

# Decade Since World War II One Of Marked Advance For Worker; Benefits Big Factor

With the recent developments in automobile wage negotiations and the current round of pay talks in other industries, the decade since the end of World War II has been one of the great periods of progress for the American worker in the history of the country.

In view of the new rise in production costs now, in the making, however, the gains made by the worker and the economy as a whole are being jeopardized by the threat of a new round of inflation unless productivity continues to gain in the future as it has in the past.

**Growth of Fringe Benefits**  
The gains for the typical worker in 1945 apply not only to his rising power, which judged by the trend of average hourly pay rates in manufacturing has come to doubling in the period. More dramatic is the expansion to more and more of the working population of what are known as fringe benefits, highlighted by group life insurance, accident and sickness programs, and pension and retirement plans.

The cost of these fringe benefits to the employer is high, and in the aggregate adds up to around a fifth of payroll, according to a recent study of a cross section of American industry by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

The ability of the economy to support these higher costs has been made possible by steadily increasing productivity, resulting from the better skills of the working population and the record investment in the plant and equipment made by business and industry in recent years.

Figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the average gross earnings of production workers in manufacturing were up to a new high of \$1.86 an hour in April of this year. The comparable average a decade ago, 1945 was just over \$1 an hour.

Even before the newest wage negotiations the average hourly earnings of factory workers had increased more than 80 per cent in a decade. This is a substantially greater gain than the rise of 50 per cent in the cost of living in the period, indicating a real rise in the worker's income and living standard.

**Expansion of Group Life**  
The expansion of fringe benefits has been even more striking, as indicated by life insurance, accident and health, and pension figures. For example, at the end of 1945, group life insurance coverage was only \$22 billion, with 11 1/2 million persons covered. By the end of 1954, this coverage exceeded \$86 billion, almost four times the 1945 figure, and the number of persons covered was 29 million, two and one-half times as great.

Like the case of hospitalization insurance coverage, here there has been almost threefold increase. More than 28 million workers are covered by private pension and retirement plans, and a recent study by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York estimates that coverage has doubled since the end of World War II. Under group life and other insured pension plans alone, the number covered increased from under 14 million in 1945 to approximately 28 million at the end of 1954, a rise of more than 150 per cent.

Marked gains also have occurred in other fringe benefits such as vacations with pay, sick leave, etc., which have now added supplementary unemployment benefits for hundreds of thousands of workers by two big unions.

**Wage Structure**  
Fundamental change has occurred in the United States wage structure in this period. A new view of what has happened since the early days of World War II is provided by the figures on the distribution of wages among workers in manufacturing. Straight-time average wages show that at the end of 1941 nearly a third of factory workers were earning less than 50 cents an hour, and that two-thirds were in the 50 to 70 cents an hour bracket.

By the end of 1954, however, the number of workers earning less than 50 cents an hour had dropped to about one out of every eight, and the number earning more than \$1.25 an hour had risen to about one out of every three.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page Six)

This experience has not been unique for Judah alone—for the record of history is a countless repetition of peoples and nations growing in wealth and power to domination, only to have the resulting leisure and luxury and selfishness bring disaster to peoples and nations. The truth contained in our Memory Selection is apropos today, as it has been all through the generations since the Apostle Paul lived: "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man (or woman) soweth, that shall he (or she) also reap."

(These comments are based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ, U.S.A., and used by permission.)

## News Report From Washington

**Mystery In Laos—**  
Who Pulls The Strings?  
Some Hope In Geneva—  
A New Soviet Policy?

Washington—The recent flare-up

of fighting in Laos is a source of mystery in at least one respect. Laotian troops were reported to have routed the attackers two days after the first news of this new development was spread on the front pages of the papers in the west.

Moreover, a report from that country noted that the situation was quiet again. Had the attack really been a sudden move by Laotian Communists, who were confined to two northern Laotian provinces by the terms of the Geneva agreement? Or had the move been directed and organized by Chinese Communists?

There was little doubt that the Chinese were supplying the arms and materials for the Laotian Reds, but that they have done all along. And the Chinese have apparently withdrawn most of the 5,000 troops they operated in Laos, which they agreed to do in last year's Geneva conference.

That the Chinese have encouraged, supplied and thus built up native Laotian Communist forces in the provinces of Samneua and Phongsaly is not to be doubted. But whether the Chinese ordered the recent attack into Laos proper is a question at the moment.

While the issue may be clarified in the next few days, it is now unknown whether the attack was really part of a new invasion and the beginning of a new Laotian war or whether it was a local action. In any event, there is speculation that higher Communist authorities did not want the action begun on the eve of the new Geneva conferences.

India, the country charged with the main responsibility for seeing that conditions agreed upon at Geneva in 1954 are respected, could not take a neutralist view of new and open violation of the 1954 agreement. The world could not believe that Moscow really wanted eased relations if it saw—as the second Geneva conference got underway—a new Communist-instigated war flaring up in Laos—one of the three Indochinese states.

Washington does not yet believe that the Laotian flare-up was strictly local, yet the situation there is not clear. It is possible that someone called off what might have been another Communist invasion. Certainly such an attack would have clouded the air at Geneva. The situation in Laos is certainly not one to inspire any confidence in the camp of the West, at best.

The Communists are thought to possess a strength of about 5,000 men in the two provinces in Laos given them last year. Eventually trouble must arise between these

forces and Laotian forces. The question is when this trouble will occur. The belief is that Laotian forces might have tipped their hand too early, or that the Chinese Communists are aggressively minded, at this period, more so than their Russian allies.

It is not inaccurate to say that some Americans and some officials in Washington view the actions of the Khrushchev group in Moscow as encouraging. They echo the view of some so-called neutralist statesmen who have visited both Moscow and Washington in recent months who are convinced that the Russians want an eased international atmosphere.

The Russians might not be able to carry their Chinese allies with them all the way. The Chinese are sensitive about their independence, like to make decisions with dictation from Moscow. It is suspected that the Chinese are as yet less convinced of the need for a better understanding with the West than are their Russian friends in Moscow, especially Khrushchev and Zhukov.

This is mere speculation but it has stirred hope in the hearts of some Americans. This hope can either be dashed or fed at this week's Geneva meetings. President Eisenhower himself has given some ground, from the original stern approach with which he first viewed the meeting with the Russians.

He said in recent days that the Russians were not weak, that the United States was negotiating in good faith and that we were always open to suggestions and proposals to ease tensions between the east and west. If the Russians do have a new foreign policy, the President is apparently determined not to pass up the opportunity of encouraging it, and exploiting it for whatever progress the democracies might make.

This is a slightly different attitude than that which has surrounded all other meetings with the Russians in recent years, on lesser levels than that of a meeting of the heads of state, and that is significant.

## IN MEMORIAM

In sad and loving memory of my dear son, Louis Norman Chappell, who passed away one year ago, July 21:

**DON'T SCRATCH THAT ITCH!**  
In 15 minutes, you MUST be pleased with ITCH-ME-NOT when applied for the itch of eczema, ringworm, athlete's foot, insect bites and other surface rashes or bites 40¢ back at any drug store. Today at 5 AND 10.—adv.

## Classified and Legals

**\$400 MONTHLY SPARE TIME**  
Refilling and collecting money from our five cent High Grade Nut Machines in this area. No Selling! To qualify for work you must have car, references, \$640 cash, secured by inventory. Devoting 6 hours a week to business, your end on percentage collections will net up to \$400 monthly with very good possibilities of taking over full time. Income increasing accordingly. For interview, include phone in application. Write Nut-O-Matic Co., Inc., 40 Exchange Place, New York 6, N. Y.

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**  
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of C. R. Lane, deceased, late of Perquimans County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Route 2, Edenton, N. C., on or before the 14th day of July, 1955, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

**SALESMAN WANTED—WOULD**  
you like to have a good permanent, profitable business of your own. Hundreds of men earning more than ever before, supplying families with Rawleigh's everyday necessities. Good locality available in Perquimans Co., and also Chowan County. Write Rawleigh's Dept. NCG-320-216, Richmond, Va. July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**  
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Alexander Jordan, deceased, late of Perquimans County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at P. O. Box 172, Winfall, N. C., on or before the 8th day of July, 1955, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will

please make immediate payment. This 8th day of July, 1955. J. E. JORDAN, Administrator of Alexander Jordan July 15, 22, 29, Aug 5, 12, 19

**NOTICE OF RE-SALE UNDER FORECLOSURE**  
Whereas, the undersigned acting as Trustee, in the certain Deed of Trust executed by James M. McLendon and wife, Mary L. McLendon and recorded in Mortgage Book No. 28 at Page 176 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Perquimans County, foreclosed and offered for sale the lands hereinafter described; and whereas within the time allowed by law an advanced bid was filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court and said Trustee and an Order issued from the Clerk directing the Trustee to re-sell said lands upon an opening bid of Seventy Five Hundred and Five (\$7,505.00) Dollars.

**Work, Sleep, Play In Comfort**  
Without Naggng Backache  
Naggng backache, headache, or muscular aches and pains may come on with over-exertion, emotional upsets or day to day stress and strain. And folks who eat and drink unwisely sometimes suffer mild bladder irritation... with that restless, uncomfortable feeling.

**DOAN'S PILLS**  
Ad No. 118-41 Lines

corner of the lot of Hersey Gregory, which he purchased from D. T. Whitehurst, and on the west side of a lane or path separating his said lot and the lands of the grantors herein from the lands of Johnnie Gregory, and thence running Westwardly along the northerly line of the lot of said Hersey L. Gregory and the lot of Tom Swain to the line of the lands of Exum Wheedbe to a point at which a line drawn parallel to and 100 feet distant from the Northerly line of the lines of the said lots of Hersey L. Gregory and Tom Swain intersects said Exum Wheedbe's Easterly line, thence Eastwardly along said line parallel to and 100 feet distant from the Northerly line of said Hersey L. Gregory and Tom Swain lots to the West side of the aforesaid lane or path, and thence running Southwardly along same to the point of beginning, and being the same property which Wilson Bateman and wife, Missouri Bateman conveyed to Davis T. Whitehurst by Deed dated September 21st, 1950 and registered in Deed Book 34, Page 296

### For Sale

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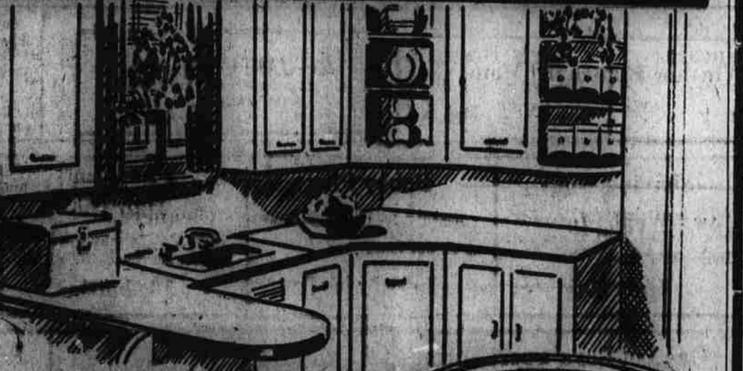
in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Perquimans County. And being also the same property conveyed to D. T. Whitehurst and wife, Rosalie Whitehurst to James M. McLendon and wife, Mary L. McLendon by deed dated July 21, 1952 and recorded in Book 33, at Page 255 in the Office aforesaid.

The 1955 taxes will be pro-rated as of the date of confirmation of sale, purchaser to assume said taxes after said date. The purchaser will be required to deposit with said Trustee ten per cent of the bid up to and including the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars and five per cent on the amount above said sum. Dated and posted this 18th day of July, 1955. W. W. COHOON, Trustee.

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# BUSY?

## SURE, I'M A BUSY FARMER. I'M GOING TO VOTE TO STAY BUSY.

### To Stay Busy, VOTE Saturday, July 23.

All of us who grow peanuts know what almost happened last year, and again this year. Some powerful people in the end-using peanut industry tried to have peanuts eliminated as a basic commodity. If they had been successful, it would have cost North Carolina peanut growers \$20 million! They weren't successful because we had an organization to represent our interests. Individually, we can't fight powerful, wealthy groups, but when each of us gives a little bit of money, we too become wealthy and powerful.

Our organization—the N. C. Peanut Growers Association, Inc.—is supported by one cent per 100 pounds of farm stock peanuts we grow. It has been working for us since August, 1953. It's done such a good job that our farmer-directors voted overwhelmingly to ask us to raise our contribution to 2 cents per 100 pounds of farm stock peanuts. With this small increase, it can do a still better job. This is one of the proposals we will vote on July 23.

It's good business to vote, and it's your business you are voting on. Be at your ASC polling places to cast your votes, Saturday, July 23. Your Opponents Will Be There.

THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU IN THE INTEREST OF PERQUIMANS COUNTY AGRICULTURE BY  
**MILTON DAIL & SON**  
**J. F. HOLLOWELL & SON**  
**HERTFORD LIVESTOCK & SUPPLY CO.** **HERTFORD BANKING COMPANY**