

**Use it Up, Wear it Out,
Make it Do, or Do Without!**



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Dane G. Hansen Foundation

Use It Up, Wear It Out Make it Do, or Do Without!



INTRODUCTION

Every aspect of American life was refocused towards the goal of winning the war during WWII, and everyone tried to do their part to support the Allied troops. Students will get their hands dirty as they learn about Victory Gardens, rationing and recycling programs that were a way of life for those on the home front.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will gain knowledge of the characteristics and value of primary sources.
- Students will learn how Americans on the Home Front adapted new civic responsibilities and sacrifices to help Allied troops during World War II.
- Students will examine the persuasion and purpose of American home front propaganda posters.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Grades 6 - 8

TIME REQUIREMENT: 50 Minutes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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NATIONAL CURRICULUM STANDARDS

All lesson plans meet numerous national Common Core State Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects, as well as National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies.

Common Core St. Standards		6th - 8th
Standard	RI - Reading Informative Text	1 - 4, 7
	SL - Speaking and Listening	1, 2
	RH - History/Social Studies	2, 4, 7, 9
Natl. Curriculum Standards for Social Studies		
Theme	2: Time, Continuity, and Change	Middle Grades
	7: Production, Distribution, and consumption	Middle Grades
	8: Science, Technology, and Societ	Middle Grades

Lesson Plan



1. Ask students to raise their hand if they do any of the following activities:
 - Recycle items like glass, plastic, or aluminum in their home?
 - Grow a vegetable garden for your family to eat?
 - Skip eating some foods so others can eat, too?
 - Figure out how to buy groceries for your family within a limited budget?
 - Provide supplies to help our soldiers fight a war?

2 minutes
2. Use **Primary Sources: Preserving the Past** to instruct students about the characteristics and importance of primary sources.

5 minutes
3. Use **Background Briefing** to instruct students about the WWII Home Front efforts on which this lesson will focus, and to examine correlating primary sources.

10 minutes
4. Direct students to use the **Propaganda** worksheet and the folder of posters to complete questions concerning the connotation and conclusions that can be drawn from the posters.

10 minutes
5. Divide students into groups of four. Read **The Game** directions with students and allow them to play for 20 minutes (or most of the remaining class time). This will require the teacher to collect game pieces, as well as pre-printing of the game board and cards.

20 minutes
6. Review the main objectives of this lesson before dismissing students:
 - What is the difference between a primary and secondary source?
 - In what ways did Americans on the home front help win World War II?

3 minutes



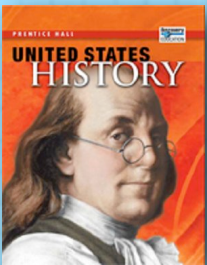
Primary Sources: Preserving the Past



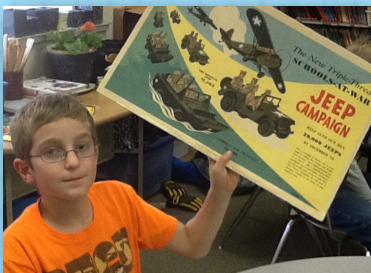
What is a **primary source**? It is any direct evidence produced during a specific period under study. They vary widely from objects like artifacts, photographs, diaries, maps, movies, songs, and eyewitness accounts. The key is that they were created during the time period being studied. The Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home are full of them!



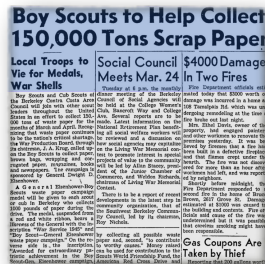
They are different from a **secondary source**, which is an interpretation of the past. History text books are typically secondary sources because the authors were not present at the time in history they are writing about, but are interpreting what they have learned about the event.



This is what makes learning with primary sources so engaging -- you get to hold a real piece of history in your hands and come up with your own conclusions of its significance. The answers are not always provided by the primary sources, so you are encouraged to seek the answers through inquiry and research.



Determine if the following sources of information about America's war efforts are primary or secondary.



Newspaper article in the Berkeley Daily Gazette, March 23, 1945, regarding the General Eisenhower scrap paper campaign.



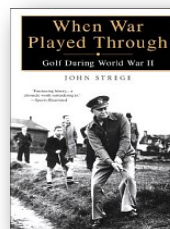
Website article on Learnnc.org titled "World War II on the Home Front: Rationing." University of North Carolina. Jan. 2, 2014.



Poster series created by the Petroleum War Council, 1941 - 1945. General Eisenhower stressed the importance of home front oil production.



Boy Scout - General Eisenhower Waste Paper Campaign Certificate and Medal, circa 1945.



Book by John Strege titled When War Played Through: Golf During WWII. Gotham publishing, 2005.

Background Briefing



Do with less—so they'll have enough!



The Home Front

During WWII, helping those on the front lines was a way the Americans on the home front could be part of the war effort. Shortages began as soon as the U.S. entered the war in December, 1941. Imports were cut off dramatically as the Axis forces sunk our cargo ships and stopped selling products to the U.S.. Ships, planes, fuels and food supplies that would have previously been used to take care of Americans' needs at home were diverted to war use. Many American companies who made items for American homes changed to make items needed for the war. Americans at home were asked to make sacrifices as their way of fighting in the war. A common slogan became "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without!"

Rationing

During World War II, access to many items was rationed because America was trying to supply huge amounts of food and vital materials to the armed forces. So in order to keep inflation in check, President Roosevelt created the Office of Price Administration to try to keep prices low and provide access equal for all, not just the wealthy. Price limits or "ceiling prices" were set, limiting the price that stores could charge for items. Stores could not raise prices above what the price was in March of 1942. Ration books, coupons, and tokens were carefully distributed to each person or family by local boards. These coupons were turned in when a person wanted to buy rationed items such as sugar, butter, meat, oils, and frozen fruits or vegetables. These coupons did not take the place of money, but had to be used in addition to money. Stamps were also issued to ration gas supplies. Most citizens received an "A" stamp which limited them to four gallons of gas per week!



YOUR VICTORY GARDEN counts more than ever!



Victory Gardens

To supplement many of the food items that were in short supply, Victory Gardens were planted in backyards, vacant lots, parks, baseball fields, and school yards across America. Called Victory Gardens, they were a way for civilians to ensure an adequate food supply during WWII rationing. The goal was to produce enough fresh vegetables in the summer and canned vegetables for the winter for one's immediate family and neighbors.

Recycle, Conserve, & Stretch

Wartime cookbooks and pamphlets showed Americans how to substitute a rationed item for another non-rationed ingredient (like using honey in place of sugar), or how to make the most of any leftovers in other recipes. Americans even saved the fats and grease from the meats they cooked in order to 1) re-use in place of butter and oil when cooking, and 2) return to the butcher who would send it to a rendering plant to be processed into munitions. Planes, weapons, jeeps, ships, etc, required metal to build, so all Americans were urged to turn in any scrap metal to be recycled and used for the military. Schools and community groups held scrap metal drives and contests, cars were not made from February 1942 to late 1945, and even the American penny was made from steel in order to send more copper to the war effort. Fuel and rubber were also in high demand for the military, and our supplies from the East had been cut off. Therefore, Americans were expected to drive less, drive slower, and carpool. Paper was short in supply, but in high demand during the war. The Federal War Production Board estimated that 30,000 tons of paperboard were needed monthly just to pack artillery shells. Paper was also needed for the myriad of carton used to ship K-rations, milk, and even blood plasma to the soldiers.



Propaganda

Propaganda is media that uses carefully crafted messages to persuade people's actions and beliefs. Many government programs created posters during WWII reminding Americans that they need to ration and reduce any waste in order to help win the war and bring home their soldiers. These posters had messages such as "Food is a weapon, don't waste it!," "Of Course I Can! I'm patriotic as can be -- And ration points won't worry me!," and "Help bring them back to you! Make Yours a Victory Home!"

Look at the primary sources at your table. They are all examples of propaganda posters used to strengthen the war effort on the Home Front. What conclusions and connotations can you pull from them? (Connotation = information or feeling that can be detected in addition to the literal information given.) Choose any two to analyze below.



Example:

TITLE = When you ride alone you ride with Hitler!

CONNOTATION = Riding alone wastes fuel needed for our troops who are fighting against Hitler; If a person is not helping our troops fight against Hitler, they are actually helping Hitler.

CONCLUSION = Americans were urged to join car-sharing clubs (carpool) as a way to help win the war.

TITLE = _____

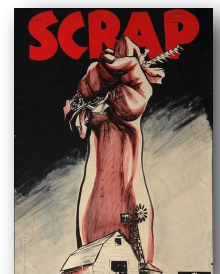
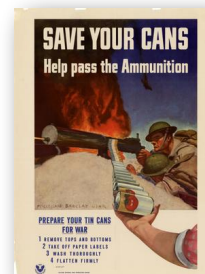
CONNOTATION = _____

CONCLUSION = _____

TITLE = _____

CONNOTATION = _____

CONCLUSION = _____





USE IT UP, WEAR IT OUT MAKE IT DO OR DO WITHOUT THE GAME

DIRECTIONS

1. One player needs to volunteer to serve as the Chairman of the Ration Board. S/he will be in charge of handing out and taking in the tokens as the game is played. Red tokens are worth 5 points each, blue tokens are worth 1 point each. As the game starts, each player picks out a game piece and receives 50 points in ration tokens (8 red, 10 blue).
2. The game cards should be divided between the remaining players (other than the Chairman of the Ration Board). They are expected to only look at the image side of the cards until a player lands on that image. Then, they are expected to turn the card over to read the fate of the player for all to hear.
3. Players begin on START, which is the Pearl Harbor space of the game board. Playing order can be determined by whose birthday is closest to the date of Pearl Harbor (December 7th) then proceed clockwise.
4. For each turn, a player should roll the dice and move his/her game piece that number of spaces. The space landed on will have an image that corresponds to a game card. Follow the game cards instructions. (see direction #2)
5. **Every time** a player passes a corner labeled "Grocery Day," the player must spend 10 ration points. If a player does not have enough ration points on Grocery Day, s/he must go back to the START and receive the starting amount of ration points/tokens (see direction #1).
6. Determining a winner: Be the first to reach the FINISH, which is the Victory Kiss space of the game board, or to have the most ration points left when time runs out.

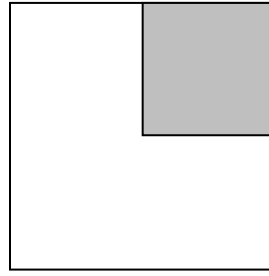
Game Board and Cards



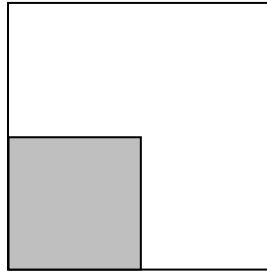
The original size of this game board is 24" x 24." In order for teachers to most easily reproduce it for the classroom, it is being provided in 8" x 8" fourths on pages eight through eleven. Teachers can print these pages and tape them together. Pages 12 through 27 contain the front and back sides of the playing cards. They are set up to be printed off as two-sided copies (ex: pages 12-13 are both sides of cards one through four).



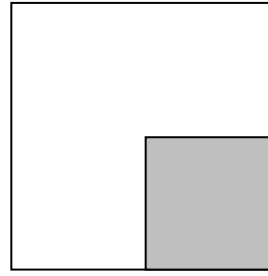
This is the top right of game board.



This is the bottom left of game board.

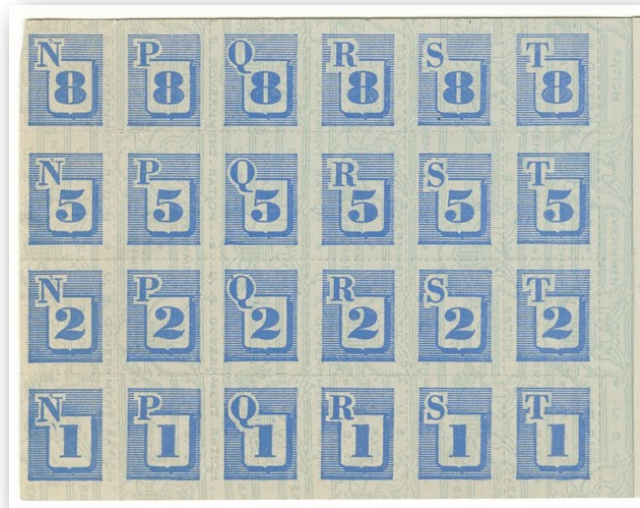


This is the bottom right of game board.



You missed the deadline to apply for the Ration Book Three! Your family is really going to be hungry! Move back three spaces.

Ration Book Number Two was issued. Each book had its own revised design of coupons.



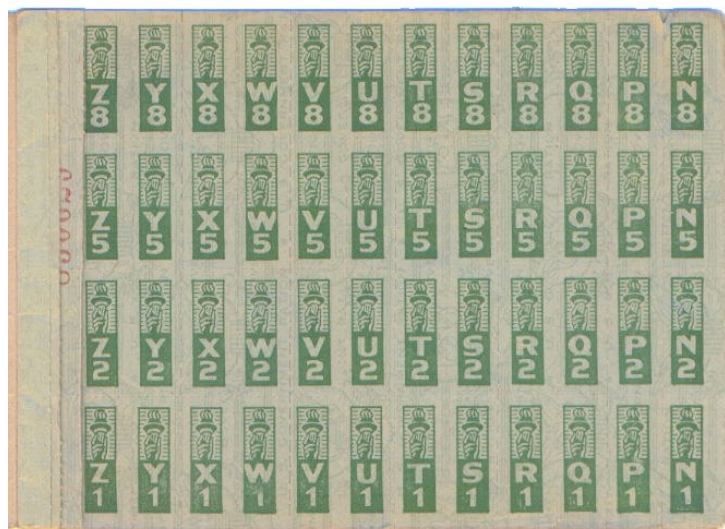
Collect 20 more ration points.

Ration Book Number Three was issued. Each book had its own revised design of coupons.

Ration Book Number Four was issued. Each book had its own revised design of coupons.



Collect 20 more ration points.



Collect 20 more ration points.

4

376391 AS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

WAR RATION BOOK FOUR

Issued to Louis E. Jessen
(Print first, middle, and last names)

Complete address 368 Riverside
Amen, Iowa

READ BEFORE SIGNING

book, I recognize that it remains the property of the United at. I will use it only in the manner and for the purposes Office of Price Administration.

Louis E. Jessen
(Signature)

is a criminal offense to violate rationing regulations.

10-92870-1

4

396448 BL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

WAR RATION BOOK TWO

IDENTIFICATION

(Name of person to whom book is issued)

(Street number or rural route)

(City or post office) (State) (Zip)

ISSUED BY LOCAL BOARD No. (State) (County) (City)

By (Street address of local board) (Signature of issuing officer)

SIGNATURE
(To be signed by the person to whom this book is issued. If such person is unable to sign because of age or incapacity, another may sign in his behalf)

WARNING

- This book is the property of the United States Government. It is unlawful to use it or permit anyone else to use it, except to obtain rationed goods for the person to whom it is issued.
- This book must be returned to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it into the armed services of the United States, or leaves the address of the Board appears above.
- A person who finds a lost War Ration Book must return it to the War Price and Rationing Board.
- PERSONS WHO VIOLATE RATIONING REGULATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO \$10,000 FINE.

OPA Form No. R-121

THIS BOOK NOT VALID

20

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

187454 AZ

WAR RATION BOOK No. 3

Identification of person to whom issued: PRINT IN FULL

Emery Johnson
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Street number or rural route

City or post office

State

AGE SEX WEIGHT HEIGHT OCCUPATION
Lbs. Ft. In.

Stamp 46: RATION STAMP NO. 46

Stamp 22: RATION STAMP NO. 22

Stamp 38: RATION STAMP NO. 38

Stamp 22: RATION STAMP NO. 22

Stamp 38: RATION STAMP NO. 38

WARNING

This book is the property of the United States Government. It is unlawful to sell it to any other person, or to use it or permit anyone else to use it, except to obtain rationed goods in accordance with the regulations of the Office of Price Administration. Any person who finds a lost War Ration Book must return it to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it. Persons who violate rationing regulations are subject to \$10,000 fine or imprisonment, or both.

OPA Form No. R-130

Form No. R-129 Form Approved, Budget Bureau No. 08-R417

United States of America—Office of Price Administration

APPLICATION FOR WAR RATION BOOK NO. 3

One application must be made for each group of persons who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption and who regularly live at the same address. Persons temporarily away from home (for a period of 60 days or less), such as students, travelers, hospital patients, etc., must be included in the family application. Persons living at the same address BUT NOT RELATED by blood, marriage, or adoption must file SEPARATE applications. If additional applications are needed, you can get them at your post office.

A person may be included in only one application for War Ration Book No. 3.

The following may NOT apply or be included in any application for War Ration Book No. 3: Persons in the armed services, whether or not eating in organized messes, including Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and all Women's Auxiliaries; and inmates of institutions of involuntary confinement such as prisons and insane asylums.

Print below full name and complete mailing address of the person to whom books are to be mailed. Books will be delivered by July 21, 1943, to address given below. Books will NOT be forwarded. If you are not reasonably sure of address between June 15 and July 21, 1943, do not submit application. Such applications will be accepted later.

Print in Ink or Type

Name STEPHEN JOHN LINDSLEY

Mailing address 70 PARK AVENUE
(Number) (Street, R. F. D., or General Delivery)

City or post office and State BLOOMFIELD NEW JERSEY

909863 AL

This application must be mailed between June 1 and June 10, 1943. After June 10th, applications will not be accepted before August 1. Affix postage before mailing.

Print in the spaces provided below the name of the head of the family, the county in which persons included in this application live, and their complete mailing address. If you are not a member of a family group, print your own name and address.

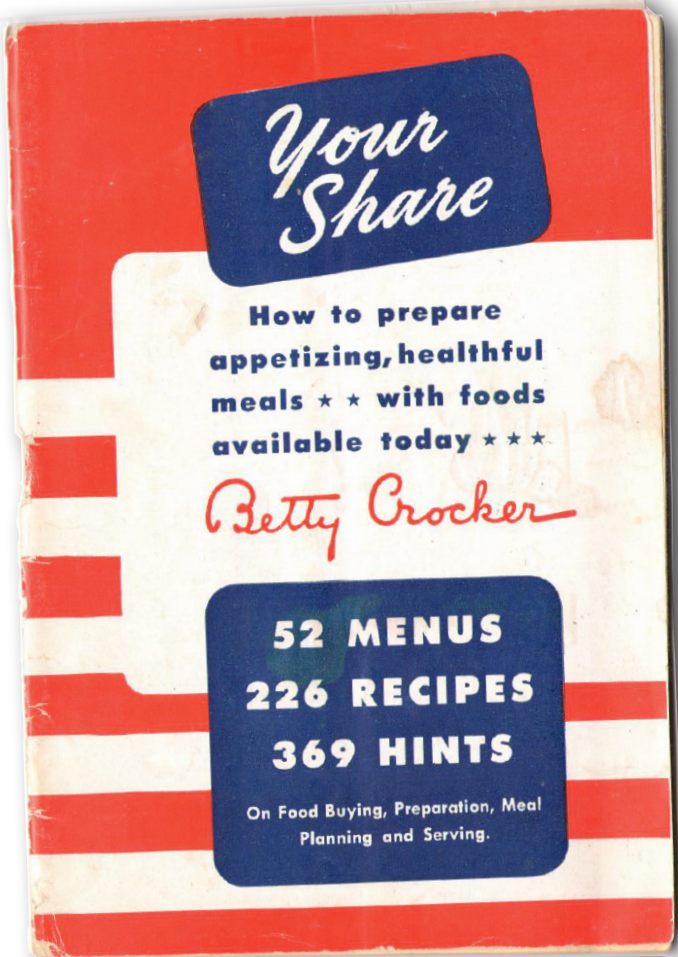
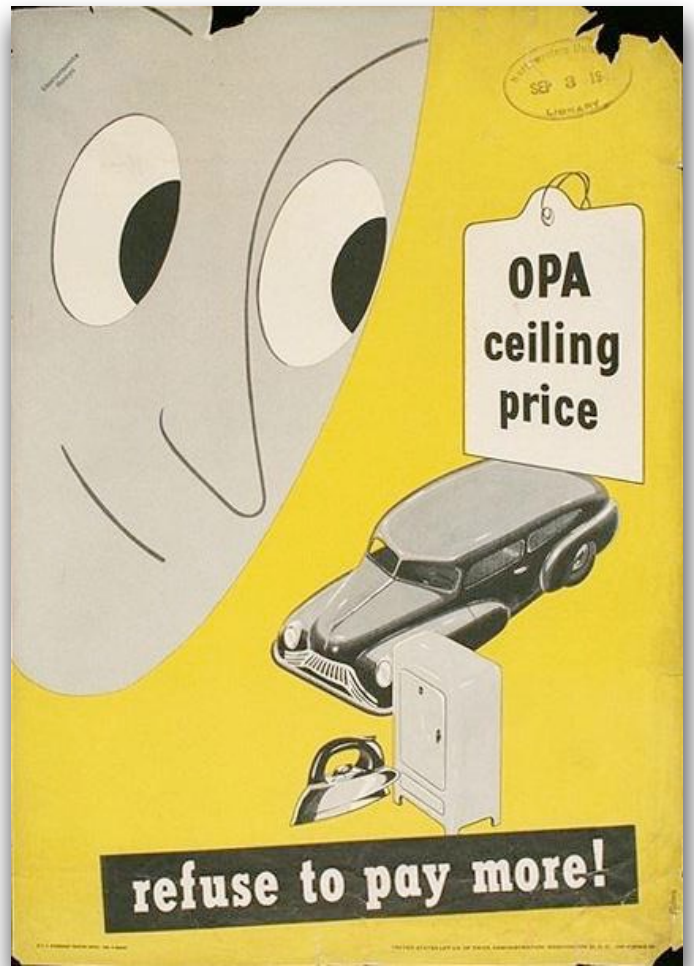
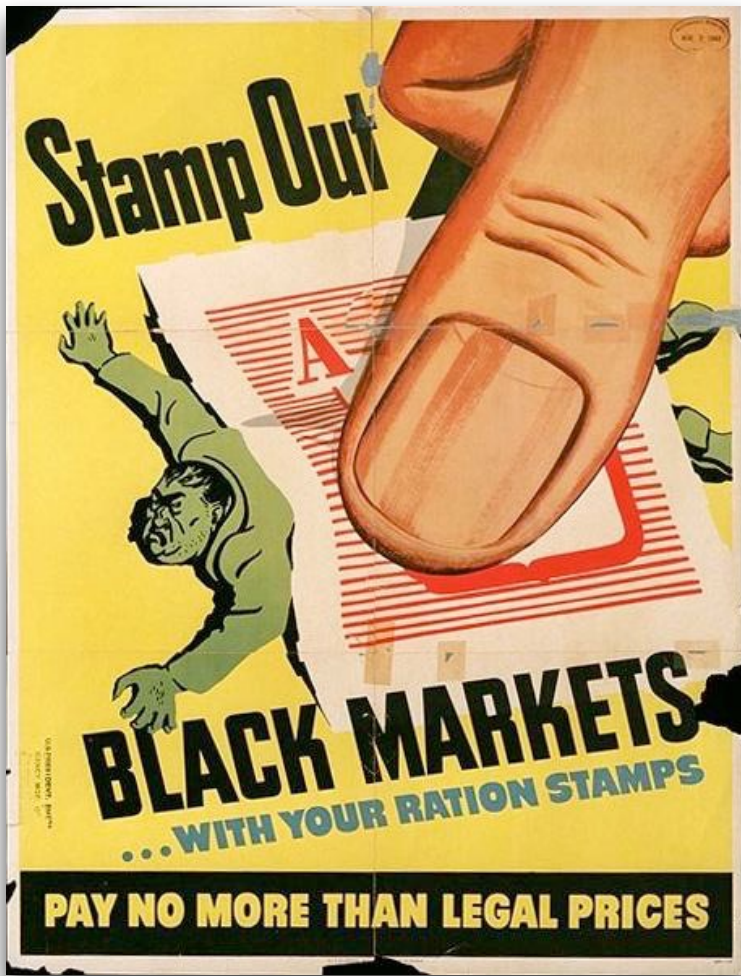
Print in ink or type. Do Not Fold or Tear Off

Thanks for practicing civic responsibility! You turned in a store charging more than ceiling prices. Move forward two spaces and collect five more ration points.

Thanks for practicing civic responsibility! You turned in a person who was selling butter on the black market. Move forward two spaces and collect five ration points.

Great job growing your own fruit trees! The Office of Price Administration has approved your application for more sugar rations to be able to can your fruits for the winter. Collect five more ration points.

You are using new recipes from the Betty Crocker wartime cookbook that substitute rationed items with other ingredients. You are doing your part to help the troops! Move forward two spaces and collect five ration points.



You did not take care of your Victory Garden and all of your cauliflower and carrots died. Those contained important vitamins your family will need this winter. Move back three spaces and pay five ration points.

You helped your school plant a Victory Garden. Its harvest will be used in the school lunches. Outstanding! Move forward three spaces.

You have canned twenty jars of tomatoes, carrot, onions, and peas from your Victory Garden. You will not have to rely on ration points for those products this winter! Move forward three spaces.

You have learned to live within your egg and dairy ration points by raising your own chickens and a milk cow. Move forward two spaces.

YOUR VICTORY GARDEN
counts more than ever!



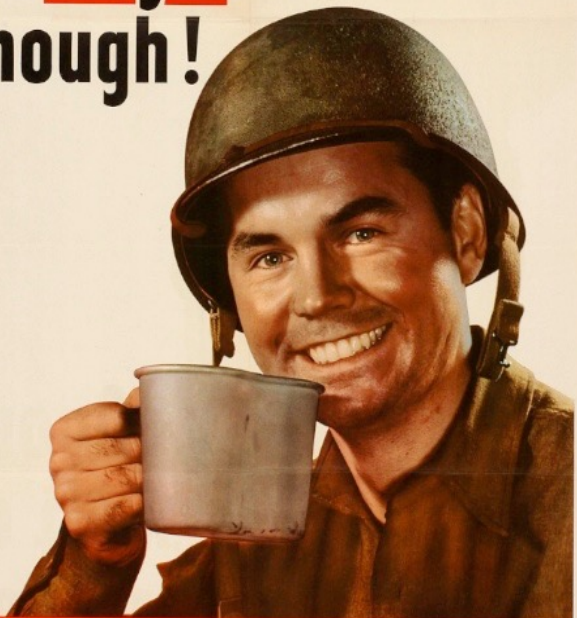
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

DIG for Victory



GROW
YOUR OWN
VEGETABLES

Do with less—
so they'll have
enough!



RATIONING GIVES YOU YOUR FAIR SHARE

OWP Poster No. 57. Additional copies may be obtained upon request from the Division of Public Inspection, Office of War Information, Washington, D.C.

"We'll have lots to eat this
winter, won't we Mother?"



Grow your own
Can your own

OWP Poster No. 57. Additional copies may be obtained upon request from the Division of Public Inspection, Office of War Information, Washington, D.C.

© 1945 Government Pictures Agency, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

On December 1, 1942, the Petroleum Administration for War imposed a nationwide gasoline rationing policy.

Most drivers could only receive four gallons per week. The amount was reduced to two gallons in March of 1944.

You wasted gasoline by ignoring the reduced speed limit. Move back three spaces and pay four ration points.

Everyday drivers received gas ration books labeled "A," while individuals who drove more than sixty miles per week to war industry jobs received "B" coupons. Professionals who held essential jobs, such as doctors, received "C" coupons.

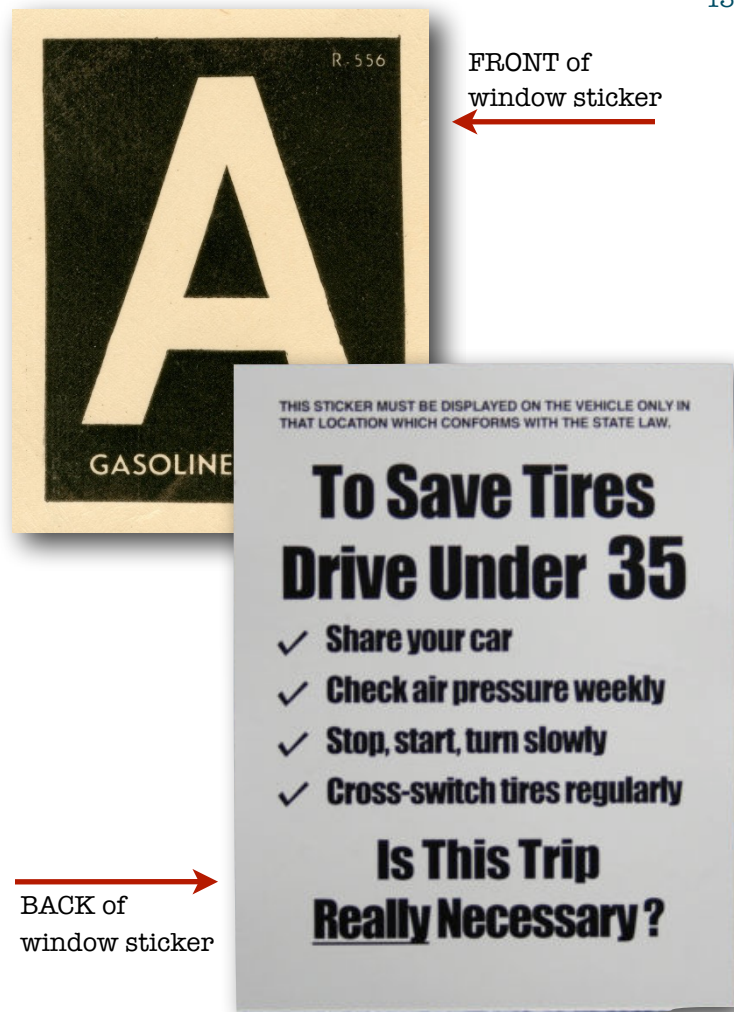
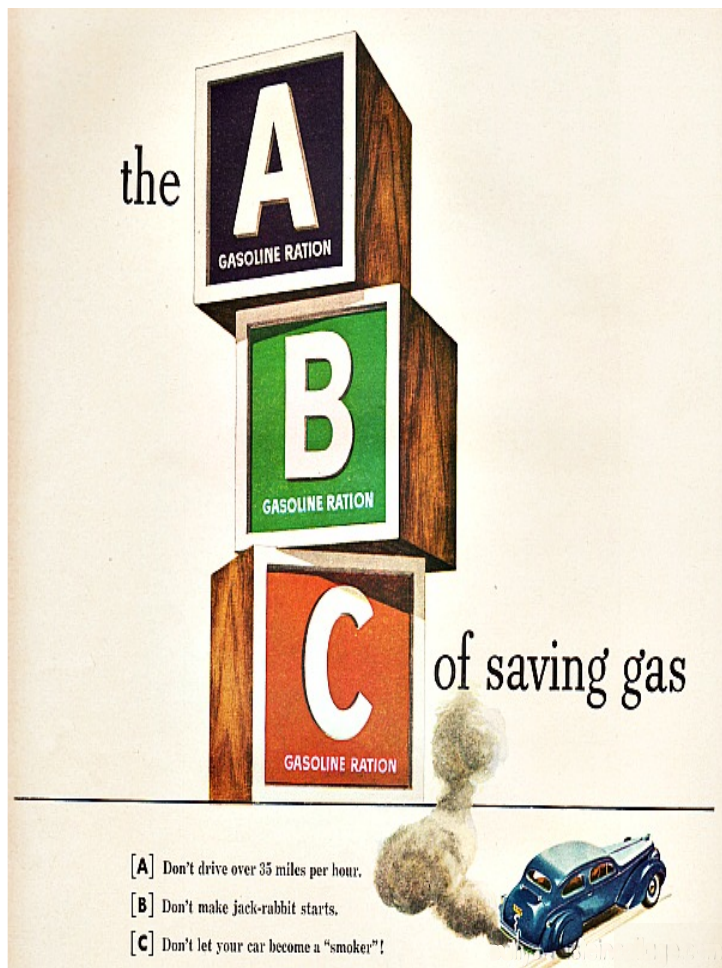
You applied for and received an "A" gasoline ration booklet. Switch places with another player.

Originally, the intent for gasoline rationing was to preserve rubber tires. The federal government hoped that the rationing of gasoline and tires would limit drivers to an average of 5,000 miles annually.

You did not use your car for anything that was not absolutely necessary. The troops thank you for the extra fuel! Move forward two spaces.

The shortage of gasoline resulted from the increased needs of the military, particularly for aviation fuel. As refiners worked to meet their supply contracts for the military, civilian gasoline supplies diminished.

You have been driving yourself to work instead of joining a car club. Move back five spaces and pay six ration points.



The glycerin in fat was used to make explosives for the troops. You have saved and turned in your waste fats each month. Great job! Collect two ration points.

You hosted a dinner party and did not keep within your weekly share of meat. Our armed forces need that protein to fight for you! Move back six spaces.

In addition to planting Victory Gardens, Americans were also encouraged to can their harvest in order to put food back for use throughout the year - not just when the crops were in season.

You held a class that taught the other families in your neighborhood how to properly can their garden produce. Move ahead two spaces.

By October 1942, the U.S. meat supply for Americans on the home front had declined as demand for our soldiers increased. You purchased "bootlegged" beef on the black market rather than following the rationing rules to make sure everyone got their share. You lose 10 ration points.

Americans!
SHARE THE MEAT
 as a wartime necessity

To meet the needs of our armed forces and fighting allies, a Government order limits the amount of meat delivered to stores and restaurants.

To share the supply fairly, all civilians are asked to limit their consumption of beef, veal, lamb, mutton and pork to 2½ lbs. per person per week.

YOUR FAIR WEEKLY SHARE

Men, women and children
 over 12 yrs. old **2½** Pounds per week

Children 6 to 12 yrs. old **1½** Pounds per week

Children under 6 yrs. old **¾** Pound per week

You can add these foods to your share: liver, sweetbreads, kidneys, brains and other variety meats; also poultry and fish.

HELP WIN THE WAR!
Keep within your share

FOODS REQUIREMENT COMMITTEE
 War Production Board

Claude R. Wickard
 Chairman

OWP Form No. 15. Additional orders may be obtained upon request from the Director of Public Inspection, Office of the War Relocation Authority, Washington, D. C.

For Gunpowder

SAVE WASTE FATS

Rush Them to Your Meat Dealer

Where our men are fighting

OUR FOOD IS FIGHTING

BUY WISELY - COOK CAREFULLY - STORE CAREFULLY - USE LEFTOVERS

CAN ALL YOU CAN

IT'S A REAL WAR JOB!

Conservation in the kitchen and around the home was part of the World War II Victory Home. Women were encouraged to help with conservation in their cooking, by saving fat and grease for explosives. Butcher shops and markets handed out bulletins that urged the saving of waste fat, which should be strained and then turned in to the butcher. Due to this poster and others, the United States recycled 538 million pounds of waste fats.

You have not helped our soldiers fight this war by recycling your kitchen grease. Pay three ration points.

Even small Victory Gardens gave Americans a sense of participation in the war effort, provided a form of family cooperation, and contributed to home front morale.

Your Victory Garden's harvest will provide your family with much more food than your war rations. Great job! Collect three ration points.

This poster is not only urging Americans to conserve gasoline by joining a car-sharing club, but reminded them who they were making that inconvenient change for -- the fighting soldier. If they can sacrifice their lives to fight for America's freedom, Americans can help them do that by car-pooling with others.

You have not joined a car-sharing club, but keep driving to work by yourself. Pay five ration points.

Local defense councils awarded window signs declaring "This is a Victory Home" to households which met the five criteria stipulated on this poster.

Great work! You've sacrificed and earned a Victory Home window sign. Move ahead three spaces.





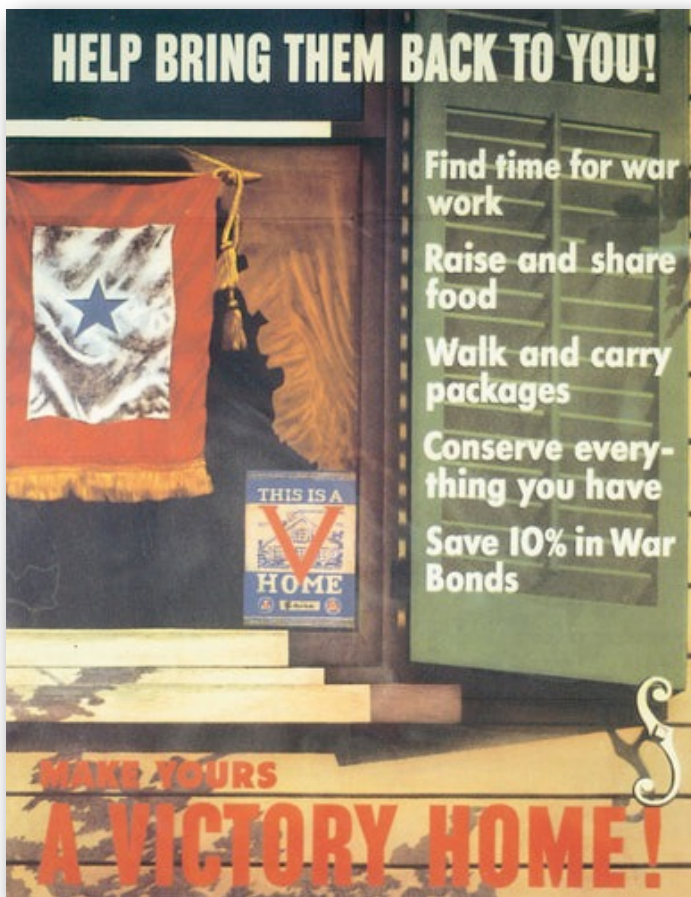
**HAVE YOU
REALLY TRIED**

**TO SAVE GAS
BY GETTING INTO
A CAR CLUB?**



**Housewives!
SAVE
WASTE
FATS
FOR
EXPLOSIVES!**

*Take them to your
meat dealer*



HELP BRING THEM BACK TO YOU!

- Find time for war work
- Raise and share food
- Walk and carry packages
- Conserve everything you have
- Save 10% in War Bonds

**MAKE YOURS
A VICTORY HOME!**



PLANT A VICTORY GARDEN

**OUR FOOD
IS FIGHTING**

A GARDEN WILL MAKE YOUR RATIONS GO FURTHER

Victory Gardens were a way to involve Americans on the home front in the war effort and to increase food supplies at the same time. Ranging from small urban plots to large suburban and rural fields, some 20 million Victory Gardens were planted by 1943, and produced more than one-third of all vegetables grown that year.

You did not tend your garden well and all of your lettuce and onions died. Move back one space and pay two ration points.

The need to save fabric led the War Production Board to order restrictions on clothing manufacturers. Styles became simpler in order to use less fabric, and Americans were expected to make do with the clothes they had instead of buying or making new clothing.

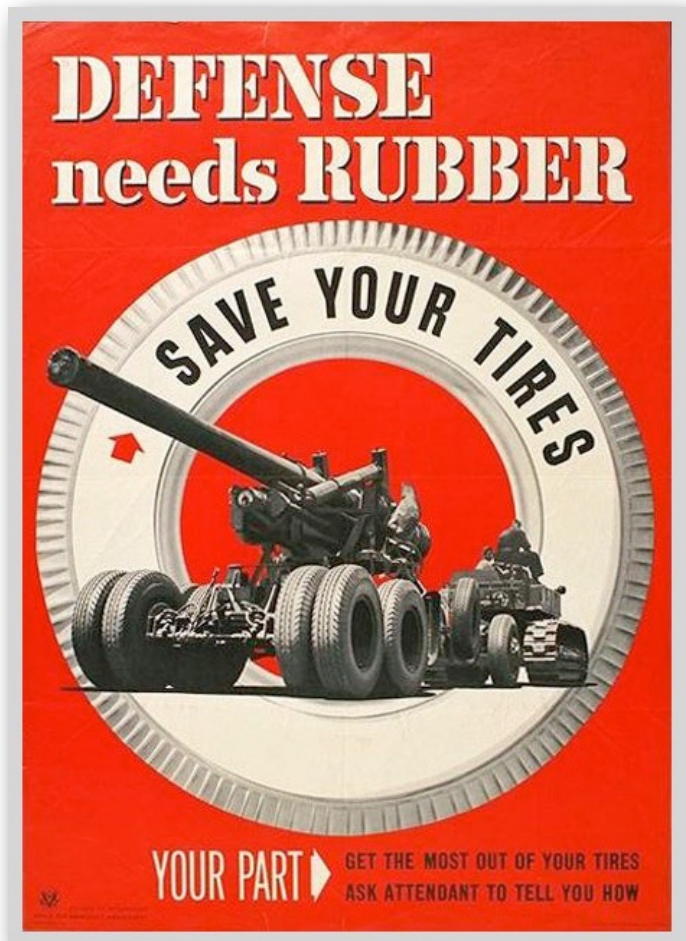
You have learned to mend and patch your clothes rather than buying new. Move ahead one space.

The making and conserving of synthetic rubber was of vital importance to the Allied prosecution of World War Two. Our supply line had been cut off because the Japanese occupied the East Indies, thereby controlling 90 percent of the world's natural supplies of rubber.

You turned in the tires from all your bicycles and broken down tractors to be recycled for the troops. Outstanding! Collect three ration points.

Oil was an indispensable product, in all its forms, to the Allies. Without it, World War Two could never have been won. Once oil was processed or refined, it was used for laying runways, making the chief component in bombs, making synthetic rubber for tires, and distilling into gasoline for use in trucks, tanks, jeeps, and airplanes.

You have followed General Eisenhower's orders and helped provide oil for our troops. Move forward two spaces.



The wartime mantra of shortages and sacrifices was “use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without.” Americans largely abided by that creed, but it was difficult, just as it would be today. The result was selfish and even illegal behavior by many. A “black market” developed as consumers paid prices above the established limits or bought goods without using the required coupons. Posters like this one encouraged Americans to take a pledge to avoid giving in to those practices.

You gave in to your sweet tooth and bought sugar on the black market. Turn in five ration points.

In addition to posters, radio shows encouraged kids to help with the war effort. For example, kids who listened to the Dick Tracy radio show pledged “to save water, gas and electricity; to save fuel, oil and coal; to save my clothes; to save Mom’s furniture; to save my playthings.” Kids who did this had their names placed on the Victory Honor Roll, which--according to the show’s announcer--would be read by General Dwight D. Eisenhower at his headquarters.

You’ve made Ike proud! Move forward two spaces and collect two ration points.

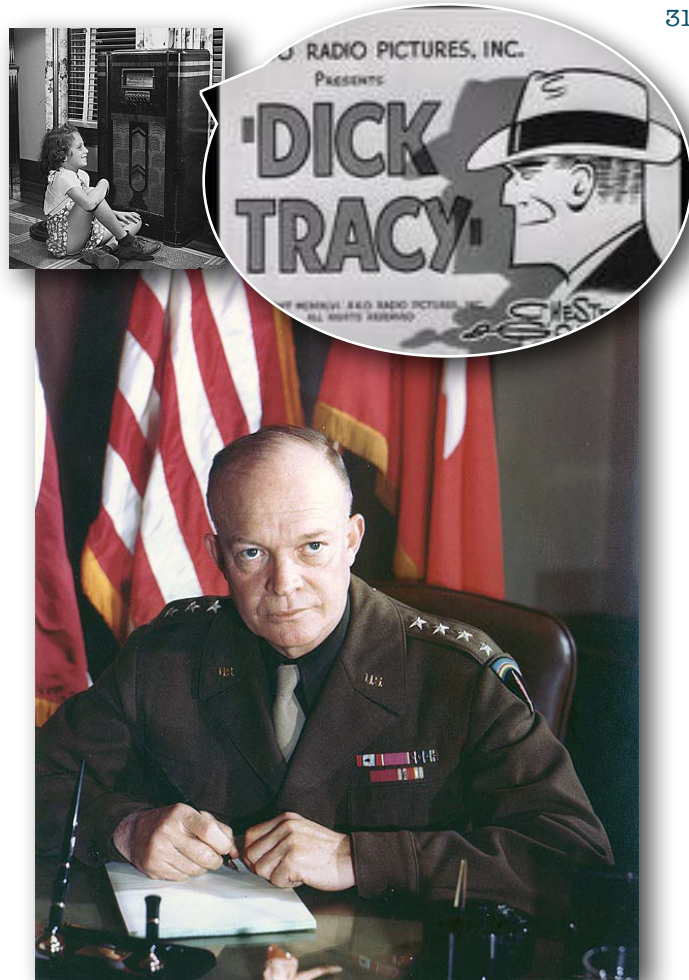
Americans love their cars, so gas rationing was particularly inconvenient and unpopular. Flagrant violations occurred and criminals produced counterfeit rationing coupons, which they sold to drivers and gasoline stations. Posters like this one encouraged Americans to remember why they are being asked to travel less and not use as much gas.

You did not use your car for anything that was not absolutely necessary. The troops thank you for the extra fuel! Move forward two spaces.

The Federal Government estimated that 20 million tons of paper would be needed to pack artillery shells, and to make cartons for K-rations, canned food, milk cartons, and many other items.

In 1945 the U.S. was facing a paper shortage, so General Eisenhower sponsored a nationwide drive called the General Eisenhower Waste Paper Campaign. A medal created for people who collected at least 1,000 pounds of paper to recycle. Almost 300,000 Boy Scouts took part and earned this award.

Great job! You also earned the General Eisenhower Waste Paper Medal. Move one space forward.



Sources

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