

Commission 'Reluctantly' Advises Long-Range Program Of Universal Military Training

The recent report of the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training is one of the grimmest and most thought-provoking documents ever made public in this country. There is certainly nothing new in compulsory military training—the armed services were urging it long before World War II began. But the reasoning behind this report—which was the result of six months of study by the Commission—gives it an unusual degree of force. So does the Commission's membership. It did not include a single military man or professional jingo. Its chairman was the distinguished physicist, Karl Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Other members included Daniel Polling, editor of the Christian Herald; Chas. E. Wilson, president of General Electric; Dr. Harold Dodds, president of Princeton; and ex-ambassador to Russia Joseph E. Davies.

It is stated that, at the beginning, there was a wide diversity of opinion among the various members. But, at the end, all of them came "reluctantly" to the same conclusion. That conclusion consists of an eight-point security program of which compulsory training for all males at the age of 18, or after finishing high school, is the keystone. That would affect from 750,000 to 950,000 young men each year, and the annual cost of this part of the program alone is estimated at \$1,750,000,000.

The suggested training plan is an interesting one, and in some respects it is novel. The Commission believes that it should be placed under the control of a three-man commission, reporting directly to the President, of whom two would be civilians and only one a military man. Training would be in two parts. Part one would be of six months duration, and would consist of military training in an Army camp or aboard a Navy ship. Part two would offer a number of options, including enlistment in the Army or Navy for a two-year period, enrollment in the National Guard or the Reserves with 48 evenings a year of drill plus two-week periods in summer camps for three years, or enrollment in college R. O. T. C. courses.

In addition to this, the Commission feels that national security demands seven more ingredients: a united and informed nation; a coordinated intel-

ligence service; stimulated scientific research and development; industrial readiness for war; an air force ready to strike on little notice; better equipment and training for all the services; and unification of the armed forces. It said that it viewed "with horror" the total cost of this program, and could not estimate it. But, it added, the alternative was an "invitation to extermination."

The Commission believes—as do all military authorities—that the next war, if it comes, will arrive with unbelievable speed. It observed that the obliteration of twelve American cities in a single day, along with essential communication, transportation, and power resources was not at all impossible. Our monopoly of atomic weapons, it said, will end about 1951, and by 1955 an all-out atomic attack could be mounted against us. The program it advocates would take six years and perhaps longer to achieve significant results.

The Commission forecast that its universal training program would produce a long list of benefits. First and foremost, of course, it would provide a trained force which could be rapidly absorbed into the services in time of emergency, and thus tremendously shorten the time necessary to effective mobilization. In addition, the report goes on, it would improve the quality of the regular establishments in peacetime; it would provide a large, trained group in each community capable of dealing with problems of civilian defense and mass disaster in the event of bombing and other attacks; it would help to channel young men into scientific and vocational training important to national defense, and it would give greater military strength at less cost than would be provided by a large standing force. And, to quote the report directly, the program would reduce as far as possible "the disruption of normal family life which inevitably attends the calling of young men from their homes in the national interest. In another paragraph it met an obvious objection to compulsory training by saying that "we are convinced it is entirely possible to provide for American youth a wholesome, moral, and religious environment in training camps." It pointed to the widely-publicized experimental unit at Fort Knox in substantiation of this.

The report is 448 pages in length, and a brief summary can touch only the high spots. The big point is the commission's somber belief that preparedness for war on a scale never attempted by this country in time of peace is absolutely vital if we are not to risk the chance of being exterminated.

Bridegroom: "This steak has a queer taste."
Bride: "I can't understand it. I burned it a little, but I immediately rubbed it with vaseline."

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Tom W. Simpson of Arlington, Va., announce the birth of a daughter, Catherine Orr, Sunday, June 22, at Garfield hospital, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Simpson is the former Miss Virginia Lang of Weldonburg.

NOTICE OF EXECUTRIX

The undersigned, having this day qualified as executrix of estate of Lizzie Gay, deceased, late of Pitt County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned, or to her attorney, itemized and verified, on or before the 12th day of June, 1948, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned or her attorney.

This the 10th day of June, 1947.
EASTER MAY GAY, Executrix,
619 Market St.,
Wilmington, N. C.
Wm. J. Bundy, Atty.,
Greenville, N. C. 12-6

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of General Statutes 160-57, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Farmville, North Carolina, do herewith notify all interested parties that the assessment roll for the paving improvements made within the City Limits of Farmville, North Carolina, during the years 1946 and 1947, has been completed and has been deposited in the office of the Clerk of the Town of Farmville, North Carolina, and is now open for inspection to all interested parties.

Notice is also given that the Board of Commissioners and Mayor of the Town of Farmville, N. C., will hold a meeting on Tuesday, July 8, 1947, at eight (8:00) P. M., for the hearing of allegations and objections to the special assessment.

Meeting will be held at Town Hall. The above mentioned assessment roll and the above referred to meeting is intended to cover the entire paving project as started in 1946 and now nearing completion.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE, N. C.
By: J. W. JOYNER, Mayor
By: C. M. PAYLOR, Clerk

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Ladies Rayon PANTIES 39c	Men's Dress SHIRTS Guaranteed fast colors. All sizes, 14 to 17 \$1.63		Ladies' SKIRTS Values to \$10 \$1.99 to \$4.77	
Nylon HOSE 45 Gauge All-Nylon From top to toe 200 Pairs \$1.00	CURTAINS Straight and Ruffled Curtains A Real Value! \$1.88	Women's Bedroom SHOES Table of bedroom shoes, most all sizes Values to \$2.50 50c	Men's Wash PANTS Most All Sizes Guaranteed Sanitized Values to \$4.00! \$1.99	
Wash FABRICS 2000 yards of new wash fabrics just in for this special sale. Chambrays, rayons, broadcloths and numerous other fabrics. 97c	Boys' Sport SHIRTS Short sleeve sport shirts in your choice of patterns 97c	Boys' Summer PANTS Long pants in good assortment of colors and patterns, sizes 6 to 16 \$1.46	Boys' DUNGAREES Boys' 9-oz. sanforized dungarees, sizes 6 to 16 \$1.88	Summer DRESS SHOES Ladies' summer dress shoes in solid white and brown and white. Buy several pairs Saturday \$1.99

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