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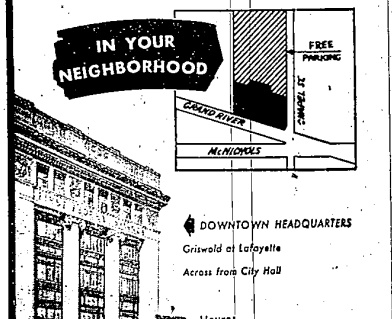

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Across from City Hall

Hours:
Monday thru Thursday 9:30 - 4:00
Friday 9:30 - 6:00

REGISTRATION NOTICE

FOR

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, August 3, 1954

To the Qualified Electors of the Township of Farmington, County of Oakland, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that in conformity with the "Michigan Election Law", I, the undersigned Clerk, will, upon any day, except Sunday and a legal holiday, the day of any regular or special election or primary election, receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said Township, City or Village not already registered who may APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY for such registration. Provided, however, that I can receive no names for registration during the time intervening between the Thirtieth day before any regular, special or official primary election and the day of such election.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING PLACE:

TOWNSHIP OFFICE any day from 9:00 o'clock a.m. to 4:30 o'clock p.m. except Saturday p.m.

and on

THE THIRTIETH DAY PRECEDING SAID ELECTION

Tuesday, July 6, 1954 - - Last Day

at the TOWNSHIP OFFICE from 8:00 o'clock a.m. to 8:00 o'clock p.m. as provided by Section 10, Chapter 1, Part 2(a), Act No. 306, Public Acts of 1929, as amended by Act No. 291, Public Acts of 1945 and Act No. 108, Public Acts of 1951. From 8 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock pm. on each said day for the purpose of REVIEWING the REGISTRATION and REGISTERING such of the qualified electors in said TOWNSHIP, CITY or VILLAGE as SHALL PROPERLY apply therefor.

The name of no person but an ACTUAL RESIDENT of the precinct at the time of registration, and entitled under the constitution, if remaining such resident, to vote at the next election, shall be entered in the registration book.

HARRY N. McCRACKEN, Twp. Clerk

June 24 - July 1

Babson Predicts:

General Business Will Improve In Last Half Of Year But Some Segments Will Require Careful Planning

While most of the columnists and business counselors last December forecast a depression for 1954, I constantly insisted that 1954 would be a "fair business year." This you will find in my Forecast which then appeared in this paper.

General Business

(1) Despite my general optimism for business during the last half-year, there will be many crosscurrents. The improvement over the first six months will be no one-way street. Some industries will lag or fall behind. Others are slated for betterment. Building has held up well, and was the backbone of business in the first half of 1954. The momentum generated should carry through the balance of the year.

(2) Also deserving of attention as in line for continued high activity, or for improvement, are the following industries: Electric power output, aircraft production, rubber manufacturing, household equipment, electrical equipment, petroleum, natural gas, shoes, and textiles. Even the sick coal industry will enjoy some pickup from the very depressed levels experienced during the first six months of 1954.

(3) Due to slip further down, or slated to show the least improvement, are the following industries: Machinery, machine tools, railroad equipment, metal fabricating, steel and iron, and autos and auto parts. In particular, auto output will not match the first half, with competition keener in the last half than at any time since the 1930's.

Sales and Inventories

(4) As in the case of general business discussed above, sales prospects will rule selective. With purchasing power holding well, demand for food products and soft goods will remain at a brisk pace. The public, however, have learned something about watching their pennies. They have become more price-conscious. For this reason, I predict that the mass distributors, such as the grocery and variety chains, will run ahead of the others saleswise, during the last half-year.

(5) Retail sales in general, although about 4% lower dollar-wise, have held up during the first half in terms of physical volume as discounts and other concessions reduced the actual receipts. This is encouraging since it shows that consumers are still willing to spend if the price is reasonable. In terms of units, retail sales will hold up through 1954. Inventories will constantly be reduced during 1954. The retailers who do best in 1954 will be those with the best parking facilities for their customers.

Political Outlook

(6) I forecast that the more liberal attitude on the part of the Eisenhower Administration will surely continue through November and perhaps until the 1956 elections. During the past six months rumors have been spreading to the effect that President Eisenhower will not run again; but there is no agreement at this writing by either party as to who the next candidates will be.

(7) The President has won his conflict with Senator Bricker; the House approved his Tax Bill; the Taft-Hartley Labor Bill has been shelved, to the relief of all; and he has so far kept out of the McCarthy - Army row. I forecast that for the balance of the year he will leave domestic affairs to his associates and devote most of his time to helping Mr. Dulles ward off trouble with Russia and China, and avoid another "Korea".

(8) During the first six months of the year a "New Look" has developed in connection with defense expenditures. Appropriations for foot soldiers and certain classes of airplanes have been cut in favor of items for atomic warfare and guided missiles. Best authorities agree that we will get more protection and fighting strength from this change with less cost. As a promise "to get our boys out of Korea" was a great factor in electing Dwight Eisenhower as President, he naturally will hesitate to send U. S. foot soldiers into Indo-China, at least before the coming November elections.

War and Peace

(9) There will be no World War in 1954 started by Russia or the U. S. A. In the last half of 1954, however, the United States will move closer and closer to the position occupied by Great Britain during the 19th Century. The United States will prepare to engage in small wars anywhere in order to prevent outbreak of a world conflagration.

(10) I predict that the United States in the last six months of 1954 may by-pass the United Nations and try to form a "defensive" league of nations interested in Southeast Asia. The purpose: To keep the rice, tin, and rubber of that area from falling into Communist hands. Most of the arms and military know-how needed by such an alliance of anti-Communist nations in the Far East will be furnished by Uncle Sam. This means that cuts in arms expenditures, already scheduled for the last half or 1954 by the Administration, may not be put into effect. The Korean situation will remain about as is - - "much talkie, no shootie"; but Indo-China will constantly become a greater threat.

(11) Do not forget Europe and the Middle East. France is torn by internal dissention and a blow-off could come there any time. West Germany is growing more impatient with French bickering over the Saar and over the formation of a Western European army including German participation. Russia will strive mightily to widen the split between France and Western Germany by holding out the "bait" of reunion between East and West Germany.

(12) Friction between the Jews and the Arabs in the Middle East is being encouraged by Communist agents. The smouldering fires there could break into flame at any time, requiring a hurry-up call for Uncle Sam's fire department.

Stock Market Outlook

(13) Of course, some day the market (especially the Dow-Jones Industrials) will get a bad wallop with very much lower prices. On the other hand, this may not come during the next few months. Up to this time the high yields of stocks have not appealed so much to investors, owing to the personal tax on both dividends and on income in general. Although stock yields compared with those of twenty years ago are higher if personal taxes are not considered, yet when these personal taxes are deducted, today's yields have not been attractive.

(14) The new Tax Bill and the increased buying for pension funds and investment trusts have, however, increased the demand for common stocks and could hold the market up for some months to come. I forecast that it will be very important to make careful selection of stocks. Don't buy stocks just because they have gone off heavily in price and appear cheap.

(15) Unfortunately, many small concerns will find it more and more difficult to compete with their big competitors. Not only can these big corporations make goods cheaper and have better means of distribution, but they can spend huge sums on advertising, which a smaller concern cannot do. This will be especially evident during the next six months. The companies which will prosper most are those which have inaugurated effective labor-saving programs. Manufacturers will win only as they purchase new labor-saving machinery, spend more money on research and well-directed advertising.

(16) Automobiles will continue to be hard to sell and easier to buy during the last half of 1954. Both the automobile stocks and the cars will be in less demand. There will be more bargains in used cars, discounts on new cars, especially cars of the "independent" manufacturers.

(17) Canada will continue to boom during the second half of 1954, but this may be a good time to take profits on Canadian investments.

Money, Inflation and Interest Rates

(18) When Mr. Eisenhower assumed the Presidency with his Cabinet of "9 millionaires", they proclaimed a new monetary policy which would increase the value of the dollar and raise interest rates. Either fortunately or unfortunately, the economic situation caused a reversal of this policy. The value of the dollar shows no increase over January 1st and this has been hailed by Wall Street as a sign of further inflation. Wall Street has boomed certain common stocks accordingly. Interest rates during the second six months of 1954 should average about as at present.

(19) The fear of involvement in Indo-China is strengthening the commodity markets. This takes some of the pressure off of Secretary Benson and those who have been resisting increased tariffs. I forecast an upward movement in commodity prices - - other than farm prices - - during the balance of 1954.

(20) Money supplies are on the rise again now. They will continue to expand during the last half. Inflationary effects on the price level will be limited as our capacity to produce is now large. Remember, the surest way to squelch an inflationary fire is with a flood of goods. Inflationary effects of the expanded money supply could also be nullified by the change in the Government's method of collecting the corporate income tax. The new tax law may put the large corporations in a pay-as-you-go basis, squeezing their cash holdings.

(21) Any psychological inflationary flare-ups that may take place as a result of war scares, big or little, will not be long-lived. They will definitely be dangerous to follow up. A word of warning: Don't get drawn into any speculative moves in commodities or stocks based on the outbreak of a small war. If the need arises, our Government will move with lightning swiftness to put controls into effect. They are already "triggered". The only real danger of any federal tax increases will come with the outbreak of another war.

Labor, Building and Real Estate

(22) As to unemployment, I will say that this has increased some over last year, but if considered on a per-capita basis, it is even less than that of five years ago. Look for a moderate reduction in the ranks of unemployment during the last six months of 1954.

(23) The improvement which I expect in employment should not, however, be sufficient to make union leaders careless. Jobs will still be very much in demand. This should mean that the last half will see no prolonged strikes.

(24) Most union-management settlements will be made with a moderate amount of give-and-take. Any wage advances will be limited to the neighborhood of a reasonable hourly figure, plus some additional fringe benefits. The Administration and the Labor Leaders will not try to revamp the Taft-Hartley Bill during the last six months of 1954.

(25) My forecast as to the various classes of real estate is as follows:

(a) Large commercial farms will experience a further sag in their land values during the last half-year as farmers' gross income dips lower.

(b) Small farms on the fringe of big city suburbs should hold or rise in price as people get further away from city centers. This move could become an avalanche in the event of really serious war scares.

(c) I look for vacant land in the suburbs to hold its value well. In the big cities it may be another story, unless the land is suitable for parking purposes.

(d) Business properties in the big cities may ease somewhat in price during the last six months of this year. Suburban business properties can be expected to hold up. Demand for more shopping centers will be noticeable during the months to come.

(e) Home property (especially the older houses, particularly in the cities) will continue sagging in price. In the suburbs, the bigger houses, even of recent vintage, will be harder to sell. Most salable home properties will be the newer houses in the middle and lower-price brackets with emphasis on the "ranch-houses" so-called.

(f) In the last half-year, construction will still be a powerful support to our economy as it has been for so long. Seasonally building will hold well, strengthened by continued liberal credit terms. Some boost to building could come in the second half if civilian defense moves create a "dispersal scare". If this happens, look for a rush by many factories to move operations into areas far from bomb-vulnerable cities.

CONCLUSION: I cannot end this Forecast without reminding readers that we are living in a truly New Era, comparable only with the year 1 A. D., 1554 years ago, or the invention of printing 500 years ago. The H-Bomb, in the hands of any ambitious dictator, could bring about unparalled conditions. These changes could make the things, about which I have written, of little value or consequence. Only a great spiritual awakening can save us.

Sentenced To 90 Days For Breaking And Entering

Joseph Trembley, a vagrant in and around Farmington Township, was sentenced to 90 days in the county jail last week at the Farmington Municipal Court on a breaking and entering charge. Trembly was found guilty of breaking into the Gulf Bulk Plant at 31233 Grand River.

Police records reveal that a window was broken and a door unlatched, enabling entry into the bulk plant. Cash in the value of $25 was taken from the cash register and desk doors were rifled.

Fingerprints and footprints at the scene of the break-in compared with Trembley's. He was picked up by State Police a short time later.

Looking Ahead

By DR. GEORGE S. BENSON

(Continued from Page 2A)

government payroll include 408,505 "foreign nationals" working for U. S. military agencies abroad. All together these 2,743,801 federal employees have salaries totaling approximately $9 billion. If one-third of these were cut off, that would be a $3 billion reduction in the budget; and at least another billion in overhead would be lopped off which now is being spent for equipping and supplying them. And the federal payroll is only one spiggot on the flowing waste that could be cut off if a genuine hard-headed effort were made.

Some politicians would say that it is "impractical to talk of cutting the federal payroll quickly by 30 per cent. Yet it could be done in a year's time, without hindering governmental service, if a payroll reduction plan were drafted and carried out. Without a rigid plan it will not be done. The present Administration began a lopping off process, but it quickly slowed down to a trickle. At the rate of reduction during the last two months it would require exactly 25 years to cut off a third of the 2,743,801 jobs. We are not likely to get a balanced budget until the taxpayers demand more speed in cutting out the staggering waste of an overgrown, loose-spending federal bureaucracy.

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