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Be Prepared to be Called For Duty for Freedom

At the present time, there are slightly mor than 2,000,000 men in the American Army. There are 1,000,000 more men in the Navy, and about 500, in the Air Force. That marks an immense change from afew years ago when the Army was down to around 150,000 men, and the other military branches were also negligible so far as numbers are concerned. But the change that will take place in the future, according to current plans, will be infinitely geater—and will have an infinitely greater effect on the normal ways of the nation.

Top military men believe that the Army wil have to be increased to 8,000,000men and perhaps still more—that the Navy will have a personnel of around 2,000,000—and that the Air force will also reach the 2,000,000 mark. In short, if this war continues, between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 men will be required for military service.

Not all of these men, by any means, will be combat troops. A major Army is a world of its own, requiring every kind of skill, talent, craft and profession. For each man in the fighting line there must be several men behindthe lines in the departments of supply, communication, transport, etc. The same thing is true of the Navy and Air Force. But all of these men, whether they serve with guns or with tool will be wearing uniforms, and all of them will be cut out of civilian life.

The reasons for planning so vast a military establishment are obvious. We must figure on a long war whose end will be the actual land invasion of Axis countries. All hope that will not be necessary and that Germany and Japan will collapse. But it would be the height of folly to plan on that. We must, instead, plan on doing it the hard way.

What will be the effect of this demand for manpower for military services?

First, it can be stated categorically that every man under forty without dependents, and without a job which is considered absolutely vital to the war effort, will be inducted, and soon. Men who are physically unfit, of course, will be exceptions—but men with relatively minor physical disabilities will be taken, and placed in noncombat work.

Second, Congress will probably pass a measure providing for government support of men's dependents. There will be considerable debate over this, and a great deal of argument concerning how much money should be provided. But it is thought certain that a law will eventually be approved. Then the millions of men in the 31A classification will gradually be taken. The Selective Service Boards have recently been reclassifying men with wives who are self-supporting, changing them to the 1-A bracket.

Third, the registration of older men (up to 64) will give the government exhaustive information concerning a reservoir of manpower which is too old for actual combat, but which can be called upon for other necessitry duties. These men, for example, could be used for farm labor, and for work in war industries. They could release younger men for the fighting forces. If this war goes on long enough, it is considered inevitable that the government will decide where, when and for how much pay you will work.

Fourth, it is a definite possibility that we will eventually classify and conscript womanpower. That is already being done on a volunteer basis, and in time it may be done on an enforced basis. Woman can drive cars, run elevators, serve as clerks in shops, perform many operations in war industry, and do a thousand-and-one other jobs which are now being performed by men the military forces need and want

What will be left for civilian production, civilian life

The answer is clear: "The barest minimum of what is needed." If this war lasts long enough, the drain on our human forces will be as great as in Germany, England, Japan, or anywhere else .The home fires will be kept burning by women, by men who are unfit for military service, and by old men. Then, when the war is over, the vast job will start of reestablishing life on a peacetime basis. In the meantime, any man in good health who is not beyond the registration age limits, should be prepared for sudden disruption of his economic, social and domestic life. This war is being fought "for keeps," and all the wealth of the nation, human and material alike, is dedicated to winning it.

NOT TOO HOT NOT TOO COLD

Shadow of Socialized Medicine

While war news grips the headlines and the attention of the people, a movement is underway that would regiment the practice of medicine in this country. It is now urged that the social security taxes be increased one per cent. The additional revenue raised would be used, in part, to guarantee every insured worker and his dependents hospitalization benefits to the extent of three dollars per day during illness.

The effect of this on hospitals would be obvious. First, few if any hospitals could care for patients at three dollars a day and long remain in operation—the rate is completely inadequate. The inevitable result would be forced deterioration in service to meet the arbitrarily fixed price. Second, the voluntary hospital system, which has grown rapidly and produced excellent results, would be discouraged. Lastly, in the long run, the plan would open the way for additional government encroachment into all branches of medicine—and once that happened, socialized medicine would become a fact.

The existing American hospital system is based on the tenet that the care of the sick is one of the highest moral functions of mankind The typical hospital is not a profit making institution. All its revenue is spent for maintaining and improving its services. Finely-equipped hospitals, financed both by local government and by private endowment exist to serve the person without means. Nowhere else in the world is such abundant medical service available to all as in this country.

This is not the time to debate a measure which would tend to make medical care a definite province of centralized government.

Time To Save

At the direct request of the government, retail stores are carrying on aggressive campaigns to prevent waste and save materials of all kinds.

The Institute of Distribution, which represents a number of important retail organizations, offers some excellent advice. Summed up, that advice amounts to this: don't waste food. Don't burn or throw away paper. Save scrap metal, old rubber, rags, etc. Give this salvage to your favorite charity or sell it to the nearest junk and waste paper dealer.

Use office supplies sparingly. Get maximum service from such common articles as paper clips, pins, rubber bands, envelopes, scratch paper, sealing tape, pencils, typewriter ribbons, carbon paper, etc. These and similar articles have a definite and important place in war production, and civilian consumption must be reduced in many instances.

Take extra-special care of mechanical equipment. Inspect it, clean it, and oil it frequently. Repairs and replacement will become constantly more difficult. Save on fuels.

Retail industry knows what it is talking about. The chain stores and the organized independents are studying ways and means to conserve all possible materials. It takes five pounds of paper to pack an ordinary artillery shell. The military appetite for rubber, metals, textiles, leather, etc., is virtually insatiable. Every business—and every individual—should emulate retailing's drive to prevent waste.

At Mercy of Labor Czars

The severest indictment yet made by any high government official against organized labor, is found in testimony presented by Assistant Attorney-General Thurman Arnold, before a House Judiciary Subcommittee which was considering a proposal to force unions to register with the government.

In the words of an AP dispatch, Mr. Arnold "accused organized labor of impeding the use of men and machines in the war effort, destroying independent businesses, and holding farmers and consumers, at its mercy."

The rank and file of working people in this country are not to blame for this. They are as patriotic as anyone. They want to work harder and produce more. But a small group of powerful labor leaders have the worker—like the farmer, the consumer and employing industry—hog-tied. Under the closed shop principle, a man or woman must pay thribute to a union and obey a labor boss or lose the job that mean his or her livelihood. This is an astounding situation to exist under laws that otherwise guarantee personal liberty and protect a citizen against extortion and combinations in restraint of trade. We used to hear how grasping, greedy employers had placed workers in virtual servitude. Today it is labor dictators, drunk with authority, who have made the workers their powerless vassals.

It can no longer be urged that the closed shop is essential to the workers' protection. The government dominates worker-employer relations An elaborate, all-encompassing series of government boards exists to see that every worker is paid a proper wage, works under descent shop conditions, and is protected against any and every kind of explotitation —except exploitation by labor czars

No man in government knows more about the activities or organized labor than Mr. Arnold. The testimony he gave before the House Committee points to on of the worst dangers this country faces—the raise to unprecedented power of a handful of labor leaders who are responsible to no one, and who hold what amounts to a life-and-death grip over millions of free-born American citizens.

If you suffer distress from Monthly FEMALE WEAKNESS

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Letter From the People

To the Editor, Queenstown News:

I enjoy your paper very much. A bit of news comes to my observation which may be of interest.

Mr. Paul Keating, Farm Manager of the Mollie Quimby Farms (was indicated in your paper,) reports farm activities normally progressing. A slight loss occurred to the dairy department when th cow put her foot in the full bucket of milk.

The poultry department lost two of its turkey hens (got their heads caught in a crack in the poultry house.) Mrs. Quimby is recovering from the loss and injury which she suffered when she was attacked by the head rooster of her flock. He ripped her hose an dpainfully scratched her leg. Mr. Keating himself has been attacked several times by the same rooster.

One of the most intresting bits of news was in rgards to Mrs. Emma Frampton's laying hen. It seems that since we have been at war she has become WAR CONSCIOUS by refusing to lay in a nest, but lays from some perch, the roost or standing on some objct of height. Mrs. Framptom was in the chicken house a few days ago when an egg fell at her feet, barley missing her head; she looked up and saw the same hen perched on a rafter. Mrs. Framp ton remarked that the hen evidently thought that she was a bomber and Mrs. Frampton proceeded to put a special color band on her leg to mark the hen. She is still dropping the eggs from altitudes, and from all indications is getting herself in line for some one's Sunday dinner.

Seriously, Mr. Editor, Mrs. Quimby seemed to enjoy your little mention about her farming activities and the above little incidents were facts, meant for good humor and not for offense to our good friends, Mrs. Quimby, Mr. Keating, or Mrs. Frampton.

I would be glad to let you have some material on the activities of the agricultural boys if you think it would be of interest to your readers. Best of Wishes.

L. E. TAYLOR

Centreville, April 13, 1942.

(Will appreciate any good literature—Mike.)

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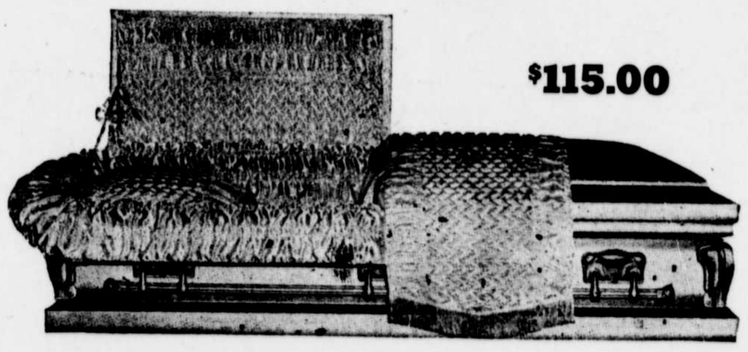

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