

What You Can Do to Help America

Our nation was never stronger; it needs only our faith and confidence to bring it to its greatest heights

By **LEONARD S. DAVIDOW**

Publisher of Family Weekly

IN HIS Inaugural Address, the President said, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."

To this we wholeheartedly subscribe.

The United States of America is a land of the present and a land of the future. The American people have always been ambitious, industrious, capable, forward-looking, productive. They are a free people with creative ideas. They love their country. They have always been ready and willing to do whatever is best for their country. And now America needs their help, your help.

In recent weeks we have heard much about our faltering economy, and the talk has created fear—at a time when our savings have been growing at a dramatically accelerated rate; installment accounts are being paid off faster than new ones are being created; and our industrial institutions, merchants, insurance companies, and banks are financially stronger than ever before in their history.

The potential for growth in America, in other words, has never been greater. During 1960, America enjoyed its first 500-billion-dollar economy. It is estimated that 1961's economy will reach 520 billion dollars, and that by 1975 we will have reached a trillion-dollar (1,000 billion) economy!

Our population has been growing at a stupendous rate. We now have more than 180 million people. It is estimated that this figure will reach 200 million by 1965 and 300 million by 1980. Our ingenuity, creative ability, and research are at all-time heights of technical and scientific advancement. Our industries and the Government are spending more money than ever before to increase our strength, invulnerability, and general well-being.

In virtually every line of human endeavor, there have been great advancements in producing the things we need in our daily lives and the things we want to improve our way of life.

Then why, why do we find ourselves talking gloom, acting scared, saying we're headed for trouble?

Back in 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." It was true then. It is even more true now!

This is the time for positive thinking. There is a time to stint and a time to save; there is also a time to buy—and the time to buy is now!

The Government has been trying virtually every way it knows to prime the pump. This article will not attempt to evaluate the wisdom of Government policy.

For our purpose, it is sufficient to note that the President is endeavoring to pump money into the arteries of distribution in an

effort to speed up the economy and promote greater employment.

We think this should not be an obligation of the Government but rather something that can be better accomplished by the people.

The people have more than 300 billion dollars in savings. Let us then use a small portion of our vast personal resources to lift the economy over its temporary hurdle and on to accomplishments of unprecedented abundance. More buying by the public right now will put people back to work who, in turn, will put others to work.

With the economy again in a strong upswing, we can look forward to a greater, more abundant America—and we can't afford to settle for anything less.

HERE, THEN, are our recommendations: look around for opportunities to spend as much as, not as little as, you feel you can afford. Spend for goods or services you need and want and which you can put to good use. In other words, spend, spend now, and spend wisely.

If you need a new car, buy it now. Modernize your kitchen, enjoy the advantages of the new wonder appliances. Remodel your home, build that extra room, install that extra bathroom or modernize your present one. Paint and decorate your home, refurnish or refurbish it; plant a garden, a hedge, a new tree; build a garage. Spruce up your wardrobe; buy some new clothes for every member of the family. Plan a "See America" vacation and spend your money here at home. You may need a trailer, camping or fishing equipment, a new outboard motor or a new boat.

There are a great many knowledgeable people who feel that our economy is already heading upward. If you buy the things you need and want now, you will be giving it an added push forward.

It is unique to recommend spending rather than saving, but this is a time for spending and spending wisely. We dare to suggest that spending wisely is not only our pleasure, but our patriotic duty.

And all of us have another duty—to stop talking gloom!

Let us in our conversation and in our daily deeds live positively, talk confidently, and build our future fearlessly. Let us remember that America belongs to its people—to all of us who are privileged to support its purposes, advance its destiny, and share its blessings.

All of us have Confidence in a Growing America. But how can you and I, your family and friends, your next-door neighbors, put our combined strength to work? Family Weekly welcomes your letters telling what the people—not your Government—can do to show their faith in America.
—The Editors

COVER:

The reverent young girl, photographed by Josef Schneider, joins millions of Christians today in celebrating the miracle of Easter. Read about miracles that happen to all of us throughout the year on page 4.

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