

Producers or Exploiters?

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Prosperity is another name for abundance. A nation can have an abundance of goods and services only if it produces an abundance of goods and services. It can produce an abundance of goods and services only if it is organized in such a way as to release the energies, initiative and skills of such of its citizens as possess those qualities.

Unfortunately energy, initiative and skill are not distributed evenly among all the groups in any society. They are not evenly distributed among the nations of the world. It is likely that the differences are not so much genetic as they are cultural. But in any case the disparities exist and they are wide.

This gives rise to a feeling -- it is a world-wide phenomenon -- that where abundance is lacking it is because the group affected is (or has been) exploited by someone else; that the road to prosperity for all is to suppress the "exploiters" by political action, rather than to provide goods and services by productive action.

This is the prevailing sentiment in most of the undeveloped nations of the world. It is the chief barrier to their development into prosperous members of the family of nations. It is a rising sentiment in many of the industrial nations and is the chief threat to their continued prosperity.

FOREIGN AID WASTED

Case histories are abundant. In Bolivia a revolutionary government nationalizes the tin mines. What had been the chief national asset under private

At the same time we see some of the advanced nations going the other way. In France a large segment of the working population, animated by revolutionary fervor, has decided to give itself pay rises of 10% to 15%, together with longer vacations. It is truly astonishing to see the illusion, in an intelligent and sophisticated nation, that everybody's welfare will be improved by higher pay for less work.

AFFLUENCE DESPISED

In the U. S. the belief that poverty is the result of robbery by an exploiting class has not yet become the dominant mode of thinking. But it is making progress. In certain circles the middle class is more likely to be despised for its "affluence" rather than admired for the productivity which made that affluence possible. Henceforth, it is urged, we must work to eliminate poverty through redistributive political action rather than through productive action in the mill and market place. At least this is what many of the programs advocated to eliminate poverty -- a higher level of government social action supported by higher taxation, or a negative income tax -- seem to come down to.

The spirit of enterprise among Americans -- that willingness to invest one's own sweat and resources in opportunities one finds for oneself -- is a tough bird and will be hard to kill. But it can be seriously crippled both by verbal abuse and by higher levels of taxation. Worse, it can be misdirected, by government intervention, into unproductive or counterproductive channels. And those who don't share the spirit of enterprise will suffer along with those who do.

Individuals who are resourceful by nature will usually make out in any kind of society. In a free enterprise society, persons who combine native resourcefulness with high ability will often rise to the top, by activities which benefit everyone else. In a society where economic decisions are made by a political power struggle, the naturally resourceful (whether genuinely able or not) will take prominent parts in that struggle. But their efforts are unlikely to contribute anything positive to the welfare of their fellow citizens.

A society which rewards its participants in proportion to their contribution to the production of goods and services other people want is, on the record, the most effective in reducing the prevalence of poverty. All this is elementary in principle and abundantly illustrated in practice. We can only express astonishment that it has become the fashion in intellectual circles to ignore it.

OSU Irrigation Specialist Discusses Sprinkler Systems

Sprinkler systems come in many different sizes and shapes today -- and the wide variety of irrigation equipment now on the market often makes it difficult for the farmer to be sure he is buying the system that is right for his setup.

In the past, the limited range of available sprinkler irrigation equipment meant a fairly simple choice, often based on the cost of the system and perhaps on the ground to be irrigated. Today, the growing shortage of irrigation labor in much of the west is apt to figure large in the decision making process when the farmer is considering purchase of sprinkler equipment, according to Marvin Shearer, extension irrigation specialist at Oregon State University.

One example of this trend is the increasing interest shown in continuous move systems of various types such as trailer mounted large guns, center pivot, and continuous move laterals. However, Shearer cautions that labor supply should not be the only determining factor in choosing an irrigation system. The farmer must also match his system to the physical characteristics of his soil.

Most Oregon soils, with the exception of very sandy soils, won't accept water at application rates greater than 4 inches per hour, without puddling or ponding in the low spots. If water is applied at a rate faster than this, it will result in uneven penetration throughout the field. The significant measurement here is the amount of water that actually moves into the soil, not the

rate at which the water is applied through the sprinklers. General tendency when determining amount of water applied per irrigation is to measure the water output from the nozzle averaged over a given area for a fixed period of time. However, Shearer says this is not a true measurement of the amount of water actually going into the soil, and should not be used to evaluate application rates.

Another approach, but one that is less effective than regulating nozzle size, is to run a large gallonage sprinkler a shorter time in each spot, with more frequent moves. However, this doesn't solve the basic problem. Most continuous move large gallonage sprinkler systems apply water too rapidly for the majority of Oregon soils.

However, Shearer points out that the choice of any irrigation system will of necessity be a compromise. Whether or not the farmer is satisfied with an excessive application rate will help determine which system he buys. In some cases, water supply may be a limiting factor, however, the choice of an irrigation system should be based on extensive knowledge of soil types, crop patterns, cost of operation, and the total management program of the individual grower.

It is as though we were to agree that, since the fact that grass is green is an old and trite truth rather than a fresh new one, we will henceforth believe that grass is red.

TAKE-AWAY THRU TAXES

Raising taxes on the productive groups in society in order to expand anti-poverty programs isn't essentially different from expropriating the property of the owners of tin mines in order to make the Bolivian populace richer. And it isn't likely to be any more successful.

OSU Strawberry Harvester Gets Test In Fields

Oregon State University agricultural engineers have taken another step toward developing a mechanical strawberry harvester with the field testing of a full scale self-propelled picker built in the OSU shops this spring.

A research team headed by Dr. Dean Booster, OSU agricultural engineer, has been testing the picker at the North Willamette Experiment Station near Aurora and in commercial strawberry fields during the last few weeks of the harvest season. Some modifications were made on the machine after the first two days of tests.

The machine is an outgrowth of a small, half-row prototype tested last summer. The new machine is equipped with hydraulic controls, hydrostatic drive, a fan to blow leaves out of the picked berries and a conveying system to deliver the berries to a platform at the rear of the machine.

The OSU machine is different from other experimental models in that it has two picking reels that run parallel to the row. The picking tines comb from the side of the row and drop the berries onto a rubber belt that runs through the center of each cylinder.

Berries picked by the machine are being run over a Canadian built mechanical destemmer purchased last winter. OSU scientists are evaluating the effectiveness of the destemmer on Oregon strawberry varieties.

OSU and USDA plant breeders are also sifting through thousands of plants to develop varieties that would lend themselves to mechanical harvesting, and testing is being done on growth regulating chemicals that would promote berries of more uniform size and ripening.

In addition, the researchers are looking into different cultural methods, such as mowing the tops of plants ahead of the harvester and shaping the ground around the plants, that would help the mechanical picking process.

The project is partially supported by funds from the Oregon Strawberry Commission.

PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Looney and boys left July 3 for North Bend, Ore., to visit Former Nyssans Mr. and Mrs. Dale Overstake and family. They took many sight-seeing trips and report enjoying the coastal area coolness. While there they attended the July 4-7 American Legion baseball tournament. The Overstake boys were participating in the games. The Looney family returned home July 8.

Shipping Strike

A three-day shipping strike on the East and Gulf coasts was settled by company-union arbitrator, Theodore W. Kheel. The National Maritime Union, which represents unlicensed seamen, won most of its demands, which include a 5% rise in the current base pay of \$423 a month. The union also won an additional 15 days of vacation, bringing the paid total to 75 days annually.

Cigarette Ads

Cigarette commercials face their stiffest challenge yet from the Government as a three-member majority of the Federal Trade Commission recommended Congress that such ads be prohibited on radio and television. That drastic step is unlikely, but the main battle may center this session on the FTC's renewal of its unsuccessful 1965 effort to require advertisers to include in their commercials warnings that cigarettes may be harmful to health.

My Neighbors



"Aw, come on, lady..."

WORK SMARTER - NOT HARDER

BRIDES-TO-BE -- DON'T FORGET to make name changes for important records. Some changes take several weeks and can be started in advance of the wedding date. Life, property and hospitalization insurance policies should be in your married name. Change your social security card, bank signature cards, charge accounts, driver's license and voter registration record.

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COMING EVENTS

- TODAY - 10:30 a.m. Senior Citizens meeting on lawn at home of Dr. and Mrs. John E. Long. Bring sack lunch.
- JULY 12 - 8 a.m. Owyhee Garden club members will leave from the M and W Market parking lot for tour of McCall gardens.
- JULY 12 - 2 p.m. Members of Rebekah Friendship Circle meet at IOOF hall.
- JULY 12 - Nyssa Rodeo.
- JULY 13 - Nyssa Rodeo.
- JULY 13 - FOE Rodeo dance at Eagle hall.
- JULY 15 - 9 p.m. Junior and Senior Lifesaving classes at Nyssa swimming pool.



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