

# Journalist Advises Clemson To Be Calm

(Editor's note—The following commentary on the war situation was prepared for The Tiger by Ben Robertson, noted news analyst and war correspondent. His views are those of an experienced observer. He is familiar with the present scene of operations, having covered the area before going to England as correspondent for the newspaper P. M.)

BY BEN ROBERTSON

This is the time for all of us at Clemson to do a difficult thing—we must be patient and quiet. We must remember, without doubting, that the war we are now in will certainly last for a very long time, and that before it is finished the time will come for all of us to fight. If for the present, we must stand by then we must stand by. The government will tell all of us, and especially students in military colleges, what it wishes us to do. The United States Army has its plans for cadets in the national R. O. T. C. The Army called on Clemson in the other war, and it will call on Clemson again when the moment is ready. Until it does call, all of us here must do what Lincoln advised—we must learn to labor and to wait.

We must remember that this is a total war and that we will have to fight it, all men and all women, in factories, on farms, and in classrooms as well as in the air and on every continent and on every ocean. This is the most gigantic test we have ever faced, and we will need every trained and educated man before it is finished. This war will be won at Clemson just as it will finally be won by our armies at Tokyo and Berlin.

I have learned from the Canadians in Great Britain how hard it is for young men to wait. The Canadians have been standing by for over two years in England, manning guns every hour of the day and night—waiting and waiting. They deserve more credit, I think, than the armies do in Libya, for it is easier to fight than it is to stand by for orders. It is imperative, however, than some army hold the fort in England. England at the present has no hope of invading Europe, so an army must man the guns until our allies have collected sufficient equipment for attack.

I think we have lived during the last ten years through the most fateful years in our history, and the lesson we must remember until our dying day is that never again must we for one moment ever allow our minds to become so set and brittle that it will be possible to hear in the United States the statement, "It can't happen here." We must never forget what happened to us last Sunday—must never forget what would be happening to us this moment if President Roosevelt had given in to men such as Wheeler and Lindbergh. With Americans dead, with American islands attacked, with American ships sunk, we know now how careless was the thinking of the men who said the United States need defend itself only. After this war, we must accept our gigantic world duty—we must be ready to patrol the world for the rest of our time and to force peace—our peace. The world is not too big for us to patrol, and it will be free under our power. As the greatest nation in the world, we have the greatest obligation. No more than the man in the Bible can the United States live for itself alone.

First though, we have got to win the war, and we will have to prove that the sons of the United States are as tough as the fathers, and as righteous. When our time comes, we will have to fight like they did at Chateau Thierry, Gettysburg and Valley Forge. If I were a student now at Clemson, I would study harder than I ever had; I would try to learn more than I had ever learned. No one knows when his life may depend on technical information. When Warsaw was falling, some friends of mine got hold of a car that would not run. In the group were Bob Neville of Time Magazine, Larry Lehrbas of the Associated Press, Ed Beattie of the United Press, and John Walker of the New York Herald Tribune. They said, "If only at college we had studied how to make a car start."

