

Singer Jane Powell Receives Divorce

Santa Monica, Calif. — Singer-actress Jane Powell was granted an uncontested divorce from Patrick Nerney Wednesday after she told the court he was "terribly possessive" and "jealous of my career."

Miss Powell, 34, said her husband's attitude caused her to become "nervous and upset" and forced her to take psychiatric treatment. She charged extreme cruelty and grievous mental suffering.

Nerney, 42, was the blonde singer's second husband. They were married Nov. 8, 1954.

Survey Designed To Sample Attitudes Toward Role of Government in Business

An opinion survey containing 21 true-false and multiple choice questions was distributed at the Monday noon luncheon of the Medford Chamber of Commerce Roundtable.

The questions, in general, were designed to sample attitudes toward the role of government in business, the workings of the free enterprise system, and certain basic economic principles.

The forms were handed out by James C. Schill, western division manager for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, who then discussed what he termed the "economic illiteracy" problem in America.

Directions for the questionnaire stressed there were "no right or wrong answers," but rather was simply an instrument to determine group opinion.

There were about 41 persons at the Roundtable who filled out the form, but not all persons answered each question.

The questions follow. The numbers of persons answering the questions as either true or false are at the end of the question.

1. A small continuing amount of inflation is desirable. True 13, False 20.

2. Meeting competition is of major concern to small

companies primarily. True 13, False 28.

3. Labor receives too large a share of the national income. True 17, False 21.

Limit on Profit

4. The federal government should set a limit on the amount of profit a business can make. True 2, False 36.

5. Positive steps should be taken to bring about reduction of our national debt, promptly and substantially. True 39, False 2.

6. The federal government should have whatever powers may be necessary to stabilize our economy—that is, to control business cycles. True 7, False 34.

7. Most business firms could cut their prices 10 per cent and still make a reasonable profit. True 6, False 35.

8. As a matter of national economic policy, we should work toward devoting a relatively larger proportion of our present national production to increasing productive facilities; we should consume less now in order that we may have increased productive capacity for tomorrow. True 15, False 25.

Could Raise Wages

9. Most business firms could raise their wages 10 cents an hour without raising prices. True 11, False 32.

10. Our largest corporations are too large for the public good. True 6, False 30.

11. To insure consumer protection, more types of business should be regulated by government, as public utilities, banks and transportation are now regulated. True 4, False 36.

12. Generally speaking, monopoly is increasing and competition is declining. True 21, False 19.

13. It is the responsibility of the federal government to see that everyone who is willing to work has a job. True 6, False 34.

14. Income taxes should be reduced at upper income

levels to increase incentives. True 29, False 12.

15. The government can control prices without affecting the personal freedom of the individual. True 3, False 36.

Same as Monopolies

16. It may be that we could virtually eliminate business recessions but that in doing so we would significantly reduce the present rate of economic growth. It is worth this price to achieve greater economic stability. True 9, False 30.

17. In the long run, new and better machines mean more jobs. True 34, False 6.

18. The services provided through agencies of government should be increased substantially, and the necessary additional revenues provided through taxation. True 4, False 36.

19. In most industrial categories one or two companies are so large they are practically the same as monopolies. True 18, False 25.

20. The fairest economic system takes from each according to his ability, and gives to each according to his needs. True 8, False 29.

21. In most instances large competing corporations get together on prices to assure themselves of a fair profit margin. True 15, False 26.

22. Banks charge 6 1/2 per cent interest on loans to business. Many businesses must borrow substantial sums for expansion, retooling and operating capital. Some go broke. The average net profit after taxes on sales for business as a whole is: Less than 3 per cent (14); 3 to 6 per cent (18); 7 to 10 per cent (17); 11 to 15 per cent (5); 16 to 25 per cent (0); over 25 per cent (0).

Cause Some Confusion

After the questionnaire had been filled out and "corrected," Schill admitted some of the words were "misleading" and that the questions might have caused some confusion.

But the point, Schill, said, was to demonstrate the "wide differences of opinion about this country's economic system, even in such a group as a Chamber of Commerce."

The speaker said our national leaders are growing increasingly concerned about the "economic illiteracy" of the people in this country, and that some months ago President Kennedy had commissioned Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges to "go to the people and point out the problem and then take steps to see what could be done to correct it."

Schill said that a national survey had revealed that only one out of 20 persons had ever had a class in school or college in the subject of economics. Among college graduates, only 5 out of 20 had studied economics. Only 4 out of 20 education majors had taken courses in economics, the survey showed.

Expresses Worry

Schill said he was deeply worried, particularly in view of the communist threat, that so many people in the United States lacked basic information about the economic system.

He pointed to a course of instruction, "Freedom versus Communism," which has been worked up by the national Chamber of Commerce, a study program designed "to give participants an opportunity to make an informed, objective appraisal of the Communist challenge, with major emphasis devoted to comparing our private competitive enterprise system with the economic system of Communist Russia."

The course—a series of eight two-hour workshops held throughout the nation for the benefit of their employees.

Schill said he hoped the program could get started here in Medford. "This is a must," he said. "True, it takes time to participate in such a course, but this is a case of first things first."

Information about the course may be obtained by calling the Medford Chamber of Commerce office.

Continues Discussion

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Continues Discussion

Schill also discussed the subject of economic illiteracy at the Wednesday noon luncheon of Medford Kiwanis club. He conducted an opinion survey using 10 of the questions.

The Chamber of Commerce man said that it is Christian belief that underlies the free enterprise system of our nation and added that "we get what we deserve" is a philosophy underlying the system. He reported that there is considerable conflict over what the role of the businessman is.

Schill also described the free enterprise system as the most ethical, the most productive and most equal. But, he also said that the single-mindedness of businessmen has made this country a lot of enemies. He declared that "communism is nothing more than the ugly reaction to the failure of us to live up to Christian beliefs."

The chamber man said it is up to businessmen to espouse the economic system, but he spoke of the failure to understand what the system is all about. He maintained that economic illiteracy is the basis for so much of the legislation that cannot be justified whatsoever. Schill said not much is being done to reappraise the problem.

The morale fiber "to put us back on the right road again is going to have to come from 'Main Street,'" he declared.

WHITE HOUSE GUEST

Washington — Former Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy, the President's father, is a guest at the White House. The elder Kennedy, who had a stroke in December, 1961, arrived Monday from Palm Beach, Fla. He is expected to stay for the rest of the week.

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