Herald and News

Editorial Page

What's Wrong?

During the next Congressional session a determined effort will be made to repeal that section of the Taft-Hartley Act which authorizes the states to adopt right-to-work laws — laws which guarantee that a worker can join or not join a union, as he so chooses, without coercion from either labor or management. So far, 20 states have adopted the laws.

If the coming effort is successful, unrestrained labor monopolies will be in the saddle with a vengeance. Compulsory unionism — which means that man must join or starve— will become the rule. And this would be only the beginning. Senator Byrd of Virginia, in announcing that he would oppose repeal of the section "with all my strength and ability," said: "Power breeds power, and labor leaders are insatiable in their demands for special privilege and special legislation for immunity. Repeal . . . would be followed by a drive to repeal all protective provisions in the Taft-Hartley Act and other statutes in the whole labor field."

There's nothing anti-labor or anti-union in the right-to-work laws. All they do is to assert the principle that each individual has the right to decide for himself whether to join or not. As the Dallas Morning News observes, "If this is to remain a free country, what's wrong with that?"

Handled With Care

It is no reflection on the members of President-elect Kennedy's cabinet thus far chosen to say that they were among his easier choices. He reveals now that he has deliberately taken his time in the selections for the critical posts of state, defense and treasury.

Some people have been impatient with Kennedy for having moved so slowly in these areas.

Admittedly there is some urgency. The transition from one regime to another is difficult at best. The longer the newcomers have to get acquainted with their tasks, the better for the country.

But Kennedy made what perhaps will be widely accepted as a valid point when he said in explanation:

"Whoever is selected for those jobs, their judgment will affect the lives of all Americans and they will be in those positions, I would hope, for four years. Therefore I am trying to render the best and most responsible judgment I can. When I feel I have done that, then I am going to name them."

The president-elect surely understands, as do most Americans, that the men who are chosen to guide us in diplomacy, in defense and in finance must do more than exhibit high competence.

They must also inspire tremendous confidence, not only among Americans but among our actual and our potential allies abroad.

To find men who provide this delicate but vital combination plainly is not simple. Unquestionably there are quite a few able prospects for all three key posts. What certainly must be at issue in Kennedy's mind is which one can best gain the necessary wide support.

If good selections are made, it will be of lesser consequence that a good deal of time already has run on the available preflight training period. Good men can learn their jobs with often amazing dispatch, especially if their general backgrounds are well suited to the need.

Furthermore, in a very real sense the key man in diplomacy, defense and finance is the president-elect himself. In Kennedy's case, training actually began the day after he was elected. And he has had superb co-operation from the Eisenhower administration in getting ready to meet his problems.

If it can be assumed that Kennedy has performed his preparatory labors well, then we need not be concerned that the nation will suffer from too short a briefing for even the most crucial cabinet officers.

Most Americans likely would say it is better to move wisely rather than quickly— even though the times be urgent.

Not To The Farmer

At a recent meeting we attended, more than 95 per cent of the participants were farmers, or engaged in farming one way or another. One of the topics of discussion centered around possible ways to educate the public that it is not the price paid to the farmer for his products that keeps pushing up the cost of living.

That point is underscored in the latest living index report. It showed that the index had risen to a new high due to an increase of four tenths of one per cent in food prices.

This, despite a decline in some prices paid to the farmers, and with other products holding at the same price level. It is obvious, then, that the increases in the living index are not going into the farmers' pockets.

Most of the price increases have gone into the distribution and processing of the food we eat. Wholesalers and other food distributors will tell you that, in effect, the price increases are a cost for our laziness and desire for convenience. New processes of wrapping and packaging have been largely responsible for price increases of food items that require packing. We're not satisfied with the old kraft wrapper. We require that our food items be attractively (and expensively) wrapped and displayed before we'll buy. It goes without saying that it takes more than a fancy package to make a steak extra good. And, we're paying a price for convenience. Frozen foods, frozen dinners, anything you want to buy especially prepared and packaged, are yours for the asking — just pay the price.

Well, we've rambled from the point. Which is: when you grumble about the price of food, don't blame the poor farmer. He's got enough troubles already, what with fighting off the federal government and the fools who want to create a controlled paradise for him.

BARBS

A Georgia golf pro was injured in an auto crash. He should improve his driving.

When the moon comes over the mountain there are usually revenue agents somewhere nearby.

Often a word to the good wife is sufficient to start something.

"How are you?" is a question that leads to people telling you all their troubles.

To err is human but too often the eraser wears out before the pencil.

A pastor says there are no bad children—only stupid and thoughtless parents. Don't let Junior read this.

On with the nation's road repairs, so we'll have no excuse for finding ourselves in a rut.

We know what the goal of some college boys is, now that the football season is on. At each end of the field.

Songstress

Answer to Previous Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Songstress, Doris ——
4 She sings on —— and video
9 She —— appeared in several motion pictures
12 Number
13 Embellish
14 Social insect
15 Nothing
16 Notions
17 Mariner's direction
18 Girl's name
20 Senior
22 Onager
24 Sainte (ab.)
25 War god
28 Gifts
33 Donated
34 Rowing tool
35 Dine
36 Compass point
37 Mineral rock
38 Wheys of milk
39 Atrophied
42 Moravian river
43 Distress signal
44 Self-esteem
46 Ism
49 Join
53 Mimic
54 Goddess of peace
58 Edge
59 Narrow inlet
60 Desert garden spot
61 Boundary (comb. form)
62 Deed
63 Birds' homes
64 Seine

DOWN

1 Completed
2 West Indian shrub
3 Shout
4 Showers
5 Combine
6 Female deer
7 Masculine appellation
8 Attacks
9 Body part
10 British princess
11 One who (suffix)
19 Comfort
21 Southern general
23 Apparitions
24 Unruffled
25 Eras
26 Headstrong
27 Always
29 Uncommon
30 Require
31 Weight deduction
32 Asterisk
38 Presently
40 Employ
41 Idea
45 Conjecture
46 Ancient Irish capital
47 Type of poem
48 Tidy
50 Press
51 Weary
52 Exude
55 Scottish sailyard
56 Worm
57 Louse egg

GOALS FOR AMERICANS

Increasing Employment Is Major Objective For U.S.

By EDWARD F. DENISON
Associate Research Director
Committee for
Economic Development

One of a series of easy-to-read condensations from chapters written by eminent American authorities for book publication by Prentice-Hall with the Report from President Eisenhower's Commission on National Goals. Edited by Ray Cromley for Newspaper Enterprise Association. (Copyright 1960, the American Assembly.)

Various alternatives, in addition to maintenance of high employment, are available to the United States if it wishes to raise its growth rate.

On the basis of reasonable estimates, the national product could be raised one per cent above what it would otherwise be in 1970, which would add 0.1 per cent to the annual growth rate over the next 10 years, by any of the following means:

Double the rate of net immigration during the next decade; or

Curtail by about one-third the reduction that might otherwise be expected in standard annual working hours, or

Reduce by one-eighth the loss of labor resulting from illness, accidents, seasonal fluctuations, excessive labor in agriculture, illegal activities, concentrated long-term unemployment and labor disputes, or

Raise the proportion of gross national product devoted to net investment by about one - sixth above what it would otherwise be throughout the next 10 years.

This result might also be achieved by an assault on obstacles to the most effective use of resources.

Over the years numerous laws and private restraints have developed that prevent the economy from achieving, or even moving toward, an optimum allocation of resources among the various lines of production.

Legal provisions include obstacles to international trade by our own and by foreign governments, federal subsidies to various industries, resale price maintenance laws, farm price supports, selective excise taxes.

In the private sphere, monopoly, restrictions on the entry of new workers into certain occupations and discrimination in employment are examples of barriers to the most effective use of resources.

In some industries the use of the most efficient techniques and tools is barred, usually either by workers or by workers and employers together. In agriculture, government regulations prohibit maximum production.

Elimination of these obstacles would permit us, as a nation, to obtain more real income without more work or any sacrifice of present consumption.

Increased mobility of labor and capital would also help to bring the actual distribution of resources closer to the optimum.

The major step of creating a comprehensive system of public employment exchanges has already been taken. Better counseling of students might be helpful. Private pension plans are commonly established in such a way that the employe loses his rights if he changes employers. For individuals with long service, this becomes a major barrier to job changing.

Very high marginal personal income tax rates probably tend to discourage risk taking, prevent accumulation of investment funds in the hands of individuals most likely to undertake risky investments and impair performance of the entrepreneurial function.

The advance of knowledge has clearly been the most important single source of past increases in output per unit of input. Expenditures for organized research have been rising sharply and further very large increases are expected. Better ways to organize and conduct research may well offer a significant opportunity to accelerate growth.

Growth could also be stimulated by bringing the average level of technique closer to the best that is known.

Improved means of disseminating information would help. Removal of obstacles to the adoption of new procedures would help too, but may require better measures to prevent workers from suffering as a result of technological progress.

Increase in education is a major source of long-term growth, but it is already too late to raise 1970 output by lengthening the education of those now attending school.

The effort the American people might be willing to undertake to increase the rate of growth by these means is uncertain. Without an extraordinary concerted effort, however, the effect would probably not be "big," if by "big" is meant the order of magnitude suggested by an increase from three to four per cent, or from four to five per cent. Differences much smaller than this are important and, if achieved by means that are worth their cost, well worth seeking.

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 13, the 348th day of the year with 18 more in 1960.

The moon is approaching its new phase.

The morning star is Mars.

The evening stars are Jupiter, Mars, Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1797, German poet Heinrich Heine was born.

In 1927, violinist Yehudi Menuhin made his New York City debut in Carnegie Hall at the age of 10.

In 1941, the Japanese issued an ultimatum to British forces to surrender the crown colony of Hong Kong.

In 1948, James C. Petrillo's 11 month ban on phonograph recordings by members of his American Federation of Musicians ended.

Thought for today: German poet Heinrich Heine said: "If one has no heart, one cannot write for the masses."

HAPPY TIMES

Repair Racket Claims Victims

By MARIE DAERR

In a Midwest city, motions for a new trial have been filed for two men, aged 33 and 25, members of an interstate home repair racket who were convicted of larceny by trick.

During their trial, a procession of women, including an 84-year-old retired school teacher in a wheel chair, told of having faulty home repairs made by the two men—at big prices.

The stories of these women should be a warning to all homeowners, particularly elderly people, the logical prey of such unscrupulous operators.

Widowed Mrs. G, the former school teacher, told of paying the two men more than $6,000 for repairing her chimney and roof gutters and waterproofing her basement.

"The men had come to my home and told me the chimney might fall down at any moment," Mrs. G said. "So I hired them to repair it.

"They insisted on going ahead with gutter repairs and with waterproofing the basement. I told them not to do the basement, but they went ahead, anyway."

After the basement work was "finished," one of the men brought the aged woman a dozen roses and a used television set and took her to dinner at a fancy restaurant.

"Then I was given a bill for $5,200," she testified. "I paid it. Previously, I had given them $815 for the chimney work."

After the first heavy rain, the widow discovered that both the chimney and the basement leaked. She could not contact the two men, one of whom was serving a federal sentence for counterfeiting.

"I didn't use the television set," the woman testified. "I don't like television."

Another woman, aged 77, told of paying $600 to the men for faulty repairs on chimney and gutters of her home. The woman, a retired office worker, walked into the court room with the aid of a cane.

Another prosecution witness, a mother of three, told how the two "repairmen" collected $1,100 for seven hours work. The $1,100 was part of an endowment for her children.

In their defense, the two men said they were merely employes of a firm which had no business address and used an answering service to get calls.

Their operations, unfortunately, aren't isolated instances. The best place to stop such practices is at the door of the home at which these unscrupulous people knock.

Any reputable repairman will supply references, which may be checked. If he says, "I've been doing work on your street," ask him for the names and his customers.

Also, use your Better Business Bureau for a check on his operations. It exists to protect you from being cheated.

NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

When it comes to remembering the ages of his children, John Anderson (manager, Fred E. Barnett Co.) has a little easier time of it than most of us unfortunate pappas. Most of his flock were born on the 28th of something or other. For instance, Russell, 8, was born Aug. 28. Then Richard, 6, was born April 28. Then Kenny, 4, was born Nov. 28. John set the pace himself, being born May 28. A daughter, Mary, who is 7, broke the pattern by coming into the world June 3.

I can't remember from one year to another the birth dates and ages of any of mine — to a certainty, that is. And if it weren't for the fact that I have the dates written down, I'd get clobbered annually on Double-E's birthday and our wedding anniversary.

Getting a lot of attention these days is the matter of "horror" comic books. Time was, when many were fooled into thinking the horror comics were on their way out. There has been a good deal of effort by responsible comic book publishers to police their industry — but not half enough. There ought to be a law regulating such publications, but there isn't, and probably there never will be because of the matter of interpretation and censorship danger. There is little that can be done on the national level, but certainly parents can forbid their children to read the junk, thereby forcing publishers to switch their efforts to something more useful and profitable.

It is disgusting to hear a parent cry "there ought to be a law" when the real necessity is for the parent himself to establish a few laws in his own household. Followed up, of course, by enforcement on the part of both parents. Too many times, we rely on the school, the church, the public agencies and law enforcement officers to carry out the functions and responsibilities that are rightfully the parents'.

Ever wonder how you stand on this installment buying thing, as compared with others? Well, over the U.S. as a whole, about six out of ten are making installment payments on debts incurred in order to buy consumer goods or services. Families owed nearly $41 billion in installment credit on June 1 of this year, and $12 billion on non-installment credit composed of charge accounts, service credit and loans which are due in a lump sum on a specified date. These sums are equivalent to $774 per household in the U.S. for installment credit and $230 for non - installment credit.

Back again on a diet, and I'm reminded of the physiology student. His teacher asked him if he could give a familiar example of the human body as it adapts itself to changed conditions. "Yes, ma'am," said our hero, "my aunt gained 50 pounds in a year and her skin never cracked."

Anyway, the seasons haven't been speeded up to where Christmas cards have to be mailed before the last leaves are raked.

Out here, we hear so much about the growth of such spectacular cities as Los Angeles, et al, we're rather inclined to discount the hugeness of, say, New York City. Well, it still tops the list of cities in population by a wide, wide margin. Latest population figures show the following ranking 10 major cities in the U.S.:

New York City, 7,781,984
Chicago, 3,550,404
Los Angeles, 2,479,015
Philadelphia, 2,002,512
Detroit, 1,670,144
Baltimore, 939,024
Houston, 938,219
Cleveland, 876,050
Washington, 763,956
St. Louis, 750,026

Los Angeles did increase in size to the extent that it replaced Philadelphia in the third spot among the first 10.

Just in case you've been feeling extra good today, here's a little heart-warmer: The Tax Foundation recently counted the number of "hidden taxes" that are imposed on items in every day use. It found that there are 100 taxes on an egg, 116 on a man's suit, 150 on a woman's hat, 151 on a loaf of bread, and 600 on a house! I guess you know who pays 'em.

We make our share of errors, and have to live with them. But a ghastly thing happened in a recent issue of The Saturday Evening Post. In the issue of Nov. 10, the Post carried an advertisement that the issue of Nov. 17 would carry an article by Walter Lippmann, "America Must Grow." The Lippmann article had been published in the Nov. 5 issue. In a little notice of self-castigation, the Post said: "The four editors who let the error slip past them were beheaded, of course."

This brings to mind some major newspaper bloopers gathered over the years. Here are a few examples that probably sent reporters, typesetters and proofreaders out of town for a few weeks:

"At the hospital, Mrs.—— explained that she stepped on a cake of soap. Her only injury was a wrecked etaoin shrdlu."

"C —— H —— has bought a cow, and he is now supplying his neighbors with milk, butter and eggs."

"The couple was joined in holy deadlock . . ."

"Mrs. H.M. sued her husband for divorce alleging he subjected her to the ignominy of being continued on page 5."

"Mr. ——— said his eyes are closing but ours are open. Light is abundant. There is no reason why we should sefwy, shrdlu shrdlu mfwet etaoin."

"A screaming crowd of 200 men and women tonight attempted to lynch Sam Smith. Two policemen defended the prisoner until refreshments arrived."

THEY SAY...

Time is now clearly on the side of a fantastically destructive war.
—Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.), warning that new low-cost methods will enable many countries to make atom bombs.

THE DOCTOR SAYS . . .

'Gland Revolution' Main Cause Of Acne

By HAROLD T. HYMAN, M.D.
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Two observations help to explain the mechanism responsible for the changed character of skin secretions in acne.

Under normal circumstances the eruption tends to appear at puberty and disappear at maturity.

Under artificial conditions, it can be produced at almost any period of life by administering large and sustained doses of male sex hormone (androgen) or of certain pituitary extracts such as are used in the treatment of disturbances like rheumatoid arthritis.

These then are the probable steps that govern the appearance and disappearance of acne:

At puberty, the pituitary governor sets in motion the revolutionary changes that convert the lad into a man, the girl into a young lady.

To accomplish its purpose, the pituitary alters the proportions of androgen and estrogen (female sex hormone) that normally circulate in all our bloods at all times.

During the period of change, between puberty and maturity, most boys have a consistently high proportion of androgen. That is why so many of them are pimpled at one time or another.

During this same period, many girls have a high proportion of androgen at the time of their periods when the estrogen level tends to fall. That's why their pimples usually appear or increase when they menstruate.

At maturity, when the boy reaches full manhood and the girl full womanhood, the blood ratio of androgen to estrogen becomes stabilized. And that's when the problem of acne usually becomes past history.

Thus you see that acne is not a skin disease. It's a skin manifestation of a temporary maladjustment of the pituitary regulator.

Hence it cannot be "cured" or even influenced to any significant degree of applications or treatments directed to the skin or to the bacteria that later take up housekeeping in the plug.

While acne is intimately related to the reproductive process, it has nothing to do with sexuality or sexual practices.

It is cruel and unkind to accuse the pimply adolescent of excessive masturbation. It is perilously misleading to assert that the "complexion" will clear as a result of sexual indulgence.