We must regain the conviction on which liberty in the Anglo-Saxon countries has been based and which Benjamin Franklin expressed in a phrase applicable to us as individuals no less than as nations: ‘Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.’

**Toward a better world**

To build a better world, we must have the courage to make a new start. We must clear away the obstacles with which human folly has recently encumbered our path and release the creative energy of individuals. We must create conditions favourable to progress rather than ‘planning progress’.

It is not those who cry for more ‘planning’ who show the necessary courage, nor those who preach a ‘New Order’, which is no more than a continuation of the tendencies of the past 40 years, and who can think of nothing better than to imitate Hitler. It is, indeed, those who cry loudest for a planned economy who are most completely under the sway of the ideas which have created this war and most of the evils from which we suffer.

The guiding principle in any attempt to create a world of free men must be this: a policy of freedom for the individual is the only truly progressive policy.
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.

![Cartoon of a worker with a sign saying "Stay on the Job WPB" spearheading a march]

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.

![Cartoon of a man reading a newspaper saying "What’s good in war is good in peace"]
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

4

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.
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.

"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.
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.

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.
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!

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.
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.

12

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.
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.

Your profession is “planned” . . .
The wider job choice promised by now defunct “planners” turns out to be a tragic force. “Planners” never have delivered, never will be able to.
15

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.

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!
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.

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!