## THE PLIGHT OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE

When soldiers fought with swords and bows and arrows in England, the long bow, made of yew, was the prized possession of he who was of military age.

Nearly every weekend, there were archery contests in order for the young men of each and every hamlet, village, town and city to see who was the best shot, with prizes, going to the winners.

There was, what we would call, today, a large industry of bow-makers, arrow-makers, string-makers, all in support of the archers of England, who were among the best in the world, at that time.

Employment in this industry of days of yore was vast, judged by today's standards, and the requirement for yew was expanding ... until, the long bow was replaced by the cross-bow.

Then, came the archery revolution.

And, then, came unemployment in segments of the archery industry of England in the days of the Robin Hoods of the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

Today, there are very few makers of long bows, arrows, bow strings, etc, relative to those days when English bowmen were revered, internationally.

Very few industries last forever: Aside from a handful of craftsmen, the makers of the light, one-horse carriage of Europe and the US, for instance, no longer exist.

With most of those workers in that industry gone, their art has been buried with their bones, for the most part.

And that is the way that it should be for, otherwise, the world would be populated by geriatrics, who are out of step with progress.

In the US, today, many of the jobs of just a few years ago have gone – forever.

It is estimated that about one million US workers have been made redundant since 2001, their jobs, never again to be offered to them.

This is because their jobs have been exported to Asia, South America, parts of Eastern Europe, etc, where there is a more abundant workforce and where labour costs are cheaper than those of the US.

If a time were to come – and TARGET uses the subjunctive mood, suggesting the inferred negative – when those one million jobs were, in some shape of form, to be returned to the US, those jobs would be in a completely revised format; and, those one million workers would be unable to perform their previously assigned tasks, as was the case in 2001.

Time would have passed and new methodology would have replaced the old ways.

As the cross-bow replaced the long bow, as the automobile replaced the horse and buggy, so industry becomes more and more efficient by employing better and more accurate methods of producing goods and services.

And that is how it should be: It is called, progress.

But those one million US workers of today will still be hungry. Unemployment benefits ... <u>CLICK TO ORDER FULL ARTICLE</u>

## While TARGET makes every attempt to ensure accuracy of all data published, TARGET cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions.

If readers feel that they would like to voice their opinions about that which they have read in TARGET, please feel free to e-mail your views to <u>editor@targetnewspapers.com</u> or <u>targnews@hkstar.com</u>. TARGET does not guarantee to publish readers' views, but reserves the right so to do subject to the laws of libel.

Site Meter