

THIS WEEK IN DEFENSE

(Continued from page 1)

production, 61 by spring. The President announced that by January 1 he will place before Congress a program to step up tank output to double the present contemplated production. He said the program is being developed primarily for this country's own needs. Maj. Gen. Devers, armored force commander, speaking in Philadelphia, said there are already ample tanks for training purposes.

Subcontracting

The OPM Defense Contract Distribution Division issued an Army compilation of existing contracts offering the best subcontracting opportunities and announced a plan for prime contractors to "adopt" whole small industries for the duration. Division Director Odum said the Curtiss-Wright Airplane Company, for example, has adopted the aluminum industry and will farm out parts of its orders to those aluminum plants hard hit by curtailment of civilian production.

The War Department announced the Quartermaster Corps will make its contract awards on a regional basis, direct negotiations will be made with bidders, and prices will no longer be "the domination factor" in making awards.

Labor

OPM Directors Knudsen and Hillman and War and Navy Secretaries Stimpson and Knox issued a joint statement that the interruption of defense production by strikes or slowdowns "is the greatest help aggressors can get these days when material on the battlefield is everything." They asked employers and employees to telephone the U. S. Conciliation Service or the OPM in cases of labor difficulties so they can receive "immediate attention."

Living Costs and Prices

The Labor Department reported living costs for moderate income families in large cities are now 9.6 percent higher than before the outbreak of the war in Europe. Price Administrator Henderson, in a report to the President, said the U. S. needs price control legislation "and we need it fast."

Civilian Defense

The President proclaimed November 11-16 "Civilian Defense Week." The Proclamation asked Americans "to become better informed of the many vital phases

of the civilian defense program and of opportunities...for the announcement the theme of the week: "The only effective answer to total war is total defense."

Air Navy, Army

The Navy launched the submarine HADDOCK and commissioned for active service the aircraft carrier HORNET and the destroyer BRISTOL. OCD Director LaGuardia made available through local defense councils a description of the entire Naval program in a report "The Progress of the Navy."

The Army awarded contracts for the construction of 56 more USO recreation buildings, bringing the number under contract to 107. Deputy OCD Director Gill issued a report to local defense councils—"The Progress of the Army"—giving detailed information on all phases of the Army defense program.

Selective Service

Selective Service Headquarters completed arrangements to classify Army men with mechanical skills before they are discharged so they may be immediately employed in defense industry. "Referral officers" operated by the U. S. Employment Service in each camp will interview each man to give him specific advice as to where he can find work.

Oil, Gasoline

Because of a "more optimistic outlook" Defense Petroleum Coordinator Ickes withdrew his request that East coast filling Stations remain closed between 7 p. m. and 7 a. m. Mr. Ickes said the move was made possible by the return of 40 tankers by the British, increased transportation facilities to bring oil to the East coast and the fact that his conservation program had reduced the oil reserves shortage from 9,000,000 barrels to 476,000 barrels.

"Future Payment" Plan Adopted By Association

A plan whereby farmers having Federal land bank loans may protect themselves against any post-war slump or crop failures by making payments into a "future payment" fund, which will draw the same rate of interest he is being charged on his indebtedness to the bank, is announced by George L. Crater, Secretary-Treasurer of the Stokes county National Farm Loan Association.

Under the plan a land bank borrower may now send funds to the bank to be held in a trust account for future installments, and this account will be credited with compound interest at the same rate which the member borrower is

paying on his land bank loan. "The Federal land bank and the national farm loan association feel that this 'future payment' fund offers a number of advantages to the borrower," said Mr. Crater. "The borrower who has future payment funds in the land bank has a backlog of security upon which he can draw in time of need to keep his obligation in good

standing and carry him through a lean period. He is insured against hard times—at no cost to him for the insurance. "This new plan permits a land bank borrower to make payments for future application on Federal land bank loan, sale contract or purchase money mortgage running to the land bank in any amount

less than the unpaid balance of which he was now in a position to forfeit his obligation."

Nume Christian of Westfield was in town Wednesday.

FAMOUS CLOSE SHAVES By Barber Sol

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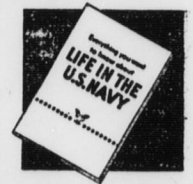
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