

Input And Output

Former Congressman Samuel B. Pettengill observes: "In recent years society has gone 'nuts' on the cult of security guaranteed by government. In short, a nation of parasites. The illusion of the era is that people can vote themselves rich. . . . It is a fable and a fraud that the output of society can be greater than the input of individuals."

This dependence on government, moreover, has been a primary cause of the inflation that has cut the purchasing power of the dollar in half in a short span of years. And, while that has been going on, the government has been taking more and more of those degraded dollars in taxes. On the average, each of us works two hours and sixteen minutes out of an eight-hour day to meet the tax bills. Food costs, by contrast, take only an hour and 28 minutes of work.

There's a widespread belief that defense and related needs make any substantial reduction in government spending out of this question. That belief is not founded in fact. Senator Byrd of Virginia points out that recent great increases in federal spending have not been for defense, atomic projects, or foreign aid. Since 1954, expenditures outside these categories have increased from \$19.1 billion to about \$34 billion—a jump of 78 per cent. And much of that can be laid largely at the door of the let-the-government-do-everything trend.

The Worse For Wear

The tail-feathers of that dove of peace that appears to have replaced the eagle as our national emblem are in embarrassing disarray.

The latest in Khrushchev's shako advises the world that we won't, after all, fly the Berlin corridor above the 10,000 foot ceiling that the Kremlin has imposed. Secretary of State Herter explains that the President has studied the matter and ruled out higher flying because there was no "operational necessity" for it. This seemed quite necessary for turbo-prop planes a little while ago, but perhaps we'll use World War I biplanes now.

And Castro's kepi is beginning to look like an Easter bonnet after pushing Americans around at will, seizing their property, accusing us of complicity in the Havana munitions ship explosion and flinging back in his teeth Secretary Herter's protest of this next-to-last insult.

In Panama, the plumage won by defiling the American flag and destroying US Canal Zone property may yet be augmented by the "right" (over which the President seems highly uncertain) to fly the Panamanian flag over the Canal Zone.

And at last Report the Secretary of State has gone home feeling ill. We don't feel so good, ourselves.

Infectious Hermit Crabs

Few living men have seen so much history, both as participant and observer, as Herbert Hoover.

The other day he spoke before a religious group. He pointed out that Marxist thinking was plaguing the country, and that "more leaders of the Christian faiths need to realize the ultimate end of this infection among us."

Then he made a memorable observation: "The real meaning and purpose of socialism is the governmental operation of all commerce and industry and the reduction of life to pure materialism."

"This infection creeps through our nation by deluded and misled men and by disguised organizations, fronts and cults. These agents of infection are like hermit crabs which crawl into such terms as 'liberal,' 'progressive,' 'public electric power,' 'managed economy,' 'the welfare state,' and a half-dozen others."

Hartford, Ky., News: "Roman tax collectors, we learn from Newsweek magazine, nicked Vice Chairman Giovanni Agnelli of Italy's big Fiat auto works a mere \$92,000 in income tax on his 1958 salary of \$638,000. If Fiat and Signor Agnelli were in Detroit, the magazine points out, his take-home pay would have been \$462,000 less—or about 13 cents per earned dollar."

Phillips, Wis., Bee: "Instead of individuals in the states contributing extra money to the federal government in order that the federal government may dole out educational handouts, wouldn't it be far better if the states themselves would collect that same money and hand it back to the individual districts in the state?"

Closing The Vote Gap

It has been fashionable for some years now to wring our hands and ask: "Why don't people vote?" Also, a little later in the year, it has been the dutiful thing to join, in a desultory sort of way, the annual "Get Out the Vote" chorus.

Neither of these activities has produced spectacular results. And no propaganda the enemies of our system can hurl at us hurts as much as the plain truth that, in the 1956 Presidential election, 40 per cent of our qualified voters failed to cast a ballot to protect the most envied freedoms known to man and to advance the prestige of their country as the leader of the free world.

But, in this crucial year of 1960, The American Legion is spearheading a broadly-conceived drive of ever-widening participation by private industry, patriotic and civic organizations with the determined goal of bringing out the largest vote in the nation's history.

The Legion is to be congratulated for seeing the need and enlisting the active aid of business in this colossal, nation-wide, non-partisan "Let's All Register! Let's All Vote!" campaign. Nothing in its perennial and continuing Americanization program could be more needed or more practical. It should have the fullest cooperation of all Americans, in and out of business, who realize that an alert electorate is essential to freedom—and that the historically unique experiment of American representative government under a Constitution ratified 173 years ago is at the cross-roads.

Babson Discusses Railroad Stocks

Babson Park, Mass., March 24—The railroad stocks have not been acting well recently. The Dow Jones "rails," which sold at an average high of 155 at the beginning of the year, now sell at 145. The main point of this week's column is to emphasize that it is a mistake to think of the railroads as a whole. There are four distinct groups and these should be recognized by every investor.

"COMMUTER" AND SHORT-HAUL RAILROADS

Practically all railroads are losing money on passenger business; but the so-called commuter roads—which haul passengers from the suburbs to the big cities in the morning and take them home again at night, with their employees and equipment idle a good part of the day—are very unfortunates. A campaign is now on to eliminate this business and switch it to buses, giving the bus's preferred terminal facilities and certain traffic preferences in order to increase their speed.

The second group consists of roads which operate less than two hundred miles of track. These are losing both passenger and freight business. The shipper can load his goods on trucks at his factory door and these trucks will deliver at the dealer's or customer's door. For this reason the securities of these short-haul roads are not attractive to investors, with certain exceptions such as the coal roads of West Virginia. These I call the "gravity" roads because the loads from the mines go "down hill" to the seacoast with great saving in the use of power, and in fact some of them generate electric power, enroute which helps the return of the empty cars.

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROADS

These are roads operating from Chicago to the Pacific Coast and, as yet, they are not affected by competition from trucks. Recently, on the Santa Fe Super Chief, I was a passenger on a beautiful train having eleven cars and two diesel engines and a total of only seven-six passengers. The "piggy-back" experiments are successful in certain localities, while the automatic switching yards are helping such roads as the St. Louis-San Francisco. The transcontinental rails appear to be about the best holdings.

My favorite groups of railroads, in fact, are those transcontinentals which also own large acreages containing forests and minerals. This especially is true of the Union Pacific, the Northern Pacific, the Canadian Pacific, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. I have been told by the president of one of these roads that all passenger business and a proportion of the freight could be eliminated and the road could continue to pay its present dividends from oil, mining, and forest royalties.

FUTURE OF THE RAILROADS

I have not discussed competition from airplanes, which are a factor in the decline in long-haul passenger business. It will be a long time, however, before freight-carrying airplanes will be severe competitors. The weather, moreover, is a factor and a great friend of the railroads. This means that comparatively few railroads will be given up, because of the fact that they are able to operate, while airplane travel is undependable. However, much duplicate track and some competing rail lines will be eliminated.

All of the above means that a large percentage of the railroads will become government-owned under the Department of Defense. I believe that the railroad bonds will be indirectly assumed by the government and that the preferred stocks will be treated fairly. As to the common stocks: The government will base prices for these on their average quotations during the preceding year.

I close by calling readers' attention to my opening paragraph . . . that railroads should not be considered as a whole, but that each railroad should be considered separately when deciding whether its stocks should be sold, or merely held for further developments, or, in a few cases, actually bought.

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"BUT I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE!"



Clinton Davidson

This Week in Washington

New Farm Program

Congress at the halfway mark for this session is pretty well agreed this week that it will not pass a general farm bill this year, despite recommendations by President Eisenhower that it do so.

Legislators from farming areas however, are making a start toward the kind of farm legislation they hope the next Congress will consider, beginning in January of next year.

Some twenty-odd congressmen have introduced identical bills which, if enacted, would place primary responsibility upon farmer-elected representatives for initiating and developing new programs, commodity by commodity.

The House Agriculture Committee plans to hold hearings through the spring on bills, but not to push for a vote on them by Congress this year. The main feature is that they would permit farmers to vote in choosing the kind of legislation they want, subject to approval by Congress.

FAMILY FARM INCOME ACT

All of the bills carry the title "Family Farm Income Act of 1960." They have two primary objectives. First, to strengthen the income and security of family farms and, second, to place principal responsibility for program development and financing on farmers rather than on the government.

Under this proposal Congress would make available a number of alternative program methods, or combination of methods, which farmers would be permitted to use. Among those would be establishment of marketing quotas or goals among the states, counties and producers.

Others would include broader use of marketing agreements and or-

ders, stabilization pools into which farmers would put their product for collective bargaining with buyers, such as the big chain stores, and compensatory payments such as those now in effect on wool and sugar.

STEP BY STEP PROCEDURE

The first step toward development of a new program would be a request by an organization of producers for conference with the Secretary of Agriculture. If the Secretary agreed that a new program was needed he would call an election in which producers of the commodity would elect a nine-man committee of producers to develop a program.

When approved by that committee the program would be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture. If it involved expenditure of more than \$20,000,000 in any one year, the Secretary would refer it to the Senate and House Agriculture Committees.

If not disapproved within 90 days by either of those committees the program would be offered growers in a referendum. If approved by two-thirds of those voting it would become effective. If not, then the program already in effect before the referendum would continue.

The bills include two specific prohibitions. No payment in excess of \$10,000 shall be made to any one farmer in a year, and no provision could be included that would require the government to buy, lend on, or store any agricultural commodity.

Arguments for the bills are that such a program would (1) greatly reduce farm program costs, (2) halt the build-up of surpluses in government hands, and (3) make available to farmers many of the bargaining advantages given organized labor in the Wagner Act 25 years ago.

THE LUNCH COUNTER SIT-DOWN

By THURMAN SENSING, Executive Vice-President Southern States Industrial Council

The most irresponsible tactic employed against the South in recent years is the lunch counter sit-down. It is, of course, a cheap, publicity-seeking move designed to make a ruckus at the time of the "civil rights" debate. But the sit-downs are more dangerous than silly.

The immature Negro students are pawns in the hands of hard-faced outside agitators (inspired by the communists) who want to push the South. The real objective of these trouble-makers, as Senator Richard Russell (D. Ga.) has informed the nation, is to provoke racial riots. By creating grave racial incidents, they hope to stir the country to demanding ugly Reconstruction-type measures against the Southern people.

Make no mistake, the sit-downs aren't spontaneous local movements. The NAACP has announced it is 100 hundred per cent behind the disturbances. The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) has sent agents into the South who are acting as advisors. (The agitators have been having some small degree of success, for in one or two places they have provoked clashes between members of both races.)

On the whole, however, the tactic has been a failure. Southern law enforcement officers, public officials and the average white citizen have acted with wisdom and coolness. Demonstrations have been permitted where they have not been violent in nature of tending to incite a riot.

Calmness and orderliness is the best way to deal with the sit-down situation. If incidents do not result from the tactic, the steam will go out of the movement. Moreover, the country will come to view the sit-downs as silliness.

The stores, of course, could provide segregated lunch counter seating for the Negroes. That would be all right if it would satisfy them—but they have shown in the case of schools that it would not. Actually, if the Negroes were more interested in progress than in integration, they would provide their own lunch

counters. There is a great opportunity there for those with initiative and ambition.

The sit-downs are to be deplored, for they bring disorder and unrest to communities that have enjoyed many years of peace and good relations between the races. Negro demonstrators must be made to realize that they cannot bludgeon their way into acceptance by white persons. The colored person who forces his way into a social situation where he is not wanted displays a peculiar lack of understanding of the civility common to decent people. The advancement of the colored people can only be set back as they rely on force and abuse to gain greater acceptance.

The race agitation movement in the South, unpleasant and unreasonable as it has been since the Supreme Court's May 17, 1954 decree, has taken the line of legal maneuver. If Negroes reject the legitimate substituting public processions, avenue of petition and legal action, picketing, boycotts and other undesirable forms of behavior, they will create a great deal of ill will for themselves throughout the country. As virtually all employers in the Southern states are white citizens, the Negro who wants to progress within the region cannot use force and also expect to be given new opportunities to earn a living. It is only natural that white employers will not be interested in employees who act in contempt of law and order. Negro student "leaders," who take the cue of outsiders and start demonstrations in their communities must realize there won't be any place for them in this part of the country.

Indeed, it is obvious that no sensible employer anywhere in the United States will be interested in hiring known trouble-makers. The truth is that the sit-down demonstrations are bound to backfire against the NAACP, CORE, and all other groups who thrive on social unrest. The individual Negro, however, is the dupe of these professional trouble-making organizations.

FARMS... AND FOLKS

By J. M. Eleazer, Clemson College Information Specialist



MARKETING AT PAGELAND

Pageland has grown into quite a watermelon growing center. This has been greatly aided by the marketing arrangements they have developed there. County Agent Willis tells me the Pageland Marketing Authority and cooperative State Agricultural Marketing Commissions are moving their marketing facility there out of town to a 13-acre tract of land on which six 100-foot sheds, a gate office, restaurant, and two packing sheds will be erected.

Although originally started as a melon market, they have grown into handling a lot of cantaloupes, and considerable fruits and vegetables, too. Having outgrown their facility in town, they now move out where there's ample room to operate and expand.

IT'S STILL MANALUCHE

When it comes to a good disease-resistant tomato for long bearing in the home garden, it's still hard to beat the Manalucie variety. Our Dr. Epps, who has bred some mighty good tomatoes concurs in this. He points out that we have better commercial sorts, where you want a lot of tomatoes quick. But for the home garden, where expert disease control measures will not likely be practiced, and where you want some good tomatoes over a long growing season, the Manalucie gets the nod.

In our garden they have consistently lived and produced longer than Rutgers and Big Boy without spraying. A dozen hills, two plants to the hill, staked, pruned, mulched, and watered as needed have consistently given us all we could use, plus quite a few given away. And those we picked green before frost have given us tomatoes until mid-November.

HONEYDEWS IN BARNWELL

Clemson's Blackville station has been working on the growing of the famed honeydew melon for years. Dr. Fred Cohoon is in charge of that work and he has about worked out the practical kinks in growing it. It is a specially crop, he points out, and should not be planned indiscriminately. County Agent Griffith tells me they plan to grow about 200 acres of these melons on select demonstration fields down there, under the close supervision of Dr. Cohoon. The firm from Texas that handled the crop last year is interested in doing so again. Dr. Cohoon points out that last year proved to be a very unfavorable one weather-wise, and if they could grow some good honeydews despite this, they feel they can do a lot better when the weather break is better.

County Agent Willis of Chesterfield reports: "A doubling of farm income through better use of fertilizer and lime, based on soil tests, was offered as a possibility at soil fertility meetings over the county the past fall." And, of course, all of the other good practices go along with that, too. But unless the soil reaction is right neither they nor fertilizer used can pay off best. And it takes lime, if that soil reaction is not right already. Only a soil test

can show how a soil stacks up on its lime requirement. All don't need it. But many do. Clemson will test them for you. Ask your county agent about this service."

BOYS ARE THAT WAY

Where I was raised it was never called the Civil War. It was called the War Between the States. And that was so ingrained in me that I still feel funny when I hear someone call it the Civil War.

My granddad was all through that bitter struggle and he talked of it at length, as long as anyone would listen. He spoke only of its glories and their successes. From hearing him talk, I thought we won that war, was sure of it, and gloried with him as he pictured beating the yankees on many a field, although greatly outnumbered.

It was at about the age of 12 or 13, in the old country school, that I came to that part of our history and learned the bewildering fact for the

first time that we lost that war! At first I couldn't accept it and had to be assured by the teacher and my parents that we did sort of lose it, but after whipping the pants off of the enemy on most of the battlefields, they assured me. Well, that was about the greatest mental setback I've ever had. It took me a long time to accept it.

When I went to college I took history under a teacher who was steeped in Southern traditions. And to him it was the War Between the States, and nothing else. If anyone called it Civil War in his classroom, he would run 'em out. He said that made traitors out of every Southern soldier. He said it was not civil war, as up to that time it had never been determined that a state couldn't secede if it chose to. One of the New England states had threatened to do the same thing some years before. And some historians claim our constitution did not prohibit it then. But the matter was settled by the sword in the one of the bloodiest wars ever fought. And now we are a united country.

I noted some time ago the eminent newspaper man, Bill Workman, referred to it as "The Northern Aggression." But to me it is sure not the Civil War. Guess it's all in the way you are raised.

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