

The Eagle

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GASOLINE GREW UP

Is the gasoline you buy today about the same as that of years ago? Is the gas you obtain in Maine the same as that sold in South Carolina? And is the gas you'll put in your car this summer identical with that you'll buy when the cold winds howl next winter?

If you answer yes to any or all of these questions, you're wrong, according to a vivid description of "how gasoline grew up" that appeared recently in a magazine published by one of our leading oil companies.

As far back as 1912, a gasoline shortage was impending, because of the automobile fever that was sweeping the country—more than 2,000 different makes were in production then. The scientists went to work and the result was the thermal cracking process which vastly increased the gasoline yield from a barrel of crude.

About the same time, car-drivers were plagued with "pinging" of the engines. Again the laboratories took over. Six years of painstaking research were required before it was learned that a few drops of tetraethyl lead would cure this.

So the progress went, down the years, with the quality of gasoline getting better all the time. And that evolution is still going on.

Finally, refiners generally lower the volatility of their gas in warm weather to prevent vapor lock—and increase it in cold weather for the sake of better starting and warm-up. And gasolines are blended differently in different sections of the country.

All the oil companies are competing to produce still higher qualities of gas, along with other products. You, the consumer, are the gainer.

*Standard Oil Co. (New Jersey)

FATTER PAY CHECK

The "real cost" of living—which is measured by relating commodity prices to wages and purchasing power—is less now than in the allegedly good old days. The authority for that statement is Ewan Clague, Commissioner of Labor Statistics.

Mr. Clague pointed out that the government's Consumer Price Index has not quite doubled since 1939—while weekly earnings in manufacturing have tripled.

Mr. Clague also observed that consumer prices in general have been stabilized for the past year or more, and that some prices have declined from the post-war highs.

What this means is that we have returned to a normal market situation. There are no shortages of consumer goods. In some fields there are surpluses. Consumers, as any merchant can tell you, have become choosier, with their eye out for bargains. The result is intense competition on both the manufacturing and retailing levels. And when that is the case, the tendency is for the weekly pay check to go farther.

A LEADER — NOT A TYRANT

The head of the world's largest department store recently observed that the day of the dictatorial, table-thumping boss is gone. Commenting on this, the Tribune, of Medford, Mass., said: "The true executive defines the personality of his business and imbues with it all who have a part in shaping that personality. He is a leader, not a tyrant."

A retailer who tried to run his establishment like a slave-camp today would soon find himself out of help. An employer would find himself out of customers too—for friendly intelligent training and direction, not brow beating, develops the efficient and productive type of employe every store needs in our competitive commercial world.

SAVINGS BUY TOOLS

Time was when a man could, and did, buy his own tools. But, what locomotive engineer these days could buy his own locomotive, what punch press operator his own press?

The average job in industry today requires a \$12,000 investment to buy the tools and machines and supplies and all the other things a workman needs.

Not many people can afford to invest that kind of money alone. But together they can, and do. Today there are almost 9,000,000 Americans who have saved their money and bought shares of stock in companies—shares of the machines, tools and supplies needed for today's high production and living standards.—Daily Leader-Times, Kittanning, Pa.

STATESMANSHIP ON THE PRODUCTION LINE

A visitor to England tells of an interesting experience while looking through the Jaguar Automobile plant at Coventry. When the noon whistle blew a great majority of the workmen continued to finish some operation they were on rather than lay down their tools on the instant. In fact several minutes after the whistle quite a number here and there were still putting on finishing touches. Inquiry disclosed that the men were working on a pay schedule plus production bonus. An air of interest and efficiency was apparent.

In our country the production workers of a major Toledo, Ohio automobile manufacturer and their UAW-CIO union deserve commendation on the announcement that they have voted themselves a pay cut in order to bring their company's labor costs into a better competitive position with other automobile manufacturers. It is stated that the almost-unanimous vote may cost the workers as much as 10 percent of their present pay, part of which they may recover later if a new bonus pay plan can be worked out.

What was observed in England could well result at this plant. It's a healthy sign when labor takes this kind of an interest in management and it is to be hoped that in this case and others like it that all concerned will win.

MORE PEOPLE ARE COMING TO DINNER

Americans constitute a nation of meat eaters. At present, our per capita consumption of this universally desired food runs around 145 pounds a year.

Obviously, it's a big job to produce, process and distribute that huge supply. Each day 65,000,000 pounds—enough to fill about 2500 railroad refrigerator cars—find its way into the homes of consumers. Much of it travels great distances, for the reason that the bulk of our livestock is raised West of the Mississippi while most of the meat is eaten East of the river. Luckily, we have a highly competitive meat industry which performs that job day in and day out, with high efficiency, as a matter of established routine.

That industry is forever growing. The country is now in the midst of a population boom. There are 7,000 more people sitting down to dinner each night than dined the day before—which means we are adding a state the size of Maryland to our population every year. If current levels of meat consumption are to be maintained, production will have to be expanded by 2,000,000,000 pounds by 1960. And if we are to reach an annual consumption goal of 175 pounds per person, which is recommended by the Department of Agriculture, the expansion will have to be around 6,000,000,000 pounds.

In any event, there can be no doubt that the industry will continue to meet whatever demands we place upon it. It is an integral part of our free enterprise system—the system which makes for greater abundance and higher living standards than any other.

FARM EQUIPMENT VS. HUMAN LABOR

Dr. Earl L. Butz of Purdue University recently discussed the cost of farm machinery—tractors, combines, and so on.

This equipment replaces human labor, and so its cost must be compared with that of labor if an accurate picture is to be gained. Thus, the dollars-and-cents cost of any given piece of machinery is not the big factor in the long run. Its cost in terms of equivalent labor is far more vital.

Dr. Butz prepared a table to illustrate what has happened. During the 1935-39 period, it took the equivalent of 31.2 man-months of hired labor to buy a 2-pow tractor—in 1953 the figure was down to 14.6 months. In the former period, the value of 23.8 man-months of hired labor would buy a 5-6 foot combine—in 1953 it was down to 10.1 man-months. The situation was similar for other types of farm equipment cited. In each case, the 1953 cost of the machines, measured in this accurate fashion, was far lower than in previous times.

Even that, Dr. Butz continued, doesn't tell the whole story, for two reasons. To quote him directly, "First, the machines are presently more efficient as a result of design changes. Second . . . the farmer makes much more efficient use of machines today than in earlier years."

PORTRAID IN OIL



JACOB JAY VANDERGRIFT
STARTED THE FIRST BULK-OIL-HAULING BOAT BUSINESS, BETWEEN OIL CITY AND PITTSBURGH, IN 1868.

SOON AFTER THE DISCOVERY OF OIL IN VENANGO COUNTY, PA., BARGES AND STEAMBOATS WERE CARRYING OIL IN BARRELS DOWN THE ALLEGHENY RIVER. VANDERGRIFT BUILT A BOAT THAT WOULD HOLD 400 BARRELS OF OIL IN BULK.

EARLY OIL MEN WERE QUICK TO REALIZE THE ECONOMIES BULK TRANSPORTATION BY BOAT. VANDERGRIFT'S BOAT ELIMINATED THE COSTLY OPERATION OF FILLING BARRELS.

TODAY, TANKERS MAKE UP ABOUT 45 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF THE AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE. MORE THAN 35 PER CENT OF ALL WATER-BORNE CARGOES IN THE WORLD TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES IS MADE UP OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

Your New SOCIAL SECURITY



BY MARGARET H. LOWDER
Manager Gastonia Social Security Office

Mothers and children, in Gaston County were getting 28 percent of the \$145,346.00 monthly total in social security insurance benefits being paid in the county at the end of 1953. Mr. Joseph P. Walsh, manager of the Gastonia social security office, announced today.

These newly available figures show an increase of \$4,934.00 in the total of monthly payments to this group of beneficiaries in the 12-month period ending with December, he said. Total payments to children in this county were \$33,260.00 for the month of December. In the nation as a whole, over one million children were getting a total of about \$22 1/2 million in monthly payments at the end of 1953. Nationwide, over a quarter of a million widowed mothers were paid a total of over \$9 1/2 million in December.

The largest groups of beneficiaries under the social security insurance program, however, continue to be retired workers, Walsh said. In December, 1,720 such beneficiaries in Gaston County were paid a total of \$82,936.00. This was an increase of \$14,700.00 in total payments in a 12-month period. Nationwide, the increase in retired worker beneficiaries was 78,316, and the total of monthly payments to them increased from \$12,977,120.00 to \$17,467,061.00 in the same period.

Walsh said that many of them are inclined to think of old-age and survivors insurance under the social security system as a program for retired workers and

their dependents exclusively. As the figures relating to mothers and children indicate, however, survivors benefits are an important part of the program too.

Other beneficiaries on the rolls in Gaston County are wives and aged dependent husbands of retired insured workers, aged widows and dependent widowers of deceased workers, and dependent parents who are receiving survivors benefits. The total of all beneficiaries in Gaston County receiving monthly benefit payments at the end of 1953 was 3,987.

"While these statistics may seem to be just so many figures in cold print," Walsh said, "the payment of \$145,346.00 monthly to 3,987 persons in this county is of real significance to the economic well being of the county at large, and in many cases represents the greatest or only source of income to the individual family concerned."

Jobs Open At Post Office

The U. S. Civil Service Commission, Atlanta, Georgia, announces an open competitive examination for indefinite or permanent appointment to the positions of substitute clerk, substitute carrier in the Cherryville, North Carolina Post Office.

Applications will be accepted from persons who reside within the limits of the post office territory or who are bona fide patrons of such office. Persons employed in the post office will be considered bona fide patrons of the office.

The beginning basic rate of pay for substitute clerks and substitute carriers is \$1,615 per hour. Applicants must have reached their eighteenth birthday but must not have passed their fiftieth birthday on the date of filing applications. These age limits do not apply to persons entitled to veterans' preference.

Necessary forms and further information may be obtained from the local postmaster at the Cherryville, North Carolina Post Office or from the Fifth U. S. Civil Service Regional Office, 5 Forsyth Street, N. W., Atlanta, Georgia.

The process of preserving food by canning is just 150 years old; prior to the discovery of the miracle of canning foods could not be preserved indefinitely.

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Poor Management Contributes To Fowl Typhoid Losses

Dr. Henry W. Garren, Nickels for Know-How poultry disease scientist, warned today that poor management increases the danger of fowl typhoid, a disease that causes a \$50,000 annual loss in North Carolina.

Garren said that apparently chickens overcome disease in the same way they withstand the stresses of heat, cold, overcrowding, etc. "If you tax the bird's system with these conditions, it has less resistance to disease."

Garren's work which last year won him the top award in poultry research among Canadian and American scientists, has recently given good indication that diet may influence resistance, too, but he doesn't yet know which nutrient is concerned.

A great deal of his work is now aimed at seeking diets that will increase the resistance of birds to disease.

Garren has long suspected that the endocrine system is tied up with disease resistance, and his recent research bears this out. Now he is trying to discover whether the observed effects on the endocrine system are the result of attempts to throw off the disease or the result of the disease itself.

The chief goal of Garren's work is to develop a vaccine that will give long-term immunity to fowl typhoid. However, vaccines are not the complete answer, he says. But a vaccine coupled with sanitation and other good management practices could control the disease.

Garren feels that sanitation has done as good a job in controlling typhoid in humans as vaccines have.

Now that the fowl typhoid is about to hit its seasonal peak, Garren says these management practices can help birds resist typhoid and also help prevent them from coming in contact with it:

1. Practice good sanitation.
2. Don't overcrowd.
3. Provide adequate ventilation.
4. Supply an abundance of cool water.
5. Keep quarters as cool as possible; paint chicken house roof with aluminum paint.
6. Avoid dusty or wet litter.
7. Wash out water containers, preferably daily.
8. Provide good, clean feed. Keep birds away from decomposed vegetable and animal matter.
9. Don't vaccinate for more than one condition at the same time.
10. Worm birds only if they need it. The only way you determine the need is to cut a few birds open and look.

Record Apple Crop Predicted For State

North Carolina apple growers report prospects of an all-time record apple crop this year.

T. T. Hatton, horticulture specialist for the State College Extension Service, says North Carolina apple growers who have thinned their heavily cropped trees are going to reap the benefits this year.

The specialist says fire blight has been serious on susceptible apple varieties and scab has been difficult to control in many areas. But the over-all prospects still indicate the largest North Carolina apple crop in history.

Current estimates of this year's crop run as high as 2,195,000 bushels, compared with the 873,000 bushels produced last year, said Hatton.

While apple growers look forward to a record crop, Tar Heel peach growers expect to harvest 11 per cent fewer peaches than last year. Although the peach crop is somewhat smaller than last year the quality is good. July 4-10 is North Carolina Peach Week.

HAYSEED

BY UNCLE SAM

DEPENDENCE DAY

The Fourth of July is officially set aside and known as Independence Day. On this day set aside to celebrate independence there will be parades, there will be bands, there will be flags and decorations, there will be patriotic speaking. With many this will be an idle gesture for the spirit of independence, freedom and self-reliance is being frowned upon and argued against. Far too many people think they prefer security instead of independence.

Perhaps it would be just as correct to shorten the word Independence Day to Dependence Day and instead of celebrating it just observe it. Observe it on account of the government's socialistic policies and endless number of controls. Observe it on account of its controlled production of food and materials. Observe it on account of its controlled prices. Observe its regulations controlling labor and who may and who may not work. Observe it for its free handouts. Observe it for its policy of unnecessary and extravagant spending. Observe it on account of its excessive and almost confiscatory taxation. Its lack of appreciation and by indifference we have passed from independence to dependence.

There was a day when patriotic songs were taught in the schools. There was a day when rulers were respected. There was a day when

mindful Hatton. Now is the time to start controlling these peach tree borers, added Hatton. Trees need three applications of either DDT at the rate of four pounds actual DDT per 100 gallons of spray, parathion (15 per cent), to three pounds, or EPN 300 (25 per cent) two to three pounds, says Hatton. Spray any of these on the tree trunks and bruised or damaged areas on the limbs July 1-5, August 1-10, and September 1-10.

reverence was shown for heroes. There was a day when we refrained from meddling in the affairs of other nations. There was a time when we were feared and respected by all nations. There was a day when we spoke softly and carried a big stick, instead of boasting and waving a fast-shrinking dollar bill. It may be a long way back to independence and what Independence Day once stood for but unless we can regain our spirit of independence we are living in dependence awaiting the time of our annihilation.

America by 1975 will have 15,600,000 more households than it had at the end of April 1953, according to The Report of Paley Commission, appointed by President Eisenhower.

In April, 1953, there were 46,800,000 households in the U. S. By 1975 there will be as estimated 62,400,000. This indicates 500,000 to 600,000 will be replaced in 1975 and an additional 800,000 to 1 million will be built to absorb the net increase in population.

Public construction, therefore, is expected to be about 50 per cent above the 1950 level by 1975. It is estimated the general rise in construction will be about 30 per cent between 1950 and 1975.

To Relieve Misery of

COLDS

take 666

Answer to the Burning Question

As any one-time sun-sufferer will tell you, sunburn is certainly evidence of your place in the sun—an extremely painful place. For the invisible, but ever-present and piercing ultraviolet rays of the sun each year inflict more misery on more people than perhaps any other device of nature.

The sun's rays, those you can see and, more important, those you can't see, are of different wave lengths.

For example, the rays that determine how hot you are when exposed to the sun — infrared rays — are relatively long—and harmless. It is the short ultraviolet rays, which you cannot see, which do the damage. When these ultraviolet rays strike your skin, they do not penetrate in depth but they do play havoc with the cells just underneath the outer layer of skin. The longer you are exposed to these rays, the more the living cells that are damaged—and the redder your skin becomes.

You can help prevent painful damage of ultraviolet rays by using a good screening agent. One such preparation is Sun 'n' Surf, a new two-purpose sunburn cream. It can help you overcome over-exposure to the sun by screening out a high percentage of the short, trouble-causing ultraviolet rays while allowing the long rays to get through and promote tanning.

And if you do forget to apply it while out on the sun, you can get relief from sunburn by using Sun 'n' Surf after being exposed.

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