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Editorial

Predicting the future course of business and of the economy holds an irresistible attraction just as does predicting the weather. And, despite modern devices for regulating the business climate and the economy, experience has shown that business and the weather are still somewhat alike in one respect. While we can talk about them, there is often little we can do to influence them. That is why forecasting is such a fascinating game.

The early weeks of the new year have seen the usual spate of reviews and forecasts. Economists generally feel that 1969 will see an easing of the inflationary spiral. They base their case on a slowdown in wholesale price increases and comparisons with

past inflationary waves during World War II and the Korean War. A number of the nation's top executives also feel there may be some slowing down, but they are far from unanimous in their outlook.

Nation's Business reports the results of a survey of 188 top business executives on what may be expected during the next several months. Looking at the entire national economy, 93 of these executives said they believed business will level off but not decline. Another 86 expect the economy will advance. A small minority look for a decline. One hundred and seven said they expected their company profits to increase.

A key question on the Nation's Business survey was: "Will sales or volume of your own business in the first half of 1969 increase over the first half of 1968? Level off? Decline?" There were 142 responses forecasting an increase, while 35 predicted a leveling off and 4 a decline. The president of one company expressed the sentiment of many by saying, "Business is going to stay good for a long time, simply because a lot of people are making a lot of money."

On the matter of prices, 82 of the businessmen say prices will rise, while 62 believe they will be stable. Thirty-two business executives look for them to vary. Perhaps the widest divergence of opinion appears on what will happen this year to the cost of labor, including fringe benefits. A five per cent increase is expected by 60 business leaders. Forty-four others expect a 6 per cent increase, 17 see a 7 per cent increase, 13 an 8 per cent in-

crease, 2 a 9 per cent increase and 13 see a 10 per cent jump in labor costs. Only one executive thought labor costs would go down, while at the other end of the scale, one thinks they will leap by 30 per cent. Significantly, one businessman observes, "Confidence is being restored by the knowledge that a conservative President is in the White House."

On the less optimistic side is the view of the chairman of the board of a major oil company. He believes, "an increase in social security taxes and large tax payments due to inadequate withholding should show consumer spending; since the savings rate has already declined substantially, consumers will have less of a cushion. Lagged effects of tight monetary policy should inhibit investment spending, and government expenditures should be moderate."

One interesting point about the foregoing survey of businessmen by Nation's Business is lack of mention of the war in Vietnam. Apparently, the economic impact of a possible end to hostilities has already been discounted in the minds of many businessmen. As of now, going by the word of those who should know, 1969 promises to be a year of moderate growth in an atmosphere less hectic and with an easing of inflationary pressures.

Most Honduran nurses are aides with only a 6th grade education, no formal instruction. CARE-MEDICO team nurses at the Hospital de Occidentes, in Santa Rosa, conduct a school for auxiliary nurses and helped develop a training course that will be used throughout Honduras.

Social Security Administration

By Donald R. Morris
 Field Representative
 338-3931

Signing up early is a real advantage when applying for disability, retirement, or Medicare benefits. Anyone applying for disability benefits must have been disabled for six months before benefits can be paid. The six-month period can be used in getting evidence of age, earnings, and medical records so that benefits can be paid promptly at the end of the six months.

Signing up early for Medicare is even more important, since Medicare protection beginning with the month you are 65 requires that you enroll in the three months before your 65th birthday. "Many people delay signing up for Medicare because they think they have to stop work to get Medicare, but this is not true. You can have Medicare protection even if you are still working, but you should apply in the three months before your 65th birthday so it will be effective the month you become 65."

When you come in to file for any type of benefit please bring with you proof of your age and proof of your earnings. Proof of your earnings is last year's Federal income tax return if you were self-employed and your W-2 Form if you were an employee.

Don't delay, apply today if you are within three months of age 65, or if you can't work because of disability.

Library News

The Perquimans County Library has at long last obtained a copy of Encyclopedia Americana Quaker Genealogy, by Hineshaw Vol. 1, containing every item of genealogical value found in records and minutes of the thirty-three oldest Monthly Meetings which belong or ever belonged to the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends (whose records are known to be still in existence) with supplement to Vol. 1 compiled by Marshall. These records are of great interest to people doing genealogical research, and are a valuable addition to this library's collection.

Two memorial books have been given to the library this week. The American Civil War is in memory of the members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Hertford and Perquimans County Chapter, Better Homes and Gardens Decorating Book is in memory of Mrs. Mary C. Dall.

Other new books in the library are: Nothing so Strange, the biography of Arthur Ford, the medium whose seance with Bishop Pike was televised, and Known but Unknown, by Ford; The Shadow of Blooming Grove, a biography of Warren Harding, Ghost Tales of the Uwarries (a collection of North Carolina stories) and the spring issue of Horizon periodical.

Only two new fiction titles came in this week: A Key to Many Doors, by Loring, and The Tramor of Forgery, by Highsmith.

For Young people, "What Dog Is It?" by Fletcher, and

Discipline

By G. W. COOPER
 Local Scout Leader

In any society or school there must be government, control, direction, discipline.

The question may be asked whether this control shall be exercised arbitrarily or co-operatively. The basic aim is individual self-government, self-control, self-respect, self-direction, self-discipline, and a personal sense of responsibility.

It is impossible to move forward in our changing society without proper discipline.

Democracy does not imply lack of leadership. The group leader cannot turn students loose to work out their own salvation. They need abundant resources in the form of expert information and questions which direct their attention to points of view which they should consider.

Students should be taught by their parents to become accustomed to the discipline of life situations.

Society depends largely upon self-disciplined pupils who act with proper consideration of the social welfare of the group. Thus, education becomes more than a process of growth. It includes intelligence and behavior in the home, in the communities, and in the schools.

Finally, the main problems depend upon their social nature. In view of this situation, man has yet to learn how to live with his fellow-man.

The high schools have created numerous new social and economic problems, the main springs depend upon more than the acquisition of knowledge and skills. Thus, it involves the development of attitudes and procedures which promote social living in daily lives.

BIBLE VERSE

"There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory."

1. Where is this verse found?
 2. Who spoke these words?

Answers to Bible Verse
 1. I Corinthians 14:41.
 2. Paul.

For Your Information


Dear friends,

Benefits may be lost to the family for lack of knowledge. If the deceased was covered by Social Security, his beneficiary is eligible for a benefit — likewise the family of a war veteran with active service. Some trade unions and fraternal organizations provide survivor benefits. Your funeral director can assist you to learn of and apply for various benefits to which the survivors may be entitled.

Respectfully,
 Mamou Swindell
SWINDELL FUNERAL HOME
 HERTFORD, N. C.

**Let's Go To Church Sunday
 Make Church Going
 A Habit**

a prayer for everyone



"Tonight, I want you to ask God to bless everyone in the whole wide world."
 "On World Day of Prayer, children in every corner of the globe, grown-ups too, will pray that God will make this world a better place."
 "Remember last summer at camp when you called out at the edge of that cliff and your echo came answering back? Well, imagine all the people in the world calling out at once in prayer. Imagine how big the echo would be, and how much it would please God to hear it."
 "You are lucky because you live here in America, because you have your Church and the right to attend it. So tonight, thank God for things like that, darling, even if you don't entirely understand them. And when you're finished... ask Him to bless everyone."

Scriptures selected by the American Bible Society

Exodus 12:29-31	Exodus 14:29	Exodus 15:1-18	Exodus 18:1-23	Exodus 19:1-11	Exodus 19:16-25	Exodus 32:1-20
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JESUS REJECTED AND CRUCIFIED!
 International Sunday School Lesson for March 30, 1969
MEMORY SELECTION: "Who his own self have our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed."
 - I Peter 2:24.
LESSON TEXT: Mark 14:43 to 14:61.

Our lesson today reflects the basest that is in mankind; cruelty, injustice, lies, persecution... denial of all that is finest of which mankind is capable.

For we see Jesus scorned, mistreated, rejected and crucified. And while the world still has a long way to go to achieve perfection, bearing in mind present-day cold-war tactics, it is to be sincerely hoped that we have made a few steps forward from Biblical times.

So that as it may, the fact remains that what transpired on Calvary that day, so many centuries ago, remains a dark blot on the history of mankind. That good will eventually come out of evil is the only hope that can alleviate the injustice of that day and time.

Accused by false witnesses whose testimony bore no resemblance of truth (or even to the other lies by other men), hustled before Pilate, representative of the awesome majesty of the Roman Empire, Christ received the travesty of a trial before being condemned to death on the cross. True, Pontius Pilate made several feeble attempts to save Jesus; but the unrest and insurrection of the times, in the end, won out with Pilate. Fearing for his position, expediency was paramount in Pilate's mind, and betrayal became the order of the day.

What follows has been vividly described throughout the ages - so vividly, that the true Christian cannot genuinely be ignorant of the details of Jesus' suffering.

Scourged, crowned with thorns, nailed to the cross, on either side flanked by common thieves, Christ suffered and died for mankind, for six long, agonizing hours!

It has been recorded that from the sixth to the ninth hour there was darkness, and then the agonized, soul-searing cry: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" The humanity of Christ... the feeling... the ability to suffer, to question, BUT... then, came another utterance; not a question, but a statement: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46). His last words were a victory shout!

The cross reveals the costly, invidious nature of sin - and of sin's penalty! Sin in the essence of life. It was the enemy of Christ; it is OUR enemy! We must ever war vigilantly against its creeping paralysis. For paralysis it does... the soul, the mind, the man!

The cross revealed the love of Christ (and therefore of God) for ALL mankind.

The cross is a reminder of the debt of mankind to One whose love knew no bounds.

The keynote of Christ's life was involvement - involvement with mankind, with everyone with whom He came in contact. He, too, was rejected, - with Christ, was God, with our fellow man!

We must not be guilty of rejecting Christ; of hearing false witness against Him. The cross and all it stands for refuse to be forgotten. Christ died that the slave of man might be forgiven. He died that we might have everlasting life. We are constrained not to waste the wonderful gift of love that He lovingly discovered upon us. Each love and concern must, of necessity, cross boundaries.

(These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lesson, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission.)