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Tuesday, May 21

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U.S. PROSPERITY DEPENDS UPON 'EQUILIBRIUM'

Proper Balance Between Production and Consumption of Wealth Necessary, Says Report of Hoover Committee.

WASHINGTON, May 18. (UP)—An increasingly prosperous future for the United States, provided that the present economic balance between production and consumption of wealth can be maintained, is predicted by the report published this week of President Hoover's committee on recent economic changes.

A maintenance of high wages, in the light of what the report cited as "unstable commodity demand," increasing application of scientific and managerial skill, and an elimination of speculation, the writers of the document concluded, would assure the continuous advance of living standards for the majority of the nation's population.

"We seem only to have touched the fringe of our potentialities," the report said, though it declared emphatically that during the seven years including 1928, with which year its data ceased, Americans had enjoyed a material welfare pleasurable beyond all human experience.



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...the man's report...
...the man's report...

REUNION HELD IN "GHOST" VILLAGE

TRAVER, Calif., May 18. (UP)—One of California's best known "ghost" towns returned to life here with a population of approximately 500 citizens for one day, when visitors came from as far berth as Sacramento and as far south as Los Angeles.

"Citizens" is the proper word to describe the returning population, for all of the 500 persons were former residents, gathered in reunion. It was the 45th anniversary of the founding of Traver, once a 3,000 population center of a great grain and horticultural area.

COMPENSATION IS SOUGHT FOR PRISON YEARS

MADISON, Wis., May 18. (UP)—An effort is under way here to obtain legislative compensation for John A. Johnson, 65, who served 10 years in prison for a crime it now generally is believed he did not commit.

Although Johnson confessed in 1911 to the murder of seven-year-old Annie Lemberger, he repudiated his confession just before he entered the gates of Waupun prison.

In 1922 he was pardoned by Gov. E. L. Phillip, who had been convinced the man confessed because of a morbid fear of mob violence.

There are more than 200 Madison citizens who now, are certain they "robbed" Johnson of ten working years of his life and who have signed petitions asking the legislature to compensate him, as far as possible, for that which was taken.

...her body was found...
...in Meadon bay...
...She had been beaten to death...
...Johnson was arrested three days later and was questioned by a detective...
...For hours he maintained that he was innocent...
...The officer, falling in all other efforts to make Johnson confess, told him a mob was outside clamoring for his life.

Johnson once had seen a man lynched at Darlington and the moment he heard that he was in danger of a similar fate he became a cowering, terrified wreck. He confessed, begged protection, and when arraigned in court pleaded guilty, with the additional plea that he be hurried to prison and saved from the mob.

Despite the fact that Mrs. Johnson and two daughters, Stella and Bertha, testified that Johnson had gone to bed about 9 o'clock the night of the murder and never left the house during the night, the man's plea of guilty was accepted and he was sentenced to Waupun for life.

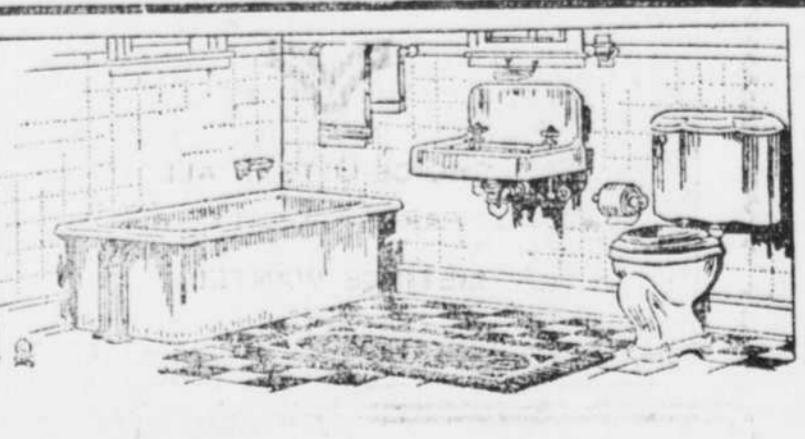
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"The outstanding fact which is illuminated by this survey is that we cannot maintain our economic advantage," the document continued, "or fully hope to recognize our economic future, unless we conscientiously accept the principle of equilibrium, and apply it skillfully in every economic relation. Here lies the danger that through ignorance of economic principles or through selfish greed or inadequate leadership, the steady balance will be disturbed to our economic detriment."

"If natural resources are wastefully used; if money in quantity is taken out of production and employed for speculation; if any group develops a method of artificial price advancement which puts one commodity out of balance with others; if either management or labor disregards the common interest—to this extent equilibrium will be destroyed for all. Our complex and intricate economic machine can produce, but to keep it producing continuously it must be maintained in balance. It would seem that we can go on with increasing activity but we can do this only if we develop a technique of balance."

Advancing use of automatic machinery, it was agreed, caused "technical" unemployment, as displaced workers were forced to find jobs elsewhere than in their original industry, and the increasing output of goods and increasing demand for sales and services in connection with their use, the increasing of leisure and consumptive wants developed in leisure, were said to have furnished a field for filling the employment gaps.

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