

FOR RELEASE: AM Editions
Friday, July 23, 1965

USDL 6664
Bureau of Labor Statistics
961-2327

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW
CELEBRATES 50TH YEAR
WITH SPECIAL ISSUE

The Monthly Labor Review, the government's oldest magazine, today celebrated its 50th birthday. It is published by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In a golden anniversary issue, the Review, a professional journal specializing in industrial relations and labor economics, included a 64-page special section containing articles by 13 nationally prominent experts in the field; a selection of reprints from past issues spanning the period from the Taft administration to the present; a history of the journal; samples of how the Review's coverage of a variety of topics changed over the years; and a selection of congratulatory letters from a large group of editors and publishers, government officials, and labor and management representatives.

The "regular" issue of the Review, with its usual complement of articles, court decisions, histories of important recent labor developments, book reviews, and 40-page statistical section followed the anniversary section.

Following are quotes from the 13 essays by non-government experts, with title and authorship identified:

There is a general lack of appreciation of the role of labor organizations and collective bargaining in the American community. The popular view is that unions exist to mitigate abuse by managements and to compel wage gains. . . . It is dangerous to American democracy to have the deeper significance of one of its basic institutions so little understood.

John T. Dunlop, Professor of
Economics, Harvard University
"The Unfinished Task"

By the 1960's [as in the 1920's] a great public concern had once again arisen over the benefits and problems incident to automation and other technological advances One cannot assert that the goals [for ameliorating the effects of automation and preserving human values] . . . have been fully achieved. There can be no doubt, however, about the . . . determination to achieve them.

George W. Taylor, Professor of
Industry, University of Pennsylvania
"On Change and Values"

. . . Thousands of businesses are going to rise and fall on the ability of managers to respond to change. Obsolescence of skills and occupations, products and materials, regional economies and jobs . . . will continue . . . The adjustments will not be easy . . . Yet much accommodation is necessary if we are to avoid an attitude of resistance . . . Government policy and collective bargaining processes will necessarily seek methods of accommodation and experiment designed to ease the human consequences of change

William Haber, Dean of the Literary
College, University of Michigan
"Change is the Taskmaster"

. . . . Consider the following [from the July 1927 Review]: "Is the machine that turns out wealth also . . . giving us a permanent jobless class? Is prosperity going to double back on itself and bring us social distress?" While it might be reassuring to reflect that technical change, like sex, is not a discovery of our generation, another plus ca change theme [from the February 1918 Review] . . . is ominous: "Most of the Negroes [migrating north for higher wages and "better treatment" found]" considerable prejudice. . . ."

Lloyd Ulman, Director, Institute of
Industrial Relations, University of
California, Berkeley
"The Constancy of Problems"

. . . New and accelerating forces with the strength of giants twist and wrench the American economy and its social structure "Automation," the "new leisure," "pockets of poverty," the "unemployables," "community action," "economic development,"--these are a few of the short-hand phrases that masquerade the new forces. But it is illumination, not masquerade, that is needed.

Harold Enarson, Academic Vice
President, University of New Mexico
"Relevance is the Test"

. . . We will need not only greater ability to forecast the nature of the changes ahead but also greater willingness to experiment . . . sufficiently ahead of time . . . For the resolution of pressing social and economic problems will not always wait . . .

John Post, Special Assistant to
the Chairman of the Board,
Continental Oil Company
"Look to the Future"

I think it is quite evident that the organized labor movement today, strong as it may still be . . . faces an increasing crisis because of its inability to solve the adaptive problems arising out of the many-faceted changes in the nature of the work force and the changing patterns of work.

Daniel Bell, Professor of Sociology
Columbia University
"The Limitations of Structure"

It may be that arbitration's past successes were attributable, in part, to the relative humbleness of its role. . . . Arbitration can be weakened by freighting it with public law questions which, in our system, should be decided by courts and administrative agencies. . . . Voluntarism is a fragile flower. Arbitration is a consensual procedure. It might not survive the requirement that it do what it is not equipped to do with distinction.

Peter Seitz, Professional Arbitrator
"The Limits of Arbitration"

. . . Tomorrow's citizen . . . will have to deal with labor policy as an integral part of economic policy . . . The working consistency between the various sources achieved by shrewd analysts was perhaps tolerable in the days when we defined an ideal economy as anarchy plus a constable. But in today's world . . . prudent action (and prudent inaction) will require a giant step forward . . .

Stanley Lebergott, Professor of
Economics, Wesleyan University
"Fifty Years On"

. . . Government journalism was born in the Victorian era, and the moral values have apparently carried over; plainness is not necessary to a lady's virtue, but it certainly helps . . . No case can be made for eschewing discussion of vital issues in government journals/ now when the government reaches into every corner of our economic and social life . . . The need is nowhere more conspicuous than in the field of industrial relations . . .

George Brooks, Professor of Industrial
Relations, Cornell University
"On the Propriety of Progress"

. . . The material in the Review is the first place to look for factual statements about the vast array of experience cast up by events in the world of . . . industrial relations. This . . . is a good image and a highly useful role. What can be said against this approach? Well, mainly that it leads to dull reading.

George P. Shultz, Dean, Graduate School
of Business, University of Chicago
"On the Progress of Propriety"

. . . It is precisely because the Review has not confined itself narrowly to statistical studies that it has survived without atrophying . . . Labor economics is not a static field. Practitioners can learn from . . . what some believe to be less scientific disciplines. If the material . . . meets the standards of the Review, it is worth bringing to the attention of those who have found this journal a source book of facts and educated opinion.

Donald M. Irwin, Manager,
Personnel Research and Planning
Chrysler Corporation
"Survival Formula"

. . . The new technological revolution, the rapid growth of our urban population, the great strides toward the capacity to produce abundance, the changes in employment, the nature of jobs, and the location of industry are mere indications of the issues that confront us.

Nat Goldfinger, Director,
Department of Research, AFL-CIO
"Work Plan"

Among the articles in the "regular" issue are:

"Trade Union Positions on Government Ownership," by Peter Henle, BLS, a tracing of generally pro-private ownership philosophy of American labor.

"Interindustry Employment Effects," by Jack Alterman, BLS, a consideration of what effect a billion dollars of input in any given industry will have on the employment of other industries--culmination of a 3-year study.

"Poverty: The Word and the Reality," by Helen Lamale, BLS, a new attempt to define the concept of poverty, using the consumption patterns of families and individuals under varying circumstances.

"Coinage, Commodities, and Count Carli," by Arthur Sackley, BLS, a description of the first price index, compiled in the 18th century with surprisingly modern methods by an Italian mathematician.

Note: Facts on the Monthly Labor Review as a publication are attached.

FACTS ABOUT THE MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW

The Review is one government publication that earns a large part of its own keep. It sells 8,000 annual subscriptions at \$7.50 and from 4,000 to 10,000 single copies at 75 cents each. There is a small free list that covers government officials.

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About 60 percent of the paid circulation (excluding libraries) go to top management (mostly at the level of personnel director and above).

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Review readers are exceptionally interested in the publication. A readership survey concluded in April drew a nearly 85 percent response. A full quarter of the paid subscribers have been taking the publication for 16 or more years; half have been subscribers for 10 years or longer.

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The Review won awards from the American Institute of Graphic Arts Magazine Show two years running, the only government journal invited to compete. Its present typography was selected and the design of its format conceived in 1947 by Professor Charles Pollock of the Art Department of Michigan State University. He is a brother of the late Jackson Pollock.

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Since its inception in 1915 the Review has had only four editors.

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Because of its reputation for objectivity and factual reliability in presentation, the Review is often the reference point in collective bargaining documentations. This has made it referred to as "the bible of industrial relations."

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Typically, it carries between 120 and 128 pages. The "regular" issue which is published just behind the special section of the anniversary is representative of its usual contents and organization. In addition to the statistical section carried monthly at the back of the book, the Review published a detailed statistical supplement based on statistical data issued by all government labor agencies.

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The letters beginning on page 765 reflect something of the character of its circulation and the esteem in which readers hold the Review.