

devotion, the spirit, which built America. When he has come to know these things, he will have that intense pride in his country which every citizen should have.

In the fourth place, he must understand and believe in our government. To acquire this attitude, he must study its fundamental ideas; he must come to think of his relations to his fellows in the tolerant, sympathetic way which is the spirit of America. It is with such attitude of mind that he should read the descriptions of the machinery of our government and should observe the workings of that machinery wherever he can. It is only thru such study and such observation and with such democracy of feeling that the citizen can get the knowledge of and the attitude toward our government he should have.

In the fifth place, the citizen must know and obey our laws. America never willingly confers citizenship upon an unlawful person. We have too many law breakers among our native born; we can not afford to take any chances of adding to the number. Hence the alien seeking citizenship must take care that his record is good in that respect, and when he has reached his goal he must take care to merit and hold his reputation as a lawful citizen. It is only thus that he can gain the confidence of his newly acquired fellow citizens.

In the sixth place, he must be respectful to authority. We expect from our citizens respect for our courts, our congress, our president. This is not because of the men holding the offices; they may be little worthy of respect. The offices, however, represent the government, are the agencies in which its authority is vested, and they must receive our respect. If the officers are weak and incompetent, it is our duty to elect to their places men in whom we can place confidence. Again I repeat that public office is a public trust, deserving of the attention of our finest citizens.

In the seventh place, we expect from our citizens their loyalty. By this we mean devotion to their country, a desire to advance its interest, to strengthen its government, and to bring added prosperity and happiness to its people.

In the last place, the American citizen must feel that he owes America his deepest devotion. That is, he must be entirely willing to sacrifice for her, to serve for her, if need be, to fight in battle for her. Citizens with this attitude of mind are good citizens. We who are the citizens of today, must try to give our children and the would-be citizens within our gates such an attitude. Upon the commonness of such citizens depends the safety, the prosperity, the happiness of all the people of America.

A SCHOOL OF CITIZENSHIP FOR NATURALIZATION

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thoroughly informed with idealism is the basis of good citizenship.

One difficult problem has been the lack of material which might be given the petitioners for study. There is no textbook for such a course in government. Years have been put into its development. Another great problem has been to meet the needs of all types of petitioners. These include university professors, teachers, ministers, lawyers, men and women of all professions,

boys, business men, foremen, mechanics, everybody. The foundation is laid by presentation of the course in day and evening classes. Because there is a center to which petitioners come from all parts of the city the number in the school has become large enough to make it possible to have special classes for many of the special needs. There are review classes with informal oral tests covering the course from the different aspects and study classes for national groups who need special help on account of lack of language or education. Those needing such help are referred to advisors who make individual programs and give them personal attention and coaching. There are twenty such day and evening classes for adults conducted in the public schools of Los Angeles. It is a graded school of citizenship for naturalization in which the needs of all types are met as nearly as possible. Many come nearly every evening for three months or more, others about twice a week. No school probably ever had more attentive or more interested students.

Sometimes American born wives who lost citizenship by marriage before September 22, 1922, complain about having to take the course in order to have citizenship restored. Usually, however, they express appreciation of the course and often return to the naturalization office to suggest that all native born should have to take such a course in citizenship.

One university professor admitted to citizenship on a school diploma, wrote: "I enjoyed every lecture. The truth is I dreaded the idea of having to attend lectures on citizenship and tried to persuade myself that it was a foolish arrangement to make me, a university professor, take them. But I changed my mind completely as soon as I heard the first talk. It was a privilege and pleasure to listen. Civics is now an interesting subject, a live subject, a study in biology."

The new citizens maintain the People's Civics Club, which meets on the first Friday evening of school months. The speaker is some officer of national, state, county, or city government who discusses some phase of government with which he is familiar from an inside view. Many who have become voters return to continue their education for intelligent citizenship. The program usually includes vocal and instrumental music rendered by present and former members of the school among whom are some famous musicians.

Chicago is having an average of two murders a day which suggest that her slogan of "I will" would as well be "I kill!"

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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