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Business and the Price Problem
President Truman's recent remarks on inflation, in which he appealed to business to hold down and if possible reduce prices, poses some difficult problems. It is undoubtedly true, as the President said, that if the wage-price spiral continues, it will be ruinous for the country. But business, caught on all sides in rising costs, cannot do anything to save prices its products accordingly.

The need for the President to have recently announced price decreases, which is a favorable sign. And it is a safe bet that the market that deliberately elects his course is not a very rare instance. Competition from other concerns in the same price classes was considerable in the past. Retail business, which must buy and stock the goods before it goes into the hands of the ultimate consumer, has proven itself a very important influence in limiting price increases.

The buyers for large retail organizations, are being transferred somewhere else. Yet we will not buy unless they are satisfied that quality offered should not be better and that they are not better off.

And the effect of these actions is this: competitive price decreases found in successful small stores, find their way to the larger retail outlets, able to give better value.

Business is both the manufacturing and retail levels, knows that nothing can be as destructive as uncontrolled inflation. It knows that reasonable prices are essential to the mass-production and mass-sales on which our economy depends. It will fight inflation with every weapon available.

Community Fire Prevention
The average home owner has high lip-service to fire-prevention—and let it be said that this may be a harsh judgment, for it is not without reason that either private or public fire fighting is often light in destruction being reached month after month proves.

Fire departments are frequently inadequately equipped and maintained. This is particularly true in an emergency. Fire department personnel is ill-trained. Alarm systems are out-of-date and in many cases nonexistent. There are all important contributory causes to destructive fires.

Money spent by a community for any approved fire prevention effort should be regarded as an investment which will pay dividends in saved lives and property. Here is one place where economy is dictated.

Every community should hold the best possible fire-fighting curriculum on its curriculum and your educational campaign among its citizens. That is to say, to equip and train them what might be expected as an improvement in education.

My Garden
What I really most enjoy is to get my nose into a book, away from the garden, and to go out in my garden, to plant things and dig up weeds.

I like to work in the garden, am busy all the summer through, and when I have finished I find I can do nothing more to work.

I do not like being idle. Love to have more to do. When I finish one job, I have another waiting. Work has helped me all life's journey through.

You can have your towns and cities, some better than others, and I know that it is better to be busy than idle.

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