

# THE ENTERPRISE

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W. C. MANNING  
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### Must Agriculture Bear the Burden?

The Industrial News Review, owned, edited and published by E. Hofer and Sons, Portland, Oregon, and apparently subsidized by Big Business, says that price increases of farm products constitute one of today's serious inflationary problems.

Most of the economists say that farm prices are still below parity, but the industrial lords come out with the declaration that rising farm prices are going to wreck the country. Agriculture has been bogged down all these years. Must it forever continue to operate at a loss that our American economy might be maintained? It is a dastardly system that would permit one group to enjoy prosperity while the other group is forced to play the role of slaves.

The Industrial News Review, finding an outlet for its too-often damnable voice in the column of a lazy newspaper editor, has harped about many things during the past, but never has it had anything to say about those tragic periods when Big Business held the reins and drove the people to starvation and many to suicide. The wolfy Review has expertly played agriculture against labor and vice versa, overlooking the cunning and sneaking practices of the parasites, the dead-beats, the robbers who have waxed fat off the sufferings of those who toil. If the Review would enlighten a confused people, then let it publish the fat profits accruing to its clients.

### The Economy Axe

The economy axe is being raised in Washington preparatory to a swift strike against unnecessary spending. The move is a dangerous one in that there are those who would strike out every relief agency whether it be worth while, good or bad, necessary or unnecessary. The move is also dangerous because classes are likely to be arrayed one against the other with the farmer demanding that the axe blow be directed against non-agriculture, or labor demanding that the blow be dealt against profits, or profits demanding that the blow be directed against wages offered workers on the relief program.

This is no time to kill the WPA, the NYA, the FSA, or any of the other agencies conceived and advanced in the name of needy humanity. It is time, however, to strike out needless spending. It is time to wipe out the human parasites that have sucked the taxpayers' money and brought condemnation down upon agencies that otherwise would have been accepted without question by all true Americans. Throw out those who have maneuvered plans, and projects to perpetuate themselves in high-paying jobs.

The business of employing more highly-paid supervisors than there are common workers should be choked to a certain death, and the politicians who hand-picked the high-salaried group should realize now that some action should be taken to remedy a rotten situation. We have spent many dollars in the name of relief and haven't gotten much return. The return from a tax dollar under ordinary circumstances is greater than the return from an individual's dollar, but not so with the money that has been spilled through the loose fingers of a top-heavy relief system, meaning most of the alphabetical agencies. No figures are available, but go to your relief projects and you will find that the taxpayer is getting only a small percentage value for his tax dollar. The loose system is to be condemned and not the agency itself.

The casual observer sees too everlastingly many supervisors, foremen. The system, in many instances, is bogged down in worthless red tape, and the flow of reports is endless. No wonder there is a paper shortage, and no wonder that some of the agencies are facing certain death as a result of their disgusting records.

Possibly the educational system should be supplemented in this and other states, but when an agency comes along and spends on youth education nearly half as much as is being spent on the State-supported schools in North Carolina, it would appear about time to call a halt. For instance over in Greenville they recently opened what they call a resident center of the National Youth Administration. The center con-

sists of fourteen buildings including such units as an officers' lodge, administration building, infirmary, shops and dormitories. A release, describing the center, says in part, "An organized recreational program has been recognized as an imperative need for youths enrolled in the center. A qualified recreational leader has been employed. . . . The center pays the student \$30 a month and furnishes him medical and dental services.

It is all right to educate the youth of our land, but it appears that the common taxpayer is being called upon to train young men for industry. There was a time when industry and the trades had their own apprentices. They worked out a plan with the trainee, and while there were those cases of sweat shop practices, the plan succeeded fairly well with the trainee showing a genuine interest in his work. Apprentices are needed now, if reports are to be accepted at their face value, but instead of the young man entering a trade as an apprentice he has to be paid \$30 a month by the taxpayer to prepare himself in a half-baked way for employment.

There are the vocational departments in most of the schools, but somehow or other they would not furnish high-salaried positions for the dear friends of the politicians. New and costly systems had to be established, and until our economy is converted lock, stock and barrel into a socialistic one, 90 per cent of those entering the centers have no business there. And when the country gets its 1941 tax bill it is going to call for an accounting. And it is going to learn that some of the self-perpetuating agencies are demanding more than John Lewis is demanding.

### "Get This Over With"

#### Christian Science Monitor.

The choice before Americans becomes clearer day by day. They have decided that no firm peace is possible until Hitlerism is destroyed. Morally and industrially they have enlisted to help destroy it. The big remaining question is, Fast or slow? William Knudsen put it to Americans plainly at the Fight for Freedom rally in New York when he said that it is a choice of continuing at the present rate of defense production on the chance that years from now "we finally will so outrank the Nazis that they will not be able to go on any longer" or of piling on "every ounce of steam to get this thing over with."

The Director General of the OPM realizes better perhaps than anyone except the men in the front line who are waiting for weapons or fighting with inferior ones, how much of a start the Nazis had and how slowly their opponents are catching up. As Mr. Knudsen said, today wars "are won in the shop." After all the talk and all the appropriations—even after all the work on defense—the Nazis and their slaves and satellites are still winning this one, winning it in the shop.

The Germans geared their economy to war several years ago. Some statistics show that if present increases are sustained American and British war production will match Axis output in another year. John D. Biggers, United States Lend-Lease Director in London, said the other day that by 1943 the democracies would go ahead in production. And every week the Russians are losing great quantities of war materials and the means of production—largely because they lack planes, tanks, guns equal to the Nazis.

Mechanized war should be "right down America's alley," as Mr. Biggers said. The United States potentially has more industrial power than all of Europe. Once it really becomes serious about making the machines to stop the Nazis, the world will see something new in production. But so far America has been only half-hearted. It has produced pleasure cars—more than ever before in its history—rather than tanks in any quantity. It is still on a 40-hour week, while the Germans work 60 to 80 and the British nearly as much. America is devoting only about 20 per cent of national income to the war effort, while in Germany and Britain the figure is from 50 to 60 per cent. American military production is still less than Britain's.

Whether Americans wish to stay out or go in, most of them today realize that the best hope of peace is in destroying Hitlerism. Work will do that. Work will win. Whether victory will come soon or late depends vitally on whether America really goes to work.

### Only Uncle Sam Need Worry

#### Labor.

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey does not like the Mexican government's proposal for a settlement of the long-standing controversy over the expropriated oil lands. Mexico wishes to retain the lands it seized, but it is willing to compensate the owners on what it regards as a "reasonable basis" and suggests it has \$9,000,000 on hand for a first payment.

Our State Department is acting as a sort of go-between, and our Treasury Department is expected to put up the money, in the form of a loan to Mexico.

The oil men feel if they continue to demand better terms, our State Department is likely to urge Mexico to make more concessions, and if Mexico is not putting up its own cash, but just borrowing the money from its friend, it is likely to yield.

About the only one who has any reason to worry is our old friend, Uncle Sam. Will he get his money back, and when?

### Stockpiles of Food for Peace



The United States figures that stockpiles of defense food will "exert the maximum influence at the peace conference table" when Europe ends her present struggle. That's why the Government has asked farmers of North Carolina and other states to help produce these stockpiles

of food, says Dr. L. O. Schaub, director of the N. C. State College Extension Service. The upper picture shows barrels of dried milk, just as good a year from now as today. The picture above shows a warehouse filled with huge drums of cheese, even better with aging.

### Mutual Admiration



Miss Fur Industry admires her reflection after she had been crowned, as one of the highspots of the demonstration put on in New York by the fur industry to boost the sale of U. S. defense bonds. Her Majesty is Mary Ellen McNulty.

Pvt. Sam Nelson, stationed at Camp Lee, visited here during the holidays.

### Hunters Urged To Protect Forests

With the main hunting season now underway, forest wardens are urging all hunters to exercise every care against fires. The following appeal was released this week by County Warden Marvin Leggett.

The woods are extremely dry, due to the extended drought. At the present, there is a deficiency in rainfall of several inches for the year.

Campers, hunters, loggers, woodcutters and all other persons entering the woods are requested to be careful with fire.

Opussum and raccoon hunters are especially asked to cooperate by not building any fire in the woods as even a small fire is exceedingly difficult to put out. While the woods are so dry and fire will burn down to pure mineral soil, which from two inches to as much as one or more feet deep in some places.

Our forests have a tremendous property value at this time when so much wood, lumber and other forest products are needed for national defense.

Forest fires destroy the present and future crop of trees and are harmful to game.

Be sure that your match, cigarette or pipe ashes are entirely out before you drop them. Do not make any fire in the woods, unless absolutely necessary and clear away all combustible material for a space of ten feet before any fire is made, under any conditions.

So please think of all this while

## Parking Agreement!

Recognizing the value of reserving every possible parking space for

## Williamston Visitors

We, the undersigned, hereby agree, in accordance with the wishes of the local

Chamber of Commerce,

To leave our cars at home or park them in the backlots or on little-used streets, and ask our employees to do the same during the period ending January 1, 1942—

- Moore Grocery Co.
- Williamston Hdw. Co.
- Martin Supply Co.
- J. C. Leggett
- C. B. Barbour
- Grab-All Soda Shop
- Roanoke Chevrolet Co.
- McClees Cash Grocery
- Eagle Stores
- Woolard Furniture Co.
- Pender's Store
- Woolard Hardware Co.
- Darden's Dept. Store
- L. E. Rudisill
- Ward's Market
- Margolis Bros.
- E. and W. Grocery
- Peele's—Jewelers
- Soda Shop
- Willard's Shoe Shop
- Sinclair Service Station
- B. S. Courtney

- Guaranty Bank
- Branch Bank
- Belk-Tyler Co.
- Davis Pharmacy
- Clark's Pharmacy
- People's Drug Store
- Western Auto Store
- V. E. P. Co.
- Israel's
- Pittman's
- Ann's Variety Store
- Harrison & Carstarphen
- Williamston Motor Co.
- Farmers Supply Co.
- Texaco Service Station
- Central Service Station
- J. E. Pope
- Fowden and Simpson
- Economy Auto Store
- Lindsay Ice Co.
- Enterprise Pub. Co.
- Williamston Cafe
- Central Cafe

### Living Costs Rising Faster Than Salary

More and more the signs indicate that the rising cost of living, along with more taxes, will more than offset the income gains produced by the defense program. Living costs, with clothing prices showing the most marked advance, rose by 1.2 per cent in October compared with an average monthly increase of 0.9 per cent in other months since last March. The new excise taxes accounted for part of that. . . . In September the national income reached a rate equivalent to \$92 billion a year—highest in history and \$10 billion more than 1940 showed—but on the average this gain in "gross" income will be no more than enough (possibly not enough) to result in a gain in "net" or "real" income. . . . Nevertheless retail trade continues to be lively in all lines where goods are available.

You are in the woods and don't be responsible for any of this valuable property going up in smoke.

We have much to be thankful for in our forest and game, so be careful with fire and preserve these natural resources. Please report forest fires to your nearest forest fire warden.

### Best Fertilizer Mixture For Tobacco Seed Bed

Two hundred pounds of a 4-8-3 mixture for each 100 square yards of bed space has proven most satisfactory for tobacco seed beds, says L. T. Weeks, extension tobacco specialist. That means, two pounds of 4-8-3 per square yard. The potash in the plant bed fertilizer should be derived from sulphate of potash magnesia.

Let It Rain! Let It Pour!

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