

Hoosiers in Washington

WILLKIE, WILLIS, HILLIS TICKET CAPITAL TOPIC

Utility Leader Upsets Press Prognosticators With Off-record Talk.

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, June 15.—Willie, Willis and Hillis!

Hoosiers Republicans here seem to like the sound of that ticket. The Democrats do not care much for it, Senator Sherman Minton doesn't like it at all.

He was an early backer of the favorite son idea, but that was when Paul V. McNutt was a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

The Senator, who will be up for re-election, knows and respects Wendell L. Willkie's ability. His only objection to him as a favorite son is that he will be on what Senator Minton would call "the wrong ticket."

There is some likelihood of that happening in the growing opinion here. Although the Press Gallery prognosticators are picking Taft and Dewey as the probable combination at the present time, Mr. Willkie made a considerable upset in these predictions through his dramatic appearance and forceful record talk at the National Press Club this week.

Willkie Offers Contrast

The word "dramatic" used in connection with the President of the Commonwealth and Southern Corporation doesn't mean the same thing as when applied to Federal Security Administrator McNutt.

The former Indiana Governor is dramatic in the customary sense. He always is fashionably dressed and his "tall, tan and terrific" appearance is set off with a shock of silver hair.

Mr. Willkie is dramatic in appearance for exactly opposite reasons. Because for a fellow who holds a \$100,000 job as head man of a billion-dollar corporation, he looks surprisingly like an ordinary guy from Elwood, Ind., his birthplace.

The Washington heat emphasized the New York City Hoosier's country-like appearance. His tousled hair and rumpled suit seemed proper proof of his contention that his candidacy is like Topsy and "just grown."

But back of this facade is one of the sharpest trader minds in America—as his speech well demonstrated.

Has Ready Answer

This well-managed planlessness of the Willkie campaign was exemplified in his ready answer to a gallery question who asked:

"Why did you leave the Democratic Party?"

Mr. Willkie believes that in the historical sense in which Thomas Jefferson preached economy is government and "that government is best which governs least," he still is a Democrat—that these are the things which the Republican Party stands for now.

Another example of the fact that the Willkie forces are retaining all the informality of an Indiana barn dance was the announcement by Mr. Willkie at the luncheon that he had selected Rep. Charles A. Halleck (R. Ind.) to present his name at the Republican National Convention.

Although this had been talked about somewhat, he only got the final assurance from Rep. Halleck as they walked into the dining room arm in arm.

Usually such weighty matters require long distance phone calls and the checking of opinions from all the so-called "wise-aces" in the party. At least that is what the old school politicians seem to think. But the outstanding thing about Mr. Willkie and his boom is that it is entirely uninhibited by any of these old school ties.

Hitler's victories have been too much for Rep. Louis Ludlow (D. Ind.). The usually pacific author of the war referendum amendment made a fiery speech in the House this week. Urging passage of the defense appropriations, he said:

"We have seen this military juggernaut extinguish the light of freedom in those democratic, God-respecting countries, and as we have looked upon this appalling panorama, beginning with wholesale death and destruction and ending with subjugation, the iron that is in our souls has made itself felt and we have said with determination and high resolve:

"This must not happen here!"

Rep. Forest A. Harness (R. Ind.) has announced that he is going to establish an academic board in his district to assist him in selecting candidates for Annapolis, West Point, the Coast Guard Academy and the Diplomatic Service.

The board is to consist of five members—two educators, one businessman and one each from the Army and Navy. Aids of county and city school superintendents and high school principals also will be enlisted, Rep. Harness explained.

"I want to make it clear to every interested young man in the Fifth District that he may compete on an equal basis for these appointments, regardless of his station in life or his political affiliations," Rep. Harness said.

"Candidates will be selected strictly on the ability which they demonstrate to this academic board."

Harriet Elliott, Dean of Women at the University of North Carolina, who was summoned to Washington by President Roosevelt to take charge of consumer protection on the new National Defense Advisory Commission, took her first college degree at Hanover College, Hanover, Ind. Later she received a Masters Degree from Columbia University.

RAILROAD AIDS HOBO

WHITEFISH, Mont., June 14. (U.P.)—Good Samaritan instincts went into operation when a pneumonia-ridden hobo stumbled into a track walker's shack along the Great Northern Railway. The track walker stopped an incoming train, the train crew loaded the feverish man into a small car and he was rushed to a hospital at Priest River, Ida.

How Safe Are We?

Navy Weak in Ships' Armor, And Planes

(Fourth of a Series)

By CHARLES T. LUCEY and LEE G. MILLER

Times Special Writers

WASHINGTON, June 15.

Though the possibility of a quick, two-ocean attack on the United States is conceded by our admirals, the Navy today has an Atlantic squadron built around three ancient battleships that could be outshot and outrun by modern enemy cruisers one-third their size.

These battleships—the Arkansas, New York and Texas—mount 12-inch and 14-inch guns, yet they could be battered helpless by the 8-inch guns of smaller, newer vessels. The enemy cruisers could stand off and use the battleships as targets. The big ships could not reply for lack of range.

All these superdreadnaughts have obsolete anti-aircraft batteries and insufficient elevation of turret guns. They have obsolete propelling machinery.

Most of the Navy's first-line battleships are in better condition, yet even the newest among those now at sea, the West Virginia, needs some overhauling.

Concede Weaknesses

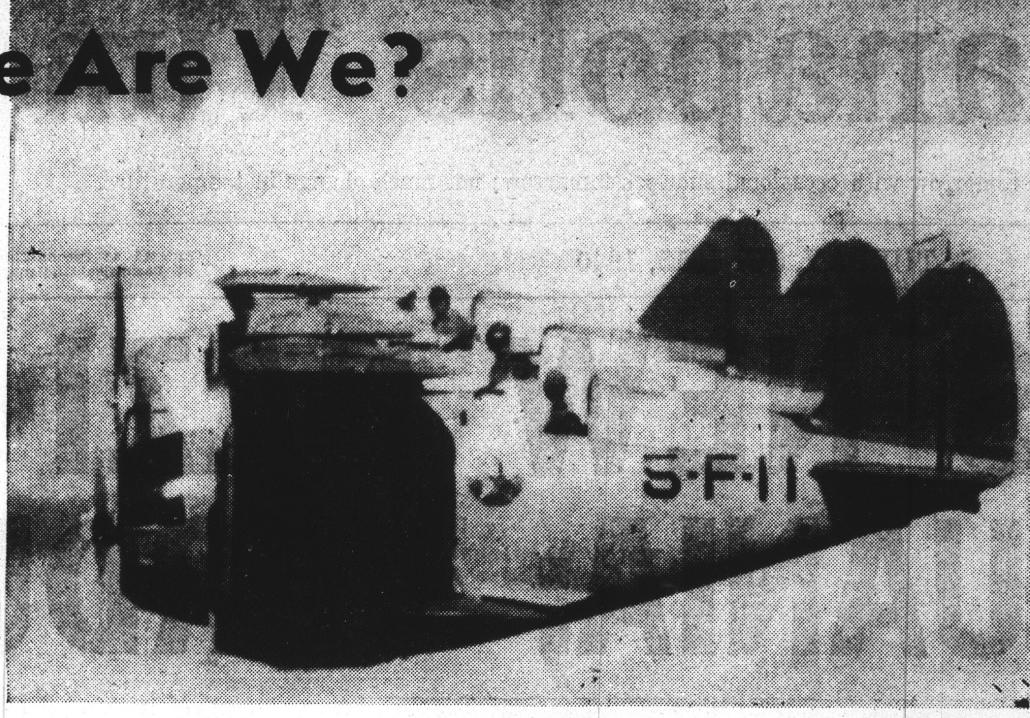
The difficulty of keeping up with the desperate naval armament pace of other nations and of meeting new offensive weapons is indicated in a comment by Secretary of the Navy Charles Edison.

The new 33,000-ton battleships North Carolina, South Carolina and Washington are still more than a year from completion, and yet, according to Mr. Edison, if he were building battleships today he would not build similar ships. It is costing about \$70,000,000 apiece to send the North Carolina and the Washington to the battle line.

Naval men believe that despite deficiencies the U. S. Navy could give an excellent account of itself in any engagement, but they confess serious weaknesses.

Armed and Dangerous

As to the Naval air force, it is almost completely without equipment shown by the European war to be vitally necessary, such as armor protection for pilots, and self-sealing gasoline tanks. Officials



U. S. Navy planes flying in close formation during recent maneuvers.

make an outside claim of 2100 planes, but many are four and five years old. Probably fewer than 10,000, according to members of Congress who talked to the admirals in star-chamber sessions, are really first-class fighters—and this even before the Navy began turning planes back to the factory for sale to the Allies.

Magnetite Mine Protection

3. Older battleships, in addition to previously cited faults, lack modern fire control to direct aim of big guns.

4. Two of our six aircraft carriers need modernization.

5. There must be protection against magnetic mines.

6. A majority of existing small seaplane tenders are basically unsuited for the duties required of them.

7. Cruisers need both fire-control equipment and additional anti-aircraft batteries.

8. The Navy is getting a few new auxiliaries, but most of the auxiliary fleet—tenders, tenders and like which must follow the battle line—is old and deficient.

Age and Slow Speed Handicaps

"Age and slow speed of auxiliaries is one of the greatest deficiencies of the fleet," Admiral Harold R. Stark says. Fleet repair ships cannot provide proper maintenance for combatant vessels when operations are far from continental navy yards.

9. Protective nets for harbors and fleet anchorages are lacking.

Congress can lay billions on the defense barrelhead in the drive to prepare against threatening world conditions, but there may be serious delays ahead.

10. There is a bottleneck in armor for capital ships, in labor in many highly skilled crafts, in shipways in which to build certain types of ves-

sels.

The Navy now is building about as fast as it can without enormous expenditures for increased facilities—which in themselves would take a long time to build. Funds for expanding the shipyards are being provided.

33-Hour Work Week

Naval officers have estimated it may be necessary to take time to train as many as 15,000 of the 45,000 shipyard workers demanded by the expansion.

There is actually in effect in Government shipyards a "net" work week of only 33 hours—and this country, the admirals point out, is racing with countries where hours worked are perhaps twice that.

Admiral Stark says the 33-hour figure is arrived at by allowing for sick leave, holidays and Saturdays.

This country is building 110 naval vessels, including 8 battleships, 2 aircraft carriers, 6 light cruisers, 14 submarines, 30 destroyers, 2 destroyer tenders, 2 mineweavers, 1 repair ship, 1 submarine tender, 2 fleet tugs, 6 seaplane tenders, 1 mine layer, 16 submarine chasers and 1 minesweeper.

Great Britain is building 9 battleships; France 4; Italy, 2; Germany, 4; Japan, shrouding everything in secrecy, is believed building 8. Construction in virtually all other categories of seafighters is bulging the shipyards of the world.

Navies cannot be improvised. Wars generally are won or lost with the Navies on hand at war's outbreak. Preparedness, Admiral Stark says, will not guarantee keeping us out of war, but lack of it invites war and disaster.

NEXT—The guns that guard our ports.

'LEST WE...'

Marines Recall Belleau Wood

Twenty-two years ago today a battle raged in Belleau Wood as the Allies turned back a German offensive on Paris.

Last night members of the Indianapolis detachment of the Marine Corps League who fought in that battle commemorated the struggle at their clubhouse, 14 W. Ohio St.

Samuel D. Jackson, Indiana Attorney General, warned the men to be "real realists" and avoid hysteria.

"The American people are not ready to go to war," he said. "I hope we may never have to do it."

Rush Williams, chairman of the arrangements committee, vividly recalled the Belleau Wood battle and said "we straightened things out once. I don't see why we should go back again."

Capt. Asa J. Smith, local attorney, who was stopped by mustard gas 22 years ago last night and was nearly left for dead on the battlefield, was present. He spent 12 weeks in an army hospital.

At present, the WPA is fulfilling a War Department project at Ft. Harrison which includes widespread improvements to grounds and buildings.

The WPA also is rushing to completion the Purdue University airport where reserve student pilots are being trained. The WPA's 1000-foot northeast-southwest runway extension now being built at the Municipal Airport is also considered of defense significance.

The Ft. Harrison project includes reconstruction and improvement of the athletic field and building an installation of 800 feet of 12-inch sanitary sewer, road improvement and the reconstruction of six barracks, reservation office, bachelors' residences, commissary building, pump house, hospital buildings, garages and miscellaneous buildings.

Emotions Guiding U. S., Fears Pastor Back From Europe

Make Democracy Work Here, Aid Refugees, Urges

Rev. E. T. Elliott.

The United States can best serve the cause of democracy by making democracy work here, the Rev. E. T. Elliott, First Friends pastor, said today.

The Rev. E. T. Elliott has just returned from two months of touring Europe and visiting Friends organizations in many countries. His mission was to learn what Friends in this country can do to aid groups over there.

"The mission of the Friends Church," Dr. Elliott said, "is to preserve areas of creative peace in the belligerent countries."

He was greatly impressed, upon his return to this country, to find the great change in sentiment that had taken place during the two months he was in Europe.

"I regard the rapid change as an evidence that the world is being guided by its emotions and not by deep and careful thinking."

"At this time, the nation should try to understand rather than hate or fear. The United States should accept refugees from the crowded sections of Europe, especially orphans of children of Joliette.

"These children would displace no one now in jobs and would probably remember little of their lives in Europe and grow up to be American citizens with an American point of view."

The tendency, apparently, has been to over-simplify the problem of the war, because in only that way could the mass mind be made up so quickly and strongly, Mr. Elliott said.

He voiced the hope that America will not directly intervene in the war, but said she has duty to perform in connection with it—the duty of accepting some refugees and easing the crowded conditions.

The Rev. E. T. Elliott . . . back home after tour of war-torn Europe.

He will discuss his European experiences at a meeting at the church at 7:30 p. m. tomorrow.

U. S. MUST HAVE LEADERSHIP OF UNITY--WILLKIE

No President Has Right to Lead Nation to War, Candidate Says.

BOSTON, June 15 (U.P.)—Wendell L. Willkie, utilities executive and candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, said last night that no President should "lead the people to war unless and until the people insist."

"It is the attitude of the Chief Executive to prevent war if he can possibly do so," Mr. Willkie told a Republican rally. "At that awful decision, he should not push Congress. Congress should push him. In a democracy only the people have a right to decide upon war. The duty of a President is to be the restraining and calming influence in all periods of crises."

"And personally, in spite of my belief that we should help the Allies in every possible way, I have been against getting into this war or any other war. And I still am."

Mr. Willkie said the United States must have a leadership dedicated to unity rather than division.

"The question we have to answer," he said, "is this: Under what kind of government will this country recover most rapidly its economic strength and build most rapidly its military defense? Can we do this better under the New Deal or under the Republican Party?"

"In the past month, in a crisis far more serious than that which this nation faces, both Great Britain and France have changed the prime ministers who were associated with the weaknesses of the past. And in the coming Presidential campaign the American people must make the same decision."

Mr. Willkie said that in order to "make the ramparts of American industry" the nation needs a leadership "dedicated to unity rather than to division," and one which is "capable of getting things done."

"But while doing everything it could to help the Allies, this new leadership should bend its major efforts to rebuilding America. And it would begin by recognizing the simple, honest fact that we all want to do something."

Landon Criticizes Pledge to Allies

TOPEKA, Kas., June 15 (U.P.)—Former Governor Alf M. Landon, national head of the Republican Party, charged last night, while preparing to leave for Philadelphia to help draft the Party's national convention platform, that President Roosevelt's pledge of our national resources to the Allies was "the way of dictators."

Mr. Landon leaves today for Philadelphia. His statement surprised some political observers here because previously he had approved a "short of war" aid to the Allies.

Mr. Landon's running mate, Col. Frank Knox, Chicago publisher, Mr. Landon's running mate, had said during a visit to Kansas City a few days ago that yearning come in which this country could expect in invasion, and he had warned American youths to "live hard and dangerously" in preparation for those years.

In a statement Mr. Landon said:

"What has profoundly disturbed me has been the attitude of the President as disclosed most clearly in his Charlottesville speech."

"It showed a disposition to take this country to the verge of war without regard to national opinion as expressed through Congress. The President offered to the Allies 'the material resources of the nation.'

"He made this offer as if the material resources of the nation were his to dispose of. This is not the way of democracy. It is the way of dictators—the way just taken by Mussolini."

"Say, I don't think you're very considerate of your fellow citizens. Here you have the Fire Department and the police force tied up and we've had to block the street and delay lots of people. Do you think you have a right to do that?"

"I believe you're right. I never thought of it that way," Anderson said, climbing back into the building.

Anderson told police he had lost his health studying medicine at North Dakota State College and at the University of Minnesota and left New York after losing his money in an ice cream store.

He was held in a psychiatric hospital for observation.

DRILL TWO OIL WELLS IN HAMILTON COUNTY

Times Special

NOBLESVILLE, Ind., June 15.—One test well already begun and another soon to be started may show whether there are paying quantities of oil in Hamilton County, Garth Nelson, Indianapolis attorney, said today.

Mr. Nelson has taken leases on 2000 acres of land for a Texas firm and has turned the leases over to Sheriff Joe Newby to be held until the first well is drilled, and to protect the farmers against