U. S. Requests Citizens' Aid In Scrap Hunt

Nation Searches Junk Piles For Vital War Needs.

By ROBERT W. McSHANE
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Help win the war by getting in the scrap!

With this plea, Uncle Sam is enlisting the aid of every man, woman and child in the nation's war effort.

This new battle cry isn't a call to arms. Rather, it's an urgent plea to salvage every available scrap of metal, paper, old rags and rubber. That old stove in your basement, the rusty, ancient binder near the machine shed, the bundle of papers in the attic—all can be used to defeat the Axis. In fact, almost every unused item or piece of equipment around the home or farm can be used with telling effect in the war against the totalitarian powers.

With the launching of the salvage program, officials of the War Production board and representatives of industry pointed out that a critical shortage of scrap metal now exists in the United States. Unless more scrap is forthcoming at once, war production will slow down immeasurably. Because of this shortage, the war likely will be prolonged by months, even years.

Salvage for Victory.

"Under normal conditions," a WPB representative pointed out, "the steel industry, for instance, depends upon scrap for approximately one-third of its supply of raw material. With the vast expansion of our armament program, including the aid that we must continue to send to Britain, Russia and China, it is obvious that the salvaging of metals heretofore wasted or destroyed must be augmented to a tremendous degree. In frequent instances recently, steel mills have been threatened with shut down for lack of scrap."

As this is being written, one of the nation's largest steel mills reported only enough scrap metal on hand for two days' production. This is less than one-tenth of the company's normal supply.

The importance of general salvage is emphasized by the bureau of industrial conservation, officials of which point out that the success of the "Salvage for Victory" program will have a profound bearing on the outcome of the war.

According to bureau figures, waste materials have supplied 50 per cent of the raw materials for the steel industry, from 20 to 25 per cent for the manufacturers of aluminum and a large proportion for many other essential materials.

Guns Versus Automobiles.

For every automobile that isn't manufactured in 1942, we will have saved enough zinc and copper to make brass for 2,400 cartridge cases for .30 caliber ammunition; enough nickel to make 100 pounds of nickel steel for armor plate, projectiles, and armor piercing bullets; enough tin to coat 1,000 cans in which we put food for our soldiers and sailors. This is only a small part of the critical material which has been made available to war industry through the stoppage of automobile production.

Disposal of old papers, in a manner both patriotic and profitable, is made easy through use of this housewife's paper baler. The baler, which holds 25 pounds, is equipped with a spool for cord and a razor blade holder.

Government figures disclose that there is an enormous pile of scrap iron and steel on the six million farms throughout the nation. The estimates run from 1½ million tons to 3½ million tons—more than enough, when combined with other materials, **to build twice as many battleships as there are in all the navies of the world today.**

The British ministry of supply estimates that one ton of waste paper will produce any one of the following: 1,500 shell containers, 47,000 boxes for .30 caliber ammunition, 71,000 dust covers for airplane engines or 36,000 practice targets. Only 28 per cent of the nation's paper is now recovered.

Leon Henderson, price administrator, has estimated that defense needs will require 50 per cent more waste paper in 1942 than was needed in 1941. A large share of this must come from family units.

Sixteen per cent of the 882,000 tons of rubber which the U. S. will use in 1942 must come from rubber reclaimed from old tires and other used rubber goods. **To get this 141,120 tons of reclaimed rubber, wholesalers will need all the old tires and tubes, boots, shoes and garden hose the public can contribute.**

Immediate Action Needed.

Even the lowly rag plays an important role in wartime. Every housewife knows how necessary cleaning rags are to her domestic duties. Uncle Sam's problem is the same—only it is magnified a few million times. Those are essential to war production plants, where they are used to keep machinery clean and in working order.

What can you do to help in the nation's salvage for victory program?

The answer lies in direct, immediate action. The scrap material lying idle around your home, around your farm and around your business place must be uncovered and turned over to war production. It must be done immediately. Shortages in critical material exist now. They must be met at once if America is to meet the war production schedule established by President Roosevelt. Industry can answer the present challenge to democracy—but only if every person co-operates to the fullest possible extent.

Every effort is being directed toward developing in the minds of the general public an understanding that the need for metals, paper, rubber and rags now cluttering up homes, shops and factories is a continuing need, and a demand that will increase rather than lessen.

Local salvage committees are functioning in every community throughout the nation. These committees will furnish complete lists of needed scrap materials to every interested person.

Farms Are Best Source.

Farms, the greatest single source of scrap material in the general salvage program, are expected to furnish thousands of tons of scrap metal in the form of obsolete machinery and tools, junked automobiles, old logging chains, wire fencing, old tires and tubes, obsolete motors and motor parts, wheelbarrows, rusted gears and the thousand and one things which find their way to the scrap heaps on almost every farm in the nation.

Farmers who are unable to haul their own scrap to the nearest salvage depot have merely to call the closest salvage committee (or the local county agent) and arrangements will be made to dispose of the material.

State salvage committees have recommended that any person who has an accumulation of scrap material, in whatever form it may be, call a nearby waste material or junk dealer, who will buy such material at current prices. Persons who have been in the habit of giving wastepaper, rags and scrap metals to charitable organizations, such as the Red Cross, are urged to continue that practice, since these organizations sell their collections promptly.

Small towns are becoming an increasingly important source of supply. Residents have been asked to collect such material as brass or iron beds, electrical equipment, kitchen utensils, picture frames, old metal ornaments, toys, coat hangers, old carpeting, blankets, fireplace equipment, old furnace parts, plumbing fixtures, radiators, automobile chains, license plates, garden tools, burlap bags, old rubber and all types of hardware, including door knobs, hinges, hooks, locks, springs, etc

The lists furnished by local salvage committees are ample proof that almost everything found in a cellar, attic or back yard has a definite salvage value.

The War Production board looks upon every scrap metal pile as an unworked mine. Probably no other metal is in demand in such vast quantities as steel. It is needed not only for tanks, guns and planes, but also goes into the hulls of new merchant ships, into freight cars and new housing units and industrial plants. Already the WPB has acted to conserve the nation's supply of steel by ordering curtailment in the use of this essential metal in such civilian goods as refrigerators, washing machines and automobiles.

However, the methods of saving steel at the source are not sufficient. Salvaging scrap iron and steel, known to be available in huge quantities everywhere, offers a rich vein of raw material, of which only the surface has been tapped.

Lead Is Vital Metal.

No metal is more directly associated with the production of weapons than is lead. It furnishes bullets for rifles and machine guns and is used in shrapnel and shells. Mechanical lead is indispensable for the construction of explosive plants while tetra-ethyl lead is essential for the high octane aviation gasoline which feeds our present-day 400-mile-an-hour fighting planes.

While emphasis has been placed on the salvage of steel, the disruption of supplies from abroad has made it imperative that the nation conserve every available pound of lead. The use of this vital metal has increased in direct proportion to the war effort. Lead, lying idle in shops, homes and automobile "graveyards," should be reclaimed and directed back into war production.

Zinc, too, is essential metal. Old wash pails and buckets, galvanized wire and tin roofings which are no longer in use can go directly into the production of propellers for battleships or into essential parts for tanks, trucks and a variety of other war machines

One of the scarcest and most critically needed metals is copper. With an estimated shortage of thousands of tons of copper predicted for the coming year, government orders have restricted the use of this essential material almost exclusively to defense production.

Approximately 600,000 tons of the estimated supply which will be available next year will be imported, most of it from South America, and an disruption of this outside source would be a deadly blow to rearmament.

In 1941, approximately 34 per cent of the copper supply came from scrap. In 1942, it is plain that even this must be substantially augmented by an increase in the return of potential copper now lying unused in cellars, attics, and back yards, on farms and in shops and factories.

Don't forget to take that empty toothpaste or shaving cream tube with you to the store when you want a new supply. Customers are required to turn in some kind of collapsible tube for each new one purchased. The retailer who sells one without the proper exchange is liable to a maximum fine of $10,000 fine or a year's imprisonment.

Winning the War With Waste

- Enough steel and rubber go into a single 27-ton medium tank to make 24 automobiles.
- The steel in the hull of a heavy cruiser totals 6,635 tons. In a 35,000-ton battleship, 18,000 tons are needed.
- The shells turned out by army ordnance plants are packed in 30,000 tons of paper board each month.
- A passenger car yields about 1,500 pounds of scrap iron and steel.
- A half-ton truck (blitz buggy) takes 3,970 pounds of steel, a four-ton truck 18,000 pounds, a 27-ton tank uses 72,000 pounds and a light tank 32,000 pounds.
- A carload of blueprint paper is used in drawing the plans for one of our 35,000-ton battleships.

Scrappy Party Ends With Row

Patriotic duty was mixed with pleasure recently when Mr. and Mrs. William Coburn gave a party at their home in Boston, Mass. Party invitations requested each person to bring at least 25 pounds of scrap. Mr. Coburn views the potential guns contributed by the guests while Mrs. Coburn tries out a rowing machine donated by Gov. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts.

Farm Youths Guard 'Home Front'

Above photo shows one way thousands of rural youths from coast to coast are learning new trades this year under a $15,000,000 "out-of-school" training program being supervised by the U. S. office of education. One purpose of the project is to train young men who can take the place in civilian jobs of skilled workmen being called for service in America's fast-expanding war industry program. Secondary aims are to prepare farm and small town youths to work in agriculture as it becomes increasingly more mechanized, and to fit them for mechanical work in the army should they be called for service. Almost every state in the Union is now offering instruction under direction of a state vocational office.

Left: A youth at power hack saw.

Metalworking, forging, woodworking, operation and repair of motors are among the courses being offered. Above, students learn how to cut metal at the Schenley company's machine shop at Frankfort, Ky., where these pictures were taken. Plant technicians donate their services as instructors.

At left, youths learn how to use a power drill, while student at right is getting his first lesson in forging. Officials estimate that 75 per cent of the courses are being given in rural areas, because big city youths can usually secure similar training at regular trade schools.

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When the kidneys fail to function as Nature intended, there is retention of waste that may cause body-wide distress. One may suffer nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feel tired, nervous, all worn out.

Frequent, scanty or burning passages are sometimes further evidence of kidney or bladder disturbance.

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