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## Why So Disturbed?

Richard E. Wenzel

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# BAR BRIEFS

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### WHY SO DISTURBED?

We've read the address of Professor Gus W. Dyer, of Vanderbilt, and we quote a few extracts, to-wit:

"The prime function of government in the field of industry is to regulate business in the interest of freedom, fair play and justice." We agree.

"The American theory is that the most effective and most successful regulation of business possible in the interest of industrial progress and general welfare is natural law." We agree.

"The regulation of business is a judicial function, and requires no specialized knowledge of business technique." We agree.

"The direction and control of business by the government is antagonistic to the elementary principles of efficiency and logical procedure." We agree.

But is the government, under the NRA, assuming the direction and control of business? If so, is it for temporary purposes, or for the purpose of general policy in future?

Frankly, we don't visualize the serious consequences that Professor Dyer visualizes. The Editor is not a Democrat, nor a paternalist. He can, however, sense the necessity of having some lawful government agency step in, upon proper authorization and under certain circumstances, to start the wheels of industry. In other words, using Professor Dyer's own illustration of the umpire at a ball game, the government may, properly, at a time like this, step in and say, "Gentlemen, you will please start to play ball." And whether NRA has accomplished much or little, whether it continues to accomplish much or little hereafter, it may well be admitted that it has started the game—and the fans were getting pretty tired of the quarrel about ground rules before the umpire stepped in.—R. E. W.