

An illustration of a smiling hot dog vendor wearing a blue shirt, a green apron, and a white chef's hat with a large bow. He is holding a large hot dog on a bun. In the background, there is a red and yellow striped umbrella and a sign that says "Hot Dog" with a picture of a hot dog.

The Hot Dog Vendor

There was a man who lived by the side of the road and sold hot dogs. He sold very good hot dogs. He put up signs along the highway and advertised telling how good they were. He stood on the side of the road and cried: "Buy a hot dog, Mister?" And people bought. He increased his meat and bun orders. He bought a bigger stove to take care of his trade. He finally got his son home from college to help him out. Then something happened. His son said, "Father, haven't you been listening to the radio and watching TV? There's a big

depression. The foreign situation is terrible. The domestic situation is worse." Whereupon the father thought. "Well, my son's been to college, he listens to the radio and watches TV and he ought to know." So the father cut down on his meat and bun orders, took down his signs, cancelled his ads, and no longer bothered to stand out on the highway to sell his hot dogs. And his hot dog sales fell almost overnight. "You're right, son" the father said to the boy. "We certainly are in the middle of a great depression."