

Louisburg

THEATRE
 Night Shows: 7:15 and 9:00
 15c and 30c
 Matinees: 3:30 Daily
 10c and 25c

Saturdays Continuous: 2 - 11
 10c and 25c until 6 o'clock

LAST TIMES TODAY—FRIDAY
MICKEY ROONEY
 Fay Holden - Lewis Stone
 Cecilia Parker - Ann Rutherford

"THE HARDY'S RIDE HIGH"

SATURDAY, MAY 6th
 Double Feature Day
JACK RANDALL

"DRIFTING WESTWARD"
 and
MARGARET LINDSAY

"ON TRIAL"

Also Chapter No. 4
"The Lone Ranger Rides Again"

SUNDAY, MAY 7th
 (One Day Only)
 Sunday Shows 3:30 and 9:00
 Cary Grant - Victor McLaglen
 Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

"GUNGA DIN"
 With
 Joan Fontaine - Eduardo Cianelli

MONDAY and TUESDAY
 MAY 8th - 9th
NELSON EDDY
 Virginia Bruce - Edward Arnold

"LET FREEDOM RING"

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10th
 John Howard - Heather Angel

"Bulldog Drummond's Secret Police"

THURSDAY and FRIDAY
 MAY 11th - 12th

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COMING NEXT WEEK
 Robert Taylor - Myrna Loy

"LUCKY NIGHT"
 EDW. G. ROBINSON

"Confessions of A Nazi Spy"
 (1939's most sensational picture)

COMING SOON
 In the Spring Parade of Hits
 Bette Davis in "Dark Victory."
 A return showing of Clark Gable in "San Francisco" and "Mutiny on the Bounty."
 James Stewart and Claudette Colbert in "It's A Wonderful World."
 Warner Baxter in "Return of The Cisco Kid."
 Joel McCrea in "Union Pacific."

South Victim Of Adverse National Says Bailey

North Carolina's Senior Senator Says South's Task is That of "Getting After Eighty Years, a Square Deal in The National Policy . . . to Be Had Only by Political Ultimatum"

The best explanation of the President's statement that the South is the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1 is given in the text of Senator Bailey's speech delivered Thursday night over the N. B. C. Program, "America's Town Meeting of the Air," under the auspices of the Carolina Political Union at the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Bailey's subject on this occasion was "Is the South the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1?" The text of his speech follows:

I. What is alleged as the basis of the statement that the South is the Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem?

The President says it is the problem of low industrial wages and low family consumer income in the South as compared with other regions.

What are the facts?
 1. In the report relied on by the President, the National Emergency Council declares: "During the year 1933 the percentage of wages to the value added by manufacture was 60.8 in five States in New England as against 55.5 in five Southern States." So what. And why go back to 1933?

The standard of ratio of wages to value added by manufacture is correct; but the comparison is manifestly unsound and misleading. It proves nothing. We must compare all the Southern States with all the others as of most recent dates—not five unnamed Southern States with five unnamed New England States as of 1933. The fact is the southern textiles pay in wages 64.4 per cent of the value added by manufacture. The National average is 62.2.

All industrial workers in the South are paid within one point of the National average paid in wages of the value added by manufacture. The South's ratio is 37.9; the National ratio is 38.7. Compare North Carolina with New York City. We pay 40.2. New York pays 30.5. One might say that New York City is the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1, if current logic is to be accepted.

2. But it is contended that consumer family income in the South is so far below the National standard that it constitutes the South the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1. What are the facts?

Here is the 1938 statement of the President's National Resources Committee on Consumer Incomes on Average Income per Family: National Average \$1,612 per year, Southern Average \$1,326, difference \$286.

Does the difference (17 per cent), constitute the South the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1? We fall below the group of Mountain States by only \$37; below the National average by only \$286. And we offset the small deficiency by lower taxes, short winters, abundant gardens, smaller fuel bills, lower rents. There is a further significant factor—in that the WPA pays workers \$600 per year in the North compared with \$360 per year in the South—and the income data is for all families. And remember \$16,000,000,000 have been distributed on this basis since June, 1933. Southern real income is obviously not less than the National Average and probably above it. And it is nearly twice the income received by one-third of the Nation.

And this notwithstanding we have a population of 2,500,000 negro workers, unskilled, notably low wealth producers, competing with all other unskilled workers.

It is granted that wages in certain trades peculiar to certain localities in the North are higher—in the manufacture of automobiles, steel products, finished goods, for example, and that this plus Federal aid has lifted the general money wage level in the North above the Southern level. But is it proposed that the South go into those types of production? By no means; the contention is that we must pay in textile industries wages equal to wages paid in the manufacture of automobiles, machines, machine tools, finished goods. Wages are in direct ratio to wealth produced, and a worker in fibres is never paid as a worker in steel or automobiles. There is need of more such industries in the South, and as they come they will pay wages commensurate with the value added by manufacture as the textiles do.

The whole theory is blown up not only by the data as to wages and income, but by simple facts of current record. Federal relief expenditure is more than twice per capita in the North and West than in the South. Pennsylvania with 9,000,000 population gets more relief money than eleven Southern States with 29,000,000 population. New York State gets more than thirteen Southern States. Expenditures per family per State in eight States exceed \$200 per year; but in no Southern State do relief expenditures amount to \$100 per family. No Southern State received the equal per family of the National average in WPA, PWA and CCC payments. Only three Southern States received the equal per family of the National average in AAA payments. The South has withstood the long depression bet-

ter than any other section, as shown by every chart of trade and industry from 1929 until now, and it has received less of Federal aid in every activity. It could not have done so without relatively superior economic conditions.

The South has not only the highest birth rate, but its death rate is lower than the National average. The (1937) figures are: Death rate in the South 10.8 per thousand; for the United States 11.2. And death rates are related to poverty.

Such are the facts exploding the theory of the South as the Nation's Economic Problem No. 1 as founded upon comparisons of wages and income. All figures are derived from official sources and may be verified.

II. There is no Nation's problem here except the problem of a just National policy. All else—and that, too, I think—is for Southern men and women. What is that problem?

The National policy for eighty years has favored other regions and been adverse to the South. Freight rates have long been higher in Southern territory than in Northern—an internal tariff for the North and against the South. The Federal Government subsidized great railroad systems from the West to the North—and not a mile in the South or to the South. There were billions in pensions to Union soldiers, none to the South. Immense sums have been spent developing canals, rivers and harbors and ports serving the North—comparatively small sums in the South. The Congress has maintained an external tariff policy frankly contrived to aid Northern industry at the expense of the South. Only two American farm products are taxed by the Federal Government; both are Southern crops: one tobacco—from which as converted into cigarettes the Federal Government takes one dollar per pound; the other cotton, the oil produced by the seed of which is taxed at rates intended to be prohibitive when converted into food. Not to mention so-called cotton and tobacco control taxes—the only crop production taxes in the Republic. Mr. Secretary Wallace says that Federal curtailment of the cotton crop was equivalent to providing a market for 150,000,000 bushels of Western corn—i. e. \$90,000,000 contributed in the midst of the depression by Southern cotton farmers to Western corn producers! Consider the section of the farm control act intended to deprive Southern farmers of Federal benefits if they increase production in grain, live stock, dairy products or poultry and eggs for market. Consider the American Trade Agreement in which concessions are made to Canada at

the expense of Southern pine. Consider the Trade Agreement with the United Kingdom in which concessions were obtained for Western wheat, but none for Southern cotton or Southern tobacco—upon which latter England continues to impose \$2.50 per pound! Concessions for the North and West burdened for the South. And recent public policy has accelerated the loss of the foreign market for our cotton. We may be pardoned for being impatient of advices from Federal authorities until they give us justice.

III. There is a Southern task and it is largely the task of getting after eighty years, a square deal in the National policy. That is to be had only by political ultimatum plus the will to exact it.

With a determined National policy against us, since 1870, Southern men and women have increased Southern property values from 5 billion dollars to 70 billion dollars—1400 per cent—20 per cent a year net gain in wealth for 70 consecutive years, after paying all living expenses and a great share of the Federal taxes. Amongst other things Southerners are paying annually \$500,000,000 in life insurance premiums. With the National policy against us, our population has multiplied by three, our wealth by fourteen. And now they tell us we are the Nation's problem child. Bankrupted by war, razed to the earth by Reconstruction, and throttled ever since by an adverse National policy, the progress of the South under the circumstances proclaims its advantages and the capacity of the Southern people.

IV. It must be considered that the South is agricultural, and therefore improvement of the status must be directed to farmer prosperity.

The essence here is that the farmer's purchasing power cannot be improved so long as there is gross disparity between prices he receives and prices he pays. Here I present the adverse consequences to a great agricultural region of ever-increasing costs of government reflected in taxes and a National policy of elevating industrial wage levels by law, by taxation and by coercion under administrative favor. Each factor increases prices paid by farmers and tends to reduce their real income. It amounts to price-fixing without protection to the farmers either when buying or when selling!

It is agreed that 2,000,000 cotton farmers are receiving inadequate rewards for their cotton. National policy has required them to sell in a free world market and buy in a protected home market; and at long last under National policy they see their foreign market vanishing, and they are turn-

ing to the production of foods for the domestic market. It is a shift of great import not only to the South but to food producers in the North and Middle West. It portends good rather than evil for the South, tending to establish the family sized farm and reduce tenancy. As to the capacity of Southern farmers, consider that under adverse National policy they increased the annual value of their crops from six hundred million dollars in 1870 to three billion three hundred million dollars in 1937.

It is not contended that the South has no problems. It is agreed that there are great and desirable advances to be made. But it is denied that upon the facts Southern problems and needs constitute in any aspect the Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem. And it is contended that Southern people have proved under most adverse conditions their capacity to attend to their affairs. Federal interference once destroyed us. Federal handicaps have held us back for eighty years. Remove them and the South under Southern leadership will show the way to all the country.

V. Finally, agreeing that there is an economic problem peculiar to the South, can it be regarded as the Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem?

How about the problem of inducing return to the investment by private persons of twelve billion dollars annually in private enter-

prise?
 How about the problem of returning 11,000,000 persons to normal employment—by far the most of them in the North in ratio to population?

How about the problem of lifting the National real income to 90 billion dollars?

How about the problem of adjusting the relation of employer and employee?

How about the problem of restoring equilibrium in our international trade?

How about the problem of 40,000,000 Americans drawing money from public treasuries—by far the most of them in the North in

ratio to population?
 Is it contended that solution of the problem of the South will solve those great problems—or is primary to their solution? If so, the people of the United States are far better off than any one has thought them to be these nine years.

DECLINE
 Although the United States was the world's largest exporter in 1938, it suffered a decline of 7.6 per cent in valuation of exports during the year.

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