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THE ROAD TO SERFDOM

1

War forces "national planning"

To permit total mobilization of your country's economy, you gladly surrender many freedoms. You know regimentation was forced by your country's enemies.



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2

Many want "planning" to stay . . .

Arguments for a "peace production board" are heard before the war ends. Wartime "planners" who want to stay in power, encourage the idea.



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3

The "Planners" promise Utopias

A rosy plan for farmers goes well in rural areas, a plan for industrial workers is popular in cities—and so on. Many new "planners" are elected to office



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but they can't agree on ONE Utopia

With peace, a new legislature meets; but "win the war" unity is gone. The "planners" nearly come to blows. Each has his own pet plan, won't budge.

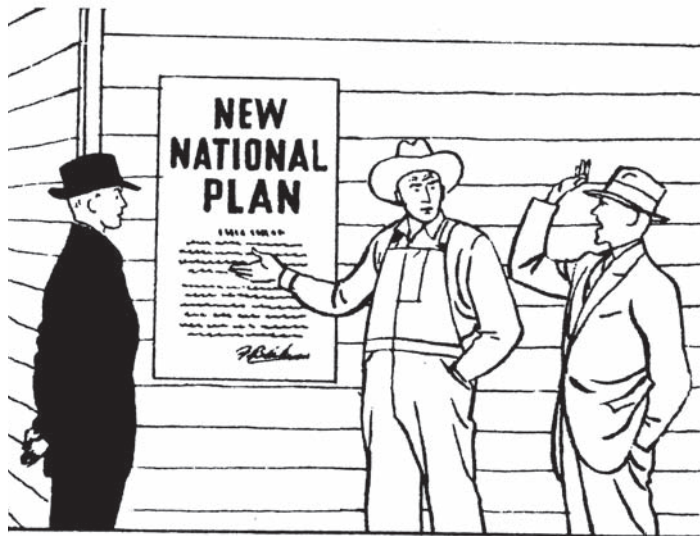


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5

And citizens can't agree either

When the "planners" finally patch up a temporary plan months later, citizens in turn disagree. What the farmer likes, the factory worker doesn't like.



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"Planners" hate to force agreement . . .

Most "national planners" are well-meaning idealists, balk at any use of force. They hope for some miracle of public agreement as to their patchwork plan.



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7

They try to "sell" the plan to all . . .

In an unsuccessful effort to educate people to uniform views, "planners" establish a giant propaganda machine—which coming dictator will find handy.



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The gullible do find agreement

Meanwhile, growing national confusion leads to protest meetings. The least educated—thrilled and convinced by fiery oratory, form a party.



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Confidence in "planners" fades

The more that the "planners" improvise, the greater the disturbance to normal business. Everybody suffers. People now feel—rightly—that "planners" *can't get things done!*

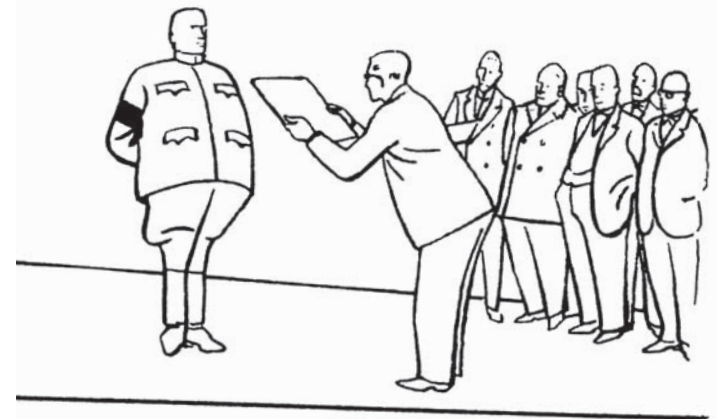


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The "strong man" is given power . . .

In desperation, "planners" authorize the new party leader to hammer out a plan and force its obedience. Later, they'll dispense with him—or so *they think*.



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11

The party takes over the country . . .

By now, confusion is so great that obedience to the new leader must be obtained at all costs. Maybe you join the party yourself to aid national unity.



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A negative aim welds party unity . . .

Early step of all dictators is to inflame the majority in common cause against some scapegoat minority. In Germany, the negative aim was *Anti-Semitism*.

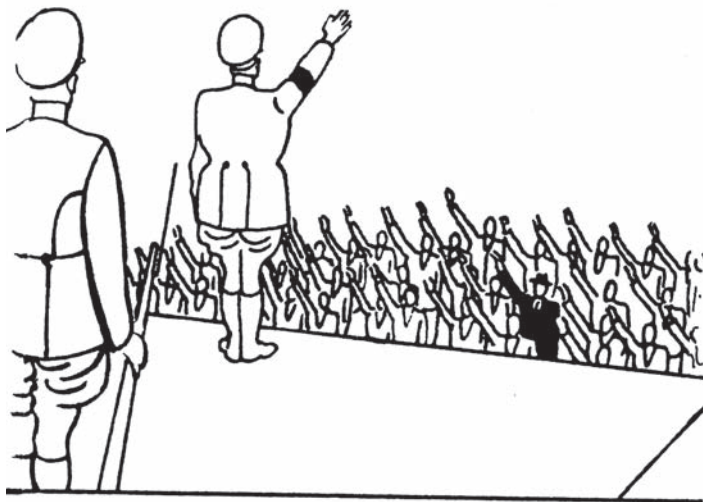


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13

No one opposes the leader's plan . . .

It would be suicide; new secret police are ruthless. Ability to force obedience always becomes the No. 1 virtue in the "planned state." Now *all* freedom is gone.

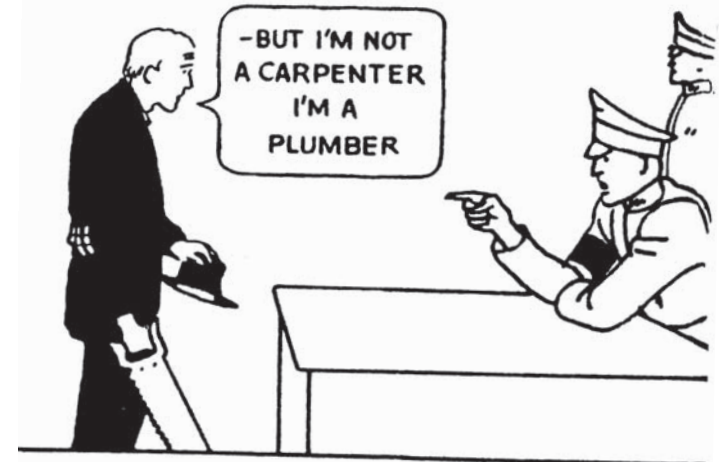


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Your profession is "planned"

The wider job choice promised by now defunct "planners" turns out to be a tragic farce. "Planners" never have delivered, never will be able to.



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Your wages are "planned"

Divisions of the wage scale must be arbitrary and rigid. Running a "planned state" from central headquarters is *clumsy, unfair, inefficient.*

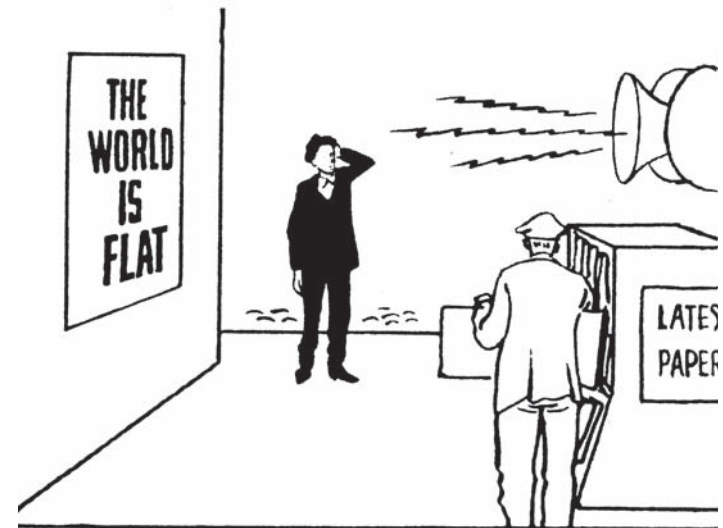


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16

Your thinking is "planned"

In the dictatorship, unintentionally created by the planners, there is no room for difference of opinion. Posters, radio, press—all tell you *the same lies!*

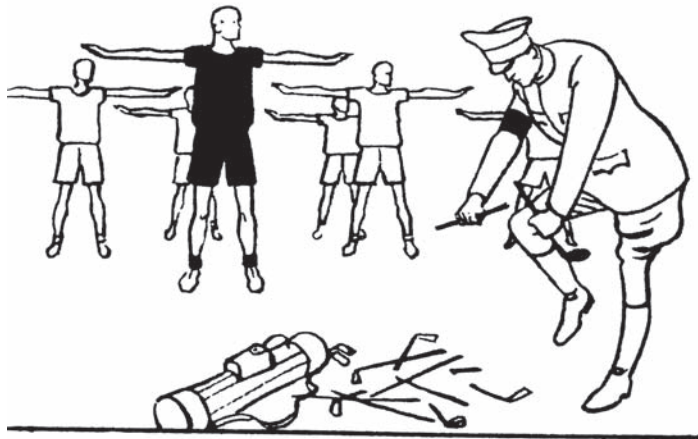


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Your recreation is "planned"

It is no coincidence that sports and amusements have been carefully "planned" in all regimented nations. Once started, "planners" can't stop.



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18

Your disciplining is "planned"

If you're fired from your job, it's apt to be by a firing squad. What used to be an error has now become a *crime* against the state. *Thus ends the road to serfdom!*

