

E. Rationing forces careful planning

The Hempstead Sentinel, January 14, 1943

Shopping Problems

The no-pleasure driving regulation is going to have a considerable effect on shopping in Hempstead and the merchants and Chamber of Commerce officials should get together and make the former motorists, who are now restricted in the use of their cars, realize that they can get everything they want here in the village. For years the merchants have insisted that many local residents passed up their shops in favor of those in other communities. Now they have a chance to show that type of shopper that Hempstead has a shopping center that will take care of all of their needs. Motorists are allowed to use their cars for "essential shopping" but no one is certain just what that means. It doesn't seem likely that it would be considered "essential" to drive in to Jamaica or New York to get what could be bought right here in Hempstead.

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Sen. Glass Rules Wedding Guest May Use Autos

Principals, members of the family and guests at weddings can use their automobiles to go to and from the ceremonies despite any other regulation pertaining to no-pleasure driving. . . . The question was settled today in a telegram received from Senator Glass by Arthur Vincent Adamson, of 101 Chestnut Street, Garden City, father of Miss Catherine Markham Adamson, who is to become a bride Saturday. The telegram states, "The Office of Price Administration here has specifically ruled that a wedding is religious ceremony and that the use of automobiles to and from the ceremony is permissible. Any ruling to the contrary is in flagrant disregard of specific instructions of the National OPA."

The Hempstead Sentinel, January 21, 1943

Good Neighborhood Policy

The no-pleasure rule which prevents mama from taking junior over to see grandma and also frowns on all purely social motor trips should not be allowed to break down our social contacts. In fact, it could be the means of building up something that is lacking here and in most communities. That is -- a better social understanding of our neighbors. . . . Even in our strictly residential neighborhoods the residents on the same street are often strangers to each other. . . . It used to be easy to jump in the car and drive over to Port Washington or out to Patchogue. Now it is different. We will have to make our social calls afoot and that means we won't go very far out of our own neighborhood. Most neighborhoods have civic organizations but only a handful of the total population of the area join and become acquaintances. Now is the time for neighborhood social clubs. . . . In this way we can get to know our neighbors and we will all be surprised how many fine people live all around us.

Newsday, March 1, 1943

Mathematical Shopping Faces Nassau Housewife

Money became a secondary consideration as Mrs. Nassau faced a complicated array of figures on her grocer's shelves today -- the first day she will make "point" purchases. Accustomed to computing price and dividing it into her weekly food budget, she found herself with the additional problem of dividing the number of ration points into the number of stamps in her ration book. In most cases, the number of points remaining looked small.

Questions:

1. How will rationing make shopping difficult?
2. How might rationing help local businesses and communities?
3. Do you agree with the ruling on wedding guests? Why?
4. Write a letter to the editor of the Hempstead Sentinel explaining your views on rationing.
5. How would gasoline rationing change your family's life today?