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WE WILL THRIVE IN '55

By Charles V. Stanton

It is customary that as we turn to a new calendar we take inventory. Not only do we inventory material assets, but we endeavor to peer into the future of political, economic, domestic and international affairs.

Businessmen, in particular, are interested in economic predictions. They spend large sums of money for subscriptions to various services provided by firms and organizations of economists making a business of analyzing industrial and business trends.

This year there is an unusual measure of agreement among business forecasters that 1955 will be an exceptionally good year financially. They point out many factors which they believe will contribute to high general economy throughout the year.

Increasing population, for instance, will require more consumer goods. A high rate of per capita earnings indicates purchasing ability. Construction is expected to be above normal. Inventories in most lines are lower than usual and stockpiles are down.

The market is expected to favor the buyer rather than the seller. A buyer's market brings strong competition. Competition, in turn, stimulates trade. Trading circulates money. Prosperity depends upon the pace at which money is circulated.

Labor Demands Involved

All studies, economists agree, point to a very prosperous year.

One of the unknown factors which could change the situation, economists state, is that of extended labor trouble.

Labor organizations now are preparing demands for forthcoming bargaining sessions. One of the controversial issues expected in major industry is that of guaranteed annual wage. Management will strongly resist this demand, it is predicted. Prolonged labor strife could impair national economy, the experts say. But, if negotiations can be successfully conducted without prolonged strikes and curtailment of production, there is little reason, they contend, to anticipate any slump in economy.

Political observers expect efforts by politicians to create unrest, suspicion and apprehension. Such efforts normally precede a presidential election year. Each of the major parties will be hurling charges at the other, while trying to create in the mind of the voter a fear of disaster if the rival party wins the election. Groundwork for the 1956 campaign will be laid during 1955. Economists point out, however, that the public normally does not permit political propaganda to influence materially the economic pattern.

Local Outlook Good

The outlook in Douglas County, in our opinion, indicates that the economy of this area should be above the national average.

We are primarily dependent upon the timber industry. Predictions of a record number of housing starts, need for materials for new schoolhouses, business buildings, factories, etc., should provide substantial market. Lumber inventories are low in retail yards. The price outlook is favorable.

It is anticipated that there will be a minimum of labor trouble in the industry. The battle was fought last year. It is expected that settlements will be predicated upon recommendations from the governors' committee with no major interruption of production.

Supplies should be sufficient for maximum operation. Extension of access roads, particularly the new road up Steamboat Creek, will provide full allowable cut from the Umpqua National Forest for the first time. Then, in addition to the normal cut from O. and C. lands, the Bureau of Land Management is speeding removal of salvage timber, and is opening many new access roads, particularly in western Douglas County.

Highway and bridge construction will continue unabated through 1955, releasing large sums of money in the area. Road building also will be in progress in the forest areas. The North Umpqua Highway will be paved between Rock Creek and Steamboat.

Much activity is expected in the field of business, school and residential construction.

All indications are that we will thrive in '55.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Sidewalk reflections of a Pavement Plato:

How can you tell whether you have become an adult or still remain a child?

Well, there are some signposts along the way. You show definite indications of being grownup when—

You see wrinkles above your eyes as well as circles beneath them.

You start pondering whom you'd like to leave your money to—if you had any to leave.

"The kids" have to call you "Uncle" and have sons who address you as "Mister."

You really start planning to see your dentist once a year, your doctor twice a year.

You've acquired three "Dear John" letters from girl friends who've fallen for other guys.

You learn that the surest sign of a woman's interest in a man is her willingness to lend him money.

You can meet an old flame and feel never a twinge of the old heartburn. In fact she honestly looks crumbly to you.

You go to your monthly lodge meeting and somebody nominates you for the office of historian.

The laughter of strangers disturbs you, young lovers seem like fools, and children make you feel unreasonably cranky.

You no longer dare ask a pretty office secretary to lunch for fear of what the rest of the staff will think.

You start breaking into a laugh even before the boss finishes telling a joke.

You find yourself arguing that no horse could be greater than Man O'War, and no fighter ever lived who could whip Jack Dempsey in his prime.

Somebody mentions McCarthy, and you think first of Charlie and then of Joe.

You begin to put foot powder into your shoes each morning, and carry enough drops in your pocket regularly.

The wife finally decides you're old enough to have a night out each week to play poker with the boys—and all you want to do is play poker with the boys.

Other people's children seem as pretty and smart as your own—and certainly better-mannered.

You go to the beach for a swim, but merely lie on the sand in the sun and never go near the water.

Your wife starts campaigning for "a new fur coat." (Nothing ages a man more than the realization that one fur coat won't last a woman a lifetime.)

The daily mail holds no more surprises. You can look at every envelope and guess who sent it.

What'll It Be, an Upset or Just a Good Rocking?



Reader Opinions

Peter Edson

Blessings Counted Among Charitable Residents

ROSEBURG — I would like to take advantage of your column to publicly count my blessing. My blessing—to be able to live in a community of charitable people who in less than a month's time contributed almost \$700 for the purchase and installation of two television sets for our County Home. My Christmas was wonderful this year because of the feeling it gave me of helping bring happiness to the 66 patients. I know that the hundreds who had a part in this project must have had that — "Peace on earth, good will toward all."

I would like to be able to thank personally each and everyone. Especially would I like to thank the organization in Myrtle Creek, Reedsport, Astoria and Roseburg; the members of the Roseburg High School Band who played those beautiful Christmas carols out in front of the Home the day of the presentation; Mrs. Munson and Mrs. Murphy who brought students from Umpqua School to put on a drill that would have made a senior drill team envious.

Thanks, everyone, for making a happy ending to the Old Year, and may you all have a happy and prosperous New Year.

BESSIE SMITH
Roseburg, Oregon

Salvation Army Expresses Appreciation For News

ROSEBURG — (To News-Review Staff)—I would like to take this opportunity of conveying to you the sincere and heartfelt gratitude of the Salvation Army for the wonderful way in which you have aided us in the Christmas Cheer program this year.

We sincerely feel that in this area we have had a great privilege of acting as the servants of the entire community for the alleviation of the suffering of others.

We trust that yours will be a very happy holiday season and that the help that you have rendered to us will make it even more so.

D. ELMER BAKER
Captain, Commanding Officer,
Roseburg, Oregon

MUSKOGON, Mich.

When a pet dealer's automobile and a light truck collided, a hatch of tropical fish perished, but seven canaries survived. Four people were hurt.

A Boy Scout abandons an old lady in mid-street to rush over and help YOU reach the sidewalk safely.

You'd rather brag about what you used to do than what you're going to be.

You read the diets on the women's page, then the obituary notices, before turning to the sports pages. It no longer seems odd to you that undertakers print ads giving funeral prices, and you mope over which is really the biggest bargain.

You carry your paycheck home without even thinking of opening it yourself to see what's inside.

Instead of being awakened at night by "growing up" pains, you find you no longer can doze at your work by day because of "growing down" pains.

A hatchback girl smiles engagingly at you, and you don't smile back. You merely frown and wonder what's so funny.

You can read a piece like this in a newspaper and think, "The guy's got a point all right, though naturally most of what he says sure don't apply to me—yet."

WASHINGTON — (NEA) —

There are plenty of good fights on the winter sports card of the 34th Congress. It may produce nothing as rough or as long-drawn-out as the McCarthy bout of the past year. But for good clean political "rasslin'" matches, the next session will be anything but dull.

Many of these bouts may start slowly over relatively minor issues. But these preliminaries are only curtain-raisers to battles royal that will grow out of them. For instance: Foreign affairs are supposed to be nonpartisan and noncontroversial. Hanging fire as unfinished business before the Senate are ratification of the Manila agreement on Southeast Asia defense, the mutual assistance pact with Formosa and the Paris agreements for admission of Germany to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

All these treaties should be approved as a matter of routine business. But they open up the much larger question of foreign aid. And a brawl can be started on the subject any time. LAST YEAR CONGRESS RECOMMENDED that plans be made for liquidation of the Foreign Operations Administration. Its authority expires by law June 30, 1955. But a new and possibly expanded aid-for-Asia program is being prepared for submission to the new Congress. The odds against a victory for this plan are tremendous.

National defense fights are expected to take up a good bit of time in the new Congress. The draft law expires next June 30. A simple extension under present terms might not be too hard to pass.

But in taking up this subject, the Congress must explore the new Department of Defense manpower and reserve policy. This calls for universal military training as originally conceived, but for something akin to it. And that means a war of words. IF THE NEW RESERVE PROGRAM should be put into effect, it will mean cutting down on the size of the regular armed forces. That will tap another hornet's nest. For the Democrats have been critical of the Republican administration's curtailment of defense spending—particularly on the Air Force. The whole question of the military budget and military policy must be explored.

Along with this and the consideration of the foreign military assistance program, Sen. William F. Knowland (R-Calif.) may have a chance to get in his suggested complete reappraisal of American foreign policy. The Democrats would probably help him.

Sparked by a certain fight over the Dixon-Yates contract to let a private utility supply power to the Tennessee Valley Authority, the vast subject of national water policy is due for an airing. A SPECIAL TASK FORCE under ex-President Herbert Hoover's Commission on Reorganization of Government will submit its report on this subject early next year. At stake here is the problem of how big or how small the federal government's role should be in public power and reclamation developments.

Trying to make the Post Office Department self-supporting by raising postal rates enough to cover mail handling costs will bring the usual resistance from pressure groups that want subsidized service.

No matter how this fight comes out—the measure has always been defeated in the past—there is the

INVASION

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—A federal Plant Pest Control office predicts that grasshoppers will infest more than one-half million acres in Montana in 1955. The official forecast also said Mormon crickets would threaten crops in at least six counties but complete data was lacking.

Let's close with this optimistic statement:

As long as the people of our country HAVE FAITH IN THE FUTURE OF AMERICA AND ARE WILLING TO WORK AND PRODUCE, everything will be all right and the future will be rosy.

So, Little 1955, greetings and salutations!

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McCarthy Makes Year's Biggest Headlines In 1954

By PAUL R. MICKELSON

Assd. Press General News Editor
The biggest news story of 1954 had all the elements of a Broadway smash hit. It had two big acts and a wonderful supporting cast. It had a record run and a record audience.

Senator Joseph R. McCarthy's feud with the United States Army and his condemnation by the United States Senate was the big headline of the year. A real melodrama of politics with dramatic scenes off the main stage wings, it was topped near year's end with the Wisconsin senator's open break with President Eisenhower.

The Supreme Court's decision that racial segregation in public schools was unconstitutional was ranked the second biggest story of the year by editors in the annual Associated Press poll, but it didn't come close to harvesting the emotions and headlines devoted to McCarthy and his battles.

The Army hearings starred McCarthy and Joseph Welch, attorney for the Army, and millions saw and heard it over TV and radio. Together with the censure hearing, which brought condemnation by a 67 to 22 vote against McCarthy for abusing congressional committees, the McCarthy feuds required 61 days of official testimony.

No other story, except for past wars and daily weather forecasts, ever achieved such records for sustained page one play in American newspapers. At the finish, the Republican party, like the Communist - hunting senator, had one arm in a sling with the 1956 presidential elections not very far away.

The Supreme Court's decision in May was unanimous. It held states do not have the right to separate Negro and white people in different public schools. The ruling did not end segregation at once, but set further hearings, now held up due to the death of Justice Robert H. Jackson, to decide how and when to end the practice.

Except for some strong statements, quick agreements in some southern legislatures and sporadic disturbances when the fall school term opened, there was surprising though uneasy calm over the troubled areas of the South and border states. The coming year, when implementation of the decision may be worked out, may tell one of the great stories of the century.

On March 1, an almost unbelievable thing happened. Four fanatics seated in the House of Representatives gallery in Washington suddenly shouted, "Free Puerto Rico!" waved their flag and began shooting. When the

wild fusillade of some 20 shots had ended, blood was spilled in the honored legislative chamber. Five congressmen were wounded. All recovered and the nationalist fanatics, led by a woman, received prison sentences. New methods of protection were thrown together for the nation's lawmakers.

When the votes were counted, the nation discovered it had held one of the closest off-season elections in history. The Democrats won control of the House and Senate, but by nothing like the average margins run up against the party in power in non-presidential year voting. The Democrats won the House, 232 to 203 and the Senate with 48 Democrats, 47 Republicans and one pro-Democrat independent. Several veteran Senators and Representatives lost out. The Democrats picked up several governorships.

All but one of the remaining Big Ten news stories of the year were concerned with the cold war.

By SHERRY BOWEN
AP Newsfeatures Writer

When Pierre Mendes-France was confirmed June 18, he seemed just another of a long line of rapidly changing French premiers. When he said he would quit if there was no Indochina peace by July 20, it was predicted freely that his tenure would be even

Fair enough.

Let's see if we can answer that one.

The answer lies in a FACT. The fact is babies. In the year just ended, four million, one hundred thousand American babies were born. That is the largest number of babies ever born in a single year in America.

These babies will grow up. While they're growing up, they'll have to have schooling. That will take more teachers and more schoolhouses. That will mean MORE JOBS for more people.

When the boy babies get to be about 24 and the girl babies about 20, they'll get married. Every new married couple will have to have a house. Every new house will have to have furniture and all the modern gadgets that go to make a home. They'll have to be fed and they'll have to be clothed. In this modern world, they'll have to be AMUSED.

That will create a lot of new jobs.

And these new couples will have to have MORE babies, which will start the cycle all over.

Again I could go on like this all day. But I won't. I'll just suggest another question.

How come we're having so many more babies than we used to?

The answer to that question is REALLY interesting.

Here is how it came about: All of a sudden—somewhere along in the early 1940's—the young people of America decided that this country is going to be all right, that it will remain a going concern AND SO IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT TO GET MARRIED AND HAVE A GOOD-STEAD FAMILY.

All the rest has followed along in logical order.

Let's close with this optimistic statement:

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JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY
... top headline getter

THE YEAR'S BEST

1. McCarthy - Army hearings and censure case.
2. Supreme court bans school segregation.
3. Five congressmen shot by Puerto Rican nationalists.
4. Democrats win House and Senate.
5. Signing of pacts to arm Germany.
6. Fall of Dien Bien Phu.
7. Geneva conference and Indochina settlement.
8. East Coast hurricanes.
9. Korean war prisoner exchange completed.
10. Atoms for peace plan.

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