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-- Overlook On Life --
 By WARREN S. REEVE
 The idea of "Overlook" is taken from the Overlook pavilion at viewing panoramas along the Blue-Ridge Parkway.

I read in the Asheville Citizen last Thursday morning, April 10, a report of President Eisenhower's Press Conference held on the preceding day. In this conference, according to the report, he recommended to the American people that they should "buy!" — buy goods — in order that present recession might be checked. A great surge of buying by people everywhere would encourage factories to meet the demand for their goods by increasing production. Accelerated industrial activity would bring back the large number of unemployed on to the payrolls, and these people, once again receiving their pay checks, would be able to buy the things they need, which would in turn stimulate production still more, and thus the American economy would roll out of the doldrums into a phase of recovered prosperity. This is the soundest way, say many economists, to check progressive recession, and by all means preferable, under present circumstances, to tax reduction. According to the news report that I read, the President, in response to a question as to what people should buy, said, "Buy anything." Perhaps I may not have received a correct impression of what he actually meant, but even if his opinion is misrepresented, the point of view which I have been trying to reproduce is one held by many people, and it is that point of view which is the subject of my comments.

A wave of spending, it is said; or, from another angle, a wave of buying — buying any kind of goods — will stimulate business activity. And so it would. But if the buying and spending are done lavishly and indiscriminately just for the sake of putting money into circulation, the prosperity that will ensue, if it ensues at all, will be a false prosperity, bringing only a temporary respite from present ills, and precipitating a series of new and probably worse troubles than we have now. Buying and spending that are not done prudently and intelligently will inevitably bring trouble sooner or later both on the individual and on business and industry, too. "Buy as much as you can! Buy just anything, and business will perk up!" is a partial truth that contains within it a sinister error also. I am disturbed lest a subtle error in the prevalent attitude of our people might prove to be like some fatal flaw in a great engineering structure. A bridge, or a skyscraper, or a ship might be constructed 99% perfect, but a 1% weakness, if it should happen to be in a critical spot, could lead to the total loss of the whole unit. If one serious defect in the construction of an airplane or in its motor, were to cause a crash, all the rest of the excellent workmanship that went into that plane would not save it from disaster.

An insane rush of indiscriminate buying might indeed bring a temporary relief from the present recession, but I should be apprehensive lest after a time we would find ourselves in the most fearful depression this country has ever known. A sound economy requires that industry shall produce useful and necessary commodities and that the economic resources of the nation not be diverted to the production of things that are irrelevant to the deepest and finest purposes in life. God never intended that our splendid natural resources should be wasted in enterprises that are unjustifiably extravagant in a world that is largely still dragging along at the bare subsistence level. Effective advertising has already misled thousands of people, I fear, to spend their money in the purchase of unnecessary, foolish things, as well as of things that are out-and-out bad. Think of the millions of dollars that go into gambling devices and gambling enterprises. Expenditures on alcoholic liquors have mounted to unprecedented heights. In comparison with what is spent for other more wholesome purposes, the money that has gone into tobacco, competition and entertainment is tremendous. When it comes to recreation and the vast business of providing recreational facilities for the country, one may say that this is harmless. And in itself so it is. But what is bad about it is that it is out of proportion to what is spent for other important things. Spending on sports, and recreation and entertainment of various sorts — is it not too great when compared with what goes for urgent necessities?

The serious thing about this feature in contemporary life is that it reveals a bad inner attitude on the part of people. Unjustified extravagance in self-indulgence, whether in the use of tobacco, or in sports, or in other forms of "good times" is indicative of plain selfishness. We don't like selfish individuals when we meet them. Neither does the world like a selfish nation, especially if that nation professes traditional adherence to a religion that teaches unselfishness. I wish that the nation's leadership would put it to the American people in the following manner: If you have money in the bank and if there are things you really need to buy, buy them. If there are durable goods that you will

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,
 It seems to me that the results of the flower contest for Burnsville will have many good results. Not only will it beautify the town, but I think it will encourage us to clean up our own town clean. Just as a housewife sees that a room is immaculate before painting a

room, we should see that our town is immaculate before painting a room. We have a continuing need for and that are necessities in your life or business, buy them. Buy the kind of things that will be an incentive to industry to produce essential articles and articles of goods that will in their turn stimulate further creative activity in the production field.

If you are well stocked up with goods and still have money to spare, give generously to needy individuals, institutions and causes. Give for the benefit of community betterment. Endow hospital beds. Help out educational institutions and public libraries. Give scholarships to deserving students. Give generously and cheerfully! This, too, is a way of stimulating prosperity in our country.

Let America, also, as a whole, give more to the rest of the world. Let people give to churches of their choice money that now goes into liquor, tobacco, cosmetics, unnecessary jewelry, uncollected extravagances in recreation (as for example, in evening parties, where the bill for four people might run into the hundreds of dollars.)

But again there must be spoken a word of caution. Don't give indiscriminately. Don't give just to anything or anybody. You might do more harm than good if you do that. Many a person and institution have been ruined through having been made the recipient of too much money.

I would sum up the thesis of this article by saying "Buy necessities if you have the money to do so. Give generously of what you have. But in both buying and giving, be intelligent; consider the well-being of others. Let consideration for others be the ruling spirit within you, and try to radiate confidence and hope." In this way, we can all do our part to combat recession and build not only the American economy but also the American character on a sound foundation.

My wife, of flowers in it, so will the businessmen see to it that their premises are clean around their flower arrangements. I believe, too, that it will encourage the general public to have more civic pride, for who could throw trash about with flowers blooming nearby?

This beautification project merits the support of all of us.
 A Subscriber

Dear Editor:
 Please accept the appreciation of the Burnsville Lions club for the coverage your newspaper gave us on our annual broom sale last week.

We also would like for you to pass on to the general public our appreciation for the excellent cooperation they gave us in purchasing these brooms. I am sure that those who purchased brooms will be glad to know that not only did they help the Burnsville Club secure funds to provide clinics and glasses for those who otherwise could not afford treatment and glasses, but they also aided the blind people of North Carolina who are employed to manufacture these brooms at Greensboro, N. C.

The Burnsville Club has a few brooms left over. Anyone that was missed on our original canvass of the area can pick up a broom at George Robinson's Grocery.

Sincerely yours,
 Lewis W. Dameron, Roger Hyatt, Co-chairmen, Broom Sale Committee.

Dear Editor of the Yancey Record:


Burnsville is my hometown, too. I was born and raised there but have traveled quite a bit to different places. I spent the past year in Norfolk, Va., and am now at Maryville, Tenn., with a daughter, Mrs. Earl Murphy. I don't make any one place my permanent place to stay. My youngest daughter is living in Florida and I'm hoping to visit her soon. Also I am visiting Burnsville soon, as I love my home, the mountains and all the people there. So I can't do without the little paper, The Yancey Record.

Mrs. J. E. Evans (the former Miss Elta Styles of Burnsville)

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE
 NORTH CAROLINA
 YANCEY COUNTY
 Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of David Nelson Woody, deceased, late of Yancey County, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned Administrator at his home at Rt. 1, Burnsville, N. C., on or before the 5th day of April, 1959, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons owing the Estate will please make immediate payment.
 This 5th day of April, 1958.
 Craig Woody, Administrator of the Estate of David Nelson Woody, Deceased

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