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Good morning friends:

House + Senate agreed on provisions

During the week the Congress completed legislative action on the compulsory-selective training and ^{service} draft bill, which is ordinarily referred to as the conscription bill. It has taken a long time, perhaps too long, to bring the highly controversial bill into acceptable form. As the measure now stands, however, it represents a triumph for cool thinking and sound judgment. In the end the Democratic processes of debate and compromise has brought forth a measure with which the country should be well pleased.

And now as to some of the provisions of the bill-- it requires the registration of all male citizens and aliens who have reached their 21st birthday anniversary, but have not passed their 36th birthday on a registration day soon to be fixed. If on this fixed registration day a young man lacks one day of being 21, he will not be required to register at that particular registration, but if another ^{fellow} young man lacks one day of being 36 he will be required to register. Each registrant will be given a number at the time of registration.

Those who thus register are subject to call for one years training and service in the Army of the United States. After ^{one} year of training each trainee will become a member of the reserve. The Act provides a penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for draft dodgers or other violators of the Act.

Under the Act the President will appoint a Director of Selective Service at a salary of \$10,000 per annum. This is an immensely important position. The President will undoubtedly seek and obtain an outstanding man. Local draft boards are soon to be appointed. The Act provides that the President shall appoint these boards upon the recommendation of the Governors of the respective States.

After the Boards have been appointed and the men 21 to 35 have been registered, each local draft unit will be assigned a quota in accordance with its male population within the age group. Each County and State will be given credit in the quota allotment for the men already in service from that particular area. This will materially reduce the number to be conscripted from areas which have supplied large numbers of volunteers. In this connection

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it will be remembered that in some sections volunteer enlistments have been large while at the same time in other sections of the country matrimonial agencies have been ~~stormed~~^{at} by those attempting to thus avoid the draft.

The physical requirements will be practically the same as ~~as~~^{these} for the regular Army-- at least 5' 4'' in height, weight over 115 pounds, and general good health.

The Army pay is raised from \$21.00 to \$30.00 per month by the bill.

^{of men for training}
The selection is to be on a fair and impartial basis.

Within two hours after the President had signed the necessary appropriation bill, the Navy Department signed contracts for ships ~~for~~ⁱⁿ the sum of over 3 billion dollars. This new fleet now under contract will double our naval strength and we already have the strongest Navy in the World. Realizing the ~~danger~~^{possibility} of being left to defend ourselves in a world ~~of only three other major powers-- Germany, Russia and Japan-- all aggressive, all cooperating with each other, and all hostile to us, the Congress cheered this administrative dispatch. The only regret involved was occasioned by the knowledge that it would take five to six years to build this immense flotilla. We face a grim world situation and events of the week have not lightened the gloom.~~^{with}

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On Wednesday the Senate passed a bill providing an additional \$500,000,000 lending authority for the Export-Import Bank. The House had previously passed the bill. There has been ~~any~~ little public interest in the measure, perhaps due to the country's anxiety over the war in Europe. ~~but~~ This measure is, ~~however~~ vastly important. In our own hemisphere, to the south of us, and, not to be overlooked, joining this continent at the Panama Canal, is a vast continent of 90,000,000 people with great resources more duplicating than complimenting our own. This vast domain might become a great strategic liability unless we can induce her to cast her lot with us in economic as well as military defense of this hemisphere.

There was considerable bi-partisan opposition in both the Senate and the House to this measure. Its opponents seemed to regard it as pouring money down the proverbial rat hole. They cited the many losses occurring to investors in South American securities. They pointed out that South America's agricultural products ~~+~~ duplicated our own. They said much about the lack of a definite plan for using this immense fund. All in all, they did not know exactly how the fund would be used, and frankly feared that it would be used unwisely.

While the Senate was debating the bill the head of the Import-Export Bank, Mr. Warren Pearson, apparently confident of the bill's passage, was on his way to South America to canvas the situation.

If Germany should be victorious over Great Britain, Hitler's economic might would be turned toward South America and South America's ~~present~~ desperate plight would lend fertility to his economic endeavors. Constantly reaching Washington are reports of totalitarian economic agents in Latin America now. It is reliably reported that they are angling for trade promising deliveries in the Spring. America ~~cannot~~ be blinded to the danger of these implications. History reveals that economic and political domination follow the trade routes.

Several South American Countries are reported in ~~desperate~~ ~~difficult~~ ~~circumstances~~ plight. Trade with Europe, their best raw product customer, at a near

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stand-still, their surpluses piling higher and higher, economic strain is inevitable. ^{and} It must be remembered that when a country's economy bogs down the government usually goes with it. ^{In such a case,} Out of the resulting chaos might come governments, in both form and purpose, antagonistic to us.

At the Havana Conference Secretary Hull laid down a program for economic defense of this hemisphere, and every student of history, political or military, will agree that economic defense cannot be successfully divorced from military defense. This increase of the Export-Import Bank's lending authority is a vital part of Secretary Hull's program and he strongly recommended its passage. Good neighborliness has its real test when the neighbor is suffering adversity.

This fund will be used to expedite the handling of their surpluses, to combat the barter system of exchange, to increase mutual trade between the United States and South America, to assist in stabilizing their economies, to develop and encourage production of strategic supplies needed by us,—in short— to be a good neighbor and by so doing to bring South America firmly ^{and affectively} within our economic orbit and influence.

Some opponents of the bill said this was an attempt to "purchase" the friendship of South America. The supporters of the legislation countered by saying that economic relations and cultural sympathy constitute the ^{real} basis of friendship between any nations. Therefore, they ^{argued} agreed, if we could increase economic relations with South America and promote understanding and confidence, we would indeed be "building" friendship, rather than "purchasing" friendship.

At any rate, the bill was passed and Mr. Pearson takes the best wishes of Congress and the country with him as he sails through the Caribbean on his way ^{on an important mission.} ~~to survey the broad field of South American economics.~~

Congress passed an unusual bill ^{during the} last week without opposition. It granted authority for ^{Mr.} Jesse Jones to retain his position as Federal Loan Administrator and ^{to} become Secretary of Commerce at the same time. Several members of the House and of the Senate said this was a bad form

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of legislation, personal legislation, and that it set a bad precedent; but they all agreed that Mr. Jones was as unusual as the legislation.

> Starting business as a saw mill operator in Robertson County, Tennessee, Mr. Jones has risen until today he is the largest money-lender in the world. As Chairman of the Board of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and as Federal Loan Administrator he has loaned billions of dollars and, the reason this bill passed without opposition, he has made for the Government profits rather than losses. The Government usually suffers losses. Mr. Jones, although quite naturally aspiring to a position in the Cabinet, would not accept the appointment as Secretary of Commerce, which is comparatively less important since the reorganization bill, unless he could retain his positions as Federal Loan Administrator. Everyone wanted to see Mr. Jones receive the just and ~~earned~~ ^{deserved} recognition of a Cabinet appointment, but they certainly did not want to see him relinquish the reins over these billions of dollars now loaned. The result? ~~The bill was passed and~~ He is to be both Federal Loan Administrator and Secretary of Commerce-- and this ^{is} a time of much unemployment. A man among men! *Speaking of a man among men - it appears here that the presidential race is on in full blast.*

In 1912 the State of Arizona elected Henry Ashurst as her first United States Senator. He has retained the post low these many years, but on last Tuesday he was defeated in the Arizona Primary. ~~In these many years~~ He has come to be referred to as the Senate's most candid and flowery orator. Upon the convening of the Senate Wednesday, he arose and in his deep mellow voice and with a graceful bow he delivered a beautiful valedictory. As the Senate, the clerks, and the galleries gave rapt attention Senator Ashurst said:

"I am sure some of my colleagues expect me to describe the sensation of defeat. The first half hour you believe that the earth has slipped from beneath your feet, that the stars above your head have paled and faded, and you wonder what the Senate will do without you, and you wonder how the wountry will get along without you. But within another half hour there comes a peace

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and a joy that would be envied by the world's greatest philosopher.

No man is fit to be a Senator and no man should presume to serve here unless he is willing at any time to surrender his political life for a great principle, for a vital thing in American liberty and stability.

Moreover, Senators, you should not be disturbed by criticism of Congress. When the press or citizens generally criticize Congress, it is the sign of a free people.

Mr. President, I shall not waste any time on such miserable twaddle as to say that I ought to have been elected. A man only moderately versed in statesmanship, and with only a small degree of sportsmanship, is bound to admit that in a free republic, in a government such as ours, it is the undoubted right of the people to change their servants, and to remove one and displace him with another at any time they choose, for a good reason, for a bad reason, or for no reason at all. If we are to remain a free people, it is the duty of public servants not grumpily and sourly to accept the verdict of the majority, but joyously to accept that verdict.

When my present colleagues are here worrying about patronage, worrying about committee assignments, and about the scorching demands of constituents I shall possibly be enjoying the ecstasy of the starry stillness of an Arizona desert night, or viewing the scarlet glory of her blossoming cactus, and possibly I may be wandering through the petrified forest in Arizona, a forest which lived its green milleniums and put on immortality 7,000,000 years ago.

So it is, fellow Senators. America is great because she is good. When America is no longer good, she will no longer be great.

Thus gallant, (elegant, colorful,) as ever, Senator Ashurst stood on the floor of the Senate and ~~eloquently~~ paid tribute to the processes of Democracy-- the very processes which ^{on the day before} relegated him to retirement.