

Many people these days are concerned about the cost of food, clothing, tools, and household needs in their daily lives. We have just had a period of inflation that has made many things beyond the reach of many people. With the election looming in the near future, many of you are probably wondering which party would best help them with their financial problems. Make no mistake about it, the Democratic Party and the Democratic candidates are the ones who are on your side and solving this problem. It is simply not possible for a president to command lower prices. These things are the result of policies that often have a serious effect on the economy.

Consider immigration. Right now we have a record employment and very little unemployment. Many of the menial jobs are going unfilled because there is no one who wants to do them. Often immigrants have filled that role and yet the Republicans and their presidential candidate promise to have “the largest domestic deportation in American history”. This will markedly increase labor costs and result in many jobs going unfilled. It will result in increased costs for everything you buy in the grocery store, department stores and the hardware stores. In order to attract people to do these jobs, the employers will have to offer higher wages and this, of course, translates directly into higher prices.

Consider the tariffs on imported goods. The Democrats do have some tariffs that they have maintained and which were started by the previous president. Still the Republicans are threatening to impose tariffs on all imported goods. All the money from these tariffs are passed on directly to consumers worse like you and me. When those goods cost more, then the local manufacturers of similar goods also raise their prices. This is another misguided Republican effort that will result in inflation, putting things out of reach for people to buy.

The Republicans often tout their tax cuts, but these were financed entirely by the National Debt which went up 8 trillion dollars during the previous administration and another 8 trillion during the current administration. To the extent that the Democrats can control it, the taxes will be level or even less for low to middle income people but they will be raised on the wealthy and on corporations. When the Republicans give large wind falls of money to rich people, they are really lining their own pockets, That money, when spent, will cause the prices of normal commodities to go up once again, fueling inflation.

It is possible for the Federal Reserve to influence this, but their hands are tied by circumstances. The Federal Reserve is normally left neutral and unaffected by politics. The Republicans are threatening to change it into a tool of their misguided efforts. This will spell disaster for all of us.

The inflation that we have just experienced occurred because of the COVID 19 pandemic. People were staying at home and not spending much. When that was over there was a fair amount of spending to make up for it. This resulted in prices going up and inflation. This was not just a phenomenon in the United States but actually was all over the world. It was not the responsibility of any one political party or president.

Even though the democrats are trying to do something about our environmental crisis, there has been a major expansion of oil drilling under President Biden. To some extent this has made a difference in gas prices not going higher than they already are. Of course to the extent that we try to expand renewable energy sources, there will be good, well-paying jobs for people and this will improve their economic circumstances.

My point is that the economic problems are not purely those of one or the other party but that there

are policies being proposed by Republicans that would certainly make things much worse for low income and, middle-class people. The people who have your back and who will benefit you the most are the Democrats. Please vote for Democratic congressmen, senators, and Biden in the coming election. Your pocketbook hangs in the balance among other things.