

SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

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THE CASE OF THE 4-F

The spotlight of National attention has been very much on the men classified as 4-F by the army, bringing them once again into the glare of public notice. The men who are in this category have had a hard time of it, and they should have a lot of sympathy and understanding in their cases.

To many civilians, it would seem that many men are placed in the 4-F classification without much regard for their ailments, many times on the most trivial excuse. These men come back into civilian life with very much of a stigma on them, and other civilians look at them with a question of "why aren't you in the army". Many, perhaps the most of them, would like to be in the services, and many, many times try very hard to get into the services. They most certainly should not be looked down upon because they have been turned down by the army and navy doctors.

But these same 4-F men have been carrying on a real load at home in keeping industry and civilian jobs going. Many of them, are at work in the war industries, and many, perhaps more of them have gone into private work, jobs which are not classed as essential by the Selective Service, but which nevertheless, are very essential to civilian life. Very, very few of them have been slackers.

Yet in the publicity which they have had the past weeks, one would get the idea that they are slackers. Legislation is being formed to force them to work or fight, just as though they had been doing nothing. That these men are as loyal as any other is proven by the large numbers who have flocked into the war industries when all the hullaballo was raised the past week about them.

If anyone is at fault in the matter, we consider it to the Selective Service itself. They have made no determined effort to bring these men into war industries. After a man was placed in 4-F classification he was about free to do as he pleased, and many of them naturally drifted back into their former "non-essential" occupations. An national Selective Service consider very few civilian occupations as being essential to the war effort, farming being about the only one left as "essential". But whether they do so consider it or not, there are many civilian jobs that must be carried on by men, and a good many of these jobs are being filled, capably, too, by the men in 4-F.

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HELP SAVE THAT PAPER

It is difficult, we know, for the people of the United States to become accustomed to saving things, like, for instance, paper. We have been wallowing in a surplus of goods for so many years that it is simply beyond the comprehension of many of us that such things as old newspapers and magazines are needed in the war effort.

There are, however, many things that enter into the development of a shortage of waste paper.

For one thing, the paperboard manufacturers, the people who make pasteboard cartons, use waste paper almost entirely in the manufacture of their products. During peace times, regular scavengers picked up and paid for waste paper saved in the huge offices and office buildings of the cities. Regular organizations were built up around to reclaim this paper, bundle it and ship it to the pasteboard manufacturers. But now many of those organizations have had to go out of business because they couldn't hire help.

Also, much of the paste board manufactured for containers could be reclaimed and used again. That was a rather simple process. But now, with these cartons being shipped overseas, this source of reclaimed paper is gone.

So the waste paper has to be collected elsewhere, and the people of the whole United States are asked to help do it, with the school children doing the most of the collection work.

It is ighly important that we bear in mind that the was has changed a lot of things for this country, and the changing of surplusses to shortages is just one of the changes.

Your government needs waste paper. Save it from one drive to another, and see that the school children get what you have saved.—Medford News.

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FUTURE ERA OF PROSPERTY

Government must be willing to keep pace with the spirit of an expanding America if this country is to avoid a postwar depression.

Everything is set definitely for an unprecedented era of prosperity after the war, except for the assurance that government will freely permit a brand new pioneer urge to develop, according to Frazier Hunt, noted economist.

His conclusions, based on interviews with hundreds of persons in industry and business, labor, government and agriculture, auguring a happy postwar future for

the United States are published in the January issue of Cosmopolitan magazine.

From these men of broad vision and courage the writer obtained an encouraging picture of a postwar United States hungry for the things it has been deprived of for years and ready to spend money to get them.

Major factors that point to an era of prosperity are listed by the writer as:

"Number One is the fact that we've one hundred billion dollars in savings to start with. We have pent up wants and needs that stretch all the way from refrigerators to airports and reborn cities. We have millions of skilled hands with the know-how. With that goes the finest set of tools and production lines in the world. And new knowledge and techniques that are the heritage of the war.

"We have the raw materials and the will to turn them into finished products for a home and foreign market that can be expanded beyond the wildest calculations of our prewar economy. We have hundreds of neglected services that will absorb millions of war employed men and women. This side-slip back to peace will solve two-thirds of our whole unemployment problem."

But to realize on these assets we must have government cooperation, according to a majority of leaders interviewed.

Paul G. Hoffman who heads up Studebaker and the Committee of Industrial Development summed it up succinctly when he said:

"We have to have an equitable and stable economic climate. The establishment of such a climate can only take place in an atmosphere of friendliness and cooperation between government business, labor and agriculture."—Grants Pass Bulletin.

Where Do We Stand?

By Ruth Taylor

Victory has its jackals no less than defeat. Already the spoilsmen are out seeking advantages for their side, for their men. They are playing up their own cause by playing down their opponent's and are talking in large terms of what they would have done. They what they would do - and of what they would have done. They are proclaiming the merits of those whom they want to put into power and, if one believed all the talk, one would be amazed at the number of white-souled paladins fighting black-hearted traitors today.

Of course, some of the paladins are far too busy talking to fight - the enemy. But their partisans are declaiming that they and they alone could end the war and bring peace to a troubled earth. These spoilsmen believe that the democracies are easy and that if we could be sold on the idea of their pet hero, we would see to it that the government of their own particular acre of Europe be handed over to them to rule.

Let us make one thing clear now and forevermore. We aren't minding other people's business but we have found out that we cannot live free in a slave world. Therefore we intend to set the people of Europe free - not give them new masters. We believe in freedom for others as well as for ourselves. We don't let outsiders decide our elections and we aren't putting in our oar to tell other nations whom they shall choose.

What we want for other nations is the same thing we want for ourselves - a sane, stable government of the people by the people and for the people; guaranteed freedom for all under the law; no discrimination in basic rights because of class creed or color; economic security through the right of all citizens of all nations to work freely in the trade, business, or profession of

their own choice; freedom of education - that is to say the right such as we have here for any able ambitious person to be an Horatio Alger hero; freedom from fear of aggression and from secret police - and lastly and before all, freedom of worship, no matter

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what the creed.

What we want for ourselves we want for all, but we do not dictate methods or rulers. Of course, as free speakers, we are free to take sides as individuals. But, as a nation, we shall not recognize any government that is not freely chosen under the laws of its own country.

Our own freedom depends upon the freedom of all peoples. Our own prosperity depends upon the prosperity of all peoples. Ours is a practical idealism - not a benevolent dictatorship. Let's make that clear once and for all.

Traffic Safety Winners Listed

Astoria, The Dalles, Newport and Warrenton were first in traffic safety in the 1944 Oregon Cities Traffic Safety Contest at the end of November, leaving just one month figures to be computed for the final year's standings according to Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, sponsor of the contest.

In the first division, Astoria was followed by Medford in second place with Eugene third. In the second division, The Dalles was followed by Corvallis and Baker in second and third places while in the third division, Newport was followed by Coquille and Springfield in second and third. In the fourth division, Warrenton, winner of the 1943 contest, was followed by Sheridan and Enterprise in second and third positions.

Cities are judged according to current accident experience compared to their own previous three year average experience. Each

city is classified according to population and grouped for the contest.

When December accident figures have been compiled and analyzed, final results for the year 1944 will be announced. Winners receive certificates of award and highway plaques to be erected alongside the highway at city entrances.

IT IS NOW RUMORED

That Nero fiddled while Rome burned because he had plenty of insurance. Would you fiddle or fume if your home burned?

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