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MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1938

The Wasted Tenth

Last week 402 new names were added to the list of the unemployed in the city registered with the North Carolina Employment Service. This brings the grand total of such persons to 8,723, nearly 10 per cent of the whole population of the city.

We have got used to that sort of thing by now, but it is essentially a tragedy. And not only for the unemployed themselves but for all of us. These people are not the aged and infirm - not unemployed but men and women quite capable of working and, in general, quite willing to work.

Neal, What?

Before now we have lamented the end and decay of rhetorical wordplay among the statesmen who presently adorn the Congress of the United States, as against those who used to perform there or in other august bodies. But it seems intolerable to think that we can't somehow find a way to end this waste and this helpless misery.

Heysound on a Limb

Heywood Brown has a piece on this page today in which he strives, with some success, we must admit, to nip in the budding the nostalgia that, after all, the "Old Deal" wasn't so bad. It was a fine, sane, candid soul who reviews the blunders and the futility of the Hoover Administration will have to admit. And its handling of the Bonus Army, as Heywood says, was one of the major inept of its many inept performances.

Visiting Around

The subject announced for this evening is "The Bed That It Too Short." How Would a Clubby Coupe Strike You? (South Carolina) Meet Stullins! YOUNG girl desires work as house-keeper. Can drive car. What have you to offer. M. C. ... Travelers Rest, S. C.

A BARRIER FOR MARS

By Hugh S. Johnson WASHINGTON—Somebody is doing one of the best recorded publicity jobs of press agencies for the Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy, our unappointed Ambassador to the Court of St. James. This is no brag at all. It is, in fact, doing a realistic job. In fact, for once in our history, I believe that, from the President down through the Secretary of State to the whole diplomatic service, we have the best team of international poker players only in our history but in comparison with the rest of the world.

Our Southern Competitors

Nobody, we believe, not even the New Deal itself, has any real idea of what is going on in the South as a whole. It is going to work out. Our own fear has been that it would displace a lot of Negroes who held marginal jobs and that it might result disastrously for the South, which needs industries on almost any terms.

And yet, when you say South, you cover a vast area. It is not as if you do when you say cotton textile industry. For between parts of the South there is as much difference as there is between South and North, and wages in the cotton textile industry vary as much in the Southern parts as they do interregionally.

A Department of Labor study, for example, shows that the average textile wage in April, 1937, was 49.4 cents in Massachusetts and 48.1 cents in North Carolina. A difference of nearly 3 per cent. In other parts it is 30 per cent. This put North Carolina in a swell competitive position with Massachusetts, but Tazewell also had his low-wage competitors.

Mississippi, for one; sister in the Confederacy. Average textile wages in Mississippi were 45.8 cents an hour, a little less than in North Carolina. In fact, the textile industry in that neighborhood has advanced to 88 cents an hour, or a differential of 30 per cent.

A Glance at Russia

With the spotlight turned on the fascist bullies, Russia, once democracy's arch hobnob, has just become overlooked. It is vaguely comprehended that Stalin has gone on killing off his people from the top and bottom, and scarcely a week passes that emanated Russia doesn't have to undergo another purge. But live-and-let-live expresses the attitude of most of our countrymen to the terror that is Soviet Russia.

Even so, it is of academic interest to learn that the governmental experiment which started out, under Lenin, in Communism, is being pushed into the next stage, that model where the insiders live on the fat of the land, the rest on the crumbs that fall from their masters' tables. The United States Bureau of Mines reported last week, in a survey of Soviet mineral production, that...

Battle of the Poets

We have not in a long time enjoyed anything so much as the war of the poets which has been going on in our letter column to the right. We hoped, when we published Miss Dickson's first contesting answer to Mr. Dickson that it would cause a rise out of him. It did, for that matter. But he suppressed it. And we had to call in the public and ask on Miss Waddell to further thrusts before he could be persuaded to take up the contest.

The First Parachute

(Barley, Ga. News-Banner) J. B. Thomas thinks that the idea of the parachute came from an incident that happened in Oglethorpe County in his childhood. A man loping his horse across a clearing hit an old dry well, and horse and rider went into it, the horse being killed. In the fall a ciling buzzard alighted at the bottom of the well. His fellow buzzards watched him and when he whooshed down to the dead horse, the whole flock followed him down. The man grabbed all the buzzard legs he could hold, pulled at the birds and out of the well buzzards and man went. He intended to turn loose at the top, but the big birds were too fast and up he went into the blue eyepiece. He was just as mad off as before, or worse, but being a quick flier he came back one buzzard at a time and slowly descended to the ground, only losing the last bird as his feet touched terra firma again.

Letters To The Editor

If Hossees Are Sinful, What About Stocks?

And Butter And Eggs Seem To Him To Be In Same Boat With Cotton And Wheat

Dear Sir: Please explain in your valuable paper the difference between betting on (1) a horse, (2) baseball, (3) a bale of cotton, (4) a share of stock in a corporation, (5) a bushel of wheat, or (6) butter or eggs.

I notice places about town where they have large blackboards on which are listed certain items. A young man runs up and down on the board, like a reporter, writing figures that come out of a ticker tape, and a lot of ladies and gentlemen sit in large chairs and look at the board, and some of them euss when certain figures are posted.

I don't know what kind of a "business" this is, and what they are doing, but I heard one prominent church member say when he came out of the door that "the market was not so good today." I have also heard it whispered that these people were "speculating."

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JUST FLAIN IGNORANT! Charlotte, R. F. D. A.

Good Thing For Congress To Lay Off A White

Dear Sir: The Negroes, Congress, and the Nation when the country was in "the throes of economic crisis." But there are a great number of business men who will disagree with the Republicans, who are saying that the Democrats have let them in the lurch by declining to pack up and go home.

By the time of adjournment most speakers in the Congress were displaying an irritability from which it is doubtful that any constructive legislation would be forthcoming.

A Last Year's Editorial

(From The News of June 20, 1937) A VANISHING HOST Of the Confederate soldiers who went from North Carolina in the war (1930-1900 of them, a greater number than from any other State) only 231 are left. More than half of these will die in the next twelve months, or at the age when death is but a matter of time; and the mortality rate accelerates with the weight of years.

FOR THEY ENABLE US TO BLOCK ANOTHER WAR

Any way, until this question of dollar devaluation and international stability of money is settled, what booby we would be to make a war debt settlement on a greatly reduced basis without knowing whether we were eventually to be paid in tokens, wampum or hokum!

Wild Life In Sayford

Water is getting low in the pond at the tenhour Brick plant at Colon, and on Tuesday afternoon the pond yielded big fish. Negroes working at the plant took off and chased fish like some do chickens. They ran them down and caught them in a wide swath as big as 40 pounds. One weighed 15-12 pounds. They caught a few bass, too.

WORLD BEATS ASSURED

The arrival of another steamship from Europe blends all the enthusiasm and all the hopes that belong so naturally to such a prodigious stride in the onward progression of our civilization.

Peculiarities Of People

THE elder Dumas had a love for conkey. He wrote a recipe book of 1,200 pages. In it he included fillets of kangaroo meat, fish of elephants' feet, and other outlandish delicacies for the palate.

The Forgetting Animal

By KEYWOOD BROWN

ALL the beasts man seems to be the most forgetful. Other animals learn not to return to things which have caused them pain and avoid them.

But the human tendency to forget is not so simple. It is not so much that man forgets but rather that he remembers in reverse.

Soldiers who were up to their necks in mud and blood began after a little time to talk of those same days as if they were any and glorious. The profession of arms and the profession of politics could hardly survive if it were not for the human tendency to forget the old and the new.

Nothing else can explain the strange school of thought which festers in the minds of those who are beyond endurance and lay away in lavender. And by some strange quirk we are proud of such devices of "memories which bind and burn."

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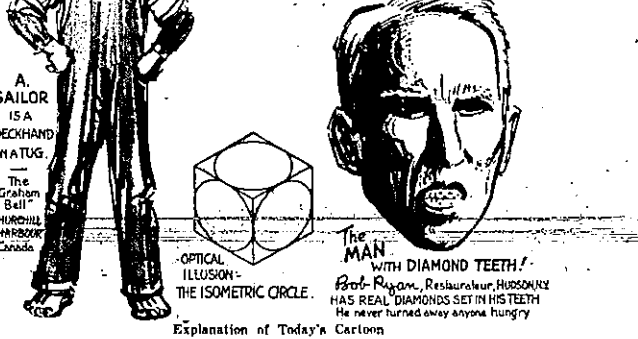
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BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

On request, sent with stamped, addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.



CITY OF THE BLIND - VETRENKI, YUGO-SLAVIA ALL HUSBANDS ARE BLIND - ALL WIVES CAN SEE - A CITY CREATED BY KING ALEXANDER I FOR THE BLIND INVALIDS OF THE WAR.



OPTICAL ILLUSION - THE ISOMETRIC CIRCLE. THE MAN WITH DIAMOND TEETH! Prof. Ripley, Restaurateur, RUSSOVIKI HAS REAL DIAMONDS SET IN HIS TEETH He never turned away anyone hungry

Earlier Days

News of 75 and 100 Years Ago From Files in the State Library at Raleigh

TANKS REPULSED AT VICKSBURG Jackson, Miss.—On Saturday morning at two o'clock the enemy made another serious assault on Vicksburg. The action lasted until 10 o'clock and ended in a complete rout of the enemy.

It is estimated the loss of the enemy on Saturday was 10,000. Also that the enemy are throwing potatoes across the Blue Ridge between the railroad ridge and Baldwins Ferry. It is reported that our forces have taken possession of Union Bluff on the Yazoo River.

It is reported that the enemy acknowledge their loss was heavier than at any other time and that it is estimated at from seven to ten thousand, and that our victory was complete. The Yankee troops are much depressed and say that Vicksburg has ever been a slaughter pen and a grave for our soldiers.

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