

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

"ABILITY TO PAY" A FACTOR IN DEMAND OF LABOR

The General Motors Corporation has not strengthened its case with the public by walking out on the Fact-Finding Board set up by the President to consider the strike of the corporation's employees.

In October Charles E. Wilson, president of the company, stated that the next wage increase, demanded by the United Automobile Workers, would lead to a 30 per cent increase in the price of cars.

Walter P. Reuther, union official, however, asserted that higher volume production would make possible higher wages, lower prices and high and stable profits to stock-holders. He said that the company could grant the wage increase, cut the prices on Chevrolet \$100 and still earn "at least \$100,000,000 more than its prewar 1936-39 average of \$180,000,000."

Subsequently, the President appointed his fact-finding committee, evidently thinking that the dispute should be considered in the light of the truth or falsity of conflicting statements, made by union leaders and company spokesmen. When this board met, with the announced purpose of

considering the company's ability to pay the company withdrew.

The position of General Motors was stated by its attorney, who admitted that the company did not plead inability to pay as a reason for rejecting any wage recommendation but that the measurement of this ability involved "forecasts, assumptions, consumer demand, both foreign and domestic, and uncertain variables as to material and labor costs" which the board could not completely determine.

It was also contended, by the company's attorney, that since this information would be confidential to the board, neither party would be aware of the evidence and calculations "upon which the board predicated its findings—a result not likely to promote confidence in the minds of the parties."

Obviously overlooked is the fact that the refusal of the company to permit the board to have facts as to its financial ability to pay is not likely to promote confidence in its position, either by the board or the public. Equally apparent is the fact that the attorney's statement seems to contradict the Wilson assertion predicting a 30 per cent increase in car prices if the union demand is met.

Just how far any union is justified in demanding wage increases is a matter under development but that there is a definite, if rather uncertain, relationship between wages and the ability of the employer to pay can hardly be denied. This is evidenced by the repeated assertions of various em-

ployers, when confronted by wage demands, that their business was unable to meet the demands and earn a fair profit.

It seems to us that the President's fact-finding board, in considering the strike of the General Motors employees, would have to have some definite information as to the ability of the company to meet the demands before it could with intelligence make a recommendation. As we understand the board procedure the books of the company would be examined by its experts without disclosing the facts to the public.

INDIAN LEADER FLAYS U. S. ATTITUDE TOWARD INDIA

Jawaharlal Nehru, one of the leaders of the Indian Nationalist Congress, says that the United States and Russia are struggling for the dominant world position and that we are "underwriting the British empire" in order to have "others line up" with us in the future that faces the world.

Nehru, we presume, would suggest that the United States line up with the All India Congress, that if the nationalists in India are unable to do anything for themselves that the people of the United States fight their battles and that, in the process, we should willingly alienate the people most akin to us and most likely to be our ally in the event of serious trouble.

The threat of revolt in Asia is hurled at the English-speaking peoples unless they follow the advice of Nehru, who says that it "will be a continuing revolt of millions with a passion behind it which even the atomic bomb will not suppress" and that from it will develop "the third world war."

We suppose this is calculated to frighten everybody except Nehru and his followers. So far as we are concerned the time has come for the United States to stand on its feet and talk turkey to all the recalcitrant minorities and disgruntled peoples in the world who try to capitalize upon our love for freedom and democracy.

PEOPLE MISLED IN 1931 TO RELY UPON DISARMAMENT

In 1931, Arthur Henderson, British Foreign Secretary, made a speaking campaign to support the movement to reduce military and naval armament, painting a terrible picture of what the "next war" would be like.

Mr. Henderson quoted a great military expert as saying that in the 1914-18 war, he killed by retail, but in the next war "we shall do it by wholesale." He suggested that the next war would be fought by aircraft "with the use of poison gas."

The prediction of Mr. Henderson as to the nature of the "next war" has not been fulfilled. He was mistaken in urging his country to reduce its military and naval strength by working on the fears of his people as to the consequences of the struggle that might come. He seemed to think that peace could be guaranteed by disarmament and he was not alone in the belief.

The danger that Mr. Henderson overlooked, as he persuaded his people to disarm, has been powerfully emphasized in the minds of free people. While the democracies disarmed, in the effort to secure a firm peace, their adversaries stealthily increased their strength and, at the opportune moment, launched an attack that all but engulfed civilization.

We call attention to Mr. Henderson's speech, not because he was the only prominent leader to take this position, but because we happened to read it recently. There were similar statements made in this country. In fact, most of us were somewhat carried away by the dream of a disarmed and peaceful world. What we overlooked was the inherent devilry of potential enemies who did not hesitate to affirm any treaty, although already determined to wage an aggressive war.

The lesson may be helpful if it will persuade the people of Perquimans County and others in the United States, not to be carried away by the arguments of pacifists who advocate disarmament as a means to peace. The method has been tried with frightful results.

It is time for us to realize that when evil men control governments and begin a policy of aggression that there is only one way to stop them. It means meeting force with force and only when the force that is available to restrain aggression outweighs that of the aggressors will there be peace.

TRUMAN GOES TO PEOPLE IN SPEECH OVER THE AIR

President Truman did not fail to give his story to the people of this country in a radio broadcast last week, outlining the record of Congress on suggested legislation.

This address will also review his entire legislative program, probably discuss the strike situation and otherwise tell the people of the country about the "state of the Union."

The President has had the cooperation of Congress in regard to matters affecting the prosecution of the war and, to a large extent, his proposals in regard to international affairs have met with the approval of Congress. When it comes to domestic issues, however, the President has not been as successful in persuading the Congress to follow his recommendations.

Under the American system of government, a President, finding Congress reluctant to approve suggested legislation, has only one recourse. He must present his case to the people and if he can build up enough public support, the probability is that congressmen will fall in line. Most successful presidents have been adept in mobilizing public opinion in support

of their policies. Without this ability, a president is practically helpless.

CONTROL OF ROBOT BOMBS INTERESTS MILITARY MEN

The development of robot bombs, including those used by the Germans against England, requires some revision of strategic concepts. It has been assumed that the first line of defense, in a future war, will be the air force and upon this basis the aerial organization has won full equality with the Army and Navy, which meets with the approval of nearly everybody.

At the same time it is now generally believed that the day of the bomber is about over, that the next war will see self-propelled, long-range missiles fired from fixed land bases. The Air Force has claimed a prerogative in this field, asserting that it should have complete control of robot bombs.

This may be logical but there is no inherent reason why robot bombs, fired from bases, could not be handled as a part of the training of units in the Army and Navy. In fact, while some may be fired from planes to be built in the future, the chances are that many will be launched from warships, including submarines.

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24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood.

If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.

Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, etc.

Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulates the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

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Hertford, N. C.

NOTICE

Beginning January first, all Tax Listers of Perquimans County, North Carolina, will sit at the following places and on the dates mentioned below for the purpose of listing your PROPERTY TAXES for the year of 1946.

List In January and Save the Penalty

Belvidere Township

CARROLL V. WARD, List Taker

January 8 At Whiteston, R. M. Baker's Store

January 15 At Whiteston, Ralph White's Store

January 5, 12, 19, 26 At E. L. Chappell's Store

All other days during January at home.

Bethel Township

R. S. CHAPPELL, List Taker

January 5, 12, 19, 26 J. C. Hobbs' Store

January 9, 16, 30 J. C. Hobbs' Store at Night

January 23 At Court House in Hertford

January 18 in afternoon At M. T. Griffin's Store

All other days during January at home.

Hertford Township

J. O. WHITE, List Taker

January 5, 12, 19 At Court House in Hertford

January 9 and 16 At Court House in Hertford

January 21 through to 31 At Court House in Hertford

All other days during January at home.

New Hope Township

SETH LONG, List Taker

January 5, 12, 19, 26 At Community House, New Hope

January 18 At S. F. Harrell's Store

January 25 At Woodville, Bogue's Store

January 11 At J. B. Webb's Store, Durants Neck

All other days during January at home.

Parkville Township

RAYMOND STANTON, List Taker

January 9, 16 Chapanoke

January 5, 12, 19 Winfall

January 23 Jackson's Store

January 24 through to 31 Winfall

All other days during January at Winfall

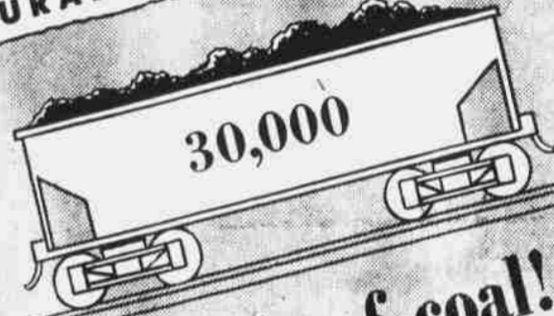
Each farmer, owner or his agent, must come forward to report the acreage of each crop to be harvested, or has been harvested, on his or his tenant's farm of the year 1945; also the number of acres cultivated, lying out, number of bearing fruit trees, and tons of other crops used for all crops.

Reports must be made now, and save time in listing, also avoid PENALTY for being delinquent, after January 31st, 1946. This is required by the State Law, Chapter 310, H. B. 45, Public Laws of North Carolina, Session, 1945.

J. W. WARD, Tax Supervisor

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