

what Selective Service organizations should be. The State Guard, following extensive inspections by regular Army officials, has been given a rating second to no State Guard Unit in the Country.

Such is the tradition of Maryland, however, that even the most complete absorption in winning the war, has not, and never will make us forget that there are other things of importance in addition to winning the war. Our form of Government also must be preserved.

Some may inquire what has been the magic formula which enabled us to grow, progress and prosper through boom times and bad, wars and panics.

There has been no magic formula! America has survived through the years because her people at all times were close enough to the functioning of Government, through the exercise of their privileges as citizens in the conduct of their local affairs, to maintain an active interest and to play their part in all the activities of Government. Deprive them of that incentive, and history has shown conclusively that you prepare the way for the loss of freedom itself.

When the 7,500,000 men whom Secretary Stimson has declared America needs in the armed forces return to us - - and God grant they will return, soon, without great casualties, Victorious in the cause of humanity - - our aim and purpose must be to preserve for them the same kind of a Country they left, the same kind of a Country Thomas Jefferson envisioned many years ago, when he wrote:

"Were not this Country already divided into States, that distribution must be made, that each might do for itself what concerns itself directly, and what it can do so much better than distant authority—It is by such partition of cares, that the mass of human affairs may be best managed for the good and prosperity of all."

When these 7,500,000 stalwart young Americans come marching back to us, likewise we must be prepared to receive them in a Country so economically ordained that they can settle down to the enjoyment of the fruits of Victory—to the achievements of their aims in life, free from the aftermaths of war that plagued humanity as a result of World War No I.

To guarantee this kind of a Country to our courageous men whose heroism on the far flung battle fronts, is a record that glows like an endless string of pearls, there are two principles that must be borne in mind. First, that power should only be surrendered that is actually and directly necessary to win the war, second, that it should be clearly understood that the return of that power from the Federal to the local governments will come with the end of hostilities.

The power of the Federal Government steadily has grown. That growth had to come from somewhere, either from the States or from that great reservoir of ultimate power which had been in the beginning carefully preserved for the people themselves. It has been said that the tremendous increase in Federal power came through the entry by the Federal Government into new fields not at the expense of the states and the local governments. Observers who have studied the problem and who have witnessed the sharp curtailment of State authority know that this contention is not true.