

accept our Country's gifts without shouldering its responsibilities, without pledging ourselves to carry on and to sustain, at whatever cost may be entailed, the heritage of freedom and liberty that has been entrusted to our care.

Just to look about us this evening, and to realize what America has given to all of us here present, is to be confirmed forever in the realization that American citizenship, under our present form of Government, is the most valuable civic possession obtainable in the world today.

To permit these American ideals of Government to be laid aside now would be an everlasting blot upon the conscience of every American. The American System, with its recognition of the individual as the sole reason for Government, is the truest realization of an ideal of Government that exists in the world today. It is little wonder our forefathers found it such an inspiration, it is little wonder that, throughout all the years, Americans were ever ready to give their lives and possessions to defend it. Surely today, with conditions as they are throughout the world, we should be poor Americans, indeed, if we did not measure up to the high standards of National conduct set by those who preceded us.

While America is a peace-loving Nation, to whose citizens the idea of war is abhorrent, nevertheless the people of America realize that there are things infinitely worse than war. Nearly all of Europe today furnishes striking example of this truth. And the fate that overtook these nations, one by one, is warning enough of the fate that is in store for America unless our people can put forth the all-out effort required to stamp out the threat of Hitler and his hordes.

To stand off, and ultimately to defeat, the powerful German and Japanese forces that now lead the assault upon the Democratic peoples of the world, we must truly have an all-out effort, such an all-out effort as never before has even been conceived by the most far-sighted of our leaders. What such an all-out effort means is simply this. America must place in the field several millions of trained, disciplined troops and supply them with every modern weapon of warfare in abundance. The Philippines were lost because our men, fighting their hearts out, had neither weapons nor supplies to enable them to continue the battle. That must never happen again. Every man who enters our Country's service must have a chance for life, must have the supplies and weapons that will help him to Victory.

To back up these military forces and to assure them the great quantities of war materials and supplies they need, other millions of American, including a large proportion of women, must be mobilized on a second fighting front—the American Production Line.

Right now American industry is experiencing a shortage of skilled manpower which, in view of the tremendous expansion of the past year, is easily understandable. The vastness of organization in manpower required may be understood when it is realized that, while there were approximately 6,000,000 people engaged in the war industries at the close of 1941, 17,000,000 will be needed by the end of this year. To man the factories, to produce the weapons and supplies and food that must be had for Victory, will mean that hundreds of