

# THE ENTERPRISE

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### Playing With Dynamite

Despite the costly lessons learned during and immediately following the last war, opposing groups are again insisting on playing with dynamite in the form of inflation. We, in our feeble efforts to prevent a recurrence of a complete break in our economy, are not considering the cost and danger of inflation, but rather we are worrying and growling because we think the other fellow has a larger piece of candy.

Surely, there is enough unselfishness in this land of ours for one group to volunteer its support in stopping the upward spiral in prices. So far we have been engaged in condemning increases for the other guy and howling to high heaven when such a thing as a ceiling is mentioned for us. And strange as it may seem the fellow preaching the loudest for stabilization is the same fellow who growls the loudest when the program points in his direction.

If we will remember the trials and tribulations resulting from inflation of nearly a quarter of a century ago, we would now at least consider action after a give-and-take fashion.

The following is a brief review of World War I inflation and its costly results:

Incomes skyrocketed in the last war too, but the rocket carried hardships and disasters in its trail for workers, for farmers and for all:

Living costs rose 63 per cent between the summer of 1914 and the armistice. By June 1920 they had more than doubled. At that time a 10-pound bag of sugar cost \$2.67; a 10-pound bag of flour, 88 cents; a pound of butter, 67 cents.

By December 1920, a dozen eggs cost 92 cents. And when these prices fell, they went down fast and far. Farm prices dropped 54 per cent between May 1920 and May 1921, and other prices fell 25 per cent in 5 months. Hundreds of thousands of farmers lost their lands, homes and savings.

Five million workers lost their jobs. The total bankruptcy loss was twice that in any previous year.

The rise in living costs added 13 1-2 billion dollars to the 31 billion cost of the last war.

In this war, appropriations and contract authorizations already total more than 200 billions. If prices in this war get out of hand as they did in the last war, the added cost of the war due to rising living costs may amount to as much as 75 billion dollars.

### It's Enough To Shame Us

Drawing \$16 every two weeks as a WPA worker, a patriotic soul, reliable reports declare, has just bought her second war bond. The purchase was not made possible by giving up pleasures and comforts, for they were virtually unknown before even the first call to the country's defense was heard. By actually denying herself actual necessities the patriotic woman has added her bit to the American way of life. She has done far more, in comparison, than so many more of us have done or even offered to do. Her patriotic step should be sufficient within itself to shame many of us.

Such acts, limited though they may be, are recognized as the true foundation for the creation of the WPA and other relief agencies. It was to help such earnest souls as these that the administration in Washington called forth a day for them.

While one humbly takes up the march for her country there are so many who are still playing around, squandering golden opportunities and demanding every pleasure even when such demands threaten the war effort. More money was spent in Martin County in August for liquor than for war bonds. We are burning up more money joy riding than we are investing in bonds. We are still throwing away more than we are saving. Yet, an humble worker finds it possible to buy bonds from wages hardly self sufficing. It is enough to make one ashamed of himself.

### "For High Achievement"

For "high achievement in production" the American Red Cross Blood Donor Service has been awarded the Army-Navy "E" pennant and emblem.

No better description of the accomplishments of the Blood Donor Service, which is collecting

blood for the nations' armed forces, can be found than the words of the Army and Navy citation. The fact that the Red Cross was able to exceed the quota of 380,000 pints of blood which has been requested by the Army and Navy is indeed a "high achievement."

But as Norman H. Davis, chairman of the Red Cross, has pointed out, that achievement would not have been possible without the cooperation of the hundreds of thousands of American men and women who have given their blood that others may live.

It is probable that few of those who gave blood to the Red Cross looked upon their contribution as a "high achievement." In the manner typical of Americans, they undoubtedly minimized its importance. To them the contribution was small in comparison to the sacrifices being made by the men in uniform.

Yet it is fitting, as Chairman Davis has said, that the award pennant be "dedicated to the thousands of volunteer donors whose generous cooperation has made possible the record on which the award was based."

The job of collecting blood for the armed forces is not yet ended. At the request of the Army and Navy the Red Cross is collecting an additional 2,500,000 pints of blood. The order is a large one, but it will be filled.

And yet there are those who dig deep to pick out minor errors to supply such flimsy arguments as "they charged me for a five-cent bar of candy one time."

### "Priority"

By Ruth Taylor.

We have a new word in our dictionary, a word that is on everyone's lips, that comes into every conversation, that hangs over every purchase, that is taking an unprecedented part in our daily lives. It is the word "priority."

Just what does priority mean? The answer is very simple. Priority is simply putting first things first.

As a nation and as individuals, we have one job today—the job of winning this war. This must come before anything else, because, if we don't win it, there won't be anything else. And defeat would be unthinkable to any of us.

The quicker we win the war, the sooner can we return to the way of life we want to live, to the full enjoyment of the advantages and happiness of the democratic way of life. The quicker we win it, the sooner can our factories revert to the production of those things which make life easier and more enjoyable. The quicker we win it, the sooner will our boys come home, our families live again as families should, in peace and prosperity, free from fear, free to plan again for the future.

Here is where priority comes in. Priority means that we must put the war effort first. We must ask ourselves before we buy anything, whether or not it is essential. We must use our money for war bonds, not for luxuries. War bonds have priority on all spare cash—and spare cash means all that is not needed for bare living expenses. We must remember that non-essentials not only take money, but they take man-power to make and transport; they take space needed for war materials; they use up steel and rubber and gas to move them from place to place. Luxuries do not have priority. They are "out"—for the duration.

Priority means that we must work hard at those things which are essential. In industry, if we have the strength. In civilian defense, and other volunteer war tasks, if we cannot give all our time. We must remember that there is priority on our ability to work, and because of that priority we must keep fit and ready to do our share.

Priority means that we have no time to indulge in hatred, prejudice or discrimination, or in the spreading of ill-feeling toward any group of our fellow citizens. All of our energies, mental as well as physical, must be devoted to the one end of winning the war quickly. There is no priority on personal dislikes and morale-sapping grudges—and above all, in passing on subversive rumors. There is no priority on careless talk.

Let's not cavil at the discomforts of priorities. Let's use the word for what it is—a help in winning this war speedily. We can win it, if we bend every effort to the task—and if we put first things first.

### We're Fighting For Ideals

When the war is over, whether it is of short duration or lasts several years, we of America can look back upon our entry into it with pride and satisfaction. We did not rush into it heedlessly. We did not go into it for material gain, to add new territory, or to build up our industries.

We went into it with clean hands to preserve, what are to us, real spiritual values. We went into it to preserve for ourselves and for others liberty and freedom from aggression and oppression. When we emerge the victors, as we will, it will be the greatest triumph for the cause of human liberty in all the history of the race.

The sacrifice we will have laid upon the altar of liberty will be great, great in treasure, great in blood, great in spiritual values. We have not underestimated the thing for which we are fighting, and we have not underestimated its cost. We are a great people, with great principles, great ideals and great courage.

Our ideals are founded on liberty and our courage is born of liberty. For such there can be no defeat.—From the Titusville (Fla.) Star-Advocate.

### "NEW SECRET WEAPON"



### Big Supply Of Seed For Farms in South

Record-breaking volumes of winter cover crop seed, which will help farmers beat the threatened nitrogen shortage and bolster production of important war crops, are now moving into the South and South east from production areas in the Pacific Northwest, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced last week.

This year's production of such seeds as winter peas, vetch and crimson clover, which will be measured by trainloads, comes at a time when

the Nation's soil resources will be taxed severely to produce the vital but soil-depleting war crops including peanuts, long staple cotton and soybeans, and when the imports of nitrate of soda, an essential plant food from Chile, are uncertain because of shipping difficulties.

Leguminous cover crops store considerable quantities of nitrogen in the soil besides adding several tons of organic matter per acre when the crop is turned under in the spring.

Farmers in the Pacific Northwest launched a wholesale program for production of cover crop seed this year under the department's guaranteed price plan, which assures both producer and consumer an equita-

ble price. Farmers in the South and Southeast may obtain cover crop seed through their county AAA committees and have the price of the seed deducted from their future AAA payments.

Visit in Scotland Neck  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barnhill spent last week-end in Scotland Neck.

The 1942 production of snap beans for processing is indicated to be 180,700 tons, or 37 per cent larger than the 1941 crop, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Agriculture ranks fifth in the list of occupational deferments from Selective Service, being led by production workers in aircraft, ships, ordnance and ammunition.



### the BOYS at CAMP

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