

"Impress upon the people of Washington County," he said, "that this is possibly the most serious situation America has ever faced. We are fighting nations who have been directing all their energies for the past ten years towards overwhelming us and all the world. Don't let our people under-estimate these foes," he entreated. And he further added, "We must take it for granted that both Germany and Japan will retaliate for recent bombings by bombing us if it is at all within their power."

The hundreds of Trainer Planes that have been produced here by people of Hagerstown and surrounding territory, have been the means of training thousands of pilots for service in Australia, in China, and on the other battle-fronts. Now, I understand, other types of planes for the Military are being produced. Certainly in this war, where mechanized equipment and particularly the airplane, play so decisive a part, the men and women who contribute their full efforts to producing planes or any of the thousand-and-one other war essentials, can honestly say that they are truly fighting shoulder to shoulder with their brothers and sons and neighbors who have gone into the Armed Forces of our Country.

Because so much emphasis has been laid upon industrial production, does not imply that any lesser importance is attached to the accomplishments of our farm people. Food is as essential to success in this war as planes or armaments of any kind. It is just as vital for our Washington County farm people to devote themselves energetically to the task of increasing food production, as it is for others to build planes or participate in any Defense activity.

More so than ever, in this war that is being fought on fronts so far from home, must there be tons and tons of foods of every kind for shipment to our fighting forces, and to our Allies. America is depending upon the farmers of our State, as well as upon our industrial workers, to do their utmost for ultimate Victory.

If there are in Washington County any who saw today's Parade or who now are listening, who have not made their rightful contribution to the war effort in one way or another, for their own future peace of mind, as well as for the continued safety of all of us, I urge them to come forward and do their part. No matter what one's capacity, everyone can be of help. Not all can be in the fighting forces; but all *can* be numbered among the Civilian Defense Units, among the producers of vital war materials, or among the purchasers of war bonds and stamps.

Truly, this is a gigantic enterprise upon which we are launched. It is the most significant of all the mighty undertakings, with which America ever has been faced. Before, the question to be settled in any of our wars, has been Military. Today's war, however, is different from any that has ever preceded. In that, fundamentally, it is a conflict between two systems of life rather than between countries. Today's war, in essence, is an all-out attack upon Democracy; an attempt to wipe it from the face of the earth. Those who would do this, led by the fanatic, Hitler, have built up the most stupendous Military machine in the world's history to spread the doctrine that it is only the State that is important today.