

TOWN AND FARM IN WARTIME

Ration Reminder

GASOLINE—In 17 east coast states A-8 coupons are good through February 8. In states outside the east coast area A-9 coupons are good through January 21.

SUGAR—Stamp No. 29 in Book Four is good for five pounds through January 15.

SHOES—Stamp No. 18 in Book One, good for one pair. Stamp No. 1 on the "airplane" sheet in Book Three, good for one pair.

MEATS, FATS—Brown stamps L, M and N good through January 1. Brown stamp P becomes good December 12 and remains good through January 1, 1944.

PROCESSED FOODS—Green stamps A, B and C in Book Four, good through December 20. Green stamps D, E and F in Book Four, good through January.

Reduce Meat Point Value

The entire list of rationed beef items has been cut two or three ration points, making the most meat available to civilians since rationing began late last March. Many pork cuts remain at the reduced value set by OPA in mid-November, and point values of lamb, mutton, and practically all veal remain unchanged. This means an increase of approximately 30 per cent in the housewife's meat ration for December as compared with the ration set at the beginning of November.

To Maintain Farm Structures

Farm building material makers, under sponsorship of the Farm Structures Institute and in cooperation with the War Food Administration, will hold a war conference in Chicago, December 10, on maintenance of farm structures, WFA announced recently. Keynote of the conference will be that the nation's ten and a half billion dollar investment in farm structures must be kept at top productive efficiency through adequate maintenance, with the necessary minimum of new construction. Only the value of agricultural land itself exceeds the amount of funds invested in buildings and structures on farms of the country.

Keep Draft Board Informed

A farm worker who fails to keep his local Selective Service Board informed of a change of address or occupation may be reclassified or possibly inducted into the armed forces. Only the Selective Service Board with whom the individual has registered has authority to grant him a temporary release for non-farm work which will protect his deferred classification.

Changes in Tire Regulations

Recent changes in tire rationing regulations announced by OPA are: (1) recapping of tires for commercial vehicles with truck-type camelback is no longer rationed; (2) tires manufactured principally from reclaimed rubber (war tires) may now be bought by those persons previously eligible for used tires. Tire and tube rationing for December are not greatly changed from those in November.

Change in Gasoline Coupons

Motorists are reminded by OPA that their old "B" and "C" gasoline coupons continue to have a value of two gallons each in the East and Midwest and three gallons in the Far West. On December 1, however, all new "B" and "C" coupons issued to motorists whose supplementary gasoline rations expired became good for five gallons each throughout the country. Although each new coupon will be good for more gallons than before, motorists will not receive an additional gasoline because ration books will have corresponding fewer coupons.

Citrus Marmalades Point Free

All marmalades made entirely of citrus fruits (principally oranges and lemons) may be bought point free, according to OPA. Marmalades made of citrus and non-citrus fruits in combination are rationed at the same point value as marmalades made wholly of non-citrus fruits.

Jam and Jelly Prices

Consumers will pay about two or three cents more per pound jar for jams, preserves, and jellies made from apples, apple products, and frozen grapes, under a recent OPA regulation. The increases reflect increases in fruit costs to the packer.

Frozen Fruits, Berries

Consumers will pay from 3-4 cent a pound to 3 cents a pound more for frozen California freestone peaches, Concord grapes, apples, and blackberries. According to OPA, these increases will allow the processors to pass increased raw material costs on to the ultimate consumer.

Copper Sulphate For '44 Crops

Sufficient copper for production of copper sulphate to protect next year's food crops from bacterial and fungus diseases will be available, WFA said recently. It is necessary, however, that consumers and distributors order and accept delivery as soon as possible if adequate quantities of copper pesticides are to be available when needed next year.

ODT Asks Help For Santa Claus

Christmas shoppers have been asked by ODT to lend Santa Claus a helping hand by observing the following: (1) Shop now. Mail now. Do not wait until the "eleventh hour." (2) Carry your packages whenever possible. (3) Remember, War Bonds and Stamps make the best Christmas gifts. They are a good buy and

they take minimum transportation space, ODT pointed out.

Maintain Low-Priced Services

Low priced services may be dropped only under certain conditions specified by OPA. These services range from laundering and dry cleaning through the servicing of automobiles and repairing of shoes. Certain misinterpretations of the OPA services regulation necessitated this more general action. For example, photographers in some instances refused to print small-sized pictures, offering only large prints at higher prices. The only conditions under which lower-priced services may be dropped are: (1) When the necessary specialized equipment or supplies are not available. (2) Continuance of the service would be in violation of government regulation or rendered impracticable by it. (3) Discontinuance of the service would enable the seller to maintain other services more necessary to the community. (4) Other suppliers in the community are able and willing to supply the service under the same ceiling price.

Owners Note License Numbers

Car owners themselves rather than ration boards or automobile registration officials must note new license numbers on their ration books and tire inspection records, under a recent OPA ruling. The action also provides that "T" coupons issued for use in 1944 by commercial vehicles and taxis will be in strips (similar to strips of motion picture tickets) rather than in book form and each coupon will be serially numbered.

Passenger Car Quota Is Lowest

The December rationing quota of 15,500 new passenger automobiles is 25 per cent less than the November quota and the lowest in almost two years of rationing, according to OPA. Continued quota reductions reflect OPA's policy of spreading out as long as possible the remaining supply of new cars for essential purposes. No new cars have been produced since early in 1942. Under a new OPA ruling dealers in selling used 1942 automobiles may charge an increase of one per cent a month or \$15—whichever is lower—only for the period the automobile actually was kept in storage and maintained under specified conditions. A user may sell his 1942 used car for no more than he paid for it when he bought it.

1943 Corn Loan Rates

Farmers who have met 90 per cent of their war crop goals in designated Corn Belt Counties will be loaned 81 to 97 cents a bushel on their 1943 corn crop by the Commodity Credit Corporation. The Corn Belt counties include all in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and parts of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Minnesota. In areas where loans are available outside the designated Corn Belt counties the 1943 rates range from

81 cents to \$1.01 a bushel. Last year, the loans in areas outside the Corn Belt were 57 to 74 cents a bushel.

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page Three)

intimate that the prime purpose is to secure the "constitutional protection of private property." There is no effort on the part of the Government to take private property without just compensation but officials of the Government are trying to avoid the payment of huge profits, which are based upon values enhanced by the exigencies of the war.

The Merchant Marine Act was passed in order to assure the successful operation of American ships. Because ship owners contended that they could not compete with the ships of other nations, the Congress of the United States granted monetary assistance, and, at the same time, attempted to safeguard the nation against profiteering on the part of ship owners in the event that the Government found it necessary to use the vessels in an emergency.

The ship owners were not concerned with the constitutional protection of public funds so long as they received the benefits of the Merchant Marine Act but now, when it operates to keep them from collecting extravagant prices, based on temporary and fictitious values, they want the money and they talk about the "constitutional protection of private property."

Report on Price Control

Some Success Apparent

May Avert Depression

Let's not become so involved in the details of the battle against inflation that we lose sight of the goal in mind.

Everybody old enough to remember the cycle of inflation and deflation that followed the last World War is anxious to avoid a repetition of these economic earthquakes.

For those not old enough to recall the details we point out that from 1914 to 1920 the level of prices was doubled and the purchasing power of the dollar was cut in half. In 1920, the boom collapsed, and prices dropped 45 per cent, bringing bankruptcy to business, unemployment to laborers and prolonged depression to agriculture.

War Business Bigger Than Ever

In the former struggle, during 1917 and 1918, war took one-quarter of the national income. Now, it is taking half. In the first war we spent \$30,000,000,000 and in the current struggle, we have expended \$150,000,000,000, with much more certain to be required.

There is a difference, however, in some phases of the economic situation, although the constant threat of increasing prices means that the purchasing power of the dollar may be reduced to half, or, perhaps, one-third of its present value.

With \$142,000,000,000 in purchas-

ing power the American people have only an estimated \$88,000,000,000 worth of goods and services to buy. There is surplus money, either to be saved or permitted to operate, to increase prices and hasten inflation.

Considerable Success Apparent

Up to this time considerable success has attended the effort to control prices. Clair Wilcox, Professor of Economics, Swarthmore College, points out that wholesale prices rose 29 per cent during the first nineteen months of our participation in the last war; this time, they have gone up only 12 per cent. The cost of living, she says, went up nearly fifty per cent before; now, it is up about 22 per cent.

Her figures are interesting and Richard L. Strout, of the Christian Science Monitor staff at Washington, adds that every consumer in the

Prices Now And Then Compared
Mr. Stout contrasts current national average prices of certain foods

country should be grateful for the measure of success that has attended present controls. Rents, he says, increased 54.5 per cent in the first war; during the same period of this conflict they have gone up about 8.5 per cent.

with what they reached after the first World War, generally in 1919 and 1920. Butter attained a national

average price of 78 cents a pound. (Continued on Page Six)

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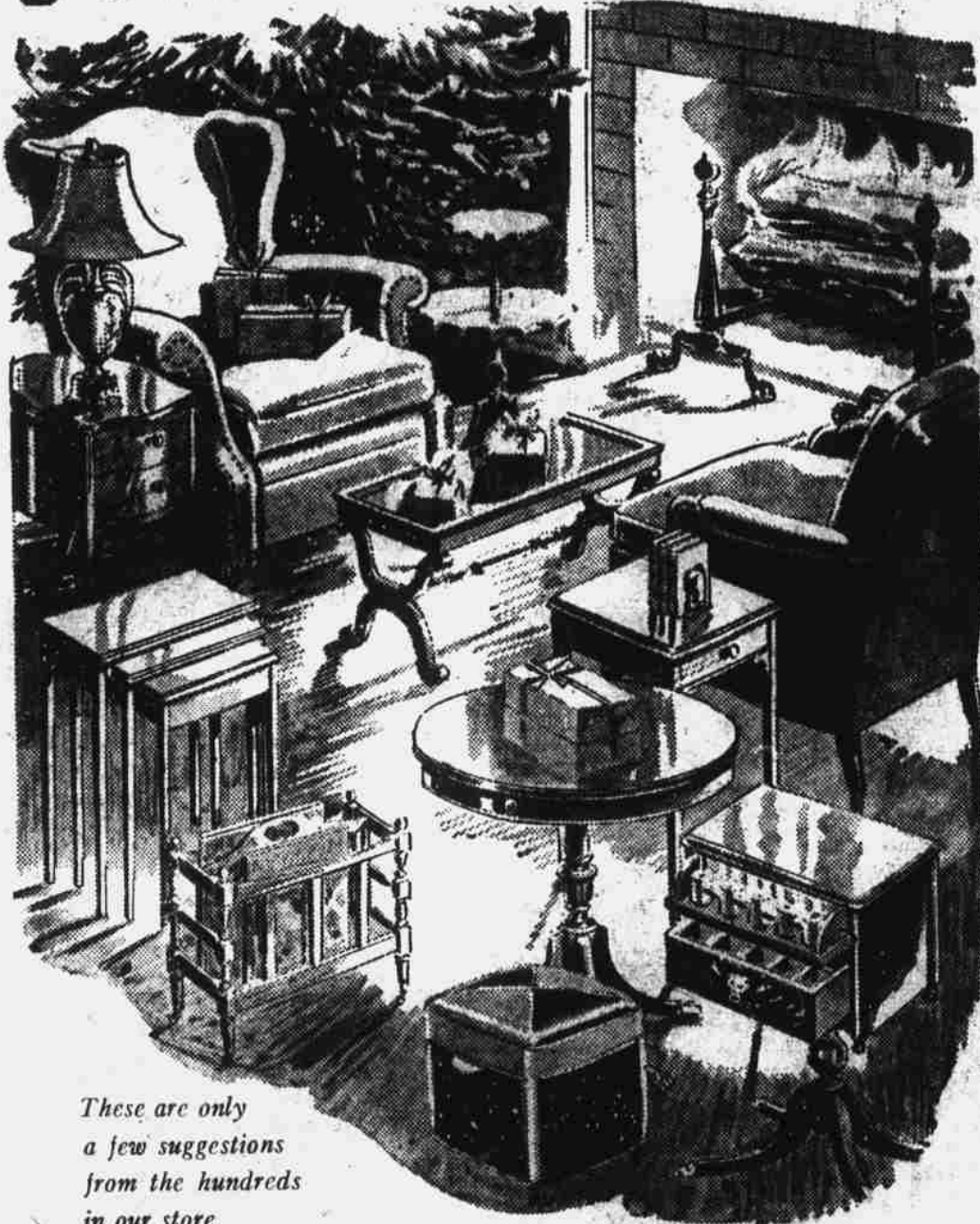
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We'll be glad to help you make your selections. If you'll tell us what kind of Furniture you want a piece to harmonize with, we'll give you the benefit of our advice. Included are too many gift items to mention here. A few suggestions follow:

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- Rockers
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