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SAM CARR Editor
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Murphy, North Carolina, Thursday, January 13, 1938

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK WILL BE FEATURED SCENIC ATTRACTION OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DURING 1938 TOURIST TRAVEL SEASON

Already occupying a position, second in popularity among all of the national parks in the United States, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, comprising 400,000 acres of scenic terrain on the boundary between North Carolina and Tennessee, is expected to be one of the principal scenic attractions for visitors in Western North Carolina during the travel seasons of 1938.

In recent years, the Great Smoky Mountains have been second only to the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia in point of volume of visitor travel. Last year over 700,000 visitors entered the Great Smokies. A somewhat larger total entered the Shenandoah, a sister national park in Virginia situated close to several large cities whose populations no doubt helped to swell the Shenandoah total.

Full development of the Great Smokies as a national park has not yet been undertaken, pending the acquisition of 27,000 acres of land in Tennessee, needed to complete the area and a referendum in the act of congress establishing the national park. It is believed that the additional land will be acquired soon and full development of the park will be accomplished in a short time after the minimum acreage is secured, according to national park officials.

Visitors travel into the Great Smokies this year, is expected to equal or exceed last year's volume of 727,243 as reported for the travel year ending September 30, 1937. The national park has been developed as to trails and highways to main points of interest. The principal travel route through the Smokies is from Cherokee, N. C. in the Indian reservation on the eastern boundary of the park to Newfound Gap on the summit of the Great Smokies and thence to Gatlingburg, Tennessee on the western boundary. The famous seven mile Sky Line Drive from Newfound Gap to Clingman's Dome, highest peak in the park is a principal touring route of great scenic interest.

The Great Smokies will be particularly popular in May and June when the azalea, laurel and rhododendron flower seasons are at their height; in midsummer when tourist travel in the highlands reaches a peak, and in autumn when leaf colors blanket the mountains in every shade conceivable, as the 150 or more varieties of trees present their autumnal hues in indescribable variety.

BABSON THINKS FUTURE BRIGHT

Many people base their hopes on the predictions of Roger Babson, the Boston Statistician who keeps tab on business and writes weekly letters covering the field. Mr. Babson is not one of the gloomy prophets for 1938.

We are not entering a major depression, says Mr. Babson. On the contrary, 1938 will see a resumption of the upward trend which began in 1933. The first quarter may be poor—much worse than the early months of 1937; but later in the year I look for a substantial revival. Do not confuse this current sharp recession with a major depression! Pay rolls, prices, stocks, real estate and jobs should all be on their way to new highs by the end of 1938.

"This December presents a tremendous contrast with a year ago. Then the old year was riding into the history books on a great wave of optimism and hope. 'Good times' lay over the horizon of 1937. The dark years of 1929-35 were drowned out in a hurricane of wage boosts, dividend extras and gigantic Christmas trade. My forecast at that time was '1937 will be the first year of real prosperity since 1929. The entire year's gain should average seven to eight per cent above 1936'.

"Prosperity did come. Business did average 7 per cent above 1936. This past August the Babson-chart stood at 8 per cent above normal, higher than it had been for seven years. But after Labor day the squall, which had been brewing all year, suddenly struck. High taxes, political muddling, labor agitation, and thin stock markets created a tornado of distrust and fear. The result has been one of the sharpest business declines on record. The Babson-chart is now 19 percent below normal.

"The current gloom will continue to hurt business

THE ALL-UNAMERICANS

Not the least of the mythical "bests" for 1937 is the New York Gourmet society's "All-American" dinner which the 150 lovers of fine food consumed recently at a Gotham hotel. The menu, which claimed "many unique foods from our American paradise" was, we suspect, a condescension to our simple native gastronomy, for the gourmets regularly dine on alien delicacies strange to American folkways.

However, like most All-American selections. The New Yorker's leaves much to be desired, rising, of course, to defend our sectional dishes. The sins of omission should bring a mighty wail from the cook-page columnists: too few Bershaks, no Hackneys.

The staple dishes on the gourmets' menu were: Blue Point Oysters, Long Island; Corn Muffins, Iowa; Roast Sirloin of Beef; Middle West; Irish Potatoes, Washington; Curried Cabbage, Louisiana; Tomatoes, Ohio; Cafe Rico, Puerto Rico and after dinner frills from Pennsylvania, Hawaii and California. The Southern conference was pretty generally ignored, despite a hard schedule.

Why, we demand, does the All-American menu disregard hominy and yams? Where are the hot biscuits, the hoe cake and the corn bread? No black-eyed peas? What of turnip greens and molasses? The absence of fried chicken is a dereliction almost too grievous to note.

In the future, let the gourmets scout more widely for their All-Americans, lest the fans rise in rebellion at the omission of their favorites and the fallacy of picking a team from the aloof sanctuary of a Manhattan dining table.—Asheville Citizen.

GETTING FED UP

Since Hitler came to power in Germany it has been customary for citizens to greet one another with "Heil (Hail) Hitler," instead of the former customary salutations. But recent reports are to the effect that the sensible German rank and file are getting tired of all this hailing. The Nazi leaders, however, insist on its continuance, in the mistaken idea that such lip-service to the dictator will insure his permanent popularity.

It is characteristic of the average human being to become weary of hero-worship after so long a time. For that reason the wise hero doesn't encourage his admirers to overdo it. In our own country we have seen popular persons publicized to an extent that has been no less than ridiculous.

Enough of anything is a plenty and when people get fed up with hearing and reading about someone, that someone is usually on the way out.

THE WAYS OF CROOKS

An interesting sidelight on the ways of professional criminals is given in a magazine article which declares that cities where these gentry habitually congregate to spend their loot are seldom the scene of their banditry.

The writer cites the case of Toledo, long known as being unusually free from underworld crime, yet all the time the rendezvous for safe-crackers, hold-up men and other desperate crooks. It was an unwritten law among them that no "jobs" were to be pulled off in Toledo, and although the police knew of their presence, they were not molested, because, as the chief said: "We never bother them, because they never bother us."

Finally a new public commissioner was appointed, and when he learned of the situation he ordered a clean-up. Then, to quote the article: "There were immediate retaliations. Safes began to explode like fire-crackers on the Fourth. Hold-ups became as common as measles. Cops shot crooks and crooks shot cops. Today Toledo is no longer immune."

One difficulty said to be experienced in catching present-day criminals of the professional class is that many of their old underworld haunts which were formerly well-known to the police have been broken up. The crooks are scattered throughout the cities, often living in comparative security in high-class neighborhoods. Thus a new and serious complication of the criminal problem has arisen for which no solution appears to be forthcoming.

during the early months of 1938. But while activity will average at least 15 per cent below the first quarter of 1937, it should not fall much below current levels. During this discouraging period the base for resumption of the upward trend will be laid. The spring rally in 1938 will be much stranger than seasonal.

"By next Fourth of July, business should have recovered from a third to a half of its late 1937 loss. The revival will pick up momentum during the second half. How far it will go, it is of course, impossible to say now. Nevertheless, as a long shot, it would not surprise me if the 1937 peaks were equalled before next Christmas."

If Babson is any kind of a prophet—and we hope he is—the prospects for 1938 are bright and cheering.—Morganton News-Herald

"THE OUTLOOK IN CONGRESS", SUBJECT OF RADIO TALK BY SENATOR REYNOLDS

The following radio address entitled, "The Outlook in Congress," was delivered by U. S. Senator Robert R. Reynolds, of North Carolina, over the Columbia Broadcasting system Thursday evening:

Friends of the radio audience—I am grateful for the opportunity to speak to you from the Halls of Congress, here in the United States Capitol, and over the facilities of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

All Washington seems in the grip of activity that comes with the beginning of a Congressional session. The special session running until nearly Christmas, while not noteworthy from the standpoint of new laws enacted, did lay much of the groundwork for what is to be done during the weeks ahead. Thus the legislative course is clearer. There is a new determination to act on necessary legislation as speedily as possible. It seems obvious to everyone that business, agriculture and labor need the quickest possible assurance as to what effect, if any, Federal policies will have on their respective problems.

I wish that I might tell my listeners just what is going to happen in Congress between now and the date of adjournment, whether it be in April, May or June. But it is not easy to do this. However, some things stand out and may be summarized briefly.

The President's message, delivered four days ago, has been received with general favor. Its effect on the country has been helpful. There seems to be an easing of tension in Congress. The Chief Executive gave a word picture of what is needed. More specific recommendations may be expected later. But it is already evident that he wants the members of Congress to do some legislative thinking. As a result, it may be expected that there will be a better spirit of cooperation between the legislative and executive branches of the government. It will be a sort of "middle of the road" cooperation, designed to protect the gains we have made since 1932, and guard against losses in the future.

Farm Bill in Conference

Had the farm bill not been passed by both House at the special session, the Congressional situation would not be as hopeful as it is at the moment. The farm bill, designed to raise the level of farm prices through voluntary cooperation of farmers in limiting production, is now in the hands of Senate and House conferences. Its final enactment into a law to be speeded to the White House for Executive approval, may be expected within reasonable time. I am advised that emphasis is being placed on voluntary control of production by farmers themselves.

There seems to also be evident in this new session, an easing of "class consciousness", often reflected in the demands of members of Congress for specific gains for specific groups. Perhaps it is due to the realization that unless there is greater unity of action during the current business recession, the national situation may become worse. Congress is ready to avoid that all costs.

The President's budget message is now being studied by Congress. The estimates are not as low as some had hoped they might be. Yet these hopes were not built in anticipation of the ruthlessness of Japan in China nor new drops in employment. The latter, of course, places a heavier burden on the relief program.

Naturally, mention of the budget brings us to the subject of taxation an unpleasant subject anywhere, but a necessary one. There is much evidence that some phases of our present system of revenue are having some effect on business. Many members of Congress have long been impatient with some of the so-called "nuisance taxes" which were levied at the height of the national emergency and have since been continued from year to year. These latter have undoubtedly borne heavily on particular industries and businesses and particular groups of citizens, even though they have been passed along to the buying public—where all taxes are eventually passed.

New Tax Plan Expected

It is extremely likely that new tax legislation and relief expenditure will be live issues in Congress about the

DR. E. L. HOLT
Dentist - X-ray Specialist
Hill-Parker Bldg.
Murphy, N. C.

same time. The House Ways and Means Committee, which originates revenue legislation, will probably turn to hearings on a new tax program during the week beginning January 17. This would indicate House action early in February and consideration of the measure by the Senate sometime during the same month or early in March.

Some Congressional tax experts state that a strong effort will be made to give tax relief to smaller businesses and thereby encourage expansion in this field. It seems to be true that some large corporations which have bitterly protested existing taxes are those which showed heavy profits during 1936, as compared to losses in 1932.

In this connection, there is hope that monopolies may be better defined and constructive action taken to correct such evils as may exist. Some of these have been pointed out from time to time by the Federal Trade Commission. Obviously we cannot fight evil monopolies in 1938 with laws designed to fight conditions in the eighties. There is a distinct difference between some corporations, however large and greedy monopolies. The job is to draft laws that will reach the latter without hurting legitimate industry and business.

DANGEROUS

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