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RECORD EARNINGS

Well, we finally made it. After 12 long years it is now possible to say that the people of the United States are earning more money than ever before in history.

Income payments to individuals reached a record high during May, equal to an annual rate of \$34,000,000,000. This compares with total income payments last year just under \$76,000,000,000 and a peak figure in 1929 of just over \$82,000,000,000.

Let's take a quick look at some of the places this earning power is coming from. Every day nearly 130,000 freight cars are being loaded with commodities and merchandise of all kinds. Down at the shipyards the Navy's construction program involves more ships than have been turned out in the last 25 years. In the construction industries business is humming.

Residential building alone is at the best pace since 1928 when 750,000 new dwelling units went up. The steel industry in the first half of 1941 produced a record-breaking total of 41,000,000 tons. That's within 20 per cent of steel output in all 1917, peak year of World War I.

And so it goes throughout the warp and woof of our present national defense economy.

Yes sir! America has gone to work with a vengeance. They say that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but there is no need to worry on this score. It seems that 83 per cent of U. S. families play cards. More homes have playing cards than radios.

Contract bridge is still the most popular game, and it's on the increase. Second most popular game with women is auction bridge; with men it's poker.

Pinochle ranks third with both sexes.

WOMEN IN WAR

How about women's place in the defense program? In Britain, women have taken over many actual duties ordinarily handled by men, in addition to civilian jobs like driving buses, making munitions and farming. Many Britishers fear the girls will not readily surrender their new jobs after the war, and it might mean an economic and social upheaval.

"Over here," the American Women's Voluntary Service is speeding up its organization, college girls are studying defense work and many volunteer ambulance units are being formed. One big firm is sponsoring first aid courses where employees learn to take care of disaster victims, while at the Frankford arsenal in Philadelphia several hundred women have been trained for jobs ranging from packing munitions to adjusting time fuses.

Even though there's been talk of conscripting women, most observers believe American intervention in the war would not cause much upheaval as it has in Britain. Ambulance driving and first aid work, yes, but only minor replacement of men in business.

The most profound effect may be on femininity. Fewer permanent waves, less makeup, more slacks and

Washington Snapshots
by JAMES PRESTON

Typical of Washington is the way in which tax measures designed to raise added revenues for defense, which seemed to be going along as swimmingly as could be expected, have come a cropper in the last week or so. And the reason for all this is as curious as it is unfortunate.

The progress of the new tax bill was upset by the injection into the House Ways and Means Committee of highly controversial material coming directly from the Administration as "must" legislation.

Included among the "musts" listed by the Administration were even stiffer levies on industry, which was already heavily taxed and in line to be taxed still more heavily under the terms of the original measure. It is believed by many who ought to know that these steps would have a disastrous effect upon many business concerns, included in that category being some of the most enterprising.

Actually, the gist of the matter is this:

Extensive hearings had been held in committee on the proposed new tax legislation. Experts from many fields had the opportunity to present their case. Then suddenly, after a bill had been drafted on the basis of all this discussion, the White House "musts" were tossed into the situation like egg into a revolving fan.

In other words, the introduction of the tax "must" was a last minute thought—or lack of it. Meanwhile, the taxpayer awaits a decision and wonders what his fate will be.

A Congressional committee, in reporting a new Army appropriation bill is quoted as declaring that among those who deserve Congressional thanks are "our peerless industrialists and those of their work forces who have responded magnificently" to the needs of defense.

This startled one Southern editor to the extent that he sat down and wrote the following comment:

"One can almost see the embattled business leaders, rising warily to enquire, 'Who dat and who dat?' One can forgive them their natural suspicions. But it may be a good sign. There may actually be a change of heart high in administration centers."

Of course the editor in question expressed that hope before the above-mentioned tax bill changes were suggested by the Administration. If he had had the opportunity to observe the short-notice attempt to reverse carefully studied legislation, one wonders whether his comment on the general situation would have been quite so optimistic!

Washington Sidelights: You've all heard of sectionalism in politics. It is frequently a dangerous force, destructive of what is good for the nation as a whole. But in the following Congressional exchange among three members (who shall be identified here only as Congressmen A, B, and C) it was merely comic. The subject is location of new defense plants:

Rep. A.: "I respectfully submit that, outside of California, there is not a single plant west of the Mississippi River. It seems that the Mississippi River is the dividing line."

Rep. B.: "The gentlemen is in error because many of them go to Chicago."

Rep. C.: "Chicago is not west of the Mississippi River, may I inform the gentleman. . . ."

With all the talk about "gasless Sundays" that is now being heard, this might be a good time to remember the wry comment being credited here to newspapers in one foreign city that is under totalitarian domination. These ism-fearing papers are reported as saying that the height of luxury in their country is to "spill a drop of oil and wipe away the spot with gasoline."

W. N. C. Mountain Boy Takes 2nd Prize In Two-State Essay Contest on Farming

Completing with three other district winners in North and South Carolina, Carmel Hollingsworth, Waynesville High School student, won second prize of \$25 in the fourteenth annual Cooperative essay contest, sponsored by the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association and the Farmers Cooperative Exchange.

First prize of a one-year tuition scholarship to North Carolina State College and \$100 in cash went to 14-year old J. F. Allen, Jr. of Montgomery County. Third prize of \$15 went to Miss Dorothy McIntyre of Red Oak High School, fourth prize of \$10 went to Meldrum Crapse of Estill High School, the only South Carolina winner, and fifth prize of \$7.50 went to Henry Napier of Polkton High School.

Speaking on the subject, "Agriculture in the Carolinas Yesterday Today, and Tomorrow," Hollingsworth said, in part:

"The farmer can never attain a substantial degree of prosperity, as long as he buys his supplies that go into livestock and crop production at retail and then turns around and sells at wholesale."

low-heeled shoes.

Speaking of women a recent survey shows that the female of the species is wealthier than the male. Women in the United States control 70 per cent of all private wealth, and they spend more than a thousand dollars every second.

They buy 90 per cent of all food, 95 per cent of all furniture, 75 per cent of all clothing. They even purchase 63 per cent of all men's ties!

There are 37,000,000 adult able-bodied women in America, and their estimated collective holdings exceed \$210,000,000,000.

Mrs. Posey Lists State Centers For Student Workers

Mrs. Willabelle Posey, in charge of NYA work in Cherokee County has announced the following list of training centers where County boys and girls can get work experience looking to employment in vital defense industries. Student workers are paid while learning.

Complete details can be gotten from Mrs. Posey at her office in the County Court house, in Murphy. The list of centers follows:

Washington—girls—clerical, cooking, nursing, and sewing.

Greensboro—girls—clerical instruction, and cooking.

Ansonville—boys—agriculture, construction, cooking, farm shop work, and forestry instruction.

Sardis—girls—clerical, cooking, laundry, nursing, and sewing.

Hickory Grove—boys—auto mechanics, construction and maintenance, laundry, cooking, and radio.

Durham—regular course, auto mechanics, construction, photography, woodworking, machine shop, radio, and sheet metal work.

Raleigh—regular course, cooking, photography, woodworking, machine shop, and sheet metal work.

Greenville—regular course, construction, photography, radio, woodworking, machine shop, and sheet metal work.

Wilmington—machine shop, sheet metal work, welding, and radio instruction.

Asheville—regular course, construction, photography, radio instruction, woodworking, and machine shop.

*** * * * * ACCIDENT FACTS * * * * ***

Anyone who thinks it takes two motor vehicles to make an accident would be greatly disillusioned by the Highway Safety Division's traffic accident summary for the first six months of this year.

This summary, completed this week, reveals that only 129 of the 345 traffic fatalities on North Carolina streets and highways the first half of this year involved collisions between two motor vehicles. The other 413 fatalities were distributed as follows: 159 involved collisions between motor vehicles and pedestrians, 116 involved motor vehicles that ran off the roadway due to excessive speed, 29 resulted from collisions between motor vehicles and railroad trains, 35 involved cars that overturned on the roadway, 20 resulted from collisions between motor vehicles and bicycles, 31 occurred in motor vehicles that struck fixed objects such as bridge abutments, 5 resulted from collisions between motor vehicles and animal-drawn vehicles, and 17 were other non-collision accidents such as when someone falls off a moving vehicle.

In other words, it doesn't take two cars to have an accident. If there's only one car on a highway and that car is driven improperly, at an excessive rate of speed or in a careless and reckless manner, that car can soon kill someone very quickly. It isn't "the other fellow" who causes an automobile to be hit by a train; it isn't "the other fellow" who causes automobiles to land upside down in a corn field after falling to straighten out a curve. In four out of five fatal accidents, there is only one motor vehicle involved, and the driver of that vehicle generally is at fault.

Another striking fact disclosed in the accident summary was that 211 of the 545 persons killed were under 25 years of age. Safety division records show a decided upward trend in fatal accidents involving young drivers.

NOBODY'S BUSINESS

By GEE McGEE

SOCIAL ITEMS OF MORE OR LESS INTEREST FROM FLAT ROCK

—Miss Jennie Veeve Smith, our affable scholl principle, has gone on a western tour with a party of friends, they plan to spend a while in Tennessee and Alabama. She has never been any further towards the Rockies than Georgia, and that was when she was a little girl, but she has refused to say how long ago that has been. They went by bus and will return in the same manner, she is taking this 300-mile trip instead of going to a summer school.

—A new enterprise will soon come to Flat Rock, it will be a saw mill and a engine and a place where brick can be bought. Mr. Jones will own and operate it, he is moving away from high taxes at the county-seat, by the time he got thru paying the city, county, state, federal, social security, unemployment, welfare, licenses to do business, license tags for trucks, plus all other kinds of taxes, nothing was left for him but his machinery and a pile of sawdust, he says the public is wrong when they worry about federal taxes. Their local taxes will take all the manny

—The all-nite swimming pool is doing a rushing trade at this riting. They have cut their swimming rates as follows: to go in with suit, c25, to go in without suit, c15, his soap, c5 extra, your soap, no charge. he has added another dressing room and now he has 4 in all. he runs it all night and sells beer and other soft drinks, none of his slot machines have been ketched by the sheriff in running order new, he has a trick where all of the money that is dropped into them falls thru the floor where nobody but him can get it. (towels must be fetched if needed.)

—Mr. Slim Chance Jr., has been hailed into court, he turns his mule and his cow out every night so's they acn graze on his nabor's crops and they got tired of him and his stock, he made like they broke out every night by theirselves, but the poleesman

Former Sheriff White Of Clay County Dead

John B. White, aged 67, died last Sunday at his home in Hayesville following a stroke. Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock from the Hayesville Baptist church with the Rev. J. H. Wilson officiating. Interment was in the Hayesville cemetery.

Mr. White, sheriff of Clay county for two terms, is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lena McCracken White of Hayesville and seven sons, Ray and Ruel of Massillon, Ohio, Fred of Unaka, Garland of Elberton, Ga., Mack of Orlando, Florida, Joe of Fort Custer, Mich, and David of Hayesville.

Ivie Funeral Home had charge of arrangements.

Bar Will Pay Tribute To James Mallonee Jr.

A general invitation has been extended to every person in this section to attend memorial services for James Mallonee Jr., to be held in the Courthouse in Murphy at 1:30 p. m., next Monday afternoon. The services will be conducted by the Murphy Bar Association.

In addition to Murphy attorneys, Messrs. Clyde Jarrett of Andrews and Robert Phillips and Jack Marphew of Robbinsville are expected to speak.

Young Mr. Mallonee, rising young attorney, member of the State Legislature, and chairman of the County School Board died several weeks ago.

He was spotted on him and saw him tear down the fence himself and drive them out, he will be sued for all kinds of damages and him and his mule both mought be impounded.

A HAPPY FAMILY

—I discovered Happy Family No. 1 last week. It was my pleasure to visit in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jones. Mr. Jones is a farmer. He owns 42 acres of land, 2 milch cows, 2 mules, 1 wagon, 1 model A Ford, 5 children, 1 wife and a five-room house with reasonably modern furnishings including electric lights and water works. Mr. and Mrs. Jones buy and sell for cash. They raise some vegetables and chickens and he has 6 bee-hives.

—Mr. Jones is the teacher of the men's Bible class at the little country church near him. His daughter, susie, plays the organ. Mrs. Jones is the president of the local missionary society. The two boys sing in the choir. Ettie, their oldest daughter, is married; she and her husband live nearby on a 31-acre farm, which they are gradually paying for. They live at home and board there. What they need they buy—if they have the money. What they want they don't buy unless they have the money with which to pay for it. Nothing but sickness or death will keep the Jones from attending church every Sabbath.

—Mr. Jones votes at every election and tries to pick the best men. When no "best men" are running for office he says he shuts his eyes and votes a full ticket. The Jones take a daily newspaper and 5 selected magazines. The entire family drives to the county seat once a week and takes in a good movie, choosing always one that children should see. Each person in the family has to earn his or her own money for this trip; if you can't buy your own ticket, you stay at home. But up to now, none of them has stayed at home. Every night and every morning family prayer is held after a chapter is read in the Bible. Each member of the family takes turns in conducting the worship.

—Mr. Jones does not want any more land. He is not interested in making any more money than enough to live on comfortably and lay up a little each month for a rainy day. He loves his neighbors and speaks highly of them and so does Mrs. Jones. He extends favors where favors are needed and deserved, but he rarely asks favors. He has no broken terraces or gullies or bermuda grass in his fields. He plants at least 4 new fruit trees every year. He keeps his house and premises looking nice and wherever he goes he carries a smile and a good word for everybody. The Jones really and truly know how to live.

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