

FUTURE OUTLOOK

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Negro Workers Benefit From War Effort

Negro workers have received more than \$1,500,000 in the construction of schools, hospitals, recreation buildings and other community facilities in vital war areas, according to a recent report to Major General Phillip B. Fleming, federal works administrator, by William J. Trent, Jr., racial relations officer. This amount represents payments to skilled and unskilled Negro labor employed on war public works during the first ten months of 1942.

More than half of the total pay rolls on projects in North and South Carolina was earned by Negro labor; more than a third in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, and Virginia. In South Carolina Negro workers earned 23 per cent of the skilled payroll; in Kentucky, 22 per cent; and in North Carolina, 16 per cent.

Under contractual provisions, war public works contractors are required to employ Negroes in proportion to their availability in the communities in which the projects are located. Before construction begins on a given job, the contractor is informed as to the approximate percentage of Negroes in the local supply of construction labor, skilled as well as unskilled, and these percentages are expected to be reflected in racial employment on the project. Census occupational data, field reports and other relevant sources are used in determining appropriate percentages to be used.

The experience of Negroes on WPA projects has been very favorable. Of the total wage payments since the start of the program last fall, Negroes have received more than 18 per cent. When this is compared with the proportion of Negroes in the total building construction labor force as reported by the Social Security Board, it indicates the effectiveness of the FWA prima facie non-discrimination procedure in improving the position of Negro workers in the building industry.

WAACS At Dudley School

On November 30, Mr. Tarpley presented to the student body two distinguished guests, who made a special talk to us. They were two members of the WAAC organization, who received their training in Ft. Des Moines, Iowa.

These two ladies, of Connecticut and of Georgia, who are former graduates of Second Ward High School in Charlotte, spoke to the students of the Dudley school and the purpose and the work of the WAAC.

It was stated that there are 100,000 Negroes and they are being trained by the WAAC. The WAAC is a part of the War Relocation Authority, which is a part of the War Relocation Authority.

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Hazel Harrison, Concert Pianist, Will Play On Bennett Lyceum Program



Hazel Harrison, concert pianist, of Washington, D. C., will appear in a recital Friday evening, December 11, at 8 o'clock in the Little Theater on the Bennett campus as the third in the series of artists presented this year on the lyceum program.

Miss Harrison is an artist of undoubtedly excellent, talent, and extraordinary musical intelligence. Her great appeal lies in the sympathy of her tones and the technique she exhibits at the piano. She has appeared with re-

markable success in every section of this country and has played in some of the leading symphonies of America and Europe.

Miss Harrison was born in Indiana and received her early music education in Boston and New York before going to Munich and to Berlin to study under the world renowned Busoni and the equally great Egou Petri. She was formerly soloist for the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Postpone Gasoline Order Until December 12

Because Railway Express Agency offices in many places have been unable to cope with a last-minute rush of pick-up orders from motorists wishing to dispose of idle tires, the office of price administration today announced that the effective date of the order prohibiting use of gasoline by passenger car owners, who have more than five tires, per car, will be postponed from December 1 to December 12.

This action was taken to avoid penalizing motorists who have tried to comply with the tire limitation order but could not because the express company was unable to take care of them.

In extending the deadline, OPA urged even urban area car owners who live inside Railway Express Agency pick-up zones to drop idle tires off at the nearest office of the agency when this can be done as an incidental errand in the course of their regular driving. Motorists outside the pick-up zones are required to take their tires to the agency office.

Railway Express Agency has been designated to ship to warehouses the tires turned in under the government's Idle Tire Purchase Plan.

Try corn flakes instead of cracker crumbs when frying fish filets on the next Meatless Tuesday.

Mr. Rosenwald Thanks Movie Industry

Within three months \$5,000,000 American movie-goers will find out how any family, taking a hint from Henry Aldrich's famous movie family, can take part in the continuing nationwide effort to salvage scrap iron, steel, copper, aluminum, rubber, tin cans and fats.

Leslie J. Rosenwald, director of the WPB conservation division, today thanked the movie industry for its excellent work in producing, distributing and exhibiting motion pictures like the new Aldrich film that bring the lessons of conservation and salvage to every community in America. Mr. Rosenwald's message of thanks was extended to the industry on the occasion of a special screening in Washington of three "short subject" war pictures. The pictures will be shown to an estimated 85,000,000 movie patrons in more than 17,000 motion picture theaters in the next few months.

In addition to the Aldrich picture, entitled "The Aldrich Family Gets in the Scrap," the Washington audience heard and saw an illustrated talk by Vice-President Henry Wallace and "Everybody's War," narrated by Henry Fonda. Wallace's talk emphasized the four freedoms for which America is fighting.

"Everybody's War" is the story of an unnamed American community, whose sons marched off with the National Guard way back in 1940. Incorporated in the Army of the United States and sent to the Philippines, this anonymous National Guard outfit took part in the battles of Bataan and the surrender of Corregidor. Only when their boys were prisoners of the Japs, the picture story reveals, did the community thoroughly wake up to its responsibilities. Then it discovered the many little things, like buying war bonds and collecting scrap, that the folks on the home front must do to keep America's war machine rolling to victory.

Price Endorsement Has Support of Government

Price Administrator Leon Henderson today declared that the department of agriculture's recently announced price support program for many major farm commodities had his complete and unqualified endorsement. At the same time, he said that the office of price administration, in setting price ceilings over these support "floors," has not and will not take any action which might hamper maximum farm output.

"It is essential," Mr. Henderson stated, "that American farmers be provided the greatest possible assistance if they are to fulfill the 1943 'Food-for-Freedom' production goals which call for an all-time record agricultural output. This necessary incentive, so far as prices are concerned, is provided by the department of agriculture's recently announced support price program."

New York city residents contributed 117 old pianos to the scrap metal drive in two-and-a-half days. Each piano contained about 300 pounds of metal.

Skrobarczyk and Daughter Plead Not Guilty

The Department of Justice announced this week that pleas of not guilty were entered by Alex Skrobarczyk and his daughter, Susie, of Beville, Texas, Monday when they were arraigned at Corpus Christie, Texas, on charges of violating the federal anti-peonage statutes.

The Skrobarczyks were indicted by a federal grand jury at Laredo, Tex., on November 9, 1942, on charges of holding a Negro, Alfred Irving, in a condition of peonage and slavery for a period of four years to work on a pretended debt.

According to the indictment, the Skrobarczyks paid Irving \$4.65 per month in addition to \$12.50 for food and clothing during the four-year period.

At the time of the defendant's arrest, Irving was found in a badly undernourished condition, bleeding at the mouth, and with his body, face and arms covered with fresh cuts as well as old scars. He testified that on various occasions he had been beaten with a "whip, rope, chain and plank." Twice when he ran away from the Skrobarczyks farm, Irving claimed, he was returned by the defendants to involuntary servitude.

The Skrobarczyks were indicted under Section 443 and 444, Title 18, U. S. Code, both of which carry a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, or a \$5,000 fine, or both.

The Grand Jury investigation, requested by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, in charge of the Criminal Division, following the return of a no-bill by a state grand jury, was directed by U. S. Attorney Douglas McGregor.

Concern Shown Because of Movie Fires

Expressing concern over the unusual number of fires in motion picture theaters reported from various parts of the country in the past several weeks, C. J. Dumphy, chief of the amusement section, services division, today urged theater operators to observe carefully nine rules of fire prevention drafted by the section.

"There have been several fires reported to us recently—some of which resulted in much damage—that could have been avoided if more care had been exercised in theater operation," Mr. Dumphy said. "This problem is serious enough in normal times, but today, when every ounce of material must be guarded, materials for rebuilding or repairing damage caused by fire are not always available. We are confronted with the probability that a theater damaged by fire today will have to remain closed for the duration—thereby depriving the local population of an important source of recreation and amusement."

Mr. Dumphy stressed the importance of every motion picture theater operator, large and small, following the suggested rules. "By this small effort," he said, "we may prevent irreparable damage—and at the same time, preserve one of the most important recreational facilities in our nation at war."