

Economists Predict Four Million Will be Unemployed in February

One Reason Is Waning Boom in Industrial Expansion, They Say

BY WILLIAM J. EATON
United Press Correspondent
Washington — Government economists predicted today that close to four million Americans will be out of work by the end of February.

Labor Department forecasters said one reason unemployment may shoot well beyond the present 2,500,000 jobless figure is because of the waning boom in industrial expansion.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, indicating labor's concern over the job outlook, called on President Eisenhower to take immediate steps to bolster the nation's economy.

In Seattle, top organizers of the Teamsters Union met to discuss the unemployment situation which is increasing all across the country.

Outgoing Teamsters President Dave Beck said today's meeting was one of a series called by him over the country's economic condition.

Farm Research Is Beneficial To All, Magazine Claims

Washington — The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) says in an editorial in the November issue of its monthly bulletin that agricultural research has benefited everyone—farmers and consumers—in work done primarily for farmers.

"Sure, agricultural research is done for farmers," ARS said. "But it benefits them only when it helps to meet the needs and preferences of consumers."

The service said Agricultural research has benefited farmers "by shortening their work-day and lightening their labors" and has helped increase their purchasing power.

"It has elevated the dignity of farming, given farm young people better educational, social, and business opportunities," it added. "All this farm progress has benefited the whole country. Farm labor has been released for producing other kinds of goods and services."

To Meet A Demand
"Our urban industrial economy, with its high standard of living, could never have come about except for the research development of an efficient, technical, and specialized system of producing and marketing our farm and forest products."

ARS said improvements in agriculture just don't happen, but result from research undertaken because farmers and consumers want something better. To a large extent, it said, consumers' needs and preferences set the course and encourage farmers to apply the results.

ARS pinpointed one commodity which is now available year-round because of research.

"We eat lettuce without a thought," it said. "But year-round lettuce took plenty of thought by scientists. Plant breeders had to find out ways to develop disease-resistant varieties. Other scientists had to find out ways of growing lettuce efficiently in both winter-crop and summer-crop areas. And they had to learn how to keep lettuce during long hauls to markets."

ARS said the same can be said of nearly everything Americans eat.

NETTING CONTRIBUTIONS
Black Creek, Ont. — A novel system of taking collections marked boat-blessing ceremonies here. At the conclusion of the services, three outboard motorboats maneuvered among the craft moored near shore. Aboard each boat a man held a long bamboo pole equipped with a net. As the boats moved from craft to craft, offerings were dropped into the outstretched nets.

In other economic developments:

—The National Association of Manufacturers told a Senate-House Economic committee Wednesday the nation's economy was hindered somewhat by government spending since "It is a withdrawal of manpower and other productive resources which might otherwise be used in expanding the economy."

—The House Small Business committee summoned Treasury Secretary Robert B. Anderson, Federal Reserve Chairman William McC. Martin and other top government economic experts to hearings on financing problems of small business. Committee Chairman Wright Patman (D-Tex.) said Wednesday more U.S. business firms failed in September than in any September since 1953.

—The Commerce Department said the gross national product—the output of goods and services—continued at a steady record high level during the July-September period. It said output ran at an annual rate of 439 billion dollars during the period—five billion dollars over the rate in the previous quarter.

The Labor Department economists based their prediction for a rise in unemployment on the fact that jobless totals failed to drop significantly in September and October. Normally unemployment dips to its lowest levels in those two months.

February usually tops other months in unemployment because of bad weather halts much outdoor work and the Christmas rush is over.

Program Schedules Chest Specialist

Dr. James T. Speros, Portland, chest specialist, is scheduled on the Jackson county Public Health association's television program Saturday, Nov. 23, at 5:30 p.m., according to moderator Mrs. Ivan Burton.

The program is sponsored by the Jackson County Medical Society and the Christmas Seal program.

The problem of tuberculosis and what it is costing the individual will be the subject of Saturday's panel. Dr. A. E. Merkel, county health officer, and Mrs. Chester Guches, case finding chairman and director of the chest x-ray clinic for the health association, will be the other panelists.

Dr. Speros is the assistant clinical professor of medicine at the University of Oregon Medical school, director of tuberculosis control for Portland and assistant medical director of the state tuberculosis hospital.

Mrs. Burton said that interested viewers should call the TV station to ask questions which will be answered on the air. Calls should be made between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, she said.

Travel on State Rural Roads Declines

Salem — Rural highway traffic in Oregon showed a statewide decrease of 2.3 per cent for October as compared with October of last year, the state highway department reported today.

Most rural traffic counters in southwestern and central Oregon showed decreased October traffic which was attributed in part to the curtailment of lumber operations.

A slight increase in traffic was shown on U.S. Highway 30 between Astoria and Pendleton. Greatest decreases were at Ochoco on U.S. Highway 26, down 13.1 per cent; Pilot Butte on U.S. Highway 20, down 11.3 per cent; and Grange Creek on U.S. Highway 99 north of Grants Pass, down 11.1 per cent.

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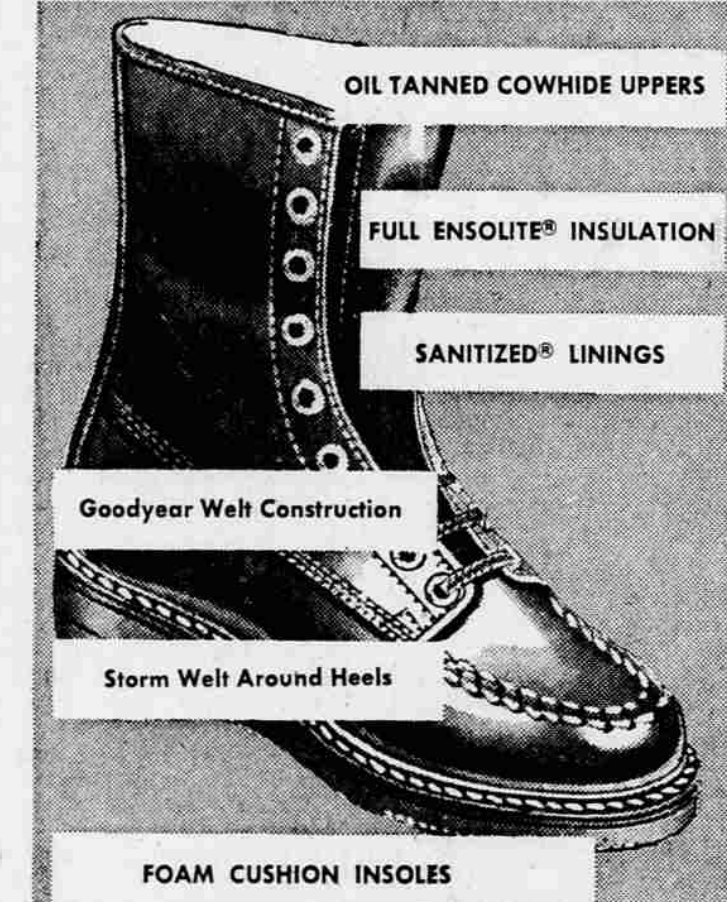
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