

THIS WEEK IN DEFENSE

The White House announced Lend-Lease Administrator Stettinius had been instructed "to see that the defense needs of the Government of Turkey were filled as fast as possible." The Navy announced two additional British warships are undergoing repairs in U. S. ports. The U. S. Petroleum Coordinator announced 38 oil tankers have been released by the British and returned to their American owners.

Navy Secretary Knox told his press conference the Navy's shipbuilding program "is continuing to beat all projected schedules." Since January 1, 1941, Mr. Knox said, the Navy has ordered 5,334 vessels at a total cost of \$7,353,000,000 and nearly one billion dollars has been allocated for expanding shipbuilding facilities. During November, the Secretary said, 33 combat ships were launched, Keels were laid for 52 more, and five new ships—including the 35,000-ton dreadnought Indiana—joined the fleet.

New Defense Appropriations
The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill appropriating \$8,243,800,000 to expand the

Army immediately to 2,000,000 men; maintain the recently-mobilized Philippine Army; expand manufacturing facilities for critical weapons to double total previously-scheduled production, and vastly increase the supply of these weapons; increase the number of airports capable of accomodating military planes; increase the Army Air Force from 54 to 84 groups; convert large merchant vessels to aircraft carriers. The bill would bring the total outlay for defense since the fall of France to \$67,990,000,000.

Subcontracting and Small Business

The House created a special seven-man committee of Representatives to determine if: (1) the adequate attention has been given the needs of small business engaged in non-defense work; (2) small business is being fairly treated in allocation of materials.

Director Odium of the OPM Contract Distribution Division, speaking in New York, said 70 percent of U. S. manufacturing establishments employ 20 people or less. He said these 133,300 small plants are the hardest to find, the most difficult to connect to defense work, and the hardest to connect back later to civilian economy.

Due to the state of war that

now exists, the United States Marine Corps needs men urgently. Men between the ages of 17 and 30, now have an opportunity to enlist in the most outstanding navy in the world.

The Marine Corps has always played an important and brilliant part in all wars that the United States was involved in. At this time, those who want to show their true patriotism for our country, may enlist for the duration of the emergency in the Marine Corps.

There are United States Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in Asheville, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, and Raleigh. Why not be the first in your community to enlist in the United States Marine Corps.

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TOBACCO GROWERS URGED TO SAVE TOBACCO FLUES

OFFICIALS SAY NO IRON CAN BE HAD NEXT YEAR

A warning to tobacco growers to preserve their old tobacco flues, used in the curing of tobacco, has been sent out from official Wash-

ington.

G. C. Arthur, chief of the business section in the Civilian Supply Division of the Office of Production Management is quoted as saying there would be definitely no new irons. Unless farmers are careful to preserve their present flues they will have no way of supplying their needs next year.

Dr. E. B. Forrest, late of Piedmont, S. C., now connected with hospital No. 3 at Fort Bragg, N. C., was in the county over the weekend visiting relatives and friends. Dr. Forrest is a son of J. R. Forrest, Sr., of Francisco. He has been a very successful dentist at Piedmont for a number of years.

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