

February 10, 1954

Booklisting Department
Publishers Weekly
62 West 45th Street
New York 19, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith are ~~copies~~ ^{in Paul Point} of our two latest publications: Public Housing for release February 15th, and Agriculture's Sacred Seventh, by F. A. Harper, for release about March 1st.

The Prices are: single copy, free, 8 copies \$1.00,
25 copies \$2.50, 50 copies \$4.75, 100 copies \$9.00.

Very truly yours,

Grace E. Mahon

November 9, 1953

MEMO TO: Paul Poirot
FROM : Bettina
Re : Public Housing

You have done a good job on this piece! I like the way you present the problem and simplify it, and the way you make use of pertinent quotations.

A couple of questions, though:

1. Do you think it might add something to mention, in connection with the automobiles and TV aërials on page 8, that the number of these found in slums is probably exaggerated because of rent control? Without that interference with the market, some (of course, not all) of those who were successful in increasing their earning power would choose to move to more expensive and "desirable" quarters, rather than buying "gadgets." Rent control creates rigidities, reduces the mobility of buyers of rental space, and thus tends to increase the number of those who can afford to buy such "luxuries" at autos and TV sets and yet continue to live in "slums."
2. Another way industry could be ~~produced~~ induced to produce armaments without compulsion would be in the event their consumers demanded them. If government paid for the war by current taxation, government would then be the largest and most important consumer -- and as a consumer seeking to buy on the market it would be in a position to direct production. Of course, then too the war would have to be a "popular" one, and you cover that -- so maybe this is superfluous. But you might want to think about it. Today, governments resort to inflation and deficit financing because their wars are not popular ~~enough~~ enough for the people to be willing to pay high enough taxes at the time.

There are a few other suggestions, very minor ones. I have made notes on the right hand margins -- on pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 11, and 19.

Lare -

Please hold in
the "Public Housing"
folder in case we
should contemplate
a new printing of the
piece.

PLP

*File Public Housing,
Check if Reprinted*

March 17, 1954

Mr. Edgar Bissantz
Post Office Box U-1
Carmel, California

Dear Ed:

Bettina has forwarded to me your careful and much appreciated review of those passages of the "Public Housing" booklet which are in error or may be subject to misinterpretation. I knew I was on shaky ground trying to predict what would happen as a result of something else which might happen. But it still seems sort of logical to me to expect the taxpayer's private property to tend to deteriorate as the tax burden upon him increases, unless he gets more for his tax dollars than for other dollars.

However, your facts seem to justify your criticisms, so they'll be treated with much respect in case we need a new edition of the booklet.

Thank for this help from you, and I hope you'll continue to call our attention to any errors of omission or commission.

Sincerely yours,

Paul L. Poirot

PLP/kqb