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OPA limits retail prices of typewriters, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, radios, phonographs, washers, ironers, stoves

In the broadest action yet taken to combat price inflation affecting lines of goods made scarce by war, Acting Price Administrator Hamm on March 23 set maximum prices that retailers can charge for seven major household appliances and for new typewriters as well. Effective March 30, the latest OPA regulations bring under Federal price control at the retail level: New household mechanical refrigerators; new household vacuum cleaners and attachments; new domestic heating and cooking stoves and ranges; new domestic washing and ironing machines; new radio receiving sets and phonographs; and new typewriters.

Scarcity because of war effort

Production of all of these important articles of consumers' durable goods has been drastically curtailed or completely suspended because of the demand of war industries for the metals that are used in their manufacture. This growing scarcity has resulted in sharp price increases at wholesale and retail and in thousands of complaints from the buying public of profiteering, according to Mr. Hamm.

"Inasmuch as there has been no increase in manufacturers' prices, it is obvious that wholesale and retail prices are being pushed up simply on the theory that the public should be glad to get a new refrigerator or washer or vacuum cleaner or radio at any price in these times," Mr. Hamm said. "This is the reasoning that makes for profiteering and stimulates inflation. We have the duty of preventing these twin evils and are acting accordingly. Enforced scarcity will not be permitted to dictate the price of any article subject to OPA control, now or in the future."

Orders apply at wholesale too

In addition to setting maximum prices at retail, the orders also apply at the wholesale level, and, in the case of the regulations for vacuum cleaners and new typewriters, place a ceiling over manufacturers' prices for the first time.

Four of the OPA regulations—those applying to new typewriters, domestic washing and ironing machines, radio receiving sets and phonographs, and domestic heating and cooking stoves and ranges—are 60-day "temporary orders" and peg prices at the level of March 19. The two "permanent regulations," those applying to household vacuum cleaners and attachments and household mechanical refrigerators, use for the ceiling prices the manufacturers' recommended retail price lists and "freeze" the price.
More than 100 war factories had reported before the end of last week on the organization of management-labor committees to increase production of tanks, planes, ships, and guns. In one case rival unions within a plant overcame their differences to further the War Production effort, and in another the working of the committee was demonstrated dramatically when War Production Board Chairman Nelson commended it for heroic efforts to maintain production during a flood.

Mounting demands

Elsewhere, mounting demands for materials and machines which are producing and will produce these tanks, planes, ships, and guns came to the surface as more and more factories were taken out of civilian manufacturing. Strict controls were placed over the making of metal windows, metal plaster bases, razor blades, portable electric lamps and shades, and flashlights.

WPB put further limits on the use of chrome steel, and added more products to those for which the percentage of crude rubber content is specified. Critical metal was trimmed out of plumbing fixture fittings. The Materials Division issued an ordering system for users of steel plates, to see that as many factories as possible use the more abundant strip mill product and save the wider plates for purposes in which they are indispensable. Enamel needed to cost military supplies was forbidden for decorating the ends of cans. Rapeseed oil necessary to keep heavy war machines running was reserved for that purpose.

REA cut to 100 tons

WPB notified the Rural Electrification Administration it could have only 100 tons more copper to finish projects underway.

The Division of Industry Operations gave notice that it means business when it issues regulations. A builder held to have violated priority rules was denied further aid for at least 60 days.

Meanwhile WPB moved to decentralize its activities and set up a more direct service to manufacturers by establishing 13 regional offices, each particularly fitted to administer the industrial effort of its area.

To assure carrying a rapidly increasing burden of materials in and out of war factories, Transportation Director Eastman ordered minimum load limits for freight cars.

OPA steps into retail field

The Office of Price Administration stepped into the retail field to see that the scarcity induced by conversion of our economy to war does not work unnecessarily hard. OPA limited the prices of vacuum cleaners, mechanical refrigerators, radios, phonographs, washing and ironing machines, stoves and ranges, and typewriters. Meat stores were warned that they must keep their charges in lime now that there is a wholesale ceiling on pork.

OPA temporarily froze prices of newsprint. At the same time, however, higher costs of transporting petroleum in tank cars instead of tank ships was recognized by allowing a ½-cent boost on the Eastern Seaboard, and a rise was permitted in prices of Pennsylvania grade crude oils to make possible a larger output for military demands.

Other price actions concerned wool products from the “pulled” stage through worsted yarns; specialty combed yarns of extra-long-fiber cotton; second-hand cloth bags; print cloth bed linens; domestic shorn wool; remolded tires; antiquity; coal; meat scraps; hide glue and hide stock.

New typewriters for rationing

OPA announced that more than 100,000 new typewriters would be available for rationing April 13, though the nonwar user hasn’t much chance of getting one. Some recapped tires were allotted to passenger cars for the first time in the April quotas. WPB cut tea deliveries in half to spin out stocks in case returning munitions ships should be prevented from cutting across Pacific fighting zones with new imports; and restricted the use of honey in manufactured products. Refrigerator dealers were notified they may sell at retail their entire stocks.

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Presidents of the CIO and AFL thereupon pledged their unions to abandonment of the double-time arrangement. Congress delayed action on a bill designed to enforce both objectives.

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Johnson succeeds Curry as Civil Air Patrol commander

Earle L. Johnson, Executive Officer of the Civil Air Patrol, on March 28 was named National Commander by OCD Director Landis. Mr. Johnson succeeds Maj. Gen. John F. Curry, U. S. Air Forces, who has been assigned by the War Department as Commander of the Fourth District Air Forces Technical Training Command with headquarters in Denver, Colo.

“Now organized with a Wing Command in every State, the Civil Air Patrol has proven itself as a hard-hitting and effective organization, quick to carry out the missions which the Army and the civilian defense units have entrusted to it,” Director Landis said. “More than 37,000 citizens, 60 percent of whom are civilian pilots, already have enlisted to fly their own or rented planes on a wide variety of assignments primarily designed to relieve military planes and airmen for other duties. . . .”

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WAR EFFORT’S PROGRESS TOLD VISUALLY

The charts appearing every week on the front cover of Victory tell the story of America’s battle as it is fought here at home. One-column mats are available for publication by newspapers and others who may desire them. Requests should be sent to Distribution Section, Division of Information, OEM, Washington, D. C.
March 31, 1942

★ VICTORY ★

### On the Home Front

The mountain is still before us—but we are out of the foothills now, and we can see clearly.

Today, standing at the threshold of April and almost 3 months up from Pearl Harbor, we know what it is to climb. We know what it is to climb and we can see that the road ahead of us is very like the road by which we have come—except that it is steeper.

Today we know what we shall have to do to win this war because we have already begun to do it. And what is much, much more—we know why we are doing these things, we know how the sacrifices and deprivations of the Home Front contribute to the broad strategy of our world campaign against the Axis and how these sacrifices and deprivations are helping to build our ultimate triumph in that campaign.

**New portents of change**

The past week produced new portents of change for all of us, change of the sort which is altering our whole lives, altering our work and our dress and our play, altering the way in which we eat, and travel, and build, altering the equipment in our offices and the very furnishings of our homes.

The War Production Board restricts the amount of steel which may go into beds and bedsprings and mattresses, issues an order which will end altogether the production of metal household furniture, cuts the output of razors and razor blades.

Good. We know where the steel is going and that steel in a tank these days is a better guarantee of sound slumber on the Home Front than in the coiled metal of the best bedspring.

We understand why there can be no more substitution of bus routes for streetcar lines; we know it is just one aspect of the critical shortage of rubber caused by the Japs; we know that it is because of the Japs we have less sugar and must now get along with less tea.

Today we know that the "why" of shortages, but we have a right to expect that these shortages shall not expose us to inflated prices. It is for that reason that the Office of Price Administration last week fixed maximum retail prices for seven household appliances as well as for new typewriters.

Previously OPA, although it had placed price ceilings over many products at the level of the manufacturer or wholesaler, had restricted regulation of retail prices to autos, tires, and—in 19 States and the District of Columbia—gasoline.

Last week's new orders, however, fix maximum retail prices for new domestic mechanical refrigerators, new vacuum cleaners and attachments, new domestic heating and cooking stoves and ranges, new radio sets and phonographs, and new typewriters.

And price control, as a result, becomes for the first time a matter of direct and personal interest to millions of us.

**Tanks from farms**

Linked in purpose to our great War Production Drive—a drive now gathering force in some 2,000 American plants—is another sort of a campaign launched by WPB's bureau of industrial conservation. This is a campaign to get in the millions of tons of scrap metal and old rubber from the U. S. A.'s 6,500,000 farms. WPA trucks and WPA workers are assisting in this salvage campaign, a campaign which also must succeed before we can make the guns and tanks and ships and planes we need.

For the first time since tire rationing began a limited number of recapped tires are made available to war workers and other passenger car owners on "List B" in the April quotas. . . . And a Los Angeles tire dealer has been enjoined from selling new tires in defiance of rationing provisions. . . . There'll be less wool in wool blankets so that there will be more wool to keep our soldiers and sailors warm . . . OPA's consumer division, incidentally, suggests that families see what can be done with needle and thread before buying new clothes . . . Tea and flashlights met face to face in curtailment orders last week. . . . And WPB has cut production of portable lamps and shades and restricted the amount of metal which may go into such lamps. . . . The order applies to floor lamps and table lamps and bed lamps. . . . Because enamel is needed to coat military supplies it can't be used to decorate the ends of tin cans any more. . . . Shellac also is used to coat military and naval equipment, including artillery shells, and so WPB is going to cut its use by civilians.

**Cigarettes, shoes, bread**

Rationing of hearses, ambulances, and station wagons has been returned to WPB by OPA . . . Most of the station wagons will go to Army and Navy, anyway. . . . Many auto dealers are managing to convert their plants and equipment to war work. . . . Survey of the cigarette industry resulted in a ruling that present prices should stand unless new Federal taxes are imposed. . . . In addition to restricting the amount of steel which may go into beds and bedsprings and mattresses, WPB has cut the production of metal window frames. . . . Reclaimed rubber mayn't be used in a long list of articles after March 31, a list which runs a gamut from baby carriages to household gloves and from fly swatters to golf bags. . . . Shoe manufacturers have been urged to use less leather in making civilian shoes. . . . And farmers preparing for record spring plantings are protected against excessive fertilizer costs by OPA price margins. . . . These margins became effective last week.

WPB has suggested that the baking industry reduce operating costs in order to prevent a rise in prices.

**Honey and coal**

WPB has issued an order limiting the amount of honey which may be used in such manufactured products as ice cream, candy, soft drinks, bakery goods and medicines. . . . The purpose is to save present stocks of honey for households and the boys at the fronts. . . . Coal dealers may add the amount of recently granted freight rate increases to your bill, although OPA urges them not to do this. . . . Increases range from 3 to 5 cents per net ton. . . . The curtailment of safety razor blades will permit each adult American male about one new blade a week and this reduced quota, along with a reduced quota of razors, will save some 1,500,000 tons of steel for tanks or weapons. . . . The cut in razor blade production may mean a cut for you but it should also bring a cut for the Japs, too.

Retailers of men's and boys' clothing are urged to save wool clippings from the ends of men's trousers—where the cuff would be if we hadn't decided to pass up cuffs to cuff the Axis—and get them back into the woolen mills via the wool rag dealers. . . . "We're all in this war together," as WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson told CIO union members last week, "and if any of us lose our freedom, all of us lose it." A thought for this week.
INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS...

REA notified it will get only 100 tons more copper to finish projects under way

The War Production Board has notified the Rural Electrification Administration that only 100 additional tons of copper will be allotted to it to complete projects already under way.

This amount of copper and the copper it has on hand must be used to complete projects which were more than 40 percent complete last December 5, and a few additional projects designated by REA and approved by the power branch of the WPB.

History of REA allocations

Last December the former Supply Priorities and Allocations Board authorized the then Office of Production Management to allocate to REA 1,500 tons of copper per month up to a total of not more than 16,500 tons. It provided that such copper should be used on certain projects listed in two Groups (A and B), that were then more than 40 percent complete. It provided also that projects less than 40 percent complete should be reviewed, and those substantially under way should be completed.

REA has since then received a total of 7,200 tons of copper. While this is 3,200 tons short of the maximum permitted under the SPAB policy, the copper situation has become even more acute than it was last December and the War Production Board has now decided that the additional copper cannot be allotted.

The copper needs of the projects listed in Groups A and B have already been provided for.

34 other projects permitted

In addition, 34 other projects were over 40 percent complete last December 5. They did not appear in the A and B groups because the REA lists were prepared as of October 31, whereas the SPAB policy was announced as of December 5. Approximately 650 tons of copper are required to complete these 34 projects, if 520 tons of steel conductor is used in substitution for copper.

While the SPAB policy did not commit OPM to make copper available for projects not included in the A and B groups, nevertheless WPB took the position that the SPAB policy has been generally regarded as giving assurance that any projects that were 40 percent complete at the time of the ruling would be given sufficient materials to complete the projects.

550 tons of copper to be diverted

Therefore, in order to make possible the completion of these 34 projects, WPB directed that 550 tons of copper now in REA's possession be diverted from projects not yet started and that an additional 100 tons be allocated to REA, thus making available the 650 tons of copper necessary to complete these projects.

Provision was also made for partial completion of another group of projects which were in various stages of completion on February 20, the last date for which data were available when a check was made.

WPB has decided that the copper on hand for this group may be used for such of those projects as are approved by the power branch of the WPB but that no more copper may be allocated to this group, which is in addition to those from which the 550 tons will be diverted.

Molybdenum allocation delayed

Consumers of molybdenum have been notified that, because of lack of time, General Preference Order M-110 which calls for a complete allocation system will not be placed in effect in April, the Director of Industry Operations announced March 24.

Requests for delivery of molybdenum must be received by the War Production Board by the 20th of the preceding month, it was explained, and the complete working of the order will take effect May 1.

For the remainder of March and April, these general rules should be observed:

No order should be placed or accepted which will increase the customer's minimum working inventory.

Shipments during March or April should not exceed shipments made to the same customer during either January or February, whichever was the greatest.

If such an amount already has been shipped for March no further shipments should be made for the month.

No deliveries of molybdenum should be made before May 1 except on ratings of A-10 or higher.

Utility maintenance, operation rating raised to A-2 and A-5

The War Production Board issued on March 26 a complete revision of Preference Rating Order F-46 which was issued last September to assist utilities in obtaining the minimum amount of materials necessary for maintenance, repair, and operation. That order aspired to give a blanket preference rating of A-10 to all such materials.

The March 26 order supersedes the original order and all amendments thereto and makes several important changes, the principal of which are:

1. The blanket rating of A-10 in the original order is replaced by two higher ratings. An A-2 rating is granted to deliveries of material for maintenance, repair, and operating supplies for power plants and pumping stations. An A-3 rating is granted to all other facilities, such as lines, pipes, and substations.

2. The order also assigns a rating of A-5 to deliveries of materials to bring electricity, such as the water to war plants or other projects. A-5 rating is also granted to deliveries of materials needed to protect power or water plants against sabotage, such as fencing, tear gas bombs for guards around such plants, etc. These ratings may not be applied without prior authorization from the Director of Industry Operations of WPB.

3. Line extensions to serve a new consumer are restricted to 250 feet. The original order permitted a 1,000-foot extension. Extensions began prior to March 26, the date of issuance of this order, may be completed.

Despite this restriction, the power board of the WPB announced that houses that were wired prior to March 26 or for which the foundations were completed before that date, may be served with electricity provided they are not more than 2,000 feet from an existing line and provided the utility specifies that galvanized steel wire will be used instead of copper.

The WPB order, which has been concurred in by the steel branch, will also permit extension of service to a number of homes which were already wired when the 1,000-foot extension limit was imposed last December 5.

The power branch made it clear, however, that extensions under this policy are not automatically approved, but that authorization must be obtained for each extension over 250 feet.

Two other changes in the order give utilities greater flexibility in obtaining delivery of materials.

1. Under the previous order restrictions were placed on the acceptance of deliveries of material in any quarterly calendar period. Often, through no fault of the utility, such materials were not delivered at the date for which they were ordered. This provision has been changed to place the restriction not on the period in which materials are delivered but on the period in which they are scheduled for delivery.

2. Previously a utility could not obtain certain items which it needed if the dollar value of the items on hand within the same class exceeded a practical working inventory. This has been changed to permit a limited amount of deliveries of needed items.
Production of metal plaster bases and accessories slashed to conserve steel and zinc

Curtailment of the production of metal plastering bases and accessories in order to save substantial amounts of steel and zinc for more essential needs was directed by WPB March 25 in Limitation Order L-59.

The order reduces the metal consumption of larger producers by 50 percent and smaller producers by 25 percent, with total tonnages used in the calendar years 1940 and 1941 taken as a base. Use of zinc is even more drastically curtailed.

Larger producers may use only 35 percent of tonnages consumed in the base period, and smaller producers, 50 percent. The order covers operations of producers for the four-month period ending June 30.

Larger producers, as defined in the order, are manufacturers who used 14,000 tons or more of metals during the calendar year 1941. Smaller manufacturers are those who used less than that amount in metal plastering bases or accessories.

Manufacturers who do not use their permissible quotas of zinc in coated products are permitted to increase the amount of iron and steel up to the total weight of all metals allowed.

Expect to save 75,000 tons of steel

The building materials branch of WPB estimated that the savings on an annual basis would be approximately 75,000 tons of steel and 2,400 tons of zinc.

The order covers all supports and reinforcements, made in whole or in part from metal, used as bases for the application of plastering or stucco construction. Commonly known bases included are metal lath, metal mesh, sheet metal lath, wire lath, wire cloth, wire fabric, together with accessories except for nails.

The accessories include corner lath (cornerite), base screed, corner bead clips, tie wire, metal partition studs, floor and ceiling track partitions, steel plastering shapes and concealed picture mold and trim.

Material commonly known as "chicken wire" is not covered by the order.

Unit heaters, ventilators, other items frozen for war use

Inventories of unit heaters, unit ventilators, convector, and blast heating coils have been frozen in the hands of manufacturers by a telegraphic order, it was announced March 26 by Director of Industry Operations Knowlson.

Razors cut, blades reduced to one a week per shaver; steel and machine tools freed

Curtailment of the production of safety razors, straight razors, and razor blades was ordered March 25 by the War Production Board to save valuable metals.

Dry shavers were not included in this order (L-72), as they will be taken care of in another order to be issued soon.

Under the March 25 order the monthly production of safety razors during the next 90 days is restricted to 70 percent of monthly average production in 1940, when the year's total was about 12,000,000.

Blades at 1940 average

The monthly production of blades, both double and single-edged, is limited to 100 percent of the monthly average production in 1940. This will make available an average of a blade per week per shaver.

The monthly production of straight razors is limited to 100 percent of the monthly average production in 1940.

Copper sharply restricted

In addition, the use of copper in the razors permitted under the order is sharply restricted. During the first 60 days of the 90-day period the monthly use of copper is restricted to 30 percent of the monthly consumption in 1940. Thereafter, no copper may be used except a small amount for plating, the plating not to exceed an average thickness of 0.0004 inches.

Inventories restricted

The order also prohibits manufacturers of razors and blades from accumulating inventories of raw materials, semi-processed materials or finished parts in excess of minimum practicable working inventories or 15 percent of the materials they used in 1940, whichever is the lower. The same inventory restriction applies to assembled safety razors and straight razors and completed razor blades.

Will save high carbon steel

M. D. Moore, chief of the WPB section in charge of the order, estimated that the order will result in an annual saving of 1,000 tons of special high carbon strip steel and 550 tons of low carbon steel.

Machinery used in the manufacture of safety razors is suitable for war production. Plants manufacturing most of the razors are already engaged in some direct war work. Restrictions imposed by the order will release additional machine tools for war work.

Metal window output cut to save 60,000 tons of steel; plants turning to war work

Strict controls were placed by WPB March 25 on the production and distribution of metal windows in a further move to direct every available pound of critical metals into essential products and uses.

The restrictions, contained in Limitation Order L-77, cover metal sashes, metal casements and other metal frameworks designed for window installations, and their accessories.

Effective March 25, manufacturers may make metal windows only for orders which bear an A-2 or higher preference rating, or on which work has already begun.

In addition, manufacturers may not accept deliveries of material for use in window frames, except on orders bearing a preference rating assigned under the Production Requirements Plan.

Distributor sales limited to A-10

Distributors may not sell or otherwise deliver metal windows except on orders bearing an A-10 or higher rating, or upon the direction of the Industry Operations Division.

The effect of the order, according to the WPB building materials branch, will be to limit sales from existing stocks to war projects granted a high priority for metal windows, eliminate the manufacture of residential type metal windows and permit production of only industrial-type solid section windows.

During 1941 approximately 150,000 tons of metal, almost entirely steel, were used to produce an estimated 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 windows. The limitation order is expected to result in a saving of from 60,000 to 80,000 tons a year.

Plans are being perfected to utilize the curtailed facilities of the industry in direct war work. Some plants have made considerable progress in conversion on their own initiative, and about 60 percent of current window production is for A-10 or better orders.
Flashlight makers forbidden to use aluminum, crude rubber, chromium, nickel

The use of most of the critical materials in flashlights was prohibited by the WPB March 27 in Limitation Order L-71.

Zinc only material not affected

After March 31, not one pound of aluminum, crude rubber, chromium or nickel may be used in the production of flashlight cases or batteries. Tin may be used only in solder. Brass and copper may be used only in the minimum quantities necessary to provide electrical contact fittings.

The restriction will be extended to iron and steel on May 31. After that date iron and steel may be used only in reflectors, contact fittings, battery top seals, battery outer jackets, eyelets, rivets, and end caps or end ferrules.

Materials permitted under the order may not be used in greater quantity (by weight) than was used during 1940, with provision made for manufacturers who have used substitute material in flashlights and batteries since December 31, 1940.

The only critical material not prohibited or sharply restricted by the order is zinc, the coating around a battery for which no substitute has yet been found.

During the remainder of this month manufacturers are permitted to use 1/4th of the quantity of materials they used in 1940.

Exempt from order

None of the restrictions in the order apply to contracts for flashlights for the Army, Navy, Maritime Commission, Panama Canal, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Coast Guard, Civil Aeronautics Authority, and Office of Scientific Research and Development. Nor does it apply to flashlight cases or batteries made for the anti-Axis nations.

Manufacturers are prohibited from accumulating materials in excess of the minimum amounts they need to maintain the production of flashlight cases and batteries permitted under the order.

Demand has increased

Since Pearl Harbor, the demand for flashlights has increased by several hundred percent. This abnormal demand resulted from the need for flashlights for use in blackouts and from fear that the supply of flashlights might become exhausted. While the March 27 order does not permit continued abnormal production, it does assure continued production in quantities sufficient to meet normal needs.

Enamel banned for decorating ends of tin cans; needed to coat vital war supplies

Because enamel is needed to coat vital military supplies the Director of Industry Operations deemed March 23 it must not be used to decorate the ends of tin cans.

Conservation Order M-108 provides that oils, lacquers, enamels, resins, and gums shall no longer be used as exterior coatings on cans made of tinplate or terneplate, unless the coating serves a particularly useful purpose. Exceptions are listed.

This will eliminate the largely unnecessary coating of enamel often put on tinplate and terneplate can ends. The elimination of this coating should result in a yearly saving estimated by WPB officials at approximately 500,000 pounds of raw materials for protective coatings.

The reduction in weight of enamel on exterior and interior metal surfaces of all cans is also encouraged by the order. Can manufacturers are directed to use their best efforts to cut this weight as far as practicable, with a minimum goal of nine-tenths of the weight considered standard practice by manufacturers in 1940.

Officials foresee a possible savings of 8 million pounds of enamel yearly through this weight reduction.

Chrome steel limited to A-1-k

Further restriction on the use of chrome steel was ordered March 27 by Industry Operations Director Knowlson, in Amendment No. 1 to Supplementary Order M-21-d.

The new restriction limits the use of steel containing 4 percent or more of chromium to ratings of A-1-k or higher. The original order, issued December 27, 1941, permitted deliveries of 4 percent chrome steel on ratings of A-10 or higher.

Portable lamps and shades cut 30 percent immediately, 40 percent after May 1

The War Production Board on March 24 ordered an immediate curtailment in the manufacture of portable electric lamps and shades.

The order (L-33) applies to lamps illuminated either by incandescent or by fluorescent bulbs or tubes. It applies to floor lamps, table lamps, bed lamps, and all other types of portable lamps. Flashlights and other battery-operated lighting devices are not included.

In general, the order restricts the production of lamps and shades between now and April 20 to 70 percent of each manufacturer's production in 1940.

Uses of metals restricted too

The order also restricts the amount of metal that may go into the lamps permitted under the order. During a period of 30 days from the issuance of the order a manufacturer is free to use out of inventory any metals he has on hand in the manufacture of his quota of lamps and shades.

Thereafter, iron and steel may be used only for center pipes, steel wire harps, socket covers and husks, outer tubings and casings, seating and checking rings, locknuts, washers, screws, and bolts.

In addition, no metals other than iron and steel may be used in lamps except for sockets, separate switches, plugs, and lamp cords.

Length of cords limited

The order also restricts the length of lamp cords. A cord may not be longer than 14 feet for a floor lamp or 7 feet for other lamps, and it may not be of a greater size or gage thickness than No. 20 A. W. O. with 1/4th or 1/16th insulation.

Silk may not be used in shades, except for silk that a manufacturer had on hand, which he may use for a period of 30 days from the date of issuance of the order.
Postpone all possible orders for steel plate, Adams urges; demand 50 percent over supply

An appeal to steel plate consumers to forego all but their most urgent requirements was voiced March 26 by C. E. Adams, chief of the iron and steel branch, in a letter to all users. While plate production for April will be in excess of 850,000 tons, demand is at least 50 percent more than that, he said.

Adams pointed out that, while steel plates are under a complete allocation system, only the buyer knows whether or not orders for a particular schedule could be filled out of inventory or postponed until later. He asked buyers to postpone all possible orders.

"Your country needs steel plates for warships, cargo vessels, tanks, defense plants, such as aluminum, magnesium, high octane gasoline, synthetic rubber, and countless other important war needs," Mr. Adams said in his letter.

Madagascar graphite defined to release "fines" for stoppers

Under Interpretation No. 1 to Conservation Order M-61, the restricted "Madagascar flake graphite which is of the grade that can be used for the manufacture of crucibles" is interpreted to mean "Madagascar flake graphite of a grade that will stand on a 35-mesh screen." Major object of the interpretation is to permit the manufacture of stoppers for use in steel making without restriction out of so-called Madagascar flake graphite "fines."

Durable office equipment not under maintenance order

Durable office equipment may not be ordered with preference ratings assigned under the general maintenance, repairs and operating supplies order, P-100, according to an interpretation of the order issued March 23 by the Director of Industry Operations.

The interpretation specifically excludes typewriters, adding machines and other business machines, desks, filing cabinets and similar items of durable office equipment from the definition of operating supplies for which the A-10 rating assigned by the order may be applied.

CUT IN LEATHER URGED FOR CIVILIAN SHOES

Shoe manufacturers were urged by Ben Alexander, acting chief of the textile, clothing and leather goods branch of the WPB, to cut down on the amount of upper leather as well as sole leather that goes into every pair of shoes made for civilian consumption.

Importers of manufactured cork all made subject to control to help in allocation

To insure equal distribution of available supplies of cork, the Director of Industry Operations has issued Amendment No. 1 to General Preference Order M-8-a, it was announced March 26. The amendment was effective immediately.

The amendment provides a new definition of the term "supplier" to include any person in the United States who engages in the importation, sale, manufacture, or processing of cork, or in the importation of manufactured cork in finished or semifinished form.

This will make all importers of manufactured cork subject to control and thus permit allocation of additional imports.

WPF specialist to organize Navy's container division

The WPB Division of Purchases announced March 24 the appointment of George W. Aljlan, of Oakland, Calif., to be a procurement specialist assigned to the Navy Department. His duties there are to organize and administer the container division in the recently organized Office of Procurement and Materials under Vice Admiral S. M. Robinson.

Steel plate ordering methods outlined to use strip mills for as much of need as possible

Consumers of steel plates were asked March 24 by the iron and steel branch, WPB, to conform to a list of requirements in placing orders so that all plates possible may come from continuous strip mills.

The requirements are:

* * * plumbing fixtures, trim ordered simplified to save metals

Simplification of plumbing fixture fittings and trim in order to save copper and brass for more essential purposes was ordered by the WPB March 23 in Schedule V to Limitation Order L-42.

The restrictions, effective on April 1, cover items included in the Defense Housing Critical List. In addition to saving about 1,000 tons of copper and brass, the new schedule is expected to facilitate the administration of Copper Order M-9-c.

Previous schedules to L-42 required simplification of valves, pipe fittings, metal jackets, fusible plugs, tricocks, soil pipes, and soil pipe fittings.
Tool survey disclosed few critical ones in NYA shops

For some weeks there has been in progress a survey of machine tools in training schools, including those directed by the National Youth Administration, WPB pointed out March 26. Responsibility for this survey was given to the tools committees of WPB and of the Army and Navy Munitions Board. Reports from all sources, bringing the situation to date, can be summed up as follows:

The Machine Tool Committee of ANMB conducted personal examinations of the inventory records of the metal working shops of the NYA. Tabulations of thousands of tools were examined. Very few tools of the type critical in war production were discovered.

A list of all the tools of the type possessed by the NYA is being prepared for distribution to the supply arms and services and the bureaus of the Army and Navy and the field offices of the WPB, with the advice that the machine tools committee of the ANMB and the available used machine tools section of the WPB will endeavor to get promptly any tool of the type on the list desired by them.

Machine tool builders are not authorized to deliver new machine tools to any customer unless that customer has obtained a priority rating. This regulation has been in effect since early last year. Since the regulation became effective, 139 ratings have been assigned to applications made by NYA. In every case except 10, the priority rating for new NYA tools has been A-3. Nine were A-10 and one was A-7.

Reports lightened on radios

Reporting requirements of Revised Price Schedules No. 83 and No. 84, covering radio receiving sets and phonographs and their parts, are changed in amendments announced March 26 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm, effective March 28.

Elminated from No. 83 by one amendment is the original requirement that manufacturers must report to OPA on all substitutions in material made on or after February 9, 1942.

Amendment No. 2 to Revised Price Schedule No. 84 similarly removes the requirement for the filing of reports and listing of thousands of parts.

This latter amendment also determines maximum prices for parts which the schedule did not include.
Violators of building priorities denied ratings for a year

In its first punitive action in a case of violation of priority regulation in the building field, the WFPB March 24 denied the benefits of any preference rating until March 1, 1943, to the Stearns-Mishkin Construction Co., Inc., and Matthew G. Lepley, architect, both of Washington, D. C.

Misstatements of fact

Mr. Lepley, acting as agent for the Stearns-Mishkin Construction Co., filed applications for priority assistance under Preference Rating Order P-55, which covers the construction of defense housing projects. Upon his statement that the proposed sale price of the dwellings to be erected was $6,600, and that all of them were to be sold to Government employees, preference ratings were issued.

The representations made by Mr. Lepley were subsequently found to have been misstatements of fact. Some of the dwellings had already been sold to other than Government employees, and 10 units of a 36-unit project had been sold at prices ranging from $4,650 to $7,750.

Suspension Order S-15 provides that no application for priority assistance filed by Mr. Lepley on his own behalf, or on behalf of anyone whom he may represent, shall be granted. It also stipulates that no defense housing project or other construction with which Mr. Lepley may be directly or indirectly connected, or upon which he is employed, shall be granted priority assistance.

May apply for termination of order

Suspension Order S-13, directed to the Stearns-Mishkin Construction Co., Inc., provides that no deliveries to this company, or its successors, shall be assigned any preference ratings. However, it provides that within 69 days following its effective date, the Stearns-Mishkin Construction Co. may apply for termination of the order by submitting to the compliance branch of the Division of Industry Operations proof that it has met the following conditions:

That it has made restitution on account of the sale price and modified its contracts for the sale of those dwellings sold after October 13, 1941, so as to reduce the sale price of each to $6,000; that it has sold or offered for sale the remaining units in the project at not more than $6,000; and that it has made restitution or modified its contracts of sale so as to reduce by five percent the price of each dwelling sold prior to October 13, 1941.
RATIONING . . .

Over 100,000 new typewriters released; newspapers, others added to eligible list

More than 100,000 new typewriters, mostly portable models, will be released for rationing on April 13 from the now frozen stocks of Independent distributors, wholesalers and dealers, Acting Price Administrator Hamm announced March 26.

The order, effective March 28, which follows an allocation from the War Production Board, revises a previous order to include the rationing of some new typewriters as well as used machines. A provision for unrestricted rental of new portables as well as used typewriters of all kinds is effective immediately. Rental of new nonportable machines remains banned. While the rationing phase of the order takes effect on April 13, certain persons are eligible to receive typewriters without application at once.

Newspapers, others added

The order also broadens the base for rationing new and used typewriters to include newspapers, radio stations and all civilian defense stations, including the Red Cross, Selective Service Boards, and Local Rationing Boards, as well as war plants with an A-5 rating or higher from the War Production Board.

It was emphasized that the new typewriters on stock in outlets owned, operated, or controlled by manufacturers have not been allocated by the War Production Board to the OPA for rationing to civilian consumers. These stocks of typewriters have been earmarked by the WPB for the Army, Navy, and other Government agencies. It is not expected that new typewriters will be available in the near future for civilian purposes because of the Government's military requirements and because of the conversion of the typewriter industry to war production.

Order covers used machines too

Only those new machines now held by Independent distributors, wholesalers and dealers are allocated for rationing. The OPA estimates there are "several thousands" of such standard models, and between 100,000 and 150,000 portables.

Because of a misunderstanding on the part of some dealers, OPA officials stressed that the order announced March 26 covers used typewriters made available to the OPA for rationing by the WPB on March 6 as well as the new typewriters. A few dealers, according to reports, have misinterpreted other orders to mean that used machines could be sold without rationing restriction.

Materials for tanks, planes

While the revision of the original rationing order releases a considerable quantity of new machines to our rationing supply, the public must understand that the sale of all typewriters must remain severely restricted, Mr. Hamm declared. This is the only way, he said, that the WPB can convert the typewriter industry to direct production of ordnance parts and other important items of war equipment.

At the same time, materials that would ordinarily go into typewriters can be diverted to machines of war. According to the WPB, orders cutting production of typewriters alone will save enough steel for 540 light and 216 medium tanks, enough aluminum for 70 pursuit planes and 40 medium bombers, enough tin for 3,500,000 cans of food for the military forces, and enough rubber for 162 tires for bombers.

Plants to make gun parts

"The typewriter manufacturing plants can be speedily shifted to the production of rifle, pistol and machine-gun mechanisms, as well as of numerous other items of essential war equipment," Mr. Hamm declared.

"For this reason, the production of typewriters for civilian use is going to be curtailed, if not largely discontinued, in the near future. However, it is believed that essential civilian needs can be met by present new and used typewriter stocks."

Mr. Hamm also said that a Nationwide inventory of all new and used typewriters in the hands of manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, and dealers is now in progress. When completed, it will reveal the exact size of our typewriter stock pile.

Use of portables urged where possible

Should our reserve of portable typewriters prove to be large, OPA officials believe a large quantity of portable typewriters might serve to relieve the critical needs of the Armed Services, and enable the Army and Navy to reduce drastically the production quotas they have given the typewriter plants. Such reductions, OPA has suggested, would expedite conversion of the industry. All establishments eligible for typewriters under rationing were urged to explore the possibility of using portable machines, of which our supply is more plentiful.

Under the regulations any person who was assigned a shipment of typewriters that was in transit on March 6 is entitled to receive that shipment without making application to a rationing board. Others for whom an application is unnecessary include manufacturers, wholesalers or dealers (except from a manufacturer), persons entitled to them by virtue of judicial process in execution of a lien created before March 6, persons who inherit typewriters, trustees in bankruptcy, the Army, Navy, and Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. Such persons and agencies are already eligible for used typewriters without rationing restrictions.

Eligible categories listed

Under the rationing order persons eligible for new or used typewriters on and after April 13 must fit into one of the following categories:

(1) For nonportables:

(a) Prime contractors with any agency of the Government of the United States for the construction of a military or naval cantonment, shipyard, or air base.
(b) Operators of plants, factories, or shipyards, 70 percent of whose billings consist of orders for ships, planes, tanks, guns, ammunition, powder, fire control apparatus, military or naval optical or communications equipment, armor plate, radiosondes, machines tools, lift trucks, welding machines, foundry equipment, cranes, metal-working equipment, heat-treating furnaces, or tackle blocks.

(2) For portables:

(a) Anyone who could qualify for a nonportable.
(b) State and local governments and their agencies.
(c) Selective Service Boards.
(d) Civilian aides of the War and Navy Departments.
(e) State and Local Defense Councils and volunteer aides of the Office of Civilian Defense.
(f) Local rationing boards.
(g) Ship's licensed radio operators.
(h) Industrial and extractive es-

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establishments, construction projects, the Red Cross, legislative and judicial establishments of the United States, lumber camps, power generation, transportation, communication facilities operating under an A-5 or higher priority rating from the WPB.

(i) Newspapers, periodicals, and radio broadcasting stations regularly engaged in the dissemination of news or news comment.

(j) United States Government-owned corporations.

In all of these cases, typewriters may be sold or purchased only upon exchange of a certificate from the rationing board. And in all cases, it was emphasized, a certificate is to be issued only when the applicant has shown immediate need for a typewriter to carry on the duties that make him eligible for the machine.

Rentals can be recalled

The rental clause of the order permits anyone to rent a new or used portable typewriter as well as any used nonportable typewriter. Dealers, however, were urged to show preference in letting out their machines to users serving the war effort or other essential needs. The Office of Price Administration reserves, as previously, the right to cancel the rental provision and to order the recapture, reposition, or return of all machines on rental, when war needs require.

* * *

Intent to return tires, tubes must be recorded by March 31

Time within which tire dealers and jobbers must give notice of their intent to sell back new passenger car tires and tubes under the recently announced "tire return plan" has been extended from March 15 to March 31, Acting Price Administrator John E. Hamm announced March 20.

The final date by which tires to be sold must actually be shipped also has been extended from March 31 to April 15.

* * *

Health supplies' transfer to requirements plan is studied

The WPB health supplies branch has begun a study of the procedure necessary to transfer the health supplies industry to the Production Requirements Plan, W. M. Bristol, Jr., chief of the branch, announced March 27.

Tea deliveries cut in half as precaution to stretch 6-month supply to a year; imports normal but cross paths of war

The War Production Board on March 27 placed restrictions on distribution of the entire tea supply.

The action was taken to conserve supplies now on hand, as well as future shipments, in order to make them go as far as possible in meeting needs of the Army, the Navy, and the civilian population. All of our tea comes from the Far East, most of it from India and Ceylon, and the war has created uncertainties as to the quantities of future imports.

Tea stocks in the country on January 1 this year stood at an all-time high of 48,000,000 pounds, or more than 6 months' supply at an unrestricted rate of use.

An order and a supplementary order (M-111 and M-111-a), issued March 27, place a restriction on the amount that a packer of tea may deliver to a receiver (wholesaler or retailer) and an equal restriction on the amount of tea that a dealer may receive. A tea packer may sell 50 percent of his monthly deliveries in a corresponding quarter of 1941. Similarly, a receiver, usually a wholesaler or chain buying from a packer, may accept only 50 percent of average monthly purchases during the corresponding quarter of 1941.

Munitions ships bring it back

By thus cutting in half the amount of tea that a store can buy, the order automatically cuts consumer purchases in half, and the 6 months supply of tea on hand in this country on January 1, on an unrestricted basis, is stretched to a year's supply on a restricted basis. That does not take into account tea received in this country in the first of the year. Imports during January and February were normal and there is reason to believe that tea will continue to flow into this country, brought here in ships sent to the Far East with military supplies from this country.

Nevertheless, as a precautionary measure the War Production Board issued the tea conservation order and its food supply branch called on grocers to limit their sales of tea to each family so that the 50 percent allotment to stores will be distributed evenly among the consumer public and not bought up by hoarders.

To assist grocers in such an effort, Order M-111 directs tea packers to discontinue using packages containing more than one-quarter of a pound or 50 individual-size tea balls for sale at retail. Receivers cannot buy additional tea if they already have an inventory in excess of 30 days' supply; and so long as any receiver's inventory is in excess of this quantity, he cannot sell or deliver from it to his customers more than his quota of 50 percent of his average monthly deliveries in 1941.

Any packer or receiver holding an inventory of tea in excess of 500 pounds is required to file a complete report of tea in his possession with the War Production Board.

A receiver who was not in business in a corresponding month of 1941 is permitted to receive up to 50 percent of his average deliveries during October, November and December.

* * *

Dealer's tire sales in violation of regulations enjoined by court

Preliminary injunction to restrain a Los Angeles tire dealer from selling tires in violation of the Office of Price Administration's rationing regulations has been issued by Judge Ben Harrison in the Federal district court of Los Angeles at the request of counsel for the OPA, according to word received from the regional office by headquarters at Washington March 26.

The dealer, Guy O. Bryan, admitted that since the tire freeze of December 11, shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack, he personally or through his companies had sold new tires having a value of approximately $28,000. His contention that the tire rationing regulations are not in accordance with the law was overruled by the court.

* * *

Sale of refrigerator materials to Government authorized

The sale of raw materials held in inventories of refrigerator manufacturers to Defense Supplies Corporation or Metals Reserve Co. is permitted by Amendment No. 2 to General Limitation Order L-51c.
Electric refrigerator stocks salable at retail; limits stay on gas models

Dealers may sell at retail their entire stocks of domestic electric refrigerators under an amendment to the refrigerator "freeze" order issued March 7 by WPB. The original order (L-5-b) permitted a dealer to sell from stock on hand or in transit up to 100 new domestic refrigerators or \( \frac{1}{2} \)th of the number of refrigerators he sold in 1941, whichever figure was larger.

The new amendment, No. 2, permits such a dealer to sell at retail his entire stock of electric refrigerators, as of February 14, 1942, without regard to the former restriction. However, the restriction still applies to gas and kerosene refrigerators, because of a shortage of such refrigerators, except that a dealer may now sell them back to a distributor or a manufacturer.

To release about 75,000

The WPB refrigerator section estimates that the amendment will release approximately 75,000 refrigerators from frozen stocks, or about \( \frac{1}{3} \)th of the total number of refrigerators which will be accumulated in stocks before the production of refrigerators is discontinued on April 30. This partial unfreezing is expected to make refrigerators available to persons who placed orders before the freezing order was issued but who have been unable to receive deliveries. Figures which have been tabulated indicate that enough refrigerators will remain frozen to supply essential needs and provide an adequate reserve.

The March 27 order also makes available new refrigerators for the Panama Canal and for war housing projects to which a preference rating of A-10 or higher has been assigned, provided that a written order or contract for such refrigerators was placed before the original freezing order was issued.

"Retail sale" defined

The amendment permits a distributor to sell back any of his refrigerators to a manufacturer. A distributor may also sell from his frozen stock of electric refrigerators orders having a preference rating of A-10 or higher has been assigned, provided that a written order or contract for such refrigerators was placed before the original freezing order was issued.

WPB LIMITS HONEY

The War Production Board acted March 26 to conserve present stocks of honey for household consumers, for war purposes and for industrial users who have heretofore customarily used honey in their manufacturing processes.

WPB issued an order (M-118) limiting the amount of honey to be used in manufacturing other products, such as ice cream, candy, soft drinks, bakery goods, and medicines. Some manufacturers who formerly consumed honey in only small amounts or not at all have become heavy purchasers of honey since sugar limitation. This has made a deep inroad in the current supply, which is merely the carry-over from last year's crop.

Under the March 26 order, those who use honey in manufactured products may not consume more honey for such purposes each month than they used during the corresponding month of 1941 or one-third of the amount they used during the 3-month period ended December 31, 1941, whichever is larger. Users of only small amounts may consume up to 60 pounds in the manufacture of any product without reference to their 1941 use. No user may accept delivery of more honey than he needs to maintain a minimum practicable working inventory.

Any person, whether an industrial user or not, having an inventory of 1,200 pounds or more of honey on hand must file a report with the WPB within 30 days, unless he is a retailer whose stock of honey is exclusively in containers of 10 pounds or less. In addition, future purchases of 10,000 pounds or more must be reported to the WPB.

The order will enable the householder and the armed forces to maintain honey in its prominent place in the diet.

Local boards may aid owners of new cars to get license plates in certain cases

The Office of Price Administration has set up machinery by which local rationing boards may clear the way, in certain cases, for the registration with local or State registrars of new passenger automobiles acquired in a manner not restricted by OPA orders or regulations, John E. Hamm, acting administrator, announced March 24.

Because of OPA requests directed to all registrars to require certain evidence of compliance with rationing regulations, many new car owners, even though they may not have violated the regulations, have had difficulty in getting license plates.

Applicant must furnish proof

Amendment No. 3 to OPA Rationing Order 2A, effective March 23, provides that under certain conditions local boards are authorized to issue clearance statements advising a State or local motor vehicle registrar that there is no objection to the registration in the name of the applicant.

Under the provisions of the amendment, local boards may clear for registration passenger automobiles:

1. Acquired by the applicant prior to 6 P. m. EST January 1, 1942, but not registered at that time.
2. Acquired by one individual from another, not a manufacturer, dealer or distributor, or other authorized channel of distribution. Such transactions were not governed by rationing regulations until February 2.
3. Acquired in emergency situations by written authorization of OPA. WPB or OPM.
4. Acquired and registered by one person in the name of another, from a dealer prior to February 2. In such cases, the real owner may on appropriate proof get the car cleared for re-registration in his own name.

To get a clearance statement, an applicant must go before his local board and furnish specified proof showing that he has acquired his car in one of the ways described above.

WPB to help officials get uniforms cheaper

WPB is going to make it possible for Army, Navy, and Marine Corps officers to obtain uniforms and other clothing at lower prices. Houlder Rodgers, Deputy Director of Purchases of the WPB, said March 27. He is holding a series of meetings with retailers to work out a plan.
Wide carriage typewriters, shorthand machines excluded from office machinery order

Restrictions on sales, rentals, and deliveries of various types of office machinery were modified by the War Production Board March 24 to exclude wide carriage typewriters and shorthand writing machines.

Sales and distribution of wide carriage typewriters (or wider designed for statistical or accounting work) were made subject to Conversion Order L-54-a in Amendment No. 1 to that order, issued March 27. Manufacturers must now include wide carriage machines in the production quotas for nonportable typewriters established for the period March 15-May 31, and for June.

Shorthand writing machines have been excluded from the sales and distribution restrictions because of special problems involved.

The modification was contained in Amendment No. 1 to General Limitation Order L-54-b. The amendment also modifies the method by which persons may acquire new office machinery. The original order stated that specified types of office machinery could not be sold, rented or delivered except to persons possessing an A-9 preference rating or higher issued on an original PD-1-A or PD-9-A certificate. Under the modified order, persons may make purchases, deliveries or rentals also on an L-9 rating issued on an original PD-1-A or PD-9-A certificate. The rating may be extended only by a manufacturer to obtain materials going into the manufacture of office machinery. Wholesalers, distributors, or retailers may obtain machinery without a rating provided it is needed to fill a rated order or to replace machinery disposed of on an unrated order.

With the elimination of shorthand writing machines and wide carriage typewriters, the restrictions on deliveries, sales and rentals in L-54-b now apply to the following new machinery:

Accounting and bookkeeping machines; adding machines; addressing machines (including, but not limited to, embossing machinery for plates); billing and continuous forms handling typewriters; billing and other forms writing machines (except autocalligraphic registers and manufacturers); calculating and computing machines; dictating machines (including, but not limited to, transcription and stenographic machines); duplicating machines (including, but not limited to, linotype, gelatin, offset, spirit, stencil, reproducing typewriter principle, and photographic types; but not including photo-stating machines); interface communications systems and machines; punched card tabulating and accounting machines; and time clock stamping and time recording machines.

Antolini heads furniture unit

Appointment of Alberto G. Antolini as chief of the furniture unit of the OPA was announced March 24.

April quotas allow recapped tires for some passenger autos for first time

April quotas that make a limited number of recapped tires available to war workers and other passenger car owners on List B for the first time since tire rationing began were announced March 24 by Acting Price Administrator Ham. As in past months, the national quota was established by the WPB's Division of Civilian Supply. Included in the April quotas are 470,317 recaps for passenger cars and motorcycles. There were no such tires or recapping jobs made available in the preceding month.

New tires also for List B cars

The quota provides 101,636 new tires for passenger cars on List A and 285,977 new tubes for List A and B cars together, compared with 104,701 new tires and 87,635 new tubes in March, when no tubes were provided for List B passenger cars.

Truck tire quotas are somewhat larger than in March, reflecting better weather for industrial activity and commercial hauls. There are 275,523 new tires and 260,563 tubes made available for eligible trucks, buses, farm equipment and industrial tractors under the April quotas against 256,385 new tires and 288,149 new tubes in March. Recapped truck tires in the April quota total 246,442, compared with 110,225 in the preceding month.

The quota figures do not include the State and national reserves held back to permit adjustments of quotas in emergency situations that may develop. The 48 States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Panama, Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are included in the published quotas. Hawaii is not included as that territory is under military rule.

Will operate one-sixth as many cars

April quotas of passenger car and truck tires and tubes compare with year-ago new tire replacement shipments and estimated sales of recapped tires as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Tire</th>
<th>April 1942</th>
<th>April 1941</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New</td>
<td>Replaced</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger car and truck tires</td>
<td>516,036</td>
<td>470,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck tires</td>
<td>275,020</td>
<td>246,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New passenger car tubes</td>
<td>200,957</td>
<td>300,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger car tubes</td>
<td>250,911</td>
<td>250,911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New and recapped passenger car and motorcycle tire quotas for April will permit replacements at less than one-fifth of the rate a year ago. Assuming that the sales in April of 1941 were made to meet normal requirements in keeping 30,000,000 passenger cars in operation, the quota releases for April of this year are at a rate that, if continued, would keep in operation only a little over 5,000,000 cars.

Later on, new tire stocks may be released more rapidly in relation to the entire quota, as there is a limit to the number of times a casing may be recapped economically.

For lack of space, VICTORY is not at this time publishing State tire quotas. If possible, this service will be resumed later. The April quotas appeared in Press Release PM 2760, available from the Distribution Section, Division of Information, Office for Emergency Management, Washington, D. C.

** Rationalizing of ambulances, hearses, station wagons now under WPB control **

Rationing of ambulances, hearses, and station wagons has been returned to direct War Production Board control.

The action, embodied in Amendment No. 2 to Supplementary Directive 1A, was taken at the request of the Office of Price Administration, which is authorized to ration new passenger automobiles. Under an earlier directive, OPA was also given rationing power over ambulances, hearses, and station wagons.

Persons desiring to purchase these special types of vehicles must now apply through local allocation offices of the Office of Defense Transportation, and should not file applications with OPA's local rationing boards.

Taking simultaneous action, OPA issued Amendment No. 3 to Rationing Order 2A, under which it altered the definition of new passenger cars to exclude ambulances, hearses, and station wagons.

It is expected that Army and Navy requirements will absorb the available supply of station wagons. The other specialized vehicles now brought under WPB control will be rationed by the same system as that adopted for all types of trucks—through ODT local offices. WPB must review all purchase applications received by ODT.
LABOR . . .

Two wage disputes in Douglas fir area submitted to voluntary arbitration

The National War Labor Board last week brought about voluntary agreements settling four disputes, issued unanimous decisions in two other cases, held open hearings in one case and received certification of seven new disputes.

On March 26, the Board unanimously decided to make a final determination for settling the union security dispute between the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. and the Industrial Union of Mariners and Shipbuilding Workers of America, Local 16, CIO. A public hearing was scheduled for March 30. Seizure by the Government of the company's Kearny, N. J., yard employing 16,000 workers followed a refusal by the company to accept a maintenance of membership recommendation by the National Defense Mediation Board in August 1941. The yard was returned to the owners the first of the year. The union security question is still in dispute.

Berkshire Fine Spinning Associates

A strike which began March 24 at the Berkshire Fine Spinning Associates, Inc., Fall River, Mass., called by the American Federation of Textile Operatives, an independent union, was called off by unanimous vote of the strikers on March 30 after a letter had been delivered by Thomas Fair Niblett, principal mediation officer.

The strike was called the day a CIO member returned to work in accordance with the independent union's agreement settling a previous strike. The agreement provided that the CIO man could return to work if the National Labor Relations Board decided to dismiss the independent's petition for certification as the bargaining agent for the craft employees. The Board's plea to the striking men, which was rejected, reads in part as follows:

You are striking in violation of your pledged word.

Since the National War Labor Board is a party to the agreement of January 29, you are striking against the National Labor War Board.

You are striking against the National Labor Relations Act, which is the Magna Charta of the trade union movement.

You are striking in violation of the solemn national agreement made with the President of the United States in behalf of all working men and employers of this Nation that there would be no strikes or lockouts for the duration of the war and that all disputes would be settled by peaceful means.

Pledges fairly and openly made should be observed without question by honorable men. But in time of war we all have an even higher obligation. This is your duty to your country. This duty requires all citizens to put aside their private quarrels and unite in the interests of their Nation. In the light of this duty you are striking against your country.

The National War Labor Board cannot believe that the striking craftsmen of Fall River and the members and officers of the American Federation of Textile Operatives will continue to disregard their clear duty to their own agreement and to the interests of their country. The Board by unanimous resolution is now calling upon you to return immediately to your jobs and to that task which is common to all of us—the task of winning the war.

Aluminum Co. of America

A slow down at the Cleveland plant of the Aluminum Co. of America instigated by four men resulted in a recommendation by a special representative of the Board that these men be fired. The recommendation, approved by the National Association of Die Casting Workers, CIO, and Local 55 of that union, was made by William E. Baldwin of Cleveland after several days of investigation.

Charges of a slow down were first brought to the Board's attention last weekend and it was at the request of the union that Mr. Baldwin was dispatched to investigate these charges. Although all four men are members of the union and shop stewards, the union officers announced that they would back up the recommendation.

This action was taken only the day before the die casting workers and two other CIO unions were scheduled for hearings at the Board's offices in their dispute with the Aluminum Co. over wages and union security.

Central States Employers Negotiating Committee

The Board unanimously adopted the panel's recommendations as its own decision for settling the final issue in dispute between the Central States Employers Negotiating Committee, Chicago, Ill., and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, AFL. The contract which will be signed as a result of this decision will affect 225,000 employees of about 500 trucking concerns in 12 Midwestern States.

All issues had been previously settled in this matter with the exception of one concerning the rules for governing the hiring and leasing of equipment, which was referred to the War Labor Board for final and binding decision. A hearing was held February 19 on this point before a panel of Ralph Seward, Roger Lapham, and Martin Durkin.

Joint Wage Board

An agreement to submit to voluntary arbitration was reached in the wage dispute between the Joint Wage Board, Lumber Industry of Oregon and the Northwestern Council, Lumber and Sawmill Workers, AFL, after 3 days of hearings. The agreement will affect more than 25,000 employees of about 50 sawmills and logging camps in the Douglas fir area in Oregon and Washington.

The panel which heard the case was made up of Professor Nathan Feinsinger, Dale Purves, and Fred Hewitt.

Universal Carloading and National Carloading

Another voluntary arbitration agreement was reached in another wage dispute involving the Universal Carloading & Distributing Co., Inc., the National Carloading Corporation, New York City and the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks.

The agreement, affecting a total of 5,000 employees, was signed after 2 days of hearings before a panel composed of Dean Robert Calkins, George Rogers, and Joseph McDonagh.

Willamette Valley

A third agreement to submit to voluntary arbitration was reached after a 1-day hearing in the dispute between sawmill and lumber operators in the Willamette Valley of Oregon and the Northwestern Council and Willamette Valley District Council of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers, AFL.

The agreement will affect 3,000 men and will settle their demands for wage increases, vacations with pay, and the abolition of the wage differential between this and other areas of the Douglas fir belt.

The panel which heard the case included Professor Nathan Feinsinger, Dale Purves, and Fred Hewitt.

Columbus & Southern

A voluntary agreement, affecting 515 employees, on all issues in dispute between the Columbus & Southern Ohio Electric Co., Columbus, Ohio and the Transport Workers Union, CIO, was reached after 2 days of hearings before a Board panel of Professor Fowler Har-
Restrictions on use of materials modified in marketing of petroleum, products

Restrictions on the use of materials in the marketing of petroleum and petroleum products have been modified by amendments to Conservation Order M-58-c, issued March 23 by the Director of Industry Operations.

“Freeze” lifted on some products

The revised order will permit the sale and use of some products employed in the marketing of petroleum which were frozen by the order as originally issued on January 14, 1942.

Restrictions on the replacement of facilities used in marketing have been modified to permit such replacement when repair of existing equipment cannot be made on the premises of the filling station or petroleum marketer, provided that such replacement must not constitute an expansion of existing facilities, and provided also that if a dispensing pump is replaced, the pump to be installed must be the same type and design. Replacement of dispensing pumps more than 9 years old is permitted.

Other provisions

Another provision of the revised order allows the sale or transfer of title to marketing facilities where no construction, reconstruction, expansion or remodeling is involved. Some persons had the impression that such transfer of title was prohibited by the order as originally written.

Other changes in the order:

Petroleum marketing facilities operated by “consumer accounts” are specifically included under the terms of the order.

The section of the order which contains definitions of “maintenance” and “repair” has also been modified.

The order as originally issued provided that, subject to certain exceptions, “no operator shall order, purchase, accept delivery of, withdraw from inventory, or in any other manner, directly or indirectly, secure or use material for construction, reconstruction, expansion, remodeling, replacement or improvement of facilities used in marketing.” The corresponding paragraph of the order now reads “Subject to the exceptions of paragraph (d) hereof, no person shall construct, reconstruct, expand or remodel any structure or install equipment or advertising material.”

Because the order as originally issued prevented the completion of construction or remodeling of facilities in some cases, even though such construction or remodeling was begun before issuance of the order, the time by which construction or reconstruction or remodeling which was begun before January 14, 1942, and is permitted by the terms of the order as amended, may be extended from March 14 to May 15.

The restrictions of the order do not now apply to the installation of “drum” or “barrel” pumps.

Structures or equipment for the marketing of petroleum and petroleum products to be used exclusively for the official requirements of the armed forces of the United States, are now exempt from the terms of the order.

Advertising material which was completely fabricated before March 14, 1942, may be installed.

The restrictions contained in the order do not apply to any case where equipment is to be installed for the purpose of distributing petroleum in connection with construction work on a project having a project rating higher than A-2, provided that such equipment must be withdrawn when the project is completed and will thereafter be subject to the terms of the order.

Equipment used to contain, distribute, or dispense butane, propane, and other products commonly known as liquefied petroleum gas, is also exempt from the terms of the order.

Machine tool order revised

The War Production Board on March 26 revised General Preference Order E-1-a to exclude drill chucks from the types of chucks controlled by the order. It is further provided that no purchase order received after March 25, 1942, for any machine tool shall be given priority standing in production and delivery schedules unless a preference rating has been assigned to it by a PD-1A, or PD-3A Preference Rating Certificate or Preference Rating Order P-19-b.

Delivery of the Preference Rating Certificate to the producer is no longer required, but each purchase order must carry the proper endorsement. For preference rating A-2, the WPB stated, shall be scheduled only upon receipt of a preference rating assigned to them by a preference rating certificate, or by any preference rating order of the P-series, except Nos. P-90 and P-100.

4 MILLION WOMEN MUST BE HIRED, OFFICIAL SAYS

Four million women, almost six times as many as are now so employed, must be directly engaged in war production by the end of 1943, Thelma McKevey, chief of the women's labor supply service, WPB Labor Division, told the Massachusetts Defense Safety Conference on March 27.
Nelson opposes abolition of 40-hour week; wants end to double pay for Sunday, but would legislate only if other ways fail

**Excerpts from WPB Chairman Nelson's testimony before House Naval Affairs Committee, March 24:**

While HR-6790 proposes to modify or abolish certain labor laws and standards, and to set profit limitations, only in relation to naval construction, it would obviously affect the entire war production effort and must, therefore, be considered in general as well as in specific terms.

**The 40-hour week**

I believe everyone will agree that we must consider this or any similar proposal from just one viewpoint: Will it help or hinder our effort to get war production at maximum speed and in maximum volume?

I shall discuss the provisions of this bill, therefore, with only that criterion in mind.

First, as to its provisions regarding the 40-hour week.

The present law does not prevent men from working more than 40 hours per week. It has not set the pattern for the length of the work week in our war industries. It governs wages rather than the hours in which a man may work.

To abolish the 40-hour week law would not in my opinion bring any greater production or more sustained effort in war industry. On the contrary, I believe that such action would have a harmful effect on war production.

The average war worker has of course been getting time and one-half for all hours worked per week in excess of 40. Our national wage structure has been adjusted to that fact. Most war contracts are drawn with that fact in mind—and where they are not, the use of escalator clauses prevents the time and one-half rate from operating as a drag on extension of the work week.

**After round-the-clock use of machinery**

If we now abolish the 40-hour week by law, we do not gain one hour of additional work in our war industries; but naturally we create a widespread demand for increases in wage rates, throw the entire wage structure out of adjustment, and remove an important incentive for labor to shift from nonessential industries into war production jobs. In addition, we would in my opinion make labor relations in general worse rather than better.

The payment of double time for Saturday, Sunday, and holiday work is a different matter, which has no relation to the 40-hour week as such.

What we are after is round-the-clock use of all available machinery, attained through the operation of three 8-hour shifts. I am in accord with the principle that the worker should regularly have one day off in seven; where emergency requires him to work on that seventh day I believe he should be paid overtime. But where his regular schedule of 6 days of work calls upon him to work on Saturday, on Sunday, or on a holiday, I do not believe that overtime should be paid for those days. It is the seventh day's work that should get overtime, not the Saturday, Sunday, or the holiday.

**Premium pay situation**

I believe that this practice of demanding premium pay for week-end and holiday work has in many cases slowed down war production. Yet I do not believe that we should try to correct this situation by act of Congress. I believe that we can gain a general suspension of this provision through voluntary action on the part of our responsible labor leaders; where that proves impossible, I can see no reason why the problem cannot be solved by the War Labor Board. I would not seek a remedy via legislative action unless both of those moves should fail.

A third important provision of HR-6790 relates to the closed shop.

Let me repeat; my interest is first, last, and always in greater war production. In many cases the closed shop works very well and is a basis for mutually satisfactory relationships between labor and management. In such instances I am for letting well enough alone.

The other important provision of this bill is the one which would limit profits derived from filling war contracts to 6 percent of the cost of performing such contracts.

With the attempt to keep war contractors from obtaining excessive profits I am thoroughly in accord. And it is my personal belief that 6 percent profit is plenty in the average case.

I should like to point out that very painstaking efforts have been and are now being made to analyze contract costs and make financial surveys in order to give us a clear picture of war contractors' profits. Many war contracts contain provisions by which prices may be renegotiated if it appears that the contractor is likely to gain an undue profit.

Aside from these points, however, I do not believe that the profit limitations in HR-6790 would reach the desired end.

In the first place, I do not believe that you can tell whether or not a contractor's profit is unreasonable simply by determining its percentage in terms of the cost of performing the contract. That leaves entirely out of consideration such important matters as return on capital investment, turnover, the time required to fill the contract, and the financial structure of the contracting firm.

In the second place, I believe that this limitation would force many contractors into insisting upon cost-plus-fixed-fee contracts. Suppose a contractor loses money on one job—as he may, through no fault of his own. He naturally expects to recoup his losses on the following job, so that he may show a profit on his transactions as a whole.

In addition, this clause would seriously increase the difficulty of converting small business to war production.

**Chiefs of AFL and CIO pledge unions to give up double pay for Saturday, Sunday, holiday**

Leaders of both the AFL and the CIO voluntarily pledged their unions to give up double-time pay for work on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays in simultaneous statements on March 24.

CIO president William Green, speaking for the 10 million members in their affiliated unions, declared that these days would be treated like any other day of the week insofar as overtime payments were concerned unless they were the seventh consecutive days of any individual's work week.

This policy will be followed not only in new agreements, but the recommendations will be made to all unions that they negotiate for an abrogation of the double-time premiums in all existing collective bargaining contracts, the two leaders declared.

The AFL announcement stated that Mr. Green had assured President Roosevelt that the new policy would be followed and that it had already been in effect for some time in shipbuilding and construction.

"This is my understanding of what the President and Donald Nelson wanted," Mr. Murray declared. "I do what my Government asks me to do."
HOW WE ARE SPENDING OUR WAR FUNDS

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Each disc equals 1 billion dollars

THIS CHART SHOWS HOW OUR WAR FUNDS ARE BEING SPENT AS OF MARCH 19-1942

The production drive is a movement launched by the War Production Board to attain President Roosevelt's goal of 45,000 tanks, 60,000 planes, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns, and 8,000,000 tons of shipping this year.

The WPB has called upon labor and management in plants of 2,000 prime contractors making planes, tanks, guns, ships, and machine tools to get together to increase their output. A method of doing this through voluntary establishment of joint labor-management plant committees has been indicated. The sole purpose of these committees is to carry on the production drive in the individual plant.

Over 100 plants report organization in drive to produce more for war

More than 100 war plants have reported to Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, that management-labor Production Drives have been organized, the WPB announced in a summary of Production Drive progress to date.

In addition, a large number of plants that earlier devised their own plans for increased war output have notified Nelson they are adapting their plans to the official WPB plan.

10,457 attended conferences

In launching the Production Drive, the WPB arranged 31 conferences in 29 cities in the last 2 weeks. Labor and management representatives of 2,000 plants handling prime contracts for planes, tanks, guns, ships, and machine tools and a number of civic leaders were invited. A total of 10,457 registered.

The consultants reported that attendance and enthusiasm were in direct ratio to the amount of industrialization in the region. Greatest interest was reported from Great Lakes and coastal regions. The largest attendance was reported from Cleveland, where 758 representatives were registered. Smallest attendance, 4, was reported from Dallas.

Although resolutions were not on the programs of the meetings, at Cincinnati, Birmingham, San Francisco, Minneapolis, and Milwaukee there were spontaneous votes of approval.

Unions overcome rivalry

In Los Angeles the question of procedure when there were two rival unions in one plant came up. A CIO representative from a plant in which two unions were claiming recognition suggested that each union select a representative to serve on the labor-management committee until an NLRB election certified one or the other union.

The first plant to report organization under the official plan was the Ajax Engineering Co. of Chicago.

The first plan to receive commendation was the Batavia, N. Y., plant of the Doehler Die Casting Co. Mr. Nelson congratulated the labor-management committee for heroic efforts to keep production going during a flood March 17 and 18.

The National Association of Manufacturers notified Nelson that it had approved the Production Drive.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON WAR PRODUCTION DRIVE

Q. What is the production drive?—A. The Production Drive is a movement launched by the War Production Board to attain President Roosevelt's goal of 45,000 tanks, 60,000 planes, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns, and 8,000,000 tons of shipping this year.

Q. How does it work?—A. The WPB has called upon labor and management in plants of 2,000 prime contractors making planes, tanks, guns, ships, and machine tools to get together to increase their output. A method of doing this through voluntary establishment of joint labor-management plant committees has been indicated. The sole purpose of these committees is to carry on the production drive in the individual plant.

Q. Is the drive confined to these plants?—A. No. These plants are already getting the drive going in plants of subcontractors and the drive is spreading among the war workers in America.

Q. How is output going to be increased?—A. By the more efficient use of machines, by the finding of new uses for old machines, and by the bettering of morale and effort through a pattern permitting recognition of individual and plant attainments.

Q. In what ways will this be done?—A. The Production Drive committee in each plant will adapt the general plan, which calls for a study of plant efficiency, erection of a production scoreboard, encouragement and study of suggestions, setting up bulletin boards and posters, conducting slogan contests, and using other methods to increase output, and recognizing achievements.

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The National Association of Manufacturers notified Nelson that it had approved the Production Drive.
OPA allows 1/2-cent rise in gasoline price to defray cost of tank car hauls to East

Higher transportation costs involved in using railroad tank cars instead of ocean tankers were recognized March 26 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm in an order raising maximum prices for gasoline and fuel oil in 17 Eastern and Southern States and the District of Columbia.

Fuel oils also included

The order, in the form of Amendment No. 4 to Revised Price Schedule 88 (Petroleum and Petroleum Products) was effective immediately and raised maximum prices by the following amounts:

Gasoline — 1/2 cent per gallon.
Distillate fuel oils (Kerosene, tractor fuels, range oil, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 fuel oils, gas house oils, and distillate Diesel fuel oils) — 0.4-cent per gallon.
Residual fuel oils (Nos. 5 and 6, bunker C, Navy grade, and residual Diesel fuel oils) — 20 cents per barrel.

The permitted rise applied in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida (east of the Apalachicola River), and the District of Columbia.

Service station boost permitted

Gasoline service station operators throughout this area, excepting Georgia and Florida, by a separate order, are permitted to add one-half cent per gallon to their posted prices which were "frozen" by OPA last Monday at the levels of March 13. Retail gasoline prices in Georgia and Florida were raised last fall and, comparatively, have been somewhat above those in adjacent States.

The action by OPA followed urgent recommendations by the Office of the Petroleum Coordinator. The petroleum companies estimated that their current additional costs due to the use of railroad tank cars instead of ocean tankers were running at the rate of more than $100,000,000 a year and were rising rapidly. Average daily tank car shipments of petroleum have risen from 64,350 barrels in the week ended January 3, 1942, to 222,975 barrels daily in the week ended February 7, 1942, and to 430,200 barrels daily in the week ended March 14, 1942.

The letter of the Deputy Petroleum Coordinator to OPA recommending the current increase in maximum prices outlined a plan by which the oil companies would share the extra transportation costs involved in shipping petroleum products to the East by other than ocean tanker. OPA's approval of a raise in the price ceilings does not constitute approval of the transportation pooling plan nor of the companies' statement of "expenses to be included under the plan and the method of determining transportation expenses." This statement was submitted to OPA by the Office of the Petroleum Coordinator.

Companies participating in the transportation pool are required by the March 26 amendment to submit to OPA reports of their own, as well as audits by an independent auditing firm.

Retail regulation amended

It is stated also that OPA considers the permission to increase prices as an interim action, subject to revision after study of conditions surrounding transportation of petroleum and petroleum products to the vital Eastern territory in the future.

Concurrently with the issuance of Amendment No. 4 to Price Schedule No. 88, Acting Administrator Hamm formally revoked Revised Price Schedule No. 72 (Bunker C and No. 6 Grade Fuel Oils, East and Gulf Coasts), since these latter oils are now covered in No. 88.

In order to approve the addition of one-half cent a gallon to service station gasoline prices in the Eastern and Southern States, an amendment (No. 1) is being issued to Temporary Price Regulation No. 11.

Pennsylvania crude ceiling raised 25 cents a barrel to aid output for military need

Military demands for a substantial and rapid increase in production of Pennsylvania grade crude oils caused the issuance by OPA, on March 25, of Amendment No. 3 to Revised Price Schedule No. 88, permitting an increase of 25 cents per barrel for all grades, effective March 25, 1942. A second advance of like amount also has been assured when production reaches 85,000 barrels per day average over a 3-month period.

Announcement of the price revision was made by John E. Hamm, acting price administrator.

Industry will have to spend 45 millions

The price revision followed exhaustive investigations by OPA and the Office of Petroleum Coordinator. To reach the production goal required to supply expected war and other demands it is estimated that an expenditure by the industry of approximately $15,000,000 annually will be necessary for 3 years for represurfacing, reconditioning and drilling of new wells.

New maximum prices, as set by the amendment, with the maximum set under Revised Price Schedule No. 88, follow:

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<tr>
<th>Grades of crude oil</th>
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<th>New maximum per barrel</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Bradford</td>
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<td>Southeast Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oil City-Titusville</td>
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**Rationing overrides ordinary law in suits, court rules**

Judge D. E. O'Brien, of the Municipal Court of Omaha, Nebr., has ruled that, whenever any pending litigation is affected by a rationing order of the OPA, the rationing order will control in determination by his court of the rights of the parties in the suit at issue.
Informal requests for authority to raise gasoline prices can't be considered, Hamm explains

Informal requests for permission to increase service station prices for gasoline, which were "frozen" by the OPA March 18 in 17 Eastern and two Northwestern States, cannot be considered, John E. Hamm, acting administrator, pointed out March 24.

Protest must be filed in 60 days

Such requests, Mr. Hamm indicated, must follow the procedure prescribed in OPA's Procedural Regulation No. 1 which gives specific instructions for the filing of protests and petitions by any person affected by any price regulation.

Briefly, any protest or petition concerning price regulations shall be filed with the Secretary, Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C., within a period of 60 days after the date of issuance of the regulation regardless of the effective date prescribed therein.

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25-cent increase not justified, Washington coal dealers told

Washington, D. C., retail coal dealers who increased prices 25 cents per ton last January and then rescinded the advance upon request of OPA, were notified March 26 by Acting Administrator Hamm that such a price increase was not justified.

In his notification to the Washington dealers of OPA's decision, Mr. Hamm asked that prices be continued at levels not higher than those prevailing during the December 15-31, 1941 period.

At the same time, Mr. Hamm said OPA expects dealers to grant customary seasonal discounts this spring.

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Flour millers discuss millfeed price situation with OPA

Officials of the OPA, concerned over recent sharp advances in millfeed prices, met March 25 with 25 of the country's leading flour millers in an effort to explore the subject more fully.

Among the problems discussed were those of current supply and demand and the possible effect of a price ceiling as a solution. A number of constructive suggestions were offered by the industry.

Prices of "standard" newsprint frozen until May 30; discussions continue

"Standard" newsprint prices, unchanged since April 1, 1938, will continue at $50 per ton for the next 60 days at least under a temporary maximum price regulation issued March 26 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

The new regulation (No. 16) is issued under the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942. It will go into effect April 1, 1942, and will expire on May 30, 1942. On or before this expiration date, a "permanent" regulation will be issued.

Increases were announced for April 1

Late last December, International Paper Company of Canada announced an increase of $3 per ton in prices of newsprint for export to the United States, effective April 1, 1942. This was followed by similar announcements on the part of other Canadian newsprint mills and indications were given that American mills, as they had in the past, would follow the Canadian advance. Newsprint consumption in the United States in 1941 approximated 4,000,000 tons, of which about 75 percent was imported from Canada and the remainder was produced by mills in the United States.

Exploration to determine the possible extent of the impending price advance was begun by OPA immediately and, almost simultaneously, discussions were opened between OPA and the Canadian Wartime Prices and Trade Board. While the 60-day regulation is in effect, discussions of the situation of Canadian newsprint mills will continue to be carried on with the Canadian authorities.

Need for rise to be determined

Results of operations during the first half of 1942 will be used to determine whether or not a higher price for newsprint for the second half of this year is justified.

The March 26 regulation covers "standard" newprint, the definition conforming to that used by the United States Treasury Department to describe newsprint that may be brought into the United States duty free.

The price of $50 per ton is the "port price" of "white standard" newsprint for carload lots in rolls. For the purposes of determining actual prices, the United States is divided into 10 zones with a "base price" of $61 per ton set for Zone 4. The zones themselves were recommended several years ago by the Newsprint Code Authority of NRA and have been used for pricing purposes by the industry ever since.

Differentials are frozen

Price differentials for other zones and for color, sheets, or special packing are "frozen" in the regulation at the levels that prevailed during the period March 20-24, 1942.

Mark-ups over the maximum manufacturers' prices in keeping with existing trade practices are granted to merchants and distributors of newsprint.

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Actual increased freight cost may be added to coal price

Wholesale and retail coal dealers will be permitted to add to their prices for coal and domestic coke the exact amount of freight rate increase actually incurred by them as a result of the recent freight rate advances granted to the railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

This was announced March 26 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

The increased freight rates on coal amount to 3 cents per net ton, when the previous rate was $1 a net ton or less, and 5 cents per net ton when the previous freight rate was more than $1. Similar increases on a gross ton basis, amounting to 4 and 6 cents per gross ton, also were provided under the I. C. C. ruling on 10 days' notice by the carriers, and have since been put into effect.

Wholesale and retail coal dealers, on request of OPA, have been maintaining the price levels prevailing during the period December 15-31, 1941. The additions to cover increased freight charges actually incurred may be added to those levels. However, OPA strongly urges all retail and wholesale dealers to absorb these freight increases.

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DEHYDRATED FOOD UNIT

Douglas C. Townsend, chief of the food supply branch, WFB, announced March 26 the formation of a dehydrated food unit in the canned foods section. R. Harry Amenta, formerly purchasing agent of the Surplus Marketing Administration, has been appointed consultant.
OPA reports on cigarette profit study which led to continuance of ceiling

Results of an investigation of the cigarette industry which led the Office of Price Administration to continue its "ceiling" over manufacturers' prices at the levels of last December 26, 1941, were made pubic March 24 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

At the same time, Mr. Hamm issued an amendment to the cigarette schedule (No. 62) allowing manufacturers to revise any temporary sales promotion programs and to adjust prices in the event that the present Federal Internal Revenue tax on cigarettes should be raised.

Income higher in war

The OPA report, based on a cost and profits study which embraced the accounts of eight companies producing approximately 95 percent of all cigarettes made in the United States in 1941, reveals among other things that:

1. Average net income (before income taxes) of five of the leading manufacturers—American Tobacco Co., including its subsidiary American Cigarette & Cigar Co.; Liggett & Meyers Tobacco Co.; P. Lorillard Co.; Philip Morris & Co., Ltd., Inc.; and R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.—rose from 17 percent of the average book value of the invested capital in the pre-war years 1936-39 to over 21 percent in 1941.

Sales are up 20 percent

2. Current cigarette sales are running 20 percent above the corresponding levels of 1941 and indications are that, because of the increase in national income and enlargement of the armed forces, this rate of increase likely will continue.

3. Manufacturers' 1941 profit margins average 55 to 60 cents per thousand on standard price cigarettes.

4. While the current cost of producing and selling standard price cigarettes is from 10 to 16 cents per thousand above the average cost last year, more than half of these higher costs will be offset by the considerably greater volume of sales. In this connection, the report says, "It thus appears from the figures of the manufacturers investigated, which constitute about 95 percent of the industry, that, in spite of the recent cost increases, the cigarette industry will continue to make very substantial profits."

Any cut to growers held unnecessary

Major conclusion drawn from the investigation is that the established maximum prices are fair and equitable and (as announced on February 27) will be continued in effect. In issuing the report, the acting price administrator stated "Maintenance of present manufacturers' prices for cigarettes should not depress prices paid to tobacco growers. Even in the depths of the depression, leading cigarette manufacturers averaged 9.5 percent on their invested capital before taxes and are now averaging over 21 percent. In view of such profits, a cut in prices paid to tobacco growers cannot be justified on grounds of necessity."

New OPA regional office set up at Baltimore

The opening of a new regional office at Baltimore, Md., was announced March 24 by the division of field operations of the Office of Price Administration.

The new office, located in the Baltimore Trust Building, will direct all OPA field operations in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Virginia was formerly in the Atlanta region, and Maryland and the District of Columbia were under the Philadelphia region.

McCormick in charge

Leo S. McCormick, previously acting regional director in the Philadelphia office, will head the Baltimore office as acting regional director. Under him will be Clifford Snider, acting regional attorney, and Lloyd G. Reynolds, regional price executive.

Authority to represent OPA in civil actions limited by order

Authority to institute or appear in civil actions or proceedings on behalf of the Price Administrator is limited to the General Counsel of the OPA or his specified associates or authorized OPA attorneys, according to an order issued March 21 by John E. Hamm, acting administrator.

The order also provides that service may be made on the Administrator personally or by leaving a copy of the process with the secretary of the Office of Price Administration.

Pork prices adjusted upward for Government purchases to cover added costs

Sales of wholesale pork cut to the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation and other Government military purchasing agencies may be made at prices not more than 2 cents per pound higher than the March 3-7, 1942, ceiling levels, Acting Price Administrator Hamm announced March 24 in Amendment No. 3 to Temporary Maximum Price Regulation No. 8 (Dressed Hogs and Wholesale Pork Cuts).

Specially selected, prepared

OPA quarters pointed out that many wholesale pork cut sales to FSCC during the March 3-7, 1942, period were not made on the basis of the seller's price list quotations, the first alternative of the original price regulation. Instead, they were made on the basis of market quotations, with charges added to cover additional costs incurred by the seller in selecting and preparing the cuts for delivery exactly to the Government buyer's specifications.

Provisions for spiced ham

Another provision of the amendment, effective March 24, 1942, also handles the problem of maximum prices on canned or packaged spiced ham and canned or packaged spiced luncheon meat made entirely from pork, not sold on the basis of sellers' price lists or other market quotations. During the March 3-7, 1942 period, FSCC, by curtailing its purchases, succeeded in buying all its canned meats at prices about 2½ cents per pound below then prevailing prices. Under terms of the original regulation, sales to FSCC and other Government agencies are limited to such lower prices. These agencies now find themselves unable to obtain the quantities of meat needed to carry out their programs unless they are permitted to advance their prices to an extent which will reflect the increased cost of raw materials. Therefore, new maximum prices for these two grades have been set in the new amendment.

These follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>12-ounce</th>
<th>1/4-pound</th>
<th>6-pound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canned or packaged luncheon meat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>made entirely from pork</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned or packaged spiced ham</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>44.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For cut, 45.12; 1/4 cut, 49.50
Rise in antimony price sanctioned by OPA to spur imports for war

All producers and producers' agents of antimony metal were requested March 23 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm not to make sales at more than 14 1/2 cents per pound for bulk carload lots, f. o. b. Laredo, Tex., of the standard grade.

The Acting Administrator also requested the industry not to exceed the following prices on other grades: 15 cents per pound for 99.9 percent antimony metal and above (maximum arsenic impurity to be no more than 0.00 percent and no other single impurity to be in excess of 0.1 percent); and 14 1/2 cents per pound for antimony metal grading under 99.0 percent.

An additional charge of 1/2-cent per pound may be made for any of the named grades, when packed in cases or boxes.

For antimony metal which is sold in less than carload lots, the price per pound delivered to the consumer has been established as the applicable carload price, plus carload freight per pound to the distributing point, plus an additional charge, which may be made by producers or producers' agents as follows: 10,000 pounds to less than a carload, 1 1/4 cents per pound; 9,999 pounds down to 224 pounds, 1 1/2 cent; 223 pounds and less, 2 cents.

Hide glue and stock price rules amended

Amendments to two price schedules—those for hide glue and hide glue stock—issued March 24 by the Office of Price Administration provide relief for dealers who bought glue at high prices prior to the fixing of maximum prices and for dealers in certain hide glue stock who sell their product for crab bait used in the South.

Announcement of the amendments—No. 1 to Revised Price Schedule No. 76 (hide glue) and No. 1 to Revised Price Schedule No. 68 (hide glue stock)—was made by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

The amendment to the hide glue schedule permits persons who bought hide glue at prices exceeding the maximum prior to January 28, 1942 (effective date of the price schedule), and had made previous commitments to resell the glue, to fulfill such commitments at contract prices.

The amendment to the hide glue stock price schedule provides relief to certain persons who before January 30, 1942 (effective date of the hide glue stock price schedule), bought this product at prices above the maximum set and made previous commitments to sell at contract prices.

Issuance of this amendment follows a petition from Mr. Hamm, dated January 29, 1942, by Jacob Fiorello of New Orleans, asking exclusion from the scope of the maximum prices prescribed for cattle lips and snouts when marketed or sold for use as crab bait.

OPA puts ceilings on retail prices of seven major household appliances

(continued from page 1)

Margins of wholesale distributors to the levels of October 1-15, 1941. Sales of typewriters are subject to allocation and rationing orders of the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration. WPB also has "frozen" wholesale refrigerator sales and limited their sales by retailers.

Of direct interest to millions

Commenting further on the new regulations, Acting Administrator Hamm said: "Today's action makes price control a matter of direct and personal interest to millions of Americans for the first time. Until now, OPA has regulated at retail only the prices of automobiles, tires, and gasoline, and the latter in only 19 States."

Mr. Hamm called particular attention of the public and retail outlets to a feature common to all but one of the three price schedules, i. e., the requirement that every dealer must post in a conspicuous place on his premises a large notice setting forth the make, model number, and maximum price of the article offered for sale.

In the case of vacuum cleaners, which are largely sold from door to door, a label must be attached to the appliance or attachment reading, "the maximum cash price for this household vacuum cleaner...as established by the OPA is $——."

Purchasers should report violations

Purchasers should make sure that the price asked of them for any article covered by the regulations is no more than the price posted by the seller. Any attempt to collect more than the posted prices should be brought to the attention of the Office of Price Administration.

To determine for posting purposes the maximum prices of three of the products covered by the temporary 60-day regulation, i. e., radio receiving sets and phonographs, domestic heating and cooking stoves and ranges, and domestic washing and ironing machines, retailers are instructed to take the highest net price at which each model was sold on March 19 or, if no sale was made on March 19, then on the nearest previous date to March 19. In the case of typewriters, the "ceiling price date" is March 5, the day before WPB "froze" all typewriter sales.

Manufacturers' lists used

As stated previously, the two permanent price regulations—household mechanical refrigerators and vacuum cleaners and attachments—make use of the retail prices recommended by manufacturers.

The regulation for household mechanical refrigerators lists manufacturers' recommended retail prices for the following makes (the figures in parentheses indicate the model year): Norge (1941 and 1942), Copeland (1942), Crosley (1941 and 1942), Hotpoint (1941), General Electric (1941 and 1942), Frigidaire (1941 and 1942), Gibson (1941 and 1942), Montgomery Ward (1941 and 1942), Kelvinator (1941 and 1942), Leonard (1941 and 1942), Philco (1941 and 1942), Coldest—Sears Roebuck & Co. (1941 and 1942), Stewart Warner (1941 and 1942), Westinghouse (1941 and 1942).

The regulation for household vacuum cleaners and attachments also contains tables of maximum prices based on the manufacturers' recommended retail prices. The various makes (all 1941 models) are listed as follows (with a specific price for each line): Air-way, Apex, Birtman, Clements, Electrolux, Electric Vacuum Cleaner, Eureka, Gambler-Skogmo, Pa-Gee, General Electric, Hamilton Beach, Hoover, Landers, Frary & Clark, Montgomery Ward, Regina, Scott & Peter, Sears Roebuck & Co., Singer Sewing Machine and Westinghouse.

Vacuum cleaner retailers, like dealers in refrigerators, are instructed to apply to manufacturers for price lists.

Common to all schedules are sections dealing with evasions and violations and referring to the penalties applying under the Emergency Price Control Act. Willful violation of a regulation, according to the act, makes the violator liable, upon conviction, to a fine of as much as $6,000 or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Producers' request to equalize crude oil ceilings denied

The Office of Price Administration March 23 denied a request of several Texas producers to equalize maximum prices for Texas Panhandle crude oil with those established for Oklahoma and Kansas crudes, according to an announcement by Acting Administrator Hamm.

In denying the request for an equalization of prices for the two fields, Mr. Hamm said, in part:

There is strong economic justification for the existence of a price differential between the two areas because of the less favorable geographic position of the Panhandle and because Panhandle crude oil has certain undesirable qualities that lead to higher refining costs.
All types of second-hand cloth bags subjected to specific maximum prices

Specific maximum prices for all types of second-hand cloth bags, determined by the general market levels which prevailed during the October 1 to October 15, 1941, period, were announced March 25 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

Technically, the new ceilings become Maximum Price Regulation No. 55 which amends and replaces Revised Price Schedule No. 55. The maximum prices are established upon the basis of two descriptive factors: the size of the container and the weight of the material of which the bag is composed.

Bags are divided into two major price classifications under the regulation which became effective March 30. The first, processed bags, includes containers which have been cleaned, mended and patched and are ready for immediate reuse as a container. The second, unprocessed bags, consists of those which, since last being used, have not been reconditioned so as to be ready for immediate reuse.

Unmendable bags included

"Unmendable" bags are definitely brought under price regulation for the first time by inclusion within the unprocessed classification. The regulation does not cover "junk" or "waste" bagging which has deteriorated so that the material is not further usable for wrapping or as a container.

Restrictions are placed for the first time under the regulation, on the maximum amount which may be required as a deposit for lending or leasing bags. This deposit charge is limited to the maximum price for an unprocessed bag of the same size, type, and weight.

One sheet maker allowed premium on special product

One manufacturer of bed linens, Deering Miliken & Co., Inc., New York City, is granted permission to charge for "ceglin process" sheets and pillow cases a premium of up to 2½ percent of the list price above the applicable maximum price for bed linens as established in Price Schedule No. 89, under an order announced March 25 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

The allowance to this company only is limited specifically to Sylvan Permanent Finish sheets and pillow cases and Domain Permanent Finish sheets, which are subjected to a special finishing process known as "The Ceglin Process." This consists of the application of "ceglin" and subsequent special treatment.

Three considerations are involved in granting the order, Mr. Hamm stated. These are:

1. The product possesses special physical properties by reason of a special finishing process.
2. It involves added production or finishing costs.
3. The Office of Price Administration has been supplied with a price history of the specialty finished product showing that it commanded a premium over market list prices prior to the effective date of the price schedule.

Agents selling consigned shorn wool may not add commission to maximum price

A clarification of provisions relating to brokers' commissions for domestic shorn wool and a change to make the enforcement section conform to standard OPA enforcement provisions are contained in Amendment No. 1 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 65, announced March 24 by Acting Price Administrator John E. Hamm.

While the original regulation issued on February 23, 1942, provided that a broker acting either for a buyer or seller might charge a commission of not more than 1 percent in addition to the applicable maximum price for shorn wool, the amendment makes it clear that such a commission may not be added by cooperative marketing associations or other agencies making sales of wool held on consignment from the grower. Amendment No. 1 became effective March 24, 1942.

Print prices, recording rules changed for bed linens

A revised method of determining maximum prices of print cloth bed linens as well as changes in requirements for keeping records, filing reports and labeling bed linens was provided March 25 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm in Amendment No. 2 to revised Price Schedule No. 89.

Under the special formula for pricing print cloth bed linens, the present method for determining the maximum price of the grey goods used under sliding scale ceilings of Price Schedule No. 35 is continued. To this is added an amount, or differential, to cover the cost of bleaching, sheetmaking and packaging. This margin is to be added to the maximum price for the grey goods that is which prevailed in the period between October 1 and October 15, 1941.

Changes in the record-keeping requirements of section 1316.104 are also contained in the amendment. Subparagraph (b), requiring a record of stocks on hand and on order as of the end of each month, is deleted.

This same section is changed to indicate specifically that records are required only from manufacturers and from persons who purchase direct from manufacturers. Mr. Hamm announced that the provisions for keeping records are inapplicable to sales or deliveries by a wholesaler, jobber or retailer in the performance of a recognized distributive function, as stated in section 1316.101 (b) (1).

Questions have also arisen as to the method of labeling seconds. Section 1316.104 expressly states that bed linens which are seconds must be labeled with the term "second."
Specific maximums set on wool from pulled stage through yarn in time to aid Army bids

One of the most comprehensive price orders yet issued by OPA, setting specific maximum levels for wool products from the "pulled" stage through worsted yarns, was announced March 27.

This amendment to Revised Price Schedule No. 58 (Wool and Wool Tops and Yarns) determines dollars-and-cents prices, and has been rushed to completion by OPA officials so that manufacturers of worsted and woolen goods may submit offers to the Quartermaster of the Army for 75,000,000 yards of woolen goods. This invitation, on which bids are scheduled to be opened April 2, represents the largest Quartermaster cloth purchase on record.

Commodities covered under the amendment include domestic pulled wool, scoured domestic shorn wool, wool tops and rolls, wool yarns, all foreign pulled wool, South American shorn wool, and British Empire shorn wool. The amendment becomes effective on March 27, 1942. The previous schedule was a "freeze" type using October 1 to December 15, 1941, as a base period. Prices of wool wastes and other wools not specifically included are still frozen by this amendment.

Generally higher prices are allowed under the amended schedule. As an example, Mr. Hamm points out that for average domestic wool tops, 64s and finer, the new maximum is $1.60 per pound, f.o.b. combing plant, as compared with $1.44 in the previous schedule.

Brown denims for barrack bags are subject to ceilings

OPA price schedules apply to the brown "denims" required to make barrack bags for which the Army has invited bids to be opened on March 31. Acting Price Administrator Hamm explained March 27 in response to requests for a ruling received from the textile trade.

If yarn-dyed cloth is used in making these barrack bags, it is subject to the denim ceilings established by Price Schedule No. 58. While piece-dyed goods are not subject to the denim ceilings—since a denim is characteristic-ally a yard-dyed fabric—Mr. Hamm points out that the grey goods used for piece-dying are subject to Schedule No. 55. When finished, the dyed goods are subject to Temporary Regulation 10.

Specially combed yarn of extra long fiber given premiums beyond added cotton cost

A change in the method of computing premiums for specialty combed yarns made with extra-long-staple cotton and thread yarns is made in amendments to Price Schedule No. 7 (combed yarns) announced March 26 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm.

Another modification of the schedule permits a seller of stock yarn to charge freight to the buyer even though the stock-yarn warehouse may be more than 25 miles from the seller's principal place of business.

Effect of war effort

Due to the war effort, a large-volume demand for high specification yarn has been superimposed on the combed spinning industry. These yarns must be used to meet extra-long-staple domestic and imported cotton to provide substitutes for yarns not produced from linen, silk, and nylon. These yarns will be further fabricated into desiring cloth for airplanes, parachute harness, machine-gun belts, barrage balloon fabric, etc.

This demand from the armaments program requires the use of the precision machinery of mills which customarily manufacture thread and of spinners normally engaged in making highly technical yarns. The present amendments grant those specialty mills, in effect, a margin over and above the added cost of the longer-staple cotton which must be used in these yarns to produce high tensile strength or unusual evenness.

The extra premiums to be allowed specialty yarn mills apply when spinners use American cotton of greater staple lengths than defined for base-grade yarns or when they use Sea Island, SXP, Pima or Egyptian cotton to meet high breaking strength or other requirements. In such cases the OPA amendments allow a premium not in excess of 300 percent of the additional cotton costs, after it is adjusted for a "waste factor." These waste factors are specifically named for each of the various longer staples and types of cotton used in combed yarns.

The amendments also clearly define the method by which a yarn manufacturer is to determine his "additional cotton cost." This representation of the difference, as of the day the premium yarn is sold, between the market value of the kind, grade and staple length of cotton actually used for the premium yarn, and the market value of middling cotton of the staple length specified for the same yarn number in the definition of base-grade yarn. Market values are to be ascertained, where quotations are published, from weekly figures issued by the Department of Agriculture, and in other cases from actual sales or quotations made by recognized trade sources.

Thread yarn is permitted an additional premium of 6 percent of the base price. This applies in connection with sales of thread yarn to thread converters or manufacturers for use as sewing thread only.

Another subdivision of Price Schedule No. 7 is revoked under the amendments. This is section 1307.12 (d) (4) (vi), which provided fixed premiums for certain yarns required in large quantities for war equipment. Since the foregoing change establishes a method of determining the exact premium allowable for any specialty yarn, the special provisions are now no longer necessary.

The premiums previously provided in the schedule for plies or put-ups other than, or for twist slacker than, those included in the definition of base-grade yarn are continued. As before, these premiums may not exceed the additional cost, if any, over base-grade plies, put-ups or twist, respectively.

Already effective

Changes made by the present amendments were effective March 28.

★ ★ ★

Agave waste, if unsuitable to cord or twine, is released

Tow and other agave fiber waste not suitable for manufacture into cordage or twine may be released to the trade, under an amendment (Amendment No. 2) issued last week to the agave order M-84. It can be sold by the trade for bedding and stuffing.

Another amendment permits the delivery of agave fiber to importers, dealers, or jobbers to complete contracts entered into prior to February 20, the date of the order.

Another amendment confirms a telegraphic order permitting the delivery of binder yarn to persons having army contracts for sand bags, the twine being necessary to tie the bags shut. However, this applies only to March and April. Thereafter the bags will be closed with twine made of jute, which is less scarce than agave.

★ ★ ★

Remolded tires under ceiling

Establishment of ceiling prices for remolded tires at the same levels as those applying to regrooved tires in Maximum Price Regulation No. 107 was announced March 27 by Acting Price Administrator Hamm. The amendment (No. 1), effective March 31, also brings regrooved truck tires under the price ceilings by correcting a typographical error.
TRANSPORTATION...

Eastman fixes minimum carloads for civilian freight, directs railroads to submit plans for curbing waste

To release box cars and other railroad equipment for the movement of war materials, Defense Transportation Director Eastman on March 24 established minimum weight limits, beginning May 1, on loadings of cars carrying less-than-carload civilian freight. At the same time, he directed rail carriers to submit to the Office of Defense Transportation plans for individual or joint action to curb wasteful use of freight cars in the handling of merchandise.

In the first general order issued since creation of the ODT last December, Mr. Eastman fixed a minimum weight limit of 6 tons, effective May 1, on loadings of cars containing less-than-carload freight, commonly known as merchandise freight. The order raises the minimum allowable weight to 8 tons per car on July 1, and to 10 tons per car on and after September 1.

Averaged 5.3 tons in 1941

Loadings of merchandise freight in 1941 averaged 5.3 tons per car on intercity routes and 2 tons per car on movements within territorial districts.

Rail carriers are forbidden by the order to forward any car loaded at less than the prescribed weight, unless the car contains military materials, unless no other common carrier is available to transport the shipments to be contained in the car, or unless permission is granted by the ODT to forward the car. Certain additional exceptions are set forth in the order.

If insufficient merchandise is available to bring the load of a car up to the required minimum within 36 hours after the merchandise is received, the traffic must be diverted to another carrier. In such cases, rail carriers are authorized to disregard the routing specified in the bills of lading of merchandise shipments. All types of carriers—rail, water, motor, and forwarder—are required to accept and transport shipments diverted to them, to the extent of their available service capacity and subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in the order.

The order directs the carriers promptly to formulate plans for the handling of merchandise by any of six different methods:
1. Through establishment by individual carriers of regular sailing days on merchandise car lines;
2. Through establishment by competing carriers of alternate car sailing days;
3. Through agreement between carriers to exchange their merchandise traffic movements;
4. Through formation by two or more carriers of a pool of merchandise traffic or revenue;
5. Through arrangements for joint loading or joint operation of merchandise service;
6. Through appointment by any carrier or group of carriers of one or more agents to handle their merchandise traffic and, so far as necessary, to coordinate traffic movement.

Procedure to conform to law

Plans drafted by the carriers must be submitted to the ODT for consideration. Under the procedure outlined, the ODT will then issue orders directing the carriers to carry out these plans, or such modifications of the plans as it believes necessary. This procedure meets the requirements laid down in the agreement between Mr. Eastman and Attorney General Francis Biddle, made public last February, with respect to relaxation of the anti-trust laws during the war emergency.

An opinion submitted by Mr. Biddle to President Roosevelt last March 20 holds that the ODT has authority to issue orders requiring the carriers to enter into pooling arrangements as a war measure, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5 (1) of the Interstate Commerce Act, which forbids such arrangements except by authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Expected to bring average to 12 tons

Establishment of a minimum weight limit of 10 tons on loadings of cars on September 1 is expected to result in average loadings of about 12 tons per car after that date, thus substantially increasing the number of cars available to handle autumn peak traffic.

The order requires rail carriers to make monthly reports on loadings of merchandise freight.

Barriger named Federal manager of Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad

Joseph B. Eastman, Director of Defense Transportation, appointed John W. Barriger III, as Federal Manager of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad, following issuance March 21 of an Executive order by President Roosevelt directing Mr. Eastman to take control of the road.

Mr. Barriger, who is associate director of the division of railway transport, Office of Defense Transportation, was to proceed immediately to Peoria, Ill., headquarters of the T. P. & W., to take possession of the road.

Mr. Eastman announced that wages and working conditions to be put into effect on the railroad will be those which existed prior to December 29, 1941, when the pending dispute arose. With certain exceptions, all train and engine service employees who, prior to December 29, left the service of the railroad company with the approval of the chief executive of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemens and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in protest of the action by the company changing their rates of pay and working conditions, will be reinstated, upon application, with all their seniority rights unimpaired, subject to call for service.

Wages and working conditions put into effect by Mr. Eastman will remain effective pending such termination of the existing labor dispute as may be approved by the National War Labor Board.

ODT limits adoption of buses by local transport companies

In a move to conserve buses and bus equipment for transportation of troops and for essential civilian passenger movements, Defense Transportation Director Eastman issued on March 25 a general order prohibiting local transit and railroad companies from substituting bus service for street car or train service on existing rail routes, unless authorization for the substitution is granted by the Office of Defense Transportation. The order (General Order ODT 2) becomes effective April 1.
Rubber content of truck flaps and insulated wire specified

Technical changes in rubber order No. M-15-b-1 and the addition of two new specifications lists were announced March 25 by Industry Operations Director Knowlson.

The order is designed to conserve crude rubber, latex and reclaimed rubber by establishing specifications which limit the rubber content of specific products.

Amendment No. 1, effective March 25, alters the terminology of the list governing the manufacture of water-proof boots, pace, arctics, gaiters, and overences, but does not change the rubber content for these articles. The list covering tire tubes, casings, etc., has been revised to provide a higher crude rubber content tread stock for certain types of truck tires, putting the tread stock for civilian and military truck tires on the same basis. The new list also provides for the manufacture of certain sizes of capping rubber stock and camellback not previously permitted.

The rubber and rubber products branch of WPB explained that the total amount of rubber which may be used in a given tire may be distributed between tread and friction by individual manufacturers on a basis which they consider provides the best quality tire with the given amount of rubber.

One of the new sets of specifications, incorporated in Amendment No. 1, covers truck tire flaps.

Another new set of specifications is established by Amendment No. 2 to the order, covering insulated wire and cable, and becomes effective April 1.

NEW YORK STATE WATERWAY COMMITTEE IS FORMED

Formation of a New York State waterway operators advisory committee was announced March 25 by Defense Transportation Director Eastman.

The committee will cooperate with Edward Clemens, director of the division of inland waterways, in dealing with problems affecting the New York State Barge Canal.

J. H. Muller, general manager of the Transmarine Transportation Corporation, New York City, has been named chairman of the committee. Other members are:


Stop needless mileage, arrange schedules to carry commuters, consider joint action, Rogers urges bus lines; burden to increase

Predicting greatly increased demands upon passenger carriers in the future, the Office of Defense Transportation on March 26 urged bus operators to save rubber and other critical materials by eliminating unnecessary mileage and by taking other steps to adjust bus services to war needs.

In a letter addressed to operators of intercity bus lines, John L. Rogers, director of ODT's division of motor transport, requested the bus operators to study existing schedules on all routes with a view to eliminating trips on which only a small number of passengers ordinarily are carried, where this can be done without undue inconvenience to the public. He said that "limited schedules are particularly open to question."

Autoless workers must ride

"As automobiles go out of service, there will be an increasing need for buses to handle essential short-haul movements along their routes," Mr. Rogers continued. "In many communities the homes of workers are scattered along main highways as far as fifty and sixty miles from their places of employment. The problem is to get these people to work with the least expenditure of rubber. Much can be done in increasing the seat occupancy of automobiles, but a growing share of the load will fall on the public carriers. I realize that communication work is not desirable business as compared with line haul. Nevertheless, it is a necessary service and each class of carrier will be expected to do its part. Some of the buses serving areas where there is little defense activity can be transferred to territories where the need is greater. The fact is that our entire way of living is changing rapidly and radically. The flow of traffic is shifting into new channels. Your industry has an inherent flexibility which should enable you to make quick adjustments."

Joint action is in the picture

Mr. Rogers pointed out that "this office will request joint action by carriers wherever it appears advantageous. Such requests will be made only after conference and full discussion with the representatives of the carriers affected. Meanwhile I wish that each of you would give thought to savings that can be made through joint action with other bus lines and railroads. Such action may be fruitful where excessive service is being operated by lines on the same or parallel routes. A system of staggered schedules and joint use of terminals might be worked out. In some cases pooling during the emergency may prove the best course."

"Devoted to single purpose"

Mr. Rogers said that for the period of the emergency each transportation agency must be viewed as a part of one national system devoted to the single purpose of winning the war. "Competition which is in the public interest during normal times may not best serve the needs of a nation at war," he added.

Antitrust laws have to be considered

Mr. Rogers said he would welcome suggestions or recommendations as to possible joint action to readjust bus services in accordance with wartime needs, but he warned that the antitrust laws are still in effect and are being enforced. "The point to be emphasized," he said, "is that such joint action must be under the direction of public authority and designed to promote the public interest and not to achieve private ends."

As a guide to bus operators in drafting pooling arrangements, Mr. Rogers enclosed copies of an exchange of letters between Defense Transportation Director Eastman and Attorney General Francis Biddle. Mr. Biddle's letter, made public February 17, set forth methods by which joint action among carriers might legally be accomplished during the war emergency.

WPB corrects its release on reclaimed rubber

WPB release 625, issued March 21, announcing Amendment No. 6 to Supplementary Order M-15-b, restricting the use and sale of reclaimed rubber, incorrectly stated that for the balance of March, manufacturers were not permitted to use scrap or reclaimed rubber at a rate "exceeding consumption for similar products during the corresponding part of March 1941."

The release should instead have read "during the corresponding part of February 1942."
Members of a number of additional committees have been announced by the Bureau of Industry Advisory Committees, WPB, as follows:

**BUS MANUFACTURING COMMITTEE**

Government presiding officer—E. S. Pardee.

Members:
- Frank Guiler, vice president, Transit Buses, Inc., Ford Foundation Building, Dearborn, Mich.;
- F. W. Penney, president, Pittock Coach Co., Muskogeen, Mich.;
- I. B. Babcock, president, Yellow Truck & Coach Manufacturing Co., Pontiac, Mich.;
- Roy Bauer, vice president, Mack-International Motor Truck Corporation, Long Island City, N. Y.;
- F. R. Fagol, president, Twin Coach Co., Kent, Ohio;
- F. R. Schively, president, Wayne Works, Inc., Richmond, Ind.;
- W. C. Weber, chairman, White Motor Co., Cleveland, Ohio;
- S. B. Cohn, president, Nacional Marking Machine Co., New York, N. Y.;
- A. B. Crowder, Crowder Bros., Inc., St. Louis, Mo.;
- E. C. Peper, president, Chrisley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio;
- R. W. Mick, president, Lyon Metal Products Co., Jamestown, N. Y.;
- D. N. Macconel, Machinery Manufacturing Co., East Moline, Ill.;
- H. W. Gossard, president, Stayform Co., Chicago, Ill.;
- R. E. Bailey, president, Reynolds Tobacco Co., Inc., Twenty-first and Main Streets, Richmon, Va.;
- E. C. Peper, president, Chrisley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio;
- W. C. Weber, president, White Motor Co., Cleveland, Ohio;
- H. H. Harlan, Troy Laundry Machinery Division.

**CIGARETTE COMMITTEE**

Government presiding officer—John B. Smiley, chief of the beverage and tobacco branch.

Members:
- W. T. Reed, Jr., vice president, Larus & Bros. Co., Inc., Twenty-first and Main Streets, Richmond, Va.;
- E. C. Peper, president, Chrisley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio;
- A. G. Bryant, sales manager, Consolidated Expanded Metal Companies, Steel-rite Building, 1672 Oakwood Avenue, Toledo, Ohio;
- C. L. Marcus, chief, apparel section, WPB.

**CIGARETTE COMMITTEE**

Members:
- Daniel L. Jones, president, Strouse Adler Company, New Haven, Conn.;
- Lucien T. Warner, vice president, Warner Bros., Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.;
- Myer Dorfman, president, Real Form Girdle Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.;
- Sam Stein, president, Ball Brassiere Co., New York, N. Y.;
- H. B. Heyman, president, Simone Co., New York, N. Y.;
- William I. Magovern, president, Lily of France Corse Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.;
- Glen J. Fouchet, president, Stayform Co., Chicago, Ill.;
- George Budleige, president, Vanity Fair, Chicago, Ill.;
- W. K. Hodgson, Jr., president, Newark, N. J.;
- Hyman Bernstein, president, Millay Brasiree & Corset Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.;
- William Weinsbein, president, Rite Form Corset Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.;
- George H. Johnson, president, Waynesboro, Pa.;
- Louis Brill, president, Cadet Corset Co., Philadelphia, Pa.;
- F. W. Penney, president, Pittock Coach Co., Muskogeen, Mich.;
- F. R. Fagol, president, Twin Coach Co., Kent, Ohio;
CONSERVATION

Salvage field offices to solve movement of scrap metals tied up by complications

In an effort to expedite the movement of tremendous quantities of potential scrap metal that are tied up due to financial, legal, or other special reasons, the Bureau of Industrial Conservation has set up a special projects salvage section. Lessing J. Rosenwald, chief of the bureau, announced March 23.

Enormous tonnage involved

J. Widman Bercht, former vice-president of the Lee Anderson Advertising Co., Detroit, has been named chief of the new section, which will establish from 25 to 30 field offices across the country.

In describing the program, Mr. Bercht said:

It is our function to expedite the movement of these large accumulations of scrap materials where special obstacles exist such as uncertain ownership, clouded titles, high cost of demolition, remote location, or some other similar complication. In this category are many obsolete or abandoned railroad or streetcar rails, mines, oil wells, bridges, sunken vessels, etc. The tonnage involved in such a situation is enormous and the individual projects are sufficiently large in themselves to justify the complicated negotiations and arrangements which must be entered into to secure material.

The special projects salvage section . . . will supplement the efforts of the already existing state salvage committees whose general purpose is to deal with the public, and the industrial salvage section, which is organized to expedite the handling of salvage by large industrial concerns.

Backlog of 1,000 potential sources

Projects to be handled by the section are expected to originate in the field offices or in the Washington headquarters, Mr. Bercht explained. The bureau has prepared a backlog list of approximately 1,000 potential sources of scrap, based largely on replies from letters sent to Governors of all the states, by the American Transit Association, and information supplied by State salvage committees organized throughout the country by the bureau to stimulate collection of household waste.

WPB has requisition power

In cases where owners of property are willfully uncooperative, the War Production Board has the power to requisition the property.

The cities in which special projects salvage section field offices will be located are: New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Chicago, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Seattle, Salt Lake, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver, St. Louis and Minneapolis.

** SAVE WOOL CLIPS FOR RAG DEALERS, RETAILERS URGED **

Retailers of men's and boys' clothing throughout the country were urged last week to save wool clippings from the ends of men's trousers and dispose of the clippings through local wool rag dealers. The appeal was made public by P. S. Blanchard, textile consultant of the Bureau of Industrial Conservation.

** Tinned scrap reserved in areas of California copper plants **

Because tinned scrap is essential in the copper precipitation process, the Director of Industry Operations has issued Supplementary Order M-24-a, effective March 25, segregating certain amounts of tinned and detinned scrap for the use of copper companies in California.

The order prohibits persons from selling or shipping tinned scrap in any of the counties listed in Schedule A, except to the place of business of a broker or dealer within any such county, shredding or detinning plant in any such county, or to a plant engaged in the precipitation of copper. Exceptions must have the specific permission of the Director of Industry Operations.

Persons producing detinned scrap at a detinning plant located in any such county are prohibited from selling or shipping detinned scrap produced at such plants except to a plant engaged in the precipitation of copper.
AGRICULTURE

Upward trend of crop yields, other favorable factors, point toward new high in national output of farm products

A 3 to 4 percent increase over last year in the total crop acreage was forecast in the annual March survey of the Crop Reporting Board of farmers' "intentions to plant."

More crops for vegetable oils

Judging from the reports received from 77,000 farmers, acreage planted to soybeans will be increased 41 percent to 14 million acres, acreage of peanuts will be increased 66 percent to more than 4 million acres, and flaxseed increased 20 percent to 4 million acres.

To provide for the record numbers of livestock and poultry on hand, farmers are also planning to increase the total acreage in feed crops. The indicated changes from last year's plantings include:

- A 5-percent increase in corn to 91 million acres, a 3-percent increase in oats, a 21-percent increase in barley, 3 percent more land in tame hay, and 6 percent less land used for sorghums. If these plans are carried out, the total acreage to be planted to feed grains will be increased 6 percent, which about balances the 7-percent increase during 1941 in grain-consuming livestock, including poultry, and the similar increase expected in 1942. There would be also a record acreage of tame hay and forage. If the usual acreage of wild hay is cut, the total hay and forage acreage would seem to be ample for requirements under ordinary weather conditions.

Larger sugar beet plantings

Other large changes from last year that are now in prospect are a 24 percent increase in the acreage planted to sugar beets to a near record total and a 16 percent increase over last year's large acreage of rice. Smaller, but important increases of 5 and 3 percent are indicated for dry beans and cowpeas which would give record acreages of each. Tomatoes and peas for canning, onions, and early cabbage will be grown on much larger acreages than last year, but current reports on other vegetables do not yet indicate any material changes in their total.

The tendency to increase plantings this year appears to be quite general except in two groups of States. One is where wheat is important and the decrease in wheat nearly equals increases in other crops. The other region showing only nominal increases is in the Northeast and includes most of the area north of the Potomac River. In this area active industrial employment is pulling workers from the farms, limiting the operations of part-time farmers and causing some consolidation of holdings, particularly in areas within commuting distance of the factories. Similar conditions probably prevail close to booming industrial areas in other States and farmers in many States expressed some uncertainty of plans because of the labor situation.

Expect increasing scarcity of workers

Farmers seem to expect an increasing scarcity of workers as the season progresses. There seems to be a realization that the boys who can keep the tractors tuned to maximum power on the farms have what it takes to run the tanks. When they go, most farmers can carry on with the help of their girls and teenage boys but they will leave less than the usual reserve of manpower to meet such emergencies as may arise.

While the problems of labor, equipment, and supplies are perplexing and are likely to become increasingly serious as the war progresses, weather conditions have been favorable. Prospects for water for irrigation appear favorable, range conditions are good, winter losses of crops and livestock have been light, and there are large reserves of feed on hand. Prices and price prospects are also favorable and financially most farmers are in a better position than usual to do what they know should be done.

Allowing for increased mechanization of the farms, recent increases in efficiency, the upward trend of crop yields and the record numbers of producing livestock, the national output of agricultural products seems likely to move up into new high figures this year if weather conditions permit.

Maximum prices for fish meal continued; reduced for meat scraps, digester tankage

Maximum prices for fish meal are continued in effect while, beginning March 26, 1942, maximum prices for meat scraps were reduced $5 per ton and digester tankage $6 per ton from the temporary ceiling prices prevailing since January 20, 1942. OPA Acting Administrator Hamm, announced March 22 upon completion of industry investigations.

Meat scraps and digester tankage are used as ingredients in the blending of balanced rations for the feeding of dogs and poultry. The reduction in the digester tankage price particularly will be of dual interest both to the farmer and, in a less direct manner, to the consumer.

Prices for meat scraps and digester tankage prevailing on January 20, 1942, when the temporary ceiling went into effect, represented an increase of approximately $6 and $7 per ton, respectively, over the prices prevailing during the period October 1-15, 1941.

During the same period, costs involved in the production, transportation, and distribution of meat scraps and digester tankage increased only in the neighborhood of $1 per ton.

Investigation of the fish meal industry disclosed that the maximum prices established by existing Schedule No. 73 are consistent with the standards and limitations of the Price Control Act and, accordingly, such prices are continued in effect. Mr. Hamm stated that amendments would be issued shortly to make minor adjustments in prices to clarify certain provisions of the schedule and to establish maximum prices for the raw material, fish scraps, at $3 per ton under the maximum prices for fish meal.

Tobacco, beverage branch names eight officials

The appointment of section heads and assistants for four sections in the recently established WPB tobacco and beverage branch was announced March 24 by John D. Smiley, branch chief. They are:

James H. Lawson, chief, distilled spirits section; John E. O'Neill, chief, brewing section; John W. Greene, chief, nonalcoholic beverage section; Frank M. Ludwick, chief, wine section; John G. Martin, assistant chief, wine section; Nelson Dickerman, assistant chief, nonalcoholic beverage section.

John G. Borton will be associated with Mr. O'Neill in the brewing section. John A. Larger will assist Mr. O'Neill in the brewing section.
HEALTH AND WELFARE . . .

Has your State a plan to meet bombings? McNutw warns health officers of “awful sense of responsibility” for lives lost

Confusion, recrimination and an “awful sense of responsibility for lives needlessly lost” may be the result of enemy bombings in American cities if the communities are found unprepared, Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt declared March 25.

Speaking in Washington at the fortieth annual conference of the United States Public Health Service with the State and territorial health officers, Mr. McNutt, who is director of Defense Health and Welfare Services, said emphatically that it is up to State and local health departments to come forward and assume their “rightful dynamic roles in the program.”

Who would man first-aid stations?

He asked the health officers if their communities would be found unprepared in the event a fleet of enemy bombers should “one night elude our coastal patrols, appear over our cities and unload their deadly cargoes on our homes, factories, and offices.”

“Has your State health department a clearly defined plan in the event of such a catastrophe?” Mr. McNutt asked.

“Who would man the first-aid stations? Who would organize the ambulance and hospital services? How would hospital bills be paid? Is there a blood bank with sufficient plasma? Are there facilities for the emergency treatment of water? If these questions are not answered now, confusion, recrimination, and an awful sense of responsibility for lives needlessly lost may be the result.”

Activity leaves “much to be desired”

The Administrator declared that the part played by health agencies in the community facilities program “has left much to be desired.”

“The health departments were in a position to give material assistance to the Federal agencies in planning and implementing this program,” he added.

“Many of them, however, remained cautiously on the sidelines while others showed themselves to be activated more by special pleading than by true civic needs. In some cases the Public Health Service has had to go contrary to State health department policy and recommendations in order to inject an element of reason into the facilities work.”

Praises Public Health Service

Mr. McNutt declared that today teamwork and cooperation are necessary for national salvation and that State health agencies might well follow the example of the Public Health Service “whose cooperative relationships with other agencies have been developed to a remarkably high degree.”

Turning to the subject of industrial hygiene as a public health activity Mr. McNutt said that wisdom, initiative and sustained effort will be required in greater measure than ever before.

“By the end of the year we expect 10,000,000 more persons to be engaged in war industry than there were at the end of 1941,” he said.

“Many of these new war workers will have to be drawn from the older age groups, the women of the country and those whose physical condition leaves much to be desired.”

“The time has come when we should launch a rehabilitation program in order to utilize the potential labor power of the physically handicapped.”

“Yet longer hours and increased working speed will tax the workers’ strength and resistance.”

Neglected chances breed new agencies

Mr. McNutt declared he holds no brief for the “creation of new agencies for their own sake.”

“I believe it is sound public administration to work through the fewest agencies possible,” he said. “If, however, there is an urgent task to do and no old-line agency is willing or prepared to do it, the only alternative is to set up a new agency.

“Behind the recent multiplication of governmental agencies is a long history of official and neglected opportunity. I believe there are many lessons in this history which existing health agencies might well consider and in the light of which they might reconstruct their basic philosophies.”
CIVILIAN DEFENSE . . .

Powerful new air-raid siren, using little of critical materials, is demonstrated

An experimental model of a new siren, developed for OCD by the National Defense Research Committee, was demonstrated officially in Washington, March 25, James M. Landis, OCD Director, announced.

This new alarm device, according to Mr. Landis, has been designed to give wide coverage at less cost and its manufacture requires very little material which is needed for war production. It has been tested already in the laboratory and in the field.

Dr. Harvey Fletcher headed the group of scientists which developed the mechanism, working under the auspices of the National Defense Research Committee, a division of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, OEM.

How it works

Technical specifications concerning the siren have been released by OCD to 15 manufacturers, said E. J. Abbott, director of the unit on air-raid alarm devices of OCD. He estimated that the siren could be depended upon to serve efficiently as an alarm for an area of from 8 to 10 square miles.

While the display model uses a standard automobile engine, production units can be arranged for either gasoline or electric motor drive. The mechanism is simple—a “blower” forces blasts of air through whirling “choppers,” thus producing the intense sound.

Mr. Landis pointed out that the device projects sound on a beam, not unlike that of a searchlight in principle. The beam will be rotated. The note produced by the siren is approximately the “A” above middle “C,” and was selected for its distinctive character and ability to carry well over city areas. For the alarm signal, the note will be modulated or warped rapidly. Tests show that this greatly improves the effectiveness of the warning as well as distinguishing it from the all-clear signal.

Other machines used critical materials

The project of developing an effective air raid warning device was begun by OCD’s control and communications section, December 27, after tests and measurements revealed that existing sound generators would be impractical because of their great expense and because tons of aluminum, copper, brass, and magnetic steel would be necessary to make the thousands of machines required.

Director Landis said after the test that the siren would be in production within 60 days, and that it might be manufactured for as little as $1,500.

Similar demonstrations will be scheduled in other cities.

Hoarding of first-aid materials may threaten war supplies, says Landis

A wave of hoarding of first-aid materials is sweeping the country and threatens to produce a serious shortage of surgical gauze, bandages, and other medical essentials required by the Army and the official Emergency Medical Service of the Office of Civilian Defense, OCD Director Landis said March 24.

Wrong conception of casualties

Literally, millions of kits containing these materials are being installed in countless places where there is practically no likelihood they will ever be used.

Mr. Landis said he had been informed by Dr. George Baehr, chief of the OCD medical division.

“This unlimited purchasing of first-aid materials is based upon a wrong conception of the nature of air raid casualties. These casualties are usually of such severity that only trained Emergency Medical Field Units are competent to attend the injured at the site of an accident,” Dr. Baehr reported.

In every community likely to be bombed, especially on our coasts, State and local chiefs of the emergency medical service of the Citizens’ Defense Corps have established trained emergency medical field units composed of doctors, nurses, and trained medical auxiliaries who are promptly available for service in all parts of the community day and night. Dr. Baehr’s report pointed out.

Ambulance units and stretcher teams have been organized, and in every section of each city casualty stations and medical supply depots are being established by the local civilian defense authorities. Additional supplies and equipment are now being purchased through the Medical Department of the Army so that the Office of Civilian Defense may later supplement the materials which communities should provide for their local Emergency Medical Service.

Dr. Baehr informed Mr. Landis that one of our cities has purchased 50,000 first-aid kits for its school teachers and that every warden’s post, every apartment building and every floor of every municipal and other government building is being equipped with first-aid supplies.

Not OCD intent to ‘de-emphasize’ first aid training, says Landis

There is no intention or desire on the part of the Office of Civilian Defense to curtail or “de-emphasize” first aid training on the part of civilians at this time, OCD Director Landis stated March 26.

Mr. Landis explained that the OCD release appearing on this page calling attention to hoarding of first aid supplies in certain eastern communities was intended simply to warn civilians of the danger of critical shortages in this equipment which might threaten the supplies of the Army and Navy medical corps and of the organized civilian emergency medical services.
15 Nazi propaganda objectives in U. S. disclosed in pamphlet, "Divide and Conquer"

The British Businessmen: The Americans Businessmen

Cartoons on this page are selected from Fitzgerald illustrations for OFF pamphlet "Divide and Conquer." Reproductions for editors have been furnished to photo services

Fifteen Nazi propaganda objectives in the United States are disclosed in a documented pamphlet, entitled "Divide and Conquer," released March 29 by the Office of Facts and Figures. The pamphlet describes German propaganda methods in continental Europe and warns that the United States is now being subjected to a "total barrage of the Nazi strategy of terror."

What Hitler wants us to believe

For the first time the Government lists the Nazi propaganda objectives by stating, "Hitler wants us to believe that:

"Democracy is dying; our armed forces are weak; the 'New Order' is inevitable; we are lost in the Pacific, our West Coast is in such grave danger—there is no point in fighting on; the British are decadent, and 'sold us a bill of goods'; the cost of the war will bankrupt the Nation; civil servants will be more than we can bear; Stalin is getting too strong, and Bolshevism will sweep over Europe; our leaders are incompetent, our Government incapable of waging war; aid to our allies must stop; our real peril is the Japanese, and we must join Germany to stamp out the 'Yellow Peril'; we must bring all our troops and weapons back to the United States and defend only our own shores; the Chinese and the British will make a separate peace with Japan and Germany; American democracy will be lost during the war.

Nazi strategy will shift

"Divide and Conquer" warns, however, that Hitler's strategy "will follow no set pattern. One line will be pursued today, another tomorrow. But always his broad aims will be the same: to separate us from our allies by arousing distrust of them; to create friction within the United States in order to divert us from our true enemy—the Axis; to paralyze our will to fight."

"Divide and Conquer" explains that the Nazi propaganda techniques directed against the United States are comparable with those used by Hitler against the European nations that he has conquered. The pamphlet recalls Hitler's attempts to separate the French and the British in the first year of the war; his systematic wooing of Balkan businessmen; his creation of internal disorders in Belgium before invasion and other historical details of the Nazi "strategy of terror."

Short-wave broadcasts from enemy and controlled countries; rumors; enemy agents and innocent dupes are used by the Nazis, according to the pamphlet. "Hitler is trying to set capital against labor, white against Negro, Catholic against Protestant; he means to divide and conquer."

"Divide and Conquer" warns that prejudice, in any form, plays his game. "He knows that prejudice, in any form, plays his game."

"Divide and Conquer" points out that "for several years before Pearl Harbor, Hitler propaganda in this country attempted to paralyze our thinking—to give the impression that the war was none of our business; that no one would dare to attack us; that our two oceans would protect us; that, anyway, Hitler had no interest in the Western Hemisphere; that if we would only refrain from doing anything Hitler didn't like, Hitler would leave us alone; that anyone who warned us that Hitler meant what he said was a warmonger; that anyone who urged us to gain time for our own defense by helping those who were already opposing Hitler was trying to lead us into war. The line is familiar enough. It didn't fool the American people. But it was picked up and repeated by many groups of Americans—people who would have been shocked to learn that they were carrying the Nazi message."

Copies on request

Following the successful pattern used in France, Hitler's agents have been responsible for many rumors in this country, all of them false, concerning imaginary epidemics, bad food, and desertions in our Army camps, the pamphlet says. It continues: "Since the war began, German short waves have shouted of barricades in the streets of Washington, of panic on the stock market, of exaggerated losses at Pearl Harbor and throughout the Pacific. German short wave stories of losses at Pearl Harbor, for example, give the signal for Hitler agents to spread rumors that we had lost our fleet, and that our naval officials were traitors." All false, of course.

"Divide and Conquer" points out that "for several years before Pearl Harbor, Hitler propaganda in this country attempted to paralyze our thinking—to give the impression that the war was none of our business; that no one would dare to attack us; that our two oceans would protect us; that, anyway, Hitler had no interest in the Western Hemisphere; that if we would only refrain from doing anything Hitler didn't like, Hitler would leave us alone; that anyone who warned us that Hitler meant what he said was a warmonger; that anyone who urged us to gain time for our own defense by helping those who were already opposing Hitler was trying to lead us into war. The line is familiar enough. It didn't fool the American people. But it was picked up and repeated by many groups of Americans—people who would have been shocked to learn that they were carrying the Nazi message."

Copies of "Divide and Conquer" may be obtained by writing to the Office of Facts and Figures, Washington.
WPB setting up 13 regional offices to serve public, decentralize activities

James S. Knowlson, director of Industry Operations, announced March 27 plans for establishing 13 regional WPB offices throughout the Nation.

The existing 120 field offices will be relocated among the 13 regional offices for administrative purposes. This move constitutes another step toward the decentralization of War Production Board activities.

Mr. Knowlson also announced the appointment of the first three regional directors selected: Orville H. Bullitt for the Detroit region, and John C.VIDEN for the Cleveland region. Other regional headquarters cities will be Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Minneapolis, New York, San Francisco, and Seattle.

Others to become branch offices

"Our plan is to place as much authority as possible for War Production Board operations in these new regional offices," said Mr. Knowlson. "Other field offices now operating in 120 cities will become branch offices, and these will be administered by the regional directors.

"Determination of policies and programs will rest with the divisions of the WPB in Washington. But as time goes on, it is expected that more and more WPB activities will be actually directed in the field, in accordance with over-all WPB policy."

Management of regional and branch offices outside of Washington will remain in the Field Operations Bureau of the Division of Industry Operations.

Boundaries of regions have been drawn after a careful study of industrial and trade areas, ordinance districts and existing regions of other Government agencies. Following are descriptions of the territories under the jurisdiction of the various regional offices:

**ATLANTA—**Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida; BOSTON—Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine; CHICAGO—Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and the portion of Wisconsin lying south of a line running diagonally northeast from the junction of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota to Marquette, Wis.; CLEVELAND—All of Ohio except the Toledo area, Kentucky, West Virginia, the western tip of Maryland, and Western Pennysylvania, which includes Pittsburgh, Johnstown and Erie; DALLAS—Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma; DENVER—Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming; DETROIT—Lower Peninsula of Michigan and the Toledo area in Ohio; KANSAS CITY—Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska; MINNEAPOLIS—Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, northern portion of Wisconsin (north of boundary line for Chicago region), and Upper Peninsula of Michigan; NEW YORK—New York State and portions of New Jersey north of Trenton; PHILADELPHIA—Pennsylvania, except the portions included in the Cleveland region, Delaware, Virginia, the portion of New Jersey south of and including Trenton, all of Maryland except the western tip flanked by Pennsylvania and West Virginia; SAN FRANCISCO—California, Arizona, Nevada; SEATTLE—Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

**WAR EFFORT INDICES**

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<th>Indicator</th>
<th>March 15, 1942</th>
<th>Percent increase since June 1940</th>
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<tr>
<td>National labor force</td>
<td>52,600,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonagricultural workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent increase since June 1940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm employment</td>
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<td>Percent decrease since June 1940</td>
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**FINANCE**

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<td>Ordnance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Airplanes</td>
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<td>Misc. munitions</td>
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<td>Naval ships</td>
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<td>Industrial facilities</td>
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<td>Merchant ships</td>
<td>7,550</td>
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<td>Pay, subsistence, travel for the armed forces</td>
<td>7,078</td>
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<td>Stock pile, food exports</td>
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<td>Pay, military</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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**PRODUCTION**

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total expenditures, June 1940-Mar. 15, 1942</td>
<td>1136,954</td>
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<td>Sales of Defense Bonds and Stamps Cumulative, May 1941-Feb. 1942</td>
<td>4,439</td>
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<td>February 1942</td>
<td>742</td>
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**ERGINGS, HOURS AND COST OF LIVING**

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<th>Manufacturing industries—Percent increase from June 1940</th>
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<tr>
<td>January Average weekly earnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily average hours worked</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average hourly earnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Living, Feb. (1935)=100</td>
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**OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

WAYNE COY, Liaison Officer

**OFFICE OF DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION:** Joseph B. Estman, Director.

**OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES:** Archibald MacLeish, Director.

**OFFICE OF DEFENSE HOUSING:** C. H. Palmer, Coordinator.

**INFORMATION DIVISION:** Robert W. Norton, Director.

**NATIONAL WAR LABOR BOARD:** Wm. H. Davis, Chairman.

**OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:** Dr. Vannevar Bush, Director.

**OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE:** James M. Landis, Director.

**OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS:** Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator.

**OFFICE OF DEFENSE HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES:** Paul V. McNutt, Director.

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Wayne Coy, Liaison Officer.

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- **Secretary, Herbert Emmerich.**
- **Planning Board:** Robert R. Nathan, Chairman.
- **Purchasing Division:** Douglas MacEaschie, Director.
- **Production Division:** W. H. Harrison, Director.
- **Materials Division:** Wm. L. Batt, Director.
- **Division of Industry Operations:** J. S. Knowlson, Chairman.
- **Labor Division:** Sidney Hillman, Director.
- **Civilian Supply Division:** Leon Henderson, Director.
- **Progress Reporting:** Stacy May, Chief.
- **Requirements Committee:** Wm. L. Batt, Chief.
- **Statistics Division:** Stacy May, Chief.
- **Information Division:** Robert W. Horton, Director.
- **Legal Division:** John Lord O'Brien, General Counsel.