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The Jewish Veteran

★ ★ ★ **GOOD WILL ISSUE** ★ ★ ★

"---history shall not repeat itself in
postwar hatred and intolerance"

Franklin D. Roosevelt



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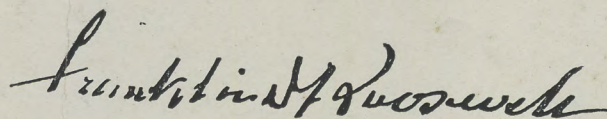
President Roosevelt Calls on All Americans to Mark Brotherhood Week Feb. 20 to 26

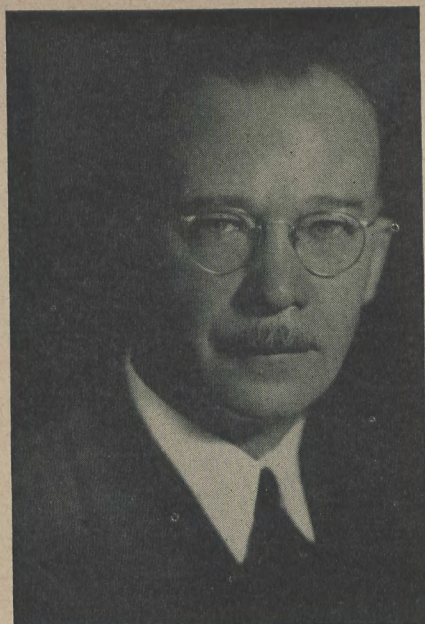
THE annual observance of Brotherhood Week is a time both of reminder and dedication. It reminds us of the basic religious faith from which democracy has grown—that all men are children of one Father and brothers in the human family. It dedicates us to the practice of understanding and justice through which freedom and equality flourish in human society.

While we are engaged in a mighty struggle to preserve our free institutions and to extend the boundaries of liberty in the earth, it is good for us to pledge renewed devotion to the fundamentals upon which this nation has been built. Brotherhood must prevail. Our inescapable choice is brotherhood or chaos.

On land and sea and in the air, the sons of the United States fight as one though they come from every racial and cultural strain and though they worship at different altars. They are brothers in arms now; soon, pray God, they shall be brothers in peace. We on the home front must see that history shall not repeat itself in postwar hatred and intolerance. It is for us to make the homeland more nearly a land of brotherhood, worthy of the victory our gallant sons and daughters shall surely win.

I, therefore, heartily join with the National Conference of Christians and Jews and with all forces of good will in our country in urging nation-wide observance of Brotherhood Week, February 20-26, 1944. I hope that our citizens will meet in church and schoolhouse, in halls and public places to think through the implications of practical brotherhood today, to cement our country's unity during the trying times to come, and to pledge anew allegiance to the flag which is a living symbol of liberty and justice for all.





Dr. Robert W. Searle is a member of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, author of two books on human problems and democracy, editor of a weekly paper on church and community affairs. Widely known as a clergyman, and for his work in building interracial good will, he is much in demand as a speaker on community problems as well as in the direct line of his profession.

A JEWISH rabbi and a Protestant minister were about to leave on a train in the Pennsylvania Station after a hot and crowded trip from the South when a soldier with the Air Force insignia on his uniform approached them from the car behind.

"Aren't you two of the men who spoke down at ————Air Base yesterday and this morning?"

The clergymen acknowledged that they were.

"Well let me tell you—we thought it was swell—the best program we have listened to. The boys said you told us so we could understand what it was all about—and you were funny too."

It is nice to be told that you were funny (when you have tried to be) and deeply satisfying to hear that you have gotten across what you wanted to say—particularly if you are civilians who have been talking to the Army.

Two days later the mail brought to each of the speakers additional reward in the form of a letter from the Base Chaplain who with the Special Service Officer had arranged the series of programs which had been presented to the entire personnel of the Base.

"With a few minutes to meditate after a busy time following your visit to the Base," wrote the Chaplain, "I begin to reminisce. Since you left there has been a stream of comment on the

Salesmen and Soldiers of Good Will

By ROBERT W. SEARLE

lectures. Even the man with the least education was elated and impressed through hearing them. There has been nothing that has happened in my experience here that has caused as much constructive comment as the trio from N.C.C.J."

With the letter was a clipping from the soldier's own paper published at the Base. The headings read "Three Lecturers give grand Speeches." "Good sense of humor pleases G I audience."

The "N.C.C.J." is not another government bureau. It stands for the National Conference of Christians and Jews which is today in addition to its regular work sponsoring an extensive War Camp Program which brings trios of speakers, Catholic, Jewish and Protestant, in most cases clergymen, to address forum programs in Army Camps and Navy Stations throughout the country. Already such programs have been presented in upwards of 400 Posts to nearly 3,300,000 men.

The Conference motion picture has been shown in an additional 125 camps and 3,000,000 pieces of literature have been distributed to and through the chaplains.

So favorably are the speakers being received that customarily now they are presented in the "order of the day" as features of the Orientation programs. Meanwhile the files of the Conference grow with enthusiastic letters of appreciation from Commanding Officers, Chaplains and others who have witnessed this effect.

Covering a whole camp is sometimes pretty strenuous. In one case it involved for a minister, priest and rabbi speaking twenty-three times in three days. Each time they spoke to two thousand men.

Sometimes it means unaccustomed hours. One Trio began each day's schedule during five days of a week with a first forum presented at 7 o'clock in the morning.

The settings vary. Most often Camp Theatres outdoors or indoors are used. Sometimes with smaller units a mess hall furnishes the place of meeting. One Trio talked to four solid acres of men assembled on the parade ground. Another to some twenty thousand scattered through a surrounding pine grove. Still another Trio was guided through the dark into a Hangar completely blacked out from the outside.

AN INDUCTEE SPEAKS

I have been inducted into the Army.

No, I do not want to go to war. I am a young man just getting a start in life. I have a lovely wife and a wonderful baby. We have been sheltered in a comfortable bungalow. I don't want to go to war because I like to come home at night, put on soft shoes, light up my pipe, and sit peacefully by the fireside with my family.

I don't want to go to war because I'm living a good life, in a good American home. I like to have my evenings free to read the newspaper and listen to the radio. I like to have time to take a drink, if I like, and blow smoke rings. I'd rather get up at the sound of an alarm clock than a bugle.

I don't want to go to war because I like to stand on the corner and argue with my neighbors about whatever my fancy desires. I like to be able to go to church on Sunday or sleep late. I don't have to lock my doors to keep my neighbors out. It's quiet and peaceful out here, and I don't want to go to war!

No, I don't want to go to war. But neither do 10 million other men. And the reasons why I do not want to go to war are the very reasons why it is necessary that I go. This, this wife, this baby—this quiet, peaceful life of freedom—must be saved!

—Pvt. Ransom Gurganus,
in a letter quoted
in *Inspection News*,
Retail Credit Co.

The most picturesque setting was reported by a Trio which addressed the personnel of a Fighter Squadron in an interceptor command. The meeting was held on the "line" with the planes ranged in alert position furnishing a grandstand on which sat the ground crews—before them sitting informally on the ground were the other members of the Base complement. At the extreme right were the Pilots—mostly men back for a rest period after strenuous months in the Solomons.

In the larger camps meetings are also held as a rule in the Camp Hospital and in the detention areas.

A typical program will find behind the speakers stand the Commanding

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