

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Too Much Of A Good Thing?

Scratch an American parent today and, generally speaking, you will find someone who wants his children to "have all the best of it."

This is an admirable goal, as far as it goes. The only trouble with it is that it seems to leave out of account what ought to be the other side of the equation. Our youngsters should be asked to give all their best.

Too many are not asked. Too many are being conditioned to live in what appears increasingly to be a taking world.

We are learning with shock that millions of American young people are not even physically fit for "giving"—for the inevitable hard tasks of life—though they live in the world's richest industrial society.

Recent comparative studies measuring U.S. youngsters against those of Britain and Cyprus, coupled with an older one drawing parallels with Japanese youth, show us lagging badly in physical fitness in these age brackets.

By almost every test tried, Japanese boys and girls surpassed ours. The British kids also outdid the American in such things as physical endurance for sustained activity, leg-power and arm power.

Since neither the British nor the Japanese ever have been noted for the remarkable balance and quality of their daily diets, this ver-

dict is truly startling. And that's the way it seemed to the surveying group, the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation:

"The comparisons are shocking. They cannot be lightly regarded or glossed over easily. They should provoke serious thought and stimulate universal, organized action before it is too late.

"They reveal that the rapidly changing mode of American life is leaving its imprint on the basic physical fitness of American youth."

Translating that a little, it evidently refers to a softened life in which a high proportion of American youngsters are asked to perform only such exercise as is necessary to get in and out of automobiles, to change television channels and rip the wrapping off family gifts.

Millions of U.S. mothers and fathers, if pressed, would insist that their children's betterment is the entire focus of their life effort.

If that be their true objective, then let them stop giving their youngsters a free chariot ride to the good things "they themselves never had."

Let them teach their children how to pave their own way to these riches. And since paving requires muscle and energy and stamina, let them make the young people physically fit for all the problems and challenges they must confront.

This Needs Fixing

One does not expect miracles of order and cleanliness in down-at-heel neighborhoods in our cities. But if people have a basically healthy outlook on life, it will reveal itself in constructive attitudes and activities even in the midst of deterioration.

A recent newspaper picture of an abandoned car in a blighted area eloquently pointed up the fact that too often today that positive outlook is missing.

The car appeared to be a fairly old one, but at least possible to salvage. It isn't any more.

Vandals, mostly youngsters, have cannibalized it and gone far to destroy it. They slashed the tires, ripped out all the seats, broke the window glass.

To all this they added a final indignity: they are now dumping garbage in it. So today the car is worse than worthless, it is an unsightly menace to the neighborhood's health.

Now this is not the first time an old car has been pulled apart on the streets of an American city. But this is really the only thing that enterprising, energetic young Americans can think to do with one?

We're supposed to be a people with an almost inborn talent for machines. This is a land of the hot-rodders and the industrial giants. This is where kids learn mechanical tricks early.

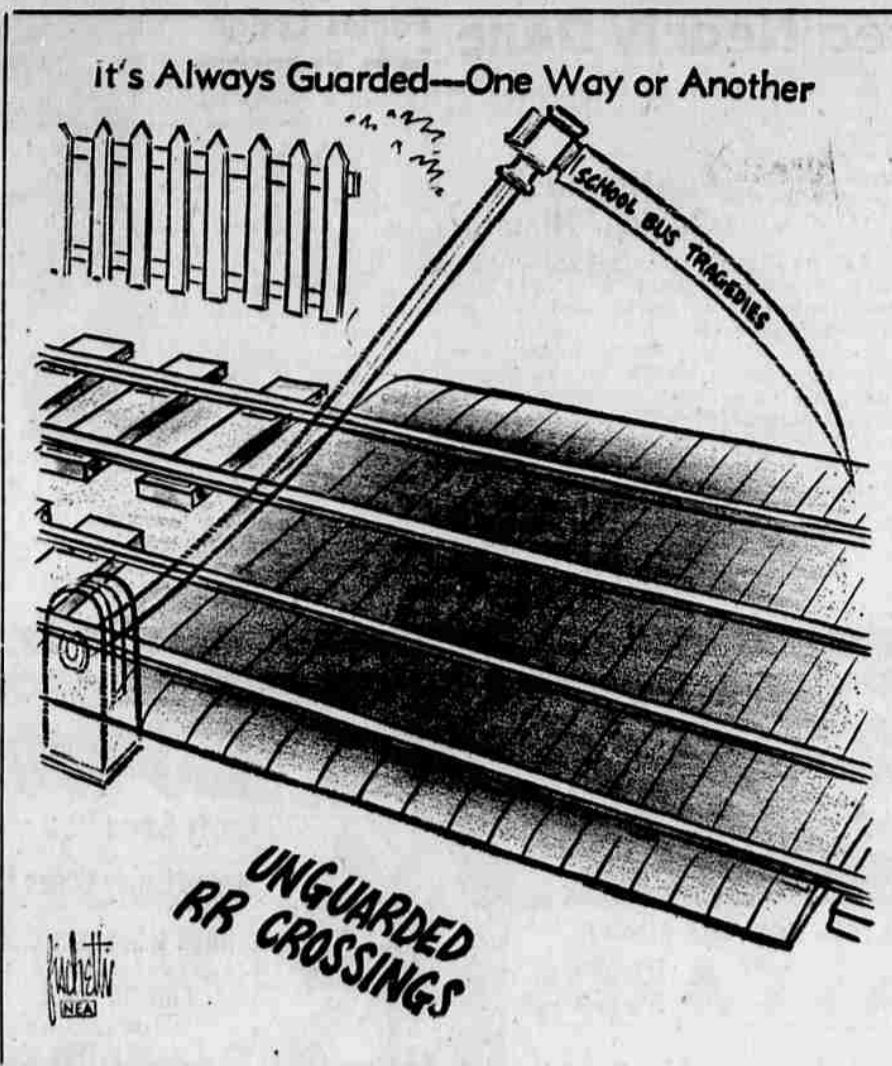
Why couldn't an old car, a perfect windfall, be a laboratory? A couple of determined neighborhood dads, enlisting the support of the youngsters, could make an enjoyable and instructive project out of fixing up the thing.

In a short time a lot could be learned about the workings of a car. If the technicalities could be mastered, someone might even take title to it so it could be used, especially for driving lessons for the young.

If all this sounds too noble for words, then that puts some kind of measure on the kind of society we live in today.

A few people in the neighborhood where the demolished car was photographed are complaining to the city. In a sense they are lodging their complaints in the wrong place. They should turn closer to home.

For the youngsters on that street have made the old car over in their own image.



GOALS FOR AMERICANS

Increasing Employment Is Major Objective For U.S.

By HERBERT STEIN, Director of Research, 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 Crowley for Newspaper Enterprise Assn. (Copyright 1960, the American Assembly.)

Further reduction of unemployment should remain one of the primary objectives of economic policy.

There are two main reasons for continuing concern with unemployment:

—Its direct impact upon those who are unemployed and

—Its effect upon total national production and its rate of growth.

Of these two reasons the former is more important and by itself sufficient to justify national concern.

Among the categories of people who for one reason or another do not share the benefits of national prosperity, the unemployed are one of the largest. The reduction of unemployment is clearly also the least costly way of making a significant contribution to economic growth.

We are, as a nation, beyond the point of deciding that high employment is an important national objective and that the government has a responsibility for its achievement.

Our real questions now are how this objective can be achieved with least costs and what costs we are willing to pay for it. Reducing unemployment is an important objective, but it is not an absolute objective which must be achieved regardless of cost.

Means can be found to reduce the average rate of unemployment below that of the 1950s without costs so large as to outweigh the benefits. The cost that must be seriously considered is inflation.

The essential requirement for maintenance of high employment is a steady growth of total demand for goods and services at an adequate rate. The problem

here is with the "steadiness."

It is important to note that our problem is to increase demand when, and to the degree that, it otherwise would be inadequate.

To add to demand "all the time" will yield little reduction of unemployment and much inflation. It will leave unresolved the problem of increasing demand still more when it is needed.

A major step that could now be taken would be to make tax rate changes available as an instrument of economic stabilization policy.

Starting from present tax rates, there is room for powerfully stimulating private demand by cutting tax rates or for restricting demand by raising tax rates.

Two main obstacles prevent the use of tax rate changes as a flexible instrument of stabilization policy.

First, there is sharp disagreement in the country over the kind of tax cut that should be made if a tax cut becomes appropriate.

Second, it is apparently more difficult to raise taxes than to lower them. A tax cut adopted to combat recession might prove irreversible when economic conditions changed, with probable inflationary consequences.

There is no mechanical way

around these obstacles.

Tax rates should not be lowered or raised in reaction to every small fluctuation in economic activity. But this instrument should be much more available than it now is for use in more serious situations.

Two suggestions are now current for reducing the possibility of error in a stabilizing money policy. One would require that the supply of money grow at a steady rate, year in and year out. The other would ask monetary authorities to base their actions more on their forecast of the future and less on present conditions. It is not clear that either would yield better results than recent practice.

Other things equal, the more demand is increased in order to reduce unemployment, the greater the danger of inflation.

But there is good reason to believe it will be possible to reduce unemployment below our recent average without more inflation than we have had in the last three years and perhaps without any inflation.

We should try now to reduce unemployment, cautiously and flexibly, remembering we may have to make a different choice if serious inflation emerges.

Other Editors' Opinions

Scrap Brewing

(THE OREGONIAN)

One of the many legislative conflicts to be expected in the coming session of Oregon's 51st Legislature is that over the teacher tenure laws. The Interim Committee on Education is currently preparing for publication a number of recommendations, including a series involving the tenure laws.

Professional groups, including leadership of the Oregon Education Association, have also been conducting extensive studies of tenure and are prepared to oppose some, perhaps all, of the suggested amendments.

The interim committee recommendations with respect to tenure may be simplified as follows: (1) increase the probationary period for teachers from three to five years; (2) provide tenure status for administrators as teachers but not as administrators; (3) expand the scope of causes for which a teacher may be discharged; (4) permit a teacher to appeal dismissal by a school board to the courts on an issue of cause as well as on an issue of procedure.

Of particular importance are (2) and (3). Administrators—elementary and high school principals, for example—have tenure in their administrative posts. A man who proves himself to be a poor principal can be removed from his post only by booting him upstairs into the administrative hierarchy, unless the school administration be willing to go through the process of a dismissal hearing, in which the administration is as much on trial as is the principal facing dismissal. Such hearings, under the tenure system, are as rare as a high school without a parking lot.

The principal who is out of his field in an administrative post may very well be a good teacher. The school administration should be permitted to return him to a classroom position without resort-

ing to the trappings of a hearing.

This part of the tenure law resulted in saddling some schools with poor administration. This is one of the reasons why many teachers have no confidence in principals as evaluators in any system of merit pay.

The recommendation to extend the number of causes for dismissal is also a vital one. The present law (ORS 342.265) reads: "No permanent teacher shall be dismissed except for inefficiency, unbecoming conduct, insubordination, neglect of duty or failure to comply with such reasonable requirements of the school board as may be prescribed to show normal improvement and evidence of professional training and growth."

There is nothing here to support the release of a teacher who is simply not good as a teacher. "Efficiency" does not necessarily have any relation to competence in the classroom, and the provision concerning "evidence of professional training and growth" is just another way of identifying credits for graduate study. A teacher whose only fault is being a poor teacher cannot be dismissed by the terms of the present tenure law.

The interim committee would remedy this omission by adding to the causes for dismissal "inadequate professional performance" and "physical or mental incapacity or emotional instability."

The teaching profession is naturally defensive of the tenure principle—and rightly so. School boards or administrators should not be permitted to discharge teachers for political, religious or personal reasons, or on whim. But the tenure law, as it stands today, protects in their positions some teachers and some administrators who are incompetent. The great body of teachers should be as interested as are parents and taxpayers in eliminating the flaws in the law to blame for that situation.

Congo Crisis Uncovers Basic U.N. Weaknesses

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER WASHINGTON (AP) — The Congo crisis has uncovered two dangerous weaknesses in the United Nations. If not corrected soon, they can render the world organization powerless to deal with this crisis or any other.

One weakness is financial. The other is a matter of prestige. Both arise out of the efforts of the United Nations to restore order in the turbulent, former Belgian territory.

Officials in Washington are not sure which situation offers the most serious threat. They are deeply worried about both, because the United States is relying on the United Nations to serve as a major instrument of its aims in Africa. These aims in general are to promote the growth of African states as independent nations, not subject to control from either Western capitals or Moscow.

If these purposes cannot be realized through the United Nations, American leaders fear what may happen. They believe that not only the Congo but also other African lands would become involved in a fierce, gloves-off struggle between the Western powers and the Sino-Soviet bloc. This may happen anyway, in spite of the best U. N. efforts.

The present grave dangers in the Congo situation are these:

1. The cost of the United Nations operations there to date total about \$65 million. The only way Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld can get the money is from member nations, either by assessments voted by them or by some other system of contribution. The process is essentially a vol-

untary one. The problem of raising the \$65 million and of providing for still higher 1961 costs has been under discussion, formally and informally, for weeks. Many differences have developed among U. N. members. Even if they finally agree on a formula it may not be adequate to meet the needs for funds.

2. The first responsibility of the United Nations in the Congo has been to restore and maintain order. Its effectiveness there is dependent on physical force. Its troops are drawn from more than two dozen member nations.

Four of the nations which contributed to the force—the United Arab Republic, Ceylon, Yugoslavia, and Indonesia—have stated their intentions to withdraw their contingents, a total of 1,699 men. Ghana is reported to be considering the withdrawal of its 1,185 men. Such withdrawals, though numerically small, would constitute a serious blow to U. N. prestige.

The troop problem and to a large degree the financial problem arise out of the worldwide split between the Western powers and the Sino-Soviet bloc. They are also influenced by the bold enmities and passions clustered around the issue of Western colonialism.

Without funds the United Nations cannot carry out its Congo mission much longer. Neither can it do so without sufficient troops.

The choice facing many U. N. members is whether their immediate individual goals are more important to them than is their long-range general interest in maintaining the United Nations as a going concern.



YOUR POCKETBOOK

Investment Plans Bring Security

By FAYE HENLE

Back last summer we asked: What do you do with your savings? We ventured our opinion and promised to report on a survey then being launched by the Savings Bank Association of the State of New York. Here are the answers:

You report your money is going into:

Savings and loan association shares.

Company profit sharing plans. Retirement annuities.

A small business you own and operate.

Bank savings accounts and U.S. Savings Bonds.

Stock market investments. From the survey we learn: Nine out of ten persons have bank savings accounts.

Most consistent savers are real estate and construction trades people, followed by educators, government officials, doctors, scientists, communications people, businessmen and financiers.

More and more banks are developing programs to help your money grow via trust services.

Read what Philadelphia's Girard Trust Co. is doing, then urge your local bank to do the same.

If you can save \$100 or more at regular intervals and build this nest egg to \$1,000, Girard will invest the \$1,000 for you in one of two kinds of trusts: An equity fund, meaning a common stock fund, or in a balanced fund, meaning one in which your dollars are spread among investments in common and preferred stocks and bonds.

Of course there is a fee. Girard charges 50 cents yearly for each \$100 of yours they manage.

Usually there is an additional charge of \$5 each for tax records and returns. What you gain is expert advice on your investment dollar.

Are you aware of the tens of billions of dollars already invested by private and public services in behalf of our welfare — investment in people, as distinct from investment in productive facilities? It is concentrated largely in facilities for health, education and peace of mind.

In the past decade investment in the nation's educational plant has increased almost two-and-a-half times, at the end of last year totaled 22.3 billion dollars. Investment in hospitals almost doubled, reaching 8.8 billion, while dollars invested in personal protection rose from 17.5 to 40.2 billion.

Investment in accident and health protection more than tripled, now totals 6.7 billion, life insurance investment now amounts to 11.5 billion; dollars earmarked for public retirement plans increased from 4.8 to 12.6 billion, for private pensions from 2.1 to 5.2 billion.

Though these funds will be available when you need them, they form an important part of the pool of venture capital needed for our country's growth.

THEY SAY...

Two years ago I criticized the design of cars because I thought they deserved criticism. Now I think the 1961 models are deserving of praise and I want to congratulate the designers.

—Industrial designer Carl Sundberg.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jumping Gun?

It is discouraging to read of your criticism of President-elect Kennedy's policies before he has even taken office or has taken any action on them.

In your editorial of Dec. 4, you ask that Kennedy and his "money spenders" leave everything alone as far as federal aid to education is concerned, because "there is every indication that no shortage of classrooms exists."

I would suggest that this statement is inconsistent with our times. This is perhaps true in Klamath Falls or even in Southern Oregon, but if it is true then why are children attending school in split sessions in many parts of our country, and why are teachers striking in some places for relief from below-standard wages, and why are some children getting sub-standard education in too much of our country?

Nevertheless, it would seem fairer to let Mr. Kennedy act before criticizing him on this matter.

John S. Spencer Jr., Mount Hebron

We have a saying to the excited, "Keep your shirt on!" Henceforth, it may be, "Keep your shoe on."

—John Hickerson, U. S. ambassador to the Philippines, referring to Nikita Khrushchev's behavior in the U. N.

It is not an easy thing to talk an economy into a recession and I honestly don't think it is going to happen to us this time. Yet I must concede that that possibility is being put to a very severe test.

—Raymond Saultier, top administration economist.

(Racial) discrimination is perhaps the leading unresolved domestic problem of the nation. . . . Many people do not really wish to discriminate, but feel compelled to do so by the social pressures of friends, neighbors or relatives.

—Davis McEntire, U. of California sociologist.



JIM BISHOP: REPORTER . . .

Jockey Hartack's Prowess Makes Him A Hard Loser

He fights time and so he sits uneasily in luxury. The house on Deer Run, in Miami Springs, is bright and sexy, with deep pile white rugs and lavender semicircles on the wall of the bar and bay chairs designed by the man who has no patience. His name is Mr. William Hartack and, for the fourth time, he is Jockey of the Year.

Most jockeys look like boys with the heads of old men, but Mr. Hartack has blue eyes, a thick pelt of dark shiny hair, a small iron body and features that 150 girls find attractive enough to make him worth a try. Most of the girls who make the pilgrimage to Deer Run are beautiful and wear pants as tight as an extra layer of skin.

The sports writers do not like William. They call him tough and insolent. He is. He is a perfectionist who gets on a horse to fight the clock and he has no time for tact. They say that he is not a picture rider. He isn't. On a hard run, his hips should be on a level with his head. Instead, Hartack bounces, his arms flap, and he switches the whip from one hand to the other by passing it through his teeth.

He isn't a picture rider, but he rides more winners than anybody else. He has been in about 10,000 races and he has won about 2,700. This year he won more than 300, and that beats Gomez and Shoemaker, the runners-up. A few years ago, his mounts won \$3,000,000 in one season. At the age of 27, he earns somewhere around \$500,000 a year, owns the house on Deer Run, a Cadillac and a Jaguar, a big wardrobe, a farm, some municipal bonds, and is going to build a motel near the

Miami Airport.

I spoke to him about the girls. He looked down at his hands. He doesn't smile easily. "I like kids," he said. "Some day I'll get married." He let it go at that. He didn't mention his charities: the boys' soft-ball teams, the bowling teams, the den mother feeling he has for youngsters.

When he dismounts from a loser, the trainer and the owner wait for him. "What happened?" they say. Tact tells a jockey to excuse the horse and the trainer by saying that the horse was bumped, or dirt was kicked in his face, or he lugged in at the wrong time. Hartack stands for brutal truth. "The reason we lost," he says, "is that the horse didn't have it." Outfits like Calumet and Frank Merrill do not use Hartack. Once, in the tack room, he said to a trainer: "Why do you put me on slow horses?"

He doesn't like racing writers either. "I don't know five men in the sports field who tell the truth," he says, "because they don't know the truth." He keeps a bale of bad notices about himself. When he feels himself getting into an uncomfortably good mood, he opens the clippings and starts reading about how awful he is.

"When these writers approach me," he says, "they don't stand a chance. The writers I like are men I never met: Harold Weissman and Gene Ward are two."

His mother was killed in a car accident when he was 5. His father worked hard loading, by hand, in the coal mines of Pennsylvania. Today he has his father on a beautiful farm. There is a story — and that's all it is — that if he catches his father working, he stops his allowance. There

is a sister Evelyn, 29, and married, and a sister Maxine, 20, and engaged.

I asked him if he had a special pride in anything he has ever done. "Yes," he said. The grin came up and he wiped it off. "I once entered a jumping race at Monmouth and won it. The horse was Melaioun. It's good I won it, I guess, or else I'd still be trying."

Most jockeys believe that horses are stupid animals. Hartack disagrees. "Some are. Some have racing intelligence. There was one named Pet Bully. He wasn't great, but he could pace himself and that's intelligent. If he found himself out in front, he would slow down; when he felt another horse closing in from behind, Pet Bully would open up."

Once he was in Chicago on a horse named Mighty Moment. Hartack was sitting easy in third place when the bride came off in his hands. The bit came out. "The whole thing fell in my lap. Some other jocks went by and I yelled: 'Look. No hands.'"

"Mighty Moment finished five lengths behind the winner. One race later, he ended 15 lengths in back.

"The trainer said to me: 'What do you think is the matter?' I said: 'Run him without a bridle.'" When Mr. William Hartack loses — which is three-quarters of the time—he is mad. Not moody. Mad. "I'm mad at one of three things," he says. "Me. The horse. Or the trainer. If the trainer does his work properly, and the horse does his part, I must do mine."

He is sensitive. He is unpopular. He is unreasonable. He is tough. He is honest. He is a champion. . . .

Almanac

By United Press International Today is Wednesday, Dec. 14 the 349th day of the year with 17 more in 1960.

The moon is approaching "its new phase."

The morning star is Mars. The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1799, George Washington, the first President of the United States, died at Mount Vernon.

In 1819, Alabama entered the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1861, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, died.

In 1885, Albert Frederick Arthur George, later King George VI of Great Britain, was born.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen discovered the South Pole.

Thought for today: American President George Washington said: "Labour to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire—conscience."