

that the individual citizen will be spared too-burdensome taxation. The more efficiently that can be injected into State and local governments and the more that unnecessary outlays can be eliminated, the more assurance will there be that governmental expense will be kept at a minimum.

The strategy of today's wars is tremendously different from that of years gone by. As a Nation, for our very salvation we must be alert not only to what immediately impends, but we must be alive to forstall and circumvent world happenings that would seriously endanger our progress and threaten our National integrity.

The bitter experience of the unfortunate nations of Europe certainly should convince us that we cannot, we must not, wait for the actual opening of hostilities before we make our own dispositions. History will record that in the European Blitzkrieg the planning that preceded military actions was of even more importance than the military action, itself. Therefore, keeping in mind the calamities that have befallen European nations who waited until it was too late to take adequate means for protection, let us, by all means, do everything possible to insure peace, but never for a moment neglect our preparations for war.

We hope to avoid war, of course. Every sane, sensible American does. For this very reason, therefore, we must see to it that our Country in its economy, its financing, its very thinking is prepared for war in the shortest possible time.

In the face of what has happened to once powerful nations, it would be folly of the worst kind for us to fail to take advantage of the lessons that have been laid before us.

Our State, throughout the Union's history, replete with vicissitudes, has ever been ready and eager to aid when any danger threatened the national security. Today, when the greatest menace to our liberty and freedom has continuously become more pressing and imminent, Maryland can be counted upon to give its all in order that our priceless heritage may be preserved. This would be expected because many of the foundational principles, which are threatened with extinction elsewhere in the world, sprang from seeds implanted in the soil of Maryland.

The people of our State, with our fellow-citizens from other States, hope and pray for the early realization of world peace. We are a peace-loving Nation. We are advocates of the "Every man his own master" philosophy. In America we have cultivated and idealistic way of life in which the patterns of government and daily existence are all geared to the theory of the greatest good to the greatest number of Americans and we have come to believe that this way of life is ours—first, because we inherited it; secondly, because we have been the faithful stewards and guardians of that legacy handed down by the fathers of the Republic.

In the past year and a half we have received a rude awakening. We have suddenly been brought up sharp with the realization that this way of life is challenged from afar. At first, many of our citizens believed or tried to believe that the challenger was too far away to be really threatening; that the danger was remote, chimerical, even imaginary.