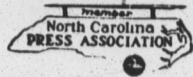


PERSON COUNTY TIMES



A PAPER FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

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News from our correspondents should reach this office no later than Tuesday to insure publication for Thursday edition and Thursday P. M. for Sunday edition.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1941

Willkie In England.....

Announcement by defeated Republican candidate for president, Wendell Willkie that he will in a few days fly to England "for a private survey of the international situation" is perhaps more significant than his declaration in favor of modified adoption of his one-time rival's "Land-Lease" arms bill, but both his decision to go to England and his recognition that the President must advocate measures as drastic as those being proposed, are indications that Mr. Willkie has since November been keeping an unbiased ear to the ground.

It is to be supposed that Mr. Willkie, if he goes to England, for even a short stay, will by acquisition of first hand information be better able to be an intelligent critic of war measures which in the United States will pass as statecraft. It is likewise to be supposed that Mr. Willkie, in even so short a visit as he will make will see in England some items not included on the program planned for him, although it is natural to suppose the English people whom he meets will be anxious to show him both the best and the worst aspects of war: worst from standpoint of death and destruction, and best from standpoint of morale.

In any case, if Mr. Willkie is to continue as an American minority leader it is important that he should as much as possible have first hand information as to what is happening in the English war center. We could wish he might go to Germany, Italy and France with same purpose in mind, since reports coming to us from those countries are even more unreliable than those now coming from Britain. If we must be in this war it is our duty to know as much as we can (and that is much more than we have to date been told) concerning backstage goings-on. The Willkie trip may mean a little more enlightenment where enlightenment is needed and we will, therefore, await his report with interest.—despite fact that not many Democrats will listen to it.

We Saw It Coming.....

Survey of the Daily Tar Heel (Chapel Hill) precipitated controversy over text-books of North Carolina history, prepared respectively by Jule B. Warren, secretary of the North Carolina Education association, and by Drs. A. R. Newsome and Hugh T. Lefler, of the University faculty, reveals more than ever that something needs to be done to end political and "personal pull" influences now exerted upon those educational bodies whose duties require them to advise and select. Raleigh's News and Observer is of opinion that action to end possibilities of charges of favoritism and collusion need to be taken by the General Assembly. And, we suppose that if anything is done to remove suspicion of political influence in selection of text-books, such removal will have to come from the General Assembly, although it passes our comprehension as to how a Legislature composed primarily of men who are themselves politicians of first water can be expected to induce reforms in a system of selection previously of their own making.

Some two, three, four months ago we saw this controversy coming and said as much in these columns. Now that the row is here, after choice has been made, we are inclined to say to adherents of Jule Warren and of Drs. Newsome and Lefler, a "plague on both your houses". Suspicion has it that those persons at Chapel Hill who are interested in the Newsome-Lefler aspect of the case are not any less guilty, for all their vaunted intellectualism, than are the proponents of Mr. Secretary Warren. Log-rolling and you-stick-to-me and I-stick-to-you attitudes are in educational matters no more attractive than they are in other and less ethereal camps. Beside, public school education is in North Carolina at low enough ebb without this semi-annual washing of text-book linen.

The Greatness Of James Joyce.....

News of the death of James Joyce, distinguished Irish author, at Zurich, Switzerland, made headlines in Monday morning papers for reasons having nothing to do with his ultimate reputation as a sensitive prose artist. Known far and wide as the author of the many times banned and indiscriminately praised "Ulysses", Joyce was essentially an author's author, despite the fact that layreaders, if they take trouble will find in "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" and in a book

of short stories called "Dubliners" work that is as simple and direct as any done in our time.

We, too, can remember when our friends went to Paris and came home with two-volume, paper-bound smuggled editions of "Ulysses" which not many of them took trouble to read through because they were satisfied to hit what were thought of as high spots of salaciousness. And we can recall with pleasure the day some seven or eight years ago when American ban upon publication of the volume was lifted. That pleasure was, we think, grounded more upon disapproval of the idea of censorship in any form rather than upon desire to impress people with the importance of a book in many respects unintelligible.

To those persons who think that such frankness as was expressed in "Ulysses" is essentially European we might say that we can in any night spot in Roxboro hear stories of similar vulgarity and we thank God nobody wants to take the trouble to preserve them in print, mainly because those people whom we know could not, if they wished, cover them with that air of artistry innate in such a man as Joyce was. Joyce was an Irish Thomas Wolfe, made much wiser, and therefore, sadder, by inheritance of a culture beyond Wolfe's grasp.



Skilled Labor Shortage.....

Durham Morning Herald

For at least a year, in some instances longer, self-appointed or officially designated spokesmen for this that and the other group have chorused "there is a shortage of skilled workers."

Men in government, men in industry, and professional toyers with such questions have preached and are preaching that thesis.

Nothing like all of them bother to include statistics or even estimates, but many of them do.

So, we are less inclined to challenge the view that a shortage of skilled workers has developed or is going to develop soon than we are to say to the prophets and complainers "why don't you do something about the shortage except talk about it?"

You get skilled workers by taking unskilled workers and training them. You don't get them any other way, never have and never will. You can provide a certain amount of the required training in schools of one sort or another. Much of it can not provide in schools, but can in shops and factories.

There are millions of unskilled workers who would like to become skilled workers and have the capacity to do so. Some of them were once skilled in their trades and simply need a "little brushing up to bring them up to date." Some are youngsters who have the ability, but have never had the opportunity to apply their talents. They can be made into skilled workmen in a relatively short time, if some of those who keep saying "there is a shortage of skilled labor" will give them jobs.

It is true, as everyone who discusses skilled labor shortage question admits, directly or indirectly, labor unions figure in the actual or potential shortage. For some of the unions limited, as best they could, the admission of recruits to the skilled trades, as a means of holding up wages and staving off a surplus of trained workers in a particular field.

But the blame cover nearly everyone in the broad equation and the way to expand the ranks of skilled labor is for all hands, industry, government and labor, to take on raw recruits and train them in the skills. It is little short of tragic that we have not done so already.

Omens In Music.....

The Baltimore Everlasting Sun

Just at present persons who concern themselves with the lively arts are chiefly interested in the fight between the ASCAP musicians and the radio chains which are trying to break the ASCAP monopoly. But there's another development in popular music that seems to us to be worth a passing note. This is the growing tendency among the kings of jazz to be snooty about the kind of music that earns them their keep and to crash the ranks of the highbrows.

It wasn't so long ago that innocent music lovers who only knew what they liked were being assured that hot jazz is high art. There was a novel called "Young Man With a Horn," which told the story of one of these selfless votaries of the high art of hot jazz. And a number of treatises were written and printed demonstrating just why and how hot jazz makes Beethoven and Brahms and Mozart sound like a gang of punks. Offer a member of the younger intelligentsia some tickets to the Philadelphia Orchestra and it was "No thanks," Jelly-Roll Morton and his New Orleans Feet-warmers were more in style, "if you don't mind."

But something has happened, and it seems to be Benny Goodman who is mainly responsible—Benny, possessor of two of the hottest lips and ten of the nimblest fingers that ever brought squeaks out of a clarinet. A week or so ago he put on a white tie and performed Mozart's seldom-heard clarinet concerto with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Nor is that all: Benny admitted in an interview preceding his appearance with the Philharmonic that "serious" music takes more out of a musician than jazz. He admitted, furthermore, that despite months of hard practice he was not at all satisfied with his own ability so far as the great clarinet classics are concerned. He even referred slightly to

a recording of the very highbrow Brahms quintet which he made last year with a string quartet, saying:

"The only thing wrong with that recording is Goodman."

And now it turns out that Eddie Duchin, maestro of society jazz, and a very capable pianist in his way, has been secretly practicing up on Chopin's Mazurkas and a lot of classical piano concertos. Here is what Eddie said on the subject, when smoked out:

"I love my jazz, but I have become very interested in serious music. When I am ready for it, and I hope it will be soon, I will appear with some of the symphonic orchestras in the country."

And finally, who should we find but Artie Shaw himself, ex-husband of Lana Turner and idol of the joke boxes, busting forth with a phonograph record entitled "Concerto for Clarinet, Parts I and 2? To tell the truth, this "concerto" would have to have a lot done to it before it could be called "classical." But the very fact that Artie uses the word concerto at all tempts us to believe that there may be something in this classical music after all.

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DOES FORD PAY GOOD WAGES?

HERE ARE SOME FACTS ABOUT Ford Labor. During the year ended November 30th, 1940, the Ford Payroll throughout the United States averaged 113,628 hourly wage earners, not including office employees, students, or executives. They were paid \$185,105,639.12. On this basis, the average annual wage was \$1,629.05.

According to the latest available government figures, the annual average wage of all workers in employment covered by old age insurance law was \$841.00.

If the 45,000,000 workers of this country received the same average wage as Ford employes, they would have had additional wages of more than \$35,000,000,000, thus increasing the national income about 50%. Think what such an increase would mean to the workers of this country and to the American farmer, whose prices are based on the national income.

Wage scales in the Ford Rouge plants are divided into three classifications:

- Unskilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 75c per hour
  - Semi-skilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 80c per hour
  - Skilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 90c per hour
- Higher wages are in consideration of ability and years of service.

Minimum wage scales for unskilled labor at the Rouge plant are the highest in the industry. Top wages for skilled labor compare favorably with, or are higher than, wages in other automobile plants.

Now some facts on Ford labor conditions: Not only are sanitation and other health conditions the best in the industry, but Ford also leads in safety devices for the protection of employes. Proof of this is found in the following com-

parison of compensation insurance costs:

The national average rate in automotive manufacturing plants as computed by the National Association of Underwriters is in excess of \$1.50 premium on each \$100 payroll. The Ford cost of workmen's compensation is less than 50c.

This indicates that the chance of injury in a Ford plant is much less than in the average automobile plant.

The Ford Motor Company has no age limit for labor, and in fact deliberately attempts to keep older workers working. The average age of Ford workers at the Rouge and nearby plants is 38.7.

A recent check-up shows that nearly one-half the workers at these Ford plants were 40 or over, falling into these age groups:

- 25,819 between 40 and 50
- 14,731 between 50 and 60
- 3,377 between 60 and 70
- 417 between 70 and 80
- 12 between 80 and 90

In addition to the so-called regular employes, the Ford Motor Company has hired, and now has on the payroll, at the same regular hourly wage, thousands of workers who are blind, crippled or otherwise incapacitated for normal productive work. They are not selected for their ability to build cars or to maintain the plant. They are on the payroll because of Henry Ford's belief that the responsibility of a large company to labor goes beyond the point at which the unfortunate worker can no longer produce profitably.

The above are facts. They are open to anyone who really wants to deal in facts. Anyone who wants to get a job . . . buy a car . . . or place a national defense contract on the basis of fair labor treatment must place Ford at the top of his eligible list.



FORD MOTOR COMPANY

DOLLY MADISON

ADVANCE PROGRAM  
From Thursday, January 16th thru Saturday, January 18th

Motion Pictures are Your Best Entertainment.

Thursday - Friday . Jan. 16-17  
Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland Ray Milland, Ronald Reagan, Alan Hale in "Santa Fe Trail" (First Run)

Where yesterday's history makes today's thrills! The Santa Fe Trail! Bullets waiting at one end The Devil at the other!!! It's always trouble!

Our Gang: "Kiddie Kure" Fable Cartoon: "Happy Holidays"

Special morning show Friday; 10:30.

Afternoons Daily 3:15-3:45; Admission 10-30c. Evenings daily 7:15-9:00 Admission 15-30c

Saturday January 18th  
Charles Starrett, Louise Currie with "The Sons of The Pioneers" in

"THE PINTO KID" (First Run) Episode No. 11 of the Serial Zane Grays "King of the Royal Mounted" Master Spy with Allen Lane, Robert Strange, Robert Kellard, Lita Conway Popeye The Sailor Problem Pappy"

Continuous shows starting at 2:30; P. M. Admission adults 30c; children 10c up to 6 o'clock, 15c after 6 o'clock.

Special Show Saturday Jan. 18  
Warren William, Frances Robinson, Bruce Bennett, Eric Blore, Fred Kelsey in "The Lone Wolf Keeps a Date" (First Run)

The most daring Adventure of Them all--The Lone Wolf-- In His most exciting Screen Thrills!!

Color Cartoon "Syncopated Sioux"

No morning show: Box office opens Saturday night 11:15; picture 11:30; Admission all seats 35c