

## Patterson Appeals for Universal Service Act

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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 material comfort of those of us who remain at home.

### War Workers Praised

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. Other nations 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 is, of course, 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 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.

It is fair play for us to 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

## Gleiwitz, Big Factory Town, Falls to Advancing Russians

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advance of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokosovsky'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. Rokosovsky's 2d White Russian army sealed the Prussian trap with an advance to the Frisches Haff, a Baltic lagoon between Elbing 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 southeast 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

## 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 the 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

peace-time 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."

Lists Positions Held

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 in 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-attack in the 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 Haguenaü 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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