

I may add at this point, having read the letter, that when I was at home many people inquired of me, "Now, if we buy bonds, may we have some assurance that the money we invest in the bonds will not be wasted?" I will ask the Senator from Montana what kind of a reply he would suggest I make to such inquiries which were addressed to me a hundred times, and which show the temper of the people? If that kind of a situation continues, there will be a break-down in the morale of the people of this country.

Mr. WHEELER. Let me say to the Senator that the same question propounded to him was asked me hundreds of times by farmers and others all over the country. Not only have such questions been asked me, but the people have come to see me. I have repeatedly pointed out that if this waste of manpower, of materials, and of money continues in this country, we are going to have a complete break-down of the morale of the people. One of the reasons why more small people are not buying bonds, one reason why more of the bonds have to be taken by bankers, insurance companies, and others, is the waste of manpower, the waste of materials, and the waste of money going on all over the country.

Mr. REED. I might add to what I said a moment ago that those who ask me this question are not slackers; they are not unpatriotic; they are as good Americans as can be found in this country. They are mostly people I have known all my life. They are earnest people, good people, patriotic people who want to help, but they are in despair over the extravagance and inefficiency and tremendous bureaucracy and waste of money under the policies which have been followed and which continue to be followed by the present administration.

Mr. WHEELER. Let me say to the Senator that I have invariably said to those who asked me similar questions that, notwithstanding the waste of manpower, notwithstanding the waste of materials, and notwithstanding the tremendous waste of the taxpayers' money, we have got to go ahead, now that we are in the war, and buy bonds and more bonds. But let me say to the Senator and to the Senate of the United States that, in my judgment, this colossal waste and extravagance, and their aftermath,

are going to have a harmful effect upon the Army and upon the Navy and on the morale of the people generally and upon the Government.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I may say that I agree entirely with the Senator from Montana. That is about the only kind of an answer that a responsible person could make.

I may add at this point, lest someone may feel that I have not sufficient concern about the welfare of the Army, that I have a son in north Africa now; I have a son-in-law at the Pendleton air base in Oregon; I have another son-in-law at Wright Field at Dayton; I have a grandson in one of the camps in Mississippi; I have another grandson attending school under a scholarship from the Army. I do not want anybody to question my patriotism unless he can equal my record.

Mr. WHEELER. Many of those who are questioning the Senator's patriotism or my patriotism or the patriotism of someone else are the very ones in some of the Government bureaus who are themselves getting out propaganda and evading the draft.

I quote from a statement issued by William Green:

Boston, September 30.—President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor, said today that labor hoarding is common and has resulted in apparent shortages.

Arriving here for the sixty-third annual A. F. of L. convention that opens Monday, Green said managers of many plants have accumulated labor by asking for more workers than actually are needed.

"A situation of apparent labor shortage can usually be relieved by developing a community program," Green said.

The way to do it is for the Government of the United States to check up on these plants and to take these young men.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, may I inquire of the Senator from Montana if, in his opinion, 90 percent of the conditions which are being discussed and complained of could not be cured by proper administration by the administrative authorities?

Mr. WHEELER. There is no question about that, in my mind, and it is not only my opinion, but it is in accordance with the report of Mr. Baruch, the adviser to Mr. Byrnes.

According to Mr. Baruch's report, there are three root causes for our manpower difficulties: