



7-18-1940

## The Independent, V. 66, Thursday, July 18, 1940, [Whole Number: 3388]

The Independent

Paul W. Levensgood  
*Ursinus College*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/independent>



Part of the [American Politics Commons](#), [Cultural History Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Independent, The and Levensgood, Paul W., "The Independent, V. 66, Thursday, July 18, 1940, [Whole Number: 3388]" (1940). *The Independent Newspaper, 1898-1952*. 2196.  
<https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/independent/2196>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Historic Trappe at Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Independent Newspaper, 1898-1952 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. For more information, please contact [aprock@ursinus.edu](mailto:aprock@ursinus.edu).





# Industry Faces the Facts of National Defense

**I**T is time for clear thinking and straight talking on national defense. Devastated democracies abroad faced the fateful facts of preparedness belatedly . . . under fire . . . without a chance to correct mistakes. Americans have a chance to face the facts of preparedness, thank God, without our troops fighting on beaches or in the streets.

## The "How" of Preparedness

This nation, devoted almost exclusively to the pursuits of peace, must now produce armament in vast quantities. Every true American knows the "Why" of preparedness for national defense. That is not enough. Every American should know the "How."

Realizing keenly the dependence the American people are placing on industry for preparedness, the National Association of Manufacturers issues this statement to aid them in understanding fully the problems of preparedness from industry's viewpoint. The public's understanding of these facts is vital.

It is the job of Congress to define the area which the United States must protect in order to defend its national interests.

It is the job of our military authorities to determine the strategies . . . the man power . . . the land, sea and air bases . . . the equipment required.

It is the job of American industry to produce that equipment. This is the crux of the problem because modern warfare is mechanized warfare.

Events abroad demonstrate that wars cannot be won without mass production.

Mass production is equally necessary for our defense.

Heroism alone, even American heroism, can be no match for hordes of tanks or clouds of airplanes.

Mass production was originated by American manufacturers. As American manufacturers have excelled the world in mass production for peace, they can also surpass the world in its use for defense.

## What Defense Production Calls For

Production for defense, the need of the hour, does not depend solely on gigantic appropriations.

It calls for speed in formulating and standardizing specifications for the military equipment required.

It calls for speed in obtaining raw materials.

It calls for prompt placement of preparedness orders so that production may get under way speedily. It will be damaging to real defense, disappointing to a deeply concerned nation and unfair to industry to expect clouds of airplanes, and thousands of tanks to roll off

the production lines in a week or two. You can't "appropriate" a battleship, a tank or an airplane—you can only appropriate the money. It takes months to blueprint the designs, more months to make the tools needed, and still more months to turn out the finished product. In all probability it will take from 18 months to 2 years to produce the equipment necessary even to approximate the requirements of reasonable national defense.

It calls for granting of full authority to practical, experienced men to carry out these programs promptly and effectively.

It calls for prompt government action to encourage the flow of private capital into industry so that new plants may be built swiftly and old ones converted for military production. Governmental rules and accounting regulations should be revised to permit the rapid wiping off of such investments before they become virtually valueless when the emergency is passed. Private citizens will thus be encouraged to invest their savings and thereby reduce the burden on the taxpayer.

It calls for the removal of such legislative and administrative restrictions as military and industrial experience have demonstrated to be barriers to maximum production. This does not involve the surrender of any sound social gains.

It calls, above all else, for the utmost cooperation between government, labor, industry and the public.

## Industry's Pledge to America

American industry will do its part. Although it abhors war and urges every possible effort compatible with national safety to keep out of war, American industry pledges its knowledge, its experience, and its productive genius to the tremendous task of national defense. It does this confident that adequate defense will best meet the overwhelming desire of the men and women of America to remain at peace.

If we are to continue to enjoy the highest standards of living and the greatest individual freedom ever enjoyed by any people under any form of government, we must . . . all of us . . . be prepared to make real sacrifices. Defense preparations will cost staggering sums of money. They will demand the utmost thrift on the part of individuals and necessitate strict economy on the part of the government.

Physical defense alone is not enough. The American people must rearm themselves spiritually and mentally. They must rededicate themselves to the institutions and the high principles they are preparing to defend. They must recognize that there is no substitute for personal toil and sacrifice and devotion. Only by firm adherence to our traditional American ideals, coupled with adequate military defense, can we be sure that the terrible price the democracies abroad are now paying will not be exacted of us.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS

14 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

The National Association of Manufacturers welcomes the cooperation of all patriotic manufacturers in its present Mobilization to help America rededicate itself to its historic ideals . . . a program to which more than 6,500 business men are already giving their personal time and effort. . . . The following local business firms endorse this program and are cooperating to the fullest extent:

**Superior Tube Co.**  
COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

**Collegeville Flag & Mfg. Co.**  
COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

**Synthane Corp.**  
OAKS, PA.

**The Independent**  
COLLEGEVILLE, PA.



