

## F. Should Price Controls Be Continued?

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# Women Urge Price Control Be Continued

Urging Nassau County residents to write their national legislators urging them to retain the OPA, without crippling amendments, the Garden City Hempstead League of Women Voters have been distributing circulars calling for the continuation of the governmental price control agency.

Mrs. Ann Nostrand, press chairman of the group stated, "The National League of Women Voters has supported price control legislation since its beginning. Remembering the inflation which followed World War I, the League believes that a strong Office of Price Administration is more necessary than ever."

### **Dollar Worth 76 Cents**

"In spite of its small staff, lack of enforcement power, and other weaknesses, the OPA has served the American People well. At the close of World War I, the dollar was worth only about 40 cents. At the close of World War II economic disruption was greater than the previous war, but the dollar was worth about 76 cents. Price control had worked well enough to protect the value of our money."

"If the bill which recently passed by the House is also passed by the Senate, clothing costs for the average family will be increased \$30 per year. Average food cost increases per family will be \$70 per year and real estate and rent increases would average \$40 per year per family. These are taken from 'Trend', a news service published by the Washington staff of the National League."

The Garden City-Hempstead League's circular is headed by the bold-faced words, "We have meat lines today, Says the OPA, to avoid bread lines tomorrow. We cannot afford inflation."

### Questions:

1. How was the experience after World War II different from the experience after World War I?
2. Why does the League of Women Voters want to keep prices controlled after the end of the war?
3. Why are price controls an important issue for women?
4. Do you agree with the idea of price controls? Why?