

Present Business Recession Cause Complex; New Financial Viewpoint may Be Cure

RECSSION, DEPRESSION, whatever you choose to call it, is being experienced by the American economy. Business is active, but less buoyant than it was in the early part of 1957.

The Standard and Poor Index of industrial production stood at 147 at the close of the year, 13 per cent below a year ago and three per cent lower than in November. Civilian employment at 64.9 million was off one per cent from the previous year and two per cent from the previous month.

Steel mills are leading the decline — down 39 per cent from a year ago. Motor vehicles, durable manufactures and minerals follow.

The decline in personal income isn't in proportion to the drop in business activity. Hourly wage increases of three per cent have more than offset the decline in time worked. Disposable incomes, flowing at \$302 billion annual rate, are slightly higher than a year ago but the trend is downward.

Despite a six per cent increase in prices of meat animals between Nov. 15 and Dec. 15, in agriculture the ratio of prices received to prices paid remained at 81. Possibilities of an increase from this level aren't bright as prices paid will continue to advance and prices received are likely to decline.

Many factors influence booms and depressions. At the present time, two are outstanding — money supply and attitudes of people.

A national budget near \$74 billion

practically guarantees plenty of money. Defense projects will get most of the increase.

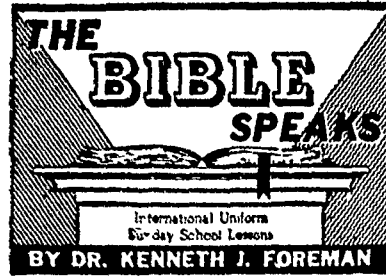
A second most difficult problem to overcome in reversing a business trend is attitudes of people. The price level has been rising for several years. Many people look upon gross national product, the value of all goods and services as a measure of general welfare.

In the first nine months of 1957, the annual dollar rate of output was up about five per cent while the physical output was only slightly above 1956.

Realization that the economy was slowing down caused business sentiment to deteriorate during the autumn. Coupled with this was a decline in orders for durable goods, reduced spending for plant expansion, pessimism in business forecasts and sharply lower stock prices.

An upward shift in consumption would raise the level of business activity, but it's hard to understand how more goods can be bought at higher prices when non-union workers, farmers and other self-employed people don't share in the increased incomes that raise costs.

Three items are essential to business revival in 1958. They are a shift of labor and capital from heavy metals and conventional types of military equipment to light metals, jet engines, and fuels with lots of power in relation to weight; expansion of trade with extension of credit to countries that want American goods and equipment; and diffusion of income among all of the people so the general level of consumption can be raised.



Bible Material: Matthew 18:19-20; John 4:23-24; Acts 1:12-14; Colossians 3:12-17.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 100.

Public Worship

Lesson for February 23, 1958

WHY DOES the church worship in public? Didn't Jesus condemn, or make fun of the Pharisees for doing just that? Didn't Jesus say, "When you pray, go into your room and shut the door"? A second thought will show that what Jesus condemned is individuals praying or otherwise worshipping by themselves in public places. This is making a show of religion. Jesus on the other hand never condemned, but encouraged, and took part in, group worship. He promised to be wherever two or three are gathered together in his name.



Dr. Foreman

Worship in the Spirit

Of the many things Jesus said about worship, either directly or indirectly, we may well select one single sentence, or two phrases from it, for special notice. It is the well-known statement, spoken not to a learned man but to a simple-minded woman, that God is a Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and in truth. Worshipping in the Spirit is not to be contrasted with worshipping (say) with words and music. We know that Jesus attended synagogue services regularly. We know he visited the elaborate worship services of the great Temple. We know he was familiar with that ancient hymn-book of his people which we know as the Psalter. If a man offers one prayer silently, and another prayer aloud, perhaps in unison with others, and sets still another prayer to music and sings it, we have no right to call the unspoken prayer "spiritual" and the other's not. Perhaps they are all three spiritual; perhaps none is. But the spirituality of a prayer is not to be measured by how loud or soft it sounds.

In Tune With God

A better contrast is to say that "in the Spirit" or "in Spirit" (both expressions are used in the New Testament) is in harmony with the God who is Spirit. If it is out of tune with God, if it is not in harmony with the nature of God, it is not acceptable worship, or service, or doctrine. God's Spirit is always a giving, not a selfish one. Selfish prayer is not prayer in Spirit. Worship that is centered in the worshippers' own desires and needs is hardly worship in Spirit. Furthermore, prayer that places most emphasis on physical, material welfare, prayer that is mostly for more pay or more comfort or more promotion in this world, is both selfish and material. (Any leader who knows the Lord's Prayer will remember that Jesus did not mean to shut out prayer for material blessings entirely; but that is not the main line of the Lord's Prayer.)

Worship in Truth

More could be said about worship in the Spirit. We might raise the question whether there is not such a thing as collective selfishness in some churches. But let us glance at another point: the God of truth must be worshipped in truth. For one thing, this means that other things being equal, worship is better as it comes closer to a genuine knowledge of God. You would not try to persuade your mother to go with you in the same way in which you would try to persuade a criminal to go with you in a patrol wagon. The way you talk with your mother, or with a burglar, is different because they are different. Talking with God, or about God in a service of worship, or singing to his praise, is far better when the worshipper remembers it is GOD to whom he is speaking. Talking to Him as if he were only a "Man upstairs."

But Why at Eleven O'clock?

An objection must have come to many, many minds in the course of the centuries. Granted that worship must be all that is suggested in the majestic words "Spirit and Truth," how can we have any assurance that we shall be in the right frame of mind when Sunday comes and the clock strikes eleven? Well, of course there is not any such assurance. The church knows this very well. What the church does is to open her doors at certain times every week, and invite worshippers to enter and take part. It is often true that though we have gone to church just as a matter of routine, we come away from the worship renewed and blessed. Suppose the church had not given us this opportunity?

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This Week in Lancaster Farming

BY JACK REICHARD
75 Years Ago

Peter Cooper, eminent New York millionaire and philanthropist in the late 1800's, was not only noted for his plain manners but also for his unassuming ways. A writer of the Rochester Democrat, in 1883, did a story of the elderly man and had this to say: "When the philanthropist was merely a business man, I used to see the sign upon the warehouse in Burling Slip, 'Peter Cooper — Clue and Iron Wire'."

"How little did I then imagine the distinction this name would hold both in enterprise and benevolence. The office was very small and everything had a quiet look, for it was in fact merely a place for taking orders which were served from the factories."

"The quiet, methodical man who sat at the chief desk might have been taken by a stranger for a retired mechanic who had become a clerk. He spoke in a calm and subdued tone, and resembled one of the more favored members of the working class."

"Such indeed he was, and in that light he had always viewed himself, and hence he now stands (1883) before the public as one of the most wonderful mechanics in the world's history."

"Next door to Cooper, and under the same roof, was seen the plain and unpretending sign, 'Cyrus W. Field, Rags.' Here the rag pickers found a market for their gatherings."

"Under such circumstances, Field and Cooper became acquainted and later united to form the cable enterprise, the largest of its kind then known in the world."

LIBEL SUITS UNPROFITABLE

Seventy-five years ago libel suits apparently were unprofitable undertakings. Over a period of fifteen years the Baltimore American had been defendant in libel suits with damage claims amounting to \$2,000,000. The ag-

gregated damages awarded was \$500.

An advertisement appearing in a Western paper read: "Lost, two cows. One of them is a bull".

According to the society editor in a New York newspaper, in 1883, there was a tendency on the part of fashionable young men to wear old clothes and spend their money on bouquets.

It was during that same year that marriage had been defined by a cynic as "an insane desire to pay for the board and lodging for another man's daughter".

50 Years Ago

The annual Farmers Institute of Lower Lancaster County opened at Quarryville Feb. 17, 1908, with only some 40 persons present, the poorest attendance on record in comparison to previous gatherings. The chief speakers on hand were Z. T. Cure, of Jermyn, Lackawanna County, Prof. Franklin Memges, of York, and W. Theodore Wittman, Allentown. Neal Hambleton, of Wakefield, presided. An orchestra made up of local talent consisting of piano two violins, cornet and trombone furnished music during the sessions.

The Rev. James A. Boehm, of Quarryville, offered prayer and gave the address of welcome. He referred to the time when a package of seeds was all that agriculturists received from governmental officials.

In response Mr. Hambleton made a few remarks, stating that the success of the institute depended entirely upon the interest farmers themselves took in it.

JACK RABBITS INVADE NORTH YAKIMA, WASH.

Back in 1908 a rather queer situation confronted farmers, orchardists and gardeners in the vicinity of North Yakima in the state of Washington, where jack rabbits in swarms had put in their appearance. In years gone by coyotes were the chief pest

Lancaster Farming

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and menace to raisers of sheep and poultry.

A bounty offered resulted in a virtual extermination of the coyote, but the jack rabbits had been left to increase unhindered, causing more damage in general than the earlier coyotes.

GRAIN SPECULATORS BLAMED FOR BUY SCARE

A writer in a farm journal in February, 1908, pointed out that the reports of the green bug being circulated indicated the epidemic of the pest was apparently started by "a bunch of grain speculators" instead of meteorological or entomological conditions. He declared that the work of bugs propagated by the former was more difficult to counteract than that of the real pest itself.

"How to clean a carpet", was contributed by a farmwife, 50 years ago, who did it this way:

"Take half a dozen large potatoes, which will be enough for the carpet in one room, grate them and rub well with a dry rag into the carpet; then take a cloth wrung out of hot water and wipe off thoroughly, and your carpet will look like new".

25 Years Ago

In addition to having more direct market outlets than any other state, Pennsylvania had a fruit and vegetable canning industry equalled by few, according to a report by the State Bureau of Markets.

Pennsylvania stood first in the canning of mushrooms. Canned apples and apple products were surpassed only by those from the states of Washington and New York. Sour cherries, grape juice, tomato juice, catsup, chile sauce, peas, corn, limabbeans, whole tomatoes and stringless beans were all canned in large volume in



Max Smith

use at all times.

TO BRED HEIFERS FOR FALL FRESHENING — It will pay dairymen to have first calf heifers freshen in the fall. By freshening in the fall these heifers will return greater profits because milk prices are greater at that time. These animals should be bred within the next few weeks in order to come into production when prices are the highest.

TO PREVENT FALLS — Simple broadcast applications of common salt sand, or calcium chloride on slopes, ramps, or steps may prevent serious injury to both livestock and humans around the farm homestead. Recent weather conditions have provided plenty of use for this practice.

1932. The demand for Pennsylvania canned goods was extremely great among housewives throughout the eastern part of the country.

Because one of his chickens wandered into a neighbor's garden at Jenners, Pa., John Pastuch was arrested for trespassing and sentenced to 12 days in jail.

Twenty-five years ago this week W. B. Crosien, a farmer of near Poplar Bluff, Mo., aimed at a hog which he wished to butcher and shot himself in the foot.

While John Marcy, of Cleveland, Ohio, was sitting in the tub in the bathroom all lathered with soap, the door opened and a voice said, "Stick 'em up!"