

Cpl. McGuire and Buddies



ALL AMERICAN COMBAT team for action. Cpl. Thomas A. McGuire (extreme right front row) formerly of Norton, N. Car., and now a gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber, is shown with the other members of his crew after completion of final combat

training at Gowen Field, Idaho. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. McGuire of Norton and is a former student of North Carolina State. (Official Photograph, U. S. Army Air Forces)

ALUMINUM COMPANY GOES OVER TOP IN PRODUCTION FOR WAR

By I. W. WILSON

Vice-President in Charge of Operations Aluminum Company of America PITTSBURG, Dec. 31.—The aluminum industry in 1944 went far enough "over the top" in supplying war needs of the United States and its allies to permit WPB to close down entirely a number of government-owned aluminum plants, releasing thousands of workers to shell-producing plants and other critical industries which need them badly for the final, all-out victory drive.

Even with substantial concurrent reduction in Alcoa's production, aluminum is still being made in this country at a rate three times that of the peacetime peak. During 1944, ever-increasing quantities of the metal poured into new military applications. Because of its availability, aluminum was not only returned to those military uses for which other materials had been substituted, but was, itself, substituted in many cases for other materials less plentiful in supply. The new year should see growing amounts of aluminum going into the semi-military and civilian uses which must be expanded as rapidly as manpower may be safely diverted to their development.

Prime examples of semi-military uses are airplane landing mats weighing about half as much as the older steel type, and aluminum gasoline drums weighing 21 pounds each as compared with 52 pounds for those of other materials. These light drums enable our Air Transport Command

REDS EXPECTED TO START DRIVE



AS AMERICAN FORCES LOCK in huge battles with the Nazis on the western front, Soviet sources in Washington say that the Red armies strung along the eastern front will soon open a huge offensive. Informed spokesmen say that the projected drives will disclose newly aligned Soviet forces. Some 350 divisions and a vast amount of armored equipment is believed to be ready. The offensive has been delayed, it was stated, by the fact that the Polish plain freezes later than the Russian steppes. The ground is now hard enough, and the Nazis may soon find themselves fighting in grand-scale battles on two fronts. (International)

STATE COLLEGE HINTS TO FARM HOMEMAKERS

By RUTH CURRENT
N. C. State College

Waxing heels and toes of stockings with a bit of candle was routine economy long ago in wooden-shoe lands of Europe, and it is a practical way to meet stocking problems today. Textile specialists who have put to laboratory tests this old-fashioned custom report that rubbing wax on stockings makes them wear four times as long before holes appear in heels or toes.

Tests showed the simplest and most effective method is merely rubbing a piece of candle wax or paraffin on heels and toes before each wearing. Even if the waxing is not repeated until after several launderings, enough wax remains to make stocking feet more durable.

If only a thin film of wax is applied, it will not interfere with the proper laundering of the stockings or change their appearance.

Mops and other cleaning material should have their own hooks or shelves in the closet. Built-in metal containers for such things as oil mop-heads lessen the danger of spontaneous combustion.

One out of three accidental deaths from poison is a child under five. Keep poisons out of reach or locked up.

In the fall rats and mice might enter your house, but the alert householder will look for their places of entrance, place traps and poison, and close all entrances.

Hybrid Corns Give Increased Yields

It has been definitely shown that adapted corn hybrids can materially increase corn yields in North Carolina. Tests by the State College Extension Service last year, in cooperation with the N. C. Crop Improvement Association, gave increases of about 20 bushels per acre in most cases.

Where corn suffered from drought, the better hybrid corns were outstanding from a drought standpoint and in some instances the increases were much larger than twenty bushels per acre.

"Agronomy Suggestions" for January, which will be found in the office of the county agent, carries the latest recommendations on the best adapted hybrid corns and a short description of each. North Carolina is divided into nine areas and special recommendations are made for each area for both white and yellow corns.

Hybrid corns do not carry names but are sold for the northwestern section in the mountains are N. C. T20 and N. C. T8, while in the northeastern section along the coast the recommended strains are N. C. 1111, N. C. 1114, and Tenn. 10.

Some hybrid corns are permitted by law to be sold in the State while others are not. Certain other hybrids, chiefly from outside the state, cannot legally be offered for sale either because they have proven inferior in Official Variety Tests or because they have not been thoroughly tested.

State College specialists suggest that the grower get the advice of the county agent before attempting to grow a hybrid not recommended for his particular area.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our friends for the kindness shown us during the sickness and death of our daughter and sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Frizzel and Family.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS AND HELP BRING OUR MEN HOME SOONER.

SELF-STARTER TROUBLE



to deliver each month hundreds of thousands of extra gallons of fuel "over the hump" to China. Typical civilian uses are aluminum hopper cars by Missouri Pacific Railroad, a hopper car with aluminum sides and ends already in use on the Burlington Railroad, and a most interesting aluminum boxcar just completed for service on the Great Northern Railroad. Wherever possible, surplus aluminum stock in military stores, has been utilized. A quantity of aluminum sheet belonging to the Army for use as siding and roofing in the construction of Navy warehouses thereby saving other more critical materials.

Aluminum manufacturers during 1944 developed a number of new alloys of military importance and of far-reaching peacetime significance. A new Alcoa alloy, 75S, has a yield strength about twice that of the strong aluminum alloys used only a few years ago, and an ultimate strength exceeding 80,000 pounds per square inch.

To help offset the shortage of high-grade domestic ores for the production of aluminum, Aluminum Company of America research laboratories completed and put into commercial operation a process which successfully uses a much lower grade ore. By the use of this Alcoa combination process which should have great future significance, a sintering operation is combined with the standard Bayer process for obtaining alumina (aluminum oxide) from bauxite and other aluminum-bearing ores. The new process is the result of a quarter century of research and makes possible the use of low-grade ores which were considered of little commercial value before the war. A new alumina development laboratory to develop further improvements in the operating technique of this new process has just been completed at the East St. Louis Works of Aluminum Company of America. The equipment in the laboratory is arranged so that it can be connected into complete system for any alkaline digestion or sinter process, or combination of these processes, to handle any type of raw material.

To meet urgent civilian demands for aluminum, WPB issued during latter half of 1944, a series of authorizations for the use of the metal in cases where manpower would not be taken from essential war work and where other more critical materials could be replaced. Whenever the manufacture of a particular item was authorized, permission to use aluminum was granted. Aluminum truck and trailer bodies are now being built under WPB authorizations. Among such authorized uses of aluminum during the past year were collapsible tubes, metal containers including cans, tank bodies, motorcycles, electrical wiring devices, domestic mechanical refrigerators, domestic laundry equipment, automatic phonographs, caskets, burial vaults, furniture and furniture parts, aluminum paint, light power-driven tools, cooking utensils, food processing machinery, engineering instruments and industrial type lighting equipment.

Although military demands for aluminum continue to create a manpower problem in many localities where fabricating plants are located,

the facilities for producing the metal in all its forms in this country have stimulated a vast interest in the peacetime prospects for this light, versatile material. The lowered price of aluminum ingot, now 25 per cent below pre-war levels, and the fact that many thousands of additional workers are familiar with the characteristics and advantages of aluminum through its widespread use in the manufacture of war materials, give indication of a greatly enlarged civilian market after the war. Many new uses for aluminum, as well as the expansion of markets already established, are in the offing.

NOTICE

The Dillsboro school will present Lost John and his Allied Kentuckians in a big Jamboree in the auditorium of the Dillsboro school Thursday, Jan. 11, at 8 P. M.

Letter To The Herald

Dear Mothers and Friends of Jackson County:

Greetings for the New Year in Jesus' name. Praying that each of you mothers and wives whose loved ones have given their lives for you and me will find comfort in Him who doeth all things well, and that you will remember that greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his brother.

Prayers change things and let us pray without ceasing for a mighty revival and if it can be God's will to end this terrible war. In Acts 12:5-7, Peter was kept in prison but prayer was made without ceasing of the Church unto God for him and God sent an angel to set him free. Many times God has sent angels to set his people free. We have nothing to fear if we will only pray and believe. May God bless everyone of you is the prayer of your friend,

MRS. HOMER TURPIN

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