

LET'S PUT IT OVER

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The Voice of the Awakened Negro

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GARVEY SAYS A STRONGER CAUSE, A GREATER DETERMINATION, IS BOUND TO RISE OUT OF SPIRITUAL SUSPENSE

Fellow Men of the Negro Race, Greeting:

This week I shall speak to you on "The Pleasure of Service." To some of us work for the cause of humanity is a pleasure. Man can live for no higher and greater purpose than that of serving his fellow-men. Such a service is not one that can be bought or paid for, but one that should be exacted of every true man.

There is no greater opportunity for service than at the present time. There is no race that needs greater service than the Negro race at this time, and in the giving of that service some of us glory, and as given through the Universal Negro Improvement Association, some of us look upon it as a delight. It becomes delightful because of the universal responsiveness that we find from and among the people whom we serve.

Foundation Well Laid

Looking at the work of the Universal Negro Improvement Association for the last seven years, taking a survey of the sentiment of the people at this hour, one probably will be led to think that the work is stationary, that the work is not as progressive, the spirit not as enthusiastic as it was some time ago; but this is the viewpoint of the man who sees things from the surface. The man who looks at the success of human movements not from the standpoint of the glamor of the hour or the wild enthusiasm of the minute, but from the permanent foundation that is laid, can come to no other conclusion than that at this hour the Universal Negro Improvement Association is passing through a period of great success, for we have laid a foundation that will last forever, a foundation upon which a structure will be built never to be demolished, never to be defaced. That gives those of us who lead a glorious satisfaction, a spirit of pride and happiness, because we know that without the labor

NOTHING DAUNTS THOSE WHOSE PURPOSE IS FIRMLY SET

U. N. I. A. HAS BUILT A FOUNDATION WHICH WILL LAST FOREVER

NEGROES EVERYWHERE MUST BE PREPARED AND ORGANIZED FOR THE HOUR WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS AT THE DOOR

DURING WORLD WAR THE NEGRO, IN POSITION TO DEMAND NOTHING, GOT NOTHING

the foundation entailed there could be no structure.

Period of Spiritual Suspense

We are reaping the reward of a past well spent, I say, but we are also passing through at this hour a period of spiritual suspense which will ultimately break out in a fresh and new enthusiasm, the like of which was never seen before. The greater triumph, the greater success of the Universal Negro Improvement Association will come in its rise out of its difficulties, in its rise above its apparent setbacks and handicaps.

Nothing daunts those whose purpose is firmly set, and the purpose of the Universal Negro Improvement Association is as firmly set as the Rock of Gibraltar. It is set in the hearts and minds of men everywhere, and neither the cunning of the oppressor nor the devilry of the near-sighted of a few within the group can hinder us as we seek the goal.

So let us take fresh courage; let us put on the armor of new enthusiasm because out of a suspense of months will rise a greater movement, a stronger cause, a greater determination that shall admit of no setback, that shall admit of no handicap or difficulty, but coming as it has from a bereft people shall go forth on the wings of time and continue its flight onward and onward until it brings to us the

object in view—African redemption and an emancipated race everywhere.

When Opportunity Knocks

Understand, we have nothing to fear. We may as well get ready and prepare ourselves the world over for we know not what the changes will be in the year 1926. The thing that we have been organizing for during the last seven years is likely to come at any minute. We were not organizing for aggression or to offend anybody, but we were organizing, we are organizing, so that we may be in a position to take advantage of our opportunity when it presents itself. We lost out during the last war and after, simply because we were not prepared. If we had been prepared, if we had a program and a policy, we would not now be talking of improving—we would have been improved long ago; but because we were not prepared, because we were not organized, because we had no policy and no program, we were not taken into account and only those who had a policy and a program—whether they were Irish or Jewish or Polish—were given the consideration they demanded, or at least a modicum of it. They gave us nothing because we demanded nothing—we were in a position to demand nothing. So when opportunity again knocks at the door let us be ready with a policy of a free and redeemed Africa, an industrially, socially, educationally and politically emancipated Negro race.

And you men who expect liberty, who expect freedom, who expect a new and real emancipation, must make up your minds to live equally as you make up your minds to die. Cowards shall never win anything, but shall lose all. Be firm in the faith, hold high your heads and keep plodding steadily onward to the goal.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

MARCUS GARVEY,

Founder and President-General,
Universal Negro Improvement Association.

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