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The Sunbelt's dark side

A recent analysis of government statistics supports the argument of the so-called Snowbelt or Frostbelt faction in Congress that their part of the country is subsidizing the economic prosperity of the so-called Sunbelt

According to a study by the magazine National Journal in fiscal 1976 the states of the Northeast and Midwest registered a balance of payments deficit with Washington to the tune of $32 7 billion That was how much more they paid in federal taxes than they received in federal benefits

In the same period the South and West received $23 billion more from the federal government than they paid in taxes

The figures are challengeable on a number of counts the authors of the study admit But give or take a few billions there does seem to be a rather heavy flow of the national wealth from colder climes to warm

All that money hasn t brought contentment however Another analysis of government data finds that crime rates in the cities of the Sunbelt far exceed those in the supposedly decaying cities of the North

There is in fact a sunbelt crime syndrome says Florida State University Criminologist Paul Brantingham Analyzing the FBI s uniform crime reports for 1975 he found that the nation s top 10 crime cities were all in the South and Southwest Notorious New York City wasn t even in the top 35

The professor attributes it to the massive economic growth and mobile populations of these areas which produce social and physical settings in which all kinds of crime can go on

Maybe Snowbelt citizens ought to reassess their blessings

Making poverty pay

There s big money in poverty In antipoverty programs that is

This has been shown time and again in every federal scheme to aid the poor and disadvantaged from urban rehabilitation to food stamps to so-called medicaid mills

Those who provide services or sell products are bound to benefit of course when larger numbers of people are enabled to afford those services or products There need be nothing reprehensible about this though far too often there has been

But no federal program aimed at lifting the disadvantaged seems to have been as brazenly manipulated by the already advantaged as one administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA)

This is the agency s 8(a) program under which some $300 million a year in federal contracts — mostly for construction or janitorial food and other services at government installations — has supposedly been reserved for minority-run businesses to help them become established participants in the free enterprise system

In recent hearings by a Senate government operations subcommittee, witnesses related case after case of 8(a) contracts going to white entrepreneurs, some of whom put up black front-men while they controlled the business behind the scenes

Other witnesses told of contracts being awarded because of political or personal connections with SBA officials Two SBA officials themselves charged that the Nixon administration had used the program as a means to build its image among blacks

As a result new SBA Administrator A Vernon Weaver acknowledging that the 8(a) program has been abused to the benefit of unscrupulous businessmen has ordered a halt to it pending an evaluation of all firms (currently about 1 000) holding contracts

"I assure you that the necessary changes will be made to put the program on a sound basis he told the subcommittee

If it can't be put on a sound basis it would be better to abolish it altogether A program like this is worse than none at all

AS TIME GOES BY

Barges to move

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1937—

A barge line on the Missouri River between Omaha and St Louis with a stop at Nebraska City would begin operation within two months, according to owners Lloyd Hays and Lou Baker Council Bluffs Construction Company was awarded a $95 000 contract for building a new bridge across the Blue River at Beatrice Chief of Police Julius Ottnat said he hoped the city's excellent safety record for the first part of 1937 would continue for the last 4½ months of the year Indications were that attendance records at the Nemaha county fair would be broken by the end of its run

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1952—

School board Member Joy Hinrichs suggested the board consider the purchase of ground in the northwestern section of the city because of expansion in the area Nebraska City was sprayed for flies, mosquitoes and other insects Stucco was being applied to the Kearney School The Chamber of Commerce agreed to take over the Western Union company business on an agency basis The State Health Department recorded an all-time weekly record of 126 new cases of polio in Nebraska

TEN YEARS AGO
—1967—

Robert Heng, Jr , completed work on his master's degree in science at the University of Arizona Ethel Sanchez, Mrs James Brockhaus and Mildred Stocker and Ethel Weekes were winners in the Ladies Golf "Low Net" in classics A, B, and C City officials cut the ribbon opening the new city route of U S 73-75 Otoe County officials expressed jubiliation about the State Board of Equalization's decision not to increase property valuation in Nebraska Counties for the year

Mr and Mrs Dick Miyoshi were named president of the Holiday Dance Club

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The Prayer For Today From

The Upper Room

"Give to others, and God will give to you you will receive a full measure, a generous helping poured into your hands — all that you can hold." (Luke 6 38 TEV)

PRAYER Lord God, may the measure of our giving make generosity smile In the name of Christ who gave His all Amen.





Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

Freedom from influence

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Common Cause this month will celebrate its seventh anniversary — an appropriate occasion to recount a series of previously unpublicized events which preceded its founding in 1970 and deeply influenced the organization ever since that time

Throughout the 1970s, Common Cause has had a profound influence — probably more than any other single institution — in bringing about significant change in the way the people's business is conducted in Washington

The key to the organization's success has been its independence from the countless interest groups — notably big business, big labor and the major foundations — whose ubiquitous if not insidious influence affects all of our daily lives

The central figure in Common Cause's relationship with those interest groups was John W Gardner, the organization's founder and its chairman until his retirement earlier this year

In mid-1968, Gardner became chairman of the National Urban Coalition, formed during the previous summer as a direct result of the racial violence spawned in many of the nation's major cities That group's "governing board" was composed of the familiar "distinguished" leaders from business, labor, government and civic groups

The Urban Coalition's avowed purpose was to forestall future rioting As a result, it was, in the words of one observer, "born with a silver spoon in its mouth" because of the generosity of those who feared they and their institutions would be the victims of further looting and burning

Tax-deductible contributions came pouring in from the Rockefeller, Sloan and Kellogg foundations, from the AFL-CIO and many of its constituent unions, from the American Telephone & Telegraph Co , American Can Co and Bethlehem Steel Co

The National Urban Coalition was a "safe" and non controversial organization, operating with a vague mandate But the same couldn't be said for its companion group, the Urban Coalition Action Council, independently chartered to lobby for specific reforms

Because contributions to the Action Council weren't tax-deductible and because its causes were controversial, the lobbying group received far less financial support from wealthy institutions

The Action Council campaigned against the anti-ballistic missile, arguing that the billions of dollars earmarked for that weapons system should instead be spent on domestic needs That incurred the wrath of both hawkish AFL-CIO President George Meany and Chase Manhattan Bank Chairman David Rockefeller, whose family had contributed tens of thousands of dollars to the Action Council

The AFL-CIO finally cut off all financial support to the Action Council after it announced support for the "Philadelphia Plan" requiring labor unions to open apprenticeship training programs to sizeable numbers of blacks and members of other minority groups

Supporters from the business community became similarly alienated when the Action Council lobbied against Senate confirmation of then-President Nixon's nomination of G Harrold Carswell to a seat on the Supreme Court and pressed hard for an end to the war in Vietnam

Gardner never publicly discussed those defections, but as the plans for Common Cause took shape, the Action Council experience demonstrated to him that a "boat-rocking" organization could not count on support or leadership from those whose first priority was the maintenance of their own power and influence

On the other hand, the National Urban Coalition was well-funded but ineffectual The lesson was clear If Common Cause was to be properly financed but free to speak out on controversial issues, it could rely for support only on a broad base of individual citizens — and that's exactly what it has been doing, with considerable success, for seven years

Lebanon loses its bounce

BEIRUT—(LENS)—Like a sick cat Beirut cannot be bothered to keep itself clean The piles of garbage at street corners indicate such a lack of organization and self-pride as to raise the question whether Lebanon will ever find its feet again

Six months after the Syrians imposed peace of a sort there is not much evidence of that Lebanese bounce which swiftly pulled the country together after its last civil war in 1958 — but that was a picnic compared with what happened this last time

The innumerable and irritating road blocks of the peacekeeping force are supposed to help security but they mainly serve to perpetuate the feeling of tension and abnormality The lackadaisical soldiers who man them usually check nothing One exception is the Syrian soldier now a landmark who thrusts his head into foreigners' cars and bellows in his best English "What's my name?"

There is certainly abnormality in prices Electricity charges bear no relation whatsoever to actual consumption and are between four and six times what they were a year ago, and these rates are now to be doubled Rents and meat prices have trebled Lebanon which used to export frozen chickens to the eastern Arab world, now imports them from Brazil and Uruguay Gasoline milk cooking gas fruit vegetable and restaurant prices have all doubled More important still is that bread is up by 50 per cent, most of this increase being due to straightforward profiteering

How do ordinary people cope with this calamitous rise in the cost of daily living? They do without, or they steal the police cannot and do not pretend to do much about the innumerable armed robberies One result of this is that the more prosperous city people who would have summered in the mountain villages are not doing so for fear that their town apartments will be cleaned out in their absence So the poor countryside gets poorer

President Elias Sarkis thought he would need six months to get the administration reunified and in reasonable working order Six months later it is clear he will [illegible] another six months

At long last the two separate official radio and television news services have been unified but the two clandestine radios remain defiantly on the air And the more militant Christian Maromtes are insisting on keeping the national university divided There is slowly an increasing amount of crossing back and forth between the two halves of Beirut despite the Maronite propaganda which suggests that Christians going over to the other side will not only be disembowelled but cooked The basic Maromte fear that the armed Palestinians will push them into the sea (which the Palestinians never were and are not now capable of doing) is kept alive by such rumors as the one of camps standing ready in Canada to receive a Maromte influx

It is the continuing political uncertainty especially the continuing demand for partition by Maromte extremists that holds up Lebanon s recovery Optimists who said it would need two years now say it will take five But is even that likely to prove true? Perhaps Lebanon s wounds all self-inflicted are severe enough to lead to a slow death or at best, the country may stagger along but not become as before a self sustaining going concern

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Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

This mule went too far

Dunbar PO Review —
The minister sold a mule to one of his not so smart parishioners with these instructions;"If you want him to go say, 'Praise the Lord,' and if you want him to stop say, 'Amen'."

The purchaser mounted the mule, said "Praise the Lord," and the mule started off at a high rate of speed. The rider getting quite excited kept yelling, "Whoa," with no success to the beast Then he remembered and said, "Amen."

The mule stopped abruptly. The rider looked down and found that the animal had stopped at the very edge of a gigantic cliff Wiping his brow he exclaimed gratefully, "Praise The Lord"

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The Memorial —
The Nebraska City Jaycees are considering what to do with about $80 deposited as a memorial to the late Ed Harshbarger.

The fund was established a number of years ago in memory of a man who was especially active in the baseball programs.

Ed was a former deputy sheriff and Otoe county clerk and umpire at the Legion ball games. Prior to those years, he was something else on the mound and was admired for many years for his pitching ability

If you have a suggestion on what to do with the money, you might give Jim Hanks a call

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Another fund —
A fund was established recently in memory of slain policeman Gary White Contributions may be made in care of Farmers Bank or Otoe County National Bank

Elmer Hallstrom of Farmers State Bank at Avoca, gave the drive a lift with a $50 donation

The fund for Officer White was established by friends after it was learned that he was not covered by the city's insurance policy. He had been on the job only eight days when he was killed Thirty days are required

The other officer shot in that incident next to the police station is Pete Rishel Officer Rishel was dismissed Thursday from St Joseph's hospital in Omaha and that's good news for his fellow police officers and other friends He's feeling pretty good So good, in fact, that he told Police Sgt Roger Warren he's coming to Nebraska City to get his motorcycle.

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County fair —
Gary Garey, the new Otoe county Extension agent, has his work cut out for him at Syracuse when the county fair opens August 21 with entry day

The fair has the makings of another fine and successful season with many exhibits and livestock events. There's also some extra special fun in a greased pig contest. . .wonder if Sev Sorensen will enter

One of the special events again this year is the recognition to 100 year farm families. They are Mr and Mrs William Dermann, William F. Kastens, Sr., and Richard P. Kimmel. Secretary Elmer Gellerman will probably handle the MC job and he does an excellent job telling about "oldtimers" and Otoe county

There is one sad note this year. Bill Royal, a member of the board for 25 years or more, will not be on the grounds Mr Royal died following a heart attack while attending a bowling meeting at Kearney

We at the News-Press will also miss him. He was always very helpful to our staff covering the county fair on news and picture assignments

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School time near —
If you've witnessed some itchy young people in your home then be assured, that's normal for this time of the year

After all, school will start soon And with that thought, have you completely outfitted your son or daughter in the finest clothes . .like jeans, tennies and pull-over shirts? Get on the stick, mom.

How about sports in your family? Got those football shoes . volleyball shoes yet? Let's move it, mom.,

Now, kids .look at it from the other side When's the last time you walked up to mom and said "Mom, could I have some breakfast?" (Poor gal will shake all day from that)

Oh, yes, the physicals be the first one That way you don't have to wait all evening So? So .it wasn't all night .just til' 11 p m , or midnight

Read the other day that a college education now costs $30,000 and it produces three very proud people — the student, his mom and his dad

The only thing children wear out faster than shoes .are parents and teachers

And that brings up another the three reasons many people enter the teaching profession — June, July and August

P.S Mom — better check to see if your son or daughter is registered

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HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

Coping with angina

By Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D

DEAR DR LAMB — I went to my family doctor with chest pains and he took a cardiogram and said I have angina pectoris Will you explain what this is? I was off work for five weeks and when I returned and exert myself the symptoms are still there After I rest for a while they disappear Is this angina pectoris a permanent heart disease or could a person overcome this?

I've had a high cholesterol and fat lipids but have been on a low fat diet for several years Has this anything to do with this disease? Also, I cannot breathe cold air When I first had this we still had cold weather and when I was outside in brisk air my throat seemed to constrict and cut off my breathing I've had to wear a mask so I could go out in the cold

What can I do to overcome this angina pectoris, if anything? I am 49 and too young to be tied down I have been an active person all my life and can't get used to the idea that I can't do everything I would like to do

DEAR READER — Strictly speaking, angina pectoris means strangulation of the breastbone — describing the sensation that many people have with the dull oppressive pain in the center of the chest

It is caused by inadequate blood flow to the heart muscle The blood flow is usually restricted because of a buildup of fatty-cholesterol deposits in the arteries to the heart muscle These are often associated with a high blood cholesterol level or high levels of other blood fats and with high blood pressure

The pain occurs when you exert yourself because that is when your heart has to increase its workload At rest you have enough blood flow through those clogged arteries to nourish your heart muscle and supply oxygen When the oxygen demands go up requiring an increase in circulation this just is not possible Hence, you get pain when you exert too much and the pain goes away when you rest

I am sending you The Health Letter number 2-10 Heart Attack Myocardial Infarction. Angina Pectoris to give you a more complete understanding of your problem These disorders resulting from fatty-cholesterol deposits are the most common cause of death in our population Others who want this information can send 50 cents with a long, stamped self-addressed envelope for it

The condition usually persists until you either decrease the work of the heart or there is some improvement in circulation to the heart muscle The latter is not always possible We do have small blood vessels in the heart muscle that will open and help some

You can help by decreasing the work of the heart That is best done through eliminating any extra body fat you have The less you weigh the easier it will be for you to walk and not exert yourself

Cold weather is known to trigger angina attacks Walking into a cold wind is particularly bad Patients with heart disease should bundle up properly and protect the chest and throat area in cold weather It is a reflex mechanism The cold air going into the lungs can also trigger the attack

If your blood pressure is high, lowering it and loss of fat helps to do that will also decrease the attacks

Dr Lamb answers representative letters of general interest in his column Write to him in care of this newspaper P O Box 1551 Radio City Station New York N Y 10019

Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Aug 14, the 226th day of 1977 There are 139 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history

On this date in 1945, President Harry Truman announced the unconditional surrender of Japan It was the end of World War II

On this date

In 1784, the first Russian colony in Alaska was founded on Kodiak Island

In 1848, the Oregon Territory was organized

In 1900, the Boxer Rebellion in China ended as U.S Marines helped capture Peking

In 1935, Congress passed the Social Security Act

In 1941, during World War II it was disclosed that President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill had met at sea and signed the Atlantic Charter

In 1947, the United States canceled about $1 billion in debts owed by Italy

Ten years ago Former President Dwight Eisenhower left Walter Reed Hospital in Washington after treatment for 10 days for a gastric ailment

Five years ago An East German airliner crashed in a suburb of East Berlin, killing 156 passengers and crew members

One year ago There was heavy fighting between Christian and Moslem Lebanese in Beirut

Today's birthday Circus impresario John Ringling North is 74 years old

Thought for today If wishes were horses, beggars might ride — an English proverb

Berry's World

