

Communication

In his communication concerning Non Productive Workers and Inflation, Mr. Sherwood is on the right track but does not go far enough. There are many forms of non productive pay and the federal government and its bureaucracies are the biggest source and the chief cause of inflation. Sometime ago an educational television program explained how the income tax was initiated for the purpose of "taking from the rich and giving to the poor." The result has snowballed into big social programs to do just that and to keep money into circulation to spur the economy when it was slow with little thought to long range planning and end results. Under Pres. Kennedy and Johnson we discovered that it was a sin to be poor and the War on Poverty and the Great Society were developed. Have they worked? They are still going on.

Under pressure from labor unions and appeals for votes congress has regularly set increases in the minimum wage, social security benefits and all kinds of social programs. It stands to reason that skilled and professional workers deserve more than the unskilled. To meet rising costs, many menial jobs were dropped, causing unemployment of the unskilled. No business can operate in the red so naturally every increase in wages, benefits, or payroll taxes is merely added to the cost of production and included in the price of goods and services produced. Industries providing goods and services to the government are often forced to hire by race quotas instead of quality first, adding to their cost. Will ERA do the same? The result of all this is a continuous merry-go-round of increased costs and cost of living increases. The free enterprise system is what has made our country great and produces the jobs which are our lifeblood. If investors can't make money they will cease to invest in business expansion creating new jobs. Every country which has fallen to communism and socialism has done so by first doing away with free enterprise.

The liberals are now calling for national health insurance which is nothing more than socialized medicine. If we could get inflation under control more of us

could afford medical insurance. The present programs are enormously expensive and amply care for the needy. Who will pay for more?

Taxwise, the frosting on the cake was the effort of the present administration to add another tax to oil, upping the price of gasoline and fuel for all to raise funds to help the poor pay their fuel bill. The present state of affairs is proof that government cannot regulate the economy effectively; cannot support or show partiality toward one group without hurting and antagonizing others; and cannot take care of us from the cradle to the grave without encroaching on our freedoms and killing initiative without which we cannot grow and survive on a decent and meaningful level. Are there enough of us left who are willing to call a halt to the utopia promises of the politicians and the trials and errors of the past 30 years of congress trying to reach this utopia? If not, we may hit bottom and run out of workers willing to pay the bill.

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