

NATION'S WORKERS RIDE CREST OF WAR BOOM

INDUSTRIAL PAY 63% ABOVE 1927 FOR RECORD HIGH Living Costs Increase 27% Since 1939

The pendulum of American economy has taken a swing again and this time the factory worker has come to the top. On the other side of the fence and not faring so well are the many white collar and non-manufacturing employees, making up more than 60 per cent of the nation's labor force.

In the present mechanized war production has taken on an importance almost equal to that of actual fighting. Thus, the factory worker has become a vital factor, and in no better way has this been demonstrated by the demand for his labor and, most significant of all, the increase in his pay check.

Since August of 1939, wages of employees in manufacturing industries have gone up 82 per cent. In the meantime, cost of living has increased less than 27 per cent, thus giving the employee a sizable surplus of income over expenses, if one figures the base wages of 1939 were adequate.

Lined up against the 14 million employees in the factories, however, are the many millions more of white collar workers, etc., have not, as a whole, enjoyed the same measure of prosperity. In vetting the Commodity Credit Corporation bill, President Roosevelt said:

"It is too easy to act on the assumption that all consumers have surplus purchasing power; and that the high earnings of some workers in munitions plants are enjoyed by every worker's family. This easy assumption overlooks the 4,000,000 wage workers still earning less than 40c per hour, and millions of others whose incomes are almost as low. It ignores that fact that almost 4,000,000 families have not had an increase of more than 5 per cent in their income during the last 18 months. It further ignores the millions of salaried white collar workers — whose salaries have remained low. It equally ignores others on fixed incomes."

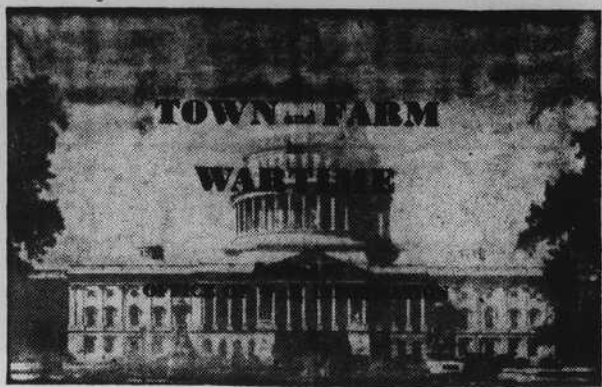
Was a time in the roaring '20s when the white-collar workers, etc., were reaping the harvest of a paper prosperity—the stock, bond and real estate boom followed the '30's when nobody particularly flourished. And now in the '40s mechanized warfare has thrust the industrial worker into the limelight.

Figures from the department of labor show that average weekly earnings of manufacturing employees are now approximately 63 per cent higher than they were in 1925-27. On the other hand, living costs are almost equal to those of the same years.

In April of 1941, the average factory worker's paycheck amounted to \$28.08. In June of this year the same worker brought \$43.35 home. Half of this gain, or approximately \$7.25, resulted from overtime earnings. As a whole, the average factory worker is now putting in five hours more than he did in the spring of 1941.

But the true extent of this increase can be found in its relation to the cost of living. Since wages generally have shot up so much faster than prices, industrial workers have been left with a surplus of 41 per cent of pay over expenses. This kind of figuring is not so simple, however, since it cannot be presumed that the workers' 1939 wages were adequate to cover the full cost of living.

In the general increased living cost of 27 per cent, food took the highest jump of 43 per cent. Rents went up only 8 per cent, and fuel and light costs 7.6 per



RATION REMINDER

GASOLINE

In 17 states of eastern shortage area A-6 coupons are now good. In states outside the eastern shortage area A-7 coupons are good through September 21st.

FUEL OIL

Period 5 coupons in old rations remain good thru September 30. Period 1 coupons in new rations are good through December.

SUGAR

Stamp No. 14 good for 5 pounds through October. Stamps Nos. 15 and 16 good for 5 pounds each for home canning through October 31.

SHOES

Stamp No. 18 good for one pair through October 31.

STOVES

Consumer purchases of rationed stoves must be made with certificates obtained at local War Price and Rationing Boards.

MEATS, FATS

Red stamps X, Y and Z good through October 2. Brown stamp B becomes good September 19 and remains good through October 2.

PROCESSED FOODS

Blue stamps R, S and T expire September 20. U, V and W are now good and expire October 20.

Victory Gardeners Set Record

Twenty million Victory Gardens—two million more than the

goal set last spring—were grown this year. Claude R. Wickard Secretary of Agriculture, said in a recent radio address. The Secretary said the Victory Gardens total about four million acres and will produce eight million tons of food. In speaking of the goal of 22 million gardens for next year, Wickard said, "Last year at this time we were concerned over the possibility that we would not have enough garden seed and fertilizer for all who wanted to grow gardens. Our best information is that we shall have an ample supply of both next year. We are expecting a better supply of garden tools and equipment for spraying and dusting. Victory Garden production should set another new record in 1944."

Farm Labor Placements

Through the government farm labor program 1,600,000 placements of workers were made on farms in the past four months. Among the workers placed were 701,000 local U. S. Crop Corps workers, comprising 250,000 men 150,000 women and 300,000 boys and girls. War food administration officials, in making this announcement, stressed the need for more emergency volunteer workers in the next few months. Recruitment and placement of farm labor are handled by county agricultural extension agents in most localities. In others the activity is carried on by the U. S. Employment Service.

Points For Home Canned Foods

The point value of home canned foods shall be the same as that of the corresponding commercial product, except that no home-canned food shall have a point value of more than eight points per quart or four points per pound. This was announced in a recent OPA amendment.

Synthetic Tire Prices

Maximum prices for synthetic rubber tires and tubes have been established by OPA. In the main they are the same as the ceiling prices for corresponding tires of natural rubber.

More Goods for Civilians

Civilians will soon get more cooking utensils, lamps, lanterns, bed springs, innerspring mattresses, non-electric razors, razor blades, plated silverware, brushes, nails, tacks, boilers radiators, furnaces, screen cloth, and other household and kitchen articles as a result of a recent WPB directive, which reserved a portion of the production of approximately 50 types of products for civilian use. The directive prohibits government agencies from buying goods set aside for civilians.

Consumer Coal Piles Smaller

The amount of coal held in storage by consumers diminished 512,000 tons during July, Harold L. Ickes, solid fuels administrator, reported recently. We have less coal in storage now than we had a month ago," the administrator said. "The limitations on production make it uncertain to what extent output can be increased. Consequently it will be wise to conserve coal by all possible means so that there will be enough of it to carry on all essential activities and to keep the public warm."

Army Rebuilds Shoes

Approximately six and a half million pairs of Army shoes will be rebuilt during the present fiscal year at plants under supervision of the quartermaster Corps, Army service forces, in Buford, Ga., and Hannibal, Mo. The rebuilding operation in one year will save the government approximately seven million dollars, and will conserve nearly 20 million square feet of leather. Army shoes usually are resoled there, then sent to Buford or to Hannibal for rebuilding. The rebuilt shoes look and wear like the original article and usually are more comfortable because they have been broken in.

Discharged Men Return Uniforms

Many honorably discharged enlisted men of the Army are voluntarily returning their issued clothing to the army, thereby saving clothing stocks, according to the War Department. Former soldiers desiring to return their uniforms should address a package to the commanding officer of the Army installation nearest their homes. The box should be marked: "Attention: Quartermaster, Clothing and Equipment Classification Officer." Those who do not desire to pay transportation may return the clothing by turning over any properly addressed package not over 30 pounds, to the nearest Railway Express agency office for collect shipment at government expense.

Druggists Contribute Quinine

With the compliments of the nation's druggists, more than 11 million five-grain doses of quinine are now on their way to join the war against malaria. Because seizure of the Netherlands East Indies cut off 90 per cent of the source of quinine supply, the Army called upon the nation's druggists to make contributions. An appreciable quantity of the quinine donated was produced by Germany and Japan, and it will assist in the war to defeat those nations.

Blimps Help Fishermen

Navy blimps, on the lookout for enemy submarines and surface craft in northwestern waters, also are helping the war food program. Under an agreement worked out between the office of the Coordinator of Fisheries and Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher, Navy commandant in the Seattle area blimps which sight schools of fish will communicate the news by short wave to fishing vessels. The patrolling blimps can easily spot schools of fish which might take fishermen hours to locate.

Home Canning of Fish

Surplus fish can be canned at home just as vegetables from the Victory Garden are canned. The following bulletins on cooking and canning of fish may be obtained from the publications office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, Ill.: Home Preservation of Fishery Products," Fishery Leaflet No. 18; "Cooking Carp," Fishery leaflet No. 19; and "How to Cook the Bourbot," Fishery leaflet No. 21. "War-time Fish Cookery," Conservation Bulletin No. 27, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Search for War Minerals

The most extensive exploratory program ever undertaken in the United States and Alaska for war minerals has been launched by the Bureau of Mines. The Bureau is sending its crews out in quest of nearly a score of minerals needed to supply the armed forces, according to Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior. States in which explorations will be conducted are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming.

Gun Covers Protect Bibles

Bibles which are placed on every life raft and life boat on Army transport vessels are being protected from the effects of salt water by the same type of cover that protects pistols, rifles and machine guns in landing operations. Curiously enough, the covers used for pistols are of exactly the right size for copies of the Bible and have been adopted by the Chaplains Corps as a standard protective covering for them. The covers were developed by the Quartermaster Corps of a pliable, transparent, waterproof film known as vinyl. They are buoyant enough to float the Bibles if they are accidentally dropped overboard or washed out of the rafts in heavy seas.

Public May Get Copper Wire

The public may purchase copper wire without restriction from retailers, electricians, radio repair men and others who sell it. Under a new war production board any retailer or repair man may order up to \$100 worth of copper wire for delivery during the calendar quarter. Civilians must use this with care, WPB officials have pointed out, as it will be needed to cover all essential repairs for general public use.

Leads Crew to Safety

First Lieutenant Harry E. Spencer, Jr., Dallas, Texas, has recently been awarded the Legion of Merit for his part in saving his fellow crew members after their B-17 type aircraft crashed on the Greenland ice cap, November 9, 1942. On December 7, 1942, Lieutenant Spencer and two other members of the crew left camp on a motor sled in an attempt to carry a severely injured officer to a base camp. Shortly after leaving one of the men fell into a crevasse and was killed. Six miles farther on, the sled broke down. Lieutenant Spencer and his companion could have reached the camp safely on foot, but for two months they camped by the sled caring for the injured man until all were rescued.

Soldiers Overseas May Buy Gifts

Soldiers overseas may order Christmas presents for their families and friends at home. A catalog of Christmas suggestions, prepared by the Army Exchange Service, has been sent to overseas units with instructions on how gifts may be ordered. The catalog lists several hundred gifts for men, women, and children—all of them items for which soldiers have shown a marked interest in previous selections of gifts.

Wasted money is wasted lives. Don't waste precious lives. Every dollar you can spare should be used to buy War Bonds. Buy your ten percent every pay day.

Labor Mobilization Board Holds Meet'g

Gov. E. Eaker On Committee

EXCERPTS FROM N. C. EMERGENCY WAR POWERS PROCLAMATION NO. 1V in reference to functions of Labor Mobilization Boards.

SECTION 1. That there shall be set up in each county in this State an organization to be named the LABOR MOBILIZATION BOARD OF GASTON COUNTY. Said board to consist of such a number of persons as shall be designated by the Governor. The Governor shall name the chairman of each county board and the members shall be appointed to serve for the duration of the war; that the chairman and all members of the boards shall serve without compensation and shall be fairly representative of the industrial and agricultural interests of the county; that for the purpose of this Proclamation, the Governor may adopt the county organizations already set up under the Governor's proclamation of June 23, 1943, known generally as the WORK OR FIGHT PROCLAMATION; that each county organization shall meet at the call of the chairman, is authorized and empowered to perfect its own organization and provide for the naming of all committees and sub-committees and adopt other plans of organization as to them may seem

Farm Credit Agent Sure Farmers Will Invest In Bonds

Harry L. Brown, general agent of the Farm Credit Administration of Columbia and former assistant secretary of agriculture, said today that he was sure the farmers of the Third Farm Credit district, composed of the states of South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, would do their part in investing in war bonds; especially during the Third War Loan drive.

"There are four things war bonds will do," Mr. Brown said. "They will provide the nation with needed funds with which to prosecute the war. They constitute a method of savings when income is good. Then, too, these bonds will be available for what ever needs the farmers may have for cash after the war is over. Things they can't buy at the present time, and when purchasing power will be needed to keep the wheels of industry turning. "And the most important," he concluded, "the more money that farmers invest in war bonds, the more retarded will be the trend toward inflation. We surely don't want to have the reaction we had after the first world war. During those days land sold away above its normal value and many farmers were financially sunk because they paid more than the land was worth."

Winter Cover Crops

Seeding winter cover crops to provide winter and early spring grazing is being recommended by R. J. Seitz, work unit conservator of the lower Catawba soil conservation district as a means of getting all-out production from the land.

Land handled in this manner actually performs a double duty in the war effort, he says. It is in continuous and safe year-round use, producing war crops during the summer and feeding livestock during the off-season months for added production of meats and dairy products.

The conservator points out that there is a large acreage of land in Gaston county which ordinarily remains bare and idle until spring, which could be utilized. Both legumes and non-legume crops can be planted on this land with good results, he declared.

Of the non-legumes oats, rye, rye-grass, and barley are perhaps the most common. Among the legumes are Austrian winter peas, hairy vetch, crimson clover and wild winter peas.

In addition to providing a winter source of green feed, these crops can be of tremendous value in increasing soil fertility. They protect the soil against erosion during the winter months and improve the soil's fertility by restoring nutrients which have been sapped by the preceding summer crops.

BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

proper and necessary.

SECTION 2. That it shall be the duty of each county committee to make plans for the inventory, mobilization, conservation, distribution, and use of labor in each county necessary or useful in the prosecution of the war.

SECTION 3. That each county committee shall specifically formulate plans for ascertaining the names and addresses of all male persons between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-five (55) years of age who are not gainfully employed and who are not in the armed forces of the United States or in the Maritime service, and who are physically able to work.

That for the purpose of this Proclamation any person shall be deemed to be gainfully employed if such person at the time is engaged in some employment for himself or for others for as much as thirty-five (35) hours per week, unless such person is engaged in such character of work that by the nature thereof a reasonable number of hours of work shall be less than said number, or if such person has within the past five weeks worked in his employment the number of hours that persons engaged in such employment ordinarily work; Provided, that time lost from work by reason of regular and customary vacations and sickness shall not be considered in such determination. Other conditions peculiar to the character and nature of the employment may be considered in determining whether or not such person is gainfully employed.

SECTION 4. That it shall be the duty of the county committee, under the hand of the chairman or secretary thereof, to promptly report to the local office or local representative of the United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission the names of all male persons between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-five (55) years who are found not to be gainfully employed and who are physically able to work; that in such report, the county committee shall state the age of such person and the character of work, if any, in which such person is actually employed. Notice of such action shall be given to such person by the chairman of the board by mail, addressed to the last known address of such an employed person. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to answer any reasonable questions asked such person by the county committee, or any of its authorized representatives, as to his age, address, and employment status. The county committee or any authorized representative thereof, shall have the power to subpoena any person who, after investigation, appears to be within the ages hereinbefore mentioned and unemployed, and shall have the right to require such person under oath to answer any questions pertinent to his age, address, and employment status.

SECTION 5. That it shall be the duty of such unemployed person, within twenty-four (24) hours after notice from the United States Employment Service of the tender to him of a job in some gainful employment or work of the type and character that such person by reason of his physical condition and experience

Korean WAVE



Seaman Susan Ahn of Los Angeles, who entered the Naval Reserve midshipmen's school in Northampton, Mass. Her parents are Korean and she both speaks and writes her native tongue.

is reasonably able to perform, and at wages which prevail in the county for work of that character and for reasonable hours, to accept the same and properly apply himself to the duties thereof. In the event such person shall wilfully refuse to accept such employment, or engage in some other gainful employment, without just cause or excuse, such refusal shall constitute a violation of this Proclamation and such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable as provided in Section 2 of Chapter 700 of the Session Laws of 1943.

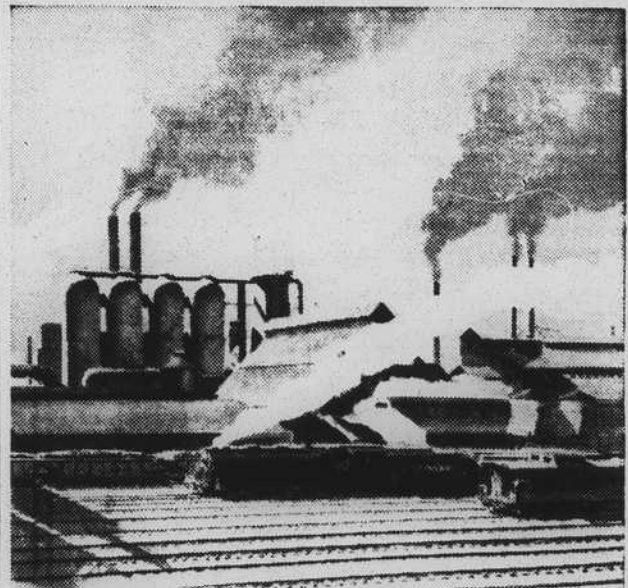
SECTION 6. The provisions of this proclamation shall not apply to persons temporarily unemployed by reason of bona fide differences between employers and employees acting in groups or organizations nor to bona fide students during the school term, nor to persons fitting themselves to engage in a trade or industrial pursuit.

SECTION 7. That it shall be the duty of the county committee to report to the law enforcing officers of the county the names and addresses of all persons who, based upon their investigation, are found to be vagrants within the meaning of Consolidated Statutes 4459-4464, and who, after being tendered gainful employment, refuse to accept the same or to reasonably continue in such employment; and it shall be the duty of such officers, upon such information, to cause warrants to be issued against such persons and that they be speedily brought to trial in courts of competent jurisdiction.

It shall also be the duty of the county committee to report to the law enforcing officers of the county the names and addresses of all persons who, in the terms of this proclamation have been tendered gainful employment and who wilfully refuse to accept and reasonably continue therein.

Aid to Enemy

"Any American who wilfully neglects to pay his taxes on time or to invest every cent he can in War Bonds is surely giving aid and comfort to the enemy. . . . We have a job to do and we are all called for service to our country. Our dollars are called to service too. Let us all ask ourselves, 'Shall we be more tender with our dollars than with the lives of our sons?' — Secretary Morgenthau."



Partners with Industry!

The railroads of America are backing industry to the limit in the war of production. Only the close coordination born of a common cause could result in the extraordinary achievements of transportation and industry since the war began.

For many years the Seaboard Railway has recognized the interdependence of industry and transportation. On the established principle that the welfare of the railroad depends upon the prosperity of its patrons, the Seaboard has been working over a long period of time for the economic development of the territory it serves.

The Seaboard's interest extends beyond the location of new plants. It is equally concerned with the success of all industry served by its line. Its policy is to provide adequate service and to adjust the freight rates on raw materials and finished products to enable these industries to compete with similar industries whether located in the South or elsewhere.

Remarkable progress has been made in the industrial development of the South in recent years. Present indications point to further expansion in the post-war period.

Seaboard will work in the future — as in the past — as Partners With Industry.



BACK THE ATTACK WITH WAR BONDS

One of America's Railroads - All United for Victory

From where I sit...
by Joe Marsh

Sam Abernethy always said: "Curiosity may kill a cat - but I'm no cat." Which is Sam's way of saying that when he's curious about something he goes out and gets the facts.

Seems our government feels the same way. After hearing rumors about our soldiers drinking too much - government people went after the facts. They got the evidence on what our boys drink... and don't drink.

The government found out our Army's the best behaved in history. More'n half of 'em drink beer - nothing stronger. And the government found that selling 3.2 beer in Army camps is one reason why our Army is so temperate.

From where I sit, there isn't much cause to worry about our men in the Army. Looks like they can take care of themselves - and take care of the Nazis and the Japs, too.

Joe Marsh