The Queenstown News

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Friday, November 12, 1954

The Employment Situation

Lately there has been a great deal of discussion about the employment situation, with the emphasis on unemployment. As is inevitable in such mattrs, much of the talk seems to have generated more heat than light, and has tended to create an erroneous or distorted view.

This is not to deny the fact that there is unemployment. Recent figures indicate 270,000 out of work in Michigan, which is one of the big surplus-labor areas in the nation. Much of this unemployment is due to seasonal shut downs in the automotive industry. Late reports also indicate full-time unemployment in Illinois at 350,000. To take another example, sales of coal have dropped, and again the unemployed rolls show the trend. But such events are not reflections of the whole picture, and in the cases mentioned there is real hope that changes for the better are coming.

Secretary of Labor Mitchell recently wrote a review of labor's status which appeared in a number of large dailies. It contains some highly interesting facts and opinions and it ma yhelp to correct a number of misconceptions.

Mr. Mitchell begins by stating that "the working men and women of America are doing well." For the past 2 years, production line workers have averaged $70 a week. In September, the average reached $71.86, the highest level for that month in history. Take-home pay—the amount the worker actually gets after all the payroll deductions are made—also reached a new high of $66.78 in September.

Then the Secretary observed that "this is not the full story of our progress"—obviously, if prices had continued to show substantial increases, the mere wage figures would have small meaning. But, for two years, prices have shown a remarkable degree of stability. So our "real wages"—our actual purchasing power—have risen too.

Mr. Mitchell does not minimize unemployment—the government, he writes, is taking all possible steps to reduce it. But he points out that ,while there are just over 3,000,000 unemployed, 62,000,000 people are employed. He writes, "I believe that in our national concern over the welfare of the individual worker this employment side of the picture has received too little attention."

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ROASLIE MILLER

late of said county, deceased, who died without leaving personal estate, but leaving certain real estate in the State of Maryland. Pursuant to the Order of said Court all resident and non-resident creditors of said deceased are hereby warned and notified to file their claims against said deceased, with the vouchers thereof legally authenticated in said Court on or before the 21st day of May, 1955. The law provides that no claim not field on or before the date mentioned can thereafter be asserted against such real estate in the hands of a purchaser for value.

Given under my hand this 10th day of November, 1954.

JAMES EUGENE MILLER
Administrator of the estate of Rosalie Miller, deceased.

Date: November 10, 1954
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