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VIEWPOINT

WHEAT WAS $6 A BUSHEL

Three years ago, wheat was selling for about $6 per bushel A one-pound loaf of bread was selling for 32.5 cents

At that time, you may recall, the American Bakers Association — in an attempt to blame higher prices on farm prices — was predicting $1-a-loaf bread. Although the prediction was almost baseless, consumers were alarmed. Grain export embargoes followed

In the light of what has happened since, the rhetoric of three years ago should not be forgotten, the NFO Reporter said.

Wheat now is selling for about $2.50 per bushel So the price of bread should be lower, right? But not so.

Average price of a one-pound loaf of bread is 35.4 cents, according to the latest USDA report That's 2.9 cents higher than when wheat was selling for $6 per bushel.

The value of wheat in that loaf of bread now is only 3.3 cents So if farmers were to give their wheat to bakers — if wheat were free — the price of bread would now be almost the same as it was three years ago when wheat was selling for $6

Meanwhile — even with higher costs for labor, equipment, energy and transportation — many baking firms are showing record earnings And farmers, alone, bear the burden of curbing bread price inflation

AS TIME GOES BY

Walk-out fails

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1937—

Work continued at the Nebraska City Laundry & Dry Cleaning Shop after a general walk-out attempt failed to close the plant .Kansas, dry for 50 years, was scheduled to see an end to prohibition as the House voted 75-36 to legalize the sale of 3.2 beer .Carole Lombard, Fred MacMurray and Dorothy Lamour starred in the musical "Swing High, Swing Low" at the Booth A middle-aged Los Angeles housewife was held by authorities after admitting she attempted to extort $200 from evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1952—

Marvin Glittinger was named 1952-53 president of the local Future Farmers of America Other officers elected were Lynn Lyon, vice president, Dean Biere, secretary, Wilber Fey, Jr, reporter, Bill Schreiter, treasurer, and Charles Duncan, sentinel Nebraska City Industries, Inc, had sold $96,200 worth of bonds in a new factory building Governor Adlai Stevenson flatly denied that he would seek the Democratic presidential nomination

TEN YEARS AGO
—1967—

A four generation picture with Guy Pitzer, his daughter, Mrs George Kane, her son, Rodger Lant and his daughter, Tina Lant, appeared in the News-Press Nebraska City World War I Barracks Auxiliary officers included Mrs Evan A Chapman, senior vice-president and Mrs Ray Price, president - Dennis Ehmke, Earl Martens and Jerry Block were among those confirmed at Luther Memorial Church in Syracuse on Palm Sunday Robert J. Piette was named plant manager for Morton House Kitchens Inc

News in Brief

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Carter has outlined a negotiating strategy for nuclear arms talks that calls for a major reduction in weapons levels, but sets out a "fallback" position of far less ambition. Carter says the United States will seek "actual substantial reductions" in the number of nuclear weapons held by the U.S and the Soviet Union

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Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, March 27, the 86th day of 1977 There are 279 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history

On this date in 1945, in World War II, General Dwight D Eisenhower declared that German military forces on the Western Front had been defeated

On this date

In 1634, the English colonists, Leonard and George Calvert, established the first settlement in what is now Maryland

In 1703, the Russian czar, Peter the Great, founded the city of St Petersburg

In 1933, Japan withdrew from the League of Nations after being denounced as an agressor in Manchuria.

In 1939, Adolf Hitler demanded that Poland agree to German annexation of Danzig.

In 1941, the government of Prince Paul of Yugoslavia was ousted during World War II.

In 1964, Alaska was rocked by an earthquke that killed more than 100 people and caused property damage estimated at $750 million.

Ten years ago The Pentagon disclosed that Communist ships delivering supplies to North Vietnam had fired on American airplanes on several occasions

Five years ago In Northern Ireland, a strike by Protestants halted transportation and reduced electric power.

One year ago South Africa pulled its military forces out of Angola

Today's birthdays Ballet dancer and producer Arthur Mitchell is 43. Actor David Janssen is 47

Thought for today It's great to be great, but it's greater to be human. — Will Rogers, American humorist, 1879-1935.

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The Prayer For Today From The Upper Room

"If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation." (2 Corinthians 5 15 RSV)

PRAYER Dear Lord, make us remember no matter how worthless some persons may seem, to You each one is precious Amen.



Out of the Driver's Seat



Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

Campaign laws evaded

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — The House and Senate, increasingly sensitive about the public's low regard for their ethical and moral standards, have spent a great deal of time and energy during the initial months of this year's session trying to clean up their act

But at the same time the two houses of Congress have been fashioning tough new codes of ethics for themselves, a handful of the most ingenious and inventive legislators have been searching for loopholes in the law, cutting corners on ethics and generally ignoring the spirit of reform

One of these doing business at the same old stand is Rep. Richard T Schulze, R-Pa , who has found a way to legally evade the 70-year-old statutory probition on corporate contributions to campaigns for federal office

Schulze recently wrote the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to explain that he had arranged to accept a $1,900 "public service" gift of 250 "Congressman's Medal of Merit (or Valor)" from the Franklin Mint, a corporation in his district

The congressman planned to present the free medals to his constituents as part of "a program of recognizing outstanding graduating seniors of high schools within my district, and individuals who perform outstanding acts beneficial to their fellow man "

It's not unreasonable to assume that behind that overblown rhetoric is Schulze's instinct for political survival in the next election But the FEC, confronted with his disclaimer that the scheme "will not be related to any campaign activity," had no choice but to consent to the plan

However, Commission Chairman Vernon W Thomson, in an emotional speech, warned his colleagues "This is the opening wedge of a very, very dangerous practice . an extremely dangerous opportunity for corporate contributions for political activities "

After Schulze's staff learned that we were planning to write about his previously unpublicized program, his press secretary informed us that the congressman had "not fully implemented the plan," had belatedly "reconsidered" the idea and decided to buy the medals himself

The Kemper Insurance Companies, another corporation prohibited by law from contributing to congressional campaigns, has found an equally creative way to skirt the statute: It wants to donate $1,000 to help finance publication of a book written by "an incumbent congressman "

Again, the FEC approved the plan because it technically did not involve a campaign contribution When we called David E Brown, a Kemper lawyer, seeking more information, the conversation went like this:

Q. Can you tell us the name of the congressman?

A. No.

Q. Why not?

A. Why should I?

Q. Because you shouldn't have anything to hide.

A. If I wanted to include his name (in the request to the FEC) I would have,

There are countless other variations. Rep. Mario Biaggi, D-N.Y., wants to use $5,000 of unspent campaign funds to finance "the writing of a book and screenplay about my life."

Reps. Gene Taylor, R-Mo., and Norman F.Lent, R-N.Y., have campaign committees which purchased cars with political funds and now maintain the vehicles in their districts — thereby giving the congressmen the benefit of a free auto whenever they go home.

Finally, the FEC votes this week on a controversial plan concocted by Rep. George V. Hansen, R-Idaho He wants approval to solicit contribution by mail, then use the proceeds to pay for such personal expenses as medical bills, business losses and children's college tuition.

If the FEC approves Hansen's plan, the most brazen offered to date, every member of Congress could establish a personal charity fund. It's no wonder the voters have come to view congressional morality as lower than the proverbial snake's belly



Don Oakley

COMMENTARY

Time for a baby boom?

The United States is due for another baby boom, thinks one observer — the Pill, more women working and concern over population control not-with-standing

The very fact that the birth rate has fallen to 1.8 children per woman, less than replacement level, almost insures it will happen, says University of Michigan economist and demographer Prof Donald D Lee

"Today's children will comprise a relatively small age group when they become young adults during the 1980s and 1990s," he says. "As a result, their job and income prospects will be improved Feeling more prosperous, they will marry earlier and have more children. Families of three or more children will become common again "

He notes that during the Depression of the 1930s, the birth rate dipped to about 2.1 children per woman, exactly replacement level Because there were so few children in that age group, they fared better with jobs and income when they reached maturity

These young adults gave birth to more children during the postwar years. When the baby-boom children in turn began coming of age during the 1960s and 1970s, this much larger population found itself faring worse economically and because of it elected to have fewer children

As further evidence of the powerful influence of economics on the birth rate, Lee points out that the Depression-era figure of 2.1 was achieved long before many contraceptives used today were invented. The birth rate peaked in 1957 at 3.7, and then began a steady fall to the current 1 8 more than a decade before the environmental and women's liberation movements

It isn't absolute income that affects a generation's birth rate, however, but how income compares with expectations. Because they are both fewer in number and are growing up in an era of economic uncertainty, Lee believes today's children will find themselves in better economic circumstances than they expect and will thus repeat the reproductive performance of the children of the '30s

The trying twenties

By David Poling

One of the great alarms facing those in their 20s, says Gail Sheehy, is "the inner conviction that the choices we make are irrevocable . . . that what we have chosen to do is the one true course in life. Our backs go up at the merest hint that we are like our parents . . ."

There is a reason for this, whether we are in secular passage or saintly voyage. So much disarray in our world. "Young people today are feeling disintegrated in their lives," writes Keith Miller. "They appear to be searching for something, a unifying adventure which will bring into single focus all of their abilities and energies — that is what I was looking for all my life: an adventure with a meaning and purpose beyond my grasp."

The 20s are a time of testing and challenge. Youth wants acceptance in the larger adult world, so their tone and stance can appear heavy at times In the Christian setting, an absolute adult is hard to bear; an absolute young adult, 25 going on 60, is a trial indeed. The major heartache, however, is not the fault of young but the older models of men and women who have frozen their faith into rigid rituals and regulations. Growth, movement, and inquiry, for them, have ceased. Slogans and narrow minds prevail. The adventurous life has succumbed to mundane, uninviting patterns of behavior.

It is said of Simone Weil that to many she appeared odd — to others, stiff and forbidding. By the time she entered the French university her notoriety for bizarre outfits and amazing intelligence preceded her. Simone de Beauvoir was intrigued by this celebrity classmate on the same campus, taking the some demanding courses. Then more impressed by a current event that reached Europe

"A great famine had broken out in China, and I was told that when she heard the news she had wept . . . I envied her for having a heart that could beat round the world." (from "Simone Weil" by Simone Petrement)

She was French and she was deeply religious — something that will always confound the religious and dumbfound the French. She found the passage through the 20s by testing dogma, affirming life, and giving herself greatly to the sorrows of the time.



("This Great Company" (Keats) is David Poling's most recent book.)

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN)

PASSAGES OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

Bob's fire and brimstone

Ivan D.E. Beaumont

The deduct box—

Bob Poggemeyer gave a testimonial the other day that would have put George Jessel to shame.

We were a guest at the Rotary luncheon and had the opportunity to hear Mr Poggemeyer explain the improper handling of a box of funds.

It was all in jest, but tainted with a bit of fire and brimestone, perhaps for the benefit of the guest speaker, the Rev. Tom Ozanne, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

I sat next to A.M. Stephenson.....naw, he didn't buy my lunch.

++++++

We've blamed Dick Niemann for his early lawn work before, but this year the early spreader award goes to Garry Ailes. He got the raking and fertilizing of his lawn done before the spring snowstorm.

There are a number of people who have put in some gardening hopeful that early planting will result in early produce. The only exception to that is Bill Winkler of Dunbar. He's still got six or eight inches of frost in the ground....er....at least that's what George said.

++++++

Didya read the one about the two little old ladies who walked into a lounge and asked the bartender to describe a martini.

"It's gin and vermouth served with an olive or twist," he said.

The two conferred, then one said, "We don't want the gin or vermouth. Just bring us two Oliver Twists."

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Busy times—

Keep an eye on the Farmers Bank calendar on the sports page in the Sunday News-Press. It's growing every week with activities.

(Wonder if we ought to put down one day for "stay home.")

This weekend is the Greater Nebraska Science and Engineering fair. The accomplishments of the boys and girls in these areas is worth a visit. They really work at it.

And coming up will be Budge Porter night on April 2. Budge was hurt in NU football practice and is confined to a wheelchair. Husker Coach Tom Osborne will be at Senior High that night to introduce players for the benefit.

++++++

He keeps on going—

You can't keep a good man down. Don Craig who successfully directed the Syracuse school into a consolidated district with Avoca and Dunbar, will retire after 35 years as an administrator, but he's going to keep on working.

Mr Craig retires under the district's mandatory age 65 rule, but he's already signed up to work a year as superintendent at Douglas. That's Dave McPherson Country. It is good that Mr Craig will continue to work in the county.

++++++

The new boss—

Congratulations to the Rev. John Green, a Navy chaplain with the rank of commander. He has been appointed commanding officer of the reserve unit, the Third Marine Amphibious Forces (Religion 218).

He also has a good understanding of such things as bulk head, deck, ladder, clothes stops, and green skivvies.

++++++

Our friend, Abe—

Abe Exline won't attend any more meetings of Adam Schellinger Post No. 8. He's gone into a new type of service.

He died the other day probably like he wanted — in the hands of veterans at the VA hospital in Lincoln. He was very proud of his military service and was a loyal member of the Legion post and active in service groups.

He also was very proud of his son, Steve, who grew almost a foot after graduating from NCHS and went on to join the Navy.

Our sympathies are extended to the Exline family.

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Congratulations

...to the NCHS and NC Lourdes students who were named to the National Honor Society. The NCHS students are Rhonda Arthur, Susan Weldon, LeAnn Burger, Theresa Sweeney and LeAnne Ehlers.

The NC Lourdes students are Mary Kreifels, Denise Davis, Vicki Kreifels, Debbie Clark, Susan Roddy, Tim Causgrove, Marlene Kreifels, Bill Harris and Joe Wenzl.

++++++

The quartet—

We had an opportunity to hear the Syracuse Junior High saxophone quartet before they competed and won a first in the Lions Club talent contest.

We attended a Junior High band concert at Syracuse directed by B.A. Johnson. We marveled at the good music that came from such young musicians and we guessed that they'd win at the Lions contest

Congratulations to you instrumentalists and to your director

++++++

The park damage

Jack Simms is upset. Someone drove a four-wheeled vehicle over the golf course causing an undetermined amount of dollar damage.

Broken windows and damaged posts and signs and other similar vandalism at the parks is bad, but damage to the golf course is especially harmful — it doesn't grow overnight. Every homeowner knows how long it takes to repair a damaged lawn.

He said when apprehended, the violators will be prosecuted "to the fullest extent of the law ' law "



HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

Eating causes cramps

DEAR DR. LAMB — Three years ago I was tested for lactose intolerance I can only absorb one per cent of lactose They told me to cut out all milk and milk products.

Now there are other things that are giving me the same symptoms as the lactose Some of these things are all fruits except bananas, pretzels, potato chips, onions, sauerkraut, certain donuts and cakes, ricotta cheese but not mozzarella cheese, sour cream, some chocolates, orange juice and grape juice

I was using Pepto-Bismol to stop the diarrhea and cramping but it stopped helping The doctor gave me Lomotil and it works pretty well.

Could you please tell me why these and other things are bothering me now? Is there any way to get over this problem or help me?

DEAR READER — Inability to split the double milk sugar, lactose, is sometimes just part of the clinical picture of another problem, including an infection with amoeba and another organism called giardia. Infestation with either of these parasites is sometimes difficult to diagnose. Both can be picked up in more tropical areas but do occur almost anyplace these days.

Inflammation of the digestive tract from any cause can lead to poor production of enzymes from the intestinal wall cells that normally help you digest your food Intolerance to milk may be temporary after infectious diarrhea or even after surgery, for example gall bladder surgery Then you may also have food allergies

High on the list of allergies is an allergy to gluten, a protein from wheat. You can get flour with the gluten protein in it from surprising sources, including cream soups, ice cream, hot dogs and lunch meats.

There is no way I can tell you which of these many problems you have but you can try a test on yourself Get your pharmacist to help you get some pure dextrose (glucose) that you can use for sugar Then eliminate all other sweets, all milk and milk products, all cereals, fruit and eat only the meat group and use dextrose flavored with a little lemon juice to provide you with about 50 grams of glucose a day

This strict diet is simply to find out if your problem is just diet related. It is not a balanced diet and you can't stay on it without vitamin and mineral supplements. If your symptoms go away, then you can start tracking down which of the many things you eat cause the problem. Add only one thing at a time Of course, your doctor may want to test again for intestinal parasites and that may help solve the problem Do not use coffee (not even the decaffeinated variety), tea, chocolate, colas or soda drinks or alcohol

If you have no symptoms on that diet then you can try adding other things You can get Lact-Aid and use enough to convert nearly all the milk sugar to single sugars That will enable you to use milk even if you do have lactose intolerance You can get Lact-Aid from Sugarlo Company, 3540 Atlantic Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08404

If all goes well then you can add ordinary sugar, then rice flour and other substances that do not contain any wheat flour and possible gluten sources I am sending you The Health Letter number 7-2 Milk Products Good and Bad Others who want this information can send 50 cents for it with a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope for mailing. Write to me in care of this newspaper, P O Box 1551, Radio City Station, New York NY 10019