

Periodical Excerpts

"This time it is different. This time the market won't be so quick to bounce back. . . . Who can look at the world right now and not conclude that things have changed dramatically?"

Joseph Nocera, "Requiem for the Bull," Fortune, September 28, 1998.

"Wall Street stocks have plunged—Merrill Lynch down 59%, Morgan Stanley down 59%, and Lehman Brothers down 67%. . . . The real problem is with the risks that are unquantifiable."

Bethany McLean, "Can the Brokerage Stocks Come Back?" Fortune, October 26, 1998.

"Falling real estate prices and the fragile state of the banking system make this recession unlike any other and extremely difficult to forecast."

John R. Dorfman, "First Boston's Bear, Carmine Grigoli, Refuses to Stop Growling Despite Stocks' Big Rally," Wall Street Journal, February 7, 1991. Quotation attributed to Carmine Grigoli, chief investment strategist, First Boston Corp.

"The nation's top auditor said today that many more banks were effectively bankrupt than regulators had recognized. . . . 'The bank insurance fund is nearly insolvent, and I cannot overemphasize how important it is to restore it as quickly as possible,' Mr. Bowsher [Comptroller General] told the Senate Banking Committee."

Stephen Labaton, "Bank Deposit Fund Nearly Insolvent, US Auditor Says," New York Times, April 27, 1991.

"This economic convulsion is unprecedented in the post-World War II era."

Robert J. Samuelson, "A World Meltdown?" Newsweek September 7, 1998

"Chase Manhattan, the second largest US bank, is letting go 5,000 employees, or 12% of its work force, in a struggle to remain solvent. . . . The construction industry has creaked to a virtual halt after a decade of overbuilding. . . . From stock markets to supermarkets, high anxiety rules the day. . . . Now the specter of war, rapacious oil prices, and a far-reaching recession haunts political and business leaders everywhere. . . . The banks are basically pushing panic buttons everywhere."

"I want to say we're in a recession, but that's not a strong enough word. In some regions, it's a depression."

John Greenwald, "All Shook Up," Time, October 15, 1990. Final quotation attributed to William Hensler, chief executive, Wickes Lumber.

"The next recession won't look like any that has preceded it in recent decades. . . . We are so heavily indebted that a slump would quickly turn into a Latin American-style depression."

Ashby Bladen, "Borrowing to the Bitter End," Forbes, September 4, 1989.

"Fortunes were conjured out of thin air by fresh-faced traders who created nothing more than paper."

Walter Isaacson, "After the Fall," Time, November 2, 1987.

"Investors have been frightened of an economy that seems out of control. . . . The stock market has scarcely been so shaky since 1929. . . . A Gallup poll published last month found that 46% of adults feared a depression similar to the classic one of the 1930s."

Time, "Seeking Relief from a Massive Migraine," September 9, 1974.

"There have been multiplying signs that the long American romance with the big car may finally be ending. . . . Economists generally are agreed that the era of readily abundant fuel has ended for good."

Time, "The Painful Change to Thinking Small," December 31, 1973.

"The only way that the US can scrape through the next several years without major economic and social disruptions is to ease off dramatically on energy consumption."

Time, "The Arabs' New Oil Squeeze: Dimouts, Slowdowns, Chills," November 19, 1973.