

Shape of Things To Come

^{omit} What is the shape of things to come? Our basic American belief, the thing for which we are fighting, is that the shape of things to come must be determined by the people. - Every man must have a voice, and that voice must be the expression of opinion derived from a deliberate intelligent study of the pertinent facts.

This war is a dramatic moment in civilization when one system of ideas is in a life and death grips with another. Everything that is happening now is influencing in some way our thinking, our values, and the structures and services of all our institutions. Our homes, our ways of making a living, our community organizations, our political life are all tremendously affected. ^{omit} What changes shall we permit to become permanent? What services and ideas shall we sponsor as necessary war emergency activities, but plan vigorously to discontinue after the war is over? In what directions should we travel? All these questions must be decided by the people. We must not depend upon centralized authority alone. The American tradition is to use government to carry out the will of the people. Consequently, if this tradition is to be perpetuated, and that is really what we are fighting for, now as never before people must have facts and more facts. They must have opportunities to become familiar with the opinions and thinking of other people.

In recognition of these essentials the San Diego State College is offering the series of lectures on the Implications of the War. The central purpose of the series is not to present pat answers to searching questions, but to help interested citizens in their ^{omit} efforts to do their own thinking and reach their own conclusions, - to help them in their efforts to determine the shape of things to come.

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