the information of the Washington Field Office, the Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., has requested the Bureau to determine if the above captioned magazines are identical to those cited on Page 225 in the 1948 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities. No investigation is to be conducted but it has been requested that a check be made of the records of the California Committee to ascertain if the magazines above listed are identical:

"Negro Digest" magazine, Johnson Publishing Company, 1820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 16, Illinois. JOHN H. JOHNSON, Publisher and Editor, BEN BYRNS, Executive Editor, ERA BELL THOMPSON, Managing Editor.

"Our World" magazine, Our World Publishing Company, Inc., 35 West 43rd Street, New York, New York. JOHN P. DAVIS, Publisher, DAVID A. HEPBURN, Executive Editor.

"The Reporter" magazine, Fortnightly Publishing Company, 220 East 42nd Street, New York, New York. MAX ESCOLI, Editor and Publisher, PHILIP HORTON, Assistant Editor, ROBERT S. GERDY, Managing Editor, AL NEWMAN, Assistant Managing Editor, WILLIAM KNAPP, Assistant Managing Editor.

Records of the Committee on Un-American Activities of the State of California are maintained at Room 502, Brix Building, Fresno, California.

[redacted] reviewed their files and they contained no further identification of the above captioned magazines than as set out on Page 225 in the 1948 report of the Committee.

[redacted] contacted [redacted] Committee Counsel, who advised that the source for the list of cited magazines

WEA:bar
100-39654
cc: Washington Field

EX - 28
RECORDED - 62
INDEXED - 62

100-71654-18

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-18-80 BY SP-5 [signature]

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-552331-4
100-364570-4

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