

FOOD

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Food by Frank A. Pearson & Don Pearlberg

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FRANK A. PEARSON & DON PEARLBERG

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Frank A. Pearson
and
Don Paarlberg

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THIS BOOK HAS BEEN PRODUCED
IN FULL COMPLIANCE
WITH ALL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS
FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PAPER, METAL,
AND OTHER ESSENTIAL MATERIALS

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PREFACE

EVERYONE considers himself an authority on food. The farmer knows about its production, the middleman about its distribution, the housewife about its preparation, and everyone about its consumption. The authors have no special pretension as authorities other than to equate these widely divergent views.

This book is an effort to present our past experiences with food, to describe what currently appears to be its more important phases, to survey our national policy, and to present the outlook.

In the early days of the Church a complete code of religious doctrine was handed down to the laymen. There were some unbelievers, who were called to account for their heresy. These unredeemed had a spokesman whose thankless task was to challenge the orthodox doctrine of the day. This spokesman, since he was supposed to represent the powers of evil, acquired the highly descriptive title of "the Devil's Advocate."

In more modern times certain economic doctrines have been handed down by the authorities of the State. Tailor-made plans for agricultural production and food consumption, new codes of economic ethics, and the fixing of prices by decrees are a part of the new economic order. Recently, when the food muddle thickened, ration tickets were passed

out, and a few pennies were "anted" into the subsidy "kitty."

This new doctrine of planned economy has its heretics and unbelievers. For some time these unredeemed have had hard going. Outnumbered for nearly a decade, they have been termed the "rugged individualists" and the "economic royalists" by the one- to fourteen-caret "liberals." Their spokesmen have been few.

The authors, being skeptical of many of the new economic doctrines, undertake to be the Devil's Advocates in defense of their own heresy and that of others.

There is little in the handling of the food problem to inspire in the jury of 125 millions any sublime faith in the infallibility of our Washington chefs.

The authors wish to acknowledge the suggestions and criticisms of W. M. Curtiss, F. A. Harper, J. A. McConnell, H. B. Meek, W. I. Myers, F. L. Platt, G. P. Scoville, L. N. Shaw, E. E. Vial, and J. Warren; and the editorial work of M. Scudder.

F. A. PEARSON
DON PAARLBERG

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