

A Warning From the Future

Retrieved Friday 21st of July 2017 07:28:45 PM

< class="l">

POITOU, FRANCE – A young man drove up yesterday. Shaved . Earring. Nice car. Sad look.

“Monsieur Bonner?”

After the introductions, he got down to business.

“Damien [our gardener] told me you were looking for chickens. I’ve got about 10 of them I’d like to get rid of.”

“Why do you want to get rid of them?”

“My girlfriend was cheating on me. You know what that’s like. So I kicked her out. Now I’m getting rid of her chickens.

“You know what it’s like. I don’t want to take care of her animals anymore.”

We agreed to buy his chickens, bringing our flock up to 16... from which we get a few eggs every day.

Later, we said to Elizabeth, “He kept saying, ‘You know what it’s like.’ He was talking about his girlfriend stepping out or don’t know what it’s like. And I don’t want to know...”

“Of course not, honey...”

Recommended Link



[The “next Bitcoin” is CRUSHING it – and you can get in while it’s cheap](#)

Marijuana stocks are all the rage. But the cryptocurrency market is growing five times faster – and historically has delivered record-breaking gains of 1,041%, even a rare and extraordinary 5,047% in a year. Venture capitalists are investing over a billion. And at least 5 national governments – with a combined GDP of \$17.3 trillion – are getting in now, too. For the next few days, we’re showing you how you could get in on the “next Bitcoin.” [Details here.](#)

Warning Labels

Girlfriends, world improvers, and candidates for public office should all come with warning labels. Like preion drugs, people should know what they’re getting themselves into.

Imagine how much grief could have been avoided if Hitler had announced:

“I’m going to go to war with the rest of Europe. This may mean diverting at least half of total GDP to weapons production and support of the army; consumers may struggle to find basic necessities.

“And it may put Germany in a two-front war that it may not win. Millions could die, our cities could be destroyed, and our country could be occupied by foreign armies for the next 40 years.”

“Okay, then,” the voters might say... “Sure, why not?”

A shrewd and honest Joseph Stalin could have given a s-up, too:

"We're going to organize the whole economy like the military. The insiders, like generals, will control everything and get food, lodgings, work assignments, and so forth.

"The plain people will be assigned cells... oops... I mean houses. There will be no unemployment. Every will have work lot of it.

"Malcontents and people I don't like will be sent to special camps in Siberia for retraining or extermination, whichever co

"Then, we all may get poorer every year for the next half-century... until our children and grandchildren finally come to t senses."

Again, citizens would have a chance to look at the program carefully and decide if they still want to take the medicine:

"Sure... Sounds good to us..."

Recommended Link



Shah Gilani's Carbon Trade Recommendations are CRUSHING Everyone – with 44% Gains PER DAY

The inventor of the carbon trade is now producing an average of 44% GAINS PER DAY (including partial closeouts)... to make you \$53,000 richer every month. If you're not making 44% per day... 88% in two days... and 132% in three da average... you could be cheating yourself out of tens of thousands of dollars right now. [Details here.](#)

Invitation to Surprises

Of course, no one can see into the future. And who knows what will happen?

Still, there are some basic propositions that can provide guidance. If you do what others have done, for example, you w get similar results.

Imagine this warning label from former Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez:

"I'm going to put into place the programs that worked so well for Russia and Cuba. You know, nationalizing major indus controls. Trade restrictions. Spending money we don't have.

"Then, when the price of oil goes down and the bills come due, there may not be any food on the shelves. Inflation coul than 1,000%. Crime might soar. The government could crack down. That sort of thing."

Just being alive is an invitation to surprises. But live-in girlfriends and public policies have predictable risks... and almos predictable results.

Mass murder is never a good idea. Neither is starting a war. Or restricting trade.

Recommended Link



[“Last year, I recommended the best-performing stock in the S&P 500...”](#)

Now, I've found [three more ways to multiply your money](#) on the biggest tech story of 2017.

Bird Watchers

The future is our subject. Unpredictable. Full of slipups. Nevertheless, there are two things we know about it.

First, tomorrow deeply affects today. Second, it probably won't be that different after all.

As we explained yesterday, [the future casts its shadow backward on the present](#). We anticipate what will happen. And it. Today changes depending on what we expect for tomorrow.

That's why the old economists eschewed activism. They were like bird watchers, not zookeepers.

It is one thing to keep your eyes open and watch what people do. It is quite another to tell them what to do.

Once you begin trying to control the future, you become a part of the thing you're trying to understand.

And now, standing in his own shadow, dark and benighted like the bottom of a well, is economic activist Peter Navarro.

Previously, he had been a bit of a local celebrity in the San Diego area where, after failing in four campaigns for public office, he was regarded as a hopeless loser. He was known in the economics community, too, but mostly as a crackpot.

Then, all of a sudden, national fame came to the Harvard PhD. He was named director of something that hadn't existed until Donald Trump created it: the White House National Trade Council.

The National Association for Business Economics sat politely through one of his speeches. And in March, *The Wall Street Journal* published an op-ed from him.

The *Journal* did us a favor. Navarro laid out his basic ideas for all the world to see...

And there he is, egging on the president to do more of what never works – to block win-win deals with trade restrictions, to raise prices for consumers (leaving them less money to spend)... to contradict the principle of comparative advantage... and make Americans poorer.

He writes:

Reducing a trade deficit through tough, smart negotiations is a way to increase net exports — and boost the rate of economic growth.

Where's the warning label, we wonder?

More to come...

Next week, we will be writing from Switzerland and concluding our meditation on the future: why Peter Navarro is wrong, why productivity increased by 3,000% in the last half-century, and why the principle of comparative advantage still works.

Stay tuned.

Regards,

Bill