

Work in the field of recreation, except for the selective service draft, is now classified by our Federal government as essential. Of course, ⁱⁿ wartime or peacetime, it is essential to keep on living, to have a zest for living. In wartime, recreation is more than ever essential, when usual values are suspended, when homes are broken up, when always there is uncertainty. The question for recreation workers in such a period is this: Are we making our job in recreation essential? Are we thinking about ourselves, our careers, recognition for ourselves -- or are we losing all thought of ourselves and thinking only of how each hour may be made to count for the people we serve?

An essential job is kept essential only when it is done in an essential spirit. In other words, the recreation leader can loaf, can be trivial, careless. It is axiomatic to say that he himself as well