

Friday, March 5, 1976

UNEMPLOYMENT

On the economic front -the U.S. unemployment rate continues to decline; according to figures released today.

Also total employment again reaching its pre-recession peak. Eighty-Six-point-Three Million Americans - again gainfully employed. Government expert Julius Shiskin saying: "The recovery continues to be stronger in employment than following the recession of Nineteen-Fifty-Seven and 'Fifty-Eight."

ATLANTA

The flu epidemic currently sweeping the nation was called today - ~~the worst in eight years~~; the worst since the Hong Kong flu epidemic - ~~of~~ 'Sixty-Eight and 'Sixty-Nine. Government doctors at Atlanta saying the disease ^{is a} ~~has already~~ claimed the lives ~~of nearly thirteen hundred victims.~~

^{True}
Adding it is ~~above the~~ epidemic ~~level~~ in all parts of the country. While it may have peaked in the Northeast - apparently ^{its} getting worse ~~out~~ West.

And now this -

SPRINGFIELD

On the campaign trail - for President Ford - the start of a two-day swing through Illinois. At Springfield, ^{today} ~~the President~~ proposing an increase in estate tax exemptions - so that owners of family farms can "hand them down from generation to generation, without forced liquidation." The President saying: "Too much labor and love go into the development of a paying farm - to dismantle it with every new generation."

MIAMI BEACH FOLLOW SPRINGFIELD

On the Democratic side - at Miami Beach -

Jimmy Carter ^{was} _^ lashing out today at Scoop Jackson; accusing
the latter of distorting his views - on national security.

Carter saying: "I did not intend to be elected - by
criticizing those who run against me." ^{Then} ~~But~~ _^ adding: "I have
to set the record straight."

POSTAL

An attempt by the Postal Service to close six
hundred rural post offices ^{was} temporarily blocked today in
Washington. Judge Smith saying the Postal Service failed to
comply with its own regulations - one of which requires
ninety days' notice before any post office can be shut down.

international treaty is needed - to combat corporate
bribery world-wide - adding the draft of such a treaty
be submitted to the U.S. Permanent Commission on
Transnational
Corporations - which are now meeting in Lima,
Peru.

SEATTLE

From the Boeing Company in Seattle - an admission today that it was forced to pay nearly Seventy Million to foreign agents over the last six years - to help sell jet planes.

In Washington - the State Department saying an international treaty is needed - to combat ^{Worldwide} corporate bribery, ~~worldwide~~ Adding the draft of such a treaty ^{to} be submitted to the U.N. Permanent Commission on ~~Transnational~~ Corporations ~~which is~~ now meeting in Lima, Peru.

LONDON

Why - nobody seems to know yet; but the value of the British Pound, for some reason - plunged today to its lowest level in history; on the big London market - ending up at a Dollar-Ninety-Eight, American.

NEW YORK

A state bill banning the Concorde supersonic
airliner from New York airports ^{was} ~~is~~ officially signed into law
today by New York Governor Carey. Observers noting though
-the bill's legality is certain to be challenged.

CINCINNATI

The implications of Richard Nixon's recent visit to China were again being discussed today - at a meeting of prominent China-watchers in Cincinnati. The experts agreeing, ~~by and large - Mr. Nixon's reception in China "had the effect of insulting President Ford," insisting, nevertheless,~~ Peking's main purpose - was ~~that of~~ ^{to} "honoring an old friend."

~~But~~ Wilson of the University of London, editor of "The China Quarterly," saying the Chinese were honoring the one person - "who broke the American boycott of China." "And I believe" - said he - "Nixon will be remembered in world history - much more for his China work than for Watergate."

ENERGY

The development of a revolutionary new light bulb - announced today by the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration. The new "Litek" bulb - said to last up to "a decade or more" under normal use; and better still, provide the same amount of light as conventional bulbs - using less than one-third the energy. The potential savings - we are told - "the equivalent of a Half-Million barrels of oil per day."

LIVONIA

~~In the Midwest - it's been a bad week for bank robbers. Yesterday, you may recall, at Fort Wayne, Indiana - two teams of bandits attempting to hold up the same bank at the same time - with disastrous results.~~

Today, at Livonia, Michigan - a new twist ^{on bank robbery.} ~~but the same~~

~~result~~

Six bandits armed with machineguns - ransacking a Livonia bank; dumping their loot into a bag - graciously provided by bank employees; ^{When} about to make good their escape, ~~when~~ the bag exploded automatically - covering them and the money they stole with red dye. The bandits getting away - ^{presumably picked up later in} ~~but~~ empty-handed; and ~~two suspects - later arrested in~~ ^{neighboring} ~~nearby~~ Detroit.

SACRAMENTO

America's new "Queen of the Road" - a pert mother of four named Geri Ann Atherton of Sacramento, California; the winner of a competition - sponsored by the truckers' magazine Open Road.

The new queen - barely five-feet tall - age Thirty-Three - the feminine half of a husband-and-wife trucking team; ^{who} ~~saying she~~ took up driving - to keep her husband company. ^{Queen Geri Ann saying:} ~~Noting~~ "Life can get awful lonely - on the road." And - as many will tell you life can be lonely even in a city swarming with people.
+ 1/2 And now for CBS -