

## Charity spending rate exceeds inflation rate

**United Press International**  
NEW YORK — Charitable contributions in the United States have reached a volume of \$100 million a day, increasing since 1955 at a rate faster than inflation.

Giving grew from an estimated \$6.66 billion in 1955 to \$47.74 billion in 1980. And it grew to \$53.62 billion in 1981 and is still growing, says Samuel L. Blumenfeld, a Boston journalist.

"We are the most charitable people in the world," Blumenfeld told United Press International. "We give about \$180 per year per capita and our gifts amount to more than the entire national budgets of all but nine of 160 nations listed in the World Almanac. By comparison, the average Englishman gives about \$20 a year."

Blumenfeld's said that anyone can start a charity. All that is needed is to find a worthy cause and the money to buy a mailing list and pay for the initial printing and mailing — possibly \$25,000.

The Internal Revenue Service lists 250,000 such tax-exempt charities. They all use the mails. Even the radio and TV evangelists build up selective mailing lists for follow-up.

"Direct mail appeals are the clinchers," Blumenfeld said. "Such letters are written by skilled professionals and the aim is to get people to reach for the checkbook right now. The appeal that is laid aside even for a day seldom wins a check."

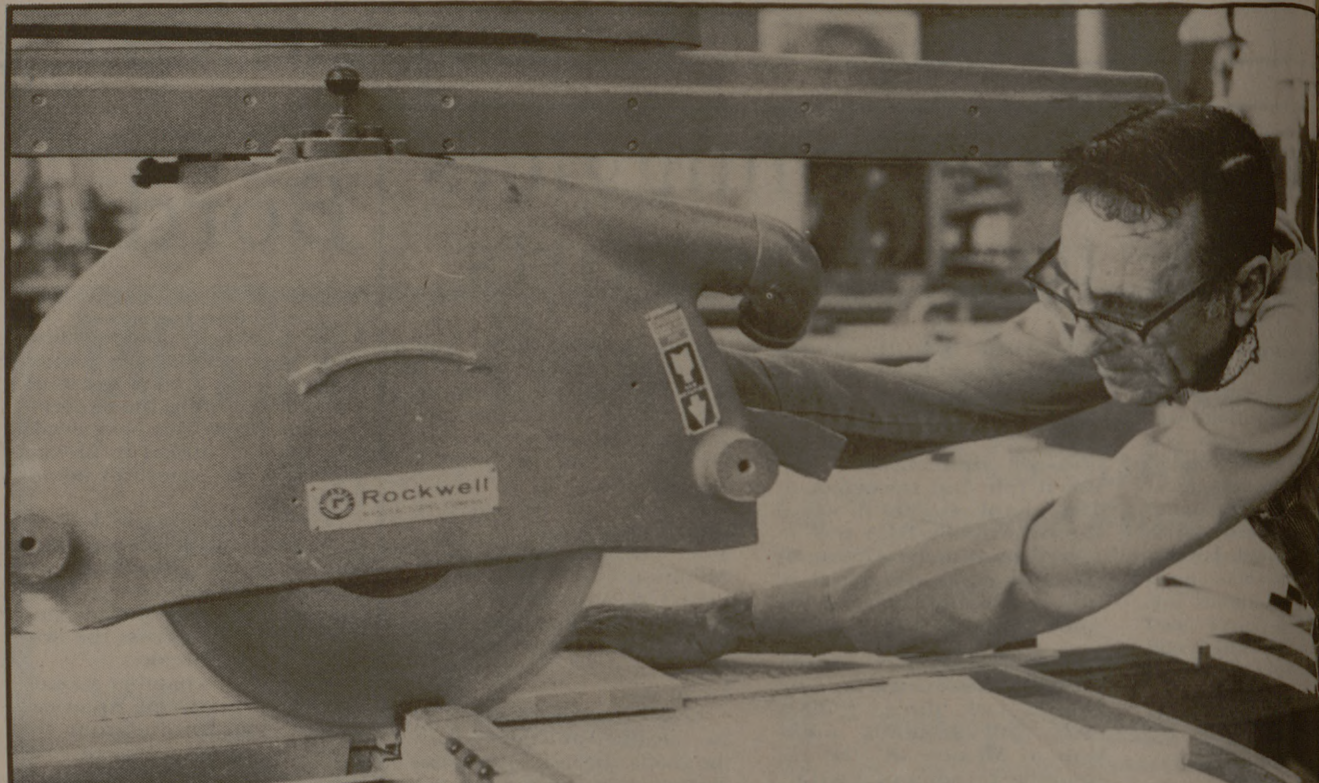
Almost half the annual contributions go to religious causes, \$24.85 billion in 1981, accord-

ing to the American Association of Fund Raising Counsel. Education, health care, hospitals, social agencies, arts and humanities and service groups follow in order.

Blumenfeld said the public has an exaggerated idea of the amount of charlatany and fraud in charitable appeals. He said such practices account for less than 2 percent of collections.

Both Carl Bakal, author of *Charity USA*, and Brian O'Connell of the Private Sector in Washington, an association of charities, agreed.

However, Bakal said that the laws on charity frauds are too lax. O'Connell agreed saying that there have been well publicized cases where administrative and fund raising costs have soared out of hand.



Cutting it straight

Charles Kruger, a carpenter for the Physical Plant, lines up a board to be cut that will be used in building a cabinet. The Physical Plant's carpenter

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Youth Meeting at 5:00 PM  
Nursery: All Events



Activities Hot Line - 822-7063

## It's down hill after 65

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — Just as infants are not young adults, the elderly are not older middle-aged people. Geriatric specialists say the medical problems of the elderly are different and more doctors must recognize that.

The Association of American Medical Colleges, noting America is graying rapidly, recently urged the nation's medical schools to increase their emphasis on care for people over 65. As part of a series of recommendations\* to improve the training of physicians — and

cautioning there always are individual exceptions—their report issued a report about the changes in the body with old age:

—Heart muscles grow in size and thickness, become pumping capability difficult. The lungs lose elastic. Involuntary breathing capacity diminishes.

—The excretion of the kidneys tends to slow down with aging, and the liver and pancreas become less effective.

—Bone mass decreases. Reserve muscle strength is lost. There is less ability to repair cartilage, leading to arthritis.

—Visual acuity diminishes. Visual fields narrow. Eye's ability to adapt to levels of light is slowed.

—The ability of taste and touch senses diminishes. The skin becomes and less effective in people against their environment.

The association says it is accumulating that the single cause for aging said it is becoming a biological process, but which the social environment also is involved.

Such factors as life expectancy, educational levels, nutrition, care, economic status, and relationships all play a part.

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