

MAYBE WE'RE OVERPRODUCED ON FAULTFINDING



ON performance to date it is an even bet this war will go down in the history books as the best-run war America has ever fought.

It's been the fashion lately among informers of the public to belittle the results we're getting, magnify the bunglings and inefficiencies, and infer we have none but fat-heads for officials.

Bunglings and inefficiencies we have certainly, and in good measure—but the fact is we are creating the largest, best-trained, best-equipped, best-fed, and best-housed fighting force in our history and doing it faster than it ever has been done before by any nation anywhere.

At the same time we are supplying our allies with quantities of food and equipment and, with Britain's help, getting it to them.

True, we have no grounds for complacency. Though we are producing prodigious results in comparison to any previous effort, the need this time is immeasurably greater. Our foes are vastly stronger than any we have faced before and they had a bigger jump on us in preparation for war. Also, this time it's a fight to a finish—theirs or ours.

But, without complacency, it is fitting and good for us to understand the very real progress we are making toward victory.

With unprecedented speed we have converted the greatest facilities in the world for the production of peacetime goods into the mightiest arsenal and armory in the world. We have added immense new facilities of production to those we already possessed. We have organized our human resources with speed and efficiency. We have assured an adequate supply of food both for ourselves and our allies. We have met, we hope in time, the danger to our financial and economic affairs imposed by the strain of war. We have put our nation on the path to victory.

The Best-Run War

Naturally, the conversion of America for war is not accomplished without mistakes. It is an unbelievable administrative task under the direction of the President. So enormous are the complexities of this task, so many and varied the activities which must go on concurrently with one another, the President can do little more than set policy, determine objectives, and appoint subordinates to develop and carry out plans for reaching them.

The President's daily job is to make one decision after another of enormous importance—decisions involving the lives of men and the safety and stability of the nation.

The man who can do this day after day without error does not exist and never will. The man who, needing thousands of subordinates in posts of grave responsibility, can avoid getting a share of falterers, false-fronts, and plain lightweights has not been born.

And yet, no war America ever has fought has produced less bungling, inefficiency, and mismanagement than this one, despite the multiplied opportunities it presents for so doing.

We can take heart. The weapons of destruction pour from our factories in a swelling torrent and into the hands of men trained to use them—tough, hardened men who believe completely in their country and its cause.

Soon, very soon, an avalanche of military power will hit our enemies. It will bear the label "Made in the U. S. A." We have the word of our President and Commander in Chief for this. Let those who worry about how fast we are losing the war keep their ears and eyes open. They will see and hear plenty to convince them America and her allies are out to administer the most crushing military defeat ever inflicted on would-be rulers of the world.

It will take far greater efforts, sacrifices, and hardships than any we have ever experienced. But the American people are ready, willing and waiting. It is only the self-appointed guardians of the public conscience who are doubtful.

Paul Hunter

Liberty

OCT. 24, 1942