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## ★ ★ OUR ★ JOB ★ ★

War! That short word has dropped among us with all the force of the bombs that dropped on Pearl Harbor. It calls upon each of us to reexamine his plans for the future. How and where can we serve best? What is our job?

Three major avenues of service lie open for us to travel. The armed forces call upon the manpower of the nation according to a well prepared plan, the selective service system. Industry needs workers and still more workers to provide the machinery of defense and of offense. Education turns to the development of specialized personnel to provide leadership and technical skill. What road shall we travel?

The answer to the question is not to be given out of some store of superior wisdom by the faculty. Each of us must weigh many factors and come to a decision that is valid for himself. Certainly no action should be taken hastily nor under emotional stress. Much that is vital is at stake.

For most of us the job must be to carry on to successful conclusion the educational program upon which we are embarked. The appeal of spectacular service with the armed forces of our country must not draw us away from our appointed task until we are called. The selective service system provides a regular supply of men for the army and the navy. Too many of us forget that the system is selective, that is, designed to choose from the manpower of the nation those best fitted to leave their present occupation and bear arms. We must equally resist the lure of high wages in industry. We, who are in training in the colleges and technical schools, bear a great responsibility in the prosecution of this war. Upon us rests the duty to provide a continuing supply of technically skilled and soundly trained men and women. The production line cannot move, the front line must halt, if that supply is depleted.

Civilian defense offers us many opportunities for service in addition to that which we are rendering in pursuing our college training. We can prepare ourselves to render aid in home defense units. Let us seek out ways in which we can aid in local civilian defense. The total defense of the nation is the sum of our individual efforts.

*Coleman Harper*