

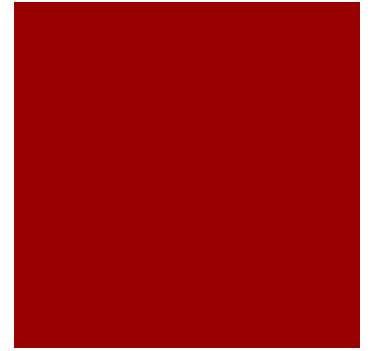


# Chapter 15 – Sect.2

## Daily Life on the Homefront

# Daily Life Affected

- **Nearly everyone had a relative or friend in the military and so closely followed the news on the radio**
- Many soldiers' wives and kids moved in with relatives
- Many families had to move to take defense jobs



# More \$ but still can't buy stuff

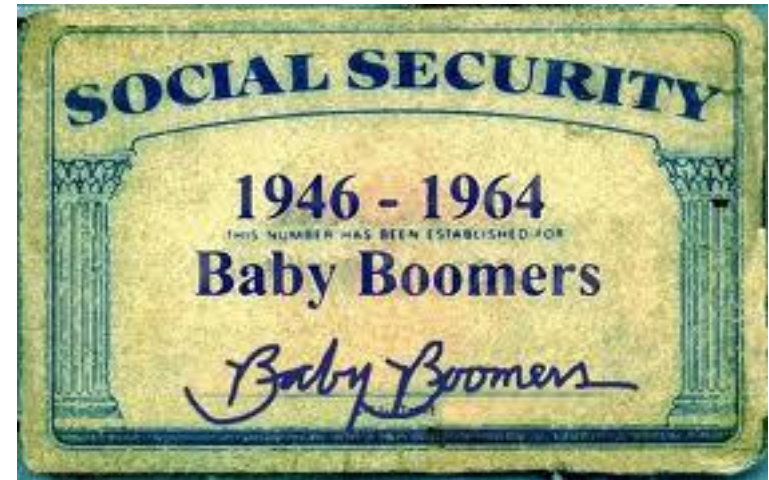


- Couldn't buy things like cars and home appliances because of **shortages and rationing**
- Could only buy small amounts so they **could conserve for the war effort**



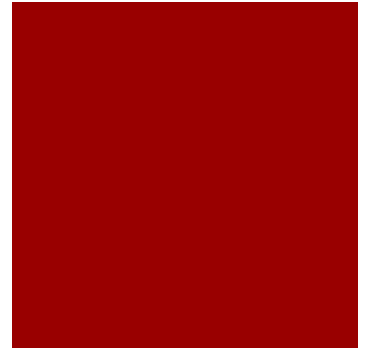
# Baby Boom

- Birthrate doubled from the 1930's
- Before and especially after the war
- People were more optimistic



# Spending \$

- People instead **spent their money on books and movies**
- Paperback books made bestsellers more affordable
- Carried “pocketbooks” with them into combat



# Baseball

- 4,000 of the 5,700 major & minor league **players were in the military**
- **Put out ads in newspapers to recruit players**
- People still flocked to games



# All-American Girls' Baseball League

- A professional baseball league started during the war
- Was sexist – women **had to attend charm school** and wear impractical skirt uniforms



# Music

- **Songs of hope & patriotism** were popular during the war like “Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition”
- Ballads about **longing for loved ones**
- **“White Christmas”** by Bing Crosby was a favorite Christmas tune of the troops overseas





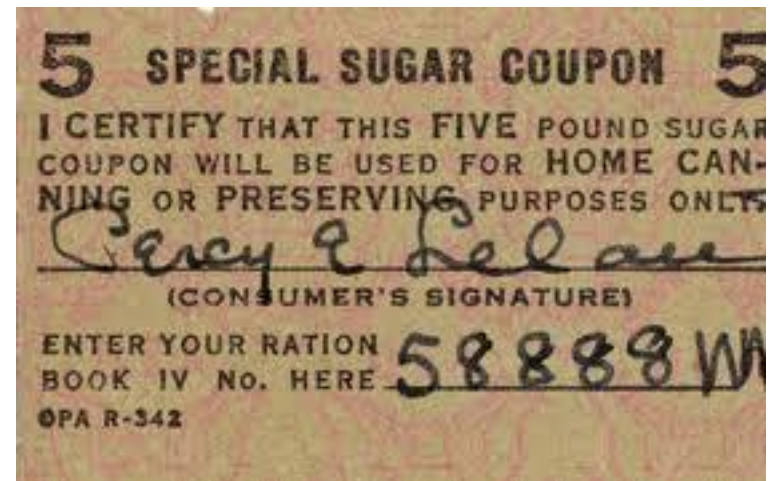
# Consumer Items Unavailable

- During the duration of the war **supplies like metal, rubber, and nylon were needed for military use**
- The same went for **food**



# Imported Goods

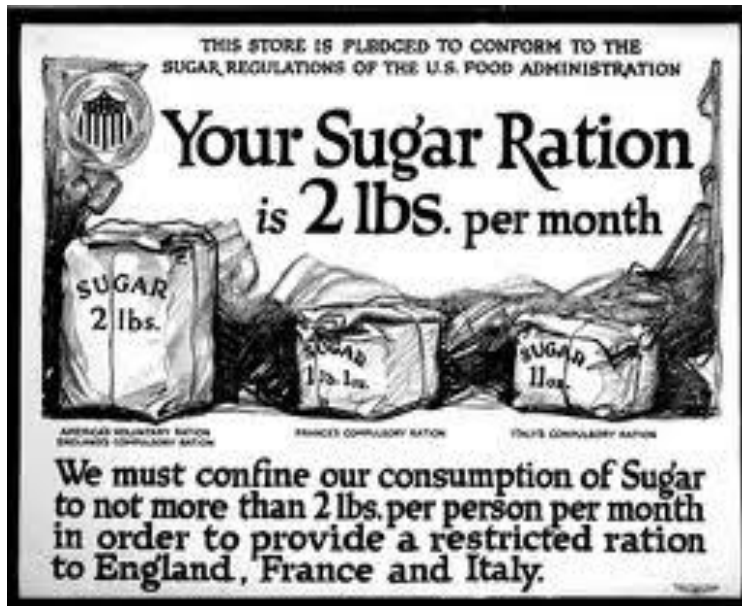
- Imported goods like **sugar, tropical fruits, and coffee** were **in short supply** because **trade routes were cut off** to those places during the war
- the Philippines was the source of most of our sugar and was cut off when it fell to the Japanese



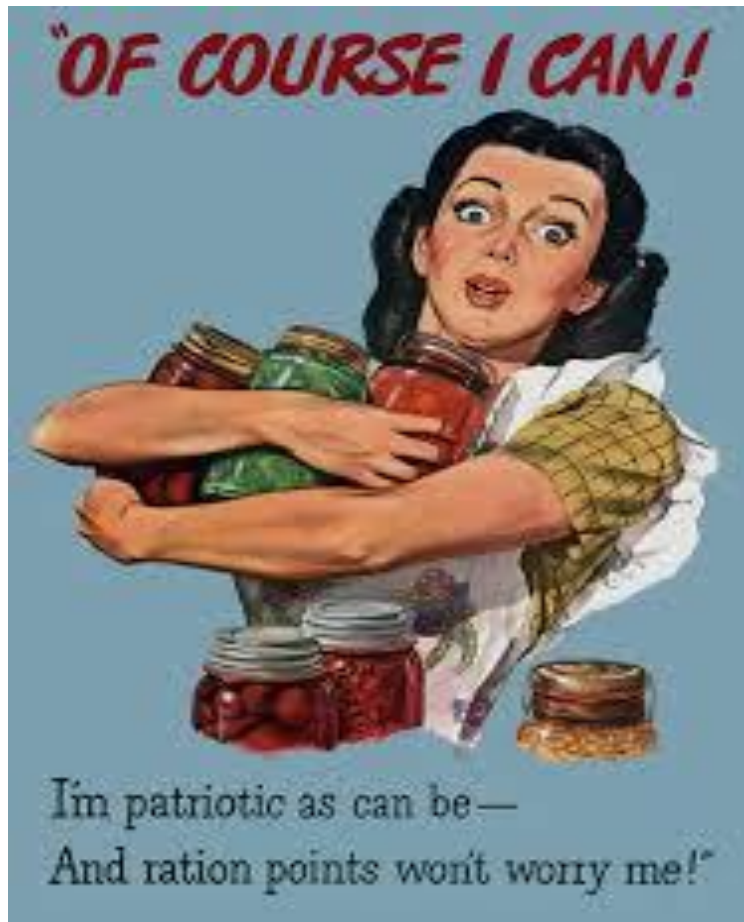
# Inflation



- In order to prevent inflation (price increases) resulting from shortages, the **govt. froze prices on certain items and began to ration (limit) scarce items**



# Nothing Wasted!



# Ration Books

- Consumers were **given coupon books worth a certain # of points that they could use for things like coffee, meat, butter, and shoes**
- Each item was assigned a point value
- Once you used up your points you had to wait for your next coupon book or trade coupons with your neighbors
- Trade a sugar coupon for a bread coupon

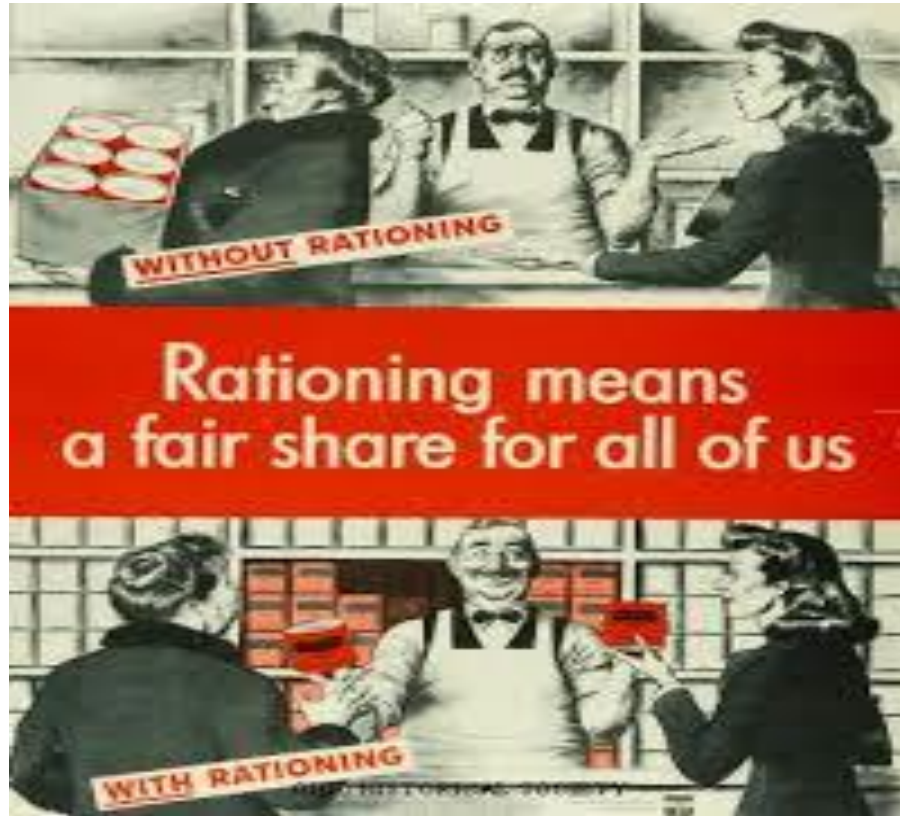


# Gas Rationing



- Gas for cars rationed too **on the basis of need**
- Signs read **“Is this trip necessary?”**

# Office of War Information



- Worked with magazines, radio, and advertisers to create **patriotic posters and ads**
- A lot of **propaganda to boost morale while people were being asked to make sacrifices**



**MAKE THIS PLEDGE:**  
I pay no more than top legal prices  
I accept no rationed goods  
without giving up ration stamps

★ \_\_\_\_\_ ★

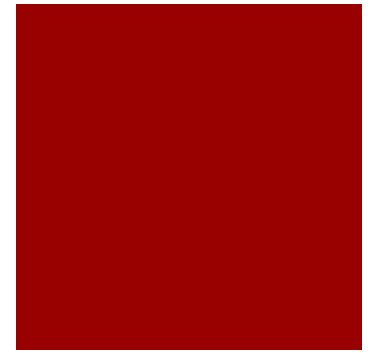
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

A vintage-style poster featuring a woman with blonde hair, wearing a red and white striped shirt, with her right hand raised in a pledge-taking gesture. The background is blue with a horizontal line of white stars. Below the image is a white section containing the text of the pledge. At the bottom of this section is a red horizontal line flanked by two white stars. Below the red line is small, faint text: "U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540".

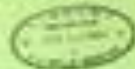


# Victory Gardens

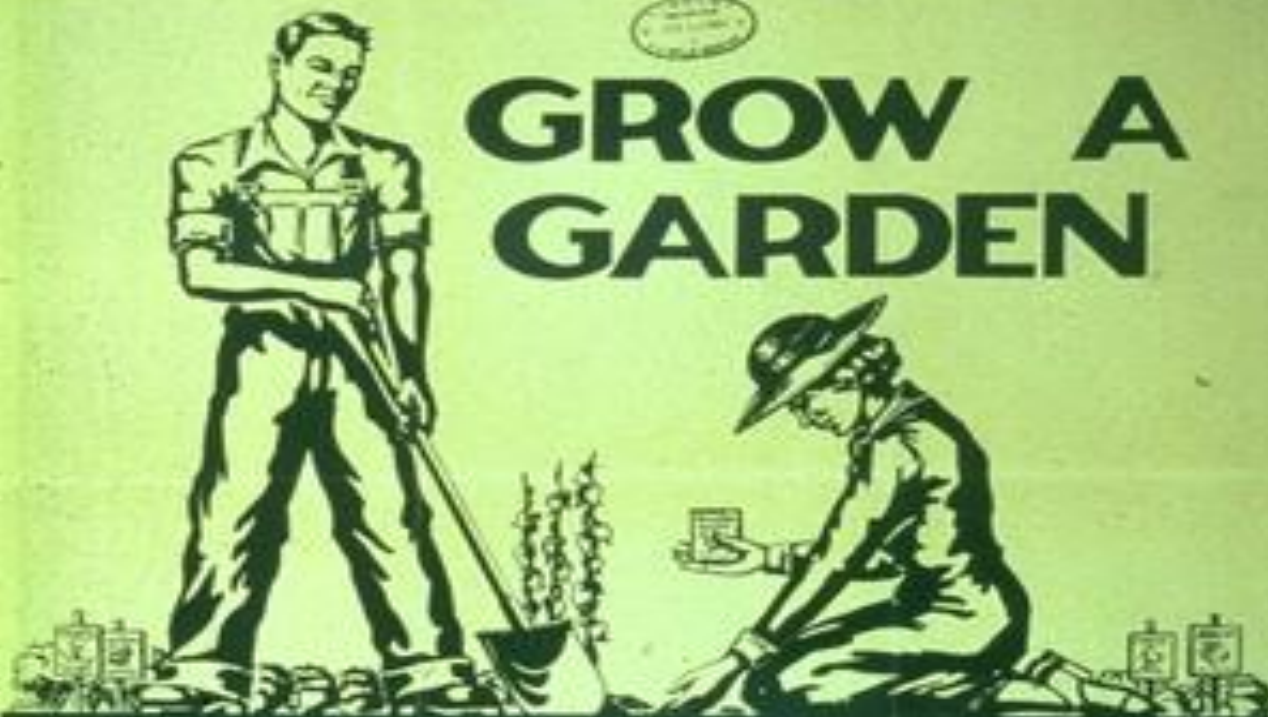
- **Home gardens** planted by people in suburbs and cities **to make up for the farm produce sent to feed the soldiers**
- Produced **1/3 of country's vegetables** by 1943



SAVE MONEY THE EASY WAY



# GROW A GARDEN



IT'S THRIFTY  
IT'S PATRIOTIC

## PLANT TO-DAY!

# PLANT A VICTORY GARDEN



**OUR FOOD  
IS FIGHTING**

A GARDEN WILL MAKE YOUR RATIONS GO FURTHER

# WAR GARDENS

FOR  
**VICTORY**



**GROW VITAMINS AT  
YOUR KITCHEN DOOR**



# Preparation for an Attack



- **Drew shades for nighttime “blackouts”** in case of a bombing raid
- **Men too old for army joined the Civilian Defense** and tested air-raid sirens
- **Women knit scarves and socks** or rolled bandages for the Red Cross

# Children Helping



- Even **kids got involved** in the war effort by **collecting recycled metal, paper, and tires**
- Collected **tin cans, pots & pans, razor blades**, old shovels, even old lipstick tubes
- Glycerin from **kitchen fats** saved to make powder for bullets or shells



# War Slogans

- “Play Your Part”
- “Conserve & Collect”
- “Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without”



# Write a Letter



- Imagine you were living in America during WWII. Using the notes from this section write *a letter to your brother who is away at war*. Describe to him what is happening back home at this time. Be sure to include and underline at least 5 facts).



# Assignment

- **Create a Ration Book**
- Think of 10 things you use on a regular basis
  - a regular basis
- It can be food, electronics, anything you use daily
- Assign a point value to each and then create 10 coupons for your book
- You have a total of 500 Ration points to use

