

Beware the SQUANDER Bug!

Introduction

With the obvious shortages faced by the people of the British home front, any form of unnecessary wastage be it food or materials, was deeply discouraged.

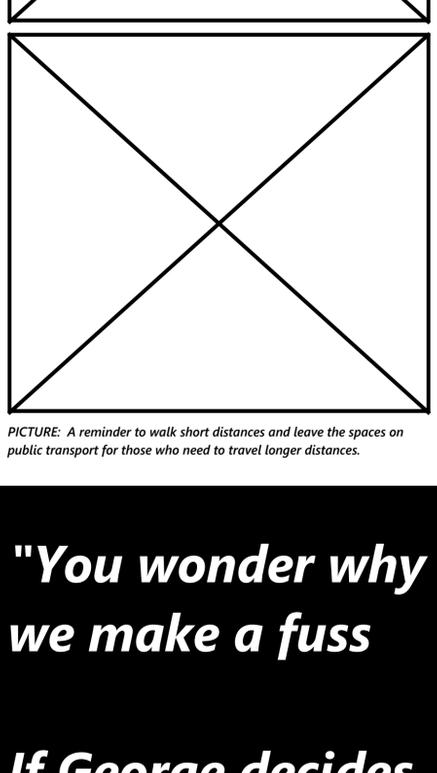
Reminders to 'make do' and NOT to squander were commonplace in the form of posters, newsreels and pamphlets. The menacing 'Squander Bug' was one character introduced to denounce blatant waste.



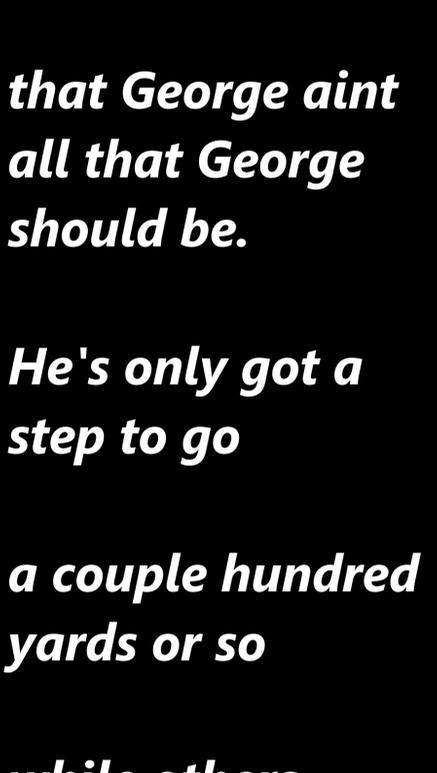
"If you are only eating what you need and not what you like and as much as you like, then you are helping to win the war"

Lord Woolton reminding civilians in one of his many broadcasts to the nation

Squander Reminder Posters



A 'Churchillian' reminder that in order to win the war, food was NOT to be wasted in the kitchen!

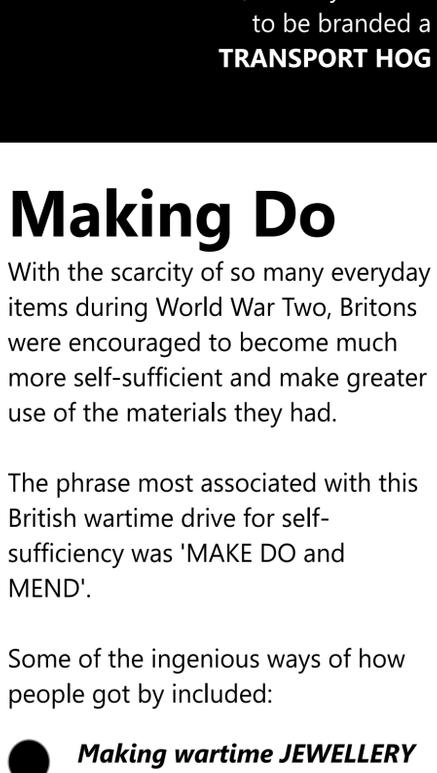


Another reminder NOT to waste food in the wartime kitchen!

'Is Your Journey Really Necessary?'

With petrol rationing having also been introduced resulting in fewer private motor cars on the road, a greater reliability in public transport evolved.

With bus and train systems already severely restricted and undermanned, the general public were asked to consider whether or not they needed to use public transport and to bear in mind those who might need the transport more. Born from this concept was the 'Is your journey really necessary?' slogan.



PICTURE: A reminder to walk short distances and leave the spaces on public transport for those who need to travel longer distances.

"You wonder why we make a fuss If George decides to take a bus but look again and you will see that George aint all that George should be. He's only got a step to go a couple hundred yards or so while others further down the queue have far to go and lots to do. When George gets on we often find that other folk get left behind. He pays his fare and rides the stage and off he hops and see the rage and seeing this gives George a jog 'Perhaps I'm Just a Transport Hog'"

After all, nobody wanted to be branded a **TRANSPORT HOG**

Making Do

With the scarcity of so many everyday items during World War Two, Britons were encouraged to become much more self-sufficient and make greater use of the materials they had.

The phrase most associated with this British wartime drive for self-sufficiency was 'MAKE DO and MEND'.

Some of the ingenious ways of how people got by included:

● **Making wartime JEWELLERY from old beer bottle tops, cup hooks and corks**

● **Supplementing a shortage of CLEANING MATERIALS by crushing egg shells for use as a scouring compound and cutting squares out of old stockings for use as dishcloths**

● **Using the dregs of cold tea to clean WOODWORK**

● **Varnishing the soles of CHILDREN'S SHOES to prolong the foot-wears life**

● **Cutting up old Mackintoshes to make BIBS for babies.**

PAGE LINKS

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