

NEWS IN BRIEF 2

September 21st – 27th 2024

THE ECONOMIST

Labour held its first annual conference as Britain's governing party for 15 years. Things have not gone smoothly for the new government since July's election, and its poll ratings are sliding fast. In his conference speech Sir Keir Starmer, the prime minister, said his policies would be "tough in the short term" but that there was light at the end of the tunnel. Businesses and households must wait for the budget on October 30th to find out whether their taxes will rise.

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Governor Gavin Newsom signed a formal apology for California's role in slavery and legacy of racism against Black people as part of a series of reparations bills he approved Thursday. "The State of California accepts responsibility for the role we played in promoting, facilitating, and permitting the institution of slavery, as well as its enduring legacy of persistent racial disparities," Newsom said.

VOA NEWS

Haitian migrants in Ohio feel threatened in US presidential campaign

<https://www.voanews.com/a/haitian-migrants-in-ohio-feel-threatened-in-us-presidential-campaign/7792422.html>



Ø **Labour** [eɪ] = the 'Labour Party' : le Parti travailliste

Britain /'brɪtən/

to go 'smoothly : se dérouler sans heurts

poll [pɒl] **ratings** [eɪ] : cote de popularité

tough /tʌf/ : dur, difficile

in the short term : à court terme

a 'household : un ménage

on October 30th ▲ *notez l'emploi de la préposition "on" avant une date précise*

to find out whether their taxes will rise: pour savoir si leurs impôts augmenteront

Ø '**Governor Gavin Newsom** ▲ *notez l'emploi de l'article Ø devant un titre suivi d'un nom propre*

an a'pology : des excuses

Ø '**slavery** [eɪ]: l'esclavage

a series ['sɪəri:z]: une série ▲ *notez la présence d'un "-s" même au singulier*

a bill : un projet de loi

responsi'bility for sth ▲ *attention à l'orthographe et à la préposition*

legacy /'legəsi/ : héritage

0:02 – **to sweep** : ratisser / inspecter

0:05 – **a 'dozen** /'dʌzn/ : une douzaine

▲ *Notez que "dozens of violent threats se traduira par "des dizaines de"*

0:08 – **false claims** : voir NiB#1

0:17 – **to be used to sth** : être habitué à qch

▲ *Notez que "to be used to" peut-être suivi d'un nom ou d'un verbe au gérondif, comme dans "I am used to getting what I want"*

0:32 – **'running mate** : colistier (here : candidate for the vice presidency)

0:42 – **depor'tation** : expulsion

1:00 – **I in'vented them out of thin air**: je les ai inventées de toutes pièces

1:05 – **fifteen thousand migrants / sixty thousand people** :

▲ *"thousand," "hundred," et "million" ne prennent pas de "-s" après un chiffre lorsqu'ils sont utilisés pour indiquer un nombre précis. Un "-s" est toutefois obligatoire lors des estimations comme dans "hundreds of thousands of immigrants".*

1:12 – **cost of living** : coût de la vie

1:36 – **'shameful** : honteux

1:53 – **to spew** : vomir, cracher (haine, insultes)

1:57 – **a trope** : un cliché, lieu commun

2:00 – **age-old** : très vieux

2:13 – **to 'temper one's words** : modérer ses propos

2:19 – **to in'tend to do sth** : avoir l'intention de faire qch

The right calls it the ‘nanny state’ – I call it standing up to rich corporations and protecting people’s health

Devi Shridar, *The Guardian*, Mon 23 Sep 2024

The UK government’s plans to restrict junk food ads, ban energy drink sales to children and phase out smoking have been met with a predictable refrain: that this is all a “nanny state” plot.” [...]

The phrase was first widely used in 1965 when a former Conservative minister was unhappy about the introduction of the 70mph speed limit on England’s motorways. He was expressing the view that the government shouldn’t treat its people like naughty children who need a nanny to tell them what they are and aren’t allowed to do.

Since then, it’s become a shorthand – often directed at Labour by the Conservatives – for expressing dissatisfaction with a range of public health measures, including the indoor smoking ban, minimum alcohol pricing, caloric listings on menus and speed limits on UK roads. The sense is always the same: that mass public health measures are draconian, excessive and interfere with individual civil liberties. [...]

As someone working in this field, this framing is frustrating, because public health is at its core about providing freedom, including the freedom to live a long and healthy life. Government policy is usually a delicate balancing act between intervention and individual freedom. [...]

But even the word “freedom” is loaded: its use to argue against certain policies assumes one person’s pursuit of freedom doesn’t infringe on another’s. For example, should someone be free to drink and drive recklessly, even if it endangers someone else’s freedom to get home safely? Should someone be free to smoke in a car, even if it endangers children or other passengers who want to be free to breathe clean air and have healthy lungs?

With diet and tobacco, the argument isn’t about taking away someone’s freedom, but regulation to restrict corporations’ behaviour that affects all of us. [...] Should corporations be free to market unhealthy food to children, even if the consequences of childhood obesity are not only faced by these individuals, but also a healthcare system crumbling under the weight of chronic disease? This is where the freedom and anti-nanny state arguments break down.

Here’s some realism. The NHS cannot treat its way through an unhealthy and ageing population: the burden is too high on an overstretched health service. Prevention is the way to ensure that people stay healthy and out of clinics and hospitals – and this prevention has to start in communities.

We have the benefit of living in a democracy where the government is concerned about our health and wants to give us the most freedom to live our life disease-free and pain-free – and wants to continue to provide all of us with free medical services through the NHS. Two ways it can do this is through creating the incentives not to smoke and supporting us to keep our weight within a healthy limit. We can’t leave it up to individuals to figure it all out. They’re fighting against a corporate push to sell cigarettes or unhealthy foods, which is about maximising profits and not the welfare of the public. [...]

[A]nd if that means we are living within a “nanny state”, then maybe that’s not so bad.

The Guardian /'gɑ:diən/ is a centre-left British daily newspaper.	
to phase out [eɪ] : faire disparaître petit à petit	
‘nanny state = the government regarded as overprotective	naughty [ɔ:] : vilain
‘shorthand : formule consacrée	
loaded = charged with an underlying meaning or implication	to a’ssume : supposer
it doesn’t in’fringe on another’s : elle n’empiète pas sur celle de qn d’autre	
‘recklessly /'rekləsli/ : de façon imprudente	a corpo’ration : une grande entreprise
to crumble /'krʌmbəl/ under the weight of sth : crouler sous le poids de qch	
to break down : s’effondrer, ne plus tenir	
the NHS /enɜ:tʃ'es/ = the National Health Service : les services de santé britanniques	
a ‘burden /'bɜ:dn/ : un fardeau	to leave it up to sb to do sth : laisser à qn le soin de faire qch