



New Era

ENGLISH SECTION OF
Official Organ
of the
American Fraternal Union.

Nova Doba

AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS



WE WILL CARRY ON!

When the fraternal benefit societies of America were organized, their founders wanted an organization which would provide — not charity — but well-deserved help in time of illness and death which is provided by paying monthly assessments.

Fraternal benefit societies grew and prospered as time went on because their principles were based directly on the American way of life. The American Fraternal Union is one of these great societies. It is just what its name signifies: American in principle, Fraternal in thought and deed and a Union, united with fraternal brothers and sisters throughout the United States. Our fraternal society has weathered even the severest of depressions. This year we begin the 46th year of service to our members. This brilliant record of service speaks for itself. The pioneers who founded our organization had faith in their children. They knew they would carry on the work which they began.

Today, more than ever before, the trend for the future again rests with our youth. It is our responsibility to enlighten the youth of today as to the work of fraternalism. It is up to us to tell our friends about all the benefits which can be derived by belonging to our Union. Let's prove to our founders that their faith in us was justified. We can do this by enrolling as many new members as possible and by being good neighbors to one another. Don't wait for membership campaigns but have a personal membership campaign of your own which is in effect every day of the year.

In addition to knowing that when you enroll a new member you are helping them and our Union, you are also entitled to a cash award which is paid after the new member has paid six months dues. These cash awards are published every week in the official organ, the Nova Doba.

Let us all resolve to do our best in enrolling new members. We shall carry on the work our pioneers began! Are you willing to help? We know you are! This year let each one of us strive to enroll our friends and neighbors in the American Fraternal Union — the fraternal benefit society with a great past and a greater future!

Thought For The Day

We speak of sacrifice here in America.

Yet none has the right to unless he lost an arm or a leg or a life — or a son.

Is rationing a sacrifice?

Not until that day when you must leave the table hungry.

Is leaving your car in the garage a sacrifice?

Not 'til a bomb drops on it and you and your children are blown to Kingdom Come.

Is buying bonds a sacrifice?

Not until a gilt-edged security can be called a "sacrifice."

Have you bought enough bonds?

A woman went to buy a drinking trough for her dog and the shopkeeper asked her if she would like one with the inscription, "For the dog."

"It doesn't really matter," she replied, "my husband never drinks water and the dog can't read."

Keep Food Prices Down

Grocers and consumers must cooperate in the battle to keep food prices down. They have a joint responsibility in making ceiling prices work. Consult the official price list before buying.

Foreign Language Press Division Office of War Information.



"I AM FILING MY INCOME TAX RETURN EARLY—IT'S ONLY 4 O'CLOCK AND I HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT!"

News About Lodge No. 190, AFU

Butte, Mont.—The officers of Lodge No. 190, AFU installed at our January meeting were: Ann Leskovar, president; Mary Flanik, vice-president; Mary Predovich, secretary; Isabelle Caras, recording secretary; Mary Yadosich, treasurer, and Mary Stanich, Josephine Campbell and Matilda Durslar, trustees.

Pvt. Matt Casick, 19, popular former Butte High School football and track star, is the first member of our lodge to be reported missing in action in Belgium since Dec. 17, 1944. The War Department notified his mother. He has been overseas since last November and was serving with an infantry regiment. He entered the Army on Jan. 24, 1944.

To date our lodge has the following members serving in the U. S. Armed Forces: Frank Fortune, William Jolly, John Kelley, Carl E. Nagel, Arthur Stone, Nick Tsismirikes and John R. Chelini.

I would like to remind everyone that there will be a dance held on Sunday, Feb. 11th at the Slavonic American Hall which will be sponsored by the Yugoslav Relief of Butte, Mont. The proceeds will be used for the suffering people of Yugoslavia. Refreshments will also be served. From what I hear, the last dance held on New Year's Eve realized quite a nice sum of money.

Once more I want to say that I wish some of the members would be more prompt in paying their lodge assessments. Fraternal regards.

Mary Predovich, Sec'y,
Lodge No. 190, AFU,
Butte, Mont.

Chicago Bowling League News

Chicago, Ill. — Something was wrong at the last session of our bowling league. Some strange spirits seemed to fill the air. It so happened that the Liberty Bell Lodge 70, AFU team turned over all three games to the Gottlieb Florists; the first game by one pin. The game between the Spolar's Hotel team and the Hujan Taverns was much better. The Tavern team won two and the Hotel team won one.

Best bowlers of the evening were: Captain of the Hujan team, Frank Kovacic, 236, 206 and 154; total, 596; Captain of Spolar's Hotel team, Louis Dolmovich, 183, 165 and 149; total, 497; Captain of the Gottlieb Florists, Max Bruckman, 163, 157 and 154; total, 474. The best Liberty Bell No. 70 bowler was Andrew Stopar with 179, 152 and 134, total 465. Best bowler among the women was Miss Jennie Zorko with 166 for individual games and 406 for three-games.

Next Friday the offensive and defensive will be as follows: The Hujan Tavern team against Gottlieb's Florists and Liberty Bell No. 70 against Spolar's Hotel team, Fraternal regards,

John Gottlieb, Sec'y

DID YOU KNOW

Sea lion adults are called bulls and cows, but the young are called puppies.

American Fraternal Union Members Serving Our Country



2,208

Missing in Action



Cleveland, Ohio.—Pfc. Anthony Prime, Jr., has been reported missing in action since Jan. 3 in France, his family was notified recently. Pfc. Prime is 22 years old and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Prime, 985 Addison Rd. His father, Anton Prime, is an active member and officer of Lodge No. 173, AFU of Cleveland, Ohio. Pfc. Prime was the first delegate to qualify for the Second Juvenile Convention of our Union, which was held in August 1937, and also was elected permanent chairman of the convention at that time.

The infantryman entered the service last April 27 and was last heard from on Dec. 23rd. He received his training at Camp Blanding, Florida and Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. His wife is Mrs. Frances Prime and he has a sister, Miss Jean Prime.

We hope that his family will soon hear that he is safe.

(Photo of Pfc. Prime when he was a juvenile delegate.)

Meeting Date of Lodge 9 Changed

Calumet, Mich.—The members of Lodge No. 9, AFU are hereby notified that the time of our regular monthly meetings has again been changed. The meetings in the future will be held every THIRD SUNDAY of the month in the church hall and will begin at 9 a. m.

Members are invited to attend the next meeting which will be held Sunday, Feb. 18th, in as large a number as possible. Many important matters will be discussed at that time. Fraternal regards and I'll be seeing you at the next meeting.

Matt Strauss, Sec'y,
Lodge No. 9, AFU,
Calumet, Mich.

A BIT O' THIS 'N THAT—

By Frances M. Turk

Newton D. Baker General Hospital, Martinsburg, W. Va.—For days I have been gathering material, a little bit at a time, for this column, but suddenly, a notice was put on our bulletin board to the effect that nothing pertaining to the hospital or its patients can be mentioned in any of our correspondence.

The war, they frequently tell us, isn't over yet by any means. Thus, I'll try to tell a bit about my work.

The ward I work on was reclassified about a week or so ago. Heretofore it was known as the Surgical Ward. All pre-operatives and post-operatives came here; it was very interesting work and I also got a chance to meet a great many patients who might have been from around home or who knew the same people I did.

The ward is now known as the Neuro-surgery. Here we'll eventually get all of the patients who have to undergo nerve operations. There are two volunteers Nurses' Aides working on our ward. Occasionally we get help from nearby Winchester or Martinsburg. We do get very busy some days.

By the way, Pfc. William Podobnick was very appreciative for the nice surprises, as he called those cards and letters he got via my suggestion a few weeks ago.

I answered most of them for him for it will be months before he will be able to do that. He told me he actually looked forward to getting mail when he found out that I suggested it in the Nova Doba. His parents and grandparents are members of the AFU and, he told me that he once was a member, too.

I had the pleasure of meeting his mother and grandmother when they were here about two weeks ago. The grandmother brought some delicious "potica" for me. 'Twas very, very good. I wish I knew how to make it!

Melancholia—

"The touch of a soft zephyr
On a battle-scarred face,
Like the mist of reluctant tears,
The blue of the sky
Above all this;
And the sun beaming down
On gray-white fears."

BRIEFS

Mr. Joseph Cecelic Sr., 71, passed away this week after a long illness. He was the father of Brother John Cecelic, secretary of Lodge No. 132, AFU of Euclid, Ohio. Besides his son John, he is survived by his sons, Joseph Jr., Lou and Pvt. Frank who is serving somewhere in France, and two brothers. Mr. Cecelic Sr. passed away without knowing about the death of his son, Pfc. Edward Cecelic who was killed in action Dec. 21, 1944. The doctor told the family that it would be best not to tell him until his condition improved.

To his family we offer our sincere sympathy in the loss of their beloved father.

Jap casualties on Leyte totaled over 24,000 in the first ten days of fighting.

Let Us All Pitch in for the Duration!

By Anton Krapenc, 2nd Supreme Vice-President

Chicago, Ill.—Yes, indeed we should all pitch in and help win the war. If you are not now employed in a defense plant, it is your duty to your country and to mankind, to pitch in and take a job that will require more sweat and more personal sacrifice from you. A job which you probably will not like as much as your present one, but you will do it because of the war, and because you feel that you should do at least something for our boys who are fighting at the front for us and for our country. When you read in the papers, and hear over the radio what our boys are going through day after day, you will realize how little you are contributing to the cause just by taking a job which, in your opinion, is not exactly suited to you. Let us all do our best to win this war and quit being slackers!

As members of the American Fraternal Union, we can do a great job, first in the war effort and second in our lodge activities. In checking over our sport activities, I find that a great number of us are not doing our part. What happened to some of our lodges which were leading in sport activities? In asking this question you get the following answer. We are not active because a great many of our young members are in the Armed Forces. We are not active because we are working long hours in the war plants and upon coming home, we are too exhausted to take an interest in any sport activities. We are not active because the Supreme Board is no longer giving us financial support.

To all these comments, I have this to say: What in the world are we supposed to do now that the majority of our boys and girls are away? Drop everything and wait for them to come back? I should say not. Our duty to them is to go right on with the ball game and pitch. The duty of every father, mother, brother, sister and sweetheart of the boys on the battle front is, to keep the sport activities alive so that when G. I. Joe comes marching home, he'll find the same surroundings he was accustomed to before he went away. You are not too old to do your part, and you are not too tired either. Just think what would happen to us and to our country, if our boys would be too tired and would lay down their arms; but you do not hear anything like that from our boys and that is why we are winning this war, because over there they are doing a big, hard job. All this is possible only because they are all pitching in and because they have no slackers in their ranks.

We should not expect the lodges which were not active in sports before, to become active now, but we have every right to expect some kind of sport activities from the lodges which were sports-minded before the war. Your baseball, basketball or bowling teams need not be perfect. Nothing is perfect in these war times. So gather together whatever you can, and continue with your sports for the duration. We have some of our lodges which are putting up a hard struggle to keep up with the sport activities. How can

they do it, you will ask. It works in this manner. We have a bowling team consisting of the following bowlers. A man, 65 years of age, who is not too tired after working hours, next to him a boy of 16 years, who is not too young to bowl, next in line comes a housewife with a family who is also working in a war plant, keeping a house and she is trying to keep up with the sport. Next to her is a young man, not fit for the army, and in poor health and he too is only bowling because some one has to do it. The fifth man on the team is a very busy business man who is losing valuable time and money just to keep the home fires burning in the field of sports.

Now put yourself in the place of any of the above mentioned, and then ask yourself whether you are still too old, too young, too tired or too busy to be active in sport activities.

This is not a fairy tale, but an honest to goodness fact, that we have lodges who have baseball, basketball and bowling teams composed of some such people, who are doing the jobs that seem impossible and too hard to others. In my humble opinion, the sport clubs which are waiting only to receive financial aid from the Union and are unwilling to be without this aid for the duration, were organized for a wrong purpose, and were based on a wrong and non-fraternal foundation.

As loyal members, we should not always expect to be praised or to receive cash rewards for our work, instead we should have some fraternal spirit. Just think, if our pioneers who built this great Union of ours, expected to get paid for all they did; do you think for a minute we would have such a big financially built institution as we have today? But they did not think in terms of reward. They were working in the spirit of fraternalism and were willing to sacrifice a lot just to build an organization of which we are all proud. What we need is a little of the spirit of 1898 and then to go out and work with all our heart for our Country and our great American Fraternal Union. Only by doing this, we can truly call ourselves worthy of our ancestors and our great pioneer builders of true Fraternalism!

Two little urchins stood with their noses pressed against the barber shop window. "Gee, Mickey, look at that one," said one, as he spied a barber using a burning taper to singe the hair. "He's looking for 'em with a light."



