

64 Million Are Being Employed

Washington—More than 64 million Americans were employed in June, the greatest number in the nation's history, the Commerce and Labor Departments reported this week.

Unemployment, on the other hand, increased by only 190,000 to a total of 2,679,000. This was one of the smallest increases for the month of June since World War II.

Young job seekers were dumped on the labor market by the closing of schools, as is usual in June but this was offset by rising adult employment on farms and vigorous rehiring in booming industries.

The June employment total of 64,016,000 compared with 62,973,000 in May.

The number of job holders has climbed by four million from the winter low point, about a million more than the normal spring expansion.

Manufacturing employment continued its sharp rise, climbing by 148,000 to 16½ million in spite of scattered work stoppages in metal products plants.

The total of workers in trade, services and industrial production rose by 400,000 to 49,300,000, described by the departments as an unusually large increase for the season.

The length of the factory work-week was equal to the previous record of 40.7 hours, but the usual increase over May did not occur because of strikes.

Farm employment, at 7,700,000 last month, showed only a seasonal gain.

The seasonally adjusted index of unemployment, based on the 1947-1949 average as 100 was down to 89 in June, the lowest point in 18 months.

The statement by Secretary of Labor Mitchell and Secretary of Commerce Weeks added:

"Also noteworthy was the further reduction in the number of relatively long-term jobless. The group out of work for 15 weeks or longer dropped by 200,000 for the second consecutive month, reaching a level of 650,000 in June."

The previous high water mark of employment was in August, 1953 when 65,700,000 men and women held civilian jobs.

Secretary Mitchell said yesterday that the amount of overtime work in factories in May and June was as high as it has been since World War II. The lengthening of overtime normally precedes increases in hiring.

DEBT IN U. S.

Private and net public debt at the close of 1954 amounted to \$608,000,000,000, a gain of three and a half per cent over calendar 1953, according to the Office of Business Economics, of the Commerce Department. Corporate liabilities, home mortgages and other private obligations made up three-fifths of the grand total. Federal debt owed to the public accounted for just under two fifths, while the state and local governmental debts comprised a little over one-twentieth of the total.

In the metropolitan Washington area, the Federal Government has 48,800,000 feet of office space. Of this, about half, or 24,200,000 square feet are air-conditioned. These figures do not include the White House which has its own air-conditioning unit or the Capital, Senate and House Office building, or Supreme Court building—but these are all air-conditioned.

Johnson's Loss Felt In Washington

Washington—The heart attack which cut down Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson just as the closing month of the first session of the 84th Congress was approaching was a blow to Senate Democrats.

The 46-year-old Texan had developed unity among Democrats in the upper legislative body with surprising ability and efficiency in the short time he had been Majority Leader. This will be hard for someone else to match.

Johnson was known in this city as a quiet worker, with none of the loud talk or bluster about him. He quietly prevented the controversial issues, which wreck Democratic unity in Congress in some years, to come to a head.

He worked smoothly and made the minimum number of enemies in doing so. He counted his admirers among both the leftwingers and the conservatives, and both trusted him in the Senate, even though often disagreeing with him.

Johnson's sudden heart attack removes him from the picture as a possible candidate at the Democratic National Convention next year. He could probably have had the second spot on the Democratic ticket for the asking.

The general opinion in Washington was that he would have had the support of too many delegations and top state officials, including Senators, had he wanted to be the party's vice-presidential nominee in 1956.

Stricter Federal controls over bank mergers is urged.

4-H Members Are Back From Camp

Nineteen 4-H club members from Watauga County have returned after spending the week of July 4-9th at 4-H Camp Schaub at Waynesville. Club members from Wake and Madison camped during the week also.

The club members participated in the various camp activities as daily vespers, flag raising and lowering, morning assembly and evening programs.

Classes were conducted daily in swimming, recreation, handicraft, conservation and farm and home electric. On Friday afternoon a swimming contest was held. Entr-

ies were selected from the regular swimming classes. Thursday night all campers attended the drama "Unto These Hills" at Cherokee and also had a picnic in Great Smoky Mountain Park area.

The club members that attended camp were: Bethel Junior and Senior Club, Lynn Matheson, Clifford Farthing, Hugh Henson, Bill Vines; Cove Creek Senior and Juniors, Betty Sue Fox, Elizabeth Ann Campbell, Bobby Eggers, Wanda Wilson; Valle Crucis, Laura Milton Church; Boone Senior, George Cowles; Boone 8th and 7th, Mary Helen Hampton, Judy Snyder, Gloria Jean Hampton, Jimmy Riggins, John Ralph Buchanan, Barbara Edwards; Parkway, Patsy

Vannoy and Jimmy Smith; Blowing Rock, Ben Lee Greene.

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- GOOD 8-ROOM HOUSE, bath, double garage, barn, 2½ acres land with five-tenths tobacco base. Located at Cove Creek, near new school, known as A. S. Johnson place.
- SPECIAL—4 bed room house, bath, hot air furnace, basement, 3-4 acre land on hard surfaced road, located Valle Crucis, N. C. Priced to sell closing of estate.
- CHOICE BUILDING LOTS—New development—Highland Avenue just out of city limits. One of the better sections to build. Terms.
- LAKE SIDE LOTS—Also lots with high elevation—overlooking lake. Priced \$200 and up.
- PERKINSVILLE—Good 6-room store house, bath, 2 room apartment in basement, steam heat, large lot. Small down payment.
- LOCATED JUST OUT OF CITY LIMITS—5-room house basement, 3-room apartment, large lot. Price \$7,000. \$1,500 down with small monthly payments.
- GOOD 6-ROOM STONE HOUSE, two baths, large lot. Located Grandview Heights. Price \$8,500.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY—Store building leased to chain grocery, five apartments. Located in main business section. Will gross better than 10%. Terms if needed.
- 100 ACRES LAND—Fenced, 50 acres cleared land. Price \$5,000.
- 21-ACRE FARM—New 6-room house with bath, located on Meadow Creek Road. Price \$8,000.
- 9-ROOM HOUSE, includes 4-room apartment with private entrance. Lot 120 x 200. Located near college. Price \$6,000. Loan can be arranged.
- A REAL INVESTMENT—10 room brick house, 3 baths, 2 three room brick apartment house with frontage on Main street—over \$3,000 income from rentals. Priced ¼ less than actual cost. Ideal for tourist or apartments. Investigate this bargain today.
- 53 ACRE FARM located at Todd, N. C. 7 room house, large barn, frontage on highway 194. 33 acres of cleared land. Terms can be arranged.
- GRAND BLVD.—Good nine room house (two apartments) bath, large lot. Hot air heat. Will sell or trade for smaller house. Priced for quick sale.
- 140 ACRE FARM—4 miles from Deep Gap. New 4-room house, bath, good barn. Plenty of commercial shrubbery, 4 acres bottom land. Price \$8,500.
- FOR SALE—TWO FOUR ROOM DUPLEX APARTMENT house—large lot, located on Faculty street, near College. Price \$9,500.
- FOR SALE—New 5-room brick house, full basement, hardwood floors, lot 75 x 160, on Carolina Avenue. GI or FHA loan available.
- APARTMENT HOUSE—Located near college. Four apartments including refrigerators and stoves, three baths, large lot located on Blowing Rock Highway. Long term loan available. This property will pay for itself.
- GOOD 2-BEDROOM BRICK HOUSE, bath, furnace, large lot, located near schools and stores. Price \$6,400. Terms if needed.
- BAMBOO SECTION—Five rooms, water, two acres, \$3,000.
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