



A bewildered Ted Lewis watches some typical Abbott and Costello shenanigans in "Hold That Ghost," an Eagle Lion re-release opening Saturday at the Marco Theatre. The Andrews Sisters are also cast in the gay comedy.

Nation's Defense Rests In Strength Of All the People

Many '4-F's' Are Still Being Produced In This Country

Washington, D. C.— Can the strength of a nation be measured by counting its weapons and men in uniform, together with its farms and factories? That question was answered in a recent talk by Oscar R. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator, which was significant not only for what he said but also for where he said it.

Ewing was addressing a class of officers in the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, which was organized to teach military leaders the sources of the nation's strength. He told them the strength of the nation is "simply and literally" the strength of its people.

In other words, the health, education and social welfare of the people, matters which are the particular concern of the Federal Security Administrator, are the real basis for the nation's mili-

tary strength.

Ewing spoke of such "Fair Deal" proposals as health insurance aid to education and improved social security as directly affecting "your immediate concern with the national security," but added, "I want also to make it plain that I do not justify these measures solely, or even mainly, on grounds of national defense. "They justify themselves, as necessary and practical elements in the kind of government and the kind of peace-loving society we believe in."

Ewing spoke on the "shocking" discovery that World War II draft records showed nearly one in four of our men between the ages of 19 and 37 were classified as "4-F" for physical or mental deficiencies, and was rejected as unfit for military service.

The Census Bureau, he said estimates that on any given day from 3 1-2 to 3 1-4 million workers are off the job because of injury or illness. Many of these could continue at work if they went to a doctor early enough.

"Far too many men and women now are putting off getting medical expense, or what they fear the expense will be. Once the dollar barrier is removed, more people would get to a doctor before it is too late."

Lack of education is causing many draft rejections even now, yet Ewing's figures indicated that today's children will be little better off. "Considerably over 3 million children between the ages of 5 and 17 are not going to school at all," he declared.

"And that is more than 1 out of 10 of all children of school age—potential illiterates and potential '4-F's,' rejected for educational deficiencies in peace and war."

The Social Security system has been notably strengthened, Ewing said, as the result of the legislation passed last August. But there are still serious inadequacies, notably the failure to provide protection against disability.

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Wadesboro Messenger and Intelligencer)
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