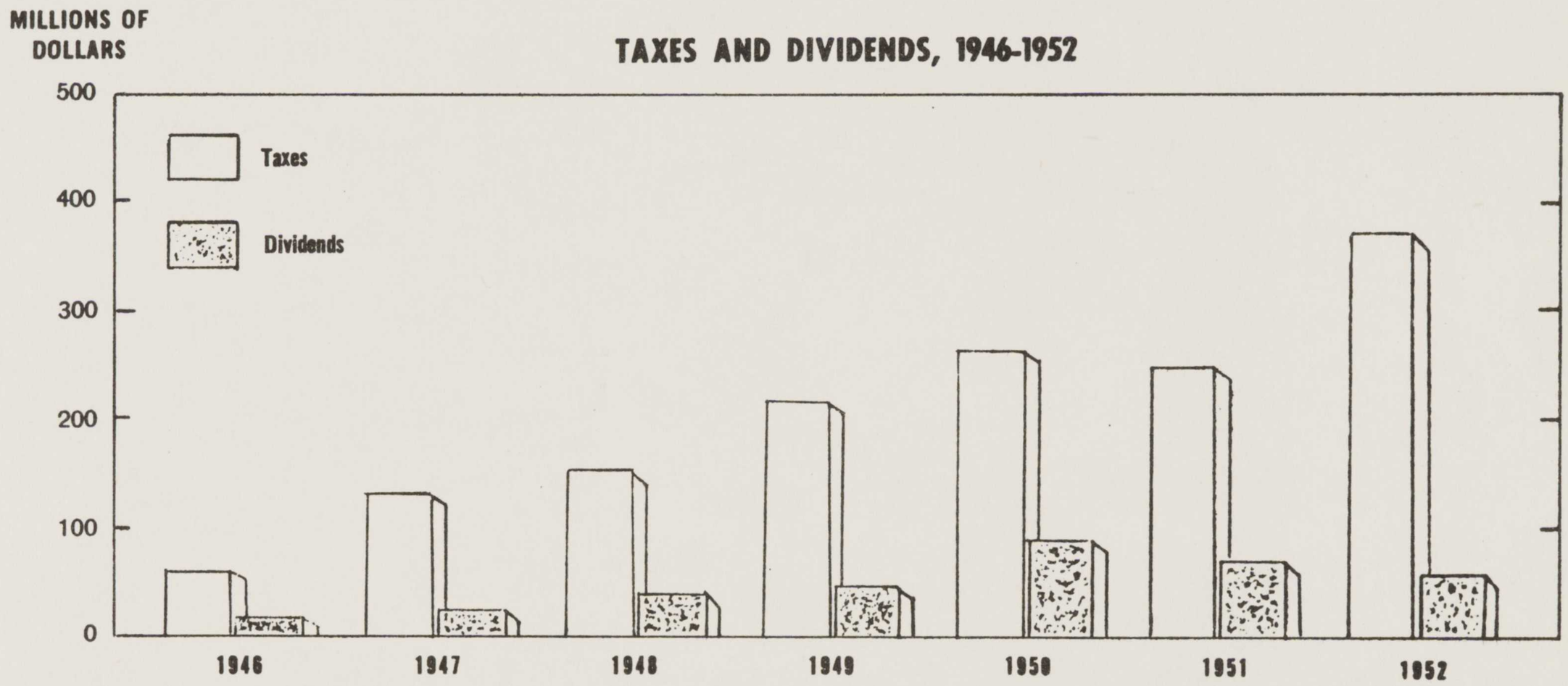
The following chart is copied from a recent annual report of an automobile manufacturing company:



All faiths and all actions originate with ideas. Clever political action may beat down an occasional public housing measure, for instance. But if the ideas of those who lead in economic, social, and moral thinking are disposed to social leveling by coercion, then we shall inevitably have public housing. If the preponderant ideas of economic, social, and moral thinkers are of the what's-thine-is-mine-if-I-want-it-kind then, in reality, the concept of private property is only a mirage. It does not exist in reality.

These Old World ideas of the agency of force as sovereign, these alien ideas that society has a first claim on the product of one's labor, were not, but now are, embraced by a vast majority of American citizens. They are not private property ideas. They are the reverse. They are collectivist, ownership-in-common ideas. I claim them to be bad ideas. They are bad for the one from whom income is forcibly taken. They are bad for the one who received the confiscated income. They are bad for the one who compels this redistribution.*

*Leonard E. Read. Victims of Social Leveling. Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y.: Foundation for Economic Education, Inc., 1953.