

FAN FARE.

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(Creator of Random Thoughts)

THE HONORABLE SAMUEL DOODADDLE SAYS:

"You has often heard fokes say: 'When do we eat? The mane qesh-tun befo' the countrie, at this time, as I sees it it: When do we work—and wherah—so's we kin git the monie, so's we kin eat?"

"I sho' can't bye fued with monie I urned at work nine yeahs ago."

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FAREWELL TO "SCHOM"

The flash of the transition of Arthur A. Schomburg, my very good friend, after two days illness, brought a shock to me that I shall not soon be over. Visiting New York without "Schom" being there to extend the glad hand is to be an experience similar to hearing grand opera without the symphony orchestra.

Lucius Harper has the grand idea in his column "Dustin' Off the News":

"What you missed in schools and colleges, you learned when you sat down and talked for an hour with Schomburg. He was one of the few intellectuals who was proud to be black ... and he could prove why."

"Harp," old friend, that is an immortal line. I do not know who can take Arthur Schomburg's place in the nation, and in the public library system in New York City. His name is forever memorialized in the famous Schomburg collection. Every school child, and every grownup, must know the unselfish achievements of this most unusual man. Like John Brown, "his soul goes marching on."

"Don't say good-bye, but when we meet in a brighter clime, say, good morning." He was my friend.

Incidentally, I cannot understand why the "Afro" carried a full featured story of two boys who have made a hit with a "swing song," which will be forgotten in a few weeks, and had the short story of A. A. Schomburg, almost on the back page.

Then comes the Courier with a feature article carried over, telling of the death in large type of "Arthur M. Schomburg." That's like so many writing it Paul Lawrence Dunbar, when it is actually Paul Lawrence Dunbar." I have one of Dunbar's personal engraved cards with his name properly spelled which he gave me himself; and I have his signature on several personal letters. Moreover, he once said to me: "I do not understand why people do not spell my name correctly."

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J. C. ASBURY RETIRES

J. C. Asbury, of Philadelphia, lawyer, business man and civic minded citizen, announces his retirement from the honorary position as secretary of the board of trustees of Downingtown school, after thirty-three years, he is now well into the right of his three score years and ten. Here is an example of public service which many others might well emulate. Asbury could have been selfish and lived solely

for his own happiness—rusticating between his home in Philadelphia, and his summer home in Atlantic City but he has for many years been one of the foremost public spirited citizens in the historic "City of Brotherly Love."

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PATRIOTICALLY "FACING THE MUSIC"

One of my long, and strong contentions is that white America will work more cooperatively with black America, when all the facts and circumstances are known. In the face of insidious and deliberate propaganda and organized hellishness, there are many, on both sides, who from time to time, and too long, painted both the white and black side in colors of derision. Much harm has been done. Wherever there have been whites fearless enough, and black fair enough to "Face the music" and get the record straight, helpful results follow.

"Writers Take Sides," published by the League of American Writers, is a symposium of the views of foremost American writers on fascism and the Spanish Civil War with its international implications. Of the 400-odd writers represented, all but eight are definitely against fascism and Gen. Franco. They included James Weldon and only one, Gertrude Atherton, author of Black Oxen is for fascism and Franco. The six Negro writers represented in the book, members of the league, were all against fascism and Franco. They included James Weldon Johnson, Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, Alain Locke, Richard Wright, and Frank Marshall Davis.

The league was organized to unite America's foremost writers regardless of race, into a cultural organization to preserve the freedom of thought and the principles of democracy. The Chicago chapter has as its members Margaret Walker, poet; Robert Davis, poet; Frank Marshall Davis, poet; and Theodore Ward, playwright. White members include among others George Dillon, editor of poetry; Arnold Gingrich, editor of Esquire; Robert Morss Lovett, Paul de Kruif, Jack Conroy, Nelson Algren, etc., with C. A. Borgese as president. Treasurer of the Chicago chapter showing the league's liberal attitude throughout the nation, is Frank Marshall Davis. Langston Hughes is one of the seven national vice presidents and the Chicago chapter until recently has been represented at the New York national headquarters by Richard Wright, author of "Uncle Tom's Children."