

BUILD, DON'T DESTROY, FOR PROSPERITY!

By Arthur C. Parker

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Cotton Destruction a Crime

From Washington, D.C., comes the demand to cotton growers in the U.S. to destroy their 1931 cotton crop!

The southern cotton growers are a little over 50% colored men.

This is not the first time that our state and national officials of the Democrat and Republican parties have recommended the destruction of farm commodities. It's done right along.

What a monstrous, indecent paradox. Overproduction, they call it. Yet everywhere in the United States are found millions who want and need all of the things they seek to destroy and do destroy. Helpless children starve while corporations who control the food supply of our cities dump carloads of food stuffs in the ocean or decree that it shall rot in the fields and warehouses. "It can't be sold", they say, and being slaves to profit, they would rather dump life's necessities in the ocean than feed hungry women and children.

Remember, the American people, thru the great engineer, now President Hoover, fed over 2,000,000 hungry Belgians in 1918 and 1919 for Humanity's sake. There are over 5,000,000 good American citizens right here in America, the land of democracy, who are denied any semblance of that human treatment accorded foreigners 3,000 miles away.

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Spiritual vs. Economic Needs

From the Boston Herald comes the special dispatch of a sermon delivered by Rev. Albert C. Dieffenback to the members of the Institute of Politics in the Congregational Church of Williamstown. He said, "Let us ask is it not the purest and most practical ideal to believe, as they do in Russia, that material things should be the means of livelihood and not the end of life. The major task of all churches is the settlement of the problem of livelihood of millions of people on the brink of starvation and the stability of nations now shattered and ready to topple into the abyss of a catastrophe more overwhelming than that of a military war.

"This is the first time in religious history that we formally recognize the claim of the economic as of equal worth with any other factor and religion. Thank Russia and the Soviet for that."

The Good Reverend is quite right. Not that Communist methods suffice in America, but we certainly need a party with a plan compatible with the urgent needs and desires of the millions who work for a living. A party of Americans, both colored and white, who understand the national economic conditions and the American mass psychology. It behooves colored Americans quickly to learn to recognize their spiritual and economic interests.

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Untermeyer, eminent New York attorney, ridiculed Mr. Hoover's relief plan for raising eight million dollars privately and called it a mere drop in the bucket. He endorsed the plan to call a special session of Congress and appropriate \$5,000,000,000 for unemployment relief."

"Not wanted" signs are becoming the sign posts of our day.

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### The Humiliation is California's

Filipinos held a demonstration, 100,000 strong, in Manila last week protesting the brutal treatment Filipinos receive in California and demanding independence. They called the day "National Humiliation Day" and invited all labor organizations to join in a parade. Native Senators Briones and Varona joined the celebration, making stirring speeches.

California, the land of balmy breezes, glorious sunsets, luscious fruits and intolerance. Mooney and Billings are living martyrs of California court injustices and now Filipinos who have long suffered abuse and humiliation in the golden state add their protest to the rising wail against California injustice.

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### Hope in "Green Pastures" Record

"Green Pastures" has left Broadway and has reopened in Chicago. It gave 640 performances in New York City.

This is indeed an enviable record. Mr. Harrison and the entire cast are beyond a doubt among America's finest dramatic artists. We do hope the future will give us some play with just as good a cast who will portray American colored people as so many are today, Scientists, Professors, technicians, scholars, musicians and artists. It would be gratifying to have the world see us once as intelligent, progressive human beings.

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### Another Kind of "Charity"

From Jasper, Ga., comes the item that every able bodied unemployed man accepting aid from Pickens County, Ga., will be required to work on the county roads or some other public labor, and wages will be paid only in food and clothing for the man and his family.

There will be no cash wages whatever.

Georgia seems wedded to the mania for working men on the roads for no pay. In Georgia all minor offences bring legal sentences of months in the chain gang, which means unremitting toil on the county roads. Now to be out of a job for no fault of your own means unpaid road labor with convict associates.

Do you know that most of these unfortunate men are, and will be, colored men?

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