

## PLAIN TALK *by Jerome Joachim*

Further proof of the fraudulent nature of our Social Security laws, touted as a device to drive out "freedom from fear of old age" is supplied by the present experience of those who have reached the age where this "wonderful" scheme was supposed to make their old age comfortable.



While it is possible to draw as much as \$68.50 a month from Social Security, the average payments are about \$42 a month. Where husband and wife both draw social security, the total may amount to \$63 a month. If the recipient attempts to add to his income an amount sufficient to live on, the Social Security payments are withdrawn.

Thus the one great "freedom" given us by our Welfare State is the "freedom to starve." As under the old system, only those who have personally provided for their old age are able to live without further effort, but the amount needed to so live—because of the actions of the Welfare Staters—is far greater than it used to be even with Social Security payments added.

"But even \$63 per month is better than nothing," argue the proponents of such measures, "and what we should do is to adjust the law so that the payments will be sufficient."

The reason present payments under Social Security are inadequate to provide for its so-called beneficiaries is not because of inflation but because instead inflation is caused by laws which attempt to provide such benefits. The motives back of Social Security are good but the methods used are unworkable.

Had the people, now hoping for benefits and those who expect them in the future, created tangible goods with their surpluses they could have loaned their good to those who are now producing what these people need. But instead of doing that they entrusted their funds to a government which immediately spent these surpluses on goods which were consumed.

Now these people expect their government to seize, from present producers, sufficient goods to sustain them. The attempt by the government to do this is inflationary, raises prices and reduces the total goods which can thus be seized. Attempts to rectify this by increasing Social Security payments will further increase prices and will tend to nullify

the benefits such increases would be intended to provide.

The only way men can provide for their old age is to produce durable goods which they can "loan" or "rent" to subsequent generations, goods which will save human effort for those to come. If they build houses which can be rented, the renters will be saved the labor of building their own homes and through the rent they pay will help sustain the older people. If the savers build factories, subsequent generations, in paying for the use of such tools, will sustain the previous generation because they have been saved human effort.

But our Social Security money was "loaned" to our government and while we did not spend it personally we never-the-less spend it through our legally authorized representatives which has the same effect. We cannot expect to eat our cake and still have it, and the present facts prove the wisdom of this maxim.

Welfare Staters base their convictions on their desires. Wanting an automobile will not produce one. Arguing that society owes oldsters a life of relative ease will not create such a life.

Most vicious is the practice of telling people that their future is not dependent upon their own efforts and good judgment. This is but to fool and weaken them. America will gradually weaken as it adopts more and more of the Welfare State teachings and eventually will have to be content with the static "nothingness" of the totalitarian state unless it soon sees the ridiculousness of the reasoning of its Welfare Staters!