

Dec 7 -

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I am speaking to you tonight at a very serious moment in our history. The Cabinet is convening, and the leaders in Congress are meeting with the President. The State Department and Army and Navy officials have been with the President all afternoon. In fact the Japanese Ambassador was talking to the President at the very time that Japan's airships were bombing our citizens in Hawaii and the Phillipines and ~~sinking~~ ^{sinking} one of our transports loaded with lumber on its way to Hawaii.

By tomorrow morning, the members of Congress will have a full report and be ready for action. In the meantime we, the people, are already prepared for action. For months now the knowledge that something of this kind might happen has been hanging over our heads and yet it seemed impossible to believe, impossible to drop the everyday things of life and feel that there was only one thing which was important, ~~and~~ preparation to meet an enemy, no matter where he struck.

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We know what we have to face and we know that we are ready to face it.

I should like to say just a word to the women in the country tonight. I have a boy at sea on a Destroyer. For all I know he may be on his way to the Pacific. Two of my children are in coast cities on the Pacific. Many of you all over this country have boys in the Services who

will now be called upon to go into action. You have friends and families in what has suddenly become danger zone. You can not escape anxiety, you can not escape a clutch of fear at your heart and yet I hope that the certainty of what we have to meet will make you rise above these fears. We must go about our daily business more determined than ever to do the ordinary things as well as we can and when we find a way to do anything more in our communities to help others, to build morale, to give a feeling of security, we must do it. Whatever is asked of us, I am sure we can accomplish it. We are the free and unconquerable people of the United States of America.

To the young people of the nation I must speak *a word* tonight. You are going to have a great opportunity - there will be high moments in which your strength and your ability will be tested. I have faith in you! *Just as though* ~~Just as though~~ I were standing upon a rock and that rock is my faith in my fellow citizens.

Now we will go back to the program which we had arranged for tonight, ~~and as~~ I spoke to you a few weeks ago on the subject of Army morale

SCRIPT FOR BROADCAST, DECEMBER 7th, 1941

It was a great pleasure on Friday of this week to meet some young women from South America who are here on a tour of Good Will, and I hope they enjoyed their cups of coffee in the White House.

I paid my annual visit to the Sale for the Blind in New York City on Wednesday. This sale takes place every year just before Christmas. I watched a blind man weave a most delicate baby blanket, and I saw some of the charming little plaques of Angel heads and Della Robbia babies copied by a blind man. I looked as always, with wonder at all the exquisite work which these handicapped people do.

I was finishing my Christmas shopping this week and found myself in a crowded elevator in a large department store. Suddenly a lady near me seemed to have a brain storm and looking at me she asked: "Are you Mrs. Roosevelt?" "Yes", I said, and she then proceeded with a: "Do you mean to say you go around without any guards?"

I thought there was nobody left in New York City who would be surprised at meeting me almost anywhere at any hour of the day or night, so I was quite shocked to find that I was looked upon as a curiosity when I found in broad daylight in the elevator of a large shop!

That same afternoon I spent a short time with the Henry Street nurses who really do a great part of the public health nursing in the City of New York. Their headquarters are in a house which was formerly owned by Mr. George Baker and this makes the sitting room where the nurses gather when they are off duty, a very charming place. I was particularly struck, however, by the lovely portrait of Miss Lillian Wald, the founder of Henry Street Settlement, over the mantle-piece. Anyone who knew Miss Wald will always think of her as one of the world's great women. She was a great humanitarian and one of those rare people who could understand the hearts of other people and knowing much and having had much experience, could judge leniently where faults were concerned, and give praise lavishly where good qualities were discernible.

I think that the people who work under the impetus of the tradition left them by this great woman, carry something of that tradition with them always and the Henry Street nurses have acquired in New York City a reputation which is truly enviable.

Our foreign relations seem to keep us all in a state of suspense and yet we all seem to go about our daily business, putting off the decision of what we shall do in certain eventualities until the day comes when we will have to face such decisions.

I saw in the newspaper that a ship has gone to Iceland with gifts for the soldiers and for some of the children there. I hope that our men themselves will be able to have a party for these children. It makes it a little less lonely to be so far away from home and one's dear ones, if it is possible to see some children at least enjoy their Christmas gifts.

The Red Cross is responsible for getting all these gifts off and the Junior Red Cross, I think, has arranged to send the gifts to the children. Looking back to the days when my own children were young, I know how much pleasure they got out of taking to school their gifts which they collected for stockings and other charitable purposes at Christmas time. Sometimes we forget, I think, that even for children there is more joy in giving than in receiving, and that this season is a "two-way passage". No one should do all the receiving, any more than any one should do all the giving.

Thursday morning, Mr. Walter Lippman published what to me was a most interesting column. It was interesting not because of the facts alone, but because in the light of present day happenings, he interpreted some of the difficulties which have faced responsible people in government during the past six months.

I think that most of us should take to heart this kind of explanation, for many times, responsible people are

accused of not telling the people of the country enough or of not taking them into their confidence, and yet if they did so, it would probably be the greatest show of weakness that any leaders could show. It is always easy to blurt out all you know, to try to get your burden shared by other people. It is far more difficult to take the best advice you can get and make your own decisions, knowing that you will only be adding to the risks of the situation if you try to turn the decision over to others who can not have the same background and knowledge.

It is interesting to note how carefully the Axis Powers sugar coat any bad news which they have for their people. I hope that the people of this nation always are strong enough to accept the bad news and still keep up their courage. That is one thing about Mr. Winston Churchill's treatment of the British people, for which I have the greatest admiration. He expects them to meet bad news with complete fortitude and the mere fact that he expects it, brings the proper response.

It was interesting to read the editorials in the Herald Tribune and the New York Times on the strike Bill which passed the House of Representatives.

I think the wisest suggestion made is that the Senate should limit any legislation of this kind to a period of six months. The Times editorial stressed

the fact that certain parts of the Bill seemed ill considered, but I think there is a more important reason than that for limiting the period for any kind of labor legislation which is passed at present. Until legislation is actually on the statute books we can not tell what effect it will have in practice, nor can we tell at present what conditions we will be meeting in the months to come, and therefore, like so many other things, it is hard to make a blue print which will meet unknown needs.

And now in closing, I want to thank the young draftee who has been with us this evening. I am sure that you will think more about the boys in camps because of what he has told us and that you will feel more responsibility for your attitude as a citizen when you think of this young man and the young men like him doing their duty these coming months, wherever they may be stationed.

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can not escape anxiety, you can not escape a clutch of fear at your heart and yet I hope that the certainty of what we have to meet will make you rise above these fears. and will make you go about your daily business more determined to do the ordinary things as well as you can and when you find a way to do anything more in your community to help others to build morale, to give a feeling of security because whatever is asked, you are sure you can accomplish.

To the young people of the nation I can only say that they are going to have a great opportunity -high moments in which their strength and their ability will be tested. I have faith in them. I have faith in all of my fellow citizens and now we will go back to the program which we had arranged for tonight and as I a few weeks ago I spoke to you on the subject of army morale

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PAN-AMERICAN COFFEE BUREAU

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MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

PROGRAM #11

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6:45 - 7:00 P. M.

DECEMBER 7, 1941

SUNDAY

LEON PEARSON:

This is Leon Pearson speaking for the Pan-American Coffee Bureau which represents seven Good Neighbor coffee-growing nations, and presenting to you American families your Sunday evening visit with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. This evening Mrs. Roosevelt has as her guest, Corporal James Cannon, 1229th Reception Center, Fort Dix. But first, Dan Seymour has a word from our sponsors, the Pan-American Coffee Bureau.

DAN SEYMOUR:

In this moment of trial, the seven neighbor countries which make up the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, welcome the chance to express their support for their Great Good Neighbor, the United States. The new solidarity which has been effected between the Americas in the last few years stands us all in good stead, in the face of this emergency. This applies not only in a commercial sense -- for Uncle Sam can count on Latin America for essential materials, whether oil or tin or copper or coffee -- but also in a political sense. The Americas stand together.

LEON PEARSON:

And now we present Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

I am speaking to you tonight at a very serious moment in our history. The Cabinet is convening, and the leaders in Congress are meeting with the President. The State Department and Army and Navy officials have been with the President all afternoon. In fact the Japanese Ambassador was talking to the President at the very time that Japan's airships were bombing our citizens in Hawaii and the Phillipines and sinking one of our transports loaded with lumber on its way to Hawaii.

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Now we will go back to the program which we had arranged for tonight and as I spoke to you a few weeks ago on the subject of Army morale, I suggested one of the best ways to make the boys in our armed forces more contented with their lot was for the people at home to really do their duty in the various activities of home defense. This evening, I wish to discuss army morale again. But this time in an even

MRS. ROOSEVELT: more concrete and specific way. And that's why I am
(Cont'd) delighted to have as my guest a young man who is a
member of our armed forces ... Corporal James Cannon
of Fort Dix. How long have you been in the army,
Corporal Cannon.

CANNON: I've been in six months, Mrs. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: You were a selectee?

CANNON: Yes, Mrs. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Well, after six months of army life, how do you like
it?

CANNON: I want to tell you, honestly, I am proud to be a
bad soldier in this grand army of the people.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I don't believe you're such a bad soldier, not with
those stripes on your arm, Corporal Cannon.

CANNON: Honestly, Mrs. Roosevelt, I'm not so hot. Why, my
eyes are blood-shot from looking at the red flag ...
the one they wave on the rifle range when you miss the
target. By the way, Mrs. Roosevelt, you know who had
the second highest score in our outfit ... the fellow
who used to play a pipe organ in a roller skating
rink. He'd never held a rifle in his hands before.
But competent instructors have made him a sharpshooter
in less than a year. And I'll bet there are men like
him in every army post in America.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Then you feel from your personal observation ... and,
after all, Corporal Cannon, you are a trained news-
paper man ... that the army is making civilians into
good soldiers?

CANNON: Mrs. Roosevelt, in the six months I've been in, I've seen a miracle take place. I've seen ordinary, easy-going guys turned into efficient members of a powerful fighting force. That's what's taking place in every training base in this country.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I am sure that is true, Corporal. But let me ask you a rather personal question. Aside from actual military training, do you find you are learning anything which is of value to you as a person, as a citizen?

CANNON: Mrs. Roosevelt, I'm glad you asked me that question. I think I speak for hundreds of thousands of us in training camps ... everywhere, when I tell you the army has given me a completely new set of values.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: You certainly are an honest soldier. Can you tell me just how the army has given you this new set of values?

CANNON: Well, Mrs. Roosevelt, I have always been a New Yorker. I used to think America was a sort of suburb of New York. I had the New Yorker's contempt for people who lived beyond the Hudson. Now I soldier with a lot of guys from the brambles and the bushes and the whistle stops. And I find they can do a lot of things I can't do. Sure, I can write a fair piece for a paper or a magazine. I can get wisecracks in a Broadway column. But I've neglected myself physically. I've gone soft. It sounds corny, I suppose, but you know I've learned to respect these guys from the sticks. They aren't wisecrackers ... all of them ... they don't

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CANNON:
(Cont'd)

know all the New York fancy talk ... but they're good soldiers and I'm proud to be serving with them. When it comes to a showdown, they'll be out there making the sacrifices to preserve the American way of life.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I am sure that there are many boys like you, Corporal who are learning the greatness of America and the greatness of their fellow Americans perhaps for the first time. But surely, Corporal, there are things which you don't like about the army?

CANNON:

There's plenty I don't like. I don't like those hikes ... my feet blister and tear. And the boys in the army, back in '17, weren't kidding about reveille. Bouncing out of bed. Dressing like a fireman ... that's pretty tough. I can't get used to making a bed. I always wind up looking like a Klansman during working hours ... the sheet always ends up as a cloak no matter how I fold it. Sweeping and mopping ... I wish they'd put in maid service in the barracks.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Corporal, do you find an interest among the men in the army in the present world situation?

CANNON:

I think I can give you a pretty good answer to that, Mrs. Roosevelt. I'm on Captain John Parker's morale staff attached to the 1229th Reception Center. We talk to the boys as they first come in. Naturally, at first, they're lost ... the only thing they're interested in is where are they being shipped to ... and, of course, that K. P. roster. But once they get used to army life, they do have a very definite opinion on this whole business.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: And what is that opinion?

CANNON: They know they are in the army because we have had no choice here in this country. They realize that all we Americans have lived for and died for will vanish from the earth unless we have a strong army. Their philosophy is: We were minding our business ... and they picked on us ... well, we'll show them.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I think your answer is a very good one to those who would question the morale of the army. Speaking of morale, what would you suggest to the average civilian, Corporal Cannon, as the best way in which they can be helpful to the man in the service?

CANNON: You'll have to excuse me if I give a pretty strong answer to that question, Mrs. Roosevelt. First, the civilians can cut out those stale jokes and stop that mocking salute too many of them hand a man in uniform. Let them give a soldier the dignity he is entitled to. Tell them to treat a soldier as you would a civilian ... let him go unnoticed. The same fools think it is their privilege to break into a group of soldiers in a restaurant and violate their privacy. Tell them to cut out calling a soldier "Sarge." The same guys call a Pullman porter "George." We're a civilian army ... we're the army of the people ... and we want to be treated that way.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I hope that our listeners will take your words to heart, Corporal Cannon. To sum up, then, you think that democracy is working in our new army?

CANNON: Not only in the army, but right here. Where else in the world would a guy like me be able to talk to the First Lady of the Land?

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Thank you, Corporal Cannon. I am sure we are training a very gallant army as well as a brave one. And now I see that Mr. Leon Pearson is anxious to ask me some questions.

LEON PEARSON: Yes, Mrs. Roosevelt, there are some very important questions I would like to ask you. First, of course, is this: Have you any comment to make on the strike Bill which passed the House of Representatives?

MRS. ROOSEVELT: It was interesting to read the editorials in the Herald Tribune and the New York Times on the Bill. I think the wisest suggestion made is that the Senate should limit any legislation of this kind for a period of six months. The Times editorial stressed the fact that certain parts of the bill seemed ill-considered. But I think there is a more important reason than that for limiting the period for any kind of labor legislation which is passed at present. Until legislation is actually on the statute books, we cannot tell what effect it will have in practice, nor can we tell at present that conditions we will be meeting in the months to come. Therefore, like so many other things, it is hard to make a blue print which will meet unknown needs.

LEON PEARSON: Mrs. Roosevelt, there is another question I'd like to ask.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Yes, Mr. Pearson.

LEON PEARSON: A lot of writers and commentators are criticizing the government for not letting the people know enough about what is actually going on in public affairs. What would your reply be to these critics?

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Thursday morning, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Walter Lippman published what to me was a most interesting column on this subject. It was interesting not because of the facts alone, but because in the light of present day happenings, he interpreted some of the difficulties which have faced responsible people in government during the past six months. I think that most of us should take to heart this kind of explanation for many times responsible people are accused of not telling the people of the country enough or not taking them into their confidence. Yet, if they did so, it would probably be the greatest show of weakness than any leader could make. It is always easy to blurt out all you know, to try to get your burden shared by other people. It is far more difficult to take the best advice you can get and make your own decisions, knowing that you will only be adding to the risks of the situation if you try to turn the decision over to others who cannot have the same background and knowledge.

LEON PEARSON: That is certainly a candid answer to the question, Mrs. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I would add one other thought along the same line, Mr. Pearson. It is interesting to note how carefully the Axis Powers sugarcoat any bad news which

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they have for their people. I hope the people of this nation always are strong enough to accept the bad news and still keep up their courage. That is one thing about Mr. Winston Churchill's treatment of the British people, for which I have the greatest admiration. He expects them to meet bad news with complete fortitude and the mere fact that he expects it, brings the proper response.

LEON PEARSON:

And now, Mrs. Roosevelt, we understand you spend part of this week in New York City. Were you Christmas shopping?

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Yes, I did do some Christmas shopping. And one afternoon I found myself in a crowded elevator in a large department store. Suddenly, a lady near me seemed to have a brain storm and looking at me, she asked, "Are you Mrs. Roosevelt?" "Yes," I said, and she then proceeded with a ... "Do you mean to say you go around without any guards?" I thought there was nobody left in New York City who would be surprised at meeting me almost anywhere at any hour of the day or night, so I was quite shocked to find that I was looked upon as a curiosity when found in broad daylight in the elevator of a large shop!

LEON PEARSON:

And Friday, I understand, Mrs. Roosevelt, you graciously received at the White House the charming young ladies who are representing my sponsor, the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, in a Good Will tour of this country.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: It was a great pleasure to meet these young women from Latin-America who are here on a tour of Good Will, and I hope they enjoyed their cups of coffee in the White House.

LEON PEARSON: I am sure they did, Mrs. Roosevelt. And now, speaking of coffee, Dan Seymour, I understand you have a word or two to say on that subject.

DAN SEYMOUR: I certainly have. The seven young ladies who, as guests of the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, have come from their Republics to enjoy a visit with leaders in public and social life in the United States, are delighting everyone with their charm. Just as coffee, the delicious product of their homelands, delights more and more of us every day. Next week, at this same time, Mrs. Roosevelt will be with us again to give us more of her interesting views on world affairs. This is Dan Seymour, saying good evening for the Pan-American Coffee Bureau ... and don't forget that goodnight cup of coffee. Now more than ever do your part -- buy defense bonds and stamps.

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Pearl Harbor

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But competent instructors have made him a sharpshooter
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after all, Corporal Cannon, you are a trained news-
paper man ... that the army is making civilians into
good soldiers?

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CANNON:

Mrs. Roosevelt, in the six months I've been in, I've seen a miracle take place. I've seen ordinary, easy-going guys turned into efficient members of a powerful fighting force. That's what's taking place in every training base in this country.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I am sure that is true, Corporal. But let me ask you a rather personal question. Aside from actual military training, do you find you are learning anything which is of value to you as a person, as a citizen?

CANNON:

Mrs. Roosevelt, I'm glad you asked me that question. I think I speak for hundreds of thousands of us in training camps ... everywhere, when I tell you the army has given me a completely new set of values.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

You certainly are an honest soldier. Can you tell me just how the army has given you this new set of values?

CANNON:

Well, Mrs. Roosevelt, I have always been a New Yorker. I used to think America was a sort of suburb of New York. I had the New Yorker's contempt for people who lived beyond the Hudson. Now I soldier with a lot of guys from the brambles and the bushes and the whistle stops. And I find they can do a lot of things I can't do. Sure, I can write a fair piece for a paper or a magazine. I can get wisecracks in a Broadway column. But I've neglected myself physically. I've gone soft. It sounds corny, I suppose, but you know I've learned to respect these guys from the sticks. They aren't wisecrackers ... all of them ... they don't

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CANNON:
(Cont'd)

know all the New York fancy talk ... but they're good soldiers and I'm proud to be serving with them. When it comes to a showdown, they'll be out there making the sacrifices to preserve the American way of life.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I am sure that there are many boys like you, Corporal who are learning the greatness of America and the greatness of their fellow Americans perhaps for the first time. But surely, Corporal, there are things which you don't like about the army?

CANNON:

There's plenty I don't like. I don't like those hikes ... my feet blister and tear. And the boys in the army, back in '17, weren't kidding about reveille. Bouncing out of bed. Dressing like a fireman ... that's pretty tough. I can't get used to making a bed. I always wind up looking like a Klansman during working hours ... the sheet always ends up as a cloak no matter how I fold it. Sweeping and mopping ... I wish they'd put in maid service in the barracks.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Corporal, do you find an interest among the men in the army in the present world situation?

CANNON:

I think I can give you a pretty good answer to that, Mrs. Roosevelt. I'm on Captain John Parker's morale staff attached to the 1229th Reception Center. We talk to the boys as they first come in. Naturally, at first, they're lost ... the only thing they're interested in is where are they being shipped to ... and, of course, that K. P. roster. But once they get used to army life, they do have a very definite opinion on this whole business.

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MRS. ROOSEVELT:

And what is that opinion?

CANNON:

They know they are in the army because we have had no choice here in this country. They realize that all we Americans have lived for and died for will vanish from the earth unless we have a strong army. Their philosophy is: We were minding our business ... and they picked on us ... well, we'll show them.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I think your answer is a very good one to those who would question the morale of the army. Speaking of morale, what would you suggest to the average civilian, Corporal Cannon, as the best way in which they can be helpful to the man in the service?

CANNON:

You'll have to excuse me if I give a pretty strong answer to that question, Mrs. Roosevelt. First, the civilians can cut out those stale jokes and stop that mocking salute too many of them hand a man in uniform. Let them give a soldier the dignity he is entitled to. Tell them to treat a soldier as you would a civilian ... let him go unnoticed. The same fools think it is their privilege to break into a group of soldiers in a restaurant and violate their privacy. Tell them to cut out calling a soldier "Sarge." The same guys call a Pullman porter "George." We're a civilian army ... we're the army of the people ... and we want to be treated that way.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I hope that our listeners will take your words to heart, Corporal Cannon. To sum up, then, you think that democracy is working in our new army?

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- 9 -

CANNON:

Not only in the army, but right here. Where else in the world would a guy like me be able to talk to the First Lady of the Land?

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

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LEON PEARSON:

Yes, Mrs. Roosevelt, there are some very important questions I would like to ask you. First, of course, is this: Have you any comment to make on the strike Bill which passed the House of Representatives?

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

It was interesting to read the editorials in the Herald Tribune and the New York Times on the Bill. I think the wisest suggestion made is that the Senate should limit any legislation of this kind for a period of six months. The Times editorial stressed the fact that certain parts of the bill seemed ill-considered. But I think there is a more important reason than that for limiting the period for any kind of labor legislation which is passed at present. Until legislation is actually on the statute books, we cannot tell what effect it will have in practice, nor can we tell at present that conditions we will be meeting in the months to come. Therefore, like so many other things, it is hard to make a blue print which will meet unknown needs.

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MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Yes, Mr. Pearson.

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LEON PEARSON: A lot of writers and commentators are criticizing the government for not letting the people know enough about what is actually going on in public affairs. What would your reply be to these critics?

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Thursday morning, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Walter Lippman published what to me was a most interesting column on this subject. It was interesting not because of the facts alone, but because in the light of present day happenings, he interpreted some of the difficulties which have faced responsible people in government during the past six months. I think that most of us should take to heart this kind of explanation for many times responsible people are accused of not telling the ^{people} ~~people~~ of the country enough or not taking them into their confidence. Yet, if they did so, it would probably be the greatest show of weakness than any leader could make. It is always easy to blurt out all you know, to try to get your burden shared by other people. It is far more difficult to take the best advice you can get and make your own decisions, knowing that you will only be adding to the risks of the situation if you try to turn the decision over to others who cannot have the same background and knowledge.

LEON PEARSON: That is certainly a candid answer to the question, Mrs. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I would add one other thought along the same line, Mr. Pearson. It is interesting to note how carefully the Axis Powers sugarcoat any bad news which

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MRS. ROOSEVELT: they have for their people. I hope the people of this nation always are strong enough to accept the bad news and still keep up their courage. That is one thing about Mr. Winston Churchill's treatment of the British people, for which I have the greatest admiration. He expects them to meet bad news with complete fortitude and the mere fact that he expects it, brings the proper response.

LEON PEARSON: And now, Mrs. Roosevelt, we understand you spend part of this week in New York City. Were you Christmas shopping?

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Yes, I did do some Christmas shopping. And one afternoon I found myself in a crowded elevator in a large department store. Suddenly, a lady near me seemed to have a brain storm and looking at me, she asked, "Are you Mrs. Roosevelt?" "Yes," I said, and she then proceeded with a ... "Do you mean to say you go around without any guards?" I thought there was nobody left in New York City who would be surprised at meeting me almost anywhere at any hour of the day or night, so I was quite shocked to find that I was looked upon as a curiosity when found in broad daylight in the elevator of a large shop!

LEON PEARSON: And Friday, I understand, Mrs. Roosevelt, you graciously received at the White House the charming young ladies who are representing my sponsor, the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, in a Good Will tour of this country.

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MRS. R.

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PAN-AMERICAN COFFEE BUREAU

PROGRAM #11

MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

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6:45 - 7:00 PM

DECEMBER 7, 1941

SUNDAY

CHORUS

OF VOICES:

~~Get more out of your work! Get more fun! Get more out of life with coffee!~~

LEON PEARSON: This is Leon Pearson speaking for the Pan-American Coffee Bureau which represents seven Good Neighbor coffee-growing nations, and presenting to you American families your Sunday evening visit with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. This evening Mrs. Roosevelt has as her guest, Corporal James Cannon, 1229th Reception Center, Fort Dix, better known to Broadway and to the world of sport, as Jimmie Cannon, newspaper columnist and short story writer in the great Ring Lardner tradition. Mrs. Roosevelt has some questions to ask Corporal Jimmie about this new man's army of ours. And you can be sure he has the answers. But, first, Dan Seymour has a word from our sponsors, the Pan-American Coffee Bureau.

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DAN SEYMOUR: An army, according to Napoleon, marches on its stomach. In other words, army morale depends on such fundamentals as the right kind of food and drink. Did you ever stop to think that the average American soldier drinks about twice as much coffee as the average civilian? Why? Because the army knows that coffee supplies the extra energy a soldier needs in his daily work. Yes, and coffee gives a soldier that extra steadiness of nerves which is so important in the strenuous and nerve-tiring manipulation of the modern devices of mechanized warfare. One of the proudest reports from the recent maneuvers in the South came from the general who got his field kitchen with its delicious steaming coffee up to the front within twenty minutes of his tank advance. Why not take a tip from the army? See how much more you get out of your work. . .how much more your evenings mean to you, how much more you get out of life by drinking more coffee

LEON PEARSON: Thank you, Dan Seymour, and now, here's the Pan-American Coffee Bureau's Sunday evening news reviewer and news maker to give us her usual interesting observations on the world we live in. . .Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: ~~Good evening. A few weeks ago on this program I spoke to you on the subject of army morale. And, I suggested one of the best ways to make the boys in our armed forces more contented with their lot was for the people at home to really do their duty in the various activities of home defense. This evening, I wish to discuss army morale again. But this time in an even more concrete and specific way. And that's why I am delighted to have as my guest a young man who is a member of our armed forces. . . Corporal James Cannon of Fort Dix. How long have you been in the army, Corporal Cannon.~~

CANNON: I've been in six months, Mrs. Roosevelt.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: You were a selectee?

CANNON: Yes, Mrs. Roosevelt. ~~My number came up and I had to say goodbye to the good old civilian life for a while.~~

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Well, after six months of army life, how do you like it?

CANNON: ~~Mrs. Roosevelt, there's something about this new army of ours that gets a fellow.~~ I want to tell you, honestly, I am proud to be a bad soldier in this grand army of the people.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I don't believe you're such a bad soldier, not with those stripes on your arm, Corporal Cannon.

CANNON: Honestly, Mrs. Roosevelt, I'm not so hot. Why, my eyes are blood-shot from looking at the red flag. . . the one they ~~wave~~ ^{RIFLE} on the ~~target~~ range when you miss the target. *It's the rifle*

(MORE)

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CANNON:
(CONTD)

~~By the way, Mrs. Roosevelt, you know who had the~~
second highest score in our outfit. . . ^A~~the~~ fellow
who used to play a pipe organ in a roller skating
rink. He'd never held a rifle in his hands before.
But competent instructors have made him a sharpshooter
in less than a year. And I'll bet there are ~~many~~ ^{MEN}
like him in every army post in America.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: Then you feel from your personal observation. . .
and, after all, Corporal Cannon, you are a trained
newspaper man. . . that the army is making civilians
into good soldiers?

CANNON: Mrs. Roosevelt, in the six months I've been in, I've
seen a miracle take place. I've seen ordinary, easy-
going guys turned into efficient members of a powerful
fighting force. That's what's taking place in every
training base in this country.

MRS. ROOSEVELT: I am sure that is true, Corporal. But let me ask
you a rather personal question. Aside from actual
military training, do you find you are learning
anything which is of value to you as a person, as a
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CANNON: Mrs. Roosevelt, I'm glad you asked me that question.
I think I speak for hundreds of thousands of us in
training camps. . . everywhere, when I tell you the
army has given me a completely new set of values. . .
~~yes, made a better guy of Jimmie Cannon.~~

MRS. ROOSEVELT: You certainly are an honest soldier, Corporal. Can
you tell me just how the army has given you this new
set of values?

CANNON:

~~I WAS - 5 - BORN AND RAISED~~
~~Well, Mrs. Roosevelt, I have always been a New Yorker.~~
I used to think America was a sort of suburb of New York. I had the New Yorker's contempt for people who lived beyond the Hudson. Now I soldier with a lot of guys from the brambles and the bushes and the whistle stops. And I find they can do a lot of things I can't do. Sure, I can write a fair piece for a paper or a magazine. I can get wisecracks in a Broadway column. But I've neglected myself physically. I've gone soft. It sounds corny, I suppose, but you know I've learned to respect these guys from the sticks. They aren't wisecrackers. . .all of them. . .they don't know all the New York fancy talk. . .but they're good soldiers and I'm proud to be serving with them. When it comes to a showdown, they'll be ~~out there making the~~ **READY TO MAKE THE** sacrifices to preserve the American way of life.

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

I am sure that there are many ~~boys~~ **MEN** like you, Corporal who are learning the greatness of America and the greatness of their fellow Americans perhaps for the first time. But surely, Corporal, there are things which you don't like about the army?

CANNON:

~~There's plenty I don't like. I don't like those hikes. . .my feet blister and tear. And the boys in the army, back in '17, weren't kidding about reveille. Bouncing out of bed. Dressing like a fireman. . . that's pretty tough. I can't get used to making a bed. I always wind up looking like a Klansman during working hours. . .the sheet always ends up as a cloak no matter how I fold it. Sweeping and mopping. . .I wish they'd put in maid service in the barracks.~~

INSERT "A"

MRS ROOSEVELT: ~~I am sure your sense of humor helps you quite a bit.~~
But, ~~seriously~~, Corporal, do you find an interest among the men in the army in the present world situation?

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INSERT "B"

MRS ROOSEVELT: And what ^{WAS} that opinion?

CANNON: They know they are in the army because we have had no choice here in this country. They realize that all we Americans have lived for and died for will vanish from the earth unless we have a strong army. Their philosophy. . .~~though that's a pretty fancy name for it.~~ . . .is just about this: We were minding our business. . .and they picked on us. . .well, we'll show them.

MRS ROOSEVELT: I think your answer is a very good one to those who would question the morale of the army. Speaking of morale, what would you suggest to the average civilian, Corporal Cannon, as the best way in which they can be helpful to the man in the service?

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LEON PEARSON: Mrs. Roosevelt, there is another question I'd like to ask.

MRS ROOSEVELT: Yes, Mr. Pearson.

LEON PEARSON: A lot of writers and commentators are criticizing the government for not letting the people know enough about what is actually going on in public affairs. What would your reply be to these critics?

MRS ROOSEVELT: Thursday morning, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Walter Lippman published what to me was a most interesting column on this subject. It was interesting not because of the facts alone, but because in the light of present day happenings, he interpreted some of the difficulties which have faced responsible people in government during the past six months. I think that most of us should take to heart this kind of explanation for many times responsible people are accused of not telling the people of the country enough or not taking them into their confidence. Yet, if they did so, it would probably be the greatest show of weakness than any leader could make. It is always easy to blurt out all you know, to try to get your burden shared by other people. It is far more difficult to take the best advice you can get and make your own decisions, knowing that you will only be adding to the risks of the situation if you try to turn the decision over to others who cannot have the same background and knowledge.

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LEON PEARSON:

And now, Mrs. Roosevelt, we understand you spent part of this week in New York City. Were you Christmas shopping?

Interview cut

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MRS ROOSEVELT:

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(MORE)

MRS ROOSEVELT:
(CONTD)

I think the people who work under the impetus of the tradition left them by this great woman, carry something of that tradition with them always and the Henry Street nurses have acquired in New York City a reputation which is truly enviable.

LEON PEARSON:

And Friday, I understand, Mrs. Roosevelt, you graciously received at the White House the charming young ladies who are representing my sponsor, the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, in a Good Will tour of this country.

MRS ROOSEVELT:

It was a great pleasure to meet these young women from Latin-America who are here on a tour of Good Will, and I hope they enjoyed their cups of coffee in the White House.

LEON PEARSON:

I am sure they did, Mrs. Roosevelt. And now, speaking of coffee, Dan Seymour, I understand you have a word or two to say on that subject.

DAN SEYMOUR:

I certainly have. The seven young ladies who, as guests of the Pan-American Coffee Bureau, have come from their Republics to enjoy a visit with leaders in public and social life in the United States, are delighting everyone with their charm and their beauty.

Just as coffee, the delicious product of their homelands, delights more and more of us every day with its glorious flavor, its pleasing aroma. But coffee, to quote a charming North American young lady,

~~holds more than aroma and flavor. Miss Ann Shirley, star of the RKO Radio Picture, "Mayor of 44th Street", writes us, and we quote "Whenever I am~~

~~beginning to feel tired or let-down, I always reach for a delicious cup of coffee. I find coffee gives me extra energy, steadies my nerves, helps me get more out of my acting. I'm sure what goes for me, goes for millions of other girls, whether they work at desks, in factories, or in their own kitchens."~~

~~It certainly does, Anne Shirley. Whenever you feel tired or let-down, whenever you need extra energy, whenever your nerves need steadyng. . . reach for a grand cup of fragrant, delectable coffee. See how much more you get out of life with coffee.~~

Next week, at this same time, Mrs. Roosevelt will be with us again to give us more of her interesting views on world affairs. But here is news for you right now. . . not of world affairs, but of music!

(MORE)

DAN SEYMOUR:
(CONTD)

The Pan-American Coffee Bureau, in collaboration with Broadcast Music, Inc., offers to all of you listeners, a prize of \$100 as royalty advance, and publication, for the best song about coffee on the theme. . . "Get More Out of Life with Coffee". Five silver cups will be consolation prizes. All you have to do is write the words. We'll supply the music for the winning lyrics, which can be in English, Portugese, or Spanish Spanish. The judges are all famous in the world of music, and their decision will be final. Send your entires to our cooperating magazine, Radio Hit Songs, 9 Barrow Street, New York City, before midnight, December 31, 1941. Winners will be announced on this program.

This is Dan Seymour, saying good evening for the Pan-American Coffee Bureau. . .and don't forget that goodnight cup of coffee.

jb
12/6/41
4:30

Insert A

CANNON

I don't like hikes...my feet tear and blister. I don't like getting up in the dark of the morning. I'm a clumsy chamber-maid. My bed always looks like a hay stack. But these discomforts are small. I've had a lot of laughs in the thirty-two years of my life. I'm willing to kick back one or two years ----so that I can live the rest of my life with dignity. I feel ashamed of the grumbling I've done----the complaining about the little unpleasant things--- because at this minute soldiers of our army are proving under fire that they are true and brave and worthy of the trust our democracy places in them.

CANNON

I sert B
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I'm on Captain John Parker's Morale staff--attached to the 1229th Reception Centre---Fort Dix. I talk to the guys when they first come into the army. Up to now...the only things they were interested in was---where they were going to be shipped---and if they were on the list for Kitchen Police. I'm certain all that will change now. ~~When I left camp~~ When I left camp we were a peace-time army---now ~~we~~ we are the army of a country that has been attacked. But all of them had a very definite opinion on the army and the state of the world.