

The Week That Was: 2019-03-09 (March 9, 2019)

Brought to You by SEPP (www.SEPP.org)

The Science and Environmental Policy Project

Quote of the Week: *“I would rather have questions that can't be answered than answers that can't be questioned.”* – Richard Feynman

Number of the Week: 220 times more

THIS WEEK:

By Ken Haapala, President, Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)

Rising Seas – At Sea, or Shore? The latest Summary for Policymakers of its full Assessment Report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC, AR-5, SPM, 2014) declared that sea level rise is accelerating. Numerous studies have come out in support of that view. As shown in the 2008 report of the Nongovernment International Panel for Climate Change (NIPCC, 2008), with the ending of the last Ice Age about 18,000 to 20,000 years ago, sea levels have risen about 400 feet (120 meters). At first, the rise was slow, then rapid, then for the past several thousand years slowing to about 7 to 8 inches (18 to 20 cm) per century. There is some question about the variation during the Little Ice Age and the period following it called the industrial period since 1850.

AR-5 claimed a strong relationship between carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and surface temperatures with increasing emissions are causing a significant rise in surface temperatures. The implied relationship is not found in 40 years of comprehensive satellite measurements of temperature trend estimates in atmosphere where greenhouse gases cause warming. As suggested by William Happer in 2011, a doubling of CO₂ may cause a warming of one-degree C (2F), far less than the three-degrees C, or more, claimed by the IPCC.

The IPCC report predicted / projected an increase in sea level rise of 0.2 meters to 0.95 meters by 2100 (8 to 37 inches), depending on CO₂ emissions. This is a jump of five times the rate of increase for several thousand years. Since the IPCC prediction / projection, a great deal of effort has been made in discovering an acceleration in sea level rise. One of the more promising method has been using satellite measurements of sea levels.

However, these measurements have several significant issues. The major issue is that due to shift from land to water and changing tides and wave action, satellite measurements cannot be calibrated using historic tidal gauges. Estimates taken in the middle of the oceans vary due to waves, weather patterns, long-term wind patterns, etc. Tidal gauges in the western part of the Pacific Ocean show significant variation lasting years or decades due to wind patterns. Thus, the best guide to future sea levels in a coastal region is to use local tidal gauges adjusted for a minor increase for time – say 7 to 8 inches per century, as stated in the 2008 report of the Nongovernment International Panel for Climate Change (NIPCC, 2008).

The latest reports (Aug 8, 2018) from NOAA Tides and Currents Section supports such a view. The reports state:

*“The variations in sea level trends seen here primarily reflect differences in rates and sources of vertical land motion. Areas experiencing little-to-no change in relative sea level are illustrated in green, including stations consistent with **average global sea level rise rate of 1.7-1.8 mm/yr.**”*
[about 7 inches per century, Boldface added]

When discussing tidal gauges in Tidewater Virginia, which is sinking, the reports state:

*“Stations illustrated with positive sea level trends (yellow-to-red) are experiencing both global sea level rise, and **lowering or sinking of the local land, causing an apparently exaggerated rate of relative sea level rise.** Stations illustrated with negative trends (blue-to-purple) are experiencing global sea level rise and a greater vertical rise in the local land, causing an apparent decrease in relative sea level.”* [Boldface added]

Claims of dramatic increases in sea level rise are without hard evidence. They are based on speculation and models that are poorly tested.

As discussed in previous TWTWs (e.g. Feb 23), many cities along the Coastal Plain and Gulf Coast of the US are sinking from ground water extraction and, possibly, in the Gulf from oil extraction. Claiming the sinking is from sea level rise is similar to the captain of the Titanic claiming his ship sank because the seas rose. The excuse hides the need to find alternatives to ground water extraction, such as desalination plants as being used in Carlsbad, California, based on Israeli technology. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy – NIPCC, Challenging the Orthodoxy and Defending the Orthodoxy

National Security: Regardless of political affiliation or faction, it is disturbing to read some groups invoking patriotism to advance their political ideology. Such was done by the signers of a letter to President Trump defending the use of the “rigorously peer-reviewed National Climate Assessment and applying that to national security policy.” As TWTW has stated, there is little hard evidence supporting the National Climate Assessment, and much of what passes as evidence is speculation using long-term predictions / projections from climate models that fail to accurately describe what is occurring in the atmosphere, where the greenhouse gas effect occurs. If there is anything that needs rigorous re-assessment, it is the National Climate Assessment. It totally ignores the obligation of its authors to assess natural climate change – a glaring deficiency.

Perhaps even more disturbing is that the authors of the letter tried to wrap their views with the cloak of patriotism. Apparently, they are unaware of the famous 1775 quotation from Samuel Johnson: “Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel.” Meanings vary, but one is that those who wish to deceive, often claim their motives are patriotic. The group wrote:

*“**We support the science-driven patriots in our national security community who have rightly seen addressing climate change as a threat reduction issue, not a political one, since 1989.**”*
[Boldface added]

Apparently, no one is questioning the patriotism of those who prepared threat analyses claiming carbon dioxide is a major threat to American security. What is questioned is the science. Where is the hard evidence?

Certainly, the green fleet on which the Navy spent hundreds of millions to fly jet planes on biofuels under former Secretary of the Navy Mabus, a signer of the letter, did little to lessen the Navy's reliance on fuels. In fact, if implemented more fully, biofuels may increase a threat to the Navy. Aviation fuel, though not specific to Navy standards, is available world-wide. With no breakthrough in technology, biofuels depend largely on corn grown in the Midwest and Brazil, which would make supply lines more vulnerable, not less vulnerable.

Similarly, other signers of the letter promoted wind power, which is unreliable. How would relying on wind power improve any security dependent on electronics?

As Jerry Taylor, assisted by former Chief of Naval Operations Thomas Hayward, points out, the US has massive resources in coal, oil, and natural gas. How does abandoning these resources promote national security?

When President Reagan decided to question the common belief, well-established among government agencies, that the economy of the Soviet Union was comparable to that of the US, many claimed that Reagan was wrong. However, few claimed that the questioning of the common belief was contrary to national security as the signees of the current letter do:

"Let's drop the politics, and allow our national security and science agencies to do their jobs."

Reagan proved to be right, underscoring that the concepts used to prepare national security estimates need to be challenged frequently, particularly if the concepts are based on computer models in a field in which information is changing constantly, such as climate science. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Defending the Orthodoxy.

A Different Letter: In part, prompted by the above-mentioned letter, a number of independent scientists and others are proposing a different letter be sent to President Trump. The different letter calls for an independent review into the National Climate Assessment, particularly as it applies to the published National Threat Assessment.

Such a letter could point out that the basis for current alarm is the 1979 Charney Report, which stated the speculation of the participants, particularly that of the climate modelers. Since then, we have had a dramatic increase in the types and quality of information available regarding the atmosphere and greenhouse gases such as CO₂. The new information is rendering the assumptions and speculation in the Charney Report out-of-date to the point that the assumptions have become a myth embraced by those who ignore advancing science. The major myths are

- **CO₂ is a pollutant.** In fact, CO₂ is greatly benefiting the planet by enriching plant production. (The CO₂ Coalition has a new pamphlet on this.)
- **CO₂ is causing dire global warming endangering human lives.** Increasing CO₂ is causing a modest warming making the planet more livable.
- **CO₂ is causing more severe storms, etc.** There is no hard evidence, instead the best evidence indicates that increasing CO₂ may cause a decrease in storm severity by lessening the temperature differential between the tropics and the polar regions.
- **CO₂ is causing dire sea level rise.** As discussed above, there is no hard evidence of this.

- **CO2 is acidifying the oceans.** CO2 may cause a slight decline in pH of oceans, but it is promoting the symbiotic relationship between plants and corals, which is needed for growth of corals. One only needs to look at the age of the White Cliffs of Dover and other extensive lime deposits to realize great quantities of limestone, and similar coral deposits, were formed during the ages of significant atmospheric CO2.

Of course, SEPP is strongly in favor of such a letter, but cannot endorse it because of a potential conflict of interest. The proposed head of such an independent review is Will Happer, a friend of SEPP Chairman emeritus Fred Singer and other members of SEPP's board. This is especially disappointing, because Happer is an expert in atomic, molecular, and optical physics, fields needed to understand the greenhouse effect and missing in climate science. See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy, Change in US Administrations, and Social Benefits of Carbon Dioxide.

The Greenhouse Effect: In the last two issues, TWTW discussed the major natural greenhouse gases, their general influence, how data are collected on their influence in the atmosphere, and how data are compiled making it meaningful for researchers. This section was planned to discuss, in general, what happens in the atmosphere as outgoing infrared energy flows from the surface of the earth to space. However, the discussion was too obtuse, or as one reader wrote, not sufficiently clear before the second cup of coffee. We will have a detailed discussion about the science involved in a later TWTW; meanwhile we have a few notes.

Unfortunately, many commentators credit Svante Arrhenius with the discovery. In 1896, Arrhenius made careful calculations of what he estimated to be the effect of a doubling of CO2 needed to explain the Ice Ages. About 10 years later, Arrhenius wrote a second paper (referenced later), effectively reducing his calculations of the greenhouse effect from CO2. Apparently, Arrhenius never fully grasped the concept of greenhouse gases. The second paper by Arrhenius is ignored by proponents of CO2-caused global warming.

The key issue is how outgoing infrared radiation excites greenhouse gas molecules and how these molecules interfere with the radiation reaching space.

TO BE CONTINUED:

Hurricanes Intensifying: Judith Curry has finished the next to last part of her seven-part series about possible human cause for hurricanes intensifying, becoming more frequent, etc. Other than Hurricane Harvey, with its unusual flooding of the Houston area of Texas when it stalled, she found no basis for assuming humans have interfered with hurricanes. As she states:

“Convincing detection and attribution of individual extreme weather events such as hurricanes requires:

- *a very long time series of high-quality observations of the extreme event*
- *an understanding of the variability of extreme weather events associated with multi-decadal ocean oscillations, which requires at least a century of observations*
- *climate models that accurately simulate both natural internal variability on timescales of years to centuries and the extreme weather events”*

Simply put, the data for conclusions do not exist. Unfortunately, for some, as long as the data don't exist to contradict, let's predict! See links under Changing Weather.

Germany's Auto Industry: Paul Homewood had a very interesting post on the importance of the auto industry to Germany. According to the graph in the article on "Industrial Composition of Germany's Economy," Automaking was the largest industry by far in 2017 at 696 billion euros up almost 90% since 2007. Retail was second at 339 billion up less than 30% since 2007. Medical, chemicals; engineering are way down the list and growing slowly. The growth of this industry is critical to Germany. Restricting CO2 emissions jeopardizes the industry.

As the CO2 Coalition states in its new pamphlet, fossil fuels are critical to the US, and CO2 emissions are greatly the environment. Our nation is prospering using the power of fossil fuels and the products from fossil fuels. It seems as if those claiming CO2 emissions are dangerous to humanity and a threat to this nation's security do not know not of what they speak. See links under Benefits of Carbon Dioxide, Questioning European Green, and Article # 1.

Number of the Week: 220 Times: According to IPCC advocate Neville Nicholls, Professor Emeritus, School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment, Monash University, Australia: "in 2015 over 15,000 scholarly papers were published with the topic of 'climate change', 'greenhouse effect', or 'global warming' as the topic." "In 1988, the year the IPCC was established, only 68 scholarly articles published on these topics. With such strong and growing media and expert interest, how can we fail?"

This is an increase of 220 times in the number of papers published on the subject. Yet, during the 27 years covered, the official estimates of the effect of a doubling of CO2 did not change and the error range of the estimates remained the same. Is there a problem with the science? See links under Below the Bottom Line.

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Science: Is the Sun Rising?

Solar input to high latitudes and the global ice volume

By Donald Rapp, Ralf Ellis and Clive Best, Climate Etc. Mar 7, 2019

<https://judithcurry.com/2019/03/07/solar-input-to-high-latitudes-and-the-global-ice-volume/#more-24799>

[SEPP Comment: An effort to solve a problem with the standard Milankovitch theory.]

A Month Without Sunspots

By Tony Phillips, Space Weather, Mar 6, 2019

<https://spaceweatherarchive.com/2019/03/06/a-month-without-sunspots/>

Climategate Continued

ClimateGate continues – the Mann Hockeystick University of Arizona emails are now public

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Mar 4, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/04/climategate-continues-the-mann-hockeystick-university-of-arizona-emails-are-now-public/>

"After years of trying to suppress their release, and finally being ordered to be released by a judge, they are now public, and we have them here."

Censorship

Peter Ridd Update

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 8, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/08/peter-ridd-update/>

Challenging the Orthodoxy -- NIPCC

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Physical Science

Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2013

<https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-II/CCR-II-Full.pdf>

Summary: <http://www.nipccreport.org/reports/ccr2a/pdf/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts

Idso, Idso, Carter, and Singer, Lead Authors/Editors, 2014

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/climate-change-reconsidered-ii-biological-impacts/>

Summary: <https://www.heartland.org/media-library/pdfs/CCR-IIb/Summary-for-Policymakers.pdf>

Climate Change Reconsidered II: Fossil Fuels

By Multiple Authors, Bezdek, Idso, Legates, and Singer eds., Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change, Draft Summary for Policymakers, NIPCC, 2019

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Climate-Change-Reconsidered-II-Fossil-Fuels-FULL-Volume-with-covers.pdf>

Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming

The NIPCC Report on the Scientific Consensus

By Craig D. Idso, Robert M. Carter, and S. Fred Singer, NIPCC, Nov 23, 2015

<http://climatechangereconsidered.org/>

Download with no charge

<https://www.heartland.org/policy-documents/why-scientists-disagree-about-global-warming>

Nature, Not Human Activity, Rules the Climate

S. Fred Singer, Editor, NIPCC, 2008

http://www.sepp.org/publications/nipcc_final.pdf

Challenging the Orthodoxy

The Truth About Greenhouse Gases

By William Happer, First Things, June 2011 [H/t Willie Soon]

<https://www.firstthings.com/article/2011/06/the-truth-about-greenhouse-gases>

“Men, it has been well said, think in herds; it will be seen that they go mad in herds, while they only recover their senses slowly, one by one.” – By Charles Mackay, “Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds,” second edition.

30 years of NOAA tide gauge data debunk 1988 Senate hearing climate alarmist claims

Guest essay by Larry Hamlin, WUWT, Mar 5, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/05/30-years-of-noaa-tide-gauge-data-debunk-1988-senate-hearing-climate-alarmist-claims/>

Link to data: Tides and Currents,

By Staff Writers, NOAA, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, Accessed Revised, Aug 8, 2018

https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/sltrends_us.html

U.S. Linear Relative Sea Level (RSL) trends and 95% Confidence Intervals (CI) in mm/year and in ft/century

By Staff Writers, NOAA, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, Accessed Revised, Aug 8, 2018

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/mslUSTrendsTable.html>

Climate Science's Myth-Buster

It's time to be scientific about global warming, says climatologist Judith Curry.

By Guy Sorman, City Journal, Winter 2019 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.city-journal.org/global-warming>

Meet the White House's New Chief Climate Change Skeptic

By Dan Charles, NPR, Mar 1, 2019

<https://www.npr.org/2019/03/01/698073442/heres-the-white-houses-top-climate-change-skeptic>

"A military person doesn't underestimate the enemy. A business person doesn't underestimate the competition," Socolow says. And even if, as Happer insists, there's uncertainty about the course of climate change, the U.S. can't afford to underestimate those risks.

[SEPP Comment: Nor can it afford crippling the economy to fight a vaguely understood enemy.]

Global Warming Energy Restrictions Threaten U.S. National Security

By James Taylor, Heartland Institute, Mar 2019

https://www.heartland.org/_template-assets/documents/publications/GlobalWarmingNatSec.pdf

China and the Pause

By David Whitehouse, GWPF, mar 8, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/china-and-the-pause/>

“Chinese climate scientists: The so-called hiatus in global temperature is illuminating, significant and real.

“Using satellite data they found a hiatus in China between 2001-15.”

America needs President Trump's Climate Science Committee

Independent scientists must review alarmist “science” that is driving anti-fossil fuel policies

By John Droz, WUWT, Mar 8, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/08/america-needs-president-trumps-climate-science-committee/>

Defending the Orthodoxy

Letter to the President of the United States: 58 Senior Military and National Security Leaders Denounce NSC Climate Panel

By John Kerry, Chuck Hagel, Ray Mabus, etc. The Center for Climate & Security, Mar 5, 2019

<https://climateandsecurity.org/letter-to-the-president-of-the-united-states-nsc-climate-panel/>

Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, Summary for Policymakers

By Staff Writers, IPCC, 2014

https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/AR5_SYR_FINAL_SPM.pdf

U.N. Predicts Disaster if Global Warming Not Checked

By Peter James Spielmann, AP, June 29, 1989 [H/t GWPF]

<https://apnews.com/bd45c372caf118ec99964ea547880cd0>

“A senior U.N. environmental official says entire nations could be wiped off the face of the Earth by rising sea levels if the global warming trend is not reversed by the year 2000.”

Climate momentum hits Energy Committee

By Jeremy Dillon, E&E News reporter, Mar 4, 2019

<https://www.eenews.net/eedaily/2019/03/04/stories/1060122875>

Support is surging for teens' climate change lawsuit

The U.S. Constitution protects the right to a safe climate, say 30,000 kids and eight members of Congress in support of the suit

By Laura Parker, National Geographic, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2019/03/youth-climate-change-lawsuit-grows-support/>

[SEPP Comment: Does the Constitution protect us against a Younger Dryas event?]

Questioning the Orthodoxy

How bad science gets used for power and profit by some activists

By Matt Ridley, Rational Optimist, Mar 3, 2019

<http://www.rationaloptimist.com/blog/a-surge-in-pseudoscience/>

“Some people are willing to forgive exaggeration and error if it is in a good cause, like increasing concern about plastics or climate change. This is a risky strategy because it encourages a Trump-like refusal to believe evidence even when that evidence is good. If we use up our energies panicking about phantom hobgoblins, we might have none left for the real scares: the over-fishing of the oceans, the effect of invasive alien species on island wildlife and the fact that polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), once used in the electrical industry but long since banned, still exist in high enough concentrations in British waters to prevent killer whales from breeding.”

[SEPP Comment: The last assertion may be questionable.]

New Study: Australians Were 600% More Likely To Die From Cold Than Heat During 2000-2009

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, Mar 4, 2019

<http://notrickszone.com/2019/03/04/new-study-australians-were-600-more-likely-to-die-from-cold-than-heat-during-2000-2009/>

“Considering the death toll for cold weather events hasn't been declining in recent decades, and that cold weather is far more deadly than hot weather, perhaps there should be more of an emphasis on policies and practices that keep citizens safe during cold weather events in this “global warming” era.”

Our Planet Is Not Fragile

By Walter Williams, ICECAP, Mar 6, 2019

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/political-climate/our_planet_is_not_fragile1/

2019 Global Temps Prediction: The Entries Are In

By Staff Writers, GWPF, Mar 6, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/the-entries-are-in/>

Climate Change Theory: What's Wrong with it?

By William Lippincott, American Thinker, Mar 8, 2019

https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2019/03/climate_change_theory_whats_wrong_with_it.html

Too much fuel causes extreme bush fires, not climate change

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Mar 6, 2019

<https://joannenova.com.au/2019/03/too-much-fuel-causes-extreme-bush-fires-not-climate-change/>

Global Warming off the hook? Alien species are primary cause of recent global extinctions

By Charles the moderator, WUWT, Mar 3, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/03/alien-species-are-primary-cause-of-recent-global-extinctions/>

Link to paper: Alien versus native species as drivers of [some] recent extinctions

By Tim M Blackburn, Céline Bellard and Anthony Ricciardi, *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, Mar 4, 2019

<https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/fee.2020>

Stop the anti-climate science totalitarians

They want to upend and transform America, but demand No Debate on underlying “science”

By Paul Driessen, WUWT, Mar 9, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/09/stop-the-anti-climate-science-totalitarians/>

After Paris!

UK CO2 Trends—Handy Guide

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 5, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/05/uk-co2-trends-handy-guide/>

Change in US Administrations

Dems raise alarm over proposed White House climate council

By Miranda Green, The Hill, Mar 1, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/432207-democratic-lawmakers-raise-alarm-over-proposed-white-house-climate>

Dozens of ex-officials warn Trump against White House panel on climate change

By Brett Samuels, The Hill, Mar 5, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/432675-dozens-of-ex-officials-warn-trump-against-white-house-panel-on>

Former Defense Leaders Warn White House It's 'Dangerous' To Downplay Climate Change

By Dalia Mortada, NPR, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.npr.org/2019/03/05/700462955/former-defense-leaders-warn-white-house-its-dangerous-to-downplay-climate-change>

Trump Again Seeks Deep Cuts in Renewable Energy Funding

By Ari Natter, Bloomberg, Mar 7, 2019

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-07/trump-said-to-again-look-for-deep-cuts-in-renewable-energy-funding>

“Programs have financed research into electric cars, wind power”

“2020 budget would be cut to \$700 million, from \$2.3 billion”

[SEPP Comments: If such products are competitive on the market as proclaimed, why do they need subsidies?]

Social Benefits of Carbon Dioxide

What Rising CO2 Means for Global Food Security

By Staff Writers, The CO2 Coalition, Feb 25, 2019

<https://co2coalition.org/2019/02/25/new-white-paper-what-rising-co2-means-for-global-food-security/>

British winemakers produce record 15.6 million bottles last year

By Press Association 2019

<https://www.swindoadvertiser.co.uk/news/national/17477552.british-winemakers-produce-record-156-million-bottles-last-year/>

[SEPP Comment: The Romans established vineyards and wineries in Britain, which were lost during the Little Ice Age.]

Problems in the Orthodoxy

Europe Spars Over Its Own Green Deal as Germany Urges Prudence

By Ewa Krukowska, Bloomberg, Mar 4, 2019

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-04/europe-spars-over-its-own-green-deal-as-germany-urges-prudence>

Seeking a Common Ground

Not Threatened By Climate Change: Orkney Islands

Guest Essay by Kip Hansen, WUWT, Mar 8, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/08/not-threatened-by-climate-change-orkney-islands/>

[SEPP Comment: Were observatories built in such cloudy sites between 2000 and 1500 BC, as suggested by HH Lamb?]

Review of Recent Scientific Articles by CO2 Science

Cycad Growth Enhanced Under Elevated CO2

Nackley, L.L., Midgley, G.F., Bösenberg, J.D.W. and Donaldson, J.S. 2018. A cycad's non-saturating response to carbon dioxide enrichment indicates Cenozoic carbon limitation in pre-historic plants. *Austral Ecology* 43: 447-455. Mar 8, 2019

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V22/mar/a5.php>

The Non-effects of Ocean Acidification on a Marine Microalgae

Hu, S., Wang, Y., Wang, Y., Zhao, Y., Zhang, X., Zhang, Y., Jiang, M. and Tang, X. 2018. Effects of elevated pCO₂ on physiological performance of marine microalgae *Dunaliella salina* (Chlorophyta, Chlorophyceae). *Journal of Oceanology and Limnology* 36: 317-328., Mar 7, 2019

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V22/mar/a4.php>

Temperature-related Human Mortality in Southern New England

Weinberger, K.R., Kirwa, K., Eliot, M.N., Gold, J., Suh, H.H. and Wellenius, G.A. 2018.

Projected changes in temperature-related morbidity and mortality in Southern New England.

Epidemiology 29: 473-481. Mar 6, 2019

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V22/mar/a3.php>

The Growth Response of Two Macroalgal Species to Ocean Acidification and Nutrient Supply

Ober, G.T. and Thornber, C.S. 2017. Divergent responses in growth and nutritional quality of coastal macroalgae to the combination of increased $p\text{CO}_2$ and nutrients. *Marine Environmental Research* 131: 69-79. March 4, 2019

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V22/mar/a2.php>

Measurement Issues -- Surface

Jones at Rutherglen – More Cooling Generates Global Warming

By Jennifer Marohasy, Her Blog, Mar 6, 2019 [H/t WUWT]

<https://jennifermarohasy.com/2019/03/jones-at-rutherglen-more-cooling-generates-global-warming/>

Measurement Issues -- Atmosphere

UAH Temperatures, February 2019: Maps and Graphs

By Staff Writers, Global Temperature Report, University of Alabama, Huntsville, March 2019

https://www.nsstc.uah.edu/climate/2019/february2019/201902_map.png

https://www.nsstc.uah.edu/climate/2019/february2019/tlt_201902_bar.png

Is Satellite Altimeter-based Sea Level Rise Acceleration from a Biased Water Vapor Correction?

By Roy Spencer, His Blog, Mar 7, 2019

<http://www.drroyspencer.com/2019/03/is-satellite-altimeter-based-sea-level-rise-acceleration-from-a-biased-water-vapor-correction/>

“So it appears that even if the entire water vapor correction were removed, its impact on the sea level trend would reduce it by only about 10%.”

Changing Weather

Hurricanes & climate change: recent U.S. landfalling hurricanes

By Judith Curry, Climate Etc. Mar 4, 2019

<https://judithcurry.com/2019/03/04/hurricanes-climate-change-recent-u-s-landfalling-hurricanes/>

New All-time Record Low Temperature in Illinois

By Anthony Watts, WUWT, Mar 7, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/07/new-all-time-record-low-temperature-in-illinois/>

Italy might have to import olive oil due to extreme weather

By Morgan Gstalter, The Hill, Mar 5, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/432736-italy-might-have-to-import-olive-oil-due-to-extreme-weather-caused>

A long view of California's climate

Study examines centuries of data to understand climate-wildfire links

Press Release, by Staff Writers, NOAA Headquarters, Mar 4, 2019 [H/t WUWT]

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2019-03/n-alv030119.php

[SEPP Comment: No discussion of changing government policies towards fire suppression.]

Murkowski warns climate change 'directly impacting' Alaska

By Dorothy Mills-Gregg, The Hill, Mar 5, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/432717-murkowski-warns-climate-change-directly-impacting-alaska>

The Driest Air in the U.S. is Found in SEATTLE

By Cliff Mass, Weather and Climate Blog, Mar 5, 2019

<https://cliffmass.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2019-03-06T07:52:00-08:00&max-results=1&start=2&by-date=false>

Changing Cryosphere – Land / Sea Ice

New Study Reveals The Arctic Region Was 4.6°C Warmer Than ‘Present Day’ During The 1930s

By Kenneth Richard, No Tricks Zone, March 7, 2019

<http://notrickszone.com/2019/03/07/new-study-reveals-the-arctic-region-was-4-6c-warmer-than-recent-decades-during-the-1930s/>

Factcheck: What Greenland ice cores say about past and present climate change

By Zeke Hausfather, Carbon Brief, Mar 5, 2019

https://www.carbonbrief.org/factcheck-what-greenland-ice-cores-say-about-past-and-present-climate-change?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter

“Greenland ice cores provide a high-quality high-resolution estimate of past changes in temperatures, allowing more precise comparisons with observed temperature records than most other climate proxies. While current temperatures are likely still below the highs in the early Holocene around 7,000 years ago, they are clearly higher than any temperatures experienced in Greenland over the past 2,000 years.

“Greenland is just one location and temperature variations seen in ice core records may not be characteristic of global temperatures. However, global proxy reconstructions have tended to show similar patterns, with current temperatures lower than the early Holocene maximum.

“Unless greenhouse gas emissions cease in the near future, warming will continue and, by the middle of the 21st century, Greenland – and the world as a whole – will likely experience temperatures that are unprecedented at least since the last interglacial period 125,000 years ago.”
[SEPP Comment: Does not address the issue in the above link. No evidence that CO2 is the cause.]

Changing Earth

Ancient rocks provide clues to Earth's early history

By Staff Writers, Tempe AZ (SPX) Feb 28, 2019

http://www.terraily.com/reports/Ancient_rocks_provide_clues_to_Earths_early_history_999.html

Link to paper: Fully oxygenated water columns over continental shelves before the Great Oxidation Event

By Chadlin M. Ostrander, Sune G. Nielsen, Jeremy D. Owens, Brian Kendall, Gwyneth W. Gordon, Stephen J. Romaniello & Ariel D. Anbar, Nature Geoscience, Feb 25, 2019

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41561-019-0309-7>

Agriculture Issues & Fear of Famine

Life-Saving Golden Rice Finally Gets to Poor Farmers Despite Environmentalist Opposition

Bangladesh announces that it will allow its farmers to plant this genetically improved crop

By Ronald Bailey, Reason, Mar 7, 2019 [H/t GWPF]

<https://reason.com/blog/2019/03/07/life-saving-golden-rice-finally-gets-to>

Israeli Company Creating Water From Plain Air Eyes Global Expansion

The company's large-scale generator can produce up to 5,000 liters of clean water every day, requiring no infrastructure other than a standard electricity supply.

By Eytan Halon, Jerusalem Post, Mar 4, 2019

<https://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Israeli-company-creating-water-from-plain-air-eyes-global-expansion-582328>

Un-Science or Non-Science?

Earth's fish are disappearing because of climate change, study says

By Isabelle Gerretsen, CNN, Feb 28, 2019

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/28/world/climate-change-fishing-oceans-global-warming-intl/index.html>

Link to one paper: Benefits of the Paris Agreement to ocean life, economies, and people

By U. Rashid Sumaila, et al. Science Advances, Feb 27, 2019

<http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/2/eaau3855>

“Using an ensemble of climate-marine ecosystem and economic models, we explore the effects of implementing the Agreement on fish, fishers, and seafood consumers worldwide.”

[SEPP Comment: How were the models tested?]

Lowering Standards

Business Columnist vs. Fossil Fuels & Capitalism (Houston Chronicle's biases shine through)

By Charles Battig, Master Resource, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.masterresource.org/tomlinson-chris-houston-chronicle/tomlinson-vs-houston-fossil-fuels/>

Sacrificing the climate for reelections

By Staff Writers, Phys.org, Mar 4, 2019

<https://phys.org/news/2019-03-sacrificing-climate-reelections.html>

Unable to locate paper

While BBC Corrects Faulty Reports On Ocean Heat, German Media Happy To Leave Audience Misinformed

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Mar 3, 2019

<http://notrickszone.com/2019/03/03/while-bbc-corrects-faulty-reports-on-ocean-heat-german-media-happy-to-leave-audience-misinformed/>

Communicating Better to the Public – Exaggerate, or be Vague?

Blame Climate Change for stupid British Voters choosing Brexit says ABC

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Mar 6, 2019

<http://joannenova.com.au/2019/03/blame-climate-change-for-stupid-british-voters-choosing-brexit-says-abc/>

Communicating Better to the Public – Make things up.

New Study Claims Tornadoes Are Getting More Frequent In Southeast

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 8, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/08/new-study-claims-tornadoes-are-getting-more-frequent-in-southeast/>

“Sometimes a story comes along which underlines just how corrupt climate science has become.”

New Santer Study Totally Debunked

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 4, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/04/new-santer-study-totally-debunked/>

Review of The Uninhabitable Earth in the FT

By Roger Pielke Jr. His Blog, Mar 8, 2019

<https://rogerpielkejr.com/2019/03/08/review-of-the-uninhabitable-earth-in-the-ft/>

[SEPP Comment: The bulk of the review is paywalled, denying general access.]

What we know about tornadoes and climate change

By Jeff Berdardelli, CBS, Mar 6, 2019

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/alabama-tornadoes-and-climate-change-what-we-know/?utm_campaign=RevueCBWeeklyBriefing&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Revue%20newsletter

Expanding the Orthodoxy

UN Legal Tribunes Issues Rebuke of EU Renewable Energy Programme

By Pat Swords, GWPF, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/un-legal-tribunal-issues-rebuke-of-eu-renewable-energy-programme/>

“UN Legal Tribunal issues sharp rebuke to EU for its repeated failure to comply with its treaty obligations concerning **environmental democracy** – illegalities with respect to the implementation of the EU renewable programme and inadequate access to justice.” [Boldface added.]

[SEPP Comment: Environmental Democracy – do mushrooms have a vote?]

Questioning European Green

Peak Car Poses a Mortal Threat to Germany’s Most Important Industry

The switch to ride-hailing and electric vehicles challenges national champions BMW, Daimler, and Volkswagen.

By Elisabeth Behrmann, Bloomberg, Feb 28, 2019 [H/t Paul Homewood]

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-02-28/peak-car-poses-a-mortal-threat-to-germany-s-most-important-industry>

Unreliable Power Source...Adding Capacity Does Little To Solve Germany’s Green Energy Power Gaps

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Mar 6, 2019

<http://notrickszone.com/2019/03/06/unreliable-power-source-adding-capacity-does-little-to-solve-germanys-green-energy-power-gaps/>

[SEPP Comment: Adding more of what fails during unfavorable weather, doesn’t change the weather.]

Questioning Green Elsewhere

Virtue-signaling corporations are lying to you about using green energy

By Rupert Darwall, Washington Examiner, Mar 6, 2019

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/virtue-signaling-corporations-are-lying-to-you-about-using-green-energy>

The inefficiency of efficiency: Appliance standards often cost more than they save

By Ben Liberman, Washington Examiner, Mar 6, 2019 [H/t Cooler Heads]

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/the-inefficiency-of-efficiency-appliance-standards-often-cost-more-than-they-save>

Is This the End of Recycling?

Americans are consuming more and more stuff. Now that other countries won't take our papers and plastics, they're ending up in the trash.

By Alana Semuels, The Atlantic, Mar 5, 2019 [H/t GWPF]

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2019/03/china-has-stopped-accepting-our-trash/584131/>

Green Jobs

Claire Perry's Offshore Wind Sector Deal

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 7, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/07/claire-perrys-offshore-wind-sector-deal/>

[SEPP Comment: Magic "Green Jobs" disappear?]

Where Did All The Green Jobs Go?

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 6, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/06/where-did-all-the-green-jobs-go-2/>

Funding Issues

Greenpeace Founder: Global Warming Hoax Pushed by Corrupt Scientists 'Hooked on Government Grants'

By Staff Writer, ICECAP, Mar 8, 2019

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/greenpeace_founder_global_warming_hoax_pushed_by_corrupt_scientists_hooked/

The Political Games Continue

Bishop emerges as major thorn in Democratic climate agenda

By Anthony Adragna, Politico, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.politico.com/story/2019/03/05/rob-bishopclimate-agenda-1236056>

Inslee: Trump 'simply moronic' on wind power

By Brett Samuels, The Hill, Mar 4, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/432548-inslee-trump-simply-moronic-on-wind-power>

[SEPP Comment: Spending money to make the wind blow steadily will create economic benefits?]

Subsidies and Mandates Forever

Why Do Renewable Energy Sources Need Government Subsidies?

By Francis Menton, Manhattan Contrarian, Mar 8, 2019

<https://www.manhattancontrarian.com/blog/2019-3-8-why-do-renewable-energy-sources-need-government-subsidies>

Solar Power Firms Target End Users In Post-Subsidy World

By Paul Homewood, Not a Lot of People Know That, Mar 8, 2019

<https://notalotofpeopleknowthat.wordpress.com/2019/03/08/solar-power-firms-target-end-users-in-post-subsidy-world/>

“There are two huge ironies here:

“1) Most of the green levies are needed to pay for renewable energy subsidies and the costs of coping with their intermittency. Why should new solar power users get away with[out] paying their share?

“2) Because of the intermittency, Lightsource’s clients will still need to rely on that “old fashioned” grid to keep their lights on and computers running.

EPA and other Regulators on the March

Trump admin to lift gray wolf endangered species protections

By Rachel Frazin, The Hill, Mar 6, 2019

<https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/e2-wire/432944-trump-admin-to-lift-gray-wolf-endangered-species>

Energy Issues – Non-US

The German Green New Deal: “The 12 Commandments To Stop Global Heating” Cornerstone For New Religion:

By P Gosselin, No Tricks Zone, Mar 5, 2019

<http://notrickszone.com/2019/03/05/the-german-green-new-deal-the-12-commandments-to-stop-global-heating-cornerstone-for-new-religion/>

The UK Offshore Wind Sector Deal: A Reality Check

By Staff Writers, GWPF, Mar 7, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/uk-offshore-wind-sector-deal/>

“Those consumers, on the other hand, can be truly grateful for the fact that in spite of the fanfares there is almost nothing of substance to the Offshore Wind Sector Deal. That said, bill payers should remain vigilant; there is a real possibility that these gestures of governmental support, stale and hollow though they are, may prove to be a prelude to the provision of hidden subsidies.”

Energy Issues – Australia

First they came for the coal industry, now for oil and gas: West Australian EPA decides state must meet “Paris” alone

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Mar 8, 2019

<http://joannenova.com.au/2019/03/west-australian-epa-decides-wa-is-going-to-meet-paris-by-driving-out-gas-industry/>

“The West Australian EPA is a QUAGO (quasi-autonomous-and-governmental organisation) – paid by the government, but magically “independent” of it. They are annointed saints charged with protecting “the environment” but as far as I can tell, that does not include the dominant fauna nor the entire plant kingdom.”

“WA has only 10% of Australia’s population but generates more than a third of the national exports. Or it did. Watch this space...

“The new regulations will affect planned projects such as Woodside Petroleum’s \$US11 billion (\$15.6bn) Scarborough gas project and its \$US20.5bn Browse development, as well as existing projects such as the \$US34bn Wheatstone LNG plant and the \$US54bn Gorgon LNG plant.

Energy Issues -- US

Plans to Save Largest US Coal Plant in the West Hit a Roadblock

By Jason Hopkins, Daily Caller, Mar 5, 2019

<https://dailycaller.com/2019/03/05/navajo-coal-fired-plant-west/>

[SEPP Comment: The language differences between European Americans and Navajo and Hopi create a problem.]

NYC's Amazon Debacle and the Need for Affordable Energy

By David Holt, Real Clear Energy, Mar 6, 2019

https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2019/03/06/nycs_amazon_debacle_and_the_need_for_affordable_energy_110403.html

Oil and Natural Gas – the Future or the Past?

‘Big Oil’ Is Rapidly Becoming ‘Big Shale’

By David Sheppard, Financial Times, Via GWPF, Mar 6, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/big-oil-is-rapidly-becoming-big-shale/>

Big Oil Moves to tighten Its Grip on Fracking

By Bradley Olson, WSJ, Via GWPF, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.thegwpf.com/big-oil-tighten-their-grip-on-fracking/>

Chevron to double production in Permian Basin in next five years; Exxon to boost Permian output to one million barrels a day by as early as 2024

[SEPP Comment: The shale revolution is approaching maturity?]

China Says Massive Shale Oil Reserves Found In North

By Tsvetana Paraskova , Oil Price.com, Mar 1, 2019

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Crude-Oil/China-Says-Massive-Shale-Oil-Reserves-Found-In-North.html>

Waking into our new volatile age of oil prices

Guest post by Tom Therramus that is the pen name of a US based Professor, Energy Matters, Mar 4, 2019

<http://euanmearns.com/waking-into-our-new-volatile-age-of-oil-prices/#more-23064>

[SEPP Comment: Only a controlled market would have stability in spot prices. It is the fluctuation of spot prices that yields low prices to the consumer.]

Return of King Coal?

GlobalData: Global coal production set to grow to 2022, despite major players scaling down capacities

By Vinneth Bajaj, Green Car Congress, Mar 6, 2019

<https://www.greencarcongress.com/2019/03/20190306-coal.html>

Includes graph of major producing countries.

Alternative, Green (“Clean”) Solar and Wind

Tilting at Windmills – a Brief Update

By Andi May, WUWT, Mar 7, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/07/tilting-at-windmills-a-brief-update/>

[SEPP Comment; In New Zealand, generation running from 19 to 27% of nameplate capacity.]

Energy & Environmental Newsletter: March 4, 2019

By John Droz Jr. Master Resource, Mar 4, 2019

<https://www.masterresource.org/alliance-for-wise-energy-decisions/energy-environmental-newsletter-3-4-2019/>

Carbon Schemes

Carbon Dioxide: The Newest Form of Renewable Energy?

By James Murphy, New American, Mar 1, 2019

<https://www.thenewamerican.com/tech/energy/item/31613-carbon-dioxide-the-newest-form-of-renewable-energy>

In Wyoming, A Contest To Capture Carbon And Save Coal

By Staff Writers, NPR, Mar 5, 2019

<https://www.npr.org/2019/03/05/697171440/in-wyoming-a-contest-to-capture-carbon-and-save-coal>

California Dreaming

Cal Fire report pinpoints thinning of forests to reduce Ca. wildfire risks

Guest essay by Larry Hamlin, WUWT, Mar 7, 2019

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2019/03/07/cal-fire-report-pinpoints-thinning-of-forests-to-reduce-ca-wildfire-risks/>

Link to report: Community Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Report

By Staff Writers, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, et al. Feb 22, 2019

<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/5759583/Cal-Fire-2019-Community-Wildfire-Prevention-and.pdf>

From Executive Summary: “California experienced the deadliest and most destructive wildfires in its history in 2017 and 2018. Fueled by drought, an unprecedented buildup of dry vegetation and extreme winds, the size and intensity of these wildfires caused the loss of more than 100 lives, destroyed thousands of homes and exposed millions of urban and rural Californians to unhealthy air.

“Climate change, an epidemic of dead and dying trees, and the proliferation of new homes in the wildland urban interface (WUI) magnify the threat and place substantially more people and property at risk than in preceding decades. More than 25 million acres of California wildlands are classified as under very high or extreme fire threat, extending that risk over half the state.”

[SEPP Comment: What is unusual about droughts in central and southern “golden” California?]

Global Warming Faceplant on the Left Coast

By Brian C. Joondeph, American Thinker, Mar 4, 2019

https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2019/03/global_warming_faceplant_on_the_left_coast.html

Other News that May Be of Interest

Can Canada Continue to Exist: The Geopolitical Challenges?

By Tim Ball, His Blog, Mar 1, 2019

<http://drtimball.ca/2019/can-canada-continue-to-exist-the-geopolitical-challenges/>

Carter’s “Malaise Speech” of 1979 (remembering the crisis of interventionism)

By Robert Bradley Jr. Master Resource, Mar 6, 2019

<https://www.masterresource.org/carter-jimmy/green-new-deal-carter-malaise-speech/>

Ode to the Welfare State

By Jo Nova, Her Blog, Mar 9, 2019

<http://joannenova.com.au/2019/03/ode-to-the-welfare-state/>

BELOW THE BOTTOM LINE:

Solution to climate change – write more articles!

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Mar 8, 2019

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/7397>

“I feel confident that we WILL reduce emissions to slow global warming to a pace to which we can (mostly) adapt.

“Why am I so confident? Firstly, because in 2015, more than 1.5% of all articles in the New York Times mentioned ‘climate change’. This compares with 2% of articles that mentioned ‘terrorism’ and 1.4% that mentioned ‘refugees’.

“As in other countries, the media profile of ‘climate change’ is now very strong – politicians and the public see reports about our changing climate almost daily. Secondly, in 2015 over 15,000 scholarly papers were published with the topic of ‘climate ‘change’, ‘greenhouse effect’, or ‘global warming’ as the topic.

“In 1988, the year the IPCC was established, only 68 scholarly articles published on these topics. With such strong and growing media and expert interest, how can we fail?”– Neville Nicholls Professor Emeritus, School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment Monash University, Australia”

Time’s up

By Staff Writers, Climate Change Predictions.org, Mar 5, 2019

<http://climatechangepredictions.org/uncategorized/10366>

“The world has lost 19 per cent of its coral reefs: a further 15 per cent are threatened within the next 10 to 20 years, and a further 20 per cent could be lost in 20 to 40 years, according to a report sponsored by the US and Australian governments.

“Releasing the report in Washington, Clive Wilkinson, co-ordinator of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, said the forecasts did not take into account the impact of climate change.

“‘We have about eight to 10 years to do something about it. Carbon dioxide is currently at 380 parts per million. We need to do something before it reaches 450 parts per million,’ he said.

The Age (Australia), 12 Dec 2008 – screen copy held by his website”

ARTICLES:

Story of the Year

You have to be obtuse to stare at this jobs record and pretend it isn’t happening.

By Daniel Henninger, WSJ, Mar 6, 2019

https://www.wsj.com/articles/story-of-the-year-11551916962?mod=hp_opin_pos2

SUMMARY: The journalist writes:

“The great political challenge of our time is sorting out what matters from what’s just chatter. The din of distracting statistical noise is overwhelming. A Democratic governor named Inslee announces he’s going to run for the U.S. presidency on one issue—climate change. Days later, the

real president delivers a speech of immeasurable length to a conference of conservatives about pretty much everything rattling around in his head. The new week dawns with a Democratic House committee chairman named Nadler demanding that 81 of the president's 'associates' provide him with a document dump.

"Serious people would like to believe something real in politics is going on. The good news is . . . something is.

"This past weekend, The Wall Street Journal published a series of stories titled 'Inside the Hottest Job Market in Half a Century.' As far as I'm concerned, this jobs record is the story of the year. The Journal's articles transformed a year of economic data into the new daily reality of getting paid to work in America.

"'All sorts of people who have previously had trouble landing a job are now finding work,' the Journal reported. 'Racial minorities, those with less education and people working in the lowest-paying jobs are getting bigger pay raises and, in many cases, experiencing the lowest unemployment rate ever recorded for their groups. They are joining manufacturing workers, women in their prime working years, Americans with disabilities and those with criminal records, among others, in finding improved job prospects after years of disappointment.'

"Example: A 23-year-old woman, Cassandra Eaton, a high-school graduate and single mother who was working for about \$8 an hour at a day-care center in Biloxi, Miss., is doing now what previously would have been unimaginable. She's an apprentice welder making \$20 an hour at a shipyard in Pascagoula.

The unemployment rate for high-school dropouts, a status many depressing books and studies show puts one close to the bottom of the barrel for getting ahead in America, is 5%. Their median wages the past year rose 6%.

"An ex-con named James O. Wilson, who got a job in 2017 with FedEx in Indianapolis, is today making more than \$16 an hour, has a house and a wife, and says, 'I want FedEx to say, 'Do you have any more people like him?''

Let's cut to the chase. From left to right, socialist or conservative, most of a nation's political debates are ultimately about one thing: making life better for people. Whatever else that may mean, it first requires giving people something to do with their daily lives—work, a job. Which is to say, aspiration and opportunity.

"If what has happened inside the U.S. labor market the past two years doesn't qualify as the point of all this effort, those of us in and around politics might as well pack it in.

"A great value of the Journal's articles on the historic top-to-bottom jobs market is that for most people this establishes a baseline of observable, undeniable reality.

"'Most people,' however, does not include large swaths of the professional political class. Because the jobs story overlaps almost precisely with the policies of a U.S. presidency occupied by you-know-who, the reality outside their windows must be denied.

“Start with the Democrats, whose response to the new jobs market borders on the comical: Create a new top personal tax rate of 70%, a higher corporate tax rate, a circa-1933 jobs program doing things for the environment and free health care. If none of that works, impeach the president.

“It’s no surprise that Mike Bloomberg, a Democratic capitalist, chose not to compete with the crew running for the party’s presidential nomination, while former Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, one of the great job creators of his generation, shuns the Democrats to run as an independent.

“More interesting is the internal debate among conservatives and Republicans.

“In recent years, a group known as Reformicons has argued that the Reagan-era policy mix of tax cuts, deregulation and economic growth is no longer relevant to the needs and anxieties of the U.S. middle class. Instead, their policy alternatives include targeted government interventions, such as wage subsidies, to supplement middle-class incomes. These ideas are often associated with Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and former Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

“One notices that most of the Reformicon arguments emerged from 2014 to 2016—before the Reagan-era, supply-side policies of the Trump presidency were passed into law or implemented. In 2019, the idea that tax reductions, public-sector deregulation and growth are no longer relevant to the needs of the middle class is provably and demonstrably false.

“It requires a remarkable degree of obtuseness to stare at the policy success of the past two years and pretend it hasn’t happened. Democrats are doing exactly that. Conservatives should pocket the Trump presidency’s Reaganesque policies for massively matching job producers with job seekers. There is plenty left for them to do without trying to reinvent the wheel.”