

The End---Product of Scarcity

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Chester Bowles of the OPA told business paper editors recently that if our country goes back to the 1940 level of production—which was a pretty high level—we will have in our country 19 million unemployed.

It will be a disgrace to all the world if our country cannot profitably produce the merchandise of peace at the same high level that we have profitably produced the merchandise of death.

If we have 19 million unemployed in our country after the war by going back to a 1940 production level, all those consumer surveys on postwar purchase we have been reading about can be tossed in the waste basket.

"When a man has \$70 a week take-home pay and his wife and daughter are working too, and he has money and bonds in the bank, he and his wife answer a postwar questionnaire very optimistically. But if a man's sole breadwinner and his take-home pay is \$35 a week, and on his way to work one morning he passes a breadline two blocks long or sees veterans selling apples, you will get different answers when you ask him to fill out a questionnaire as to what he is going to buy.

A breadline of unemployed is the

yardstick of an employed man's security. He looks at the breadline and says, "There but for the grace of God stand I" and he may be darn well standing in the breadline himself a few weeks later if a doctrine of scarcity is going to be the philosophy of our country rather than a doctrine of abundance.

Those in the fields of distribution will have to sell and move more American goods than ever before not only in home markets but in foreign markets and they will have to sell more foreign goods than ever before in American markets to achieve full employment of all employables. Employment means purchasing power for the merchandise of peace. Unemployment and depression are the end-products of a philosophy of scarcity; they fertilize the field for a third world war.

All department heads have been instructed by the Colorado State Civil Service Commission to "try, wherever possible, to get a veteran for provisional appointments which must be made during the period when merit examinations are being suspended pending the return of all overseas servicemen."

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