

The Faith That Is America

(Because of the great importance of the subject matter of the following article to the present and future welfare of every American, we have invited Mr. Willkie to be guest editor this week. His article appeared first in the North American Review, was condensed later in The Reader's Digest and is published here with the permission of those magazines.)

By WENDELL L. WILLKIE

Author, Industrialist, and President, Commonwealth and Southern Corp.

For centuries my ancestors lived in Central Europe. Some of them were peasants, some artisans, others were landed proprietors; but all of them through those centuries had been restricted in their opportunities to the group in which they were born, and no one of them had ever known the true meaning of liberty. Those who did not observe the restrictions under which they were forced to live got into trouble: one had to flee his native land because he adopted the religion of his choice; another was ostracized because he believed in the principles of the French Revolution; and still another was jailed for expressing his own opinions. In 1848, my father and my grandparents came to America to escape this repression of individual liberties.

They were led to these shores, as were millions before and after them, by a special reputation that the United States has had among nations. This reputation is founded upon one simple fact: in the United States the plain man has always had a chance.

My father and mother were the first generation in their families to grow up in America. My mother became a lawyer. My father was also a lawyer. Of course, in Europe my mother would have found it impossible to practice a profession; and my father would have found it difficult to get out of the groove worn by his ancestors. Furthermore, it would have been utterly impossible for them to have given their six children the education which we received in America. We went to high school and college.

And with the schooling finished, there were no doors closed to their children just because they came from a plain family in a small town. No class distinction, no law interfered with their effort to earn a living in the occupation of their choice, or to express their opinions as they passed.

In all the long history of their family, these six children were the first to know from the time they were born, the blessings of freedom. I don't want them to be the last.

This family record is the record of any number of American families. For us the value of freedom has had a practical demonstration. Freedom means, for example, that if you run a store, you can sell your products to anybody without a government official telling you what the prices must be; if you are a professor in a university, you don't have to alter science or delete history as a bureaucrat prescribes. If you own a newspaper you don't limit your editorial opinions to what an official censor approves. If you are a laborer, you can leave your job when you feel like it for any other job you prefer; you and your fellow workers can bargain collectively concerning the conditions of your work. If you think taxes are too high, you can vote against those officials you think responsible. And there is no limitation upon your inherent American right to criticize anybody, anywhere, at any time.

These are practical applications of this thing called freedom. In this country we take them for granted—perhaps too much for granted. But in more than half the world freedom does not exist. The present conflict in Europe is perilous to this freedom because in a modern war people destroy the very things they say they are fighting for. It is because we wish to preserve our free democratic system that we must remain at peace. But we cannot remain carelessly at peace. If the price of democracy in ordinary times is eternal vigilance, in a war period that vigilance must be doubled.

Beware Of 'Emergencies'

We must be careful that, under the guise of "emergency," the powers of government are not so extended as to impair the vitality of free enterprise and choke off free expression of thought. Already we hear of the need for the government to control prices, to license American business, to regiment American employees and employers, to censor the radio. In a critical time there is always a temptation to surrender the responsibilities of a free citizen, to say to the government: "During this emergency, you take charge. You tell us what to do, what to think."

If we should yield to this temptation, the end of our free democratic system might come as readily in peace as in war. Once these responsibilities of citizenship are given up, they are not readily returned. Government, in its practical working, consists only of aggregations of men; and men, having tested power, do not easily surrender power. We must not be misled because suggested restrictions are for humanitarian purposes, for, as Justice Louis D. Brandeis recently said:

"Experience should teach us to be more on our guard to protect our liberties when the government's purposes are beneficent. . . . The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding."

The war has not changed the grave domestic questions confronting America; it has just temporarily diverted our minds from them. For 10 years we have been haunted by our unemployment problem. Yet its solution has been in our hands for some time. During the depression decade, American industry accumulated an enormous deficiency in plants and modern machinery. To remedy this, industry will need even more than the present number of unemployed. Industry will also need a great deal of additional capital, and there should be no difficulty in getting this, as soon as the

(Continued on Page 6)

THE DALLAS POST

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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CIVIC PROGRAM FOR 1940

- 1. More community spirit in the Dallas area. 2. A concrete highway from Dallas to Tunkhannock. 3. Centralization of police and fire protection. 4. Better fire protection and lower insurance rates. 5. More sidewalks.

TRUCKSVILLE WOMAN AND HER SISTER DIE WITHIN TWO HOURS; SAME CAUSE

Mrs. Frank Mazur, 33, Main Road, Trucksville, died on Monday afternoon in General Hospital at 3:30, two hours after her sister, Mrs. John Walsh, Edwardsville, had died at Homeopathic Hospital. Peritonitis was the cause of both deaths.

Mrs. Mazur was admitted to General Hospital on December 27. Her sister went to Homeopathic Hospital last week. Both were listed as surgical cases.

Mrs. Mazur is survived by her husband, her father and seven brothers and sisters, all of Larksville.

Correspondent Has First Sight Of German Plane

Tells Post Readers Of England's Christmas; Novelty Of War Dulled

(By an exchange arrangement, The Post receives letters regularly from Mr. Amps, dealing with domestic details of the War. Articles prepared by The Post appear regularly in Mr. Amps' newspaper.)

By BASIL E. H. AMPS

EXCLUSIVE Ilford, England (By Mail) — First, although this piece will not appear until after the New Year, I want to wish the readers of The Post a Happy New Year.

Our English holidays did not vary so much as you might think from the usual Christmas. A few of the things that are usually plentiful were not quite so much in evidence, perhaps, because of the diversion to the Forces, and the fact that a number of typically Christmas things have come in the past from Germany or those countries now under German sway, but in general a casual visitor would notice little to distinguish this Christmas from any other.

Except for the effect of the blackout and the number of uniforms about, it was much the same as ever. The main shopping streets were crowded during the hours of daylight and the traders were thankful that Christmas turned out to be so much better than they had anticipated. At the opening of the war, we dared not think of Christmas. It was almost too much to hope that there would be any but essential workers left in our town, but the continued absence of raids has had the effect of bringing back many thousands of those who left the town in the first week of hostilities and, though there are still something like 6,000 children living in scattered villages in Suffolk and at least 4,000 homes are vacated, there are enough of us to keep the shops busy.

A Childless Christmas

The most tragic aspect of this Christmas, apart from the losses that have been suffered as a result of the war on sea and in the air, was to be found in the absence of so many of the children from their homes. Well over half a million had Christmas in strange surroundings. Everything possible was done for them, and most of them were happy enough. I know several parents who have their children away from them and they didn't look forward to the holidays at all. They were able to visit the children after Christmas, but the preparations this year consisted mostly of shopping and mailing parcels.

As a matter of fact, if it were not for the gas-masks on every shoulder and the sandbagged air-raid shelters and the uniforms we should scarcely be aware of war at all. This, of course, is partly due to the fact that we have now got quite used to our environment, which, four months ago, would have seemed like a nightmare. It is amazing how natural everything that happens seems to be. About three weeks ago, on a Monday morning, I was going down the stairs leading from our office to the street. I heard three dull thuds as I went down but thought nothing of them as we are on a heavily-trafficked street.

Plane Dodges Anti-Aircraft

When I got out I saw someone looking up into the sky, and looked up casually as well to see five puffs of white smoke hanging round an aeroplane that was flying at a tremendous height. I watched the plane out of sight and saw several other shell-bursts near it. It was the first sight I had ever had of active warfare, but it seemed a matter of little moment and afterwards, as I thought about it, I was shocked to discover how natural it seemed to be that aeroplanes should have death hurled at them in that way.

And yet, at the same time, it seemed ridiculous that that little silver speck up there should have come in enmity over the North Sea to carry out some work, whatever it was, designed to harm the people beneath.

My other contacts with the war are second hand, except in-so-far as they are concerned with the Home Defence services. The other evening I went to interview the wife of one of the men who was a prisoner on the Graf Spee and was landed at Montevideo. This man was Chief

(Continued on Page 8)

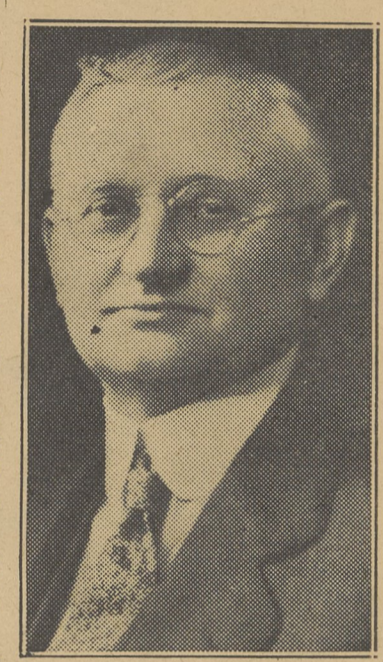
Doctor Who Has Brought 3,000 Babies Into World Is Honored By Legion

Award For Distinguished Service To Community Given To Dr. H. A. Brown By Daddow-Isaacs Post

The Distinguished Service Certificate of the State Department of the American Legion, the highest honor conferred upon non-Legionnaires, was awarded to Dr. Harry A. Brown of Lehman last night at a ceremony conducted in Lehman Methodist Church by Daddow-Isaacs Post, No. 672, American Legion.

Dr. Brown was chosen for the award because, during 34 years of practice in Lehman, he has quietly personified the highest ideals of his profession. Most of his countless kind deeds and sympathetic gestures have been cloaked in his own modesty, but the files of the committee which nominated him above other candidates for the award are filled with evidences of his humanity and generosity.

BEGINS SEVENTH TERM



C. A. Frantz

who was re-elected president of the First National Bank of Dallas at its annual meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Frantz was first named president in 1933 and has been re-elected each year since.

Chills Promised In PTA Thriller

Well-Known Local Cast In Mystery Next Week

A cast of well-known local persons, under professional direction, will appear in "Mystery at Midnight," a three-act comedy which will be presented in Dallas Borough High School, Thursday and Friday, January 18 and 19, at 8 under auspices of the Dallas Borough Parent-Teacher Association.

The cast of characters includes Ralph Rood as Judge Rollins; Betty Niemeyer as Sally Grant; Jerry Sullivan, Prof. Rockbottom; Mrs. Nelson Shaver, Elvira Nosegaj; Clarence LaBar, Tom Foster; Joseph Jewell, Ralph Norris; Mrs. G. K. Swartz, Bonnie Baker; Evan Brace, Detective Briggs; Clyde Veitch, Jack Murphy; Mrs. Laverne Rice, Mrs. Holloway; Velma Herring, Sara; Elwood McCarty, stranger.

There will also be three choruses, which will appear in the musical numbers, singing and dancing. Mrs. Frank Perry, president of the Parent-Teacher Association, has announced that a prize of \$2 will be awarded to the high school boy or girl who turns in the most money from the sale of tickets.

Dallas Learns To Like Wednesday Closing

The custom of closing stores on Wednesday afternoon, inaugurated in Dallas this summer, has met with favor among most people, a response which has led merchants to agree to continue the practice indefinitely.

Dallas Firemen Meet

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company of Dallas will have a regular meeting tonight at the hose house on Mill Street. A committee appointed to discuss some plan for a benefit show will make its report.

SCOOP! POST OFFERS READERS 'GOOD WILL BARGAIN' ON BOOKS

Score another "scoop" for The Post's "good neighbor" policy.

As a gesture of appreciation, The Post today is offering to its subscribers an almost incredible bargain in culture—a five-volume "History of the World", a credit to any library shelf, for 98c. It sounds crazy, but it's true!

The books, bound in blue and stamped with red and gilt, contain more than 1,700 pages, cover 3,000 years of history, contain information on more than 1,100 subjects, are indexed and profusely illustrated and have been revised to 1937.

For at least a month, The Post will publish each week one "Good Will Coupon". To get a set of these

books at the 98c price, it will be necessary for the subscriber to clip three "Good Will Coupons" from any three issues of The Post. These coupons, with 98c (or \$1.98 if the DeLuxe Edition is ordered) will bring the set by mail. That's all there is . . . nothing to sell, nothing to write, no contest of any kind, nothing except the three coupons and the 98c.

Since the offer will last only until the supply of books is exhausted, it is advisable to mail immediately the reservation order which appears in the advertisement on Page 3. It entails no obligation and will assure you that a set is being saved for you.

Women Will Aid In Job Drive In This Section

Mrs. Kuehn Is Chairman; County Leader To Speak Here On Monday Night

A group of women's organization from the Dallas area enlisted in Governor Arthur H. James' Mobilization Crusade this week, determined to help in halting the vicious downward unemployment cycle in Pennsylvania. Mrs. G. A. A. Kuehn of Dallas was selected to head the women's division in this section.

An organization meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in the offices of the State Employment Service in Wilkes-Barre, when key members of the local committee received instructions and the signal to "begin hiring". These women will serve as liaison officers between unemployed and potential employers in this section.

Mrs. Kuehn has announced the following representatives from women's organizations who will cooperate in the Mobilization Campaign: Mrs. Edna Whitesell, Dallas Junior Women's Club; Mrs. Alex Groblewski, Nesbitt Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; Mrs. H. J. Disque, American Legion Auxiliary; Mrs. Frank Perry, Dallas Borough Parent-Teacher Association; Mrs. Earl Weidner, W. C. T. U.; Mrs. Ada Lewis, Order of Eastern Star; Mrs. Charles Stookey, Daughters of America; Mrs. Richard Templin, Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Co. Auxiliary; Mrs. Alice Fiske, Jesse A. Brickel Sunday school class; Mrs. Wesley Himmler, Ladies' Aid Society.

County Leader To Speak

The opening gun in the women's campaign will be fired at Dallas Borough High School on Monday night when Mrs. Charles S. Williams, chairman of the women's division for Luzerne County, will address local volunteers and members of the Dallas Borough Parent-Teacher Association. Mrs. Williams will answer questions following her talk.

Already groups in other parts of the county have attacked the problem of finding jobs for some of the county's 24,000 unemployed. Governor James launched the Job Mobilization Campaign when it became apparent that the tremendous burden of relief—which cost the state \$122,000,000 last year—was crippling industry. It suggested that industry increase its pay rolls, so its tax rolls could be decreased.

The volunteers in the Mobilization Campaign will contact prospective employers, searching for jobs. When openings are discovered, the State Employment Service will recommend applicants from its rolls.

Dallas Council To Study Tentative Budget Monday

The council of Dallas Borough will meet on Monday night to receive a report from the finance committee, of which Joseph MacVeigh is chairman. The committee met last Saturday afternoon and compiled a tentative budget, which will be presented on Monday night for council's approval.

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HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Good Will Coupon

For a limited time, The Post will send to any subscriber who mails or brings three of these coupons and 98c to The Post a five-volume "History of the World", as illustrated in an advertisement in this issue. If you wish to have a set reserved in your name send the Reservation Order from the advertisement. No obligation, of course, but it will assure you that a set is being saved for you. Do not send this coupon in until you have two others. This offer is made only to paid-up subscribers.

Name Address City State

POST SCRIPTS

Its once-proud brown stone front smudged by soft coal smoke, its windows streaked and lonely, its plate glass stuck with ugly "For Rent" signs, the old bank building at Kingston where "King Dan" Edwards ruled his industrial empire has been sold for \$200 . . . and its destruction puts a period at the end of an American story.

The enterprising Mr. Edwards made his exit from this world about seven years before we entered the province lately ruled by him, but we grew up surrounded by so many monuments to his enterprise that he, instead of Rockefeller or Carnegie or any of the early Mellons, has always been our favorite post-Civil War industrial baron.

Mr. Edwards was an up-and-coming Welshman who migrated to this country just before the Civil War, determined to learn for himself about the opportunities supposedly awaiting ambitious young men in the new country. Two years after he set foot on the Battery, he was superintendent of the iron works at Danville. The company sent him to Kingston and before long he was running Kingston Coal Company and laying the foundations for his own feudal system.

Although his reign was subject to the greater law of his country, many of those laws were made by Mr. Edwards and his associates and

(Continued on Page 8)

OLD-TIME SWAPPING INSTINCT IS DUE FOR A REVIVAL HERE

The old-fashioned swapping instinct is about to be revived in Dallas, Shavertown and Luzerne. This section's first "Swap-for-cash" game will be started in Dallas this week, when four business places will inaugurate one of the most unusual profit-sharing campaigns ever developed.

Customers at Kuehn's drug store, Gregory's haberdashery and barber shop, Add Woolbert's Auto Service and Richards' Economy market will receive "change tickets", which, when saved until a sufficient number is collected, will be exchanged for "letter cards". Each of these cards will bear a printed number and when enough letters have been accumulated to spell any number from one to twenty-seven the hold-

er will be entitled to collect that amount in cash. Twenty-seven dollars will be the highest amount that will be paid by the "cashier", who will be at Kuehn's drug store. The campaign is not limited as to time and will continue as long as public response warrants.

The fun will come when holders of letter cards, lacking but one letter to finish the spelling of a number, begin swapping unwanted letter cards in an effort to procure their needed letter. The campaigns which will be started later in Luzerne and Shavertown will be conducted by separate groups of merchants and the tickets and cards will not be interchangeable.

(Continued on Page 8)