

# The Daily Record

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## Rail Service Is Cheap

What affect do railroad rate increases have on the price of most things that people buy? The answer is, "Practically none."

Some facts recently made public by William T. Faricy, president of the Association of American Railroads, tell the story. The total effect of the rate increases authorized this year, applied to all rates on everything and at every step of the way, amounts to no more than one-third of one per cent of the wholesale values of commodities at destination, and a smaller percentage of retail prices. Furthermore, he said, the increases in the average revenue received by the railroads for hauling such basic items as livestock and wheat, or wheat and flour, or leather and shoes in no case amount to more than a small fraction of one cent a pound or whatever the ordinary unit of sale may be. This is true even on combined freight movements averaging hundreds of miles.

As Mr. Faricy pointed out, "Freight rates were among the last prices to start rising, have risen far less than prices in general, and are today an even smaller part of prices than they were when war began in 1939. Truly, if there were nothing in the present economic situation more inflationary than the increases in railroad freight rates, we might as well look to the future without misgivings."

It is folly to oppose reasonable increases in railroad freight charges which are plainly made necessary by the inflation in wages, prices and taxes. The rails are the backbone of our strength, civilian and military. No industry can give its best when it is starved for revenues. The railroads ask only for rates which will pay the bills, and leave a modest profit for the people whose savings make our magnificent railroad plant possible.

## Powell Money Over Half Spent In Dunn

More than half of the money due to Dunn from the Powell Bill has been expended for much needed equipment, it is shown by the records of the City Clerk's office. Purchase of this equipment will do much more toward improving the city streets and the direct expenditure of this money on street work alone. City Manager O. O. Manning points out, since one of the provisions of the bill is for the purchase rental operation and maintenance of such equipment. Highest priced piece of equipment included in the purchases is a grader and cab which together cost \$10,112.35. A truck and dump body cost \$2,810.00 and a compressor and the necessary tools \$2,731. All the purchases totalled \$15,654.33. The amount allotted to the town of Dunn under the terms of the bill is \$23,496. The money, is however, earmarked exclusively for street maintenance and improvement and any number of a governing body or municipal employe can be held personally liable for any unauthorized expenditures. Some of the things for which the funds cannot be used are, street lighting, sidewalks, payment of principal or interest on bonds

whether issued for street purposes or not, parking meters, street signs, garbage collection, traffic policemen's salaries or police cars or motorcycles. Exception to the street lighting are lights for traffic control, such as pedestrian lights or other traffic signs necessary to traffic control.

## Gerald R. Smith Given Promotion

Gerald R. Smith, USN, son of Mrs. Elsie S. Smith of 500 East Edgerton St., Dunn, N. C., was recently advanced to the rate of recently advanced to the rate of He is presently serving on board the destroyer escort USS Walker with the Pacific Fleet. Receiving and sending radio communications is Smith's job. He is also the teletype repairman. He is responsible to see that the radio system is in constant working order. He entered the Naval service in Feb., 1950, and received his recruit training at the U. S. Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif.

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## These Days



By **Sokolsky**

### THE CASE OF JOSEPHINE BAKER

I have never seen Josephine Baker on or off the stage. She is apparently an actress born in the United States but is now a French citizen, which is her privilege. I also see by the newspapers that she is a Negress, which seems to me to be neither here nor there.

A mild furor is being stirred over the lady's visit to the Stork Club, a restaurant and saloon which I have been to four or five times. The owner of this place is Sherman Billingsley, who is pleasant to know.

It seems that Miss Baker got into the Stork Club inner sanctum, which is called the Cub Room. Part of the Billingsley set-up is to make it difficult for his customers to get into the Cub Room. The snob appeal of the place is supposed to operate so that you cannot get in, you will want to and will be a better customer for the privilege. Miss Baker got in the first time she tried, which must make her the envy of many who have never been able to get in at all. If any discrimination was shown, it was in favor of Miss Baker.

I am told that she ordered a filet mignon and got a sirloin steak. So they threw a picket line about the place. In a restaurant like that, you always have to wait long, that being part of the snob appeal. If a customer is in a hurry, he can get served faster at some hamburger heaven.

So, Miss Baker waited long for her steak and for her wine and got sore and made a noise. Nobody threw her out for making a noise, although that has happened to others who made noises, Billingsley telling them never to show their faces in his joint.

That did not happen to Miss Baker, although it would seem to me to be Billingsley's privilege to reject customers who disrespect other customers and spoil his business. The fact that Miss Baker got into the Cub Room of this restaurant proves that Billingsley did not keep her out because she was a Negress. That he did not ask her to leave after she made a fuss shows that he was more polite than usual.

One would imagine that with all that is going on in the world, people would have more on their minds than whether this French actress was delayed in getting her steak and wine, but immediately a lot of self-interested great minds jumped into this situation and fixed it all up with racial prejudice, picketed the place, proclaimed a boycott, in which convincing politicians joined. If Billingsley served me pick's knuckles instead of Hungarian goulash, would it be race prejudice?

As I said, I do not go to these places often, preferring to eat at home with my wife and children when I get a chance. The conversation at our table is more interesting than the by-play in these night spots, particularly as I hate to see women scarred to smile because they fear their rigid make-up will crack. The problems of my little daughter at school are more stirring than overhearing gossip about who is fixing to marry whom in order to get some additional alimony in due course.

Nevertheless, I once went to a place with my wife and three Chinese friends and we were rejected. So we went to the Stork Club where we were made welcome although somewhat crowded.

I did not picket the other place. I simply never went there again. That is my privilege. The right to stay away is a noble human one which Eleanor Roosevelt should incorporate in the document which she is drawing up for the United Nations. Also, the right of a proprietor of a place, where people go to spend a pleasant evening, to keep out anyone who disturbs the kind of decorum his customers prefer ought to be inviolable.

The whole business looks to me like something developed to spoil Walter Winchell's business. Apparently some excited radio commentators and columnists wanted Winchell to throw Billingsley out



"Looks like less'n 3,500—but don't forget we receive 40% of the television fee..."

## College football, so wonderful because of the setting of cheating sections and the 'I'd die for dear old Rutgers' spirit of the players, finally has a rival in what might be called the University of Rocky Marciano.

When Marciano fought Joe Louis, between 7,000 and 8,000 residents of Brockton's Mass., moved on to New York. Friday is pay day in Brockton's leather factories, but on this occasion, Brockton declared Friday to be a holiday and leather craftsmen were paid off on Thursday night so that they could board buses and trains for Madison Square Garden.

Notre Dame never had a more loyal following than Marciano. They don't like him simply because he is a good betting proposition, these Brockton fellow townsmen. Though there's no ivy on the Marciano walls, the spirit he generates is like that inspired by an Alma Mater.

Marciano once worked in the leather plants of his home town, just as his dad worked before him.

"I had to give it up," he said, wryly. It was too much for me."

"Is the work that hard?" this reporter asked.

"No," he said, "I just couldn't stand the smell of leather." He's been throwing it effectively ever since. Apparently Marciano has influenced Massachusetts as no other fighter succeeded in doing, since the halycon days of other redoubtable Bay Stater, John L. Sullivan.

Boston Press Club has a fascinating exhibit of famous page 1 stories. Collected by AP's Jim Smith, and hung in the clubroom is a front page from the first American newspaper published in 1690, Publick Occurrences, Boston Globe's story on Lizzie Borden trial, Boston Post's coverage of sinking of the Maine, Boston American's story of the Lindbergh flight and the Boston Herald's reporting of the sacco-Vanzetti trial. "TV Jeebies," penned by WCAU's Paul Ritts and illustrated by Dick Strome, now in the bookstalls. Jamaica hurricane relief show at Carnegie Hall, Monday night. The Arnold Stangs named her Deborah Jane.

Dear Ed: Betcha didn't know there's a tree on Riverside Drive dedicated to President Grant, by the Chinese Government of that era! It is signed by "Li Hung Chang, Guardian of the Prince, Grand Secretary of State, Earl of the First Order, and Yang Yu, Envoy Extraordinary, Prime Minister of Plenipotentiary of China, also Vice President of the Board of Censors." Best, Dave North. Fourth annual Communion breakfast of radio and TV industry Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Waldorf-Astoria. Highlighting the opening of the campaign, Nov. 8, of the N. Y. Assn for the Blind will be a documentary film "I See The Wind," with a cast of 18 blind and partially blind children in The Lighthouse Nursery School.

Dear Ed: Knowing your exceedingly great kindness at all time to the ASPCA, I feel compelled to give you the correct version of the Ginger Rogers story which appeared in your column.

In early May, 1949, Miss Rogers reported that a dog could be seen from the windows of the Sherry Netherland Hotel on an adjoining roof. The dog appeared to be without shelter and water. This dog had been brought to the society's attention on previous occasions. On each complaint an investigation was made which bore out the information given to Miss Rogers in a letter dated May 9, 1949. At that time she was told that the owner had provided a well-built shelter which could not be seen from neighboring buildings. While the dog had access to this at all times, he apparently preferred to be at large on the roof where he had an abundance of room for exercise. He was always found in good physical condition, and gave every evidence of being highly regarded by his owner.

I know you will want this information, for you would not wish to either embarrass the owner or have it appear that the ASPCA had been neglectful. Sincerely, Sydney H. Coleman, ASPCA.

Conrad Hilton trying to reconcile Elizabeth Taylor and his son. Ingrid Bergman down with the flu. Carmel Myers and Paramount exec Arthur Schwalberg honeymooning in Florida. When Sonja Henie completes her tour, she'll open in Rotterdam, Holland. Frank Sinatra and Ava Gardner to wed in the East, next week. Mussolini's remains traced to the Cathedral of Pavia, in northern Italy. K. T. Stevens expected to inherit at least \$1,000,000 from the estate of her dad, the late Sam Wood. He was one of Hollywood's great directors.

for not serving Miss Baker faster, instead of a filet mignon. To make his race prejudices more positive, Winchell was not around when the worst happened. How can he possibly explain that? Why is around when nothing happens?

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## LYNN NISBET: Around Capitol Square

**BATTLEGROUND.** — Circumstances largely beyond control of North Carolinians may make this state the battle-ground for a showdown fight for control of the national Democratic party and the government of the United States in 1952 and for several years thereafter. That is not a new or unique position for North Carolina to be in. From earliest days of national life, this state has been in key position to determine national policy. Next to last of the original thirteen states to ratify the federal constitution, it was next to last of the Confederate states to secede from the union.

**INFLUENTIAL.** — North Carolina delegates to the national Democratic convention had large part in nominating Woodrow Wilson for the presidency by invoking the two-thirds rule at the Baltimore convention in 1912, and our delegates also had major influences in renominating Franklin Roosevelt by abolishing the two-thirds requirement at the 1936 convention. Admiration of then Governor Greg Cherry in 1948, supported by former Governor Brroughton, senator-nominate, and Joe Blythe, national committeeman and treasurer of the national Democratic committee, and other state Democratic leaders at Philadelphia, is credited primarily, and by indirect influence also holding Virginia and Tennessee, in the regular Democratic column when Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi went overboard for the State Rights party. So, the role of key position

is not unusual for North Carolina, and the state faces the responsibility coming up next year with courage and intelligence, grounded in long time experience, and with full recognition of the high stakes involved.

**FIRST.** — In addition to the fact that North Carolina is recognized as a leader among the southern states, our conventions and primaries come earlier in the year. In most states the candidates to be elected in November are nominated in July, August or September. Our nominating primary is in May. In event a second primary run-off is required, we know who will be governor or senator who have you before July 1, several weeks ahead of the national convention to nominate candidates for president and vice president. This early nomination gives North Carolina a place of leadership.

**TEST.** — More significant under present conditions is the fact that our incumbent governor, Kerr Scott, and national committeeman, Jonathan Daniels, are admittedly the most openly avowed protagonists of the Truman regime to be found anywhere in the South. That adds to the status of North Carolina as a key state. If they retain their prestige through the primary and convention, the rest of the nation will be justified in counting North Carolina in the Truman column. If they are displaced by more conservative people, there will be justification for belief that the South is ready to go back to more traditional politics.

## Frederick OTHMAN

WASHINGTON—I guess I better tell you about the lunch the Commissioner of Internal Revenue didn't enjoy; there was nothing wrong with the food, but the poor guy still could have had a slug of baking soda afterwards.

Weeks ago Commissioner John B. Dunlap arranged to speak at the National Press Club on the subject: The Average Tax Collector Is an Honest Joe.

When time came for him to make his talk, collector Joe Marcelle of Brooklyn, N. Y., whom he'd fired the night before, was on the lam. G-men were looking for him to serve a Congressional subpoena. That was bad enough.

But somebody over at the commissioner's office had announced he'd also suspended Theodore Isaacs and Elias Schulman, tax agents in New York and Brooklyn. At 12:37, when Commissioner Dunlap was plowing into his roast beef, another mastermind at his headquarters appealed to the press to hold up this announcement.

At 1 p. m., when the commissioner should have been finishing his apple pie with cheese on top, he was pondering what to do about Messrs. Isaacs and Schulman. At 1:11 p. m. the announcement went out quoting him as saying they'd been bounced for sure. Then he made his speech.

The big, bald Dunlap, a tax collector all his life except while he was working his way up to brigadier general during the war, said there were only a few rascals in his bureau and he was tossing them out as quickly as possible.

Of his 52,000 employees, he said, the big black headlines lately have concerned only 22. Oops! Looked like he'd lost count. The score now was 25, including the one the night before and the two given the old heave-ho during his pie and coffee. Still and all, the commissioner made a good talk, even though some of his references sounded funny to those of the members who'd been covering the tax scandals for the papers.

"I feel like the boy in the old, plaintive song, 'You've got to quit kicking my dog around,'" the commissioner said. "He may have a few fleas on him, but we're getting rid of those."

Furthermore said he, if Congressmen keep making news about crooks in the Internal Revenue Bureau, the people will lose their respect for this agency, and then where will we be? In the soup, that's what. And also bankrupt.

"If the people quit paying their just taxes on a voluntary basis, we can't hire enough men to collect the money," he said.

The trouble seems to be that most of the high-binders so far uncovered in his bureau have involved politicians appointed by the President in such far-flung places as New York, Boston, St. Louis, and San Francisco. One collector, newly suspended, seems to have been a dope addict.

Dunlap wouldn't agree that tax collectors should be taken out of politics; most of the politicians in these jobs have done fine work. "Well, then," demanded one of my irreverent cohorts, "how many of these suspended collectors were appointed by President Truman?"

"That gave Dunlap his first chance to smile. 'No one,' he roared. 'Not one single one.'"

Fair enough. And if the G-men ever catch up with the fast-traveling collector from Brooklyn, I'll let you know what he has to say for himself. (Copyright, 1951, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

## DON'T MISS J. B. S.



The drawings on the left show one reason why the CA Tractor has unusually good traction. Wide-based 10-inch tires on a 10-inch rim have a broad face, using the full width of the tread to grip the earth. When properly inflated, each rear tire has approximately 17 percent more square inches of surface on the ground than with conventional rims.

Another reason is the hydraulic Traction Booster which gives the CA Heavyweight instead of deadweight. With mounted tools as the load increases, the Traction Booster automatically increases weight on the rear wheels in proportion to the load.

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