Opinion

Small Business: making America work

Small businesses, including those in our community, don't get enough credit for their role in keeping America at work. Small Business Week, May 9-15, seems the right time to give them a deserved pat on the back.

Big business gets plenty of media attention about layoffs and hiring plans. Yet big business creates no more than a fourth of our new jobs, nationally. Where do the jobs come from? The dry cleaners, the data processing service, the auto repair shop, the high-tech whiz kids, and more than 11 million other small businesses. Small firms generate **two out of every three new** jobs in this country.

To borrow a phrase from the Reagan Administration, small business also acts as a kind of safety net for a lot of people who lose their jobs. During the past 18 months, new small businesses have opened their doors at a higher than normal rate, despite all the obstacles. Economists explain that a lot of unemployed people go into business for themselves in a recession...so many that they more than offset the number of small firms going bankrupt!

The small business paycheck provides the livelihood for more than 100 million Americans. For making America work, we think small businesses deserve our gratitude.

Hostage rescue

Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was President Carter's national security adviser, has published an insider account of the failed mission in April 1980 to rescue the hostages from Iran. It raises the question: Did the wrong man resign after the failure? Cyrus Vance resigned as secretary of state. He had opposed the rescue plan from the first.

Brzezinski, by contrast, presents himself as the prime mover of the plan, proposing it first as "a last-resort action, to be undertaken only if the hostages were being killed or were about to be killed," then, later, advocating it as a response to "pressure from the public and from Congress for more direct action against Iran."

There was a certain amount of derring-do in this approach, which had considerable attraction for Zbig. He even thought of trying to persuade the president to go ahead with the mission with only five helicopters, after three helicopters were lost. "Here I was, alone with the president, able, perhaps to persuade him to abandon military prudence, to opt for a daring single stroke for the big prize, to take the historic chance." Prudence overcame boldness on that occasion and Zbig did not make the argument, but the impression remains that patience never had much of a spokesman in the person of Zbigniew Brzezinski.

He says he has never had any political or moral regrets about the rescue mission. There was a good chance of success, he believes, and "not to have tried, while having the capacity to try, would have been shameful and unworthy of America."

If Brzezinski now secretly realizes he was wrong and Vance was right in the conflicting advice they gave to Jimmy Carter, there is no hint of that in this new fragment of his memoirs.

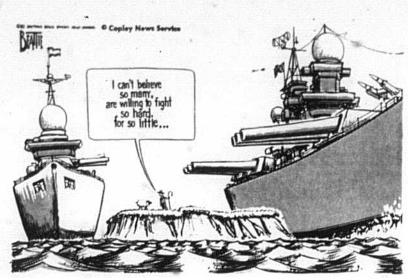
News control in South Africa

Compared to the news media in other African states, the press has been relatively independent in South Africa. But it won't remain so unless it's able to resist tough new government attempts to control it. Pretoria is pushing a proposal drawn up by a special commission that would require registration of all journalists and adoption of a statutory "code of conduct" to be administered by a press council with powers to fine or ban reporters who don't comply.

For years, successive governments in South Africa have tried to harness the newspapers but never before by such coercive measures. Even the milder threats, however, worked to induce the press to edge toward self-censorship in a strategy that has come to be known in South African press circles as "precipice politics — I will not push if you jump." The last time around, the country's Newspaper Press Union set up a disciplinary press council. Then, when government threats persisted, the council was given even more teeth. Even so, that step was not nearly as drastic as the controls now sought by the government.

The latest effort by Pretoria suggests the government is playing the same game, and tougher. But this time it may in fact have gone too far. There are encouraging signs that the NPU intends to make a stand — that is, will not jump before it is pushed. As one NPU official put it: "Let the government be seen doing its own dirty work." Since a muzzled press in South Africa also means a diminished flow of news to the outside world, there should be considerable attention to this struggle on the part of the media everywhere.

Just drawing attention, however, will not be enough. There should be protests by governments throughout the free world, and particularly by a Reagan administration which has sought to enhance American influence by "soft" measures concerning South Africa's racist policies. The press issue would be a significant test of that course; if Washington hasn't thereby gained suasion enough to successfully plead for press independence, how can it hope that gentle talk will put a dent in South Africa's obstinate and detestable apartheid?



Agree or not

Barkley should have avenue of redress on sex charges

by S.C. Van Curon

A case now before the Court of Appeals cries out for the establishment of some avenue of relief for the wrongfully accused if the Court of Appeals sustains the decision of Franklin Circuit Court.

The case involves Agriculture Commissioner Alben Barkley and two of his aides who were accused of sexual harassment by some female employees in the office. The charges were filed before the State Personnel Board which held public hearings that were covered by the print media as well as television.

Franklin Circuit Judge Henry Meigs ruled that the Personnel Board had no jurisdiction or right to try Barkley because he is not under the state merit system. Judge Meigs called the board's actions as "an adjudicatory excess" which was "wholly outside of proper jurisdiction."

Barkley's two aides also challenged the Personnel Board's judgment involving them. The Board ordered one of the aides to make a public apology and ordered Barkley to suspend the other for a period of 15 working days without pay.

Since Meigs held the action against Barkley null and void, the other cases are still pending in Circuit Court and apparently will await the action of the Court of Appeals.

Barkley's attorneys argued that the charges were brought before the wrong agency where there was no jurisdiction, contending that any such charges should have been brought before the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights.

After Barkley appealed the Personnel Board ruling, the women never have brought any action before the Rights Commission.

In the brief filed last week by Barkley's attorneys before the higher court, they asked for dismissal of the Personnel Board's appeal on the grounds that the board's findings were "in an egregious example of abuse of administrative authority, the board acted without and in excess of its jurisdiction to publicly label (Barkley) as capable of sexual harassment."

The brief said further the Personnel Board in its rush to judgment "ignored the limitations of its statutes and regulations of other agencies to suit its own design."

The lawyers said the Personnel Board, in its actions against Barkley, acted "more like an administrative lynch mob than a responsible body."

The hearings lasted for several days before the Personnel Board and was aired on Educational Television and widely reported by the print media in Kentucky.

Consider the fact that Barkley and his aides will suffer to a considerable extent even if the Court of Appeals rules in their favor. They will be out attorney and court costs. In addition to the monetary costs, there has been a certain amount of anxiety and worry while awaiting the court decision for more than a year.

Their families would be expected not to have appreciated the unfavorable publicity challenging the character of the men involved. Wives and family were exposed to mental anguish.

The only avenue now open to them for redress is the courts route they are choosing, and that is to prove themselves innocent.

There is no reasonable avenue for recovery of the costs or collecting for mental anguish or embarrassment of being held up to public ridicule.

The Personnel Board is an agency of the state and it would be very difficult and expensive to prove that the board acted knowing that it had no authority or with intent to hold them up to public ridicule.

There should be some avenue for redress in cases such as this.

Down Memory Lane

Celebrate 60th anniversary

Thursday, May 17, 1962

Pattie Hopkins, seven year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hopkins, Cane Run Road, suffered a broken leg and facial cuts Sunday afternoon when she was struck by a pickup truck. She was taken to the Nicholas County Hospital and transferred to the St. Joseph Hospital.

Rep. John C. Watts last week presented the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts a beautiful American flag that was flown over the capital in Washington. They in turn are giving the flag to the Carlisle Cemetery to be flown over the War Memorial.

A check for $3,000 was presented Monday to the North Central 4-H Camp Fund by the Lexington office of the American Supplies, a division of the American Tobacco Company.

The Carlisle High School Alumni announced that Dr. Emery Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emery Clark of Nicholas County, will be guest speaker at the annual banquet May 24.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. William M. Davis, a son, James Mason, May 8 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Paul Roberts, Flemingsburg, a son, Jeffery Wayne, May 9 at Nicholas County Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Mildred Louise Turpin and Ralph Thomas Livengood, May 6 at the First Church of God.

DIED — Mrs. Clara Shy Bell, 75, widow of William C. Bell, Monday at home in Berea. — C.C. Davis, 75, Sunday at Nicholas County Hospital. — Warren R. Fleming, 60, Sunday at home in Walton. — Nicholas W. Dailey, 86, Lexington, Saturday at St. Joseph Hospital.

Thursday, May 14, 1942

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Collins of the Pleasant Springs Road celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at home Sunday.

Charles Shrout, who has been connected with the Carlisle branch store of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company for several months has been transferred to Versailles and promoted to the position of assistant manager.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hamm a son, Paul Wayne, April 28.

MARRIED — Miss Rena Miller and James C. Wills, May 6 at the Christian Church parsonage.

DIED — Mrs. J.C. Bradshaw, Lake City, Tenn., mother of Dr. J.E. Bradshaw of the Carlisle Drug Co., at her home Thursday. — Mrs. Margaret Hawes Letton, 70, wife of R.E. Letton, Thursday at home in Paris. — Michael Sculey, 85, Wednesday. — Dr. William Oliver McIntire, 66, Thursday at home in Cynthiana. — Mrs. Ella Boone Burris Thomason, 71, widow of William A. Thomason, Sunday at home in North Middletown. — William Fletcher Barnette, 62, Clark County, May 4. — Mickey Reynolds Dotson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Dotson.

Thursday, May 18, 1922

J.C. Tureman of Tureman's Pharmacy received a notice Monday that he had been awarded one of the prizes in the national contest for the most attractive window displays of Sterno Products.

MARRIED — Miss Sudie M. Letcher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Letcher, and Richard Hunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. O.F. Hunt, all of this county, Wednesday at the home of Rev. R.E. Elmore.

DIED — Preston See, 64, Wednesday at his home in Paris. — Clifton Rogers, 24, Tuesday at his home in Piqua. — James B. Thomas, 71, Monday at his home in Centerville. — William H. Conyers, 54, Monday at his home in this city.

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Op-Ed page

Would American Revolution get off ground today? Only on prime time

If you have been a student of Congress, or even served on committees in your hometown, you probably have figured by now that democracy worked better before we had it. Imagine trying to start the American Revolution today.

The President would have to have a stern hand on Congress, otherwise the accustions of politics would probably bog the idea down before it got off the ground. All concerned would need printed notices 10 days in advance and an agenda set. A Committee on Revolution would be organized and this could immediately spawn at least two dozen subcommittees and a budget into the millions.

At least six months would be taken up in planning. Such thorny questions as: Should Paul Revere ride a painted pony or a Kentucky thoroughbred? Is Paul Revere a truly revolutionary symbol or would people confuse him with a kitchenware? How far will the human Society allow Revere to gallop his horse, and can he use spurs? How can we be sure the clock on the North Tower has been wound?

- What would be the feasibility of having the Boston Red Sox wear "Down With King George" labels on the backs of their uniforms? If there are no boxes of tea in the Boston harbor, would tea bags do?
- Would world opinion consider it guerilla-like for our beloved Minutemen to hide behind stone walls?
- Tom Jefferson's declaration of independence is just one man's opinion. Shouldn't it be aired in public hearings? Shouldn't it be shorter and punchier? Doesn't self-evident sound a bit redundant? Should we appoint Ben Franklin on this committee? It needs more catchy and clever phrases to really catch on.
- Could we call it a Peanut Revolution? This would please the Southerners, who control most of the committees, and lull King George into thinking it hasn't a chance to get off the ground.
- Does it appeal to the minorities? Will it create jobs? It is good election fodder? Can we borrow the money to finance it? Will George Washington be willing to stump the country to sell revolution to the people?

Five years later, after 37 feasibility studies, 10 peoples' marches on Washington, millions spent to widen and repave the highway from Boston to Concord, five rebuffs by the United Nations, offers by the Russians to sell nukes to England, Jane Fonda and Ed Asner going underground with Benedict Arnold . . .

An announcement comes out of Washington: "Resolved, that we have a revolution . . ."

And American patriots would respond enthusiastically with only one question: "What time does it come on television tonight?"

— RM —

A tip of my glass to Sir Phillip Goodheart, member of the British Parliament who has launched a Peace Through Alcohol movement to combat the Red Menace.

Sir Phil's idea is for the Western powers to parachute 10 tons of vodka nightly onto every Soviet army division. "It would cost comparatively little, immobilize the Red Spread, and should peace break out, be useful as tractor fuel," he claims.

Before you ridicule the idea, you might recall that history is on Goodheart's side. Trotsky or perhaps Lenin had to flood the cellars of the Kronstadt naval base in October, 1921, after the sailors found a supply of vodka there and promptly lost all interest in the Bolshevik revolution.

— RM —

Advertisers especially have gruesome tales to tell of the difficulty in cracking the language barrier.

The makers of Coca-Cola some years ago tried to send a message about their product to the Chinese people, but something definitely was lost in the translation because the sense of the message, so far as the Chinese readers were concerned, was that the drink was made from "female horses fattened with wax."

David Ricks, an Ohio State professor who makes a study of such language difficulties, points out that communication often goes beyond words. By way of example, the attempt of a beer distributor to sell his product in Japan through the use of an advertising campaign that featured an Irish-looking fellow, was a terrible failure.

It wasn't that the Japanese beer drinkers didn't appreciate the guy in the ads, but they were repelled by his green hat.

In Japan, it seems, a man with a green hat is no fashion plate. Green hats are said to symbolize a man who has trouble keeping his wife faithful.

The Japanese weren't about to hoist a stein to a guy like that.

— RM —

This young fellow from way back in the boondocks was about to get married. Living as he did in a very rural area he had never felt the need for a suit before — a clean pair of jeans and a fresh shirt had always fulfilled the sartorial demands for any affair he attended. But such a limited wardrobe would not do for a wedding, his bride-to-be informed him. "Go buy a suit," she ordered. He finally agreed and drove his pickup truck into town. He walked into a men's store and immediately went into a state of shock when he looked at the price tags on the suits. "Whillikers," he said to himself, "I ain't gonna lay out money like that for a suit I'm hardly ever gonna wear after the weddin'."

He strode out of the department store and began walking toward the low rent district, looking into store windows as he passed. Finally, he came to one emporium which was plastered with old "Going out of Business" and "Giant Sale!" Everything Must Go!" signs. Displayed in the window was a man's suit of a strange shade of grenish-blue. "Only $34.50, alterations included," said the sign next to it. "Well," he said to himself, "That's not too bad." He entered the store. The salesman-owner appeared immediately. "I'd like to see that suit in the window," said the young fellow. "What taste!" the salesman exclaimed, clasping his hands together. "I knew the minute you walked in you were a fashion-smart buyer who knows a bargain when he sees it. Here, try it on." The young fellow put the suit on. The salesman cocked his head and looked him over. "A perfect 42 regular," he said. "It doesn't need a single alteration."

"Can you wrap it up?" the customer asked. "At these prices you want a box?" asked the store owner. "Just wear it. Let it get used to your body." So the young fellow left the store wearing the suit. As he walked down the street he became aware that passers-by were staring at him and he heard the sound of ill-muffled snickers. Catching sight of himself in a mirror, he studied his reflection for a few moments and then hurried back to the store.

"Hey," he said to the salesman. "I think you're gonna have to fix this suit." "What's wrong with it?" asked the salesman. "Well looky here," said the fellow. "This sleeve is flappin' down around my knuckles. One pants leg is clear over my shoe. The back of the coat sticks way up in the back." The salesman walked around the fellow examining him from several angles. "The suit is fine," he said at last. "I wouldn't touch that material. It's the way you're standing that's making it look bad. Look here, lean to one side. Let your arm hang down. Further down. That's it. See—the sleeve is just right. Take your other hand now and reach across and grab a small fold of the pants leg and pull it up a bit. When you walk, don't put your foot down all the way. Now throw your head back—back some more — a little more. There! That's perfect. Just stay like that and we won't have to do a thing to the suit."

The young fellow hobbled out of the store looking like a natural candidate for the part of the Hunchback of Notre Dame. He stumbled down the street and stopped at a corner to wait for the walk light. Two elderly ladies who were standing there watched as he approached.

"Tsk, tsk," whispered one old lady. "Such a nice-looking boy. Ain't it a shame he's a terrible cripple."

"Yes," said the other old lady. "But don't his suit fit nice?"

Onward, upward.

An editor's random thoughts...

by Warren R. Fisher Sr.
May 6, 1937

"Every day is Mother's Day to me," said Elsie Janis. So should it be with all of us. It is very well to select one day out of the year to give Dad his just deserts, for often all the honor that is due him may be accorded in 24 hours, but with one's mother it is different. Not that women are always superior creatures, for there are very good women and exceedingly bad ones, but good or bad, they are nearly always good mothers. Nature sees to that, jealous in her watchful care for the perpetuation of her own.

•••

It has always seemed to me that boys have the best of it with mothers, a statement which each and every one of them who has daughters will indignantly deny. Perhaps boys need maternal care more than girls. It is our observation that they never cease to need it, for it is no fiction that men rarely "grow up." The loving eye of the mother sees in the mature man the chubby youngster who ran to her arms for solace of his little tragedies. The world does not see the boy in the man, but he is there, and though he may hide behind a defensive armor of masculine bravado before the world, Mother may call him out to put his head in her lap and be soothed of bitter hurts.

And do you mean to say that girls do not get their share of mother-love? Not at all. The love of a true mother, it seems to me, is boundless; there is always enough to go around. But girls grow up. They have to, poor dears, in order to care for the sentimental, "never-to-grow-up" male children that may come to them in future years. You are a trifle stricter in your training of girls, justifying yourself with the thought that girls must be protected from the world. It seems to me that the real reason is that the future of the race is in the hands of its future mothers and girls must be trained to carry on.

•••

Next Sunday is Mother's Day. If she who went down into the Valley of the Shadow of Death that you might live sleeps after life's fitful fever, you may do reverence to her memory. If God has granted you the boon of her continued presence, let this day and all of the days of her life be Mother's Day. For it is impossible for any other human being to feel toward you as she does. God himself has put that love into the hearts of mothers and though all of your illusions may have crashed about you, though bitter disappointments and broken faith may have turned you cynic, you know in your heart whose love will follow you still. Kipling, I think, does not exaggerate when he writes —

If I were damned of body and soul
I know whose prayers would make me whole,
Mother o' mine, O mother o' mine.

In this corner.... by Jim Butler Wanke

The welfare generation

The welfare state is creeping up on us.

It is creating a new generation of Americans who do not have the work ethic as a basic teaching of life.

You cannot blame people in their working years who know no other way to live than to collect a check on the first of the month. In many parts of Kentucky for many years there has been no other way to get by.

What is happening is that those who began on the federal and state dole back in the 1930's and 1940's have raised children who know no other way to live. And they have had children who know no other way.

On top of that, the incentive to have children is built into the system, because the amount of the benefits rises, depending on how many children the family has. So when large families should have been avoided because of hard economic times, they were actually encouraged by federal and state programs.

So the system is working, but it's not working. The short term effects are that some needy families have been helped. The long term effect is that a new generation of Americans is upon us and growing by the minute.

This welfare generation has frightening consequences for us in the future and our very way of life is at stake.

What happens to the child who is raised to believe that if he just hollers loud enough and long enough he will get what he wants? Such a child grows up believing that America owes him a living because it has always been that way!

What is even worse, that child usually gets a rude awakening one day when he or she grows up to find out that America owes that person nothing that he or she doesn't earn for himself.

But now we have a situation where an ever increasing portion of our adult population never learns the lesson, because they go through life continuing to get a check on the first of every month.

The rude awakening is coming alright, on the day that the welfare system created in this country collapses under its own financial pressure.

Now there are those who say that this is just so much "sour grapes" from someone who is jealous. That is not the case. The case is that this person believes the welfare system we have created is not only wrong, but the new generation of Americans it has created bodes ill for us all in the future. It is like a wave that keeps picking up speed every year that goes by and continues to pull the fabric of our society thinner and thinner.

The problem comes to a head during the next decade, when the supply of money from those of us who, increasingly, do not have, is not large enough to support those who have learned that it is not necessary to work.

It is time to turn off the faucet. The well is out of water.

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— Notice —
Any stray dogs found on the farm of Jimmy Wells at Barterville will be disposed of.
Jimmy Wells

INSPECTION PERIOD FOR THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Nicholas County property tax roll will be opened for inspection from May 24 through June 7, 1982. Under the supervision of the property valuation administrator or one of the deputies, any property owner may inspect the tax roll.

This is the January 1, 1982 assessment on which state, county, and school taxes for 1982 will be due.

The tax roll is in the office of the property valuation administrator in the county courthouse and may be inspected between the hours 9:00 and 12:00 and 1:00 and 4:00 weekdays and 9:00 and 12:00 Saturdays.

Any person who wishes to appeal an assessment must file a written letter or petition with the county clerk within the above period of time. This letter or petition must state the reasons for appeal, identify the property in question, and state the taxpayer's estimate of actual fair cash value. (KRS 133.120)

Rose Brady
Property Valuation Administrator,
Nicholas County

BEST COPY AVAILABLE