

be made of this State through conscription. In exercising certain authority vested in the Governor, I desire to have available the advice of this Council. The most carefully thought-out plans for the supervision by public-spirited and respected citizens on local boards, appellate and advisory boards and in other capacities will be more assured when the composite view from such a group as this can be obtained.

Again, once the present military forces of the State are called into service, it will be advisable to consider a secondary protective force for intra-State purposes, either in cooperation with or in addition to the presently constituted State police and local law enforcement agencies. The time may not be far distant when we will be required to create a Home Guard, or other similar organization, for the safeguarding of property and supplies and, even more important, the lives of our citizens.

In taking up for consideration the question as to what general topics should engage the attention of the Council, it might be explained that the desire has been to give consideration to certain functional requirements.

Conferences already held between the Federal and State Officials indicate that the following functional bases are important in the consideration of national defense; man power, skilled labor, industrial and agricultural resources, public health and hospitalization, education, civil protection, including protection of civil liberties; housing, transportation and other facilities.

While the Council will be entrusted with the definite duty of coordinating State activities with those of the National Government, it is particularly important to avoid duplication of effort with any existing function of the military forces and also to refrain from taking over any duties that can be taken care of by existing agencies. Possibly one of the most valuable contributions toward efficiency in preparedness plans would be the sifting out and discouragement of such duplication of effort or other valueless activities.

In outlining the matters which properly might be considered, it would not be amiss to indicate what we might refrain from doing. We should not undertake to advise or influence our National policy concerning this Country's involvement in war. Again, it is not expected that this Council should legislate for the State or Federal Government in matters under consideration, but should proceed under the authority and direction of established law. As above indicated, the Council should not assume those duties entrusted by law to existing State and Federal agencies, although in certain connections the advisory expression of the Council may be welcomed by the authorities in regard to pressing problems.

The President of the United States and the Congress are giving most thoughtful consideration to the problems confronting the Country. Furthermore, in addition to the regular departmental activities, several important groups are functioning, composed of leading citizens of our Country whose generous efforts are inspired by patriotism and a desire to assist our Country. I refer specifically to the Commission headed by Mr. Edward R. Stettinius and Mr. William S. Knudsen. It is our hope that we may cooperate with such groups and to have available for them the most authoritative and up-to-date information which can be obtained relative to the resources of our State.

In summary the following points may be outlined as basic in the Council's consideration, although not intended to limit its sphere of activity: