

# A Week of The War

Chairman Nelson announced a "continuing national drive" to increase production immediately will entail 168 hours work per week for every machine in war plants.

The President in a radio address, said "We Americans have been compelled to yield ground, but we will regain it—soon. Germany, Italy, and Japan are very close to their maximum output of planes, guns, tanks and ships. The United Nations are not—especially the United States of America." He asked Americans not to stop work for a single day—until the war is won—not to demand special privileges for any one group, and to give up conveniences cheerfully when necessary.

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

Under Secretary of State Welles announced two agreements signed with Brazil to strengthen hemispheric solidarity and to provide lend-lease aid to Brazil. Lend-Lease Administrator Stettinius reported lend-lease aid for January reached \$462,000,000, and actual shipments have now exceeded two billion dollars. Allocations for lend-lease purposes totaled more than twelve billion dollars as of Feb. 19.

The U. S. and Britain signed a pact postponing indefinitely final settlement of lend-lease costs. The pact commits both nations to virtually free trade. It also provides final terms of the settlement "shall be such as not to burden commerce between the two countries." Mr. Welles announced the Vichy French Government has given the U. S. assurances it will not aid the Axis beyond terms of the Armistice agreements.

## RATIONING

Price Administrator Henderson stated National Registration for sugar rationing books will be held over a four-day period, probably during the last week in March. Approximately 1,400,000 school teachers will serve as registrars, and 245,000 schools will be used. One adult may register for each "family unit."

The WPB announced a rationing program March 9 for 196,000 new truck and d-truck trailers which will be available for rationing during the next 22 months. State quotas provide 120,000 new 1942 passenger automobiles for eligible buyers during March, April and May. Total number of cars car-marked for civilian purchase during the next twelve months is 340,000.

No passenger car retreaded tires will be available in March, he said.

## THE WAR FRONT

The Navy reported U. S. Naval forces sunk 53 enemy ships between December 10, 1941, and February 24, 1942, probably sank seven more and damaged three additional.

The Army announced from Dec. 7 to February 27, it probably sank at least 19 Japanese ships, seriously damaged 31 others, and shot down 245 enemy planes—not including 165 Japanese planes shot down by the American Volunteer Group serving

in the Chinese Army.

The Navy said in the first two months of this year 116 ships of United Nations registry were attacked in the Western half of the Atlantic, and 56 attacks were made by the Navy on enemy submarines. Three U-boats are believed sunk and damaged.

## ARMY

The House passed Legislation increasing from one month to one year the payment to dependents of the salaries of members of the armed forces captured by the enemy. The Legislation would also increase the pay of officers and men serving outside continental U. S. by from 10 to 20 percent.

The President established the Army specialists Corps, a unit of uniformed civilian employees who may be appointed to War Department positions regardless of Civil Service status.

The Army announced a new policy by which men with dependents may enlist for the sole purpose of qualifying as officers, and if they fail to make the grade may be transferred to the enlisted reserves. They would not be called for active service until their previous classifications in the draft were called.

Age limits are 18 to 45. All candidates must serve four months in Replacement Centers or Field Units before being eligible for officers candidates' schools. The New policy is designed to meet Army needs this year of 75,000 new officers selected from 95,000 candidates.

## AGRICULTURE

The Agriculture Department announced farmers 1941 cash income reached almost \$12 billion—highest since 1920, and 29 percent greater than 1940.

The WPA said its employment schedules for March will be reduced 62,000, with an equal or greater reduction tentatively set for April.

Agriculture Secretary Wickard asked State and County Department of Agriculture War Boards to aid local draft boards in determining occupational deferments of farmers.

## On The Home Front

Rugged, independent, but free, MacArthur's men stand on Bataan, a daily living sacrifice to democracy. There, on the wild mountains battle-forn with the impregnable rock of Corregidor at their backs, in what military experts almost unanimously regard as a hopeless situation, these indomitable Americans and Filipinos refuse to recognize defeat.

MacArthur's men fight on, Filipino and American alike, because they are willing to sacrifice their lives—not just face a little discomfort—to remain as free and rugged in their thoughts as the rocky-grown peninsula where they make their stand.

And because they are freemen, born of American democracy, it is not in them to accept their situation as hopeless. Not when they can lash out against the treacherous overwhelmingly powerful foe as they did last week and with a few tiny planes blast to the bottom of the sea 30,000 tons of shipping and hundreds of Japs.



## TOCSIN SOUNDED

President Roosevelt sounded the tocsin for all-out work. He said: "Now," he said, in this "crucial."

"Our plants must hum 24 hours a day, seven days a week, producing the materials and machines being so rapidly absorbed in the war effort."

In line with Nelson's directive for negotiated contracts, J. S. Knowlson, director of the Division of Industry Operations, blocked the sale at auction of machinery valuable to war production so that it might not be dispersed. On top of this, George C. Brainard, chief of the WPB's Tools Branch, called upon owners of idle machine tools to offer them for sale to be placed in plants engaged in war production.

## NEED OF SACRIFICE

For a long while shortages, except in tires and automobiles, were just something to talk about. Output might be curtailed, but at the factory, but there was still plenty of stock and also on the retailer's shelves. Now these shortages are working their way down.

Men's clothing, for instance. After March 30 trousers will be cuffless, suit-coats will be about an inch shorter, there'll be no patch pockets, pleats, tucks, bellows, gussets. And no vests for double-breasted suits. It means a saving of some 40,000,000 pounds of wool.

The copper mining industry has offered full cooperation, to increase output. The mines have gone on a continuous-operation, seven day week, operating under labor-management production committees.

## PROTECTS SPORTSMEN

"Sporting goods are needed for civilization recreation and are important in the maintenance of civilian morale," said Price Administrator Henderson in calling upon manufacturers to fall sporting goods and fishing equipment to prevent prices jumping above those in effect on January 10, last. And he made it plain that, while his letter was directed to manufacturers alone, he meant to control retail prices as well.

This "request" followed close upon the heels of an order freezing the supply of shotguns, pistols and other firearms at the manufacturer's door. Many of these weapons may find their way into the hands of the military and law enforcement agencies.

## CEILING ON RENTS

Landlords in the Hampton, Roads, Va., and Washington, N. C., have been ordered to reduce rents to the level of April 1, 1941. This is only a beginning. Price Administrator Henderson says he intends to move swiftly and to strike hard to correct the rent situation in more than 100 additional defense areas.

Among the developments last week which affect most of us, in one way or another:

OPA's action in placing temporary price ceiling over eleven canned fruits, 15 canned vegetables . . .

OPA placed bedding equipment under temporary control . . .

The Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services has begun a drive to see that we eat proper food, adopted the slogan: "U. S. Needs Us Strong . . ."

Several Greek coastal steamers, which escaped the Nazi invasion forces, are now operating with the Russian fleet in the Black Sea.

AX THE AXIS

## WASHINGTON SNAPSHOTS

At the rate at which Congress has been appropriating funds for military purposes, this war will have to be every man's war . . . because in terms of dollars and cents, the cost is terrific.

Since Congress met on January 5th, a bill has been enacted to provide \$12,525,000,000, primarily for airplanes and the expansion of aircraft production; another has been enacted authorizing \$26,495,000,000 for the Navy; and a third has been acted upon by the House to appropriate \$32,000,000,000 for arms, lease-lend aid and ship construction. This brings the total for the three major bills to \$70,000,000,000, or 70 per cent of the estimated national income for 1942.

Net result, according to statisticians, is that since Pearl Harbor, Congress has appropriated or authorized appropriations for the war effort at the rate of \$369 for every one of the 130,000,000 persons in the country. This does not include some additional \$200 per capita which the Senate is considering.

Letters to Congressmen from the folks back at home indicate that they are willing to pay whatever the war costs—there is no question of stinting—but, they ask, what about the Administration's getting down to business?

Fury and frills in the Office of Civilian Defense, Congressional pensions, the proportions of the average American woman. (She turned out to be dumpy. So what?) unearthed by the Department of Agri-

culture, and projects of similar ilk turns out to be more than a tempest in a teapot.

In the House the other day a Representative described the reaction of the people by relating a story. A newspaper in a medium-sized Mid-Western city was selling defense stamps through its carriers who delivered papers to the customer's home. Sales fell off. Upon instruction from the newspaper, the newsboys asked why and found out that it was a manifestation of public re- it was a manifestation of public re- It was the employment by the OCD of people deemed unqualified and Congress' voting itself pensions that time.

Some of this is on its way to being straightened out. Dean Landis, director of the OCD, seems to have that agency well in hand. In the opinion of many observers here the OCD is getting down to the practical business of air raid shelters, wardens, gas masks and first aid. Congress, too, has seen the errors of its ways and is repenting on the pensions.

Privately, commentators here are saying that there's nothing wrong with the morale of the people that better morale in Administration circles can't remedy.

Which brings to mind a story worth repeating. A candidate for Governor of one of our North Central states (this was some time ago) discovered an item on a travel expense account of a fellow politician. It was 80 cents for a baked potato. This candidate took up the question of the potato and made a campaign issue out of it. He acquired a reputation as watchdog of the state treasury and was three times elected Governor of the state.

Some of the economists here have been clamoring for a watchdog of the federal treasury for a long time, because, they point out, there are many 80 cent items being paid for which the country could do without.

Favorable comment has been elicited not only here, but also in the press throughout the country, at the "conversion," step by step, of the federal government to war work:

The almost unanimous reaction hails this as a necessary economy measure and as a conservation of energies for the more important task of winning the war.

Some of the measures, already accomplished, which are being talked about are the President's direction to the heads of non-military agencies to determine how many workers they can release for war work, the lengthening of the federal work week to 44 hours, and the pointing up of the work of older agencies in the direction of the defense effort.

This does not mean, however, that anyone feels that all which can be done along these lines has been done. It means only that the signs are encouraging.

# HEADQUARTERS FOR "STAGS"

The Only "Strictly For Men" Cafe In All This Section

WE SPECIALIZE ON WINES, BEERS AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP

We have the largest stock of Wines in the mountain Counties, ranging from vintage, Champagne (Imported) to domestic Clarets, Sauternes, Ports, and Burgundies.

Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer on Draft—at a Penny an Ounce—other brands of beer and ales in cans or bottles at the bar, in a booth, or take it home.

SANDWICHES HOT OFF THE ELECTRIC GRILL

NEVER CLOSED

The

WE DELIVER PHONE 9185

# SMOKEHOUSE

"Home of Good Fellows"

## STOCKS BOUGHT IN ADVANCE

Make It Possible for Us Still to Meet All Plumbing and Heating Needs

We Also Have a Large Stock of Electrical Appliances

As Always, Our Skilled Workers are the Finest to be had—with all work Guaranteed 100%

This Guarantee is Backed by our 20 years of Service

## ROGERS PLUMBING COMPANY

Murphy Branch Managed by the President of the N. C. Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors.

Offices in rear of Carringer's Store or Phone 166-J