

WASHINGTON REPORT

Washington — The "needles" that President Eisenhower is prescribing for our sagging economy are failing to have the desired effects on business.

The fact that several recent recession-checking actions have done very little checking should be of more concern than the current level of business activity.

For some time, it has not taken an expert to see that the prolonged "light money" policy of the Eisenhower Administration has been very depressing for business.

In his recent speeches, it has been obvious that President Eisenhower is more than passively concerned about the continued downward trend of business. Up until about a year ago, it took only an optimistic prediction from President Eisenhower to make the stock market spurt upwards or he could catch a cold and heavy selling set in. Neither of these strange manifestations made much sense.

Three very positive actions have been taken in the past 60 days, none of which had the effects they should have had. Twice in this period the Federal Reserve interest rates to member banks were materially reduced. During the same period, the cash deposit on stock purchases was lowered from 70 per cent to 50 per cent.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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churches already have official tie-ups with the national school system in many countries. The problem in the United States is to maintain separation of church and state and yet not to educate a Godless, or an ignorant, generation of Americans—ignorant in the religious field. Supporters of private colleges and schools say that the influence that graduates from these schools have is an important and vital contribution to the Christian path America will and must travel in the world of today and tomorrow.

Some public schools and colleges have solved the problem, to their contentment, by allowing

per cent. In each instance it was fully expected that these actions would put new life into the stock market, but the market went down instead of up after each.

In view of the fact it is common knowledge that Congress will do what is necessary to bring our defenses up to date, there is every reason to believe that the economic trend should take an upward turn.

But it hasn't up to now. In order not to take any chances, Congress will have to stay on guard to move in with effective economic tonics aside from our defense program regardless of the attitude of the Administration.

Recommendations coming to Congress from the White House so far concerning economic conditions seem to hinge all hope for an upward turn on defense spending.

This is a mistake, because we cannot expect to let our farm economy, the construction industry, retail business, and a few other important segments of our economy, for example, scuffle for themselves while new blood is given to defense industries.

It is important, to our defense efforts and otherwise, to keep all segments of our economy on an even keel.

each student to choose his own particular religious instructor. A hour or more is set aside every so often for religious instruction of this kind. But no student is forced to take religious instruction. He may skip it if he prefers to.

The churches and the leaders of the churches have the problem of education facing them squarely. They must attempt to find a way to educate the nation's youth in the field of religion and yet not seek to violate the Constitution. To indoctrinate youngsters fully and completely, the churches need to have their members young, when their minds are still impressionable to a large degree.

Obviously, some system of religious education — voluntary — is needed in the public schools. We need not ever look forward to the time when everyone goes

to a public school, for there are disadvantages to such a system.

Many great Americans feel that the public school system of our country is the great democratic heritage that binds us together. And tight, closely-knit denominational divisions do have, as a former Harvard President says, a "divisive" influence among the people. This is something we must avoid, while seeing to it that our children get a proper religious education.

Henderson County Is Named Progress County Of Year

(These comments are based on International Uniform Lesson Outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, U.S.A., and used by permission.)

Henderson County has been named winner of the 1957, North Carolina "County of the Year in Rural Progress" contest, according to the N. C. Board of Farm Organizations and Agencies, sponsor of the contest.

As first place winner, Henderson County will receive \$1,000 cash award, given by various commercial and industrial organizations in an effort to foster all elements of rural progress in the state, according to David S. Weaver, director, N. C. Agricultural Extension Service and member of the awards committee.

Area winners, each of which will receive \$500 cash awards, are Alexander, Montgomery, Person and Pasquotank counties.

Sixty-three counties entered the 1957 contest, according to Weaver. Their progress during 1957 was evaluated independently and according to a standard rating.

District supervisors of eight different agencies judged their own territorial areas in their own subject matter fields. These agencies include the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation, Farmers Home Administration, the Forestry Division of the State Department of Conservation and Development, Vocational Agriculture, the Home Demonstration

program, and Vocational Home Economics.

Former state winning counties include Rockingham, 1952; Orange, 1953; Wilson, 1954; Ashe, 1955; and Pender, 1956. Under the rules of the contest a county cannot repeat as an area winner, but is entitled to compete for the state title.

30,444 Motorists Lost Privilege To Drive During '57

In a summary of license revocable traffic offenses, the Motor Vehicles Department reports that 30,444 motorists lost their legal driving privileges during 1957.

Neck and neck at the top of the list were 11,906 drunk drivers and 11,804 speeders, the agency reported.

Both offenses require a mandatory surrender of drivers license. Miscellaneous violations noted in the annual report showed reckless driving, 1,799 convictions; improper use of operator's license, 489; transporting intoxicants, 359; and larceny of automobile, 207.

Additional penalties were prescribed for 1,673 motorists caught driving after their license had been withdrawn, the department said.

Smiley Blanton, prominent doctor and psychiatrist, describes his personal visit to the Shrine of Our Lady. Read his unusual findings and professional evaluation in the February 9th issue of

MEDICAL SCIENCE LOOKS AT MIRACLES OF LOURDES

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Atomic Energy Now Source Of 150,000 Jobs

The infant atomic energy industry, which came into being little more than a decade ago, has already become an important element in the nation's job picture, according to data compiled by the U. S. Department of Labor, Technical breakthroughs which enhance the future potential greatly, it is stated.

The Labor Department estimated that there were more than 150,000 jobs, ranging from mining to scientific research, in all phases of atomic energy activity in the Spring of last year. About 3 out of every 4 of these workers were employed by the Atomic Energy Commission and its operations and construction contractors.

It All Adds Up Dad—What! A son of mine Boy—Aw, Pop, I don't want to grow up and not be able to study arithmetic. It tain't no figure football scores, batting averages and race-track odds!

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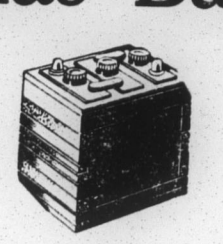
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