

# That Willkie Boy's Pranks Disturbed Oldsters Back Home In Indiana—But He Went Places

AP Feature Service Writer  
"So you're the girl Wendell's going to marry?" Wendell Willkie's mother said in 1917, when the man who has just stamped the republican party was on the trail of his bride-to-be.  
Mrs. Willkie was talking to Edith Wilk, spunky, fair-haired, blue-eyed girl from Rushville, Ind., a few miles from Elwood, the Willkie home town.  
Edith Wilk stammered, blushed.  
"Oh, no, no," she protested. "It must be a mistake, I've just met him. And—well, I never heard anything about it."  
"No mistake," laughed Mrs. Willkie. "Wendell's got it all settled. He's told me he had met the girl he was going to marry. He said it would be so easy, because your name is already Wilk."  
**Pranks and Protest**  
This was Edith Wilk's introduction to life with that man-always-in-a-hurry who, then, never seemed to know where he was going.  
Later on, in 1918, after Wendell had volunteered and before he went to France with the field artillery, she went to training camp to visit her fiancé. Her aunt went along as



This Indiana Girl Was Edith Wilk ...

Wendell changed her name to Willkie.

a chaperone and it was the aunt who came away at-ty-eyed.  
"He's—why he's going to be a great man," said auntie. The Willkies were married before "Win" went to France.  
"Win" Willkie had a way with people, only in his youth he was always messing up his promising future with escapades that made even good friends despair. There was the time when, as college pranks, he and his brother took on the entire police force of Bloomington, Ind., with their bare fists—and landed in jail.  
**Chased From Germany**  
All biographers of Wendell Willkie tell you of the Willkie family beginnings. All four of Willkie's Protestant grandparents were chased out of Germany when the democrats lost the revolution of 1848.  
Willkie's father settled in 1885 in Elwood, Ind. There were reared the six children of the present Willkie generation—four boys (every one a success in the accepted American sense) and two girls.  
Elwood early gave up any thought of adjusting the Willkies to conventional small-town life, and more or less accustomed itself to the Willkies.  
By the time Win was 10, the mothers of the town had grown used to having the noses of their children bloodied by one of those Willkie kids; had quit stopping at the

gate to gawk at all eight of the Willkie clan immersed deep and satisfied in their own performance of some Shakespearean play in the side yard of their home.  
The elder Willkie ascended and descended with the Elwood gas boom, but with his wife—the first woman admitted to the bar of Indiana—he hung out a shingle and managed to educate the children, while cleaning up the town's organized vice.  
**Slow to Decide**  
But the father believed children should work to find their own niche. The children did, but Win was slow making up his mind.  
He entered Indiana university at 15, couldn't decide whether it was Jeffersonian democracy he was for, or socialism. Between sessions, he tramped the great west, learned to play a devastating game of poker, earned his way in harvest field, hotel kitchens, mining camps, tent hotels, and industrial plants.  
After college came a lean season or two as history teacher in Coffeyville, Kan. Still keenly aware of his father's losses in the Elwood gas collapse, he decided to make money, and thus make himself free. So he returned to Bloomington law school.  
Then came his marriage and war experience. Home from France, the great decision was in front of him. Should he, or should he not, turn on that personal magnetism of his and run for congress?  
"You should not," lectured Frank C. Dailey, Indianapolis lawyer.  
"But what—?" queried Willkie.  
"Leave that to me," said Dailey.  
**He Didn't Get Away**  
Willkie did. His decision to abide by the Dailey counsel was the turning point in his life. Dailey got Willkie a job as a lawyer with the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., in Akron, Ohio. There he cut a wide swath attired in his big, black Bill Borah hat, he argued for big corporations in courtrooms, and for human liberties off duty and on. By now he was an active democrat, in politics. In a few short years he was a lawyer in a most successful firm, and the eyes of one of the country's biggest utility magnates were on him.  
"Don't let him get away from us," pleaded B. C. Cobb, the Commonwealth & Southern executive, with his Ohio friends.  
And so the star of Wendell Willkie rose in the financial heavens, carried him to New York in 1930 and to the fight of his life—up to now: his defense of his own utility system against the New Deal TVA in the Tennessee valley.

**Pratum Missionary Women Entertained**  
Pratum—Mrs. Adam Hersch was hostess to the Pratum Methodist Women's Foreign Missionary society in her home Tuesday evening for the July meeting. The president, Mrs. Miriam de Vries, was in charge of the devotionals and the business meeting. The remainder of the evening was spent in needle work.  
Mrs. Hersch served supper later in the evening to Mrs. Lillian de Vries, Carrie Branch, Marie Meyer, Frances de Vries, Ida Bowen, Lorene Olt-hoff, Christina Kleen, Winona Wilson, Miriam de Vries, Ednor Emery, Jewell Wallace, Matilda Hersch, Betty Harding, Willita Hersch, Doryse and Elsie de Vries, Mrs. George Kleen.



Baby Sandy Plays Cupid—Florence Rice, baby Sandy and Richard Carlson in "Little Accident," starting Sunday at the Hollywood theatre.

**Grimps Rodeo Winner**  
Hubbard—George Grimps, who won the mayoralty calf-lying contest at the St. Paul Rodeo Wednesday night, is not the mayor of Hubbard but is a member of the city council and a well known farmer and stock man. Grimps was "pinch hitting" for Mayor Garfield Voget in the calf-lying contest.

**Last Times Today**  
"PIONEER DAYS" and "Hard to Get" Plus "Dick Tracy's G-Men"  
**LIBERTY**  
Starts Sunday 2 Hits

HOME OWNED **HOLLYWOOD 15**  
LAST TIMES TONIGHT  
**Henry GOES ARIZONA**  
Frank Morgan  
Sunday - Monday - Tuesday — Two Big Features 15c  
Continuous Performance Sunday — 1 to 11:30 P. M.

**DYNAMITE IN DIAPERS!**  
**LITTLE ACCIDENT**  
HUGH HERBERT  
FLORENCE RICE - RICHARD CARLSON  
BABY SANDY

**GREEN WELL**  
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JOAN BENNETT  
JOHN HOWARD HALL  
GEORGE BANCROFT - PRICE  
and George SANDERS

**Brother RAT**  
with Wayne Morris and Priscilla Lane  
Plus 2nd Hit  
Adults 15c  
Children 10c  
Continues from 1 P. M.



Offering At Grand—Here is a scene from "Doped Youth," now playing at the Grand theatre.



Spectacular Blackout In London—"Waterloo Bridge," with Virginia Field, Robert Taylor and Vivien Leigh, starts Sunday at the Elsinore theatre. The companion feature is "A Fugitive From Justice."

## Navy, Army Interest To Monmouth Boys

Monmouth—Lyle E. Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Mitchell, has been enlisted in the United States navy. In company with 19 other newly received recruits he left Portland the past week for San Diego, Calif.  
Dale Snider, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ora Snider, is at Vancouver Barracks to participate for a month in the activities of C.M.T.C. From there he will go to Ft. Lewis, Wash., with the National Guard for another month's training with the regular army.

Jefferson—The first Fourth of July casualty, and so far the only one, observed here was the bandaged thumb of Judge E. E. Howell, when he appeared on the street early that morning. After a good deal of questioning the judge admitted that he was teaching a youngster how to shoot fire crackers the safe and sane way, when a fire-cracker exploded prematurely, tearing the nail off his thumb.



Preparing For Primitive Battle—Lon Chaney, Jr., is starred as Akhoba, leader of the fierce Rock tribe, and Victor Mature portrays his son, Tumak, in the film spectacle, "One Million B. C.," a saga of cavemen, starting Sunday at the Capitol theatre, with "To Honor and Oh, Baby."

## From Jail Inmate After Celebration

Albany, Ore.—Convicted in justice court yesterday on a drunkenness charge, Roy Froman was sentenced by Justice of the Peace Victor Olliver to 60 days in the Linn county jail.

Froman was reported to have started a grass fire in east Albany Thursday, which would have eventually damaged considerably the Rorer Brothers' box factory had not a transient bystander called the fire department immediately. The fire had burned within ten feet of the box factory when firemen finally conquered it.

Butteville—Mrs. W. O. Lindquist was hostess to the Aurora-Donald-Butteville health unit at her home Thursday afternoon. The meeting was called to order by the vice-president, Mrs. Lindquist. Mrs. P. O. Ottaway acted as secretary-treasurer. Plans were formulated for a pre-school clinic at Aurora, August 1. Visiting district nurses present were Miss Ruth Denne and Miss Lucille Ayres who gave an interesting talk on clinic work.

A ship calling at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, recently carried nearly 750 tourists.  
**STATE THEATRE 15**  
CONTINUOUS SHOWS DAILY MAT. I.P.M.

— LAST DAY —  
WALLACE BEERY "MAN FROM DAKOTA" and James Stewart "Shop Around the Corner" Margaret Sullavan

**THE Perfect ENTERTAINMENT FOR EVERYONE... EVERYWHERE**  
Starts Tomorrow, Midnite Show Tonight  
MAURICE MAETERLINCK'S **"THE BLUE BIRD"** IN TECHNICOLOR  
...WITH...  
SHIRLEY TEMPLE  
NIGEL BRUCE • GALE SONDERGAARD  
EDDIE COLLINS • SYBIL JASON  
2 Big Hits 2  
A Pair of Wacky Sherlocks In a Mess... They Mix Murder with a Damsel in Distress?  
FRESHER! FASTER! FUNNIER!!!  
Pat O'Brien ★ Edw. Arnold  
— RUTH BERRY —  
**"Slightly HONORABLE"**



Enlisted day after U. S. declared war on Germany; served overseas as captain in 325th Field Artillery.



See All Its Spectacular Wonders—The Land of Memory where people never die, the Land of Future, a kingdom in the clouds. "The Blue Bird" will delight and enchant young and old, starring Shirley Temple, Spring Byington, Gale Sondergaard and a cast of hundreds. Opens on the midnight show tonight at the State theatre. Companion hit, "Slightly Honorable," with Pat O'Brien, Edward Arnold and Ruth Terry.

## Librarian Reports Upon June Business

Silverton—The June library report submitted to the city council Monday night showed total circulation at 889; number of reference questions answered were 203. Fourteen new readers were added. Books recently added to the local library reading shelves are Llewellyn's, "How Green Was My Valley"; Williams, "Come Spring"; Allen's, "Since Yesterday"; Fuller, "Loon Feather"; Buck, "Other Gods"; Glaspeil, "The Morning Is Near Us"; Hobart, "Their Own Country"; Osa Johnson, "I Married Adventure."

Built at a cost of \$800,000 London's largest chain of garages brought only \$240,000 at auction recently.

**DANCE Every Sat.**  
Top Hatters  
HAUNTED MILL  
Rickett 25c