

Wendell Willkie Advocates Social Security Tightening

The following article, on social security, is the third of eight written by Wendell Willkie on the position he takes the Republican party should take.

By Wendell Willkie

A free economy, by its nature, entails a certain amount of fluctuation and risk. As a matter of fact, much of its strength and its very freedoms are directly related to its risks. But one cannot enjoy the freedoms of such a society without a minimum of economic security. Therefore the risks must be spread sufficiently to guarantee that all members of society are protected against the final economic disaster of going without the bare necessities of life. This is the function of the social insurance.

Both Factors Needed
We have too often been led to regard the social insurances as the opposite rather than the supplement of our enterprise system. We have been presented with them as alternatives. Do you want security or initiative? Do you want protection or adventure? This is a fictitious issue. We need both. Indeed we cannot have one without the others. We cannot have security in terms of an advancing standard of living without enterprise. We cannot have the initiative and energy we need for an expanding economy without preserving and increasing the vigor of our human resources.

Laws Regarded Inadequate
Our present social security laws are inadequate for this purpose. The proposed Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill contains some of the essentials of an inclusive social security program. But unfortunately it is in many respects poorly conceived and perpetuates the inequities of the present law. Taxes still fall most heavily upon the lowest paid workers, while benefits are largest to the most highly paid. Coverage is still incomplete and eligibility rules are complicated.

Need knows no rules of eligibility or coverage. Protection against old age, illness and economic misfortune must be a right for everyone. Benefits must be adequate to provide a minimum sustenance in health and decency, regardless of a man's previous earnings. This is important not alone to the individual, but to assure the relative stability of our consumer industries and agricultural production and the well being of our whole society.

Care Asked for All
Complete medical care should be available to all. But any plan adopted today should be sufficiently flexible to allow for experimentation and growth, and in any program of public medicine the value of the practicing physician's relationship to his

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patient must be recognized. Adequate provision must be made for building facilities where none now exist, for developing health and diagnostic centers, and for funds for research and medical education.

Another form of insurance that is of outstanding importance for the relatively stable functioning of our free economy is an adequate and uniform system of federal unemployment insurance. Today, we have 51 separate laws governing unemployment compensation. Our economy is too interdependent to allow this division of responsibility to continue. The present tax collection machinery, federal for some insurances, state for others, with duplication of records, is wasteful, costly and time-consuming. And benefit rates vary widely and are inadequate.

Uniform Standards Vital
The post-war reconversion strain will fall unevenly on the states. In this crucial period we shall need the stabilizing influence of uniform standards and procedures, and of adequate benefits fixed not according to former wages, but on the basis of a regional cost of living, to cover bare necessities.

For a long time our society left the education of children to the individual parent's ability to pay. Then it made a decision which changed civilization. It decided that all children should be educated, regardless of their parents' income.

Child Care Illogical
We are now faced with another decision as logical and as necessary about which we must begin to think. We have left the feeding, clothing, shelter and medical care of our children to be determined by their parents' income alone. It hasn't worked and can never work for a man whose skills may permit him to earn only the minimum wage. No wage or income based upon the value of the economic contribution of the individual can ever be made to take into proper consideration the needs of his dependents.

The children of America are the future of America. The principles of self-preservation, no less than those of humanity, demand that we place squarely on society the responsibility of making citizens of tomorrow healthy, energetic and educated. We should begin the moment the war is over to see that every child in America grows up with the basic necessities of education, good food, adequate clothing, medical care and a decent home.

We whose faith is in a freely competitive society have the special obligation of seeing that all "start fair," physically and mentally, as well equipped for the race as their natural endowment permits.

Formulas Must Change
There is nothing new in providing men with minimum protection. When our society was predominantly agricultural, Abraham Lincoln's homestead laws offered to the people of the United States what was then necessary protection—land and a chance to build a home. Today when our society is predominantly industrial, the formulas must change. And all the resolutions

for the preservation of the enterprise system will not do one fraction as much to preserve it as the assurance to men and women of the protections which they are rightfully demanding, protections which are basic to their time.

The Republican party should see to it that they get them.

Gold Hill

Gold Hill, June 14 — Miss Jane Anderson and sister, Mrs. T. H. Robelot of Greenville, South Carolina were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Martin and daughter Jill. Miss Anderson is the fiancée of 1st Lt. Jack Martin, who was stationed in Greenville, prior to being sent to the South Pacific for combat duty, where he was recently awarded the Air Medal.

The sisters visited in Portland, with Lt. Martin's relatives and will also visit in San Francisco, before returning to the east, via the southern route, stopping in Los Angeles and New Orleans.

Mrs. Hazel Holderness and Mrs. Joe Borsky spent Monday and Tuesday in Grants Pass, where they took the training course offered for scout leaders.

Mrs. Bonnie Livingston of Redmond, Ore. is a guest of her aunt, Mrs. Leon Wise and Mr. Wise.

Mrs. Edna Arbuckle and two sons have returned to Weaverville, Calif., after spending several months here, residing in the Winona Steelman home, on the cement plant road. Mrs. Arbuckle is a niece of Mr. and Mrs. James Clement.

Champlin Garrison, who graduated this month, from the University of Oregon at Eugene, has returned here with his mother, Mrs. Eugene Garrison. He left June 8 for San Francisco, where he expected to be employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis McGuire returned here June 6, after spending several days in Portland and vicinity, transacting business.

The city fire truck and fire chief, Delos Walker, were called to put out a grass fire, near city pump house, June 5.

Mrs. Arthur Gorham and daughter Donna left Saturday for San Martin, Calif. to join Mr. Gorham and to make their home there. They bought a chicken farm and orchard, near San Martin recently.

Harry Steelman of Portland is visiting his mother and sister, Mrs. Winona Steelman and Mrs. Ed Shoemaker and family.

Bill Betts left June 9 for induction into the army. His wife and their three small children will remain at their home here for a short time, after which they expected to stay with Mrs. Betts relatives in Ashland.

Past Noble Grand club met June 8, at the home of Mrs. Pearl Ferguson. Entertainment was in charge of Mrs. Ruth Lewis. The club will serve supper, at the Odd Fellow dance June 17. It was decided to hold club meetings once a month during the summer, instead of discontinuing. Next meeting will be June 13, with Mrs. Ethel Martin as hostess.

School election will be held June 19 in the gymnasium. Terms of one director, Donald Ferguson and the clerk, Mrs. Hazel Holderness, are expired and it is understood that both

will accept their re-election for another term.

John Williamson, who has made his home with Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Walker, for several years, has gone to Washington, where he formerly resided.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Moore and daughters, Yvonne and Nadra are Cpl. and Mrs. Derwin Mapel from Camp Pendleton, Calif., who were accompanied by Mrs. Ray Hall and small daughter, from San Diego. Mrs. Mapel is a daughter of the Moores' and Mrs. Hall is a sister-in-law of Mrs. Moore. Mapels will visit relatives in Portland, for a few days.

Miss Weegle Dungey, who graduated from the local high school last month, is employed in a Medford bank.

Mrs. Myrtle Cameron of Cottage Grove is a guest of her sister, Mrs. Daisy Gilchrist and brothers, Ppl. LeRoy, A. A. F. and Elmer LeRoy and family. Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Scott are the latter's granddaughter and great-grandson, Mrs. Antoinette Swanson and son of Eureka, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Olney Edington and two sons of Grants Pass, formerly of this city, spent Sunday here with relatives and friends.

Harry Foley and son of Eureka, Calif. came Saturday to visit the former's mother, Mrs. Alice Foley and family. Mr. Foley returned to Eureka, Sunday, where he is employed, while his son remained to visit longer with his grandmother and other relatives.

Dan McKee was among local men to leave recently, for induction into armed forces.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pilkington and daughter, Miss Phyllis Ross of Ashland, visited friends here, recently. Mrs. Pilkington was formerly Mrs. Rebecca Ross of this city.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Dorman were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dusenberry and son Gary of Talent.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Noel Kellogg and son Jimmie were the former's mother, Mrs. Katherine Kellogg of Medford and Mrs. Harry Frederick and baby daughter of Klamath Falls. Mrs. Frederick is a sister-in-law of Mrs. Noel Kellogg.

Home extension unit met in the school lunch room June 9 when home demonstration agent, Marian Farrell gave a demon-

stration on freezing and drying of foods and also a clinic on prevention of spoilage in food preservation.

Mrs. Ward Neville of Albany, Calif. is a guest of her parents and brother, Mr. and Mrs.

Vaughn Quackenbush and Bart. Mrs. Neville is the former Miss Eugenia Quackenbush of this city and her husband is a lieutenant in the A. A. F., stationed in India.

Amethyst Rebekah lodge met

June 7. On the program committee were Mrs. Effie Wyatt, who gave a reading and a skit was presented by Mrs. Willie McLean, Mrs. Evelyn Thompson, Mrs. Pearl Ferguson and Mrs. Elbow Mae Gail. Mrs. McLean

was appointed as good of the order chairman, for the coming year. Mrs. Elbow Mae Gail gave a report on part of meetings of Grand Lodge, held in Portland, recently.

MONTGOMERY WARD



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for WORK (Dad will appreciate COMFORT on his

job as much as on his time off)—a

roomy work shirt or work-or-play

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