

MARCH, 1945

The Jewish Veteran



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LETTERS

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No. 7

THE JEWISH VETERAN

MARCH
1945

"The Patriotic Voice of American Jewry"

J. GEORGE FREDMAN, Editor

Supreme Court of the
United States

Editor, Jewish Veteran:

You are kind to send me the Jewish Veteran and I have been reading it with interest and here and there an item with pride.

FELIX FRANKFURTER.

Somewhere in Germany

Editor, Jewish Veteran:

I just received the December, 1944, issue of your publication, and I found it to contain two articles of great interest to me. One article was written by William L. Shirer, and the other article was written by Lord Van Sittart. These two articles express, I believe, the sentiment of most of us G.I.s.

I thought that I would also find amongst its pages an article dealing with the British Demobilization Plan. I don't know whether you are familiar with some of its provisions, but I do know that some of these provisions are better than those included in our Demobilization Plan.

Cpl. JULIUS GITTLITZ

Brooke General Hospital
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Editor, Jewish Veteran:

I wish to express my appreciation and gratitude for being placed on your mailing list.

I thoroughly enjoy all the articles in the publication and eagerly look forward to it each month.

It is a very lovely gesture to supply those of us who are in the service to a yearly subscription; and I am quite certain all my comrades in the service will agree with me.

Sincerely,
RUTH BARRY,
Lt., A.N.C.

Somewhere in New Guinea

Editor, Jewish Veteran:

It is with anticipation and interest that I monthly look forward to my copy of the Veteran, and I believe you are doing wonderful work in an effort to kindle the real spirit of democracy among all people, regardless of race or creed.

My best wishes always for your continued success.

Cpl. RALPH LEON

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COVER NOTE: The funeral procession for Daniel Harris passes under the Union Memorial Arch in Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn. For other pictures see Pages 6 to 9.

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EDITORIAL

Passover—Symbol of Freedom

PASSOVER is above everything else a holiday of liberation. As such, it is especially dear, momentous and meaningful to us in the year 1945. For as these lines are being written, the armies of the United Nations are breaking through the German defense walls. The liberation of Europe is not yet an achievement. But liberation is surely on its way. The Passover of 1945 may conceivably be celebrated not only here in the United States or in those countries which have already been liberated. It may also be observed amid the ruins of Berlin by the soldiers of the liberating armies.

But the very fact that in one breath we can speak of Passover liberation of thousands of years ago and in the next of a still-imminent liberation, should give us pause. Plainly, freedom must be achieved anew every century, every generation, perhaps every day. Once freedom is "frozen" it becomes something else than freedom itself; it changes its very character. For freedom, like all human achievements, is not so much a goal as it is a striving, a direction.

In extending to our readers the wishes of the Jewish Veteran for a happy Passover holiday, we take it as our duty to remind them as well of the price which liberty, justly exacts: eternal vigilance.



FAIR EMPLOYMENT

A Symposium

REP. MARY T. NORTON

Chairman, House Labor Committee

No legislation in which I have been more vitally interested has come before the House Committee on Labor, since the enactment of the Fair Labor Standards Act, than the legislation to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry.

In the Seventy-eighth Congress three measures pertaining to this subject were referred to the Committee: H. R. 3986, introduced by Hon. Thomas E. Scanlon, of Pennsylvania, a member of the Labor Committee; H. R. 4004, introduced by Hon. William L. Dawson, of Illinois; and H. R. 4005, introduced by Hon. Charles M. LaFollette, of Indiana. The Committee held extensive hearings on

these measures, and, in executive session, favorably reported H. R. 3986 to the House. I then introduced a resolution for a rule to bring the bill before the House for discussion and vote. However, the Rules Committee took no action on the resolution, and the bill automatically died with the Seventy-eighth Congress.

I was keenly disappointed that this legislation was not enacted. However, on the opening day of the new Congress, I introduced a bill, H. R. 523, to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry, and to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission. The bill has been referred to the Labor Committee. Just as soon as the committee assignments have been made,

I intend to call a meeting for the consideration of this measure, along with all pending bills pertaining to the subject.

The excellent work done by the FEPC, established under Presidential Executive Order No. 8802, dated June 25, 1941, and Executive Order No. 9346, dated May 27, 1943, is well known. It has contributed much to the war effort by making available manpower which had been entirely disregarded and passed over by employers who placed their personal prejudice above their patriotism.

In many instances, these same employers, when necessity persuaded them to utilize the services of these minority groups, found them to be efficient, reliable, and conscientious workers. However, the FEPC, as now set up, is only an emergency agency, established for the duration and six months thereafter, to handle discriminatory employment problems in or affecting war industries. When the war is over, there is grave