

Bretton Woods Lynchers:

## Opponents Invite Another World War

**R**ECIPE: Draft an agreement for the United Nations on some simple-vital aspect of world cooperation. Include in the agreement details which will threaten the power or purse of "special interests" (that is unavoidable). When the special interests set up a howl and try to hamstring the agreement by preparing amendments, let them get away with it.

The above recipe for World War III is foolproof. It is now being tried out, up to the last comma, leaving uncompleted only the last six words, "let them get away with it." Whether that will happen will be decided by our Congress in the near future.

The agreement in question is the one arrived at by the delegates of 44 countries at Bretton Woods, providing for an International Monetary Fund and an International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Since our country is the richest and most powerful in the world, if our Congress ratifies the agreement without amendment all the other governments will almost certainly follow our lead. If we refuse to ratify, or if we stall by suggesting amendments, the other countries will probably (and justifiably) conclude that our protestations of a desire to co-operate in the removal of causes of war are eyewash; and we had better make our bomb-shelters good and deep.



**L**ESS trouble, and less expensive than building a bomb-shelter, would be a letter or wire to your senators and representatives urging ratification of Bretton Woods. We suggest that, we urge it, as both the privilege and duty of every American citizen who is fed up with war and would like to see the world try getting along without any.

An impressive list of American economists (224 of them) has approved the Bretton Woods agreement. So have thousands of other individuals, prominent in many fields. So have many national organizations, among them the sound and conservative Committee for Economic Development. The outstanding opponent is the American Bankers Association (see "special interests" in the recipe). Incidentally, many prominent individual bankers approve Bretton Woods.

**I**N ITS technical aspects the agreement is of course complicated. If you want to go into that send to the Treasury Department at Washington for the text of the agreement and for the pamphlet, "Questions and Answers on the Fund and Bank." Also write the American Bankers Association for its statement in opposition to the Fund. (Everyone approves the Bank.)

There isn't much time. If you delay, the first trial of the above Recipe for World War III may be triumphantly completed before you have entered the discussion at all. The easiest way to enter it is to send a letter or wire to your senators and representatives the minute you make up your mind.

—Writers' War Board.