

Since some may suppose that government subsidies and aids were helpful in getting the railroads underway, and since a new era of subsidies portends, it will be well to begin the account with the building of the railroads and explore some of the varied effects of this before taking up regulation and control. 

Next: Aiding the Railroads—1830-1871.

Learning by Doing

IDEAS made possible our nation's growth. We are a venturesome, valorous, risk-taking people who backed ideas with savings.

If the labor unions would back their ideas with the money collected from their dues-paying members and, instead of striking against business, go into a business for themselves and prove that they can operate it—can run full time at all times, pay higher wages than present management, have shorter hours, better working conditions, and make enough money to keep operating and pay their shareowners (dues payers) a fair return on their investment—they would get a better education in the relationship of profits to jobs and job security, to the standard of living, and of productivity to wage increases.

Steel men, automobile men, coal-mining men, mill owners, and hundreds of others have twitted unions to make good their claims to buy a company, run it, and prove they can do so better than those they now criticize and strike against. It's wide open, and all can step in and try it. But, Mr. Unionman, don't overlook the 52 per cent Federal tax on profits.

The big unions are reported to have millions of dollars on hand. Why not buy a company, and run it, and prove that wages can be increased without setting the stage for higher inflation?

E. F. HUTTON

IDEAS ON



LIBERTY

THE PROBLEM

DEAN RUSSELL

THE MOST difficult part of solving a problem is usually the identifying of the problem itself.

I observed this difficulty in an extreme form as a recent "witness" on the TV program, "The Advocates." The issue was non-military foreign aid, and I was testifying *against* these government-to-government grants by our State Department.

The witnesses in favor of continuing and increasing our government's grants and gifts to other governments were three employees of the State Department, a famous foreign sociologist who is currently Visiting Professor at Columbia, and their lawyer. All five of them identify the problem behind our foreign aid programs as "hungry people in underdevel-

oped nations all around the world." Since they believe that's the problem, it follows automatically that their solution is to feed the hungry people. And that's about as far as they go.

I am convinced, however, that the fundamental problem is more political and economic than it is biological. And in my attempt to identify the problem, I ask myself why these people are hungry. Is their inability to produce enough food (or to produce goods and services to exchange for food) due to stupidity or laziness? I think not. Then just what causes their continuing hunger, generation after generation?

I try to identify the probable cause in this fashion: I have a small amount of liquid capital, that is, dollars which can be converted by labor into the real capi-

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