

## Hard War on Easy Payments

SINCE WE ARE GEARED for an all-out war effort to wipe out Axis tyranny in both Europe and in the Far East, our Government is vigorously conducting a campaign for the sale of United States Defense Savings Bonds. On the radio, in the newspaper, in the theater, in the office, in the bank, in the factory, in the school, in fact, every place we go we are constantly being reminded and urged to invest our savings or deduct a small portion of our salaries for defense bonds.

The chief objective of the defense bond program is to insure that every one of us cuts down on personal consumption. This is one of the many methods adopted by the Washington economists to check the rapid inflationary trend that is spreading throughout our country. Since our entry into World War II numerous kinds of wealth have either been rationed or put under priority.

Indirectly our Government is telling us to smoke less, reduce our every-day meal, buy less clothing and to refrain entirely from purchasing luxuries, particularly radios, refrigerators, and automobiles. The ultimate result is unstabilized supply and demand and to adjust this situation our Government insists that we buy bonds with the money which we save on the commodities.

True that ten years hence the purchased bonds will be redeemable with interest they will have accumulated in that period in the production of deadly weapons to be used against our common enemy. We all must make sacrifices, therefore, not only we but the people of other countries, which are at war with us. We must make guns, tanks and other arms to be used until one side capitulates.

Since the national defense program started thousands of unemployed men and women have found good jobs in defense industries and are earning substantial salaries. But it is indeed unfortunate that they cannot purchase the things they have always wanted because of our economic situation today. These workers who have at last found an opportunity to labor no doubt must realize by now that even during "good times" their present economic status is not very much better than that of "bad times."

There are many people who do not understand how our Government is going to meet all the obligations of the redeemed bonds. That is one of the Government's least problems because it knows that the succeeding generations will have to pay the invested money by the diverse methods of taxation.

This unfortunate lop-sided distribution of wealth, with its myriads of devastating effects, must always continue, unless the basic cause for the wide-spread unjust distribution is dealt with by sound economic sense.

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