



Weak New OPA Bill Controls By 'Psychological' Means

ENACTMENT of the new OPA bill, weak as it is, may have a psychological if not an actual hand in controlling prices, this reporter believes. Although it is a hodge-podge of conflicting ideas, it is definitely better than nothing.

As the result of this bill, for all practical purposes, Agricultural Sec. Clinton P. Anderson becomes the new boss of the food price control. Although the law places final authority in the three-man decontrol board, the cumbersome administrative process gives the secretary exclusive authority to recommend to the board. In all likelihood the policy of the board will be set in accordance with the policy of Mr. Anderson.

One of the secretary's well known views is the elimination of food subsidies. As a matter of fact, present prices on foods, except some which have soared beyond all reason and which are in short supply, are believed by the agricultural boss to reflect the ceiling prices of June 30, when OPA control went off, plus subsidy costs. Elimination of government subsidies are believed to account for an approximate 10 per cent increase on foods formerly subsidized, and, with another 5 per cent added on, the prediction is that most foods will level off at about a 15 per cent increase.

Benefit to 'Little Man'

This brings into focus again the endless argument, is it cheaper for the general public to pay government subsidies than to pay for a 10 per cent increase in food prices at the retail level? And the answer is, it is cheaper for the little fellow, those millions whose income is \$3,000 a year and under, because he doesn't pay the subsidy in federal taxes.

At any rate, the government at this writing is not paying out a dime for food subsidies on meat or dairy products. Subsidies went out with the old OPA in June. If, however, meat and other products go back under price control, it will be a question for the agriculture boss and the decontrol board to decide whether or not to reinstitute subsidy payments as a policy or to do something else about control. The new law ends all subsidies by April 1, 1947.

The mere fact, however, that the decontrol board has the authority under the new law to reinstate price ceilings without consulting industry or without giving advance notice, we believe will act as a psychological threat which at least will make industry and producers a little cautious about boosting prices beyond reason.

Opposed to Subsidies

Farm organizations and the dairy industry have been fighting for elimination of food subsidies for years, declaring that the treasury should not pay the public's grocery bill and that farm produce should go to market and be sold at a fair price fixed by supply and demand.

They now have won that fight, at least temporarily. Subsidies are off. These subsidies in two categories have amounted to a little over three billion dollars annually. In theory farmers are supposed to make up for loss of this three billion in increased prices. But will this be true?

There is every reason to believe that the cost of everything the farmer buys will rise considerably. With the old OPA gone, cost absorption by industry is also out and this means quick price gains for many goods to as high as 9 per cent. The farmer gained only 10 per cent by elimination of subsidies. And in addition there will be many increases in manufacturing costs which later will be seen in the retail selling price . . . fencing, building materials, all kinds of farm machinery, commodities of every description . . . and there are many experts here who predict at least a 15 per cent rise in these things the farmer buys to equal the 15 per cent increase in food costs.

Farmer May Feel Better

So the question of whether the farmer is better off with or without subsidies is still a moot question and likely will be. One thing, however, the average farmer, independent as he is, may feel better in knowing that the price he receives from his products, whether they are high or low prices, is not in part a government hand-out.

Meanwhile, farm leaders here are getting set through these next few months for the new 80th congress, which convenes January 3. They have important measures, passed over by the old congress, which they will reintroduce for action . . . a new parity definition, which is the legal basis for price support.

A long range program, measured in the light of war experience and in the new concept of the world picture for agriculture is likely to develop. The fight to create a single farm credit agency, lost in this congress, again will be sought.



REGIMENTATION BEARS MOST HEAVILY ON 'LITTLE MAN'

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT starts regimentation, the making of regulations for the individual, it is more often the little fellow, rather than the big and powerful man, who is most seriously affected. When the southern plants were producing more cotton than could be profitably marketed, the agricultural department issued an edict providing that a federal license must be secured before a cotton sale could be made, and fixing a minimum amount for which a license would be issued. A tenant farmer in Alabama had raised as his total crop one bale of cotton. He could not sell it because he could not get a license for so small an amount. His local paper carried the name and address of William Bruckart, a Washington correspondent. As a last resort, the tenant farmer wrote to Bruckart, asking that he intercede with the department. It was a pathetic letter, telling of a sick wife and no assets with which to provide comforts for her; of his year of effort being represented in that one bale of cotton. Bruckart took the letter to the then secretary of agriculture, but the secretary told him the rules prohibited the issuing of a sales license for so small an amount. Bruckart insisted that the man who made the rules could, if he wished, modify them or make an exception. He told the secretary that unless that small cotton farmer was permitted to sell his one bale crop that he, Bruckart, would have that letter printed in the more than 2,000 country newspapers for which he was writing. The license was issued. The secretary could not afford to take a chance on arousing public sentiment against his brand of regimentation.

THE FOUNDATION for that inflation we are fearing is not the spiraling wage and price scales. They are but a visible evidence of the approach of the monster that has been created by our monetary system. Constantly increasing, and constantly depreciating, printing press money is the real foundation, just as it has been in the past in our own and other countries. We had it following the Civil War days. Europe had it following World War I, and the disease in all cases was cheap printing press money for which there was no standard of value. It was not that wages and prices went up. It was that the amount of commodities the dollar would buy went down because the dollar had no standard of value. The more we have of these decreasing value dollars the higher will go wages and prices. We have far too many of these cheap printing press dollars now.

In 1933 all the money in circulation in this country amounted to less than 6 billion dollars. By 1945 the amount had jumped to 29 billion dollars. In 1933 the per capita money in circulation was \$42 for each one of us. In 1945 it was \$240. The increase was in federal reserve notes, and they are purely and simply printing press money. In 1933 the amount of such notes was 3 billion dollars. By 1945 that had grown to 26 billion.

Those 26 billion are only as good as the government's promise to pay. So long as the government's operations are in the red that promise to pay grows weaker day by day. A stop to deficit financing, a reduction in outstanding government obligations, will make that promise to pay more substantial, and help to avoid inflation by retiring some of our printing press money.

CRAVING FOR SPEED IS AMERICAN VICE

EACH SUNDAY a car passes my house at a speed of better than 60 miles in a 25-mile zone. I know the car, know where that driver is headed for, and what he will do when he reaches his destination. He is going to the beach, 12 miles away. At the speed when passing my home, he would reach the ocean sands in 12 minutes. For two or three hours he will sit on the sand, and look out over the Pacific, then he will return at the same high speed. I wonder why the hurry; why endanger himself, his car and the lives of others in order to save five or six minutes. Undoubtedly the reason is only that insane craving for speed that afflicts so many of us in our drive through life. It may end for that driver, as it has ended for others, in a prison cell . . .

THERE IS TOO much subterfuge involved in government spending; too much covering up of department and bureau costs. Even members of congress do not know the expenditures of any one of the bureaus that regiment us. The subsidies paid by OPA are fair examples. No appropriation was made for them. The money is borrowed from RFC and when RFC runs out of cash congress is asked to increase its capitalization.

WOMAN'S WORLD
Plan Trim New Dresses for Fall While Fabric Selection is Good

By *Erta Haley*

IT SOMETIMES is hard to realize during hot summer days that all the big stores and foresighted women are planning their wardrobes for fall, but that's a fact. If you plan your fall wardrobe now, your chances of getting better material in a wider selection of colors and weaves is greater than if you wait a few weeks.

Every woman likes a few trim new dresses for fall, and the matter is easily solved by selecting patterns and materials that will be figure flattering as well as practical. One dress for the woman whose wardrobe does not permit the expenditure of too much money is a good basic style with several changes of collar and cuffs. She might like one set of collar and cuffs in a prim and dainty sheer fabric in frosty white. For more dressy wear, a good choice would be a gay stripe or plaid, in taffeta or one of the rayons.

Then again, the basic dress may not need collar or cuffs for really formal, dressy occasions. For this you might like to splurge on some clever costume jewelry—a touch of glitter at the neck, and a matching bracelet. Remember how popular pearl type necklaces were—and still are—and how much they do for a simple black, brown or navy blue dress? That's what I mean.

Basic Dress Must Flatter Figure

Unless you select the most figure-flattering basic dress you won't be able to do a thing with it. The side drape is only good on some figures. Others look better in gored or slightly flared skirts. Still others prefer neat pleats or strictly straight lines.



Select figure-flattering material

All of these things must be important considerations in choosing a dress that will take the place of several. Select, too, one that has good sleeves and neckline. If you know, for example, that a V neck doesn't do a thing for you—and it doesn't do much for the very thin, flat-chested woman—then choose something with a little fullness in the bust.

If, on the other hand, you have a well-set pair of shoulders and are well-filled, stay away from too much material at the top of the dress.

Should you be planning several changes of collar and cuffs for the dress, then you will want a basic style that will be usable with collars most flattering to you.

Buy a good pattern, a good material, put the dress together as carefully as you know how, and you will then have the most important ingredients of the successful dress.

Black, navy blue, brown, dark green and gray are the classic colors for this type of dress. The one you look best in should be first, second and third choice.

Small Details Make Dress Fit Wearer

Recent figures prove what most of us have always suspected. That is that few women come close to the perfect figure. This means that small adjustments must be made on patterns and clothes to make them fit perfectly.



Adjust clothes to your figure.

Some women run narrow in the shoulders and need an extra dart there or at the collar to make the dress lie smoothly. Shoulders, of course, can be built up with padding

Fashion Forecast

A good fall pick-up for last year's suit or this year's too is a smart stitched dickey. It's fine foil for the felt hats which are destined to appear soon.

If you're buying a good skirt for day wear, select at least two blouses to go with it for extra wear. One may be tailored and in bright, jewel-like colors, while the other may be crisp tubbale white.

Easy to Sew



A simple pattern plus a simple rayon fabric that is easy for a beginner to handle makes this a nice frock on which to start sewing. The neckline can be worn high or low, and the fluffy peplum at the hip adds nice detail to the costume.

so that they will balance the figure, but this is an individual problem that must be handled directly in front of the mirror.

Another important problem in fitting is the bodice. To give a well-molded line, it's advisable to take one or two darts under the arms to get this effect. How much of a dart, and just where it should lie, is best determined by basting and fitting.

Just where the hemline should fall is another point that has troubled many of us for a long time. This should not be determined, I feel, so much by what the fashion is, but rather by where the line is most attractive to you. If you are short and plump you will want a longer skirt to give you the long line that is most flattering. The shape of the legs is often the most important factor in the length of the skirt.

Waistlines and sleeve lengths are another detail which would be judged by the figure. For this there is no guide like the full length mirror.

Another detail which can be used with the basic dress is to have one of those soft sheer wool or wool jersey jackets to wear over it. There are some gathered-at-the-waist styles that are nice. There are others that are more tailored.

If you wish to have a bolero jacket as another change of costume with the basic dress, select enough material and then choose a contrasting print for lining it and make a belt of the print to have with the dress.

Lingerie Touches

A dress will always do more for you if you have proper clothing to wear underneath it. A bulky slip can ruin the good lines of a dress, and a sagging slip is a mark of poor grooming.

Slender figures can wear bias cut slips; the stout figure should have one with gores.

Pay just as much attention to the seams on the slip as the fit. A too-small bias-cut slip will ride up and yield little comfort.

Select the correct length for your height. They now come in short, medium and tall lengths and everyone can be fitted properly. Leave only the minor adjustments for the straps.

Seams on slips should be flat and double-stitched. The zig-zag stitched seams wear well, but they may look wrinkled if you are wearing a sheer dress.

The top of the slip gets hard wear and should be flat and self-stitched around the edge. Lacy tops are pretty and dainty, but if a lightweight dress is worn, a simple slip will give the best lines underneath the garment.



Clean Milk Comes From Modern Barns
Well Constructed and Clean Mangers Urged

Concrete dairy barn floors and mangers will prove a big help in producing milk of high quality as well as reducing the amount of labor required. The U. S. public health service milk code provides that no dairy barn meets the requirements for producing high grade milk without a long-lasting, non-absorbent, sanitary floor such as concrete.

Forms are made of one-inch lumber, well braced. Concrete for the floor is made with five gallons of water per sack of portland cement when sand and gravel are moist. The mix should be plastic and workable, but not too sloppy nor too stiff.



Barn floors and mangers properly designed and built help assure clean, comfortable, healthy stock—high quality milk.

Build the manger curb first; then the litter alley and the manger. Leave holes in concrete for future stall equipment if not now available. Then build stall platforms. These will vary according to the kind of cattle. The mangers should be finished with a steel trowel. The concrete should be damp cured for at least five days before using.

Know Your Breed
Guernsey
By W. J. DRYDEN



Valleywood Valiant Hero 235696, a grand champion Guernsey bull of registered performance.

The Guernsey breed originated on the small English channel island of Guernsey. The breed was brought to America as early as 1818.

The Guernsey is of medium size with fawn and white clearly delineated markings. Summary of 98,297 advanced registered records show the average production was 10,151 pounds of milk and 498 pounds butterfat. Some 53 animals produced over 1,000 pounds butterfat and 14 have lifetime records of over 100,000 pounds of milk.

Feeding Molasses to Salt Grass for Cows



Good stuff, the salt grass, Herforders say after they've sampled it. Photo—Food Mach. Corp.

Salt grass which cattle ordinarily will not eat may be covered with a solution of one-third water and two-thirds molasses. Power spray may be used economically with a 20-foot width.

Cattle fatten on the molasses and water combined with the grass, produce bigger and tastier steaks. Other similar uses may be devised for use of power sprays to meet individual requirements.

Weed Killer Shortens Farm Crop Maturity

Experiments in Hawaii and Puerto Rico with 2,4-D—miracle weed killer, indicate that it may control the growth of pineapples two years instead of three. It is generally believed that further experiments will prove that 2,4-D will shorten the time of maturity for many crops in America. Earlier maturing tomatoes, melons, corn, yams, potatoes and other farm crops are among those being experimented with.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

Sailor Dress for Young Girls
Date Frock, Keyhole Neckline



Keyhole Neck

AS NEW as tomorrow is this enchanting date dress designed especially for juniors. It features the popular keyhole neck, deep sleeves and softly rounded hips. Make the wide belt of the same fabric or use one of the smart new purchased ones. A honey of a frock.

Crisp and Fresh

IDEAL school frock for the grammar school crowd. Sailor dresses are a favored style with young girls—they're so crisp and fresh looking. Make this one in a bright check or plaid material and have the collar in snowy white trimmed with contrasting braid. She'll love it for that first day back at school.

Pattern No. 8052 comes in sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 18. Size 12 requires 2 1/2 yards of 35 or 36-inch fabric.

Household Hints

A child's sprinkling can is very convenient for watering house plants.

Rub tin and iron utensils with unsalted fat and they're rust-proof for even a long period of rest.

Don't overcrowd the dishpan. Wash one pan at a time and you'll spare knobs and handles from useless dents and breakage.

A holder for kitchen knives can be made in a jiffy by cutting half a dozen grooves (to take blades) in a block of wood and nailing a piece of plywood to the block to form slots.

Before dyeing a garment, it is best to remove all buttons, buckles, or other trimmings and rip out hems, pleats and linings so the dye can penetrate the fabric more evenly.

Way to locate a tiny leak in a roof is go into the attic on a bright sunny day. Then no matter how small the hole, the light will show through.

A pair of tweezers is useful for plucking threads that have been caught in sewing-machine stitching.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT.
1126 Sixth Ave. New York, N. Y.
Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.
Pattern No. _____ Size _____
Name _____
Address _____

Queen Victoria of England Had Sword of Her Own

Probably the only queen of modern times to have a sword of her own was Victoria of England. Forged for her in 1850, this sword, 27 inches in length and two pounds in weight, was used by the queen during the remaining 51 years of her reign in conferring knighthood.



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