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By Harris Ellsworth, M. C.

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law (known as the Defense Production act) will not make much, if any difference, in our daily lives. Congress has been bitterly contemned for scuttling the act by the left-wing and administration propaganda line but that attack, in the main, is pure political nonsense. The new law still has ample price control teeth. As this is written, we do not know whether or not the president will veto the bill, but as I see it he could gain nothing by doing so. A veto will not get him any tighter bill. By vetoing it he might, however, seem to get off of a political hook and be able to blame an unruly congress for ending controls—that is, if the congress failed to over-ride the veto. Controls then would expire automatically.

It must be remembered that the president has had price control authority for nearly a year (ten months) and that during that period of time prices have risen faster and higher than during any like period of time in our history. Until the middle of this year, when the expenditure will go up, our price control system has \$7000 per month to operate. For these and other reasons which I have stated in previous letters, I think it is wrong to attempt to put our free country into a straitjacket of price controls.

Except for three appropriation bills, a drug bill, and the Tidelands Oil bill, the house of representatives has just about completed its calendar of important legislation for this year. Further action on the tax bill, several appropriation bills, and some other minor legislation will be in the form of the adoption of conference reports. The house is almost

to the point of "marking time" while the senate completes its schedule.

Plans for a summer recess are much discussed but are extremely indefinite. It is anticipated, however, that the house, at least, will take a few weeks off not long after the first of August.

* * *

Possibly the figures have been made public but I have not seen much in the papers regarding the money cost of the war in Korea. However, I have obtained some total figures for the first full year of that conflict. In those twelve months the United States spent a total of \$8,375,815,524. (Note that the figures is in billions of dollars). In giving out the information, the treasury calls attention to the fact that the strictly military part of the total was seven and a quarter billions while one billion, one hundred twenty millions, were spent on what the treasury classifies as non-military costs of the Korean war. It is not stated what items are included under heading "non-military" but I assume that list would include aid to the war-ruined civilian population of Korea.

* * *

Lollars can be replaced—or at least they represent only material things. The really tragic cost of the Korean adventure is the casualty list. At mid-July the total cost of the Korean war measured in human casualties was: Killed in action or dead of wounds, 13,230; missing, 12,237 (includes prisoners); wounded, 55,125. Those figures include only the battle casualties. General

in May that the non-combat casualties, including 612 deaths, to-Bradley told a senate committee taled 79,679 up to that time.

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