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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON


November 25, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROBERT ORBEN

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR 

The attached material was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

"Harold McLain, an old friend, now passed away, was one of the finest public speakers I ever heard. Here are a couple of his addresses. After you read, please let me have back."

cc: Dick Cheney

Attachments:

Two Articles from Executive Club News
"The Blind Who Will Not See" - 2/19/43
"A Job for You" 4/25/41

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Bole Dexter

Harold McTear,
an old friend, now passed away,
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"A JOB FOR YOU"

By HAROLD O. MCLAIN

President, Executives' Club of Chicago

An Address Delivered Before the Executives' Club of Chicago, Friday, April 25, 1941.

President McLain called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. Seated at the speakers table were: Nathaniel Carlson, President, Board of Education, School District No. 25; Henry D. Hughes, Hughes Teachers' Agency; Mrs. Charles W. Balch, State Chairman of Recreation of Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers; Nathaniel Leverone, Vice President, Chicago Youth Week; Harold O. McLain, President of the Club; George F. Cassell, Asst. Supt. of Schools; Dr. William H. Johnson, Supt. of Schools; Ruth Lenz, Honor Student, Harper High School; Donald Berlinger, Honor Student, Lane High School; A. H. Pritzlaff, Exec. Secretary-Treasurer, Chicago Youth Week; James T. Gaffney, Asst. Supt. of Schools; Miss Minnie E. Fallon, Asst. Supt. of Schools.

The Steinmetz High School Girls' Choir, conducted by Willard L. Groom rendered several selections with great credit to themselves and delight to the audience, after which Chairman George F. Cassell introduced Mr. Harold O. McLain as the guest speaker.

CH. IRMAN GEORGE F. CASSELL: I feel that a person stands in a very anomalous position who stands in the position in which I stand at present. To introduce in his own home the host places one in a rather delicate spot. But the Executives' Club of Chicago and this assembly is extraordinarily fortunate that the Club has a president thoroughly competent and entirely willing to bring to these splendid young people of ours, and to us who have gathered in their honor, a message which shall be the culmination of YOUTH WEEK.

It is, therefore, a very great pleasure and honor to me to present to this group the president of the Executives' Club of Chicago, who will speak to the young people, and through them to us on the topic: "A Job For You": Mr. Harold O. McLain. (Applause.)

Honorable Toastmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen:

That is a very pleasant introduction and commentary your Chairman has accorded me. You know someone has said that the three hardest things in the world to do are to climb a fence leaning toward you, to kiss a pretty girl leaning away from you, and to acknowledge with proper humility a flattering introduction. In spite of many failures, I've had some success with the first two, but the last one has me licked. (Laughter.)

I'm glad what your Chairman said really applied to me. Not this time, of course, but sometimes a Chairman or Toastmaster indulges in a little flattery about the speaker which doesn't carry conviction. That happened to the Mayor of Des Moines a few years ago.

That official, who was plagued, as are most of us, with embarrassingly forgetful moments, was to introduce at a large civic banquet the guest of the city, Mr. Wiley Post, who had just completed his remarkable solo flight around the world. In his introduction the Mayor said something like this. "Fellow Citizens. This is the proudest and most triumphant moment in my life. I am to present to you perhaps the greatest explorer, the most magnificent navigator, the most brilliant aviator in all history. He has just completed his astounding feat of circumnavigating the globe in solo flight. The feats of earlier explorers and navigators like Columbus and Balboa and Ponce De Leon and Coronado pale into insignificance beside the accomplishment of our guest, the great pilot at whose feet the world bows in homage and whose name is on every one's lips. It is the high privilege of my career to present to you our guest, the world renowned"—and then a horrible blank look came over the Mayor's face as he experienced a lapse of memory. He stooped down and said in an audible whisper to Wiley, "What did you say your name is?" (Laughter), and receiving the reply he straightened up

and declared dramatically, "The great Wiley Post." Wiley arose in acknowledgment of the introduction and said:

"Friends as your honorable Mayor has intimated I have been a great traveler. I have felt the charm of Oriental Tokio and Shanghai, the mystery of St. Petersburg, the courtly brilliance of Vienna, the fascinating lure of Berlin, Paris and Rome, and the sturdy enormity of London. I have had the privilege of being entertained by the crowned heads and ruling potentates of most of the countries of the world, but I want to say to you that never have I visited such a delightful and charming city with such magnificent parks and boulevards, such splendid public buildings, and peopled by such beautiful women and hospitable and capable men as this your own world renowned city of"—and then Wiley allowed a blank look to come over his face as he leaned over and said in a loud and hoarse whisper to the Mayor, "What did you say is the name of this burg?" (Laughter.)

Now ultimately in this harangue I expect to get serious and ask you folks to adopt a selling job as part of your career. I believe you should be interested in the particular type and form of sales activity I shall suggest, regardless of what other educational or business activities engage you in the immediate future. Of course salesmanship is often a hard job because so many prospective customers are unresponsive and tough as was the backwoodsman in the Missouri crossroad store. A city fellow bought a couple of nightshirts and the lanky hill-billy asked the storekeeper, "What was them things you sold that fellow?" "Nightshirts" replied the merchant. "How about selling you some?" "Not me" said the hill-billy. "I don't get around much at night." (Laughter.) That's about the kind of a response a salesman gets from many of his prospects.

However after enough of these rebuffs a fellow gets accustomed

to tough competition and trouble. If his life were to be freed from the continual din of fighting and turmoil maybe he would miss it like the old light-house keeper on a little rock off the Isle of Wight. For thirty years he had tended the light and looked after the fog-horn which had blasted without failure or interruption once every seven minutes of the whole thirty years. One night when he was sound asleep the machinery broke for the first time and at seven minutes after two in the morning the fog-horn failed to blow. The old man suddenly sat up in bed and called out "What was that?" These days one gets so accustomed to struggle that life seems empty and you sense a void if things are too placid.

Tact

And then, of course, you have to use a certain amount of tact in your selling so that you don't offend your fellow citizens and the prospects you are trying to interest in your product or ideas. You have to be as tactful as the street car conductor that Raymond J. Kelly, National Commander of the American Legion, tells about. When Mr. Kelly was General Attorney for the Detroit Surface Lines he issued an order that a report should be made out and submitted for every accident by the Conductor of the car on which it occurred. The next morning he found this report on his desk.

"Patrick J. McNally, Conductor No. 702 was working on Gratiot Avenue on Car No. 2148 on March 20, 1940—at 4:52 P.M. on said day car stopped at Gratiot and Chene. Passenger boarded car and tendered transfer for fare. Transfer was one hour late. Conductor refused transfer and demanded cash fare. Passenger told Conductor to go to hell. Man then fell off car."

Yes, in trying to convert your fellow men to your way of thinking you will have to fight aggressively but in a tactful way and without giving too much offense and trouble, like the cattle rancher who had been losing a lot of cattle, but he didn't want to accuse his neighbor of rustling, so he wandered over, to his place one afternoon and said, "Joe, I wish you'd quit leaving your hot branding irons layin around where my cows can lay down on em!" Usually there

is a way to get your ideas across without actually insulting your prospect.

I have mentioned a selling job for you and facetiously pointed out some of the problems and solutions of such an activity. Seriously I want you to sell again to yourselves, to your parents, to your fellow citizens, and to the world the virtues of Americanism and Democracy. Now at once I can hear you say to yourselves, "Oh! here comes that old spread eagle, so-called patriotic stuff again." That isn't what I have in mind at all. I don't mean the customary, superficial, polite and orthodox lip service to vague principles without any real devotion or sacrifice behind it. I don't mean the attitude of the bucolic lovelorn, young swain who sat down one evening in a little town and wrote his inamorata about as follows:

My Dear Sweetheart:

I miss you so much tonight I could climb the highest peaks of the Himalayas to reach your side; I would plunge into the wild waves and whirlpools of the Hellespont to clasp you in my arms; I would brave the blistering sands of the Sahara desert to fall at your feet.

Your devoted lover,

JOHN.

P.S. If it ain't raining Wednesday night I'll be around to your house at the regular time.

(Laughter.)

Proper Devotion

That isn't the kind of devotion we must pledge to our problems today. Today the world is in trouble, seriously so, desperately so, and is in a conflagration whose flames of barbarism, greed and paganism threaten to consume us. As a part of this troubled world our own nation is confused and threatened from many sources. We have learned that moral, patriotic citizenship must be something more than simply palpitating fear, tired liberalism, or vacillating sentimentalism.

We have learned the morale, patriotic citizenship must be something more than simply palpitating fear, tired liberalism, or vacillating sentimentalism.

Our nation desperately needs the power to distinguish between fatuous arguments and factual truth. The solution of our problems

demand the application and devotion of responsible, serious, proven, American common sense rather than starry-eyed, sophomoric, hysterical hunches and novelties. If we are to continue our democracy and our long enjoyed privileges, we must employ true blue, tested and proven American precedents instead of blood red, old world bestialities disguised and masquerading as newly discovered humanitarianisms.

Lessons of the Past

May we take a hurried glance at the past? In retrospect I see winding down the paths of history the long procession of aristocrats, autocrats, czars, despots, emperors, great and small oligarchies, kaisers, kings, robber barons, sultans, and tyrants, and benevolent and malevolent dictators all ruling by arms, by blood, by cunning, by fraud, by gold, by greed, and by wisdom. I see Caesars, Neros, Genghis Kahns, Charlemagnes, Napoleons, Hohenzollerns, Hapsburgs, Romanoffs, Tudors, Stuarts and Bourbons all raising the banners of tyranny. The long line of their subjects and vassals, their slaves and their victims, their disinherited and exploited would wind many times around the world.

Looking back I see the struggles of man for freedom and recognition in Greece, in Rome, in mediaeval cities, on the hillsides of Switzerland, on the coasts of Massachusetts and Virginia in endless struggles in many lands.

And then I see slavery and serfdom fade away. I see the advent of universal education, universal care, universal regard for the dignity of men. I see liberty and justice slowly emerging and slipping back again from time to time in tragic cycles of alternating despair and hope.

Selling the Fundamentals of Liberty

And finally I come to our present place in the world's history, which represents, I believe, the highest pinnacle of human attainment ever enjoyed by common man. Shouldn't we protect it? Shouldn't we try to appreciate it and understand it? Shouldn't we constitute ourselves, every one of us, salesmen to sell the precious principles upon which this freedom rests? I wish that I might pledge every young man and

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woman in this class and audience to join the greatest selling crusade of all times, to sell again to ourselves and to the world the democracy and free enterprise we have so long cherished in America. We must not, we cannot lose that heritage.

What are its principles? Well, they are so well known to us all that we are inclined to take them for granted, not perhaps realizing that our most commonplace privileges can be exercised in few other places in the world. May I mention a few?

"The Bill of Rights!" I suppose most of you remember from your history when that phrase first came into the English language sometime in the latter part of the Seventeenth Century when an awakened people wrested from an unwilling monarch certain fundamental, human privileges.

"Freedom of Worship!" Many men otherwise thoughtful have never taken the time to either accept or reject a definite religious philosophy, but all of us fervently wish that Russia and Germany and Italy were ruled by those with belief in and respect for The Golden Rule, the Brotherhood of Man, the Life of Service, and Charity toward all, and those other glorious concepts that spring from religion. Even though some of us are not religious we cherish as one of our great possessions "Freedom of Worship" and we must sell it aggressively!

"Freedom of Speech!" I suppose perhaps this blessing which is so common to us that we are scarcely conscious of it, can be exercised today nowhere in the world except in America, and what a catastrophe it will be if we lose it. We must sell and resell this product of democracy to our citizens and to each other every day and moment of our lives.

"Freedom of the Press!" How terrible we think our newspapers are! Nearly everyone contends that the papers in his town are the worst in the country. And yet it would be horrible to live here if our papers became merely bulletin issues from a government for propaganda purposes, as are the newspapers in other countries. If we value this privilege we must sell it continually!

"Freedom of Assembly!" Nowhere in continental Europe today

can this many people come together freely for an undisclosed purpose. Let's cherish and protect and sell every minute of our lives the right to assemble unhampered in the United States.

"Trial by Jury!" You know that as I speak, in nearly every European country some man is being taken out of his home in the darkness by force and stood up against a wall, without any process of law, merely by the arbitrary word of someone in authority. We have already heard that we can't afford to take time for the slow processes of the law in this country. Yes, commissioners, boards, bureaucrats, and dictators are faster, but let's sell to our children and ourselves the fundamental necessity for legal process as embodied in "Trial By Jury" if democracy is to survive.



HAROLD O. McLAIN

These things I have named are, of course, the bare skeleton of republican democracy. Of equal importance to our political freedom is our economic freedom. They are inseparable. It is not humanely possible to have state socialism or communism and at the same time enjoy political freedom and democratic liberty. We cannot be politically free and economically shackled and regimented. Those intellectuals who prate of civil liberties and at the same time propose regimentation of our economic independence and freedom are striving for results which all history has proven to be absolutely incompatible. So we should protect and guard as our basic liberty our right of independent, economic freedom and we must sell this economic freedom unremittingly.

Builders or Wreckers — Which?

Now like Lady Godiva at the end of her ride, I come to my close. (Laughter.) I realize, of course, that I have told you nothing new nor sensational, but maybe we are justified in re-examining our great privileges, even though they be traditional and not novel. Perhaps I should apologize for being so serious at a time and place and occasion like this, but after all it is hard to be entirely frivolous and jovial when there is so much to be thought of and done just now, if we are to preserve our heritage. If we are to sell democracy to the world we must again sell it to our own millions here and more we must ourselves show our faith in it by continuing to practice and live democracy here. It is a challenge to every one of us, and if we fail collectively democracy will crumble under our feet. Herbert Spencer said,

"How infinitesimal is the importance of anything I can do. But how infinitely important it is that I do it."

I beg of you, let's all do our individual part to sell democracy. It's up to each one of us! Every one has a part to do for,

Isn't it strange that princes and kings
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
And common folks like you and me
Are builders all for eternity.

To each is given a bag of tools,
A shapeless mass and a book of rules,
And each must fashion ere life has flown
A stumbling block or a stepping stone.

We have the materials of freedom and the stuff of liberty here to build the accomplishments referred to in Edwin Markham's poem:

We men of earth have here the stuff,
Of paradise we have enough.
We need no other stones to build
The stairs into the unfulfilled,
No other marble for the floors,
No other ivory for the doors,
No other cedar for the beam
And dome of man's immortal dream.

Here on the paths of every day,
Here on the common, human way,
Are all the things the gods would take
To build a heaven, to mold and make
New Edens; ours the stuff sublime
To build accomplishment in time.

It is so easy to tear things down and so hard to build them up again, and we are all a part of the process

one way or the other. Each of us is either a builder and a seller of America, or a wrecker of our country, and we are just as surely a wrecker by our carelessness and indifference and silence as the aggressive destructionist with his sledge hammer and bombs and speeches. Every American can well regard this little poem with this I close.

I saw them tearing a building down,
A gang of men in a busy town,
With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and the side wall
fell.

I asked the foreman, "Are these men
skilled,
As the men you'd hire if you had to
build?"

He laughed and said "Oh! No, indeed!
Just common labor is all I need.
I can easily wreck in a day or two
What builders have taken a year to
do."

I asked myself as I went my way,
Which of these roles shall I try to
play?
Shall I build my nation with love and
care,
Measuring each act by the rule and
square,
Or shall I be a wrecker as I go my
way
And tear it down from day to day.

I pray you speak up now for and
sell America and democracy.
(Prolonged Applause.)

"A SALUTE TO YOUTH"

By Mrs. CHARLES W. BALCH

State Chairman of Recreation of Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Johnson, Mr. Cassell, Mr. Leverone, Mr. Pritzlaff, Mr. McLain, Honored Guests and Friends of Youth.

The privilege of welcoming you gives me genuine pleasure. That pleasure is increased by the knowledge that among your number are four students from Parker Campus for it is here my own daughter is a student in the Chicago Teachers' College. She is a product of the Chicago Public Schools receiving her education on the Parker Campus from kindergarten through Parker Elementary, Parker High, Wilson Junior College and now she is enrolled in the Teachers' College on the same campus.

If I do not have the opportunity to greet Parkerites personally after the meeting, I especially greet you now.

Many of us including our good friend Mr. Cassell and Mr. Pritzlaff's wife have been observing Youth Week all week at the convention of the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers (42nd annual convention).

Perhaps it might be well for those of us who fear that civilization has entered upon an eclipse to read, Sir Owen Seaman's poem, it reads:

"Ye that have faith to look with fearless eyes
Beyond the tragedy of a world at strife,
Rejoice, whatever anguish rend your heart,
That God has given you for a priceless dower,

To live in, these great times and have your
part

In freedom's crowning hour:
That you may tell your sons who see the light
High in the heavens—their heritage to take—

I saw the powers of darkness put to flight,
I saw the morning break."

Dr. John Dewey says that we would have a new society if we would only use the impulses and the drives of youth. He maintains that we are forever pressing down on youth and that we force our own habits, ideas and conventions on youth.

This thought is so well expressed by the Persian poet, Kahlil Gilbran, in the following words:

"We may give them our love, not our thoughts,
For they have their own thoughts.

We may house their bodies, but not their
Souls,
For their Souls dwell in the House of to-
morrow

Which we cannot visit
No—not even in our dreams.

We may strive to be like them,
But we must not seek to make them as we
are.

For life goes not backward,
Nor carries with yesterdays."

We have suddenly become acutely aware of the great importance of youth. Youth occupy the front line of preparedness. Youth must pilot our planes, drive our tanks, and fire our guns, to discourage the attack of the aggressor. Youth possess the physical reserve required by the strenuous regime of training. Our national emergency has thrown fresh accent on youth and his contribution to the nation's welfare.

But youths contribution to preparedness is not all that matters. Military forces exist in America for just one purpose; to protect us against forces which threaten our democracy, our American way of life, our well-being. To promote the nation's well-being through positive day-by-day effort is the work of a great army of citizens, a task in which youth should be enlisted 100 per cent. Youth is of vital importance to the future of America. One Commentator has written, "A country that has no place for youth has signed its death warrant; and a form of government or our economic system, that is not based on equal opportunities for all of its youth might just as well pass out of existence.

We must overcome some of our past blindness and indifference, which have been responsible for our failure to fully

cultivate the resources of youth. It is, we know, only by welcoming youth into full partnership that we can hope to tap that tireless energy which is just waiting to be harnessed.

One young lady has asked us to be fair, to you, she said that it is so easy to criticize, and added, that you need our help and our understanding. We may not like all of your new ideas, or my generation may not approve, nor understand your pattern of thinking, but we cannot ignore the fact that you are doing your utmost to work out your own destiny. After all we would not expect less of young Americans. America needs the earnest effort, zeal, and talents of every one in building an even, finer democracy. In which all will enjoy freedom and justice and where love and truth will always be sacred.

Are all of you doing your share?
Are you trying to help yourselves to the limit of your ability? Are any of you seeking unwarranted privileges?
Are you thinking of your duties as American citizens and preparing to accept those duties as well as enjoying the rights and privileges?

If you are, we are ready to help you in your quest for satisfying work, emotional security and effective citizenship.

Many of you desire opportunities for service to your community but many adults are suspicious of the competition of youth in doing the work of the world. We tend to emphasize the experience of age and to discount the vigor and enthusiasm of youth.

We dole out our advice, money, and services and make you passive, recipients of our well intentioned efforts. It does not occur to us that our greatest help to youth is to help youth help itself.

We shout about the irresponsibility of youth, in one breath and in the very next breath, we howl down any of your attempts to experience responsibility. Only as we give youth real, problems to solve and the responsibility for their

ation can we hope to give youth a significant place in society.

I am not arguing for a youth dominated society, that would be unwise. The task should be shared by youth and adult alike. Cooperation in the contribution to the good life in which maturity contributes its experience and patience and youth its vitality and enthusiasm is required to meet today's needs.

We must work hard if liberty is to LIVE. We have been stunned by the losses sustained by liberty and justice abroad. Shall we stand stunned? This is not the best tradition of liberty loving people.

We should take a lesson from the dictators. Their movements were youth movements. It was the bitter frustration of youth that gave the dictators their large following of youth. America dares not ignore the plight of youth. Youth must be given a chance to gain an important foothold in society and must be given meaningful tasks to per-

form. Our American youth too may turn to some demagogue who like Hitler and Mussolini promise the sense of significance and status which we Americans have been so slow in doing.

The future of our nation rests with its future leadership and that leadership will be drawn from the ranks of youth.

And now my young friends. Do we love you? Of course we do. Are we proud of you? Of course we are. But do we thoroughly understand you? Not once in a million years, my young friends for most of us here are separated from you by more than twenty years. There is, however, one fact about youth that we your parents, your teachers and your older friends do most thoroughly understand and that fact is that youth is all too fleeting.

The essence of the theme I have tried to outline is contained in a passage from Havlock Ellis, "The New Spirit." I have taken the liberty to paraphrase this delightful bit of prose-poetry.

The present is in every age the point at which the past and future meet. There can be no movement without youth and no stability without age, and we can have no quarrel with either.

There is never a moment when the new dawn is not breaking over the earth, and never a moment when the sunset ceases to die. It is well to greet serenely even the first of the dawn when we see it, not hastening toward it with undue haste, nor leaving the sunset without gratitude for the dying light that once was dawn.

Our going and coming is like the ancient torch race. There comes to each of us the chance to carry for a brief moment, the light in our hands. Soon from behind comes the runner who will outdistance us.

It is our task to deliver into his hands the torch strong, and undimmed, as we ourselves disappear into the darkness. (Applause.)

"PREPAREDNESS AND YOUTH"

By RUTH LENZ

of Harper High School

I deem it an honor and a privilege to have this opportunity to greet you in behalf of the students of the public high schools of Chicago. It is, therefore, with a deep feeling of reverence and of solemnity that I stand before you in contemplation of the responsibility that the other students and I will shortly assume in the conduct of the affairs of our beloved country.

The youth of today is the hope of the world. They are the citizens of tomorrow and the future leaders in community, civic and national affairs. *Theirs* is a sacred trust. Youth must, therefore, be adequately prepared for assuming the burdens of social, economic and industrial life shifted from the former generation—from the more experienced ones, to the slim, less *adroit* shoulders of their progeny.

The first step in the preparation of youth centers around the family fire-side and in the fundamental religious training which is a part of all American life. Here, we are taught family ideals; here, we are impressed with love of God and regard for our neighbor. These truths, *inculcated* upon the minds of the young, certainly influence our later life because all aspects of living taught children in their impressionistic years, remain with them on into adulthood.

The second most important contributing factor to preparedness is the school. Thorough schooling is necessary for all. Many students neither know nor appreciate the importance of the schooling they receive. In the past, many, through poverty, lack of opportunity, lack of

proper motivation or some other cause, neglected the privileges and advantages offered them in receiving an education to their later regret. Those who attended school in former years paid highly for the benefits they received. Today, the situation is in the reverse order. Each of us may avail himself of the almost unlimited opportunity offered in the fine free public schools.

Here, today are nurtured the character traits which are so essential to our later life. Dependability, *competency*, the social sense—without which we are unable to get on with other people—loyalty to our home, school and country are taught us. These traits and ideals are ever stressed to prepare our youth to be worthwhile leaders of tomorrow.

To be good citizens does not mean merely to obey the laws set before us, it means being able to take a lively interest in and become a part of the political and economical structure of our country. In our schools, we are taught such subjects as civics and history—the struggles of man against his environment, of great thinkers and doers conquering *inestimable* forces pitted against them; we read *biographies* of famous men, some of whose lives were dedicated to the task of building or of preserving the United States as we know it today. From these, we draw *sustenance*, inspiration and hope.

Many of our parents and grandparents do not even know a little of that great Constitution which was written long ago. During our school days, we learn to know and to cherish this docu-

ment. It tells us of the formation of our democracy, of our fundamental laws and the establishment of justice, and the securing of the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity. Through the reading of history, we learn how our country was formed; of the War for Independence; of the struggle to preserve the Union and of the last World War.

As a result of the wisdom and foresight of our forebears, today we are citizens of a great democracy which, since 1776, has been a constant demonstration of the fact that people in large groups, of differing racial and national origin, possessing *cultures* and languages that represent stages of evolution in historical progress, different, one from the other, and representing various degrees of political and economic development, can dwell in peace side by side and gradually *amalgamate* into a uniform American citizenry.

Our great democracy has had its growth but little influenced by what has taken place in other countries or in other hemispheres. Because of its fortunate geographical position and its boundless resources, the young republic grew in power, increased greatly in population and created unlimited wealth for its inhabitants. The thriving giant became the model for other countries and peoples and the hope and inspiration of the oppressed and the underprivileged of the entire world.

In a smaller sense, we are all citizens within a limited area, the community. Within its confines are found many

ances, nationalities and religious beliefs. Yet all should work toward an *ultimate* goal—the betterment of our particular community. By so doing, each of us is working toward a larger goal—the creation of a better city and, in the final analysis, the building of a finer nation in which to live.

Through our training, then, in the home, the church, the school and in the workings of a fine democracy, we are preparing for our lives in the future. Today is the day of the specialist and each student, upon graduation, finds himself in a world where competition is especially keen. Certainly some of the rigors of school life here stand him in good stead. His scholastic stand-

ing will prove beneficial and be of invaluable assistance in his *perseverance* in the face of great odds; his dependability, loyalty to ideals and sympathetic understanding of his own and the problems of his fellow worker should secure him the undying gratitude of his employer and fellow citizens. He should be eager to *have and profit by good constructive criticism*. Last, but by no means least, he should be his own chief *evaluator*.

Youth, then, with the facilities at hand is preparing to face the future with confidence. The boys and girls of today are eager and willing to take on the cloak of manhood and womanhood and to assume an *exemplary component* part in the American way of life, to-

morrow. His spirit may be compared to the *indomitable* one that caused our great city of Chicago to rise *phoenix-like*, from the ashes of 1871, and become transformed into the great *metropolis* worthy of the *I Will* standard. His spirit will be in the future, a representation of the *great and good life*.

May I, in closing, use a quotation from Charles S. Beard, found in *The Chicago Schools Journal*. It is this: "Knowledge is not enough. Science is not enough. Both may be employed to kill as well as to heal. *Accumulated facts*, though high as mountains, give us no instruction in human values and the choices of application. *It is the humane spirit that points the way to the good life.*"

"YOUTH AND PREPAREDNESS"

By DONALD BERLINGER

Lane Technical High School

These are days of rapid change. It would be a presumption to present in a few words a program of action for youth, which would carry an assurance of workability. What is desirable today may have to be rejected tomorrow; and what the picture will be a year from now none of us dares to foretell.

We may stand in awe of what will confront us when we reach the peak of our responsibilities; but we stand unafraid because there has been given to American youth a legacy which is unequalled in the world. For this we are thankful, and our gratitude should be loudest right here in Chicago.

If a man is to be considered fully prepared for life when he has been educated, has acquired a certain amount of culture, and is trained to make a living, then we can say that the excellent educational facilities of this city have not been wasted. They were ours not merely for the asking, but in the wiser judgment of parents, civic leaders and teachers they have been imposed on us. This will be a deep and noble source of strength when future problems are to be met.

The issues of the future cannot be clearly defined or even guessed at, right now. However, natural curiosity and eager persistence do uncover certain clues as to what might lie ahead of us, and what can be done about it. It would be a costly oversight not to recognize the economic and political debacle in which the contemporary world finds itself.

Perhaps the greatest attribute of an American education is a necessity for the perpetuation of Democracy and the promotion of its interests. As private citizens we know that we are being affected by what is going on, and that hard work will be demanded of us to preserve the American national tradi-

tion and morality of government. We unmistakably denounce all subversiveness as inimical and in direct contradiction to our way of life. We hold that the American way of democracy is the greatest and best preparation for the tasks that lie ahead. To preserve this democracy is our greatest responsibility. Much of the Western world is prostrate now, and just as once before, America is being called upon to bring material gifts of food, clothing and shelter. They will have to be supplied in increasing amounts. But this contribution, generous though it be, will only be transient and insignificant if unaccompanied by the gift of good ethical government to those nations who will stand in need of it.

Let us not submerge our democracy in the momentary solution of whatever issues are being resolved at any particular time. The world has shrunk perceptibly, and even now before the hostilities have ceased plans are being advanced to integrate us in to some form of international union, or universal commonwealth of nations. We are being asked to sacrifice our national sovereignty. Whatever be the pattern, we must always be ready to assert and impose the American way of Democracy.

Apart from the broad participation of internationalism, it is expected that our internal problems will grow. In any return to normalcy the welfare of American society will rest upon the individual fibre and conduct of each individual citizen. The area of our influence may be small. Even if it be only the home, the neighborhood, or in a larger sense—the community, our personal life and character are important.

Life has many aspects. In its social relationships it recognizes some as especially significant. One of these is health. The educated youth regards his

physical well-being as a personal matter of utmost concern to the public hygiene. Another is finance. Intelligent youth subscribes to an economy which demands the prudent use of public and private money, or personal wise earning and spending. The continued public deficits are a challenge to us. We accept them and will pay them, even if their burden falls heavily because of shifting age groups.

Our cultural preparation will inure to our benefit in the sensible use of leisure. Whether it be work or play, or just being absorbed in life, we believe that we are not unduly optimistic about the future. With John Stuart Mill, we agree, that, "the day is here when a man will be proud to dig and weave for his country as now he is proud to fight and die for her."

★ ★ ★

After the main address by President Melain, Assistant Superintendent George F. Cassell awarded scholarships to ten ranking high school students as follows:

Jane E. McLaughlin, Calumet High School.

Raymond A. Rickhoff, Crane High School.

Charles P. Gillison, Lake View High School.

Wesley A. Tennyson, Lane Tech High School.

Suzanne O. Schenk, Morgan Park High School.

Jean Bostwick, Taft High School.

William G. Smith, Tilden High School.

Bernice J. Kallstrom, Von Steuben High School.

Miesco L. Kowalczyk, Wells High School.

Bernice V. Klein, Wells High School.

A. THOMAS ETCHESON

PRESIDENT
LAKE SHORE NATIONAL BANK
CHICAGO

La Pieta
500 GOLD SPRING ROAD, MONTECITO
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

12 June 1953

Dear Major

Lately I was in Washington, D.C. and among other congressmen and senators upon whom I called was young Gerald Ford, who is an outstanding and rather dramatic congressman from Michigan. It may well be that he will be selected by the Republican organization to run for senator in 1954 as an opponent to Soapie Williams if that demagogue decides to undertake a campaign for the senatorship.

I have known Gerry for many years and since the time he was a Lt. Commander in the Navy, and a young lawyer in Grand Rapids, before he ran for congress. On several occasions he visited me in my home and I had him at the Executives Club several times when I was honored with the presidency of that organization. From time to time I sent him copies of the Executives Club News. Upon my recent visit with him in Washington, he asked me how he could become a regular subscriber to or receive the Executives Club News in each one of its issues.

Gerry said that he had never had any source of material which was so useful to him for anecdotes, introductory remarks and substantive matter of its speakers as the Executives Club News. I told him that I would see that he was put on the mailing list and supplied with the News as a regular subscriber.

Will you be good enough to put Honorable Gerald Ford, Congressman from Michigan, U.S. Congressional Office Building (or such other address as he may later specify) on your mailing list and will you write him that you are doing so at my request, and will you then bill me for such charge as is appropriate to that subscription.

One of the things I greatly miss when I am away from Chicago is the Executives Club and its fine, stimulating and unequalled meetings. From reading the News I know things are at high pace with you and the growth

of the club now with its 2500 members is unequalled in the country. I congratulate you and the officers upon that fine attainment.

Sincerely yours,

hom c

Hawes

John O. K.

The EXECUTIVES' CLUB of CHICAGO

SUITE 1126

111 WEST WASHINGTON STREET

CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE ANDOVER 3-3500

June 12, 1953

Harold O. McLain

Mr. Harold O. McLain
500 Cold Spring Road
Santa Barbara, California

Dear Mr. McLain:

We are preparing the Club's membership roster for its annual printing in July. Your name is presently listed in the roster exactly as it is shown above. Would you please advise of any change that should be made in your listing...and if it is correct as shown, would you kindly confirm it.

Sincerely,

A. T. Etcheson
Executive Director

ATE:jr

*It's no doubt
you fall
on us on
whether
all that*

I'm sorry I missed seeing you when you were here. Harold made reports on how much fun you were having in Calif. and how busy you were with your projects. I hope to see you when you are next in Chicago.

(Dear Wilson: please change spelling as above)

"THE BLIND WHO WILL NOT SEE"

By **HAROLD O. McLAIN**

President, The Railways Ice Company, Chicago

Friday, February 19, 1943

I am sure you have had no one on your programs here who has been more completely conscious of the privilege and honor which such an appearance represents than am I today, and with these ex-Presidents who I know are sympathetic with my predicament and with you fellows who I know are my friends as well as my fellow members, I suppose I should feel much more comfortable than I do at this moment. I find myself quite in the position of the little boy to whom reference was made by a chairman at a large testimonial dinner which was being given years ago for Samuel Clemens in Los Angeles. This chairman, to poke a little fun at Mark Twain, said he had known a family which had come to Los Angeles from Missouri and after several months, because of financial stringency, the family had to leave Los Angeles and go back to Missouri. The chairman said the night before their departure the little boy in the family was seen to kneel by his bed and in saying his evening prayer he was heard to begin with this phrase: "Good-bye, God, we are going back to Missouri."

Mark Twain, in acknowledging the introduction, said that was an accurate recital of an incident about which he knew, that he knew the family because the family had come from Hannibal, Missouri, where he came from, but that the family had returned to Missouri not because of any financial stringency but because they had struck an oil well which enabled them to live where they wanted to, and he said the comments of the little boy were inaccurately quoted because the little fellow had not said: "Good-bye, God, we're going back to Missouri," but that what he had said was: "Good! By God, we're going back to Missouri." (Laughter.)

And so I can tell you that I feel just like him. It's good, by God, to be back up here at this rostrum. I am sure, too, you will know that I am not at all in the position of Mr. William Allen White, the so-called sage of Emporia, Kansas, and a nationally known Republican, concerning whom, I think it was, Dr. Preston Bradley told us this story so that those of you who were here on that occasion will remember:

On this particular occasion Mr. White was attending a Democratic state convention at Emporia, Kansas, but he was there solely as a representative of the fourth estate to report the proceedings for the Associated Press and for his own newspaper, the *Emporia Gazette*. The chairman of the Democratic convention arose and, after looking around his audience, said: "Gentlemen, I should like to start our convention here, pursuant to our custom, with an opening prayer, but since I see no Democratic

delegate here to whom I may appeal for that purpose, with your permission I would like to call upon Mr. William Allen White who sits here at the reporters' table and who is a resident of Emporia and who is a fine-Christian gentleman even though he be a Republican and not one of our own delegates."

Mr. White arose in some confusion and embarrassment and said: "Mr. Chairman, I hope you will spare me from this assignment for two very good reasons. In the first place, I am not versed in nor accustomed to public prayer; and, in the second place, I am not at all anxious to have the Lord find out I am here today." (Laughter.)

Unlike Mr. White, I should indeed be happy and proud to have anyone know of my very honorable and elated position here today before you gentlemen.

Perhaps it would be appropriate and pertinent for me to devote myself today to an emphasis of the responsibility imposed upon American business and business men by the war effort, and of our imperative duty to measure up to that obligation. To such an end I might perhaps be expected to report on the problems of business and what could be done about them.

To attempt to make such a report on American business and its problems today I find myself sympathetic with the little preacher who week after week had been pestering his bishop with appeals for every kind of aid and assistance, and finally the bishop, with patience exhausted, in very incisive and decisive words, said to the little preacher: "I want to receive no more of these appeals from you. There just isn't anything I can do about them, they are annoying, they are futile, and I wish you would just stop these continual appeals." But the next week at the regular time the little preacher wrote to his bishop, however, in this vein: "My dear bishop, I assure you that this is not an appeal; I assure you that this is merely a report, but I have no pants."

And I suppose I could, with a very real conviction and a very direct and poignant simplicity, merely report to you that American private business just about has no more pants, but I know that any such ready and facetious disposition of this subject would be unjustified.

And then I suppose I could with tears tell you what you already know, just how tough times are and how short we are becoming in business of men and materials and money. In that regard our situation was perhaps accurately described by a young colored fellow who was discussing with his pal some of the momentous business and financial problems of the nation, and he said to

his pal: "Joe, I've been givin' this thing a lot of study an' thought, but I don't find there's no money shortage in the country. The other day I went down to the bank and I asked Mr. Paul, is they short of money? He took me into a big room and showed me many sacks of money on the shelves in the vault, and when I asked him, 'Can I get some of the money?' he said, 'You can get all the money providin' you put up the necessary collat'l.' O' course, I is fresh outa collat'l, and I've just been figurin', the trouble with this nation, we're not shorta money, but we is runnin' shorta collat'l.'" (Laughter.)

I am sure to many of us in the past year it seemed that we were indeed running short of collateral of men and materials with which to carry on our business.

Or I might just commiserate with you on how the good old days are gone when there used to be two cars in every garage and a chicken for every pot, as they say, while today the cars have gone to pot, and the chickens are in the garage. (Laughter.)

But particularly I could with very deep sympathy quote to you the words of Senator Claude Pepper, the so-called Democratic firebrand from Florida, who recently said that these rules and regulations which have been so confounding us had now reached a stage of confusion that was reminiscent of the old law passed in the early days in Oklahoma in an effort to afford safety upon single track railroads and which law actually provided that "When two trains shall meet neither shall proceed until the other has passed." (Laughter.)

And I expect there have been times when, in the past few years, it seemed to some of us in our business we had almost reached that stage of impasse where it was indeed difficult to proceed and go further with business.

And then I am sure I could perhaps make some allowances for you fellows if at times you have been at least slightly provoked by the confusion and conflict which has descended upon you in such deluge.

Now, honestly, and just between us here, at times don't they aggravate you, those busy, bright little bureaucrats and those sophisticated social planners who enthusiastically declare that they will plan and arrange and produce a nice new country for us here if you ordinary business men and you every-day citizens will just contribute your comparatively minor and insignificant part. They then explain that insignificant part, figuratively, at least, should consist of sort of an economic and financial contribution act where, figuratively, you are asked to

stand with your back to the wall, but maintaining an unbowed head, and with your feet firmly planted while you put your shoulders to the wheel and keep your nose to the grindstone with your chin up and a stiff upper lip and put your ear to the ground, and keep both eyes on the ball. (Laughter.)

Well, maybe from a practical standpoint it is a little harder to perform such a contortion act of business adjustment than it is from a theoretical standpoint to do the happy and carefree planning.

I know, however, that any such facetious disposition of this whole subject would be entirely unorthodox and on this occasion perhaps I have good precedent for indulging in the usual verbal parsley scroll work and passementerie and embroidery, which was effectively described by a little newsboy whom I heard recently in a small town in Kansas early one morning when I was changing trains. I went into the station depot to get an early morning cup of coffee at about five o'clock in the morning, and at an adjoining table sat a couple of young ladies. This little newsboy came in and, approaching the first lady, said, "Will you buy a paper?" Smilingly she said, "No, thank you, son." Approaching the second lady, the little newsboy said: "Miss, don't you want to buy a paper?" And to be jolly she said: "No, thanks, lad. You see, we can't read and we don't want to look at the pictures." With that the little fellow pulled a paper out and slammed it on the table and said: "Lady, why don't you buy one and just smell it then. It's mostly baloney anyway." (Laughter.)

Perhaps to most of you this will be just another slice of baloney.

I do not know what other words of infinite wisdom Matthew Henry, an Englishman of the seventeenth century, may have uttered, but certainly his original declaration that there are none so blind as those who will not see is a dramatic statement of a fundamental human characteristic that will be eternally true. So to meet our problems today we all may properly examine our thinking to make sure that we are not blinding ourselves with outmoded animosities, convictions and prejudices which prevent us from seeing things as they really are. The blind who will not see.

Just as I urge upon myself, I beg of you to strike from your eyes any self-imposed blinders and now, if ever, to think hard, think clearly, think intelligently, and think fearlessly.

To develop my subject of our obligation to the war effort I conceived that the objectives of that obligation are at least three-fold: First, our obligation to the war effort;

Second, our obligation to our American form of government and our way of life; and,

Third, our obligation to American industry and free enterprise.

Concerning these three obligations I should like to see clearly and analytically with our eyes freed from the blinders of any former day international, industrial, financial or political blinders.

Our Obligation to the War Effort

First, then, what is our obligation to the war effort? Well, I believe our obligation to the war effort requires us to loyally, whole-heartedly, enthusiastically, uncomplainingly, but intelligently, support this nation in every conceivable way available to us in the prosecution of the war.

Whatever we may have thought in past years about the modus operandi of international diplomacy or affairs, clear thinking will certainly convince us that today, from a patriotic standpoint, from a human or a humane standpoint, or even from a selfish standpoint, our only justifiable attitude is that of one hundred per cent complete participation in the determination and effort to win the war.

Why do we see so clearly the necessity of winning the war? Suppose we do not win the war? What of it?

Well, for the time being we may disregard all debate concerning questions of international power politics, British Empire supremacy, European states' autonomy and hegemony, Indian freedom, racial distinction and differentiation, because there are some things we must see as basic and fundamental and precedent to those other questions.

We must see anew and clearly that the ideals of any totalitarianism are so different from and antithetical to the ideals of this republic that we could never adapt ourselves to those other ideals nor live under them.

What are some of the main differences in these ideals? Well, the very synthesis of a dictatorship embodies ideals which are rigidly monistic, while the ideals of our republic are characterized by a benevolent plurality. The pole star of a dictator's ideals is ruthless arrogance, but the ideals of our republic include a benign tolerance. The tyrant foists and imposes narrow gauge and high-tensional ideals upon his subjects and victims, but our republic fosters and encourages broad gauge and low-tensional ideals for its citizens. Totalitarian ideals are ignominious and harsh; the ideals of our republic are ameliorative and mild.

Specifically, what are some of these unique American ideals about which we so habitually prate?

We must see anew and clearly and continually that freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, trial by jury, the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, all constitute precious privileges without which as Americans we could not live. Certainly none of us are too blind to see that our enemies permit not a single one of these freedoms for their own people, and certainly none of us are too blind to see that unless we win the war all of these precious freedoms will be arrogantly and brutally and ruthlessly crushed by our enemies wherever they hold sway.

So our obligation to the war effort requires us to see clearly that today this nation must be a compact, homogeneous unit devoted to the single dominant objective of winning the war. All of our preceding differences of opinion, per-

sonal antagonisms, political bitternesses, and debates must now properly be subordinated to the one all-important patriotic opportunity of doing something to help our country in its time of peril.

So our obligation to the war effort, in summary, on this first point requires us to be completely cooperative, indubitably loyal and prodigally sacrificial of our own self-interests.

Our Obligation to Our Government

Second, what is our obligation to the American form of government and way of life?

Again I pray that we resolve at all costs to see clearly here. Neither the war effort, wishful thinking, misplaced patriotism, nor political partisanship should blind our eyes to the dangers we face at home. Certainly we must see that after this war is won abroad we shall have a battle at home to be won if we are to recapture and to preserve the basic structure of our American system.

Those checks and balances provided by our constitution, with its historic division of federal power between the executive, the legislative and the judiciary—those checks and balances are swept away by the necessities of war. The duality of our governments with divided authority between the states and Washington, as contemplated by our constitution, is forgotten in the present rapacious demand for ever more and more necessary federal war-time powers. The constitution's demand for a government by law and not by men, and the constitution's antipathy for bureaucratic rules and regulations are completely forgotten in the ever mounting pinnacle of more and more necessary war-time bureaus. The Bill of Rights, which we revere almost next to the Ten Commandments, is disregarded with such regularity and impunity that we are inclined to become indifferent and callous to those violations. The tendency to infiltrate our government, our administrative bureaus, our legislative bodies and our judiciary with communistic cadres and socialistic gaudlesters is a continuing process in the hurry and strain of necessary war-time organization problems.

Doubtless we are properly patriotic in disregarding for the time being our historic ways and our constitutional, traditional rights in order to concentrate federal power for the prosecution of the war. But I would ask you to see clearly that there are those in our administrative bureaus, in our government, in our legislative bodies, and in our judiciary, there are those who would secretly and silently and stealthily and surreptitiously and selfishly, under the cloak of patriotic necessity, seize and keep permanently those sessions of our liberties which we so readily and willingly relinquish and surrender for war-time purposes.

So while our friends and brothers and sons and relatives fight abroad for those four magnificent freedoms which we so reverently and fervently cherish for the whole world, we may with propriety see to it that at home we are not undermined and subverted by the four P's: By the profiteers, by professional labor

racketeers, by politicians more concerned with their own careers than with the nation's necessities and by philosophies of alien origin and stupid sentimentalism which undermine our own traditional adamant Americanism.

We must see that neither the war, singing The Star Spangled Banner nor waving of the flag, do of themselves and necessarily convert a Communist into a Constitutionalist; nor an intriguing Internationalist into an intense American; nor a political puppet into a patriot; nor a red radical into a reliable representative of the republic.

I believe that all of us completely understand and approve and vigorously support every one of these necessary war measures; but at the same time we say with equal propriety see clearly the innate character of those measures and recognize their ultimate significance to us after the war is won.

You and I believe, I suppose, in free enterprise and expect to have it restored in this country after the war is over, and yet we have done little to inform more than twenty million adult immigrants about the basic principles of our Constitution, and the minds of our rising generation are almost empty of that knowledge. Into this comparative vacuum and void the propagandists of foreignisms continue to pour their poison. Maybe you read recently and were shocked, as I was, to learn from the survey of the New York Times that 2 per cent of the colleges in this country require no study of American history either in preparation for college or after the student is in college, and that only 8 per cent of the students in college are enrolled in such courses as are offered in that subject.

Now, can the blind lead the blind?

Here we are, a people giving little serious thought to the basic principles of our own liberty or the fundamentals of our own Constitution, yet fighting to give all the rest of the world what we take so little trouble to have our own people understand or to protect or preserve for ourselves and our own government.

Abraham Lincoln said (and I am one of that group of old-fashioned people who still believe that Abraham Lincoln's comments constitute sound and wise statesmanship in spite of some of the cynical and sarcastic comments of some present so-called erudite, modern critics who belittle his statements):

"At what point then may the approach of danger be expected? I answer, if it ever reach us, it must spring up amongst us. If destruction be our lot we ourselves must be its author and its finisher. As a nation of freemen we shall live for all time or die by suicide."

The Chinese wall was built to surround and protect China and the Chinese supposed it to be impregnable. Yet, in spite of its impregnability and during its long history of many generations, that great wall was breached four times, but never by the barbarians breaking it down or scaling it; but, always by their taking the easy way of bribing the gatekeepers who opened the gates and allowed them to pass through.

Daniel Webster said: "God grants liberty only to those who love it and

who are always ready to guard and defend it."

Montesquieu said: "A government is like anything else; to preserve it you must love it."

So let us see clearly that those either abroad or at home who do not love our government cannot reasonably and reliably be expected to preserve it, and let us determine that when the war is won we shall demand and fight for the restoration of every one of our traditional American liberties and privileges which we now so readily and willingly relinquish and surrender for war purposes. (Applause.) And let us determine that we shall cast out that statesman or that politician or that business man or that labor leader who attempts to advance his own self-interests or to confiscate the constitutional privileges and principles of this nation through the patriotic instincts of American people at war time. (Applause.)

And so our obligation to our American form of government and way of life requires us to be ever on the alert and to see clearly.

Our Obligation to American Industry

Third and finally, what is our obligation to American industry and free enterprise?

After we have devoted ourselves first to the prosecution of the war and, second, to the preservation of our constitutional government, then certainly we are justified in striving in every possible way to support and maintain and develop and advance this fine old system of American industry and free enterprise which we all love so well.

Indeed, the problems which confront American private business today are baffling and bewildering and formidable. But if we will just do our best many of those problems will become simplified. Here is what we are up against, isn't it? It is carrying on our business in the uncertainties of the future. Here is what Carlyle teaches us, and it is a very sound principle, that if we will first do the duty immediately next to us and then progressively the duty next to that, it is amazing how the light eventually breaks upon the larger problems.

So here too, we must strike from our eyes the blinders of former practices and orthodox procedures and we must see anew and clearly the necessities in each new day and the new procedures indicated by those necessities.

If we have plant or truck fleet maintenance and repair work to be done, we had better do that repair and maintenance work now while there are some materials still available. The old way of a leisurely and deliberate repair and maintenance program all during a slack season may be entirely impossible of accomplishment after a few months.

If we have contractual obligations to meet in production, if we have inventories to produce, if we have storages to fill, we had better attempt to meet those obligations and to produce those inventories and to fill those storages now, while power and some material and men are still at least partly available. That old plan we used to follow in most businesses of a balanced and spaced production with a flat curve all

over the whole year's time may be disastrous to follow in a few months.

If we have important key men who will ultimately be drafted, we should perhaps consider replacing those men now; to seek deferment for an important man who will be inducted at a time when all secondary replacement non-military workers are employed may prove to be a short-sighted policy.

Please understand, I am not impertinent enough to be suggesting to you that I can give you categorical, specific answers to your business problems. Quite the contrary, I am merely trying to suggest that those problems must be viewed in the light of present day necessities and procedures rather than relied upon to be solved by old established processes and orthodox methods.

Indeed, I would not attempt to pose as an expert on anything for one minute. I could not qualify, even under that definition of Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who said that today any man who was more than five hundred miles away from home is an expert, because I can't even get five hundred miles away from home.

After going to these business meetings and industry meetings and hearing fellows in confusion propound questions to the so-called and supposedly astute men in these new ventures and bureaus, I have come to the conclusion that there are a lot of these twenty-five dollar questions that nobody can answer, that we can ourselves answer them only in the light of our own best conscientious efforts and our immediate future experience. In that regard I am reminded of the story which you fellows who were here will remember one of our guests told. This is the place where I get all those stories.

Anyway, one of these fellows told us about a club in New York which had a house rule to the effect that any member who asked another member a question which he himself, the propounder, could not answer, was fined twenty-five dollars which went into the entertainment fund. And so on this occasion one of the old members said to a young one: "Henry, how do you suppose it is a ground squirrel can dig his hole in the ground and not leave any dirt at the top of the hole?"

After a minute Henry said: "Bill, I don't know the answer to that, and I think that is one of those stupid questions you don't even know the answer to yourself, and it will cost you twenty-five dollars."

"Well," Bill said, "I know the answer. The reason he doesn't leave any dirt on top of the hole is because he begins at the bottom of the hole."

"Well," Henry said, "Bill, how does he get to the bottom of the hole?"

"Ah," Bill said, "Henry, that's your question. You answer that. Now you owe the twenty-five dollars." (Laughter.)

I believe that many of these questions we are expecting somebody else to answer are our questions, and we will have to answer them only by our best efforts as time goes on and we try to solve the very heavy problems that we have to meet.

So, third, in summary, our obligation to American industry and free enterprise requires us to retain an open and an alert mind and to forget many of the routine procedures and orthodox practices upon which we have relied, and to be alert and astute in developing new procedures to meet new problems with each new day.

The blind who will not see.

In summary now, let us determine to strive desperately to see and learn for ourselves the truth, for the truth alone will be our salvation in this war effort, in preserving our government and in maintaining our business.

Abraham Lincoln, again, said: "I have faith in the people. Let them know the truth and the country is safe."

In noble words Anatole France declared: "Truth possesses within herself a penetrating force unknown alike to error and to falsehood. I say 'Truth' and you understand what I mean. The noble words 'Truth' and 'Justice' need not be defined in order to be understood in their true sense, for they bear within themselves a heavenly light and a shining beauty. I firmly believe in the triumph of truth, and that is what upholds me in the time of peril."

Certainly there are some inexorable truths proven by the ages which can never fail and which should comfort and support us now in our quandary of today.

Charles A. Beard, the eminent historian, says that all history teaches him certain definite lessons: First, whom the Gods would destroy they first make proud; and, second, the mills of the Gods grind slowly but they grind exceedingly fine; and, third, the bee fertilizes the flower he would later rob of honey; fourth, when it is dark enough we look above and see the stars; and, fifth, and I believe the greatest, all the darkness in the world cannot put out the light of one single little candle.

In ancient Greece there was an oracle famed for its wisdom which aroused the hatred and envy of a young Sophist, who plotted to uncrown the oracle of his prestige. And so the young Greek planned that he would appear before the oracle with a tiny bird in his closed hand and ask whether the bird be alive or dead. If the oracle answered "Alive" he would clench his fist a little tighter and crush the tiny bird and drop it dead upon the ground. If the oracle answered "Dead," he would open his hand and allow the little bird to fly away, and in either event and by either answer, the oracle would be undone.

So the challenge was issued and at the appointed time the Greek citizens foregathered about the abode of the oracle. The young Sophist appeared with clenched fist and outstretched arm and demanded: "Oh Oracle, is this a live bird or a dead, which I hold within my hand?" And after a moment of impressive silence there came from the abode of the oracle in deep and resounding tones the answer:

"As thou will it; as thou will it."

Controlling Our Destiny

Today we hold grasped in our American hands the destinies of this world and the destinies of this nation and the

destinies of American enterprise, and the futures of those destinies are "As we will it, as we will it."

If we stand with eyes blinded by bigotry and prejudice and with selfishly clenched fists we may destroy those destinies for all time. But if, with opened and enlightened eyes, we open our hands and stretch them forth with traditional American courage to grasp the hands of our fellow Americans, then we shall enfold those destinies with pulsating and eternal life.

And so, in conclusion, as Americans first and then as business men, let us see the truth, that our first duty is to prosecute and win the war; our second duty, to preserve and protect our American constitutional government; and our third duty, to cherish and maintain this fine old system of American enterprise which has survived every war, every depression and every competition, and which is destined to flourish again with the attainment of victory, peace and traditional American liberty. (Applause.)

OUR BOWLING LEAGUE

The Toppers are now in first place after making a clean sweep of their series with the Gamblers. This match figured to be close but no one expected the Gamblers to lose all three games. Gil Hill of the Toppers team was high man with a 635 series and it was Gil's fine bowling that really accounted for the winning margin which was very small in each game.

The Chiselers, who had been firmly entrenched in last place, staged a big upset by taking three games from the Razzers. Our old friend, Dr. Stordock, bowled as an alternate on the Chiselers team and proved to be the stimulus they needed.

It's feast or famine with the Hotshots. After losing the first two games by big margins they topped 1020 pins to win the third game. John Nelson seemed well on the way to a new high individual game but was "tapped" on two beautiful "pocket" hits and had to settle for 253. Bob Munnecke had the high series for the evening with 657. The Beaners would have had plenty of trouble without Bob's help.

Al Sherbahn won Joe Fasano's Sun-

kist Pie. It's getting to be a habit with Al. Chet, Rieck's pot of beans was won by Henry Baby.

The standing of the teams and the top leading individual net averages as of Feb. 17th follow:

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
Toppers	14	7	.667
Gamblers	13	8	.619
Beaners	10	11	.476
Hotshots	9	12	.429
Chiselers	9	12	.429
Razzers	7	14	.333

Name	Team	Games	Net Aver.
Moorshhead	Hotshots	60	175
Maca	Razzers	48	175
Borsch	Toppers	42	169
King	Razzers	51	168
LeMire	Razzers	36	166
Wheeler	Beaners	48	159
Witwer	Toppers	54	158
Goodwin	Chiselers	57	155
Sherbahn	Gamblers	57	157
Krueger	Beaners	60	150

Ed. MOORSHEAD, Chairman
Bowling Committee.

Past President, Harold O. McLain of the Executives' Club of Chicago introduced Governor Harold E. Stassen of Minnesota at the Chicago Rotary Club meeting, Tuesday, February 23rd.

SPEAKERS' TABLE

February 19, 1943

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE CLUB

1. Walter Lytton, Real Estate, First President, 1911-12.
2. William Bethke, Vice President, La Salle Extension University, 1919-20.
3. Charles E. Duval, Sales Manager, Inland Press, 1927-28.
4. Arthur Perrow, Secretary-Treasurer, Ill. Bell Telephone Co., 1928-29.
5. R. E. Pattison Kline, Effective Speech Training, 1929-30.
6. Charles F. Reid, President, Wells Petroleum Co., 1931-32.
7. Frank E. Weakly, Vice President, Halsey Stuart Co., 1932-33.

8. John L. Nelson, Manager, Late Health & Accident Dept., Rollins-Burdick-Hunter Co., 1934-35.

9. Louis H. McCormick, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Rock Island Lines, 1935-36.

10. Benjamin F. Aflleck, Retired President, Universal Atlas Cement Co., 1939-40.

11. Harold O. McLain, President, Railways Ice Co., 1940-42 -- Guest Speaker.

12. Dr. Alfred P. Haake, Economic Consultant and Lecturer, 1942.

13. George B. McKibben, Attorney and Financier.

14. John T. Dempsey, Attorney at Law.

EXECUTIVES' CLUB NEWS

is the official organ of THE EXECUTIVES' CLUB OF CHICAGO. Form the habit of reading it regularly. All the information you need to keep informed on the activities of the Club will be found in its columns. It is mailed to each year dues every Tuesday morning of the Club season.

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1942-1943

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- PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**
Harry A. Ackersburg, Chairman.
- ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE:**
Fred'k H. Sommer, Chairman.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the April, 1942, meeting of the Board of Directors and which was authorized to appear regularly in The Executives' Club News.

Resolved, That the Executives' Club of Chicago stands unalterably for the Constitution of the United States as handed down to us by our forefathers, and under which we have lived for the past 145 years; and further, affirms that the fundamental principles it asserts, form the basis of true Americanism.

Washington Birthday Observance
By Dr. Alfred P. Haake

Friday, February 19, 1943

On Monday next, we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the father of our country. To my mind it is rather unusual that a man who inherited great wealth, as he did, should make so typical an American success of his life. He had the moral courage to risk life and property in becoming a rebel. He could take a licking, come back and win finally on his own merits. He had a great power of inspiration, his integrity was beyond

question, his word was exactly dred per cent good, he sacrificed country, his personal courage bounded, he had the audacity to watch his moral physical downfalls, he never lost his even in his most human moment. He remains the first of all American memory that should not be selfishly by any of us, but rather altar to which we bring reverent contrite hearts.

Deceased
WALTER D. DRAPER

We are all saddened by the death of our esteemed fellow member who had been active in our Club for the past eight years. He passed away Sunday night February 21, 1943 in his home at 510 Madison Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Draper had been a valued member of the staff of the North-Hond Trust Company for the past 21 years and was Assistant Manager of the Bond Department.

Funeral services were held at the Glencoe Union Church at 3:30 p.m. last Thursday. He is survived by his widow, Jessie, a daughter and son. Sincere sympathy is extended the family and friends.

RED CROSS WAR FUND DRIVE

The Annual Red Cross War Fund Campaign is now on. The Chicago all well aware of the urgency and worthiness of this appeal and that you everything humanly possible to aid it.

Checks for contributions should be made payable to the Red Cross War and mailed to the Red Cross, 36 South State Street, or if you wish to mail to the Club Office, we will turn them over.

Courtesy of
THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

"A PENNY—WHAT IS THAT?"

