

**The National Outlook
Are We Headed Into A Boom?**

By RALPH ROBEY

One frequently hears the word "boom" used in connection with the current business trend. To the extent the term means merely that the recovery is almost all-inclusive and is continuing, this is good. A boom, however, is always followed by a recession, or worse, and in this sense it is not desirable to have persons think that we are moving out of recovery at a rate of advance which can only be accurately described by the use of such a strong term.

But the economy is moving forward and at a rapid pace. For example:

Gross National Product, the monetary value of all goods and services produced in the nation and our broadest measure of the economic trend, set a new all-time high in the first quarter of this year: \$40 billion above the first quarter of last year. The second quarter will show another significant increase.

Personal income in May was at a new all-time high: 3 billion higher than April, and \$16 billion above last December.

Retail trade has risen consistently through the year and is now about 10 percent above a year earlier. Automobile sales are at the highest level for this time of year since 1955, and it is generally expected that we shall have total sales of domestically produced cars of at least 5.5 million. On top of this perhaps 500,000 foreign cars will be sold. Average weekly earnings in manufacturing reached a record \$90 in May and the work week rose to 40.5 hours, indicating an increased amount of overtime.

Industrial production reached a new high. This is measured by the index of the Federal Reserve Board, which uses 1947-49 as equal to 100. The May figure was 152, as compared with the recession low in April, 1958, of 126. Durables and non-durables shared in the advance, and both are now above the pre-recession high.

Inventories continue to climb in the quarter of last year. Inventory was liquidated at an annual rate of \$9 billion. The rate of liquidation declined from quarter to quarter in 1958, and in the first three months of 1959 inventories were accumulated at an annual rate of \$5 billion. This is a swing of \$14 billion, and has been a major factor in the business trend. Over-all figures are not available beyond the first quarter of 1959, but the rise has continued.

Expenditures for new plant and equipment turned upward in

the first quarter of this year, and every survey since has revealed the further revisions on the upside. No one anticipates that we shall, in 1959, reach the high of 1957, but the influence is on the side of better business.

Private housing starts, on a seasonally adjusted annual rate, fell slightly in May to 1,340,000. However, no one questions that this will be a good housing year, and over-all construction construction continues to be excellent.

Employment in May, at 66 million, was the highest for that month in our history. Unemployment, a source of considerable worry, declined sharply to 4.9 percent of the civilian labor force. Last winter the rate of unemployment was running 6 percent or a little higher, and while the present volume of jobless is larger than anyone wants to see, it is evident that we shall not have a continuation of unusually high unemployment.

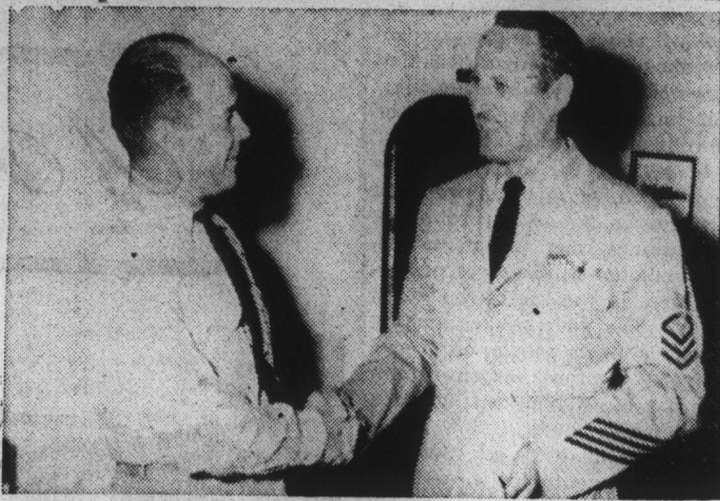
Retail Price Index Fairly Stable

Prices at the retail level have just topped their previous high by one-tenth of one percentage point. This is the consumer price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This index has been stable for a year, as a result of declines in food prices offsetting rises in other items. The May rise reflected an increase in food as well as other items. The wholesale price index also remained stable as a result of declines in the prices of farm products and foods being enough to offset a gradual increase in the prices of industrial commodities.

Business profits continue to climb, and dividend payments so far this year are slightly above the corresponding period of 1958.

With this type of factual news being published day after day, and the above representing only some of the broader items, it is easy to understand why persons should begin to wonder whether we are entering a boom. Perhaps we are, but the evidence up to this point is adequately encompassed by the term recovery. We all hope this continues to be true.

Resigns From U. S. Navy



George L. Hawkins, chief machinist's mate, USN, receives best wishes from Navy Captain R. A. Phillips, his commanding officer, upon retiring from the Navy following twenty years of active duty. Chief Hawkins, son of Mrs. Alberta H. Hawkins of Ashtabula, Ohio, and husband of the former Miss Mertice S. Godsey of Edenton, transferred to the Fleet Reserve June 17 aboard the Atlantic Fleet repair ship USS Amphion. He and his wife and their two children plan to make their home in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Weekly Devotional Column
By JAMES MACALENIZIE

This week's column continues a hard-hitting sermon by Billy Whiteman, 17-year-old member of the Center Hill Baptist Church.

Satan wants desperately to warn all Christians against their going into places in the community where evil men and women may be encountered. Condemnation, he points out, is something which no self-respecting church member must risk. Besides, there is always the danger of painful embarrassment. Filth in the slums, he tells us, soils the clothes and hands; vile language and bitter abuse in the drunkard's home may shock the well-bred mind.

He loves to hear church members say that politics are rotten, and that "good people" must not get "mixed-up in them." So long as church members continue to be "nice people" who refuse to attack evil in its filthy dens—wherever these dens are found—Satan's reign on earth is not in doubt—and he knows it.

Another clever plan used by Satan is to encourage church members earnestly to believe

that religion consists in the hearing of sermons, Sunday School Lessons, and Scriptural readings. In this matter, his task is not too difficult; for most of us like to be convinced that listening to, meditating upon, and agreeing with the Word of Life is all we need to do to bring in the Kingdom.

We absorb truth like a sponge absorbing water, but never give that truth effect in our everyday lives. We can read the Biblical warning, "Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only," and let the matter end there. We can recite the Great Commission, give a few pennies for the Africans, and go about our business unconcerned with our half-starving Negro neighbor.

We have been doped into thinking that Christianity is essentially a matter of knowledge. Someone ought to awaken us to the fact there is a world of difference between knowing what to do and actually doing it. Christ's mission will not be accomplished by educated church members who lack the will to put into practice the lessons of Jesus. The informed mind is worthless unless directed by the transformed will. Until it is removed from under its bushel,

even the brightest light will help nobody.

Christ has promised His church power to drive Satan to the very gates of hell; yet most modern churches have not expelled him from the slums and mansions, which in many cases lie just across the street from their front doors. Something is definitely wrong. And I am sure of this one thing: Christ has not failed His Church. He never has, and never will. It can only be that, as church members, we somehow are tragically failing Christ.

(continued next week)

Nutritious Nuggets For Summer Menus

There's a veritable gold mine of nutrition and economy at food counters across the state now, and it will last several weeks.

You don't need to do a lot of hard digging to unearth treasure from eggs, to bring it refined and gleaming to the table at mealtime, snack time or anytime.

Miss Jo Earp nutrition specialist for the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, says that the golden egg contains "pure nuggets of nutrition and pleasurable eating. Eggs can weld the ingredients for impressive cakes, pastries, custards or puddings.

"Summer meals, picnics, and snacks of eggs alone, or in combination with milk and dairy products, fresh vegetables, meats and fish provide added protein yet are light and appealing to hot-weather appetites. Eggs boast health-protecting A, B and D vitamins, and the yolk holds a rich store of iron, some phosphorus and other needed minerals." Use eggs with a lavish hand during this period of seasonal abundance, advises Miss Earp.

Now's The Time To Plan 1960 Yam Crop

Next year's sweet potato crop should start now—with the planting of adequate quality vine cuttings to be used as seed stock.

Henry Covington, horticulture specialist for the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, says you can't beat vine cuttings for producing a crop free of scurf and black rot. And this is the time

of year to make vine cuttings— even if the plants the cuttings come from have one or both of the diseases.

Covington suggests farmers start taking cuttings when they can get one 10 to 12 inches long. The earlier you plant, the bigger the yield.

But don't make the mistake of making cuttings from poor plants. Select the best available plants, then make your cuttings.

The specialists recommend one-tenth acre of vine cuttings for every acre of sweet potatoes you expect to grow next year.

Blue Cross Announces A New Health Plan

A new Blue Cross health plan for North Carolina's senior citizens is announced by the Hospital Care Association of Durham. The new program will be offered immediately to any resident of the state 65 or over and in reasonably good health.

E. M. Herndon, executive vice president of the Hospital Care

Don't Lag—Buy Olog



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Plagued Day And Night with Bladder Discomfort?

Unwise eating or drinking may be a source of mild, but annoying bladder irritations—making you feel restless, tense, and uncomfortable. And if restlessness, with nagging backache, headache or muscular aches and pains due to over-exertion, strain or emotional upset, are adding to your misery—don't wait—try Doan's Pills.

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Association, said this is the first time Blue Cross has been made available in North Carolina to persons over age 60 on an individual non-group enrollment basis.

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Taylor Theatre

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Thursday, July 2—

Sophia Loren and Anthony Quinn in "THE BLACK ORCHID"

Friday and Saturday, July 3-4—

DOUBLE FEATURE
George Montgomery in "KING OF THE WILD STALLIONS"
CinemaScope and Color

—and—
Cornel Wilde in "THE DEVIL'S HAIRPIN"
Technicolor

Sunday and Monday, July 5-6—

ALL NEW IN COLOR
Gordon Scott in "TARZAN'S GREATEST ADVENTURE"
First Tarzan Picture Photographed in Africa

Tuesday, July 7—

Ava Gardner in "THE NAKED MAJAH"
CinemaScope and Color
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT!

Wednesday and Thursday, July 8-9—

Brigitte Bardot in "LOVE IS MY PROFESSION"
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT!

HIWAY 17

Drive-In Theatre
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SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Friday and Saturday, July 3-4—

Fast Parker in WALT DISNEY'S "LIGHT IN THE FOREST"
Technicolor

Sunday, July 5—

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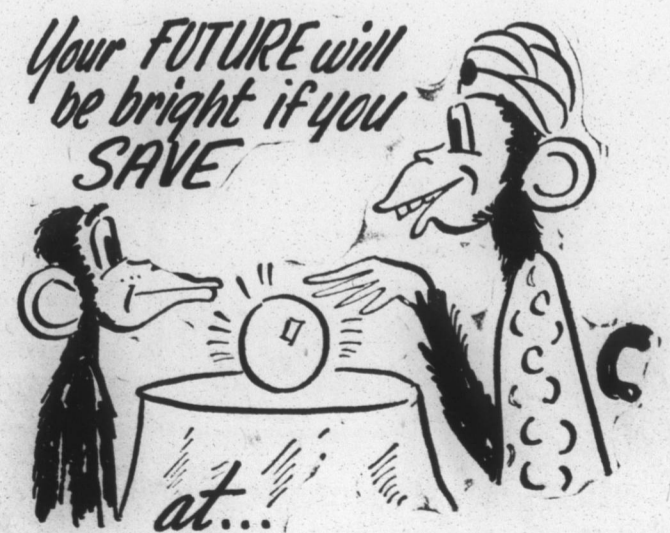
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