

EDITORIALS

THE TAX HOURS

If you are the average working man, you are putting in about two and a half hours a day for the U. S. Government. That's the average time required by the typical American to earn the money he must pay in taxes.

In other words, if you start work at nine o'clock, you're working until about a half hour before noon for Uncle Sam. That's what the Kentucky Tax Research Association found in a recent compilation.

The Association also worked up figures showing what the average man uses the money earned from the rest of his day for.

Next in importance, in the time required to earn it, is food. The average working man spends an hour and thirty-seven minutes of his working day to earn food for himself and his family. After that, in time required to provide it, is the problem of housing, and the average man spends an hour and twenty-four minutes each day for the shelter, rent or payment he is making on his living quarters.

Oddly enough, transportation is the next biggest item, requiring forty-two minutes of the average man's working day, followed by clothing, which requires thirty-six minutes. Medical and personal care require only twenty-three minutes of the working day, in earnings, and reading and recreation represent twenty minutes of the average working days, in cost.

ALCOHOLISM

Alcoholism is becoming a growing menace in all parts of the world, but it has gained the headlines most recently in France. There, Premier Mendes-France is attempting to cut down on the manufacture and sale of hard liquor in an effort to decrease the very considerable loss to the economy resulting from alcoholism.

It has been estimated that alcoholism costs France as much as \$1,500,000,000 a year, in days lost from work alone. The French, for centuries addicted to wine, are presumably taking to hard liquors in somewhat the same fashion.

Alcoholism is a most deceptive disease, but definitely a disease, and modern-day psychiatrists tell us that it usually requires a number of years to mold an alcoholic. Once an individual succumbs to the disease, he is usually unable to pull free from its clutches without outside help.

In every town and city there are those — many of them in high society — who refuse to admit it. They pose a problem, for they are unable to adequately control their behavior according to accepted standards, and the many problems they cause society are not confined to outsiders but affect members of their families most of all.

Considering the fact that there are many millions of people in the United States who do not partake of any alcoholic beverage, many millions who use it only once in a while, and many more millions, perhaps, the majority, who use it in sensible moderation, it is little short of amazing how heavy drinking is emphasized in the theatre and movie industries. The same problem exists in France, in this regard, as in the United States, and the entertainment industries perhaps bear the greatest responsibility of all in this problem.

Though it is most difficult to do, we urge all youngsters to disregard the sly propaganda of the day, to make up their own minds about the smartness of alcohol, and other habit-forming traits. We also suggest that sponsors of TV shows and directors of movies that are guilty of selling excessive habits to the public be remembered when the American consumer is deciding on a purchase of a product or an admission ticket.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

It is better that some should be unhappy than that none should be happy, which would be the case in a general state of equality.

—Samuel Johnson

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Official County and City Paper

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Furse's Fresh Flashes

Collective bargaining is a father discussing clothes with his teenage daughter.

A bachelor is a fellow who would rather wash out a pair of socks than a pan-full of dishes.

Flipper Fanny, our dainty little contour twister, says good legs are very necessary to baseball players and to girls who are trying to get to first base.

Heaven protects the working girl
But Heaven, we fear, is shirking;
For who protects, we'd like to know,
The fellow she is working

The reason most women do not look good in slacks is because the distance is too great between the hip pockets.

In trying to balance our budget, Congressmen don't know whether to use more tax or more axe.

If our present weather continues, you kids who get a pair of skis for Christmas can lend them to your mother to insert in the sleeves of laundered shirts before ironing.

We never sing in church anymore. We missed one Sunday and several people wanted to know if the organ had been fixed.

Down Memory Lane

20 YEARS AGO

Five cars overturned north of the Murray corner when the road was covered by a very thick fog. No one was injured in the series of accidents, and all cars were upright and sent on their ways. . . County Commissioner J. A. Pitz and Judge A. H. Duxbury called on army engineers in Omaha to see about having some river improvement work done on the section of river near Plattsmouth. . . The Blue Devils opened the basketball season with a 16-0 win over Ashland, Cotner scoring seven, Hendrix six, Case two and Forbes 1. . . The large cedar tree on the south terrace of the courthouse was decorated with colored lights in the holiday spirit.

10 YEARS AGO

Boys Town's basketball team defeated the Blue Devils, 34-18, Reckard being high man for Plattsmouth with 10 points. . . Additional help was employed by the post office during the Christmas season, Dale Reckard and Gerald McClintock working as carriers. . . Cass County was credited for \$15,200 on the War Bond drive when Consumers Public Power district invested \$880,000 in bonds. The amount was credited to the various counties in Nebraska.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Copyright, 1954, By The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)
DREW PEARSON SAYS: NEW BOMB SHELTER FOR IKE; PRESIDENT WHITE HOUSE SHELTER INADEQUATE; OHIO SENATE RIVALS BURY THE HATCHET.

WASHINGTON — Civil defense has now decided the President's air raid shelter, built for FDR during World War II, is not completely safe. It is no secret to anyone that this is buried under the White House grounds; so it's feared that a direct H-Bomb hit would scoop the vaultlike shelter right out of the earth.

As a result, President Eisenhower has been assigned a secret, out-of-town cave, where he will be whisked, along with his top aides and cabinet officers, in case of an air raid. This gigantic, bombproof cave is equipped with tons of supplies and rations, special electronics and radio gear, air filters and water purifiers — everything necessary to run the nation from an emergency headquarters.

The President's exodus from Washington, of course, depends on adequate warning. The Air Force hopes our radar screen in Northern Canada will give Washington four hours' notice of an enemy attack. If the warning is too short, Ike will have to take his chances in the White House shelter.

This is a small, compact, subterranean shelter, encased in four feet of solid concrete, reinforced with steel. It is equipped with its own heating system, power plant, communications network and water supply — all independent of the city overhead.

Chief problem is that the White House shelter will accommodate only 20 to 25 persons. No list has yet been drawn up as to who in the White House would go with the President and who would have to take their chances with the outside populace. Civil Defense has held several practice "Dry Runs" to determine how long it would take to evacuate the President and his cabinet to their secret hideaway, together with 3,000 other top officials to scattered relocation centers.

During one rehearsal, it was discovered that a master file containing essential data was still back in Washington. As a

Ticklers

By George



"So you want to sell me a garbage disposal unit? Son, I raise 'em!"

result, photostatic copies were made of all important working files and stored in the emergency headquarters.

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, also discovered that high-heeled shoes weren't the best fashion for air raids. The rough cement floors of the presidential hideout scraped up her heels, gave her trouble with her feet.

FRIENDLY RIVALS
Genial George Bender, newly elected senator from Ohio, tells friends: "I was the only senator who had to win three times. I had to win the unofficial count, then the recount."

George says this a little ruefully, because he went through months of campaigning, and then several weeks of watching the recounting. However, sitting in the Waldorf's Norse Grill in New York the other day with Dave Jones of the Cleveland Browns, he was approached by Charley Taft.

Charley, brother of the late Senator Taft, has not always been strong for Bender. He belongs to the reform Republicans of Hamilton county, which is Cincinnati. But coming up to Bender's table he said: "Bob, the election in Hamilton county was as clean as any in the country."

Vigorous as the Bender-Burke campaign was, it ended on a happy note when defeated Senator Tom Burke, Democrat, called Bender on the phone to congratulate him and say he wanted to turn over his files on West Point appointments.

The two rivals talked briefly and pleasantly.

"It's just too bad," said Bender, "that both of us couldn't have won."

WASHINGTON PIPELINE
Correction: The Public Accounts Subcommittee of the House Government operations subcommittee which planned a study of European merchant marine costs did not take its planned trip to Europe as previously reported in this column. Staff members state that the committee has received a report from the general accounting office that European ship-building costs are estimated at too low a figure, because of which the U. S. Government is paying U. S. shipping concerns too much money.

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Who Promoted Van Fleet?
Gen. George Marshall, who was given a long overdue testimonial dinner the other day, tells friends privately how Queen Frederika of Greece came to see him secretly in London some years ago and asked him to do something to save Greece. Marshall told her she was very naughty to approach him direct, since it is improper for the head of a government to make a formal request of a U. S. military man. However, he acted anyway, and later sent Gen. James Van Fleet to reorganize the then demoralized Greek army.

Van Fleet had been the victim of an army red-tape snafu. Just as someone went wrong and promoted Peress, someone also went wrong and got Van Fleet confused with another Van Fleet, considered too unstable for high rank. General Marshall finally got the two Van Fleets straightened out and sent the right Van Fleet to Greece, where he did a fine job, later went to Korea.

More recently, Van Fleet, retired from Korea by Eisenhower, joined the ten million Amer-

Legislative SIDELIGHTS..

by BERNIE CAMP
Information Director
Nebraska Farm Bureau
Federation

The private enterprise economic system of the United States has become characterized by four major classifications of ways of doing business. These four methods of doing business are all private enterprise. They are in constant competition within and between the classifications.

First, the individual or family business, owned and operated by one man or his family. Second, the partnership in which two or more families own and share in the profits from the business. Third is the old-line corporation in which hundreds or thousands of individuals combine their savings to finance a business operation and share in its profits. The fourth business is the cooperative corporation in which individuals or families served by the business combine their savings to gain the advantages possible with mass buying or selling.

The cooperative is least understood of the free enterprise businesses because there has been so much misinformation broadcast by its enemies. As a matter of fact, many of the businesses in the other three classifications use cooperative principles to secure for themselves price advantages in wholesale buying of hardware, drugs, groceries and other supplies. Mutual insurance companies, credit unions, some building and loan associations, the Associated Press and hundreds of other businesses operate with cooperative principles, even though they are not emphasized.

Cooperatives are simply the ultimate development of democracy in business. They operate on a simple and basic set of principles. First, they are democratically controlled. Each member has one vote. Second, they have an open membership. Anyone can belong to a cooperative. Third, savings are returned to the patrons. Fourth, membership is voluntary. Fifth, they are not monopolistic.

Heavier travel and the festive spirit of the holiday season present special Christmas hazards, the Council said. These, plus the normal winter hazards of bad weather, slippery roads and more hours of darkness often add up to tragedy.

To compensate for the extra hazards, the Council suggests:

1. Start automobile trips early and take it easy. Be extremely cautious in bad weather and darkness.
2. Don't compete in traffic. Let the other driver have the right-of-way and you take the right way.
3. Don't pass without a sure margin of safety. And don't change lanes unless you are sure no one is coming up behind you.
4. Stay alert. Don't let distractions take your mind off the road even for an instant.
5. Don't drink if you have been drinking — and refuse to ride with drinking drivers. If you don't drink, watch out for the fellow who does. Remember that

goods and services are marketed at prevailing prices. These basic requirements are known as the Rochdale Principles because they guided the formation of the first modern cooperative among the weavers of Rochdale, England, a little more than one hundred years ago.

Cooperatives are a way of doing business and nothing more if they are to remain successful over a long period of time. Again and again proof of this fact has been provided by cooperatives which have waned or failed because they tied themselves to a political personality or espoused social programs that were not compatible with democracy.

Cooperatives have been accused by ill-informed and vicious individuals and groups of being "communist" or "socialistic." As a matter of fact, the cooperative business which adheres to the five Rochdale principles cannot become communist or socialistic because such a business must remain above political and social factionalism. In countries turning to communism, cooperatives have been absorbed by the government, but in that case they are no longer cooperatives because they have been incorporated into a political system and are no longer open or voluntary in membership. Some uninformed critics argue that they are still called "cooperatives," overlooking the fact that for purposes of operation the communists also set up "corporations" to perform business functions. Does that condemn all corporations as communist?

Save Your Life For Christmas; Drive Safely

CHICAGO — Watch how you drive — if you want to be alive in '55!

That's the advice of the National Safety Council, which points out that it's only seven more days until December 24th — the most dangerous day of the year in traffic.

"Christmas is a very special day of joy," said Ned H. Dearborn, president of the Council, "but because of accidents — and especially traffic accidents — it becomes a day of tragedy in entirely too many American homes. The greatest tragedy of all is that so many of these accidents could be prevented!"

"It's time for Americans to realize that these traffic accident victims die in vain. They die because the victim, or someone, was careless."

"If everyone would assume personal responsibility for himself and others, whether walking or driving, many of these accidents could be prevented and Christmas could be a happy holiday for many more people."

As the holidays grow nearer, the Council is stepping up its annual Christmas safety campaign. Mr. Dearborn said. Co-operating with the Council in this effort to hold yuletide accidents to a minimum are 163 other national organizations, city and state officials, civic leaders and local safety councils.

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Poets Corner

Verse will appear in this space without charge. Name of writer must appear on copy submitted. Keep them short. Space will not permit lengthy poems.

SANTA'S VISIT

Santa is a jolly man,
He comes around each year,
The children, they do love him,
He brings a lot of cheer.

He carries a pack upon his back
Filled with many toys,
He really has a lot of them,
For all good girls and boys.

So listen as I tell you,
Be good the year through—
And I am sure that Santa
Will remember you.

You may not get all that's on the list
You make out for him on Christmas Eve,
For he has to see he has toys enough,
For everyone, to please.

If he should skip someone
I'm sure, it would make him sad,
But then I bet it would be,
Because, you were a wee bit bad.

So try your best to be real good,
As good as good can be.
Then I'm sure he will remember you,
You, just wait and see!

Hang your stockings by the chimney
So when Santa, he comes through,
He will see that they are empty
And will fill them up for you.

All the toys he will put, 'neath the tree,
And with a smile on his face
Right up the chimney he will go,
Then his Reindeers will take him,
Through the white and drifted snow.

—Mrs. Roy Cavender



Harlan County was settled in the early Seventies as one result of a rather considerable colonization activity in the Republican Valley. Alma and Republican City were established in 1871—the former by railroad laborers from Cheyenne and the latter by a group led by Dr. John McPherson, of Brownville. Prior to that, a group under General Victor Vifquain, the first Nebraskan to win a Congressional Medal of Honor, had established themselves, in 1870, at Melrose Stockade, near the site of the present town of Orleans.

The county was organized in 1871, and Alma was selected as county seat. Alma has retained the honor to this day, but all through the Seventies the citizens had to fight off attempts by other communities to wrest the seat of government from its original location. The most ardent contender was Republican City.

Many of the early settlers had come into the county—and indeed into the whole Republican Valley—in the hope that the railroad would soon be built in the area. This hope did not materialize until the Burlington built its line through the valley in 1878-1882. Prior to that, the settlers had to make the long overland trip to the Union Pacific, or after 1873, to the Burlington at Lowell.

Harlan County, in common with other areas in the Republican Valley and elsewhere in the state, was particularly hard hit by the grasshopper plague of 1874. The settlement, just getting under way, was greatly retarded by a combination of grasshoppers and drought. In addition to grasshoppers and drought, the Republican Valley has been hit by floods. Perhaps the most disastrous in history was the big flood of June, 1935 which turned the valley into a place of desolation. Ninety-six people lost their lives, and losses in property amounted to \$10,000,000.

As a result of this flood, agitation for some means of controlling the Republican River was started. This agitation did not finally bear fruit until after World War II, when the Harlan County Dam was constructed as part of the Pick-Sloan Plan for the development of the Missouri River Basin. The construction of the dam and the reservoir necessitated the moving of Republican City from its old site to a new site near the dam.

The construction of the Harlan County Reservoir has probably been the greatest event in the history of the county and it bodes fair to make a tremendous impression on the county's agricultural economy.

The first census in which Harlan County returned a population was in 1880 when 6,086 persons were recorded as living in the county. The population jumped to 8,158 in 1890 and increased slowly to 9,578 in 1910. Since then there has been a steady decline, and the population in 1950 was 7,189.

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