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"Free Enterprisers Can 'Plan' Us to Death, is reproduced from the St. Louis Globe Democrat in the interest of and to aid in the advancement of the Free Enterprise Economy. If you are interested in such a purpose you are invited to send for a free copy of our pamphlet, "The Manufacturer vs. The College Professor on Taxation."

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THE MAIL BAG

Free Enterprisers Can "Plan" Us to Death

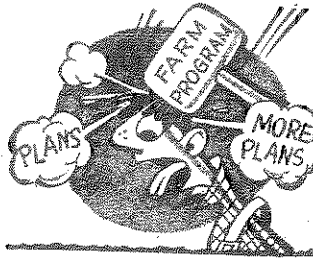
To the Editor:

Your editorial, "Stop Harpooning Benson and Let's Recognize a Changing Farm Economy" is right and most farmers know it. The Free Enterprise system, the best ever evolved by sheer hard and successful experience, is the natural system; it has its ways of adjustment—low prices in periods of excess production, for example. But this is but one part of the living whole process. If we interfere, we pay. Just as the finest ship must sink if barnaculitis is neither prevented nor cured, so must the economic ship, Free Enterprise, die of its evil and impossible restrictions.

Free Enterprise, with proper conditioning, can be an energizing, thriving, expanding, adjusting, rolling with the punches, forward-looking and friend-winning system that can win all mankind — even the Russians. We have, instead, an economic-arthritis infected system, a highly distorted caricature of what it might truly be. Only the sheer merit of some of the freedom it has left to people — thinking engineering and inventor classes—explains why we have not, long ago, simply mothered it to death by our planning—businessmen, labor, government bureaucrats, ministers and others, included.

Communist infiltration is not the cause of this shameful and needless situation. They, like rats, mosquitoes, flies, can only thrive in an environment suitable to their nature and ideas—they only take advantage of what we do that is wrong. Communists are not the Economic Marys—the Typhoid Marys, of this horrible and frightening economic dis-

ease; the real carriers, undetected, are many who claim to be Free Enterprisers. The only trouble is they claim, as Free Enterprisers, the rights of privilege, rackets, tax con-



trol to their profit, and the like—as did the nobility of old.

The very essence of Free Enterprise is its claim to being an adjusting economy, via free markets, free trade, and its competitive ideology; and if it fails here, political minds, who know little or nothing of economic science, take over as planners, and we have, as they say, "had it."

We simply do not need a million or two farmers, and farmers know this. If politicians tried to save every marginal worker and unit of industry, and marginal professionals, we would be more Socialist than Russia without their honesty; and Russians, who are realistic and have a sense of humor, would die laughing at us. Maybe this is our secret weapon?

Of course these playboy politicians save only those worthwhile, vote-wise pressure groups. They can't fool around with individual voters—except they sort of dole them Social Security, free meals from surplus foods, and the like. The epic story of the American Way of destroying wealth, of

price and tax supports, of public and semi-public housing, trying to beat the rap we asked for, is simply fabulous.

Properly conditioned by economic science knowledge, we can absorb into more production of old and new products and services every worker displaced by machine or improved methods in any area of our economy. We have so handicapped our economy by the combination of government doing things to harm people and then trying to do much to help them that now we seem to be only waiting the Communist shot behind the head.

The farmers are, of course, victims as well as aggressors. They suffer from the deep, dark, red ignorance of the people of which they are only a part. All suffer because of a failure of economic education which has botched up economic education simply because of pressure to justify the wrongs in the system, or to merely work out schemes of coexistence with wrongs rather than to eliminate them.

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