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The 1941 Legislature

Following a line of least resistance, the North Carolina General Assembly folded its tent and quit Raleigh late last Saturday night. Although it accomplished little in the way of progressive legislation, the session did little harm, and the people can rejoice along with the poorer legislators that the meeting was one of the shortest in more than a decade.

The lawmakers lifted the sales tax on table foods, and while the action will be accepted as a great accomplishment, it is a recognized fact that the improved outlook in other income brackets made it possible. The question is, Will the legislature include foods in the list when the next emergency presents itself?

There was a great deal said about education. But much of the talk about schools has little more than an empty meaning.

The mandate of the people as recorded by constitutional amendment was again disregarded, and while the owner of intangibles and personal properties get their exemptions and the income tax payers get certain consideration, the small home owner pays down to the last dollar.

Income was literally worshipped as a real god, the legislature refusing to act contrary to the will of the almighty tax dollar. As a result the people were denied a right to vote on the liquor question.

Not so long ago, Governor Broughton said that no state can progress at the expense of the man who labors, but the Legislature would not act in behalf of the worker, leaving him to the mercy of the unscrupulous employer. That many workers will get a fair and square deal is not doubted, but the employer who would recognize the humanity in the working man is placed at a disadvantage by the employer possessed of inhuman qualities.

Agriculture possibly made some gains in the eyes of the Legislature, and it is believed that the lawmakers for the first time admitted that the farmer is entitled to a place in our economic order.

There were created the usual commissions for the study of various problems. A new department was created and none of the many was abolished.

With the possible exception that he will not pay a sales tax on table foods, the average man will see little change in his way of life following the 1941 session of the North Carolina Legislature. And it is possible that the one accomplishment in the sales tax structure will be wiped out by basic price increases.

It was just another session of the Legislature, but a short one and that's something the people are to be thankful for.

Legalized Slavery Invites Strikes

Marked by mediocrity, North Carolina's Legislature is closing its 1941 session, and in a search of its every act there is little that can be found to glorify the chosen few. It leaves with the people an aggravated puzzle, for no one has been able to understand yet why more money is appropriated and so few tangible results follow the spending orgy during the following two years. It is sincerely believed that North Carolina would have been far better off, as a whole, had the 1941 session been skipped. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent, and there is little to show for it in the records. High salaries were increased for some few, and attempts were made to increase others, but those who would court the superior court judges were scared by public opinion. There is something fishy about the work in the cosmetics department, the increased salaries for the inspectors and longer training periods for operators suggesting that some "hot" lobbying was done.

The schools and teachers were virtually ignored, and out of the whole confounded mess, the average citizen will discover not one thing that will materially better his lot.

The 1941 legislature has officially legalized slavery and opened wide the door for strikers. Just as surely as a war was fought over slavery in the sixties, a war possibly of less violence and in a different form will follow the present policy for ignoring the needs of the working

man. As great as the State of North Carolina is, that legislative committee last week proclaimed that it was not able to live unless capital could work women more than 48 hours a week and men more than 55 hours a week.

No mention was even made about wages. Labor in North Carolina has been deserted, but the members of the legislative subcommittee and others will rush to condemn working men if they resort to other measures to support what they believe is right and what is right in the sight of the Almighty. Official North Carolina has gone on record as favoring the subjugation of the common people, and if North Carolina is ever to progress it cannot do so by making the poor poorer and the rich richer. In this connection, Senator O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, said the other day, "If the democratic world had been successful in preventing the growth of the proletariat, there never would have been such a thing as the rise of the totalitarian state."

If North Carolina is to be free of strikes and strife, it must recognize the human values wrapped under a pair of blue denim overalls. But official North Carolina comes along and licenses employers to enslave human beings who were asking that their hours of toil be limited to 48 for women and 55 for men, and they were asking for that and no more when the nation is burdened with surpluses in nearly every field.

Some ask how will it be possible to pay a worker 25 cents an hour? That question is easy to answer beside one that asks how a man can support himself, his wife and little children on less than \$12 a week. It is true that a wage and hour law would call for some adjustments, and possibly the hardships would be great for some, but those hardships would be no greater than the ones now experienced by the man who is trying to support his family and meet his obligations to his country. But all that is aside the point, for North Carolina has sold labor and others who toil down the river.

Ambassador Winant

Christian Science Monitor.

A few years ago a simple, earnest and modest man, tall, with a stoop and manner often called Lincolnlike, landed in Washington as chairman of the first Social Security Board. He had been three times Governor of New Hampshire and came from a family which provided its own social security, but it was said he faced Washington society without a tailcoat or white tie. Going now to wartime London as American Ambassador, John G. Winant will be no silk-breeches diplomat.

Traditionally accredited to the Court of St. James's, he will be rather an envoy to the "little people" of Britain who have come to the front in this war and will have a large voice in shaping the world that comes after it. Mr. Winant is reputed to be a poor administrator, but he has been entrusted with one administrative task after another. He is a dreamer, but has succeeded in business and politics. There are reports that Mr. Roosevelt will appoint a leading industrialist as Minister to London, to handle the increasing amount of financial and business relations which clears through the Embassy. Such a team should function beautifully.

As the trusted friend of the President, Ambassador Winant can speak splendidly to the British people for the great forces of American democracy which are pledged to lend a hand in defending freedom. As chairman of the International Labor Office, Mr. Winant has won friendships which will facilitate his relations particularly with the Labor leaders who are playing an increasing part in Britain's war effort. In Geneva also he has developed a viewpoint which should help in Anglo-American efforts to build a better world when peace comes.

My Idea Of A Successful Life

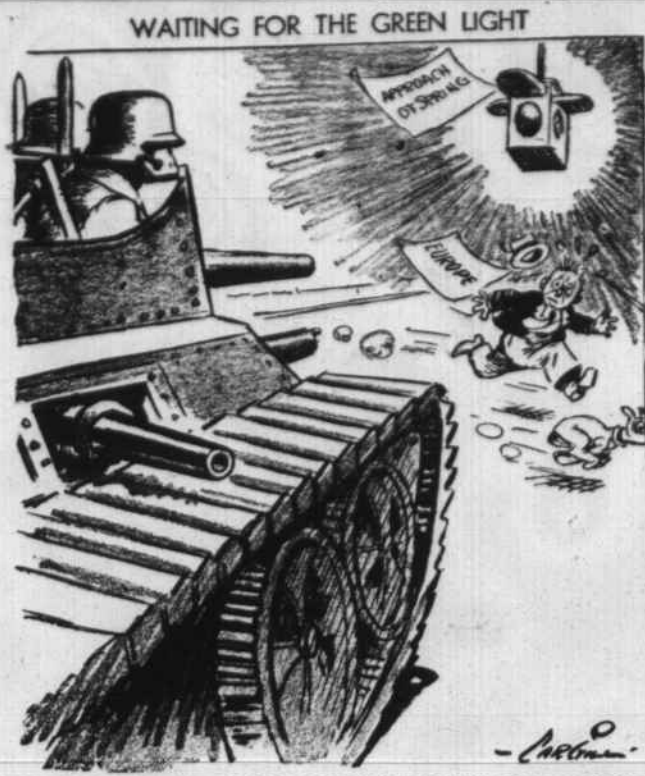
My idea of a successful life is typified by a little 70-year-old mother who has never been many miles from her present home. She is bent and wrinkled, yet has the happiest face I have ever looked into. She has had few opportunities and little education but she has six fine children and she wanted them to have the things which had been denied her.

She is not a Florence Nightingale but many nights her tired hands have rubbed a child's fevered brow. She is not a Frances Perkins but she taught these children the dignity and importance of labor, whether it be chopping wood or wiping dishes. She is not a Rosa Bonheur but she painted many a mental picture of what her children might become some day if only they applied themselves. She is not a Jenny Lind but many are the lullabies she sang to sleepy babies. She is not a Madame Curie but she had a laboratory—her nursery.

She is successful because she felt a responsibility for rearing aright the children God gave her. She set a goal for them and has succeeded in reaching it. Her hands are calloused by churning the butter, milking the cows, and attending to the poultry, yet in this way she obtained funds to educate her children, who are today contributing to medicine, science, education, and agriculture.

Wouldn't you say this mother had lived a successful life?—Falcon Guthrie, Halifax County, Va., in The Progressive Farmer.

Nine times out of ten, the fellow who advertises to the world that he pays big taxes to public tax collectors is the guy who extracts big rates out of the public, mostly meaning that he turns over the cash but that the public really pays the bill.



North Carolina's Youngest Governor Was A Mountaineer.

Governor of North Carolina at 32 years of age is an honor that tells its own story. Being chief executive implies personality, leadership, education, influence, intellect and popularity. However, it is fortunate that a playboy's handsome appearance is not a requirement for David Lowry Swain possessed none of the last feature. He was blessed with an abundance of the others.

Swain, the mountaineer from Buncombe County, was born 140 years ago in 1801. He attended school in the vicinity of his home before entering the junior class of the University of North Carolina. He was at the University only four months before removing to Raleigh to study law under Chief Justice Taylor.

When the future governor completed his studies in 1822, in the words of Governor Vance, he returned to the mountains with his "license in his pockets and a sweet heart in his eye." The people living in Buncombe were quick to perceive ability and quality. They returned him to Raleigh as their representative in the General Assembly.

As a legislator during five sessions Swain aligned himself with the progressive members who stood strong for improvements in roads and communication, for education, and for a more democratic constitution. He was so well known and popular that

he was the subject of a compromise in the far eastern section of North Carolina. There was contention among the candidates for the position of solicitor of the extreme eastern district, and none was willing to withdraw. It was settled by all the candidates withdrawing in favor of Swain even though he was from the extreme opposite end of the state. He served that district for a year before resigning. In 1830 he was elected judge in the Raleigh district.

David Lowry Swain, while a young man, amassed an astonishing record as a political servant. The record was more remarkable because of the fact that he was from that section of the state which had time before he had arrived at his little political recognition at that thirtieth mile stone, the future governor had been a member of the legislature for five terms, had served a year as solicitor, and had been elected judge of the Superior Court.

After two years as judge, Swain's record of youthful accomplishments was even more remarkable. At that time he was 32, and at that age he was elected governor.

David Lowry Swain served the constitutional limit of three consecutive years; and he continued his service to his state as president of the State University.

Oldsmobile Lists Latest Advantages

Oldsmobile Sixes and Eights equipped with the exclusive advantage of Hydra-Matic Drive have now reached a volume, since this feature was first introduced, of more than 75,000 cars, according to a bulletin issued yesterday by D. E. Ralston, Oldsmobile's general sales manager. "Inroads on the vast bank of un-filled orders for Oldsmobile cars with this feature have been consistent throughout the past several months," said Ralston. Gradually our transmission department has achieved a manufacturing program that has enabled us to care for an increasing percentage of this consistent and growing demand for Hydra-Matic equipped cars. Dealers today, for the first time in the history of Hydra-Matic drive, are in a position to promise buyers early delivery of 1941 Oldsmobiles with this feature. Approximately one-half of the new Oldsmobiles built each day are now equipped with Hydra-Matic drive.

"Performance of our cars with this feature has been outstanding. Hundreds of unsolicited letters, from owners, on file at Lansing verify and emphasize this statement. Combined mileages of these 75,000 cars are conservatively estimated at more than two hundred million miles, and surveys made by our service department also reveal that all of these cars are rendering thorough satisfaction to our owners."

Outbreaks Of Cholera Are Noted In Bertie County

Recent outbreaks of cholera and other swine diseases have brought a flood of requests for vaccination in Bertie County, reports R. D. Smith, assistant farm agent of the Extension Service.

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