Consumers Need to Know

by LEE LANDIS

Are you upset about high pinces? Most people are, but few stop to consider that much of the high cost of living can be charged to the government and increasing taxes.

No doubt you paid your taxes by April 15, but it wasn't until May 2 that the average taxpayer started paying himself something. In other words, the equivalent of your earnings from New Year's Day to May 2 went to pay our total tax bills at all levels of government. About 36 cents out of every dollar in national income is now used to maintain and build up more government.

So, how about tax reform? Fine, but a lot of people are arguing about who will carry more of the tax burden. The truth is that income taxes,

corporate taxes and other taxes are hidden in the cost of services and merchandise. One way or another, taxes wind up in the prices consumers pay.

Therefore, the most urgent reform should be to reduce the extravagance and waste of the government. For example, how do you feel about paying for the squabbles and lawsuits between one government agency and another, or lengthy conferences on the demands of radical groups, or political witch-hunts? What about the cost to business in dealing with endless streams of government officials.

What about the agencies that overlap in most fields as do the 39 or more separate agencies involved in various consumer programs? After all, it's the consumer who pays for this in the long run.

We must reduce government debts, and in turn, the tax load we carry. That can only be done by demanding that we get a dollar's worth of service for every dollar we send to Washington. And when we are tempted to say "the government ought to take care of that problem (whatever it may be)," we should see how many other ways can be found to solve it.

Strasburg Bank

Declares

Dividend

Donald H. Hoffecker, executive vice president of The First National Bank of Strasburg, announced the declaration of a semi-annual dividend. It was declared at the bank's weekly Board of Directors' Meeting.

The new dividend is valued at \$1.50 per share and will be

payable on June 29th to stockholders of record on June 5th. There are 406 stockholders with 50,000 shares outstanding.

The First National Bank of Strasburg is celebrating its 110th anniversary this year and has exceeded the 50-million dollar

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How to Select

Window Treatments alyzing a window

Analyzing a window and deciding what you want from it is important. If you have decided on curtains or draperies, finding the fabric that will do this is equally important. Mrs. Helen Puskar, Extension home furnishings specialist at The Pennsylvania State University, says for the treatment you choose, you'll need a fabric that will serve its purpose, give the length of wear you can reasonably expect, and retain its beauty with the kind and amount of care you'll give it.

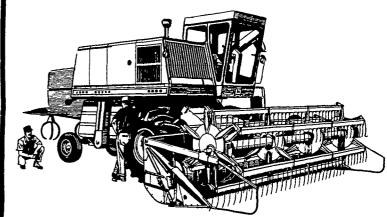


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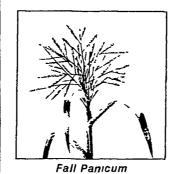
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