

THIS WEEK IN DEFENSE

Office For Production Management States Objectives

Created to provide authoritative leadership to speed production of war materials for defense, the Office for Production Management stated last week that its aim was "production to the maximum of American resources in every field which can contribute to victory."

"We call upon the people of the United States to recognize to the full the gravity of the crisis which called this organization into being and figuratively to pull off their coats and roll up their sleeves," William Knudsen, chairman of the office of the new agency, said.

The office, the President had said, will have three main subdivisions in charge of (1) actual production of war material; (2) defense purchasing; (3) defense priorities. The President added the office would be vested with very broad powers and able to make decisions which would not require his approval.

Record Naval Progress

Progress of naval construction was reflected in an announcement by Secretary Knox that the 16,050-ton destroyer Edison would be delivered for commissioning in a month, setting a record of only 10 months construction time as compared with normal construction time of 18 to 31 months.

New Training Courses

To train the new personnel in the Army, the War Department announced establishment of facilities designed to train non-flying Air Corps men as engineering, armament, communication, and photographic officers. Two new schools were being established at Lowry, Colorado, and Scott Field, Ill., to provide training in armament, communications, and photography, the War Department said. Engineering officers would be trained at universities first and later at the Air Corps technical school at Chanute Field, Ill., it was announced.

Requirements for admission to the regular service schools for this training would be a college degree and some additional training or experience in any of the four fields. Engineering trainees would be selected from the ranks of former flying cadets and qualified civilians at the rate of a 100 every three months starting in January.

As the manpower of the Regular Army passed the 400,000 mark for the first time since the World War, the War Department also awarded contracts to two engineering firms to survey 38 new Army camps in 28 states and recommend steps to insure adequate sewage so that the growing Army would not be menaced by faulty sanitation.

With 124,000 National Guardsmen and 20,000 selectees already in the Army in addition to the 400,000 regulars, the President this week ordered to active duty, between January 6 and January 17, thirty-five more National Guard units.

Conscientious objectors to military training, Selective Service Director Dykstra announced in a statement, will provide manpower for soil conservation and reforestation under a program developed, with the approval of the President, by the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, the Federal Security Agency, and the National Council for Conscientious Objectors. Objectors would be taken from their communities and put in camps—"at the same time meeting the letter and the spirit of the Selective Service Act," Dr. Dykstra said.

Issuing two more of his periodic statements on the status of prices of commodities vital to the defense program, NDAC Commissioner Henderson, responsible for defense price stabilization, pointed out this week he felt lumber prices should be lowered and that steel prices might increase unless steps are taken to prevent rises in the cost of materials used in steel manufacture.

Nantahala National Forest

Did You Know That



Twenty-one years ago this month the Nantahala National Forest was created by proclamation of President Wilson. Purchases under the Weeks Law commenced in the fall of 1911 for the purpose of acquiring lands for the protection of navigable streams. The first of these purchases was made in the vicinity of Highlands, the Forest Service having its head office in that town at that time.

At a later date the Supervisor's headquarters were established at Clayton, Ga., and only a Ranger was kept at Highlands until finally the Ranger station was established at Wilson Lick. About 1920 the Supervisor's headquarters were changed to Franklin, where they

South Leads Nation In Lumber Production

Preliminary figures recently released by the Bureau of the Census indicate that the 1939 United States lumber production increased over 15 per cent above the 1938 production, to nearly 40 billion board feet. The Southern states accounted for 38.5 per cent of this total, with southern pine lumber making up 31 per cent of the total national lumber production, followed by Douglas fir from the Pacific Northwest with 26 per cent.

Alabama leads the south in lumber production with 1,400,000,000 board feet, followed by Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, North Carolina and Louisiana, each of which produced over a billion board feet in 1939.

According to Census Bureau data, "firsts" which may be claimed by southern states include: Alabama leads the nation in production of yellow pine and sycamore lumber, Arkansas in oak lumber, Florida in cypress lumber, Louisiana in total hardwood lumber production and in volume of red gum and tupelo, South Carolina in the production of ash lumber, and North Carolina in the total number of sawmills reporting, 1,897.

N. C. FCA Members Repaid \$6,617,698 In Loans

North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida farmers, who are members of production credit associations, in 1940 repaid to the 94 associations in the third Farm Credit district \$21,958,702, according to reports received by the Production Credit Corporation of Columbia.

In North Carolina there are 28 associations and in 1940 the members of these associations repaid loans totaling \$6,617,698.

These associations, which are farmer-controlled, supply their members with short-term credit for agricultural purposes and all of them report that they had a successful year in 1940. They are now making preparations for their annual meetings which will be held in January.

The date of the annual meeting for the Asheville association is January 23.

Parents

Protect Your Children Against Diphtheria

RALEIGH, Jan. 8.—North Carolina has scored another "first", this one termed a "disgraceful first" by Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, state health officer, who announced that this state continues to lead the nation in the number of diphtheria cases reported.

In the statement for the week ending December 21, furnished health officers by the United States Public Health Service, Dr. Reynolds pointed out, North Carolina was accredited with 28 cases of diphtheria, "that communicable, dangerous, preventable and inexcusable disease, an escape from which was made available by the Legislature of 1939, when it passed a law requiring immunization of all children during the first year of life, and as a requisite for entrance into any school, public, private or parochial."

"North Carolina leads, regardless of population, among the 44 states reporting," he went on. "New York, with its 13,379,142, according to the final figures of the 1940 census, reported only 20 cases, to give us 'another first!'"

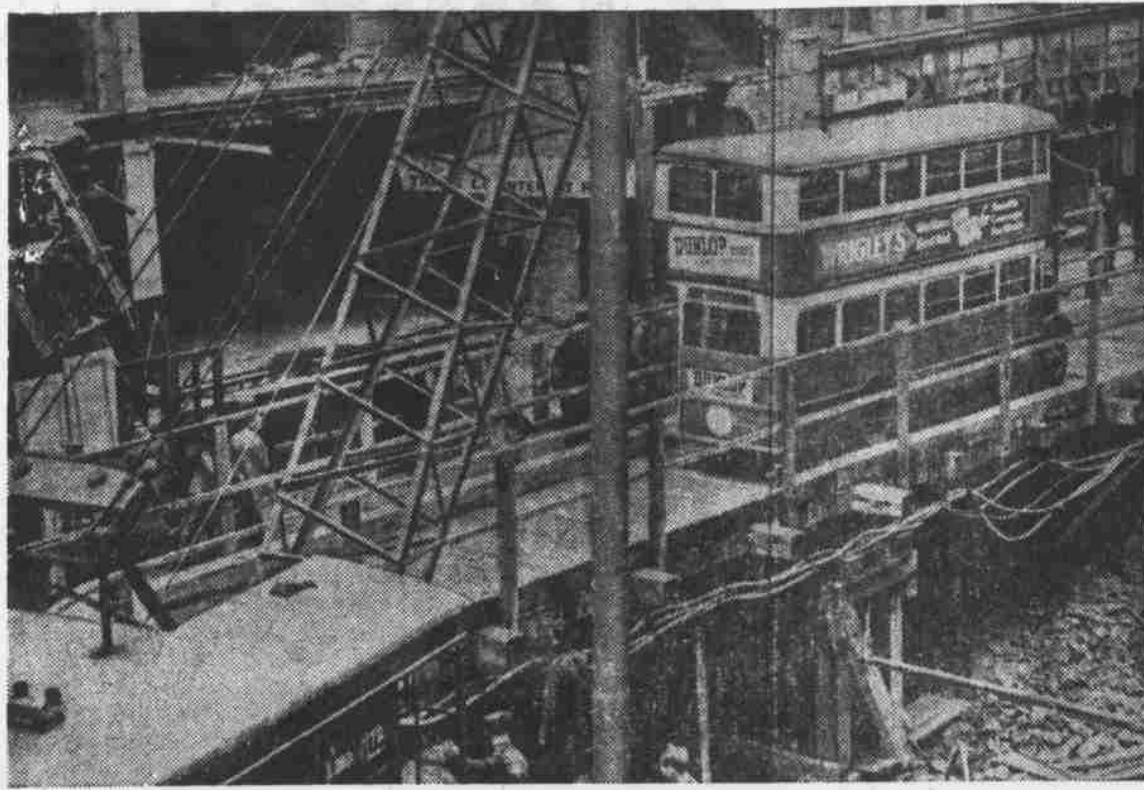
"However, there is a brighter side to the picture, when we consider that, during the corresponding week of 1939, we reported 48 cases."

"Parents: We are beginning another year. In the name of justice to your children, who cannot help themselves but are dependent on you, give them that protection to which they are entitled by both moral and statutory law. Let 1941 be marked by relentless war on diphtheria!"

have remained ever since. The Nantahala National Forest at one time included all National Forest lands in South Carolina, the eastern part of Georgia, and all the lands in Macon, Clay, and Graham counties, N. C.

In 1935, National Forest boundaries were readjusted to the state lines. At the present time, all National Forest lands in the six Western North Carolina counties—Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham, Cherokee, and Clay—are administered from the Nantahala Forest Supervisor's office at Franklin.

Carrying on With 1940 Style London Bridge



A few weeks ago this London street had no chasm, no bridge. A heavy Nazi bomb made a crater 60 feet wide, 25 feet deep. British Royal Engineers put up a temporary bridge overnight, and London carries on. Sign on store at left declares, "Hitler can't put out the sun! Trade counter at rear."

Roosevelt Pledges U. S. Aid To Defenders of Democracy

Message To Congress Urges Nation Speed War Production

A packed house and galleries greeted President Roosevelt's message on the state of the nation to the joint session of the new Congress last Monday. The momentous message which was received with repeated applause was broadcast over short wave in Spanish, French, German, Greek and Italian.

Gravely and earnestly, President Roosevelt informed congress that "a swift and driving increase in our armament production" was the immediate need of a critical period and appealed for widespread personal sacrifices in a national effort to defeat the axis powers lest they win abroad and then attack the Americas.

"Let us say to the democracies," he said, "we Americans are vitally concerned in your defense of freedom. We are putting forth our energies, our resources and our organizing powers to give you strength to regain and maintain a free world. We shall send you, in ever-increasing numbers, ships, planes, tanks, guns. This is our purpose and our pledge."

Basic Policy Outlined
The main theme of the message was that the aggressors were still on the march, that 16 months had blotted out democracy in "an appalling number of independent nations, great and small," and that "the future and safety of our country and our democracy are overwhelmingly involved in events far beyond our borders."

The President warned that no generosity could be expected of a "dictator's peace" and that attack on the Americas was to be expected if the dictators won. "As long as aggressor nations maintain the offensive," he said, "they—not we—will choose the time and place and method of their attack."

Basic points of national policy outlined were: "An impressive expression of the public will without regard to partisanship" on three points: first, to all inclusive national defense; second, to full support to all peoples who are resisting aggression and thereby keeping war away from our hemisphere; and third, to principles of morality and security that will never permit a peace dictated by aggressors and sponsored by appeasers. "We know that enduring peace cannot be bought at the cost of other people's freedom."

The president said the nation was behind schedule on airplane production, and the effort was to catch up; ahead of schedule on warship production, and working to get even farther ahead.

"To change a whole nation from a basis of peacetime production of implements of peace to a basis of wartime production of implements of war is no small task," Mr. Roosevelt said.

Lend-Lease Plan
Asserting that when the time comes when Great Britain and her allies are no longer able to pay

cash for war supplies, the U. S. "cannot tell them they must surrender," the president then outlined his lend-lease plan whereby payment can be made in like materials later, or other goods as agreed upon.

"Our most useful and immediate role is to act as an arsenal for them as well as for ourselves."

The president emphatically stated that our promises of support in the democracies in sending ever-increasing supplies of ships, planes, tanks and guns would not be intimidated by threats from dictator nations.

Four Human Freedoms

The president said the nations must look forward to a world founded on four essential human freedoms. They were: "The first is freedom of speech and expression—everywhere in the world."

"The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way—everywhere in the world."

"The third is freedom from want—which translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peace time life for its inhabitants—everywhere in the world."

"The fourth is freedom from fear—which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor—anywhere in the world."

In closing the president spoke of "our peaceful revolution" that adjusts itself to changing conditions—"without the concentration camp or the quicklime in the ditch." Over against the "new order in Europe" he placed a world order of greater conception—the moral order. "The world order that we seek is the cooperation of free countries, working together in a friendly, civilized society."

"This nation has placed its destiny in the hands and hearts of free men and women; and its faith in freedom under the guidance of God. . . . To that high concept there can be no end save victory."

Baptists Sponsor Series Of Sunday Broadcasts

The first in a series of broadcasts entitled "The Baptist Hour", sponsored by the radio committee of the Southern Baptist convention, went on the air over 15 southern stations last Sunday afternoon. Dr. M. E. Dodd, pastor of the First Baptist church of Shreveport, La., was the principal speaker.

The remaining 12 broadcasts will be heard each Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock EST over the following stations: WRNL, Richmond; WPTF, Raleigh; WSAP, Spartanburg; WSB, Atlanta; WFBC, Greenville; WBRC, Birmingham; WSLI, Jackson; WMPS, Memphis, and WSM, Nashville.

In addition, the following stations will carry the Baptist Hour by transcription at the time named:

West's Mill

Mr. and Mrs. Cero Martin and two children, Jack and Jimmy, spent the week-end with Mrs. Martin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Morgan.

After spending the Christmas holidays with their parents here, Dr. and Mrs. J. L. West, and at Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. McCollum, Mr. and Mrs. John McCollum returned to their home in Red Jacket, Va., Sunday.

Miss Vonnie West, who is a teacher in the Bryson City school, spent the Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. L. West, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sorrels and daughter, Carlene from Bryson City, visited here last Saturday.

J. L. West, Jr., and Charles Owens who are attending Brevard spent the Christmas holidays with their parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. L. West and Mrs. Grady Owens.

Mr. and Mrs. Chase Tatham and small daughter, Patricia, spent the week-end with Mrs. Tatham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred McGaha.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McLean from Raleigh visited Mr. McLean's parents Monday, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. McLean.

Messrs J. M. Morgan and C. N. West and daughter Ada Ruth went to Bryson City on business Friday.

Loyal Order of Moose

Franklin Lodge, No. 452 Meets

In American Legion Hall

Every Thursday Night 7:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

J. J. Mann, Secretary

12 noon EST, WAVE, Louisville. KWKH, Shreveport; 1:30 p. m. EST, WCSC, Charleston; 3:30 p. m. EST, WCOG Meridian, WIS, Columbia; and 5 p. m. EST, WBIG, Greensboro.

Dr. George W. Truett will be the speaker next Sunday, January 12, on "Christ and Human Suffering."

We'll know national unity is an established fact when we hear a Californian praise Florida weather—or vice versa.

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At all times, regardless of season, you can get the pick of the nation's crop of foods here in our store. Our selection of frozen foods includes both meats and fancy quality fruits and vegetables. Stop in today and try some of these delicious foods.

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By WALLY BISHOP