

THE UNITED AMERICAN

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EDITORIAL

IN A FIELD OF NATIONAL INFLUENCE FOR THE AMERICANIZATION CAUSE

TO SERVE the cause of Americanization the United American came into being. The extent of its usefulness in this great movement may best be judged from the decision taken last month by the Editorial Board of the Interstate Bulletin to consolidate that publication with the United American in a special Adult Education and Americanization issue for the Annual Convention of the N. E. A. The endorsement of the department officers is likewise an acknowledgement of this journal's leadership in this cause.

This issue is the first of its kind ever published in America—containing a national review and analysis of Americanization progress prepared by the leaders and directors of the work in every state where public approval and support have made it possible.

To educators, teachers and students this issue will be of especial interest inasmuch as it contains valuable summaries of the activities in every state and in every city of importance.

It is only fitting that for the occasion all the available space should be given to the contributing supervisors and directors whose articles are of much greater importance for the purposes they have been prepared than is any other matter, editorial or otherwise.

If the cause of adult education, citizenship training and Americanization in general shall be advanced as a result of this issue, the effort put forth shall not have been in vain.

THE AMERICAN OF TOMORROW

IN SPITE of all discouraging and distracting isms that confuse and confound the people, we maintain, and with good reason, that we are making a steady advance along the higher levels of human progress. Our standards of justice are built higher, the public conscience is growing more sensitive, the provision for general education is being constantly increased and strengthened, and it is regarded as a reproach to wealth not to be associated with philanthropy and constructive community charity.

Viewing these evident tendencies and aspirations, these increasingly exacting requirements in the code of social, business and public life, it is obviously not necessary to worry over the strain of blood that courses in the citizenship behind it.

It is unmistakably plain that we are not a degenerate nation.

Were it otherwise there would be cause for alarm and even consternation. Our chance for salvation is good indeed, if we just apply ourselves.

It is comforting reflection that the nations which have degenerated have generally done so from a homogenous and primal stock. We should felicitate ourselves that we are in no danger of such fate under similar conditions, and that our nation is a composite ensemble of many racial strains.

We have today many types of Americans. At some future time there will be evolved a new type and a more distinctly national one than we have ever known. It will be a still more interesting composition, a blend of our many nationalities and racial strains. We have for quite a while been gathering the material for it. It will be a product of environment, opportunity and the survival of the fittest. Perhaps the "good old stock" will continue to leaven it, but to do so it must, like the new element that will enter into it, develop upward and not downward. If we will divest ourselves of our prejudices, we shall find our pessimism largely following them. It is a patriotic as well as an optimistic and national belief that the ultimate world's American will be a splendid product of the world's civilization, worthy of all the traditions and struggles through which came these nationalities, and in our citizenship lies the solution of the future problems of this republic and in its civic conscientiousness the fate of the glorious America that is to be.

INTERSTATE COUNCIL ON IMMIGRANT EDUCATION

THE GENERAL rule of principles for adult education and Americanization work as outlined by John J. Mahoney, president of the Council on Immigrant Education, should be made applicable everywhere.

No success is achieved without proper organization and an orderly arrangement of so vast a subject is absolutely essential to progress.

The Mahoney outline is like a chart, simple to understand and easy to follow. The United American has given the entire page four to a typographical display of every one of the Mahoney points and principles.

Keep it for reference and use it as a guide and the educational problem will solve itself.

THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

IF EVERY nationality, by origin or transplantation, in America should begin to lay claim to the cultural contributions of the land of their forefathers or of their birth, which have been added to the culture of America, and give such contributions foreign names, the protest would be general.

The language which we speak, the servant of our thoughts and the vehicle of our expressions, may be acknowledged as of English origin, for the Pilgrim Fathers brought it, but that was a long time ago and, surely, the lingual progress we have made, with three hundred years back of it, should give us a reasonable right to call the tongue of America our own, without feeling inclined to apologize to anybody if we started calling our language the AMERICAN LANGUAGE!

The fact of the matter is that the language of America is no longer English. This discovery was