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THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT  
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16th District.

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SO STRONG THE FEAR.

Recently, every Member of Congress received a printed message from a man in Connecticut. It was printed on gloss paper. It was signed with name and address. At the top of this printed page was a picture of people in a French prison awaiting their fate at the guillotine. Beneath it was the inscription, "This Happened in France - It May - It Can - Happen Here." Beneath this inscription was a message concerning the present troubled world situation. But the thing which made this message a bit unusual was the following language: "I have three sons, all three are in the draft, if any of these sons lose their life on a European battlefield, I will take the life of anyone that will be responsible for sending him across the seas. I swear by God that I will do just that. That is why I am sending the picture as printed above. I have lived most of my life, those boys have a right to live theirs." So strong is the fear and so strong the passion as the Congress deals with measures touching the present trouble.

CLASS 1-E.

Just in case you don't know what that cryptic symbol means, let us explain that it is the Selective Service System's way of designating those who have established their status as conscientious objectors and who are eligible for assignment to non-combat or civilian work. Of the first 800,000 men who will be inducted into the service under the Selective Service Act, about 10,000 will receive a status as conscientious objectors. Some of them will be assigned to civilian work such as that done by the Civilian Conservation Corps while others will remain on the army payroll and will be given so-called non-combat duties. The War Department has announced that these duties may include the Medical Corps, certain units of the Quartermaster's Corps, certain sections of the Chemical Warfare Service known as decontamination units, construction units, depot units, photographic units, pigeon units, the non-combat units in the Corps of Engineers, certain Corps area units and certain units dealing with War Department overhead. Thus is freedom of conscience in a free country definitely respected.

CLEAN SOLDIERS.

Ask any veteran of the world war to reflect for a moment on his service in France and then state the greatest inconvenience to which he was subjected and he is apt to name the lack of facilities for a bath and clean duds as those that stick in his mind. The American soldier is accustomed to cleanliness. This is a great testimony to the soapmakers of America. All of which brings us around to what we started to say and that is that the War Department recently contracted for 5½ million dollars worth of laundry equipment. This includes electric marking machines, washers, dryers, starch cookers, presses, ironers, hosiery forms ironing boards and sewing machines. Imagine five million dollars worth of ironing boards stretched out end to end. They would extend from San Francisco to - but why imagine it?

THAT YEAR OF 1926.

To you and me, the year 1926 may have been just another year. It may have been much like 1920 or 1923, or 1925. Children were born, youngsters went to school, farmers tilled the land, merchants sold and bought, factories operated, people fretted about problems, people died. It was not unusual. But 1926 was an unusual year so far as modern government goes. From economic studies and data, it would seem that it was the year in which farm income and output, wages and conditions, prices of commodities and other factors were in balance. Hence the economic levels of 1926 were adopted as a sort of objective for much of the legislation that has been enacted in the last 8 years. Well, then, a brief look at 1926 will reveal the following facts. Our population was 117,000,000. National income was slightly under \$75,000,000,000. The Federal public debt was reduced in that year and there was no financing by means of securities by the Federal government. One other factor in 1926 is important. Business capital raised by private enterprise through the sale of bonds and stocks totalled 4 1/3 billion dollars. Today our population is about 132,000,000 or a gain of 13% since 1926. National income under \$70,000,000. Federal financing for the last 8 years totalled about 26½ billion dollars and private financing for the last 8 years is about the same amount as for the single year 1926. Is this the key to ultimate prosperity?