

Sowing The Wind *S. G. G.*

A reader has sent us copies of some printed matter distributed by an organization in Sacramento, Calif., which calls itself the Home Front Commandos, Inc. There is very little to distinguish this stuff from the material once distributed by such organizations as the Christian Mobilizers, the Silver Shirts and the Ku Klux Klan. There are the same appeals to greed and racial bigotry. The chief difference is that in this case the targets are not Negroes or Jews but the "Japrats," a term used to designate all Americans of Japanese origin.

The policy on which the Home Front Commandos have been organized is published as a slogan on one of its leaflets: "No Jap is now fit to associate with human beings." Consequently, if the organization can have its way, Japanese after the war are to be prevented from engaging in any business, from owning agricultural lands, from finding employment, from obtaining education, and boycotted in general until they take the hint and clear out of the country for good. "Now," says the pamphlet, "is the time to prepare for the peacetime war."

Among various duties of the Home Front Commando are the following:

Fill out an application card, mail in a dollar; agitate, and advocate, the deportation of Japs; join your county local chapter; perform the duties assigned to you by the president of your local chapter; having pledged yourself see that you do not break the pledge and see that others do not, and report to your chapter chairman

or president any dereliction of the duties of an American.

Since we are at war with Japan, this kind of snooping and hate-mongering has the sanction of a certain pseudopatriotism. It has been, in fact, encouraged in certain high-brow quarters on the ground that hatred is an essential weapon of war. Here we have a pretty good example of whither this doctrine tends to lead. Let us suppose that the Home Front Commandos have their way and some 500,000 "Japrats," most of whom have never seen Japan, are sent back "to their rice paddies and Geshie girls, to their brothels and fish-mongering." Are we also to assume that so lucrative a business will be liquidated? Scarcely. There will be plenty of other minorities left to work on—and plenty of customers willing and eager to pay \$1 a head for a license to work on them.