

reason that they have concentrated their national energy on the war and the war industries, while we have dissipated ours on unnecessary luxuries for private consumption. If we win and the Germans lose, it will be for the sole reason that we have concentrated enough of our national energy on the war and the war industries to outnumber them on the firing line and to keep our soldiers better supplied with everything which they need. Every ounce of our national energy which we use for other purposes is just so much withdrawn from war purposes, and to that extent it jeopardizes the outcome of this war. Unless the government adopts the policy of universal conscription of labor, the only way in which we can redirect our national energy is by redirecting the spending of our money. We must stop spending so much of our money for things which have no connection with the war and begin spending more of it on things which help win the war.

If one wanted to be thoroughly disloyal, it would not be necessary to make anarchistic speeches on the street corner or other public places, or to urge men by word of mouth not to enlist, not to go into the shipyards or the munition factories, and not to go onto the farms to help produce food. Such a procedure would land one in jail, and very properly. The same result, however, could be achieved in other ways. One can hire men to stay out of the shipyards, out of the munition factories and off the farms by hiring them to make things which are not necessary — that is, by spending one's money on non-essentials. One's motive may be perfectly innocent and absolutely free from disloyalty, and yet however pure the motive, the result is the same. Ignorance of economic principles is sometimes quite as destructive as disloyalty.

Usually all people spend their money for the things for which they care most and deprive themselves of the things for which they care least. They who care more for the winning of the war than for the luxuries which they might purchase with their surplus income will quite naturally spend their money for the winning of the war rather than for the purchasing of these lux-