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The United **AMERICAN**



A MAGAZINE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

THE ONLY MEANS OF MAKING AMERICA SAFE FOR AN AMERICAN MINDED PEOPLE

WHILE MANY foreign born people complain that the present day naturalization requirements are too difficult and call for too much learning, there never was a time when the people of foreign birth were so seriously concerned in American citizenship or made such diligent efforts to meet the requirements. Evening hours that were wasted in pursuit of idle pleasure are now spent over the spelling, reading and writing lessons, or over the pages of America's history, pages containing the story of humanity's struggle toward the goal of the ages—Freedom and Liberty. These hours spent in pursuit of knowledge in self-government, of the particular brand we have to offer in America, often constitute the turning point in the lives of many of those who, to begin with, reluctantly complied with the study hour requirements, and did so only to get "the paper" they were seeking—a certificate of citizenship. The first lesson taught through the newer requirements is that American citizenship is NOT a cheap thing, obtainable by anyone bothering about asking for it after living here five years. The second important lesson (learned through the naturalization requirements of the present day), is that in all America there is not a citizen so pitiable and so contemptible as the citizen who obtained this sacred grant without the knowledge necessary to back it up, and who never bothered about acquiring that intelligence since his name was written on the face of that "second paper." The third lesson taught is that the mass of these "paper" citizens who got by without coming in contact with the Americanizing influences at work today in every avenue of contact, constitute the bulk of the impregnable "foreign colony;" it feeds the colossus of the foreign group and creates the foreign language newspaper propaganda, at present abroad everywhere, and is ceaselessly railing against the naturalization, elementary education and Americanization requirements, the means by which the foreign born learns to extricate himself from the group and its retarding influences.

Let us maintain and support a high standard in naturalization, for it is the only means we have to make America and her institutions safe for an AMERICAN MINDED American people.

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