

Poe, because of his own weakness of character, it is true, never had an opportunity to do anything else but write to exist. Sir Walter Scott, a victim of poor health since childhood and with a huge debt hanging heavy over his head, certainly did not compose for the satisfaction of composing alone. The unfortunate positions of these two thwarted men of genius provoked an immense amount of

mediocrity that contrasts sharply with Poe's immortal *Raven* and with Scott's unsurpassed *Waverly Novels*.

The tragedies of Edgar Allen Poe and of Sir Walter Scott will be lamented as long as their masterful prose and poetry are studied and loved. Weaknesses of character in the two artists have been forgiven and now lie forgotten between the covers of *The Gold Bug* and buried deep in the adventures of *Ivanhoe*.

Wendell Willkie

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Wendell Willkie was a liberal man and a man with a great American spirit. Willkie was not a politician because he could not compromise for his own advantage. He never let bitter criticism from his opponents dissuade him from the policy or method of action which he believed right.

In the recent campaign he was on the fence. At his death he had not yet, at least so far as the public was concerned, made up his mind which course to follow. Those closest to him say he probably would have pointed out the weaknesses and deficiencies in the policies of both nominees and let the public weigh the criticisms. No one will know for sure which side he would have taken.

Wendell Willkie had no sympathy for the domestic policies of the present

administration or with the methods of the Washington regime. But even though he criticized certain mistakes, he felt that Roosevelt and Hull were working in the right direction on foreign affairs, the important issue today.

Willkie was misunderstood by many people when he spoke for more cooperation with Britain in 1940, and after the election many anti-Willkie Republicans smeared his views with subversive literature. According to Dr. Gallup, twenty percent of the independent voters would have heard their own views reflected in his.

It is my belief that more men should follow his example. More men should become independent thinkers with no intention to hold public office but only to serve the best interests of their country.