

# THE ENTERPRISE

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### It Did Happen Here

It has been said that in this a supposedly civilized community with its ministers of the gospel, its extensive law-enforcement agencies and welfare setups that no one need starve. Possibly no one need starve, but an old colored woman was found starving to death in her home here a few days ago. Day after day the victim of a cruel husband and a thoughtless people lay helpless in her bed, starvation creeping ever closer as a coordination of public sentiment and power of police and welfare forces failed of action to correct a horrid wrong.

Attempts were made to relieve the victim, but those efforts were stilled by an impudent Negro. Possibly all was done that could have been done, but it is a reflection on society and laws of the land when one who would deliberately starve a human being to death is not required to answer for such a dastardly act. Even dumb beasts have the protection of the law, but in this case a human being was for weeks deserted to the cruelties of an inhuman husband, society and its tax-supported agencies accomplishing little or nothing in relieving the suffering of the old colored woman.

The very fact that one human would starve another is bad in itself, but the most serious charge is to be answered by society for allowing such a thing to happen.

### Who Drafted Roosevelt?

Republicans and enemies of Roosevelt are now declaring that he pulled the wires which resulted in the election of delegates committed to a third term, that he continues blood-thirsty for power.

Possibly Mr. Roosevelt wanted to be re-nominated; we don't believe he did. But if he did and even if all the things he is charged with are true, the common people are satisfied. They are satisfied because they wanted him re-nominated. Long before the third-term question was pushed to the front, the masses expressed the wish that Mr. Roosevelt would run again. And this being true in a democratic country then what can be so wrong about running Mr. Roosevelt for a third term?

It has been the custom in years gone for the people to meet in the precincts, counties and states and instruct delegates to the conventions. The delegates, acting to satisfy the people back home, maneuvered their votes after the first ballot at the direction of the political bosses. Much wool was pulled over the delegates at the Republican convention in Philadelphia last month when a high-powered trust swamped the delegates with telegrams and brought about the nomination of Mr. Willkie. Last week it was a different story at the Democratic convention in Chicago. The wishes of the common people were upheld. They were not sidetracked as they had been so many times in past years.

While there are those who will harp on the third term as a major issue in the campaign now getting underway, the very fact that Roosevelt was renominated for a third term demonstrates the workings of a true democracy, and when there is true democracy there is still hope for the future in this fair land of ours.

### Unfortunate

It is unfortunate that the Republicans chose Wendell L. Willkie for their Presidential nominee when feeling is running so high against Germany. Mr. Willkie, while of direct German descent, is a true American and the fact that his father came to this country from Germany should not be given a place in the Presidential campaign now getting underway. Mr. Willkie volunteered in the last war, and his record will stand up as an American citizen. His nomination is not to be connected with the German problem even though his party has played the part of an innocent ally to Germany through its isolationist theory.

The American people have other reasons for voting against Willkie, the foremost of which is his power record. If the Democrats can't lick him on his business record, they will do well to ignore his ancestral ties.

### Good For A While Longer

Walther Funk, the German economist, would render gold valueless in his plan to make Germany dictator of world trade. What Funk means to say that Germany might be forced to advance a new base for its currency, and his declaration leads one to believe that Uncle Sam has an ace in the hole, after all.

What Mr. Funk overlooked when he casually declared that gold was valueless is the human love for the metal. We have placed gold above honor; we have literally worshipped it, and no man is going to destroy that love over night. It is reasonable to believe that while it rests unmolested in the hills of Kentucky gold will be good for a while longer.

### A Strong Ticket

#### The Smithfield Herald.

The Democratic national ticket of Franklin Roosevelt for president and Henry Wallace for vice president is the strongest ticket the Democratic party could have put forward in this year of 1940.

President Roosevelt stands head and shoulders above any of the liberal Democrats and is the only representative of the New Deal philosophy with color, personality and popularity enough to assure a Democratic victory in November. Had the Democrats nominated a conservative for president, it would have been the equivalent of handing the presidency back to the Republicans, who specialize in "stand pat" conservatism and cannot be surpassed when it comes to administering this kind of government.

Secretary Wallace is perhaps the soundest thinker, philosopher and practical administrator of all the New Deal leaders President Roosevelt has gathered about him in Washington. While agriculture is his forte, he has a broad concept of the functions of government in all fields that fully equips him for the presidency should he ever be called upon to assume that office. For the Democrats at Chicago to have renominated Vice President Garner or named some other conservative as a running mate for President Roosevelt would have appeased very few opponents of the New Deal and would have seriously weakened the Democratic cause, the strength of which lies in 100 per cent endorsement of President Roosevelt's record and continued advocacy of measures designed to lift the living standard of the average American and those at or near the bottom of the economic ladder.

The anti-New Deal press charges that the action of the Democrats in choosing President Roosevelt for a third term and in naming the President's choice for vice president represented a flout of democracy. Such charges, while easily understood, are misinterpretations of what went on at Chicago.

The anti-New Deal papers played up reports that while the convention voted practically 100 per cent for the Roosevelt third term, actually a great many of the delegates supporting the President were uncomfortable throughout their stay at Chicago and suppressed their true wishes under political duress applied by New Deal politicians. The papers also played up the fact that boos and catcalls came from the convention floor when Secretary Wallace was nominated for vice president and when it was mentioned that he was the choice of President Roosevelt.

The anti-New Deal press concluded that the 1940 convention was a farce, that it was vastly different from Democratic conventions of the past when the delegates were free to do as they willed, that this year's convention was a slap in the face of democracy.

A great many of these charges are true. Many of the delegates supporting Roosevelt were uncomfortable and they were voting against their wishes. The Chicago convention was different from conventions of past years in that the delegates generally were not free to vote as they willed. But those commentators and editorial writers asserting that the delegates were hog-tied while a few machine politicians rammed the Roosevelt-Wallace ticket down their throats missed the point.

The delegates at Chicago were not free to manipulate the convention as in the past because the people back home in primaries and conventions had instructed their representatives to vote for President Roosevelt for a third term and there was an implied instruction that the vice presidential candidate ought to be a 100 per cent New Dealer. Instead of the Democratic convention of 1940 being a slap in the face of democracy, it represented the truest expression of democracy that a Democratic or Republican national convention perhaps has ever shown.

The issue in this year's national election is not whether American shall break the myth of the anti-third term tradition. The real issue has been stated by no less a person than Wendell L. Willkie, the Republican nominee for president, who declared during the course of the Democratic convention that he hoped President Roosevelt would be renominated because the President was the foremost representative of "the other side" of the question. The question is whether the Roosevelt New Deal program should be continued. Mr. Willkie says that it should not. Mr. Roosevelt says that it should. The people will have their say so in November.

Seaman Sam says the little girl who used to want an all day sucker now wants one for just one evening when she desires to go to a swell dance or to see a new show.—U. S. Tennessee Tar.

### Merchants Turn To Cotton



Cotton merchants of the exchanges of New Orleans, Dallas, Houston and Memphis recently celebrated a special Cotton Day by coming to the floor in complete cotton outfits. In New Orleans exchange members endorsed the idea by giving a unanimous observance to Cotton Day. Wearing cotton suits at the New Orleans Exchange are (left to right) Henry Flauche, secretary; Garner H. Tullis, president, and Joe N. Stewart, vice-president.

### Liquor Taxes Are Highest In Nation

For several years the alcoholic beverage industry has been among the nation's leading industries in total federal, state and local tax payments. Last year the industry paid more than a billion dollars in taxes, according to Schenley Distillers Corp. On July 1 there went into effect an increased federal tax of 75 cents a gallon on distilled spirits for national defense funds.

Trade observers point out that with public sentiment so united in favor of adequate national defense, the government stands a better chance of realizing the full anti-

### Farm People Should Cull Out Their Poultry Flock

Edmund Aycock, assistant farm agent in Johnston County, is telling farm people to cull out all the non-layers from their poultry flocks and to eat those hens which have quit producing eggs when they want chicken for dinner.

Revenue from liquor taxes than if the increase had been made for general tax purposes. It is felt that state governments will be less likely to add new taxes on liquor at this time for fear that such action would increase the cost to the consumer to a point that would encourage illicit production of liquor and thereby reduce the revenue which the federal government expects to collect for national defense.



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### Take Chance On Weather, Farmers

Weather conditions are sometimes unfavorable for the growing of vegetables in late summer and early fall in many sections of the State, but H. R. Niswonger, Extension horticulturist of N. C. State College, says the odds in favor of good weather for vegetable-growing are high enough for rural people to take a chance.

"It is said," he declared, "that nature will contribute 90 per cent to the growing of vegetables if you will devote your energy to the balance, or 10 per cent. If this is true, then plant during the next six weeks a few vegetables for an early fall harvest."

Niswonger recommends that, for Eastern North Carolina, cabbage plants be set between now and August 15; beets and carrots should be planted from August 20; collards, nips and turnip salad, in August; and spinach, Swiss chard and tomatoes, in July and August.

For Western North Carolina, sow lettuce seed in rows during August and thin out 12 inches apart, and sweet corn, kale, Swiss chard, tomato anytime during July and August plant snap beans, carrots, collards, peas and turnips.

The extension specialist also recommends that in making plans for a garden, it is wise to consider the following small fruits: strawberries, youngberries and raspberries. "Two or three hundred strawberry plants growing of one or more of the fold and 25 each of Young or Boysenberry variety of dewberries and the red raspberry will supply your family with these home fruits," he says.

Niswonger reports that many farm families have grown small fruits in the home gardens for the first time this year, and they are delighted with the results.

### Lenoir Reports The Best Corn Crop In Many Years

What is probably the best corn crop in many years is now growing in Lenoir County, says Farm Agent G. M. Swicegood, who also reports that other crops are in excellent condition.

Visiting in Hertford Mrs. Charles Godwin, Jr., is visiting relatives in Hertford this week.

### Industrial Activity To Continue High

The other "good bet" is that business between now and fall is going to continue at present high levels. The Federal Reserve Board reports that the June index of industrial activity was 114 per cent of normal, which shows that the "old nag" still has some life left after all. On the other hand, it's not likely that business will expand much beyond the current point for the time being, according to an opinion expressed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in Washington. This thought is backed by private observers too. Economic Statistics, Inc., a New York forecasting agency, for example, holds that general business activity is beginning to level off after a rise of more than 20 per cent in less than three months.

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