

SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED TO BUSINESS MEN'S GROUP

NOTE: This speech is suggested merely as a source of material for the talk which the business man who uses it will actually make. He can, and very likely will, put the story in his own words. The same applies to the Women's Club speech which follows this.

Ladies and Gentlemen: The day before yesterday I attended a meeting in the mayor's office--a meeting called at the request of Lt. Colonel Donald R. Hyde, Commanding Officer of the Sunflower Ordnance Works.

Those of you who were at the meeting will agree with me, I think, that what we heard was not only interesting but important. The Army was very frank with us, and the story they told was very simple. It's this.

Unless production is greatly stepped up during the next few months, there is going to be a serious shortage of heavy artillery ammunition and bombs. Unless a lot of men and women who are now doing other things go to work in plants which make heavy artillery ammunition and rocket powder--plants such as the Sunflower Ordnance Works plant--production can not be stepped up. And unless 4000 men and women from this area go to work in the Sunflower Ordnance Works, the Sunflower Ordnance Works won't have a ghost of a chance of meeting its production quota.

In other words, this community has got a job to do, and it is going to be a tough job. But we've been up against tough jobs before, and we haven't exactly fallen down on them. Unless I'm all wrong about the place I've lived in for the last ___ years, it's not going to turn and look the other way when a tough job needs doing. It can do, and will do, just as good a job as the other communities that are facing the same problem. It's my guess that we can do even a better one than they can.

Before we start looking at the problem, let me say one thing: I'm a long way from being an expert on military matters. The facts and figures I'm going to give you today are things I've learned from the Army within the last few days. So please don't think I'm trying to pose as an expert.