

Tribulations Of Hotel Managers Told At Meeting

DENVER—(AP)—Take it from the men who should know—are in the worst business in the land. Not at all. Most of them wouldn't trade their jobs and ulcers for any other way of losing sleep and making a living.

Take A. F. Spatafora. He's the manager of the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans. He started in the business as a 13-year-old bell boy 46 years ago. Spatafora claps his hand dramatically to his forehead when you mention troubles—but he plans to stay in the business a while more.

Spatafora still is afraid of ghosts, a hangover from his bell-hopping days when a seven-foot character with a long beard used to call for service, then wrap himself in a sheet and jump out at the boys from unexpected corners.

Then there was the guest that called up from a bar in the middle of the night and demanded that Spatafora find his teeth. Spatafora finally located them—in a spittoon.

Of course, the managers insist, the guests in their own particular hotels aren't like the others; they are all very nice. The delegates—guests themselves for four days—

also are models of propriety. They admit it.

Record Automobile Output, Big Merchandise Turnover Feature Fine Business Week

By G. A. PHILLIPS

NEW YORK—(AP)—Business and industrial activity was fully sustained at exceptionally high level last week. A record output of automobiles and a strong stock market were double-featured attractions.

Aided by good shopping weather over most of the country, retail trade was better in terms of general merchandise turnover and demand was especially heavy for vacation items. A highly encouraging factor in this important industry was heavy attendance at various fall showings held in New York and other large cities.

This was in sharp contrast to the situation prevailing at this time last year when the so-called "inventory recession" was in full bloom and merchants and middlemen alike were concentrating on getting stocks down instead of building them up.

The current high rate of employment and income and almost complete lack of signs that either are in danger of any serious fall in the second half of the year, gives merchants a much better background for future operations than they had a year ago.

Contributing Factors

A high satisfactory rate of industrial production, generally placid conditions in the labor field, a strong flow of extra and increased dividends for investors in stocks and excellent demand for the largest amount of new securities offered in any week this year, were other features of the business situation.

The price wheel was given a new whirl by a rise of two cents a pound in copper and a series of new hikes in steel scrap and some finished steel products such as sheets and strip. Porterhouse steak at \$1.20 a pound in the better New York stores carried housewives' memories back of the black markets of World War Two days.

While some economists take a rather serious view of the present uptrend in the price of many of the things you use, eat and wear, A. W. Zelomek, a widely known economist specializing in the retail field, thinks it is a temporary condition.

"Unless we are willing to believe the public will soon begin to spend its savings as well as its current income," Zelomek said, "it doesn't make much sense to talk about price inflation developing from current levels."

Auto Output Soars

The thoroughly unheralded action of General Motors Corp. Directors in recommending a new splitup of the common stock sparked a vigorous and sustained rally in the stock market that carried prices to the highest average level in four years and some individual issues to the best position since the fabulous days of 1929.

For the first time in the stirring history of the dynamic automobile industry, more than 200,000 cars and trucks were turned out in this country and Canada this week. The exact total of 209,680 units compared with the previous high of around 186,000 in the latter part of May.

World Brotherhood Formed To Promote Friendship

PARIS.—(AP)—Delegates from 12 western countries have formed a "world brotherhood" to spread the principles of tolerance advocated by the national conference of Christians and Jews of America.

The organization, financed privately and with no governmental or political ties, was formed at the end of a four-day meeting here of 155 leaders in religion, education, business, labor and civil services.

Purpose of the brotherhood, said its constitution, "is to promote justice, friendship, understanding and cooperation among people varying as to religion, race, nation or culture."

Everett R. Clinchy, president of the national conference of Christians and Jews of America, was named ex-officio head of the world group. Other Americans on the steering committee are a to-mic scientist Arthur H. Compton, chancellor of Washington University, St. Louis Mo., who was chairman of the conference; Thomas E. Braniff, president of Braniff Airways, Dallas, Texas; Roger W. Straus, chairman of the board of American Smelting and Refining Co., of New York, and George B. McKibbin, Chicago lawyer.

Other nations represented at the conference and with places on the committee are Britain, France, Canada, Italy, western Germany, Belgium, Ireland, Denmark, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Switzerland. Norway and Sweden were allotted committee seats but sent no representatives to the meeting.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates 1949 losses to European corn borer at \$350,000,000.

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15,000 Chicks Burned

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C. — (AP)—An estimated 15,000 chicks were burned to death Saturday when a \$100,000 fire roared through a three-story brooder house on the Trans-Canada highway near here.

The house, burned to the ground, was owned by Bolivar Hatcheries Ltd., one of the largest firms of its kind in Canada.

Cause of the fire was not determined.

Police officers saved some 600 birds.

"We must have thrown 300 each out of the windows," said Constable Roy Burton, "six at a time."

He Really Hit The Road

PULLMAN, Wash., —(AP)—William B. Cooke had to hit the road as well as the books to win his doctor's degree at Washington State college.

Cooke wrote his doctoral thesis on "a study of fungi, lichens and mosses in relation to vascular plant communities in eastern Washington and adjacent Idaho."

To get the material he had to make repeated visits to 18 plots in scattered areas within a 150 mile radius of Pullman. He figured out the mileage and decided it amounted to 15,000 miles of traveling.

Great altitudes offer an advantage to scientists studying cosmic rays.

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