

Patterson Appeals for Universal Service Act

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bewildered by complicated statistics, involved arguments, and clever catch-phrases.

Let's make it simple. Think of our nation as a family of four or five hard-working, average people, living on a farm in Ohio. It's a summer afternoon, and everyone is busy at his own job. Cousin Ben is out in the front yard, trimming rose bushes. Suddenly, the barn catches fire, and dad calls for help to put it out. Everyone rushes to his aid—everyone, that is, except Cousin Ben. He keeps right on trimming rose bushes.

Now it won't do any good for Cousin Ben to help put out the fire a week from now. What we need is for him to quit trimming rose bushes and start fighting the fire, right now! And since he won't do it voluntarily, there has to be a way, for the good of the whole family, to compel him to do it.

Volunteers Not Enough

There are millions of people who are voluntarily devoting themselves to the war effort, just as millions would volunteer for military service even if we had no selective service law.

But in modern war, volunteers are not enough, either on the battle front or on the home front. Our enemies know this. Our enemies know it, America, however, is the only one of the great powers which does not have a national service law, or its equivalent.

There have been charges that manpower is wasted. Every conceivable effort is made to prevent such waste, but of course it occurs. War, by its very nature, is the most colossal waste known to man. No employer, be he the head of great corporation, or the manager of the corner grocery store, or the government, or a farmer with two hired men, can keep every employee fully occupied every moment of every day. We just haven't become that efficient.

Need Tanks, Shells

In this nation's great, urgent need for manpower, every case of waste, of course, is to be deplored and corrected. But even if we eliminated all waste—and some is inevitable—we still would need more war workers than we now have. The isolated cases of waste make headlines—but headlines do not make tanks and artillery shells, which are the things our fighting men need.

When the news from the fighting fronts looks good, many of us are inclined to lean back and relax, and to figure the war is just about over, and all this speed and urgency really isn't necessary. We should remember always that we are fighting powerful and resourceful nations who, as they have demonstrated, are fully capable of inflicting serious counter-blows.

To talk about today's gains and victories is easy. To predict tomorrow's is extremely dangerous. The pipe line of supply to our forces in Europe and in the Pacific is a long one. It takes many weeks to transport all of the materials from the factory to the front.

Must Keep Going

We cannot afford to gamble the lives of our men and the future of our nation on when somebody thinks the war will be over. We have got to keep the supplies going forward, day and night, week in and week out, whether good news or bad comes over the wires. To do less would be criminal folly.

There is one great national characteristic of all Americans, whether they live in Pennsylvania, or Indiana, or Texas, or California. That characteristic is a deep-seated sense of fair play.

Is it fair play for us say to 12 million of our sons and brothers and fathers in the armed services that "you happen to be between the age of 18 and 45, and able-bodied, and so we are sending you into combat, to defend us with your lives," and at the same time to provide no legal obligations or responsibilities, so far as the war is concerned, for the 16 million other

American men between 18 and 45, who remain at home?

This war was declared, not in the name of those 12 million who fight, and not by those 12 million. It was declared by and in the name of all the American people!

Is it fair to send Jim to work, and suffer, and perhaps die in battle, and not even require Jack, who remains at home, to "make the things Jim needs with which to fight, or clothe himself, or bind his wounds?"

It has been argued that government officials cannot be trusted to administer a national service law fairly and efficiently. We are trusting Gen. Marshall and Adm. King with the lives of our soldiers and sailors and marines, and certainly no one would contend that the lives of these men are any less valuable, or any less sacred, than the things Jim needs with which to fight, or clothe himself, or bind his wounds.

War Workers Praised

It is difficult to express our urgent and pressing need for more manpower without seeming to overlook the millions of loyal, sincere men and women in civil life who are working wholeheartedly in the war effort.

I have seen them in the ammunition plants, the aircraft plants—many of them working on the midnight shift—many elderly men and women—working to arm and equip their loved ones who are fighting overseas.

In all kinds of weather they travel many miles from their homes to work for the winning of the war. No one can see them without being deeply touched by their devotion.

They are a great and a proud army, doing a job which is just as necessary and just as vital as are the men in uniform.

Too Few in Number

Without them, and their magnificent record of production, there would never have been a "D-Day." But there aren't enough of them. There are too many who are not fighting the war at all—either on the home front or on the battle front.

Tomorrow morning, on your way to work, look around you. You will see people who are not contributing to the war in any way—who are busily engaged in activities which are well and good in peacetime, but totally unnecessary in war.

Wouldn't you rather have those men making guns and tanks and airplanes and battle jackets and blankets and jeeps and bomber tires—things your sons and brothers need, and need badly?

Need Is Continual

We need thousands of men in munitions factories, in aircraft, rubber and textile factories, and we need them now! When we landed in France, we committed ourselves. Our men at the front can't stop and wait for ammunition and food and gasoline.

They have got to have it now, and they have got to have it a week from now, and a month from now, and six months from now, and every hour of every day so long as the war lasts!

A great many statistics have been cited on both sides of this great issue.

Decrease Ahead

The opponents of national service, in listing our manpower resources, generally neglect to include the fact that between now and June 30, the armed forces will take 900,000 more men out of civilian life and jobs. Or that we will have to fill 700,000 additional war jobs during the same period.

But statistics, after all, don't help very much. You can stop a Tiger tank with statistics. You can't very well go over to France and tell Jim, who's trying to blow up a German pillbox, that "here are some statistics proving that we've got all the war workers and all the war production we need." Because we haven't.

We need more. Jim needs more. Now!

WALLACE: 'I'LL STILL TAKE JOB'

Asserts He Wouldn't Refuse

Even if Loan Powers Are Slashed.

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policy, a question of the path America will follow in the future."

Wallace said that if the RFC and its subsidiaries remain in the department he would utilize all its powers for the time being toward speeding up victory in the war.

Wallace suggested that congress investigate past RFC activities to determine whether the agency's powers have always "been administered in such a way as to do the most good for the American people." Meanwhile, C. I. O. President Philip Murray asked all C. I. O. officials to urge their congressmen

immediately to oppose the George bill and support Wallace.

Wallace was greeted by spectators at the hearing with a tremendous ovation.

He admitted at the outset that he was disturbed by the move to strip the commerce department of its lending powers.

Wallace said that to provide jobs for all, there should be 60,000,000 productive jobs.

This, he added, will require large outlays of private capital.

But the government, Wallace said, should "guarantee the lender against the special and abnormal risks which may be involved in achieving our objective."

Wallace said an expanding foreign trade also must be a part of the picture.

And when jobs in private enterprise fall below 57,000,000, he continued, the government should take up the slack with road, public building and power-producing river projects.

"American labor," Wallace went on, "should be assured that there are not going to be any wage cuts after this war."

"What is more important—when the workers' hours are cut back to

peacetime levels a real attempt must be made to adjust wage rates upward."

For farmers he proposed "an adequate floor on farm prices," federal crop insurance and modernization of rural living conditions.

For businessmen, Wallace said the bill of rights envisages freedom of enterprise not only for a few but for all.

No "special class of business deserves to be the spoiled darling of government," he said, adding that "we must break through the barriers of monopoly and international cartels that stand in the way of a healthy expansion of free enterprise."

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research in private and public institutions.

Wallace added that the nation will need a broader social security program after the war.

The present program is "definitely inadequate," he said.

In the matter of education, Wallace said teachers now are underpaid and facilities inadequate.

He urged his program as the kind "that can provide jobs, economic security and rising standards of living for all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed."

Wallace listed the positions he has held in the government, and gave a detailed description of their functions.

He dwelled upon his administration of the agriculture department and the loans made by the commodity credit corporation.

Wallace recalled that while he was secretary of agriculture the department made 11,500,000 commodity credit loans and 1208 rural rehabilitation loans.

"These loans were made not only on a sound business basis but also in the public interest," Wallace said. He added that he was "proud of this record."

HINT ALLIES MASSING FOR WESTERN DRIVE

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new series of German delaying attacks along a 20-mile front in French Alsace.

The British 2d army today all but erased the threatening German bridgehead on the west bank of the Roer northwest of Jülich. The American 1st and 3d armies carved another slice off the shrunken Ardennes bulge. The enemy was left a thin salient along the Belgian and Luxembourg borders.

The Canadian 1st army showed its first signs of offensive action since last fall with an armored raid into German lines at the northern tip of the Siegfried line. A small enemy pocket at Boxmeer, between Venlo and Nijmegen, was annihilated.

With evidence mounting that the Germans were draining off tens of thousands of troops from the Western front to send against the rampaging Soviets in the east, observers were confident Gen. Eisenhower

would not miss the opportunity to strike with full allied power.

Eisenhower already was mustering every available man for front-line duty under a directive issued Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, new deputy commander of American forces in Europe. Offensive stock piles were intact despite the German counter-offensive in Ardennes.

Evidence of offensive preparations were apparent at every hand behind the fighting front.

The Germans launched a series of delaying attacks against the 7th army last night and this morning along a 20-mile front stretching from Haguenau to the Hardt mountains in eastern France. The Nazis made some gains at heavy cost in stiff fighting.

Intelligence reports confirmed that German railways north of the Alsace front for the last four days have been jammed with men and materials moving east. Presumably they were to reinforce the broken Nazi armies in the East. West-bound trains were empty.

Planes of the 2d tactical air force were bombing, shelling and strafing the trains on an around-the-clock schedule.

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SPORTSWEAR, THIRD FLOOR

Gleiwitz, Big Factory Town, Falls to Advancing Russians

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advance of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's columns.

Unconfirmed reports said that Soviet troops had broken into the East Prussian capital of Königsberg where street fighting was said to be in progress.

The German DNB news agency said units of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's 2d White Russian army sealed the Prussian trap with an advance to the Frisches Haff, a Baltic lagoon between Eilbing and the provincial capital of Königsberg.

The thrust cut the last rail and highway lines linking the Germans in East Prussia with their homeland.

First word that the Oder had been breached also came from DNB. "Tank groups" of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's 1st Ukrainian army, it was reported, forced the river at Steinau, 34 miles northwest of Breslau.

Many Points Attacked

Scores of other crossing points along the Oder from Steinau down past Breslau almost to the Czechoslovak border were under attack. Konev sent his armored divisions forward for the pay-off battle for German Silesia and the southeastern invasion road to Berlin.

Breslau itself, the biggest industrial center in eastern Germany, was reported under direct assault by Red army forces that late yesterday had driven within four miles southeast of the city.

There was no late word from the central front, however, on the course of the battle for the Polish fortress of Poznan, 136 miles east of Berlin, which Moscow dispatches said had been under attack for the past 24 hours.

The spotlight of the Red army

offensive for the moment centered on Silesia where Adolf Hitler had ordered his forces to hold Breslau and the Oder line at all costs.

Oppeln, one of the main Oder bastions on the east bank 47 miles below Breslau, already had fallen to the Russian invaders. Soviet armored spearheads were reported across the frozen river on both sides of Oppeln.

Breslau, now outflanked by Soviet tank columns that raced northwest of the city to threaten the Oder line at a new point only 148 miles from Berlin, was brought under siege last night by units of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's 1st Ukrainian army. These troops pushed 12 miles up the east side of the Oder to take Margareth, four miles to the southeast.

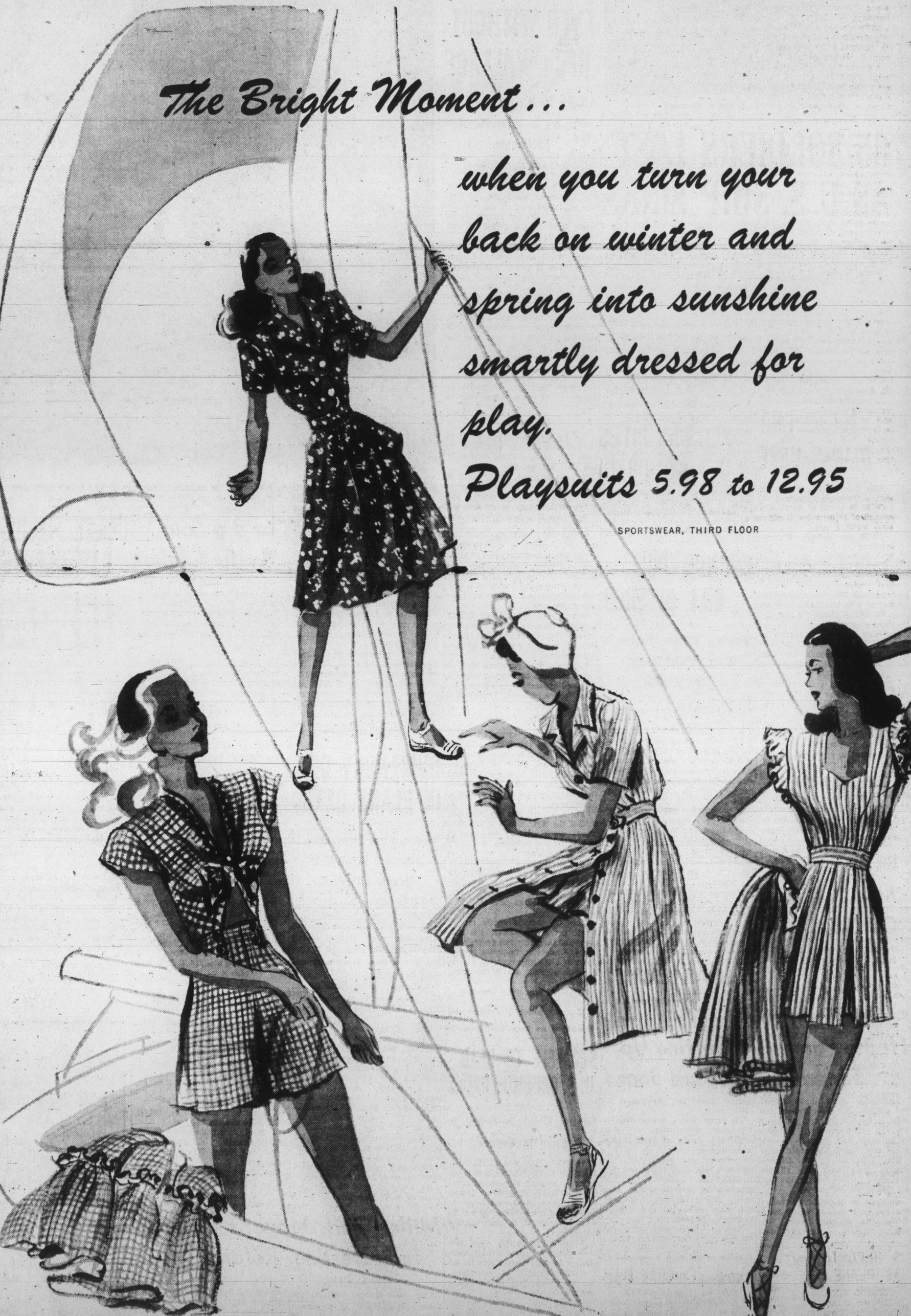
Reports from both sides said Breslau, night city of the Reich, had been converted into a bristling fortress covered by a chain of fortifications arcing through the hills to the east.

The city's Nazi garrison ordered all women and children evacuated and announced that every man able to bear a gun would be thrown into the front lines.

LOCAL GI PROMOTED TO STAFF SERGEANT

Victor Woodfill, husband of Mrs. Goldie Woodfill, 2017 E. 10th st., has been promoted to staff sergeant at a troop carrier command base in Europe.

A former employee of Van Camp Hardware & Iron Co., he is an instrument specialist in a service unit under the command of Maj. Gen. Paul L. Williams. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Duke of Henry, Ill.



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