

QUESTION NO. 5 - POST-WAR UNEMPLOYMENT

What are the special dangers of large-scale unemployment which will inevitably follow the demobilization of the millions now occupied in war-time activities? How can such dangers be eliminated or modified?

Throughout the world millions of men are mobilized, are being mobilized in the armed forces. Millions of men and women are employed in war industries. What will happen when the fighting ceases? Will millions of men be discharged from the army to seek employment in peaceful pursuits? Will millions of men and women suddenly lose employment in war industries?

One very big problem of the post-war period is that potential large-scale unemployment. As business and professional men we should make plans now to avert the evils of post-war unemployment.

Probably after the actual fighting ceases it will be necessary to retain many men in the armed forces to preserve order in various countries during the period of reorganization and rehabilitation. To some extent that will lessen the dangers of unemployment because it will mean that demobilization will be effected gradually.

Industries will be transformed from war-industries to peace-time industries and scores of articles which are not being made during war-time will once more be manufactured. Destroyed areas will have to be rebuilt; railroads, bridges, and roads will have to be constructed. All that activity will absorb the labor power of many released from the armed forces or from work in war industries.

But how will all this be effected? Can it be done by individual initiative, private enterprise? Or should all that activity be organized and controlled by the government?

The purchase now of Defense Savings Bonds, War Savings Certificates, etc., not only serves a very helpful and necessary purpose in providing funds to prosecute the war, but it also helps to build up a reserve of savings which, when put to use later, will help mightily to provide employment. Are we doing all we can to build up such a reserve of savings so that after the war we can put the money represented by those savings in circulation and thus help create work and reduce unemployment?

In our own businesses and professions what opportunities do we see for creating employment after the war? What steps can we take now to make certain those opportunities for employment will materialize?

QUESTION NO. 6 - FREE INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS

What interferences are there with the free interchange of ideas and knowledge which is necessary to the advancement of civilization? To what extent can and should such interference be removed?"

A free interchange of ideas and knowledge would help advance civilization throughout the world.

The barrier of language constitutes a general interference in the free interchange of ideas and knowledge and for that reason many people advocate the adoption of an international auxiliary language. According to that plan each person would learn not only the language of his country but also the generally accepted international language. And thus the barrier of differing languages would be overcome.

Is it fair for us to expect everybody in the world to learn our language? Or should everyone, ourselves included, learn, in addition to his own language, an easy auxiliary language? What