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Review of the Week in Defense

Americans, who have far more automobiles than any other people in the world, are going to have to make old models last longer. The raw materials are needed for planes, tanks, and guns.

A cut of 26½ percent in passenger car production through November was ordered jointly by OPM and OPACS. A reduction of 50 percent in the year’s output of 1942 models, compared with the 1941 record of 4,297,000, was forecast.

Production of motor trucks, which are needed for defense, will be stepped up, however, by means of a priority advantage in obtaining scarce metals. The year’s increase is estimated at 200,000.

Seek to cushion labor shock

So that the inevitable shock of unemployment would be eased, the OPM Labor Division tackled the problem jointly with industry and labor representatives. The United Auto Workers, CIO, proposed a 7-point plan, accepted by the management, for rehiring and retraining furloughed auto workers.

AFL and CIO textile union leaders also met during the week and presented to OPM a 4-point program for relieving labor dismissals due to the silk shortage.

The OPM Council earlier took drastic action to ease unemployment expected to result shortly from the closing of non-defense factories unable to obtain scarce materials.

Contract Service elevated

The Defense Contract Service was reorganized as an independent bureau and a new drive to spread defense orders by subcontracting was ordered. Army and Navy purchasing policies were revised. Bidders on contracts of more than $50,000 subcontracting was ordered.

A country-wide canvass of strategic materials was started meanwhile by the Census Bureau as an agent for OPM and OPACS. The first of 65,000 questionnaires were sent manufacturers who use defense metals.

Greater aluminum production through the use of low-grade bauxite ores mined in Arkansas was proposed by OPM to the War Department. The plan would add 600,000,000 pounds of alumina, the basis of aluminum, to the annual output.

Tank unit loaned

The OPM tank unit was loaned to War Department Ordinance in a move to expedite tank production, which is due to reach a billion dollars a year in 1942.

Because the shortage of metals will mean fewer refrigerators, washing machines, and other consumer goods, the OPACS Consumer Division met with two new advisory panels to consider means of protecting consumer interests.

By placing a ceiling on rayon grey goods and broadening a cotton grey goods schedule, OPACS slashed prices 10 percent on most primary textiles used in women’s dresses, men’s shirts, underwear, coat and suit linings, handkerchiefs, and sheets.

Ceiling on formaldehyde

Price schedules also were applied to copper scrap, Pennsylvania grade crude oils, and formaldehyde.

OPACS gave the highest civilian priority rating to nickel, steel, aluminum, copper, chromium, and other scarce metals for use in the manufacture of replacement tubes and condensers for America’s 50,000,000 radio receivers.

Maintenance of radio reception, OPACS explained, is essential to civilian morale.

A priority plan for expediting the manufacture of farm equipment and the maintenance of existing machines was adopted by OPM. Three chemicals used in making explosives and chemicals were put under priority control, and restrictions were placed on the processing of cotton linters, which go into smokeless powder, plastics, and acetate rayons. Certain refrigerators were brought under priority control to assure proper functioning of hospitals and food preservation units. A priority rating plan was adopted to assure a flow of health supplies into civilian channels.

President Roosevelt approved the construction of 1,757 additional defense houses and a 100-unit trailer project upon recommendation of C. F. Palmer, Defense Housing Coordinator. He authorized expenditure of $100,000 to employ fee technicpans to advise home owners how they may alter their houses to provide additional rental rooms for defense workers.

The OPACS Purchases Division conferred with representatives of the furniture industry in a move to place defense orders and conserve materials through simplification of furniture styles.

OEM TO PRESENT RADIO LABOR DAY PROGRAM

President Roosevelt is scheduled to speak from Hyde Park on the Office for Emergency Management’s full-hour Labor Day program, 12 to 1 p.m., EST, over the NBC Red and Blue Networks.

OEM’s Salute to Labor will include greetings to American workers by Ernest Bevin, English Minister of Labor. Mr. Bevin will speak from England where he will be introduced by America’s Ambassador, John G. Winant. Associate Director General Hillman, OEM, will speak from New York. He will be introduced by NBC commentator Lowell Thomas.

James Carey, secretary of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, will speak.

Melvyn Douglas, screen actor representing Actors’ Equity, as Hollywood master of ceremonies, will introduce James Garney, board member of the Screen Actors’ Guild, and Edward Arnold, president of the Guild, who are to appear in an original drama.

MATS OF CHARTS

One-column mats of the pictorial statistics appearing each week on the cover of Defense are available to newspapers and other publications on request to the Distribution Section, Information Division, Office for Emergency Management, Washington, D. C.

Subscription rates by mail: 75¢ for 52 issues; 25¢ for 13 issues; single copies 5¢, payable in advance. Remit money order payable directly to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.
U.S. could out-produce anybody, but we haven't got the spirit yet, says Knudsen

Excerpts from OPM Director General Knudsen's August 20 press conference:

Q. Anything you can tell us about your conference with Lord Beaverbrook?
A. Yes, we had a very interesting 2-hour session yesterday with him explaining to us how England had gotten on a war basis. He told us some very interesting things about the spread of war work; that they have no civilian problem; that there isn't any; it is all on a war basis, the entire country. He told us about the men averaging 64 hours a week and he estimated that between 6 and 7 million were employed entirely on war work, and a great many women operating in the war industries, and they are practically on an all-out basis. 148,000 working on air frames

Q. How many men do we have on war work, Mr. Knudsen?
A. I don't know that I can estimate that. I have been thinking about that ever since. I know one thing—in the aircraft industry we have around—wait a minute, I will get a sheet. I will try and get it. I have got the aircraft here. The last figure we had 148,000 on airframes and 35,000 on motors, and about 6,000 on propellers.

Q. How many will you have at peak?
A. About 300,000 on frames and I imagine about 60,000 on motors.

Q. Do you think a 64-hour week is necessary here in defense plants, Mr. Knudsen? How would you express that?
A. I don't think we are in a position yet to say. Machine tool shortages exist. I don't think we can handle everything as yet. As the emergency develops, we might have to.

England needs steel and tools

Q. What was it he asked for—anything specific you can tell us?
A. Steel and tools and things like that; tool steel.

Q. How about finished products like tanks? Did he ask for tanks?
A. Well, we have some British tanks on order.

Q. Are those orders being filled now?
A. Yes.

Q. Any medium tanks?
A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Knudsen, in a speech in the Senate yesterday, Senator Byrd made a number of charges about defense production and called the picture very sad—do you have those figures?
A. No.

Q. Could you discuss it in general terms, Mr. Knudsen, as to whether production is up to what it should be?
A. Well, I told you before that the production would never be up to what I think it should be, but that we are gaining—that is a fact.

Q. One time you said we were a third behind. That is on the basis of estimates made at that time.
A. Are we now, sir?
Q. I don't think we are that far behind; no.
A. We are not a third behind?
Q. No.
A. We are still behind?
Q. Yes.
A. What is the reason for that?
Q. Couldn't you discuss that?
A. It takes so long to make a thing we are just beginning to learn how. That is all. There weren't any of these things being made before we started last year. You gentlemen know we got the money in September and that is when we started. I have shown you my chart and shown you the number of plants projected and erected in the meantime, and the stuff is beginning to come out of it.

Proportion of fighter planes increases

Q. Mr. Knudsen, can you tell us whether the proportion of fighter planes to trainer planes has increased—all categories of fighter planes to trainer planes increased last month?
A. The fighter planes have gone up and will go up still more next month.

Q. Did you see the Washington Post this morning? It says that there is not enough equipment for the Army for the proper training for the maneuvers.
A. Well, I didn't see it.
Q. Is that correct? I just wondered.
A. I don't doubt it if they said so.

Q. What is the reason we don't have that?
A. We try from our experience with the tanks. We try to keep that going and build up and that was supposed to be done on June 30, 1942. That is the record, isn't it?
Q. So really there is something to that. There is not enough equipment for the Army.

Enough for present Army in 6 months

A. You take some of the equipment, some of the guns—you remember the tanks we started right from a piece of paper—we had nothing to back it up—and it took us about 60 days to get the drawings, then experience on the battlefield changed the drawings we had up to that time.

Q. Would you say, Mr. Knudsen, that our defense program is coming along at a rate through which we will have enough equipment for our Army as it stands now within 6 months?
A. Yes, I think so.

We don't have the spirit yet

Q. Mr. Knudsen, do you have an idea about how this race between the British and the United States on one side, and Germany on the other is turning out—which way the war is going to end?
A. Sure, in favor of our side.

Q. You think we are coming out on top?
A. I think so. I think we will all get the spirit and go after—in this job I don't see anybody out-producing the United States. I don't know of anybody and that is the way I feel about it. I have seen the other places. I know what they can do and I know they can do good.

Q. Do we have the spirit?
A. I don't think we have got it. I think a good many of us have, but we haven't all of us got it. Now I base that on having been around within a short time. I have been all around and we haven't quite waked up, but when we get there we can go.

Q. What is the reason we don't have that?
A. Nobody has dropped any bombs on us yet—you drop one down on Main Street and you will see what will happen.

New subcontracting plan

Q. Mr. Knudsen, would you make any comment on the changes in the Defense Contract Service announcement which went out this morning? Are primary contractors, in all new orders, going to be required to allocate a certain amount of—what they can do and whether they figure they can subcontract. They are going to be asked to state what percentage they figure they can subcontract.

Q. What is the objective of asking them to state that—what do you do?
A. We try from our experience with other firms in the same line to see whether there is a way to get them to increase that ratio, see? Say we have two contractors making a 9-cylinder engine. If one has got 20 percent and the other has 40 percent, we will go to the fellow with 20 and say, will you give us 20.
PRODUCTION...

Four-month passenger-car output cut 26 1/2 percent under same period of 1940

Passenger-car production will be curtailed 26 1/2 percent during August, September, October, and November, and progressively more in subsequent months, with the expectancy of a 50 percent curtailment for the model year ending July 31, 1942, the Office of Production Management and the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply announced August 21.

On the other hand, a substantial increase must be made in the output of motortrucks in order to meet vital transportation and military needs.

Production quotas, putting into effect the passenger-car curtailment which is necessary in order to conserve scarce materials for defense, were disclosed at a meeting of the automobile defense industry advisory committee and representatives of labor unions in the automotive industry with Director General Knudsen and Associate Director General Hillman of OPM, and OPACS Administrator Henderson.

Preference prepared for truck makers

At the same time the Priorities Division of OPM announced it is preparing a blanket preference rating order to aid truck manufacturers in obtaining scarce materials quickly.

The order extends a preference rating of A-3—the same rating granted previously for freight cars—to deliveries of critical materials required for heavy motor trucks, medium motor trucks, truck trailers, public passenger buses, and replacement parts for trucks and busses of similar types.

This priorities assistance applies to trucks with a carrying capacity of 1 1/2 tons or more.

During August, September, October, and November only 817,000 passenger cars will be produced, compared with 1,113,000 during the same period last year and 1,560,000 during the 4 months ended July 31, 1941.

Smaller cut for small companies

The reduction in passenger-car production during the current 4 months will average 20 percent for the industry as a whole, compared with the corresponding months last year. The larger companies, General Motors, Chrysler, and Ford, will make an average 27.6-percent reduction while Studebaker, Hudson, Nash, Packard, Willys-Overland, and Crosley, will average a 20.2 percent cut.

The priorities assistance being granted to truck manufacturers is based upon indications that 1,189,000 trucks, approximately 200,000 more than the output during the model year ended July 31, will be required during the new model year that began August 1.

This estimate of truck requirements includes vehicles for the United States Army and Navy, for the Lease-lend program, for export to Russia, and for vital transportation needs shown in a study by the Central Motor Transport Committee.

The Central Motor Transport Committee, headed by Commissioner John L. Rogers, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and including Transportation Commissioner Ralph Budd, Public Roads Commissioner Thomas H. McDonald and representatives of the Agriculture Department, considers motor transport vital for the movement of defense materials and supplies for the civilian population.

Plan to head off unemployment

In order to head off in every way possible unemployment resulting from the curtailment of passenger car production, a joint committee of the industry and labor is being formed by Associate Director General Hillman to carry out the following program:

1. Orderly transfer of workers to defense plants now or in order to distribute defense materials and supplies for the automobile industry.

2. With the aid of the employment services of Michigan and other affected States, an orderly transfer of workers to other defense industries. This will be along the lines that have been followed successfully in the temporary shutdown of General Motors' North Tonawanda plant, near Buffalo, N. Y., where 3,800 workers were displaced temporarily.

3. Pitting of additional defense work into equipment now devoted to passenger car production. For 2 weeks OPM has had a special group of engineers working with the armed services and the automobile industry to accomplish this objective. Meetings have been held in Detroit, Cleveland, and Chicago, and next week the same plan will be extended to parts manufacturers supplying the industry. Additional defense contracts and subcontracts are resulting.

The three-point program, combined with the heavy demand for trucks, is expected to minimize the effect of the passenger car curtailment on the industry and its employees.

Other industries to be cut quickly

Similar curtailment of other durable goods industries will be carried out as quickly as possible in order to distribute equitably the materials remaining after defense needs are met.

Officials of OPM and OPACS agree that excessive advance buying of materials must be corrected by allotting the actual output of critical materials...
Census Bureau to survey industry for OPM to find whereabouts of strategic metals

American industry is being asked to cooperate with defense agencies of the Federal Government in a broad campaign to establish the quantities and whereabouts of strategic metals vitally needed for national defense.

The Bureau of the Census, acting as agent for the Office of Production Management and the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, has put into the mails the first of 65,000 questionnaires, addressed to the manufacturing users of defense metals. The scarcity of these metals has already been recognized in the General Metals Order No. 1, issued by the Priorities Division on May 1, 1941. This order was designed to promote equitable distribution by restricting inventories by reasonable levels.

Those receiving the questionnaires, which are in simple form, will be asked to use them to report the quantities on hand and the uses made, during August, of:

Antimony, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, ferro-alloys, iridium, lead, manganese or malleable iron, mercury, molybdenum, nonferrous alloys, tin, vanadium, tungsten, zinc, and scrap metal containing any of these.

Program outlined to help furniture makers fit into defense

A program to help the furniture manufacturing industry meet its responsibilities under the defense program was outlined before a meeting of furniture manufacturers' representatives August 22 by J. M. Brower, chief of the furniture section, Division of Purchases, OPM.

In general, the program aims at facilitate the placing of defense orders with furniture manufacturers and the conserving of materials through simplification of furniture lines and styles.

Subcommittees were appointed by Mr. Brower to make recommendations.

8 from parts industry added to auto committee

Completion of the automotive defense industry advisory committee by the appointment of 8 members selected from representatives of manufacturers of parts and components was announced August 19 by the Bureau of Clearance of Defense Industry Advisory Committees.

The enlarged automotive defense industry advisory committee now consists of 19 persons, 11 representatives of the manufacturers of passenger cars, trucks, buses, taxicabs, and firefighting equipment having been announced previously. The parts and components manufacturers added August 19 are as follows:


Two ship lines postpone date of freight rate increases

The Matson Navigation Co. and the Isthmian Steamship Co. have voluntarily postponed for 30 days the effective dates of proposed increases in freight rates between the continental United States and Hawaii. Dr. Lloyd Wilson, director of the OPACS Transportation Division, announced August 20.

This postponement will afford opportunity for the consideration of the proposed rates and their effects upon the transportation of goods for national defense and civilian supply.

The rates were originally scheduled to become effective September 1, 1941.
OPM Council acts to spread work as solution for priority unemployment; makes Contract Service separate bureau

The Council of the Office of Production Management took drastic action August 19 to head off in every way possible unemployment resulting from the impact of priorities and the undue concentration of defense orders.

With shortages of materials for non-defense work threatening to close many factories in the near future, the Council approved a sweeping revision of Army and Navy purchasing policies developed in cooperation with the two Services and designed to spread defense orders into such plants wherever practicable.

At the same time it announced establishment of the Defense Contract Service as an independent bureau in the OPM, reporting directly to Director General William S. Knudsen and Associate Director General Sidney Hillman. The new Bureau will be represented in all OPM divisions, and will provide regional advisory services for plant owners, especially for smaller enterprises seeking defense contracts or subcontracts.

Mehornay heads bureau

Robert L. Mehornay heads the Bureau and William E. Levis, a member of OPM’s Production Planning Board, will assist him as personal representative of Mr. Knudsen and Mr. Hillman.

The OPM Council, composed of Messrs. Knudsen and Hillman and Secretaries Stimson and Knox, adopted a plan of action approved previously by purchasing officials of the Army and Navy and OPM representatives.

Principal points of the program are:

1. Special treatment designed to spread defense work wherever practicable into communities or industries faced with unemployment because they cannot obtain materials for non-defense production.

2. Changes in general purchasing policies, including a requirement that a statement as to the percentage of work to be “farmed out” under subcontracts shall be placed in every contract over $50,000.

3. A requirement that a detailed statement as to subcontracting intentions shall be submitted hereafter with contract proposals of $250,000 or more.

4. The Priorities Branch of OPM’s Labor Division will inform the Defense Contract Service of the essential facts in each case. The Defense Contract Service will investigate as to the production possibilities and, wherever practicable, the OPM will recommend to the Secretaries of War and Navy a remedial program that may include one or more of the following:

   NEGOTIATED CONTRACTS (instead of contracts let by competitive bidding) at prices up to 15 percent above current quotations.

   ORGANIZATION through orders for “a responsible defense association or corporation,” so that manufacturers may jointly handle defense work they could not do with their individual equipment.

   ELIMINATION OF BONDS for bids or performance, where necessary.

   INSPECTION AT PLANTS of the products involved, to facilitate prompt payment.

   REIMBURSEMENT of prime contractors for additional costs resulting from extension of such policies to their subcontractors.

   The plan provides that, upon receipt of such recommendations from the OPM, the Secretaries of War and Navy shall issue to their purchasing departments “such specific directives as they determine necessary in the interests of national defense to carry out the procedure recommended.”

A major step, says Hillman

Associate Director General Hillman characterized the new program as a major step in the OPM’s effort to prevent local “depressions in the midst of prosperity.” He disclosed that OPM’s Labor Division had made surveys of the consumer goods industries which face drastic reduction of output through lack of raw and semifinished materials demanded by the defense program.

In addition to the subcontracting program, Mr. Hillman pointed out, “Machinery has been set up for re-training and re-employing workers displaced from factories which cannot be converted to defense production. In the great majority of industrial areas, the actual number of defense jobs is or soon will be far greater than the number of jobs terminated in nondefense plants as a result of priorities. The Labor Supply Branch of OPM is taking prompt action to move displaced workers into defense plants and where necessary to train them for new responsibilities.”

General purchase policies

The general purchase policies agreed on by the OPM Council are as follows:

1. Bid forms, blueprints, and specifications, normally sent to bidders for purchases estimated to exceed $50,000, will also be sent to appropriate branches of Defense Contract Service. Air mail will be used to the extent practicable and necessary to equalize bidding opportunities.

2. Formal bid openings will not be made within less than 15 days from date of call for bids except where the needs of national defense require earlier openings, and awards shall be made promptly.

3. Calls for bids for large quantities to be broken down into optional units to permit smaller concerns to bid for appropriate quantities. Contracting officer shall be empowered to divide an award so that part of it would go to other than the low bidder.

Exhibits to show possibilities

4. Establish more exhibits of specific items broken down into components labeled with description of machine tools and equipment as well as operations required for production. Such exhibits to be placed in centers readily available to manufacturers in addition to those already established.

5. Where regional bidding is requested and production facilities permit, awards will be restricted to regional bidders, unless otherwise approved by the head of the Department.

6. Earlier delivery date proposed by bidder shall be weighted favorably in valuing bids, if such earlier delivery is desirable.

Subcontracting to weight bids

7. Require a statement by the bidder with each proposal in excess of $50,000, stating the minimum percentage of the total which he will subcontract, on a dollar value basis. This statement to become a part of the final contract. The percentage of subcontracting guaranteed by a bidder shall be weighted favorably in valuing bids.

8. No new machine-tool delivery, nor contracts on a priority basis, shall be made to existing contractors, under existing contracts, where a commitment therefor has not been made in the contract, or under new contracts, unless and until the contractor shall satisfy the contracting officer and shall certify that no known qualified subcontract-
OPM recommends new alumina facilities to raise production 600,000,000 pounds a year

A further increase of 600,000,000 pounds in the country's annual capacity to produce alumina, the material from which aluminum is derived, was recommended to the War Department August 21 by OPM.

The recommendation would extend the useful reserves of bauxite in Arkansas almost three-fold by bringing into use low grade bauxite ores which heretofore were never considered of commercial value and never used for the production of aluminum in any substantial quantity.

Director General Knudsen, OPM, recommended to Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War, that a plant with capacity to produce 500,000,000 pounds of alumina annually be built in Arkansas and that another plant previously recommended for construction in the same State should have a capacity of 500,000,000 pounds instead of the 400,000,000 first proposed. (Two pounds of alumina are necessary to produce one pound of aluminum metal.)

The exact site of the additional plant has not been selected but the one recommended previously is to be built near Bauxite, Ark., in Saline county.

Both plants would be financed by the Defense Plant Corporation and be Government-owned.

The OPM recommended that the Aluminum Co. of America design, construct, and operate both but that, as to the second plant just initiated, the Government retain ownership of the alumina and sell it to aluminum-making companies that will not have alumina supplies of their own. Establishment of an agency under the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was proposed to buy ores and set prices for the sale of alumina.

Aluminate plant recommended

The OPM also recommended to the War Department that the extraction of alumina from aluminate be started on a small scale at Maryvale, Utah. This operation would be carried on by Kalunite, Inc., of Salt Lake City, Utah, with a plant having a capacity of 100 tons of ore per day. In addition to treating aluminate, the plant would engage in the experimental treatment of aluminous clays, which exist in far greater quantities than any other aluminous materials in this country.

The production of alumina from aluminate or clays has never been accomplished on a commercial scale although pilot plant operations handling a ton of ore per day have been conducted by Kalunite, Inc., for some time.

Construction of the plants recommended last week would give the country sufficient capacity to produce a total of 2,720,000,000 pounds of alumina annually. This would be within 300,000,000 to 400,000,000 of the total amount now considered necessary to produce 1,400,000,000 pounds of aluminum metal per year and meet alumina requirements of the abrasives and chemical industries. Alumina is extensively used as an abrasive and also is used in the chemical industry for water treatment, filtration, and other purposes.

More expansion plans coming

To meet these total requirements, another recommendation will be made in the near future, either for construction of an additional plant or for additions to existing plants.

The plants proposed in Arkansas will use bauxite available in that region and will have special facilities for washing siliceous out of the low-grade ore. The ore to be used may contain a maximum of 25 percent silica but will average considerably less than that. Both the contemplated plants will operate principally on low-grade bauxite ores.

Estimates of the Bureau of Mines and other investigators have shown that Arkansas reserves of so-called high-grade ore are in the neighborhood of 8,500,000 tons, while the reserves of low-grade ore like that to be used in the Arkansas plants represents an additional 15,000,000 tons.

Low-grade ores for metal only

Special characteristics of the chemical and abrasive needs for alumina require that they must be met in large part from high-grade bauxite.

In general, therefore, the plan of operations contemplates that high-grade bauxite shall be mined and used for chemicals and abrasives only, and that the low-grade bauxite shall meet needs of new aluminum metal plants.

Bauxite is now being imported from Dutch Guiana at the rate of 1,300,000 tons a year. The program contemplates continuation of this rate of import and an increase in Arkansas bauxite production to an amount somewhat in excess of 2,000,000 tons a year.
**LABOR . . .**

**Hillman orders immediate action for rehiring and retraining auto workers**

Associate Director General Hillman, OPM, announced August 23 that he was ordering Washington and field officials of the Labor Division and cooperating agencies to act immediately in carrying out a United Automobile Workers-CIO program, accepted by management, for rehiring and retraining automobile workers. The emergency employment committee of the OAP made the plan public after OPM and OPACS directed that passenger car production be cut 26 1/2 percent.

The union's executive board has created a national committee with full authority to carry out the proposal which was formulated in meetings August 21 and 22 in Washington, one with auto industry spokesmen and a second with the OPM's Labor Division.

**Buffalo Plan to be used**

Major points in the program:

1. Creation of State and local committees to solve reemployment problems on a regional and community basis.
2. Close cooperation between the UAW committees and the regional labor supply committees of the Labor Division, the full resources of which will be mobilized for quickest possible action.
3. The "Buffalo Plan" for immediate rehiring of workers displaced by the application of priorities, or by conversion of plants from nondefense to defense purposes, will be followed in general. The Buffalo plan calls for prompt registration, reemployment, and retraining, when necessary, of workers in nondefense plants for jobs in defense industries.

**Senior men to defense**

4. Whenever a plant is engaged in both civilian production and defense production, new employees being hired will be assigned to civilian work, while men with seniority rights will be given first choice on all defense work. In all cases of plant conversion, full protection of seniority rights in the original plant are to be guaranteed.
5. Every effort will be made to obtain and sublet defense orders to aid every locality, whether this be a single auto plant town, or a city with a group of auto plants. Full use will be made in this respect of the new subcontracting policies approved by the procurement offices of the Army and Navy.

6. Union representatives are to participate at all times, in conjunction with all Government agencies dealing with labor supply and training, in interviewing, classifying, training and placing employees released as a result of curtailment arising from material shortages or for any other reason.

7. Detailed information relating to the labor needs of individual plants and localities will be supplied to all UAW State and local committees by the Labor Division's research, statistical and economic departments.

Employment in the automobile industry in April totalled 532,800 persons, with weekly pay rolls aggregating $18,536,000.

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**487,400 MORE WORKERS**

than the number employed last May will be needed by October 1 to meet the requirements of 2,305 employers in industries vital to defense, it is indicated in a survey report announced August 20 by Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt.

Mr. McNutt explained that these data were based on expected hirings during the 6-month period ending October 1, as estimated by employers in May. The State Employment Services throughout the country, he said, visit selected defense employers regularly in order to obtain estimates of their labor requirements for the 6 months ahead.

The greatest relative increase in employment, Mr. McNutt said, was expected in the ship and boatbuilding and repairing industry. The 195 such establishments surveyed expected to add 86,000 workers by October 1, an increase of 64 percent over their employment in May. The aircraft industry reported the next largest relative increase: 133 aircraft establishments employing 312,600 workers in May expected to increase their labor forces by 107,000, or 34 percent.

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**OPM silk group endorses Buffalo Plan**

A conference of AFL and CIO textile union leaders proposed to OPM August 20 a four-point program to alleviate the effects of labor dislocation among thousands of the American silk industry who face loss of their jobs because of the shut-down of silk imports.

Meeting as members of the OPM AFL labor advisory committee, the union representatives recommended adoption of the "Buffalo Plan," a formula for the training, retraining, and placement of workers applied successfully at the Buffalo General Motors plants which closed temporarily to permit retooling for airplane production. It was the first time that the formula was jointly endorsed by AFL and CIO groups.

**The four points**

The recommendations, which followed disclosure that hundreds of workers have already been made temporarily jobless and that thousands more lay-offs are expected, were:

1. Application to the silk industry of the Buffalo Plan.
2. Formulation of a national policy providing for the training, retraining, and placement of labor dislocated either by curtailment of silk supplies, shortages of other yarns, or by the closing of plants during retooling periods.
3. Regional conferences of representatives of labor, industry, and Government to discuss the peculiar problems arising from such dislocation in particular areas.
4. A comprehensive study of industry needs aimed at achieving an equitable distribution of substitute yarns, including nylon and rayon, among factories.

**Severe unemployment in Pennsylvania**

The meeting was told that the unemployment problem among silk workers will be especially severe in the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, Pa., area and the Paterson, N. J., area. In the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre industries, where a large group of woman silk workers was reported to have boarded two buses for Detroit in search of work, 2,000 have already been made temporarily jobless. In the Paterson area, 2,500 will lose their jobs within the next two weeks, while several thousand others in the dye industries of that section will also be affected.
MEDICATION BOARD...

President orders Navy to take over shipyard; Roebling dispute, two others settled

The National Defense Mediation Board last week (August 18-24) announced agreements settling three cases, made interim recommendations in two, and received certification of four additional cases.

Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co.

Employer refusal to accept a recommendation of the National Defense Mediation Board led last week to Government seizure of the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. yard at Kearny, N. J. On Saturday, August 23, President Roosevelt directed the Secretary of the Navy to take possession and operate the company's plant.

The Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, notified the following day to return to work immediately, thus ending its strike of 16,000 workers called August 7 because of the company's rejection of the Board's recommendation that all employees who were members of the union or who later joined the union should remain members for the 2-year duration of the contract. The Board made this recommendation July 26 after its mediation efforts had failed to settle the difference between the parties on this issue. A majority of the union membership had voted to instruct its negotiators to ask for a union shop under which every employee of the company would be required to join the union after 30 days' employment. The company had requested that the open shop be maintained. The Board recommended neither. Its recommendation July 26 was accepted by the union at a meeting August 2, after being twice rejected.

John A. Roebling Sons Co.

Hearings which have been in almost continuous session since August 1 were concluded August 19 by an agreement settling the dispute between the John A. Roebling Sons Co. and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee. The agreement, which includes the terms of the complete contract covering the two plants of the company at Trenton and Roebling, N. J., was ratified by the union at a meeting of its membership on August 24.

C. G. Williams, executive vice president of the company, stated that the agreement was the result of extended negotiations which had been concluded with the SWOC, which clearly had the interests of all the employees at heart and had negotiated a good agreement for them. He further said that through the negotiations harmonious relations between the company and the union had been greatly promoted and that the agreement would prove to be of advantage to all the employees.

The terms of the contract were not revealed.

Ohio Brass Co.

During the week the Ohio Brass Co. notified the Board of its objections to the Board's interim recommendations of August 14 for settling the dispute at the company's Barberton, Ohio, plant with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, CIO. The recommendations provided for the return to work without discrimination and without prejudice to seniority of the 600 men who had been on strike since June 10 on the understanding that any wage increase later negotiated would be retroactive to the date upon which operations were resumed. The International Brotherhood of Operative Potters, AFL, had disputed the CIO union's claims to a majority. The recommendations provided for the resumption of negotiations between the company and the proper bargaining agency after disposition by the National Labor Relations Board. Upon receipt of the company's letter the Board wired the company asking it for a yes or no answer to its recommendations.

Erwin Cotton Mills

After 5 days of hearings before the Board, an agreement was reached between the Erwin Cotton Mills and the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, which included the terms of a complete contract between the parties. The agreement which is subject to ratification by the Union covers 4,500 employees in Durham and Erwin, N. C., plants of the company.

U. S. Gypsum Co.

Hearings on the dispute between the U. S. Gypsum Co. and the United Mine Workers of America, CIO, opened before the Board August 18. The strike has been in effect in 17 plants of the company, scattered throughout the country, since June 26. Since the company refused to discuss any of the other issues between the parties until the Union's demand for a master contract had been disposed of, the Board made interim recommendations on that subject. The Board recommended that representatives of both sides empowered to negotiate for each of the 17 plants come to Washington and negotiate 17 separate agreements before the Board. The company has not as yet acceded to this interim recommendation.

Rockford Drop Forge Co.

After 3 days of hearings an agreement was reached settling the dispute between the Rockford Drop Forge Co. of Rockford, Ill., and the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers of America, and the International Association of Machinists, both AFL. This agreement, terms of which were not announced, was ratified by the union on August 23. A threatened strike of 360 employees, set for August 11, had been postponed at the request of the Board.

Three new cases

Hearings on three new disputes opened the latter part of the week. These were Curtiss-Wright Corporation, Caldwell, N. J.; Solvay Process Co., Baton Rouge, La., and five plants of the Aluminum Co. of America.

OPM, OPACS call meeting of scrap and mill men

About 150 iron and steel scrap brokers and representatives of steel mills and foundries have been invited to attend a joint meeting called for August 27 by OPACS and OPM to discuss all problems relating to the flow of scrap.

DENVER PRIORITIES OFFICE

In the August 12 issue of Denver's the address of the Denver Priorities field office was given as 17th and Arapahoe St. The correct address of the office is 521 U. S. National Bank Building.
**PRIORITYs . . .  
New Critical List of 300 Items classified by finished products and raw materials**

A revised edition of the Priorities Critical List was issued August 18 by E.R. Stettinius, Jr., Director of Priorities.

The Priorities Critical List is a list of items on orders for which Army and Navy contracting officers may automatically assign preference ratings.

The new list, unlike previous editions, is broken down for purposes of clarity into two sections— once for finished products and the other for raw materials.

Those raw materials and other items which have been brought under industry-wide control by the Priorities Division are marked on the list by a (*).

Items which have just been added to the list with this edition are italicized.

About 300 items and classes of items appear on the list. In most cases, except for the items under industry-wide control and those under inventory control, items which appear on the list are subject to priority regulation only in the sense that Army and Navy orders may be assigned preference ratings so that delivery dates may be met.

**PRIORITIES CRITICAL LIST**

**As revised to August 15, 1941.**

**Parts and accessories:** The items that appear on this list shall be deemed to include all fabricated, mechanical or electrical component parts and accessories necessary for the completion, maintenance, or mechanical operation of equipment, including spare parts and extras, excluding raw materials unless specifically included in the list.

**Supervision:** It should be carefully noted that all copies of preference rating certificates authenticated by the two services are reviewed by the Priorities Division and erroneously furnished items may be corrected. New items. Illegible items on this list are those which appear for the first time with this edition.

**Metals:** It will be noted that all metals except a few precious ones are now covered by this list.

**Revision:** This list is subject to revision once each month. In order to receive consideration at the time of making any monthly revision, requests for additions, subtractions or modifications must be received by the Priorities Committee of the Army and Navy Munitions Board or the Director of Priorities of the Office of Production Management on or before the fifteenth day of the preceding month in order to receive consideration.

**Extension:** Ratings may only be extended upon written request of the manufacturer and shipment of finish- or semi-finished products, not "up" from raw materials on the list. It is requested that no extensions be made from materials named in Section II of the list. For example, since trucks are on this list the preference rating assigned to trucks may be extended to parts thereof, but the fact that copper is on the list does not mean that a rating extended to copper may be re-extended to cover copper wash bowls.

**I. Finished End Products**


**SEPTEMBER ZINC POOL**

Zinc pool requirements for September, and for successive months until otherwise determined, were set August 22 at an amount of metallic zinc to be set aside by each producer equal to 27 percent of his July 1941 production and an amount of zinc oxide by each producer equal to 10 percent of his July 1941 production. The order announced by Priorities Director Stettinius for effect September 1, requires no zinc to be set aside for the pool in the period covered.
3 formaldehyde chemicals, used in plastics and explosives, under priorities

Three important chemicals, essential to defense requirements in the fields of explosives and plastics, and also to the production of many items for civilian use, have been placed under priority control in a General Preference Order, it was announced August 22 by Priorities Director Stettinius.

The chemicals are formaldehyde, paraformaldehyde and hexamethylenetetramine. The order includes in its restrictions the synthetic resins made from them.

All defense deliveries of the chemicals and resins are assigned a preference rating of A-10, unless a higher rating has been assigned, and it is obligatory for producers to accept, under certain conditions, defense orders.

Effectuates OPACS program

Putting into effect the civilian allocation program of the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply (See DEFENSE, August 12), the order divides civilian uses into three groups, the third of which have placed under priority control some of whose resins may be sold.

After all defense needs have been met, producers of the synthetic resins shall first fill orders for the purposes listed in Classification 1, which includes such essential civilian services as public and industrial heat, light, power and water equipment; transportation equipment; oil well equipment; industrial, food and medicinal containers; material and equipment for scientific research, etc. The priority rating of B-4 is assigned to resins for all uses itemized in Classification 1.

Classification 2, which includes such typical pieces of equipment as kitchenware, radios, household appliances, passenger automobiles, commercial photographic equipment, etc., is assigned the rating of B-8.

Certain uses prohibited

Among the prohibited uses listed in Classification 3 are those for the production of amateur photographic equipment, hardware, smoker's articles, advertising items, picture frames, toys, games, etc.

Deliveries of the three chemicals, formaldehyde, paraformaldehyde and hexamethylenetetramine, for all nondefense, nonplastic uses are assigned a preference rating of B-4.

★ DEFENSE ★


\textit{Items which to the date of this edition have been subjected to allocation by the Priorities Division.}

\textit{Steel products are covered by a special order requiring preferential treatment of all defense orders and permitting users to fail a formal complaint of any inability to obtain delivery or place orders. Nickel alloy steel and Tungsten alloy steel are subject to industry-wide control.}
PRICES AND CIVILIAN SUPPLIES . . .

Ceiling on principal rayon grey goods set about 10 percent under recent levels

Maximum prices averaging about 10 percent below recent levels are established for the most important types of rayon grey goods in Price Schedule No. 23 announced August 24 by OPACS Administrator Henderson.

This action, plus the broadening of the grey goods schedule announced August 22, extends a price ceiling over most of the primary textiles required for women's dresses, men's shirts, underwear, coat and suit linings, handkerchiefs, sheetings and a multitude of other items of consumers' goods made of cotton and rayon.

Fear of shortage boosted price

"Rayon grey goods" is a term applied to cloth woven of rayon yarn and sold in an unfinished state to converters. The converters dye, print or otherwise "finish" the goods for sale in turn to the underweares, cloth and suit and dresscutting trades.

During the past few months prices of rayon grey goods have risen sharply. Fear of shortage in an expanding retail market has caused the apparel trades to bid up converters' prices and the converters, in their turn, to bid up grey goods prices. The need to provide rayon yarns to mills which formerly used silk, now unavailable, has imposed an additional strain on rayon supplies and more pressure on the rayon grey goods price structure.

Voluntary agreement not inclusive enough

The voluntary agreements obtained by OPACS with leading weavers in mid-July to maintain temporarily the then-existing prices for certain standard fabrics have been adhered to by the participants. However, it was stated at that time that the prices for a number of types of rayon grey goods were considered too high.

Prices of fabrics not included in these agreements have continued to increase. Sales by mills not parties to the understanding, and particularly resales, have been made at excessive prices in many cases. The need for prompt action to stabilize the market is apparent.

By imposing maximum prices on rayon grey goods, OPACS has removed the main cause for higher finished goods prices. In this connection, Mr. Henderson said his office will observe closely the price action of the finished goods markets. Should finished goods prices not be brought into line with the lower levels established for grey goods, appropriate action will be taken to bring about an equitable adjustment.

Other goods should fall in line

Similarly, the OPACS Administrator stated, constructions of rayon grey goods not presently covered by the schedule should assume their normal market differentials to the prices of fabrics now under the ceiling. If this does not follow, the schedule will be broadened to whatever extent necessary to establish a fair price relationship for all rayon grey goods. Variations in constructions which have the effect of an avoidance of the ceiling, should they occur, will be covered by supplements to the ceiling.

Mr. Henderson emphasized that the maximum prices apply to all sales or resales of rayon grey goods included in the schedule, whether by the weaver, converter or any other person. Second-hand sales at exorbitant prices have been one of the most disturbing features of recent markets.

Some of the leading constructions covered by the new schedule, their uses, and their maximum prices follow:

- **Linings.**—Viscose twill, 38-inch, 112 by 68, 20 cents a yard; pigment taffeta, 40½-inch, 92 by 68, 18 cents a yard.
- **Dress goods.**—Spun rayon, 10 percent blend, 41-inch, 66 by 38, 15 cents a yard; 2-ply alpaca, 48-inch, 44 by 36, 30 cents a yard.
- **Underwear fabrics.**—Acetate satin, 42-inch, 260 by 72, 25½ cents a yard; acetate taffeta, 42-inch, 130 by 60, 25½ cents a yard; French crepe, 43½-inch, 150 by 94, 28½ cents a yard.
- **Contracts calling for delivery of grey goods at higher than ceiling prices may not be completed except at the maximum prices or below, under the provisions of the schedule.**

**Full details required**

The schedule contains a provision requiring that full details of the constructions sold be included in each contract of sale and that invoices contain similar detail or an identifying style number or symbol.

Manufacturers of rayon grey goods must report monthly to OPACS on the manufacture of all constructions not covered by the schedule, where such goods were made in quantity in excess of 25,000 yards per month, and the highest prices at which such constructions were sold during the month.

On or before October 10, 1941, and monthly thereafter, purchasers and sellers of rayon grey goods are required to submit affirmations accompanied by sworn statements that during the month all such purchases or sales were made at prices in compliance with the schedule.

**Most of acetate held for hosiery is released for sale to anybody**

Because only a slight hosiery demand for acetate rayon yarn has developed, OPACS on August 20 amended its rayon yarn allocation program to release for disposal without restriction virtually all of the acetate yarn thus far accumulated by rayon yarn producers for sale to manufacturers of hosiery.

Rayon filaments fall into three general categories: viscose, cuprammonium, and acetate, depending on the process used in their production. The OPACS allocation program, which was designed to provide hosiery mills and other former users of silk with sufficient supplies of rayon yarn to enable them to continue operations, made no distinction among the three types.

Hosiery manufacturers have found the viscose and cuprammonium yarn to be more satisfactory for the knitting of hosiery and, hence, have not drawn upon the stocks of acetate yarn thus far set aside for their benefits.

Rather than require the retention of this acetate yarn until the end of the current month, when redistribution would be permitted automatically under terms of the original program, OPACS has decided to release for immediate sale 65 percent of the acetate yarn accumulated for use by hosiery manufacturers.

That part of the program which dealt with the selling aside of rayon yarn for former users of silk, other than hosiery manufacturers, is not affected by the new amendment, and accumulation of such yarn, whether acetate, viscose, or cuprammonium, is still required.
Metals allocated to keep existing radios in operation

Metals required for the manufacture of replacement tubes and condensers needed to keep in operation the bulk of the 59,000,000 radio sets in the United States are allocated to that use in a program announced August 22 by OPACS Administrator Henderson.

Since the maintenance of existing communications is considered essential to morale, the replacement of burned-out radio tubes and defective condensers in radio sets is a matter of prime importance.

Sufficient for three months

The program stipulates that during the period from August 20 through November 30, 1941, the highest civilian rating shall be given to specific amounts of nickel, steel, aluminum, copper, chromium, tin, brass, and other metals required to manufacture radio tubes and electrolytic condensers for replacement purposes. Supplies of tubes and condensers that can be produced from the metals allocated are estimated sufficient to take care of normal demand during October, November, and December.

Apportionment of the metals allocated is keyed in the program to the ratio of each equipment maker's dollar sales of tubes and condensers in 1940 to the aggregate industry dollar sales of the same respective items in that year. Tubes made with metals provided under the program must be marked for replacement use only.

The allocation program, which will expire on November 30, 1941, will be administered by OPM. Applications for adjustments in the amounts of metals allocated may be made by manufacturers to the Director of Priorities, OPM.

Goat skin prices under observation, OPACS warns

Following discussion with a group of goat and kid skin tanners, OPACS announced August 19 that it is studying the behaviour of goat skin prices and that current prices will be kept under close observation.

Any advance in goat skin prices, it was indicated, will be looked upon with concern and, if found to be unwarranted, will result in the imposition of price control. Ceiling prices for cattle hides and calf and kip skins were established on June 16.

Fine cotton goods taken in under ceiling; panel to be called on further extension

Extension of the cotton grey goods price schedule to cover principal types of fine goods was announced August 22 by OPACS Administrator Henderson.

By this action, OPACS brings under ceiling prices combod lawns, dimities, voiles, and two constructions of high-grade combed broadcloth not previously subject to the schedule. The new prices were to go into effect August 23.

A meeting of the cotton textile advisory panel, created about a month ago, will be called by OPACS for the first week in September to consider ceiling prices for cotton fabrics still outside the schedule, as well as a number of technical questions.

Ceiling to be put on carded yarns

Mr. Henderson also announced that a price schedule covering carded cotton yarns will be issued shortly in order to restore carded yarn prices to their normal relationship with the prices for combed cotton yarns, now under a ceiling. A meeting with carded yarn producers will precede the issuance of this new schedule.

The present cotton textile schedule had a top price of 61 cents a pound for combed broadcloth, 40 inches and narrower, 136 sley and below. Using this as a base and expressing combed broadcloth prices in cents per yard, the amendment sets top prices of 10 1/2 cents a yard for 40-inch 76 by 72 lawns; 10 1/4 cents per yard for 36-inch 96 by 68 dimity, and 9 cents a yard for 39-inch 60 by 52 slack voile.

A ceiling price of 14 3/4 cents a yard is established for the 37-inch 136 by 69 and 138 by 69 constructions of combed broadcloth, for which the present schedule stipulates a price of 61 cents a pound. The conversion from a poundage basis to a yardage basis represents but a fractional change in the ceiling price and completion of sales made under contract at prices computed on the former poundage basis is allowed.

Two finer constructions of combed broadcloth, 37-inch 144 by 76 and 37-inch 152 by 80, are assigned maximum prices of 13 1/2 cents and 17 cents a yard respectively.

The amendment also provides that the price of "seconds" and "shorts" of all fabrics covered by the schedule shall not exceed 65 percent of the ceiling price for such goods.

Other constructions of high-grade cotton grey goods, such as piques, sateens, and pongees, will be added to the schedule upon completion of studies as to appropriate differentials in the light of the new ceiling prices on the constructions now included.

The latest amendment takes note of the fact that combed broadcloths are always marked with "feeler motion," and hence makes clear that the 1-cent "feeler motion" premium allowable under the schedule does not apply to these goods.

Deliveries of goods added to the schedule by the latest amendment at prices above the maximums in completion of contracts previously made will not be permitted. To obviate any actual monetary loss, however, persons who acquired actual goods and contracted to sell them at prices above the ceiling prior to issuance of the amendment may apply to OPACS for permission to complete deliveries at the contract prices.

Ceiling on formaldehyde set at 4.25 to 9.5 cents a pound

Action to curb the exploitation of civilian users of formaldehyde by certain dealers who have been charging as much as 47 cents a pound, against manufacturers' prices of 6 cents a pound for comparable quantities, was taken August 21 by OPACS Administrator Henderson, through the imposition of ceiling prices.

Maximum prices established by the schedule range from 4.25 cents to 9.5 cents a pound, f. o. b. the five major shipping points, with freight equalization, and are based upon the highest list prices now being charged by the leading manufacturers. The schedule does not apply to sales of formaldehyde in containers below 45 pounds.

A shortage in supplies of formaldehyde, previously recognized by OPACS in its allocation program designed to reduce nonessential uses of the chemical, has resulted from the heavy demands of defense and civilian industry for synthetic resins. Despite the shortage, manufacturers have maintained their prices at reasonable levels, as have most jobbers and dealers.

The schedule allows a premium of 1 cent a pound over the ceiling prices for dealers and suppliers selling formaldehyde from local stocks.
Ceiling is put on copper scrap to restore relationship to new metal

Copper scrap, which has been selling at levels completely out of line with the price of copper, is restored to a fair relationship in Price Schedule No. 20, announced August 19 by OPACS.

The scrap ceiling establishes price differentials of from 2 to 4 cents a pound below 12-cent copper for the leading kinds and grades of scrap. A uniform dealers' margin of 5/8-cent a pound for collecting, sorting, storing, and shipping is also allowed.

To relieve drain on new metal

Scrap copper is a basic material in the production of electrolytic copper and copper and copper-alloy ingot, which are essential to the defense program and civilian industry. Scrap prices in recent months have been bid up to a point where the usual spread between scrap and copper or between greatly altered and custom smelters and brass ingot makers have been largely deprived of their usual supplies. This situation, if allowed to continue, would have forced defense users of copper, which is subject to priority control, to draw more heavily on supplies of new metal. Thus, allocation problems would have multiplied to the detriment of the defense effort and industry at large.

10 cents a pound for No. 1

Top prices are fixed in the schedule at 10 cents per pound for No. 1 copper wire and No. 1 heavy copper; 9 cents a pound for No. 2 copper wire and mixed heavy copper (each containing 96 percent of copper), and 8 cents a pound for light copper (containing 92 percent copper). These maximums apply to sales by "makers" of scrap, delivered to the buyer's plant or warehouse.

As heretofore stated, dealers are allowed a 5/8-cent per pound margin above the foregoing prices for collecting, sorting, storing, and shipping the types of scrap covered in the schedule.

A premium of one-half cent a pound may be charged by makers only, on shipments aggregating 49,000 pounds or more and made at one time. This premium recognizes the practice of certain large makers of returning their scrap directly to a user.

If quantity deliveries are made by truck, a shipment of 40,000 pounds will be considered to have been made at one time if such an amount is delivered to the buyer within two days after the first part of the shipment is picked up by truck.

Differentials for variations

A differential of 0.0555 cent per pound may be added to or subtracted from the ceiling prices for each 1 percent variation above or below the copper content of 96 percent in the case of No. 2 copper wire and mixed heavy copper, and 52 percent in the case of light copper, with proportionate adjustments for variations of less than 1 percent.

The schedule prices will apply on and after August 19, 1941, irrespective of existing contracts. However, application may be made to OPACS for permission to carry out prior arrangements in cases where losses may result in the disposition of inventory acquired prior to August 19, 1941, at higher than the maximum prices. A time limit of October 19, 1941, is fixed for the filing of such applications.

Nugent to represent OPACS on consumer credit committee

Rolf Nugent, director of consumer credit studies for the Russell Sage Foundation, was named by Leon Henderson August 18 as his alternate on the committee to coordinate work of the Federal Reserve System with other Government agencies in connection with regulation of consumer credit.

The executive order on regulation of consumer credit provided for creation of a committee consisting of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Federal Loan Administrator, and the Administrator of the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, or such alternates as each shall designate, to facilitate the coordination of the Board's functions "with other phases of the program for national defense and for protecting the national economy."

Mr. Nugent, a widely recognized authority on consumer credit problems, has been serving as an OPACS consultant in this field.

Mr. Nugent worked with Mr. Henderson for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg in the early '20's, and became Mr. Henderson's assistant when the latter was director of the Department of Consumer Credit Studies for the Russell Sage Foundation.

Freon refrigerants allocated; maintenance gets first call

Allocation of available supplies of Freon refrigerant gasses to users and manufacturers of civilian refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment in the order of relative importance to the public welfare is directed in a program announced August 19 by the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply.

Freon is the proprietary name for several types of chlorinated hydrocarbon refrigerants produced only by Kinetic Chemicals, Inc., a du Pont subsidiary. These are used in several types of domestic refrigerators, as well as in commercial and industrial equipment and in all types of air-conditioning equipment, including railroad cars. Freon is manufactured from carbon tetrachloride, which in turn is made from chlorine. Heavy defense needs for this basic chemical have caused a shortage in many of its derivatives.

Maintenance preferred

A senior classification is assigned in the program to maintenance of all types of refrigerating equipment now operating and existing air-conditioning equipment in hospitals, clinics, and sanitoria requiring Freon refrigerants.

Maintenance of industrial air-conditioning equipment already installed ranks next in preference, followed by maintenance of other air-conditioning equipment, then by manufacture of new refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment.

Current supplies of Freon are expected to be adequate for the maintenance of all installed refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment. Deliveries for new units may have to be deferred until the summer ice cream and air-conditioning season is passed.

Pooling of orders urged

Cooperation of Freon consumers is essential if equitable allotment of available supplies is to be achieved. OPACS suggests that (1) reasonable requirements should be anticipated, but shipment of more than a 30 days' supply should not be requested; (2) empty cylinders should be returned promptly, and (3) "pooling" of orders by separate units of one establishment should be undertaken where feasible to reduce the number of cylinders required and to keep inventories from becoming excessive.

The program, which will expire December 31, 1941, unless sooner terminated will be administered by the Division of Priorities, OPM.
News for Retailers

Retailers Warned About Priority Racketeers

In connection with OPM’s issuance of the revised Priorities Critical List last week, OPACS officials are warning retailers to beware of fly-by-night speculators who have been trying to take advantage of the list to corner the market on “spot cash” for supplies of materials on the priorities list.

Investigations are now under way of unscrupulous firms possessing only a telephone, an address, and a name, who telegraph jobbers and retailers suspected of having large inventories, offering them “spot cash” for supplies of materials on the priorities list.

OPACS officials exhibit one telegram from the “____________ Chemical Company,” with a New York address, as an example of the type of speculative activity that is attempting to profit on defense.

Plants engaged in National Defense have directed us to obtain for them additional quantities of commodities listed below. They authorize us to pay very handsome premiums.”

The telegram then lists, in the same alphabetical order, all the drugs mentioned in the latest Priorities Critical List, ending with the phrase: “You will profit very substantially and render assistance to the Defense Program. Spot cash paid for all purchases. Please cooperate.”

OPM has pointed out that issuance of the Priorities Critical List does not necessarily mean that there is a shortage in the articles included, but that they are placed on the list as a precautionary measure in order to make it possible for Army and Navy contracting officers to automatically assign preference rating certificates to plants engaged in National Defense.

Comparatively few consumer goods items were added by the August list. Among those of interest to retailers are: sewing machines, down, asbestos roofing products, and electric motors of fractional horsepower. A complete list is printed on page 10.

Freon Allocation

Wires, telephones calls, and distress letters from retailers in all sections of the country saying that their refrigerating and air-conditioning equipment was out of order and could not be serviced because of a shortage in refrigerating gas prompted the formulation of the new Freon allocation program, according to OPACS chemical allocation officials.

The allocation program gives first call on available supplies of Freon gas to existing refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, which means that the stalled meat counters, frosted foods sections, dairy and beverage refrigerators, and air conditioners will soon be working again.

Supplies of Freon, proprietary name for several types of chlorinated hydro-carbon refrigerants, are expected to be adequate for installed equipment as a result of the order, but preliminary estimates indicate that the quantities left for the manufacture of new cooling equipment will be sufficient for less than 50 percent of the usual amount required for the month of September.

Manufacturers of refrigerating equipment, in so far as they are not already required to curtail production under the OPACS durable goods curtailment program, may be able to shift their current models to the use of sulphur dioxide gas in place of Freon.

This change-over will work less of a hardship on manufacturers than it would have on owners of existing refrigerators or air conditioners, since a change from Freon gas to the substitute gases in existing units requires redesign of the equipment.

A shortage of chlorine due to a heavy defense demand is the bottleneck in Freon production. Freon is derived from carbon tetrachloride, which in turn is made from chlorine.

Furniture Standards

Furniture Standards

Simplification and standardization of furniture as a means of increasing production is being considered, following meetings of six major groups in the furniture manufacturing industry with OPM officials last week.

C. D. Dosker of Gamble Brothers, metal furniture manufacturers of Louisville, Ky.; E. R. Dibrell of the Conservation and Reclamation Unit of OPM; T. A. Finch, of the Thomasville Chair Co. of Thomasville, N. C.; and Steve Johnson of the Simmons Co., Kenosha, Wis., were appointed to the conservation program and simplification of product line committee.

Because steel production facilities are needed for defense purposes, a curtailment in steel for the manufacture of metal office and household furniture and equipment is anticipated.

Standardization and simplification of lines and style will be investigated by the committee as a means of saving needed materials and of increasing production of wood furniture to take the place of metal furniture limited by raw material shortages.

At the OPM meeting last week, an industry representative stated that a substantial saving of scarce materials could be made through the standardization of drawer sizes alone.

Simplification of office furniture is expected to be comparatively easy, since uses to which it is put are fairly uniform throughout the country, and standardization consequently will depend on manufacturing considerations. But household furniture may present some problems if the needs of the consumer are kept in mind, according to furniture experts of the standards section of OPACS’ Consumer Division.

As an instance of one of the problems faced in household furniture standardization, they point out that laundries in different sections of the country fold shirts and linens in different lengths. In the Chicago area, for example, finished shirts are 17 1/4 inches long, but in other regions laundries may fold them shorter or longer. In order to standardize drawers to hold different types of laundered clothes and linens without wasting space, an important consideration in a time of crowded living space, such regional factors would have to be taken into account.
Ceiling prices which restore quotations for Pennsylvania grade crude oil to levels prevailing before the 23 to 25 cent rise of August 14 were announced August 23 by OPACS Administrator Henderson.

The Office of the Petroleum Coordinator for National Defense concurs in the desirability of maximum prices for these crudes.

The schedule sets a ceiling price of $2.75 per barrel for Bradford crude; $2.40 per barrel for Southwest Pennsylvania crude; $2.34 per barrel for Eureka crude, and $2.30 per barrel for Southeastern Ohio crude. Top prices for the various qualities between Oil City and Titusville, Pa., range from $2.63 to $2.69 per barrel.

Produced in several States

Production of Pennsylvania grade crude oil approximates 76,000 barrels a day, or about 2 percent of the total daily output of crude oil in the United States. The description “Pennsylvania grade” has reference to the special qualities possessed by this crude oil, rather than the State of its production. While most of the total output flows from wells in Pennsylvania, substantial quantities are recovered from wells in New York State, southeastern Ohio and northern West Virginia. “Bradford crude” refers to Pennsylvania grade oil produced from the Bradford and Alleghany pools; “Southwest Pennsylvania” to oil coming from wells in that area; “Southeastern Ohio” is similarly self-descriptive. “Eureka” crude is the Pennsylvania grade produced by wells in West Virginia and run by the Eureka Pipe Line. “Oil City-Titusville” oil comes from wells in that general vicinity in Pennsylvania.

From the limited production of Pennsylvania grade crude oils the recovered high-grade lubricants of special value to the defense program and civilian industry. Acceleration of defense activity and civilian industry over the past year has stimulated demand for these high-grade lubricants to an abnormal degree. This pressure on supplies of Pennsylvania grade crude oils has been reflected in a series of price increases aggregating about 50 percent over the past nine months and quotations currently are at or near the highest levels in 10 years.

Some sample price increases

Even before the general increase of August 14, prices had risen 90 cents a barrel above those in effect in November 1940. Thus, Bradford crude had gone up from $1.65 to $2.75 a barrel, and Eureka crude from $1.44 to $2.54 a barrel. The increases over 1940 prices were greater on a percentage basis than any advances in the prices of any other grades of crude oil in the United States over the same period.

An inquiry into Pennsylvania grade crude oil prices was initiated by OPACS, and conferences with producers, purchasers and refiners followed. An advance of 25 cents a barrel on August 1 was proposed, but action was deferred at the request of OPACS pending the submission of evidence to justify the raise. Before submission of supporting data was completed a 25-cent per barrel price increase was put into effect as of August 14.

No great rise in supply

“No great rise in supply

The difficulties and delays involved in developing new supplies of Pennsylvania grade crude oil are such that even the substantial price increases of the past nine months have not called for additional supplies in great volume,” Mr. Henderson said. “Higher prices which do not serve to increase supplies appreciably and which cannot be justified by higher costs are inflationary.”

Maintaining menthol supply discussed with OPACS

Ways of maintaining adequate supplies of menthol have been discussed at a meeting with several importers of citronella oil and manufacturers of menthol, OPACS announced August 22.

Menthol has been largely imported from Japan and China. The current situation in the Far East threatens to affect the maintenance of adequate supplies in the United States.

Because menthol is made from citronella oil in this country, the desirability of allocating supplies of citronella so as to insure a substantial increase in the domestic production of menthol was explored at the meeting. The possibility of a price ceiling for citronella oil was introduced by menthol producers. However, officials of OPACS asserted that further studies would be required before any definite conclusions on the price question could be announced.

Steel drums for petroleum and chemicals made eligible for priority ratings

Arrangements by which manufacturers of steel drums and containers will be able to obtain enough steel to fill defense orders from the petroleum and chemical industries during the next two months while a permanent program is being worked out were announced August 22 by the Division of Purchases, OPM.

A committee representing the industry has had many meetings with OPM officials during recent weeks. This committee has been informed that the 54 manufacturers of steel drums should make out and submit Forms PD-1 for their requirements to meet orders for chemical and petroleum products during September and October on the basis of 93% of the normal rate. Their orders will then be eligible for A-5 priority ratings.

The drum manufacturers have found great difficulty in getting the sheet steel they need for the chemical and petroleum industry, and to a large extent the industry has been operating on its inventories.

Panels explore ways to protect consumer

The best way of protecting consumer interests in connection with the imminent reduction of production of refrigerators, washing machines, and other lines of consumer goods, resulting from scarcities of various materials, were considered August 22 in a joint session of the two new advisory panels which have been set up by the Standards Section, Consumer Division, OPACS.

The technical information furnished by these two panels will serve as the basis of recommendations to be made by the Consumer Division to OPACS Administrator Henderson, on how reduction of production can best be planned to be consistent with consumer needs. The second meeting of the two panels will be held about the same time next month. The standards advisory panel is made up of a limited number of representatives of commercial and private standards-formulating and standards-using companies. The governmental and institutional purchasing agents advisory panel includes purchasing agents of several cities, States, and universities.
Sugar ceiling amendment aids holders of forward contracts

Pursuant to its price schedule of August 14 fixing the maximum price of raw sugar, the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply issued August 22 a supplemental provision covering the settlement of forward delivery contracts entered into by the sugar trade before the schedule became effective.

The ceiling price established in the schedule was 3.5 cents a pound for raw sugar, New York duty paid basis. Persons or firms with bona fide contracts calling for future delivery of sugar above this price are now given permission to file application on the basis of which permits would be granted to carry out the sale at the original price except in those cases where failure to grant such permits would not cause hardship.

OPACS also announced that refiners were being invited to a meeting in Washington, August 28. The refiners are being called in to discuss problems of refiners growing out of the establishment of a ceiling price for raw sugar.

OPACS officials also stated that conferences with grower representatives, sugar processors, and other interested groups would be held in the near future to consider viewpoints and administrative problems in connection with the ceiling price schedule.

Chlorinated hydrocarbon refrigerants under priorities

In a General Preference Order designed to assure the proper functioning of hospitals and food preservation units (household refrigerators, storage plants), and to meet all defense requirements, Priorities Director Steitinius has placed chlorinated hydrocarbon refrigerants under priority control.

The order assigns the rating of A-10 for deliveries of these refrigerants for defense uses, such as Army and Navy hospitals and cantonments, and ship storage plants.

After the satisfaction of defense needs, the remaining supply is to be distributed according to the civilian allocation program of the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply (see page 14).

Chlorinated hydrocarbon refrigerants are defined in the order as: trichloromonofluoromethane, dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorotrifluoromethane, and dichlorotetrafluoroethane.

Advice to consumers on sugar prices

Following the setting of a ceiling price of 3.5 cents per pound for raw sugar by the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, the question is frequently being asked by consumers as to what should be a reasonable range of retail prices for sugar in their localities. The Consumer Division of OPACS has developed the following information to help consumers in following sugar prices:

First of all, it has been indicated by Leon Henderson, Administrator of OPACS, that consumers should not pay more for sugar than they were paying about the middle of this month. What the average local price will be depends upon the distance from the nearest refinery, transportation costs and whether or not a city is located in the "sugar beet area" where sugar prices are normally higher.

A general guide as to average prices for sugar, as well as other commodities, is to be found in the monthly figures issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The last figures for 56 cities are for July 15. A sampling indicates, however, the sugar prices as of about the middle of August were only slightly higher, although official figures will not be out for two weeks.

The figures which are quoted below are presented for the purpose of giving consumers a general idea of what may be considered average prices in the cities mentioned for sugar in 10-pound lots.

Cities where relatively high prices for sugar are normal:

- Butte, Mont., 68.2 cents; Denver, Colo., 67.3; Knoxville, Tenn., 64.6; Salt Lake City, Utah, 63.3; Seattle, Wash., 62.3; Louisville, Ky., 62.0; Minneapolis, Minn., 61.8; Detroit, Mich., 61.7; Columbus, Ohio, 61.6; Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 61.6; St. Paul, Minn., 61.1; Memphis, Tenn., 61.0; Portland, Oreg., 60.6; Peoria, Ill., 60.0; Cincinnati, Ohio, 60.5; Springfield, Ill., 60.5; Wichita, Kans., 60.4; St. Louis, Mo., 60.2; Cleveland, Ohio, 60.2; Indianapolis, Ind., 60.1; Milwaukee, Wis., 60.0.

Cities where sugar prices fall in the medium class:

- Little Rock, Ark., 59.6; Mobile, Ala., 59.6; Kansas City, Mo., 59.5; Jackson, Miss., 59.3; Omaha, Neb., 59.0; Portland, Maine., 59.0; Norfolk, Va., 59.0; Pittsburgh, Pa., 58.7; Rochester, N. Y., 58.6; Chicago, Ill., 58.6; Winston-Salem, N. C., 58.7; Bridgeport, Conn., 58.1; Scranton, Pa., 57.9; Buffalo, N. Y., 57.4; Boston, Mass., 57.2; Manchester, N. H., 57.1; New Haven, Conn., 57.0; Birmingham, Ala., 57.0; Charleston, S. C., 56.9; Savannah, Ga., 56.9; Fall River, Mass., 56.8; Richmond, Va., 56.6; San Francisco, Calif., 56.5; Dallas, Tex., 56.3; Baltimore, Md., 56.5; New Orleans, La., 56.4; Providence, R. I., 56.2; Atlanta, Ga., 56.2; Houston, Tex., 56.

Cities where low sugar prices prevail:

- New York, N. Y., 55.6; Philadelphia, Pa., 55.3; Los Angeles, Calif., 55.3; Newark, N. J., 54.9; Washington, D. C., 54.8; Jacksonvile, Fla., 54.7.

Chicago area wastepaper users agree to limit bid prices

Individual agreements whereby 30 manufacturing companies in the Chicago area, all large consumers of wastepaper, will keep their bids for the four low grades of wastepaper within the "Chicago" area, all large consumers of wastepaper, will keep their bids for the four low grades of wastepaper within the "Chicago" prices of June 16, 1941, were announced August 21 by OPACS.

The June 16 "Chicago" prices ($13 per ton for No, 1 mixed; $14 per ton for super-mixed; $15 per ton for news, and $16 per ton for corrugated) are those agreed upon previously by OPACS and individual dealers in wastepaper.

The 30 manufacturers also have agreed that they will allow brokers or dealers already under contract to them to sell wastepaper to such other mills as are in distress for supplies upon determination of such need by OPACS.

In reference to the "Chicago" wastepaper prices, it is pointed out that the agreements with wastepaper dealers permit an additional charge of $1 per ton for loading corrugated paper in freight cars in the city of Chicago only.

West Coast paper board makers to keep prices set in June

West Coast manufacturers of paper board have agreed individually with OPACS to continue until December 31, 1941, unless unusual circumstances intervene, the prices first agreed upon with OPACS in June of this year, Leon Henderson, administrator, announced August 19.

Base prices which will prevail on deliveries of 10 tons or more are as follows:
- Plain chip, $50 per ton; single manila, $63.50; while patent creased, $80.

The differentials for other grades in effect on April 1, 1941, are to be applied to these base prices.
50,000 sought for nurse training as military needs, civilian shortage mount

Fifty thousand well-educated young women to begin training this fall for professional nursing careers were called for in an announcement of August 15 issued by the Office of the Coordinator for Health, Welfare and Related Defense Activities, Paul V. McNutt.

National defense programs require a tremendous number of graduate registered nurses if we are to "avert serious damage to the nation's health" Surgeon General Thomas Parran, member of the Health and Medical Committee of the Coordinator's Office, declared in describing the need for trainees.

$1,250,000 available

The States Relations Division of the United States Public Health Service, under Doctor Parran's direction, is administering a recent Congressional appropriation of $1,250,000 which will facilitate the training of these additional nurses. The funds will also be used to provide refresher courses for inactive registered graduate nurses returning to active duty, and in offering post-graduate instruction in special fields of study.

Besides recruiting more student nurses, thousands of registered graduate nurses are being mobilized for total national defense.

The American Red Cross is conducting an enrollment campaign for its First Reserve, official reservoir of nurses for the Army and Navy, and at present has an enrollment of 20,549. Approximately 1,000 nurses are enrolling each month in the First Reserve, but Red Cross officials anticipate increasing this number to 1,500 per month in the immediate future.

Army enrolling 600 a month

The Army Nurse Corps is enrolling approximately 600 reserve nurses per month. At present there are 8,831 nurses on active duty of which 4,512 are reserve nurses. The authorized quota for the Army Nurse Corps for the fiscal year of 1942 is 8,237 nurses and this is expected to be achieved by December 31.

Surgeon General Magee of the Army pointed out that if the United States should declare war at any time in the future, the need for more registered graduate nurses would mount astronomically. He based this on records of the last war, when nearly 22,000 nurses were on active duty.

The Navy Nurse Corps, while necessarily smaller than the Army nursing staff, is also expanding. Surg. Gen. Ross T. McIntire of the Navy stated that the Navy Nurse Corps now has approximately 700 nurses on active duty, including nearly 140 reserve nurses. More than 1,000 reserve nurses await a call to duty, and this number may be increased by an additional thousand or more by the end of the year.

10,000 vacancies in civilian hospitals

Civilian hospitals in some parts of the country are understood to be critically affected by the increasing demand for nursing service. At present, there are approximately 10,000 vacancies in graduate registered nurse positions in the Nation's hospitals, according to a recent survey published in the American Journal of Nursing.

Training 100,000 volunteer nurses' sides within the next 12 months in collaboration with the American National Red Cross and the major hospitals of the country (as announced August 17 by OCD Director LaGuardia and reported in DEFENSE August 19) is another important project to relieve the already overburdened nursing facilities in civilian hospitals.

DCB asks restriction of access to communications plants

The Defense Communications Board, through Chairman James Lawrence Fly, has notified the wire and radio communications industry, including manufacturing, of a resolution adopted by the DCB intended to restrict access to communications plants and stations.

Because of the importance to national defense of such facilities, it is desirable that the industry restrict admission to premises (other than portions necessarily open to the public) to employees, Federal, State, or local government officials in performance of duty, and persons considered necessary by the management to the conduct of business. Mr. Fly requested that representatives of foreign governments, and alien individuals and groups be barred except upon express permission granted by the DCB.

26 community facilities projects approved

The Defense Public Works program to provide public facilities or services necessary to the health, safety or welfare of persons engaged in defense activities swung into action last week.

President Roosevelt's approval of 26 projects in 12 states was announced August 18 by Federal Works Administrator John M. Carmody. The total estimated cost of the group is $5,765,531.

More than $395,000,000 worth of applications for projects are in process of examination.

Chromium order changed

Several changes in the General Preference Order covering chromium were announced August 23 by Priorities Director Stettinius.

Largely technical in nature, the changes are designed:

1. To include a new definition of the term "Processor" in order to remove certain doubts as to the application of the term which have arisen in the course of administering the order.
2. To include the latest approved definition of the phrase "Defense Order."
3. To clarify the meaning of paragraph (b) (9) of the order restricting the use of chromium in making chemicals.
4. To include a provision requiring the acceptance of defense orders.
5. To include a provision for the relief of persons whose defense orders have been unreasonably rejected or to whom deliveries of chromium under defense orders have been unreasonably deferred.

Chromium was placed under full industry-wide priority control in an order issued on July 7.

McCabe succeeds O'Neill as Priorities deputy director

Priorities Director Stettinius announced August 19 the appointment of Thomas B. McCabe, president of the Scott Paper Co., Chester, Pa., as deputy director of the Division of Priorities in charge of operations.

Mr. McCabe, who served last year in the Industrial Materials Division of the National Defense Advisory Commission, will take the place of James L. O'Neill, who is returning to his duties as operating vice president of the Guaranty Trust Co. of New York. Mr. O'Neill will continue to be available as a consultant.
PURCHASES...

$166,372,695 War Department contracts cleared August 14 through August 20

Defense contracts, including informal letter contracts, totaling $166,372,695 were awarded by the War Department and cleared by the Division of Purchases, Office of Production Management, during the period August 14 through August 20. Formal contracts totaled $165,372,695. This compares with $214,058,229 for the previous week.

Two and one informal letter contract for construction amounted to $600,349,493, for ordnance to $47,553,907, for equipment and supplies to $16,934,618, and for aircraft to $41,535,577.

In addition, the War Department announced a subcontract, the amount of which was included in a previously reported primary contract.

Contracts awarded during the period were:

CONSTRUCTION
Two contractors: Griffin Construction Co. and Butler Bros. Construction Co., both of Atlanta, Ga.; construction of United States Air Force base at Shreveport, La.; $1,340,788.


The N. A. Woodworth Co., Ferndale, Mich.; construction of a motorized triangular division camp; $12,600,000.

Two contractors: Duffy Construction Co., Tampa, Fla.; construction and completion of runway and apron paving, Drew Field, Tampa, Fla.; $804,050.

Two contractors: Griffin Construction Co., and the MacDonald Construction Co., both of Atlanta, Ga.; construction of a motorized triangular division camp; $12,600,000.

Two contractors: Dufy Construction Corporation and The Carleton Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.; construction of a general deposit and traffic regulation station at Voorheesville, N. Y.; $6,004,600.

The N. A. Woodworth Co., Ferndale, Mich.; construction of plant with machinery and equipment for production of aircraft engine parts; $976,544.


Gibbons & Reed Co., Salt Lake City, Utah; construction of upon city roads, taxi-ways, and appurtenant facilities, Las Vegas, Nev., airport; $631,444.

Two contractors: Peter Kiewit Sons Co. and J. B. Bertrand, Inc., Denver, Colo.; construction of runway paving and drainage for Auxiliary Field at Lowry Bombing Range, Denver, Colorado; $723,870.


ORDNANCE
General Motors Corporation, Guide Lamp Division, Anderson, Ind.; cartridge cases; $611,900.

American Mfg. Co., of Texas, Fort Worth, Tex.; shells; $2,569,000.

H. A. K. Products Corporation, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; shells; $760,000.

National Tube Co., Christy Park Works, McKeesport, Pa.; demolition bombs; $4,141,900.

Mack Mfg. Corporation, Long Island City, N. Y.; transmission and drive assemblies for tanks; $4,674,265.

Kearney & Trecker Corporation, West Al- bion, Wis.; milling machines; $996,889.

A. S. Campbell Co., Inc., Boston, Mass.; cartridge cases; $1,854,050.

Bishop & Babcock Mfg. Co., Cleveland, Ohio; shells; $2,096,795.


E. S. Machine Corporation, Lebanon, Ind.; shells; $1,269,000.

Veedee-Root Co., Hartford, Conn.; fuzes; $577,500.

Tokheim Oil Tank and Pump Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.; bomb bodies; $2,094,870.

American Brass Co., Waterbury, Conn.; brass discs; $1,766,038.

American Brass Co., Waterbury, Conn.; two contracts for cartridge brass; $20,017,919.

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES
Curtiss-Wright Corporation, Airplane Division Buffalo Plants, Buffalo, N. Y.; wing panel units; $712,800.


The Denison Engineering Co., Columbus, Ohio, hydraulic test stand assemblies; $616,737.


Universal Building Products Corporation, Dallas, Tex.; field maintenance shelters; $804,050.

Kinney Motors, Inc., Glendale, Calif.; engines and parts; $743,192.

Autocar Co., Ardmore, Pa.; tractor-trucks; $652,588.

Marietta Mfg. Co., Point Pleasant, West Va.; coast artillery boats; $4,580,000.

Trailer Co. of America, Cincinnati, Ohio; semitrailers and dollies; $1,326,778.


ECA Manufacturing Co., Inc., Camden, N. J.; transmissions; $1,265,128.

N. J. H. Stuart Car Co., St. Louis, Mo.; ammunition cars; $74,800.

General American Transportation Corporation, Chicago, Ill.; railroad tank cars; $1,287,000.

Fargo Motor Corporation, Detroit, Mich.; 11⁄2-ton trucks and a 11⁄2-ton ambulances; $1,143,850.

AIRCRAFT
Curtiss-Wright Corporation, Airplane Division, St. Louis Plant, Robertson, Mo.; airplane and spare parts; $28,150,924.

North American Aviation, Inc., of Texas, Dallas, Tex.; airplane maintenance parts; $1,340,769.

Ersksie Aircraft Co., Wichita, Kansas; airplane and spare parts; $12,043,865.

INFORMAL LETTER CONTRACT

Perro Concrete Construction Co., Cincinnati, Ohio; construction of propeller test and towing stands at Wright Field, Ohio; $1,150,000.

SUBCONTRACTS


Preference given to projects for dried egg production

The first of a series of project preference ratings designed to increase American production of dried eggs from the present level of approximately 12 million pounds annually to an annual capacity well in excess of 100 million pounds was issued August 22 by Priorities Director Stettinus, on recommendation of the Subsistence Board, Division of Purchases, OPM.

The program was worked out with producers by the Surplus Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture, and is designed to meet British requirements under the Lend-Lease program of approximately 100 million pounds of dried eggs per year. American requirements including needs of the U. S. Army and Navy are estimated at about 14 million pounds for the coming year.

Trying to spread capacity

So far the great bulk of dried egg production has occurred in the Southwestern States including Texas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Some expansion has taken place in that area, but in order to prevent excess drying capacity in relation to the available egg supply, the Government has encouraged increasing facilities in other sections of the country. New capacity is being developed in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, New York, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Ohio. In all it is expected that between 35 and 40 new plants will be built.

Materials for which the priority rating is needed include comparatively small amounts of stainless steel and copper, some galvanized iron, and some equipment in the form of pumps, filters, pressure valves and the like. In most cases, the new facilities will be built with private funds. A rough estimate is that between $20,000 and $100,000 will be required for each project.
AGRICULTURE...

South urged to grow own food and feed so U. S. can send more abroad

The South, long a deficit food and feed producing area, last week was urged to use the food-for-defense program to encourage production of more of its own needs so that food produced in other areas may be made available for use by nations resisting aggression.

The plea for more home-produced food was made before the Southern Training School, American Farm Bureau Federation, at Hot Springs, Arkansas, by Director M. Clifford Townsend, of the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations.

Excerpts follow:

The food-for-defense program is a part—one of the most important parts—of our all-out defense effort. Food is a defense weapon, one of the strongest we have. Without food, Britain and the other nations resisting aggression cannot continue to stand between the United States and the Hitler menace.

Price support promised

Under the plan, the Department of Agriculture has promised to support certain average prices for dairy products, hogs, chickens, and eggs. At the same time, the Department intends to maintain feed prices at levels which should make it profitable for farmers to convert our large feed reserves in the Ever-normal Granary into food for defense.

Ordinarily, the cotton South would get little direct cash benefit from a program of this sort because, except in scattered areas, it does not produce the animal-protein food products on a commercial scale. On the other hand, if the program could be used as a stimulant for the production of food and feed needed on Southern farms, and in the towns of the South, it will have served a worthwhile two-fold purpose.

In the first place, the South, long a deficit food and feed producing area, can use the food-for-defense program to encourage production of more of its own needs. By producing its own food and feed, the South can make available these products in other areas for use by the nations resisting aggression. In view of the very real need for more concentrated food products to feed these nations, the South, by producing more for its own needs, has an opportunity to make its contribution.

In the second place, the South could use the experience, the food and feed crops, the herds and the flocks gained in the food-for-defense program to help it to continue to adjust its economy after the war is over. If enough individual Southern farmers ever learn the peace of mind that comes with diversification, I feel certain that they will no longer depend entirely on cotton for a living. If real diversification could be achieved on a belt-wide basis, it would naturally result in a tendency to put fewer acres in cotton.

Without the increased emphasis being given nutrition in this country, there is no reason why the South shouldn't be able to increase its production of food and feed for home consumption. We have in this country the paradox of agricultural surpluses and hungry, ill-clad people. If we are ever able to put these two together, we shall have a stronger, healthier, greater Nation. One way to make a good start in this direction would be to encourage the farm families of the South to produce their own home needs.

Government-owned corn offered to make alcohol for munitions

The Department of Agriculture, through the Commodity Credit Corporation, has offered to make 20 million bushels of Government-owned corn available to the War Department for the production of alcohol to be used in the manufacture of munitions. The offer was made in response to a request by the War Department for corn needed to meet the increased demand for alcohol in national defense.

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard said that “using corn in the manufacture of industrial alcohol will further the national defense effort by making available more alcohol and by freeing tanker space needed for the shipment of strategic materials; and will also aid the agricultural situation by removing surplus corn and making increased corn storage space available for the 1941 crop. Feed grain supplies are more than sufficient to meet requirements for the increases in livestock, dairy and poultry production sought under the food-for-defense program.”

Would save 100 tanker trips

In making the request to the Department of Agriculture, the War Department pointed out the probability of a shortage of at least 50 million gallons of alcohol during the coming year unless additional sources and processes for producing this alcohol are developed. Approximately 50 million gallons of alcohol can be produced from 20 million bushels of corn.

The request also called attention to the fact that quantities of molasses imported by tankers are now used in manufacturing industrial alcohol. One hundred tanker trips are required to move 125 million gallons of molasses from Cuba to United States consuming centers. One hundred and twenty-five million gallons of blackstrap molasses will produce about the same quantity of alcohol as 20 million bushels of corn.

Soil conservation program adjusted to defense

Soil-conserving goals to bring about more conservation on individual farms, and changes that will encourage increased production of commodities needed under the defense program, highlight the 1942 agricultural conservation program of the Department of Agriculture.

The goals, under which a minimum of cropland must be in soil-conserving crops, replace the total soil-depleting allotments and are one of the program’s chief measures for encouraging greater use of soil-conserving crops. The total allotments are being eliminated in most of the country in order to promote increased acreages of crops called for by the defense program, but are being retained in designated surplus feed-producing areas to stabilize feed production. The program is administered by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.
Farm machine repair gets defense rating; new equipment in highest civilian class

A broad plan directly affecting farmers and producers of farm machinery in all parts of the country, designed to speed the production of new farm equipment and facilitate the maintenance of existing machines, was announced August 22 by OPACS Priorities Director Stettinius.

The new plan, known as the farm machinery and equipment rating plan, involves two preference rating orders. One order assigns a defense rating—A-10—to deliveries of materials during August, September, and October in amounts not exceeding 20 percent more than the amount used in his production of farm machinery during the corresponding three months of 1939 or 1940, whichever was the higher.

The order assigning the B-1 rating to materials for new machinery will expire February 14, 1942. The rating or ratings assigned to a producer may be extended to his supplier and in turn reextended by the first supplier to his supplier, if the assistance of the plan is necessary to make possible eventual deliveries to the producer.

Producer may extend ratings

The order assigning the A-10 rating for maintenance and repair parts for farm machinery will expire February 14, 1942. The rating or ratings assigned to a producer may be extended to his supplier and in turn reextended by the first supplier to his supplier, if the assistance of the plan is necessary to make possible eventual deliveries to the producer.

The order assigning the B-1 rating to materials for new machinery, or of spare parts, and wishing to avail himself of the assistance offered by the plan, should make application to the Director of Priorities on Form PD-88. Provision is made on this form for applying for one or both of the ratings to be assigned under the plan.

Cotton textile industry confers on Agriculture’s bagging needs

The Department of Agriculture has announced that a study is being made in cooperation with the cotton textile industry to determine how agriculture’s bagging and packaging needs can be adequately supplied in 1942.

Agriculture, as the largest user of textile packaging materials, is vitally concerned over anticipated difficulties arising out of a probable reduction in imports of burlap from India. The prospective reduction is due to the shortage of shipping.

Defense officials meet

The problem was outlined in detail at an exploratory meeting held at the Department on August 19. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Cotton Textile Institute, the Office of Production Management, the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, and the Department of Agriculture. David Meeker, Assistant Director, Office of Agricultural Defense Relations, U. S. A., presided.

It was pointed out that agriculture normally uses more than one and a quarter billion yards of packaging material annually. Agricultural uses cover a wide range. They include, among many others, bags for feeds, fertilizers, chemicals, and other materials coming to the farm, as well as bags for flour, potatoes, sugar, onions, cabbages, bagging for cotton bales and other products going from the farm.

Representatives of the textile industry agreed to explore the possibility of expanding the production of sheeting and osnaburg materials.

Cotton linters subjected to General Preference Order

Priorities Director Stettinius announced on August 20 a General Preference Order regulating the processing and distribution of cotton linters. This order puts into effect the program announced by the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply on July 31, 1941.

Cotton linters are the fibers adhering to the cottonseed hull after cotton has passed through a gin. They are essential to the manufacture of smokeless powder, plastics and acetate rayons. To date all defense requirements have been taken care of, but there is a shortage for the essential civilian uses. The order will prevent extension of this shortage to the military sphere.

The order prohibits the sale of second-cut cotton linters, or more than 20 percent of mill-run linters, for any purpose other than ultimate use in the chemical industry. It further requires all cottonseed oil crushing mills using two cuts in the production of cotton linters to regulate their processes so that first-cut cotton linters will not be more than 20 percent of the total cut.

A mill wishing to make a delivery of cotton linters in accordance with a contract entered into prior to July 31 may make application to the Director of Priorities for permission to do so.

Cotton linters, as defined in the order, include imported linters.

The order does not apply to the sales or deliveries to agencies of the Federal Government, or to the government of any country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the United States.
TRANSPORTATION . . .

1941 truck loadings resume climb, defying normal seasonal trend

Defying normal trends of previous years, the volume of revenue freight transported by motor truck in July increased 2.3 percent over June and almost equaled the all-time record established in May, according to reports furnished to Ralph Budd, Transportation Commissioner, by the American Trucking Associations. The July volume was 35.8 percent higher than that of July 1940.

Comparative reports were received from 206 motor carriers in 39 States. The reporting carriers transported an aggregate of 1,455,307 tons in July, as against 1,422,278 tons in June, and 1,071,685 tons in July 1940.

Almost 76 percent of all the tonnage transported in the month was reported by carriers of general freight. The volume in this category increased 3.7 percent over June, and 37.3 percent over July of the previous year.

Transporters of petroleum products, accounting for a little more than 10 percent of the total tonnage reported, showed an increase of 9.1 percent over June, and an increase of 12.5 percent over July 1940.

Movement of new automobiles and trucks, constituting about 4.5 percent of the total tonnage, declined 17.2 percent in July, as compared with June, but held 76.5 percent over July of last year.

Haulers of iron and steel products reported almost 4 percent of the total tonnage. The volume of these commodities decreased 3.7 percent under June, but represented an increase of 46.4 percent as compared with July 1940.

Slightly more than 6 percent of the total tonnage reported was miscellaneous commodities, including tobacco, milk, textile products, building materials, cement and household goods. Tonnage in this class decreased 3.8 percent under June, but held 12.9 percent over July of last year.

Public cold storage use above last August's

Figures released August 12 by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the Department of Agriculture show, in 29 public refrigerated warehouses on August 1, 46,000,000 cubic feet of vacant space of which 34,000,000 cubic feet is cooler and 12,000,000 cubic feet freezer space. This shows an occupancy of 57 percent in cooler, 75 percent in freezer, and 63 percent in combined refrigerated space.

Comparisons in percent of occupation follow:
August 1941: Cooler, 57; freezer, 75; combined, 63. July 1941: Cooler, 58; freezer, 69; combined 62. August 1940: Cooler, 55; freezer 69; combined 59. July 1940: Cooler, 52; freezer, 65; combined, 56.

Stocks of refrigerated products in public and private warehouses showed changes from August 1, 1940 as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1940</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frozen poultry</td>
<td>Off 1 million pounds.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen and cured meat</td>
<td>Up 90 million pounds.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lard</td>
<td>Up 56 million pounds.</td>
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</table>

ORE MOVEMENT

Reports from the four principal ore-handling railroads for the week ended August 16 showed they loaded into boats at upper lake ports 2,397,294 tons of ore as compared to 2,236,244 tons loaded during the corresponding week in 1941.

For the 1941 season of navigation to date these same railroads have loaded into boats a total of 44,550,186 tons as compared to 31,973,486 during the corresponding period of 1940.

President approves building of 1,757 defense homes

President Roosevelt last week approved construction with public funds made available under the Lanham Act of 1,757 homes for families of industrial defense workers and enlisted personnel in 7 localities, upon the recommendation of C. F. Palmer, Coordinator of Defense Housing.

In addition, the President approved a 100-unit trailer project under the temporary shelter program.

Localities and number of homes in each for which public funds have been allocated are as follows:

- Permanent (all recommended for construction by the Federal Works Agency) — Tuskegee, Ala., 30; Campo, Calif., 30; Long Beach, Calif., 485; Keyport, Wash., 300; Freeport, Tex., 200; Newport News, Va., 162; Rockford, Ill., 350.
- Temporary — Umatilla, Oreg., 100, recommended for construction by the Farm Security Administration.

Two appointed to Clothing, Equipage and Textiles Branch

Purchases Director Nelson announced August 23 the following appointments: Robert J. Dillon of New York, president of the Blue Ridge Overalls Co. of Roanoke, Va., to be chief of the clothing section in the Clothing, Equipage and Textiles Branch.

Kenneth W. Marriner of Boston, director and general manager of Winslow Brothers and Smith Co., Boston to be consultant on wool in the Clothing, Equipage and Textile Branch.
HOUSING...

$100,000 provided for experts to help in remodeling quarters for defense workers

President Roosevelt has authorized the use of $100,000 from his emergency fund to employ fee technicians to help home owners estimate the possibilities for repair and modernization to make extra accommodations available in their houses for defense workers.

This authorization follows a recommendation by C. F. Palmer, Coordinator of Defense Housing, and John H. Fahey, Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

For speed and economy

Speed and economy in providing homes for defense workers are the two principal goals in the program, according to Mr. Palmer. He estimated that 15,000 housing units can be supplied by modernization and conversion in areas where acute shortages exist, whereas the same number of the newly constructed units would cost approximately $50,000,000 and take some months to complete.

The authorization will implement a nation-wide service to help home owners repair and modernize their properties and make extra rooms and apartments available for rent to defense workers. Homes with unused space that could be converted into suitable living quarters will be inspected without charge by architects and technicians, and estimates of the cost of remodeling made free of charge. They will also estimate the amount of income that might be derived from the improved property.

Three reasons why owners should aid

The new program will be carried out through local Homes Registration Offices and Home Owners Loan Corporation offices, Mr. Palmer said. The HOLC will do as much of the technical work as possible with salaried employees, and the $100,000 fund will provide for the employment of additional technicians.

There are three major reasons for property owners to cooperate in this effort," said Mr. Palmer. "They will be contributing to the defense effort in a practical and effective way; they will derive new incomes from their properties, and they will improve the underlying value of those properties."

The HOLC's technical staff has directed the reconditioning of more than 550,000 homes in the past few years and will call upon hundreds of fee technicians it has used in its own operations in every county of the United States.

During the last war, 350,000 housing units had to be made available for workers suddenly concentrated in defense areas, according to Mr. Palmer, and 185,000 of those units were supplied through existing houses.

Reimbursement by rent

"The expenses of remodeling will have to be borne by the property owners, of course. Reimbursement will come from rent. If they decide to go ahead, they will be assisted in obtaining financing, and, if they wish the services of architects or technicians to carry out the job, then they can be obtained at a reasonable fee."

Mr. Palmer pointed out that an important objective of the program is the utilization of existing structures to avoid overbuilding in communities where defense activities now are concentrated but which may later decline.

"The more use we can make of present housing, the less danger there is of any real estate 'headaches' after the emergency," he said.

1,300 defense homes completed in week; 960 put under construction contract

Approximately 1,300 homes for defense workers and enlisted personnel were completed and 960 put under construction for the week ending August 16, C. F. Palmer, Coordinator of Defense Housing, announced.

Completions reported for the week include Tampa, Fla., with 101 homes; Savannah, Ga., with 250 homes; and Wilmington, N. C., with 150 homes. These homes were all constructed by the United States Housing Authority completed 122 in Jacksonville, Fla.; 150 in Nashville, Tenn., and 96 at Bremerton, Wash., for the families of civilian and enlisted personnel.

Construction contracts were placed at Hartford, Conn., for 500 homes by the Federal Works Agency for civilian defense workers. Also, 300 homes were contracted for by the Public Buildings Administration for civilian workers at Niagara Falls and 120 by the United States Housing Authority for enlisted and civilian personnel at Spartanburg, S. C.

Over 5,000 homes were started by private builders under FHA inspection during the week. As of August 16, approximately 110,000 homes had been allocated out of public funds for the families of defense workers and enlisted personnel. Of this number, 79,358 will house the families of civilian workers and 30,330 the families of enlisted personnel.

More than 80,000 homes have been put under construction contract in 157 localities and 47 States and Territories. Of these homes, 29,480 have been completed.

STATUS OF PUBLIC DEFENSE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AUGE. 16, 1941

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds allocated</th>
<th>Contracts awarded</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 16</td>
<td>Aug. 9</td>
<td>Aug. 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of States and Territories</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of localities</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of projects</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of family dwelling units (regular)</td>
<td>109,086</td>
<td>109,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian industrial workers in private defense industry</td>
<td>46,315</td>
<td>46,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian industrial workers in Government plants</td>
<td>14,523</td>
<td>14,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilian housing projects</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married enlisted personnel</td>
<td>30,150</td>
<td>30,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married civilians (male)</td>
<td>3,334</td>
<td>3,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of family dwelling units (tractor)</td>
<td>6,591</td>
<td>6,591</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NUMBER OF NEW HOMES STARTED UNDER FHA INSPECTION

Jan. 1, 1941, through Aug. 16, 1941

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week ended Aug. 16, 1941</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>137,072</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,477</td>
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CIVILIAN DEFENSE . . .

New assistant director to have charge of enrolling women for civilian defense

Miss Eloise Davison, director of the Home Institute of the New York Herald Tribune and a nationally-known figure in the field of home economics, on August 23 was named by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, Director of the Office of Civilian Defense, as assistant director. Miss Davison will be in charge of many of the volunteer activities in the civilian defense program, including enrollment of women in such services as air raid wardens, nurses' aides, drivers corps, and emergency food and housing.

Established courses in "household engineering"

Miss Davison is a native of Ohio. She was graduated at Ohio State University with the degree of Bachelor of Science; from Iowa State College, as Master of Science; and did post-graduate work at the University of Chicago, the Engineering School of New York University and the New York School of Social Research. She taught in the public schools in Cincinnati and later served as Home Demonstration Agent in Ohio and subsequently in the Department of Home Economics at Ohio State University. As associate professor at Iowa State College (Ames, Iowa), she established and directed graduate courses in household engineering.

Miss Davison at one time was home economics adviser and consultant in household engineering for the National Electric Light Association and director of the Domestic Electric Service Program for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Miss Davison is a member of the American Home Economics Association, the American Dietetics Association, the Society for the Advancement of Management, the American Association of University Women, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Gamma Phi Beta, Phi Rappa Phi, and Sigma Alpha Iota.

★★★

Dudley named chief of OCD Veterans' Division

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, Director of the Office of Civilian Defense, announced August 18 the appointment of Henry H. Dudley, of Lincoln, Nebr., as chief of the Veterans' Division. Mr. Dudley, for many years active in the American Legion, has been "honored" by the Legion to the OCD.

Mr. Dudley attended the Armour Institute of Technology. He enlisted in the Army in June 1917 and served overseas from July 1918 until October 1919, first as railroad officer in advance sectors and later in Coblenz, Germany. He was discharged in 1919, as a First Lieutenant.

A member of Omaha Post 1 of the American Legion, Mr. Dudley has served on the executive committee as Army vice commander and adjutant. He was appointed adjutant of the Department of Nebraska, December 31, 1929, and in September 1936 was named national field secretary of the American Legion. Mr. Dudley was named director of the Division of Defense at National Headquarters of the Legion in Indianapolis, July 1.

★★★

Metzenbaum named to inspect Ohio civilian defense activities

OCD Director LaGuardia announced August 22 approval by President Roosevelt of the appointment of James Metzenbaum of Cleveland, as inspector general of the Office of Civilian Defense in Ohio.

Mr. Metzenbaum, an attorney, has served as Ohio State Senator, member of the Cleveland Board of Education, and as special assistant to the Attorney General of Ohio. He also served as member of the Cleveland city plan commission.