

STRAIGHT THINKING ABOUT THE RAILROADS

The Association of American Railroads has issued a compelling booklet entitled "Straight Thinking about the Railroads." It shows the seriousness of the railroad problem today, with carloadings running 30 per cent below last year, and with railroad profits at the vanishing point.

The booklet does more than paint a dismal picture — it makes a number of concrete suggestions toward solving a problem in which every American worker and industry has a tremendous stake. Some of these suggestions are:

1. Railroad revenues must be increased, especially in periods of normal business, so that the industry may store up "some fat as a cushion against famine."

2. The rule for establishing railroad rates should be changed to the extent that the lines are guaranteed rates that will bring a fair return upon investment.

3. Of equal importance is the necessity for reducing railroad expenses. Costs of operation within the control of the industry have been cut to the bone. The next essential steps are a reasonable reduction in wages, and a revision of the present wasteful rules and working conditions applicable to the train service crafts.

4. Pre-arranged, artificial and inelastic plans for forcing railroad consolidations should be abandoned. Conditions should be effected by agreement of all concerned, rather than by legislative fiat, and with careful consideration of the rights of workers and the welfare of communities served by rail.

There are many other points, but these are four of the most important. It is difficult to see how they can be justly opposed. Wage boosts can be justly opposed. Wage boosts, social security taxes and higher material costs have added almost \$300,000,000 a year to railway operating expense. On top of that, a request for a reasonable rate boost was granted only in part, and the tremendous slump in general business has been still another blow. Drastic action is necessary if the railway industry is to keep going — and is to continue to provide America with that remarkably high and improving standard of service we need and expect.—Industrial News Review.

IS THIS GOOD BUSINESS?

When Mr. Ickes returns from his honeymoon vacation he will find a liberal allotment of \$144,569,298 at his disposal to be applied to the construction of 277 power projects throughout the country. Of course that amount invested in such public projects is insignificant compared to the volume of wealth that has created the privately owned utilities. But that is not the question involved. If the federal government can finance from public funds competition for legitimate investment, the effect must be to very markedly curtail available money for the creation of privately owned power plants in the future.

There are millions of people in the United States who are owners of stock in utility corporations. They invested their funds long ago and they depend upon the returns therefrom. There are other millions who

have savings which they would like to employ gainfully, but they are fearful to use them to promote public utilities which may find themselves in competition with those financed by the government. And particularly does it make the proposed investor timid when he realizes that the return to the government upon its loans is meager compared with the interest private concerns pay to those who incest with them.

The rates for power are governed by the several states in the Union. Those rates are so fixed as to insure the investors a fair return upon their money. With the government as a competitor, not only those who have funds invested but those who would like to invest are fearful of the future. And it is not as if the government had a surplus of revenue. The national debt today is \$37,459,000,000. The allotment to Mr. Ickes, to be sure, is "only" \$144,000,000 but the source of that money is through borrowing, and the borrowing will add that much more to the public debt. Its allotment makes the government in effect a competitor with private business owned by millions of American citizens. And because of that competition the debt grows, investment money continues inactive and the depression remains.

—The Bakersfield Californian.

Spiced Ripe Peach Jam



EARLY Chinese writings tell us of a wonderful peach tree which bore fruit only once in every thousand years. . . . Wouldn't this be a sad world if we had to wait that long between batches of spiced peach jam? This recipe is direct from Jelly Making Club headquarters—follow it exactly!

Spiced Ripe Peach Jam With Brazil Nuts

- 3½ cups (1½ lbs.) prepared fruit
- ¼ cup lemon juice
- 7½ cups (3½ lbs.) sugar
- 1 cup sliced Brazil nuts
- 1 bottle fruit pectin

To prepare fruit, peel about 2½ pounds fully ripe peaches, and grind or chop very fine. Add 1 teaspoon cinnamon, clove and allspice, or any desired combination of spices, to ground or chopped peaches. Squeeze juice from 2 medium lemons. Slice Brazil nuts very thin. Add to fruit mixture.

Measure sugar and prepared fruit, solidly packed, into large kettle, mix well, and bring to a full rolling boil over hottest fire. Stir constantly before and while boiling. Boil hard 1 minute. Remove from fire and stir in bottled fruit pectin. Then stir and skim by turns for just 5 minutes to cool slightly, to prevent floating fruit. Pour quickly. Paraffin hot jam at once. Makes about 10 glasses (6 fluid ounces each).

Two Great Pictures at El Portal are Featured on Program This Week

It's the Besta of all Screen Fiestas! Martha fights a bull; Bob Burns throws it, and Dorothy Lamour and Ray Milland make love to the most glorious music you ever heard!



TROPIC HOLIDAY

with **BOB BURNS**
MARTHA RAYE
Dorothy LAMOUR
RAY MILLAND
BINNIE BARNES
TITO GUIZAR

Directed by **THEODORE REED**
A **PARAMOUNT PICTURE**

New Latin love songs:
"On a Tropic Night"
"Tonight Will Live"
"My First Love" and
"The Lamp on the Corner"

"Mutiny ON THE BOUNTY"

knew no fiercer rebellion than that which smoldered white hot in the heart of this "gentleman" sent to common sailors school. . . .

"CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS" offered no greater battles of character...no grander adventures... than this hearty-stormy drama of men in the making!

FREDDIE BARTHOLOMEW & MICKEY ROONEY

Lord Jeff