THIS WEEK OF THE WAR SHOWING PROGRESS OF THE ALL OUT EFFORT

Chairman Nelson of the War Production Board abolished the OPM and transferred its functions regarding production, purchasing, priorities materials, civilian supply and subcontracting to a new streamlined organization under the Board. In addition, Mr. Nelson created under the Board a progress reporting and a planning unit to suggest improvement from time to time.

Mr. Nelson stressed two fundamental differences between the old and new organizations; and increased amount of authority and a more definite delegation of responsibility to promote speed. He said the main objective of the new organization was the full mobilization in the war effort of every national resource, large and small.

Mr. Nelson named Ernest Kanzler to convert auto industry facilities to war use. Mr. Kanzler will have complete auhtority to do whatever is necessary, Mr. Nelson said. He said that he expected to appoint as many other men with similar authority for other industries as are necessary.

THE WAR FRONT

President Roosevelt told his press conference an inter-allied supply council and similiar joint commands are in existence, and excellent progress is being made to strengthen the position of the United Nations in the Southwest Pacific.

The Army announced Gen. McArthur's forces have repulsed continuous heavy attacks by reinforced Japanese units on Bataan Peninsula, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy with comparatively low losses to the defenders. The entire Japanese 14th Army, together with other units, landed no Luzon. U. S. Army forces sank a Japanese cruiser and a large tanker 100 miles off Jolo, and shot down 16 enemy planes in the Phliippines.

The Navy announced the freighter SS Brazos was sunk in a collision 120 miles southwest of Cape Hatteras, and during the past week U-boats sank the City of Atlanta, the Latvian freighter Ciltvaira, the tankers Coimbra and Allan Jackson, and torpedoed the tanker Malay. The Navy did not announce the number of U-boats sunk or captured but said "some of the recent visitors to our territorial waters will never enjoy the return trip portion of their voyage." The U. S. Navy sank three enemy merchant ships off Tokqo Bay and torpedoed a 5,000-ton enemy vessel in Binanga Bay.

REPORT TO THE NATION

The Office of Facts and Figures, coordinating the information activities of all Federal agencies to keep the public informed of the war effort, issued a 62-page booklet, "Report to the Nation," outlining the defense and war programs from the beginning to the present. In separate chapters the report discusses price conrtol, economic warfare, production of all necessary war items, civilian defense, war financing and all other phases of the national effort.

AUTOS, TRUCKS AND TIRES

The WPB ordered all production of passenger cars and light trucks for any purpose halted February 1. The announcement of the order said all military demands can be filled from the stock pile of autos that will be on hand by that date and which cannot be sold without Government permission. OPA announced that there is no prospect of rationing for used cars or of commandeering of private cars. OPA amended the auto freezing order to permit transfer of title to any vehicle under the terms of installment contracts drawn up before Jan. 1 and repossession of any vehicle involved in a breach of such contract. The agency also amended its tire freezing rules to allow clergymen to purchase new tires and tubes. OPA put a ceiling price on materials used in retreading used tires.

TRANSPORTATION

The Interstate Commerce Commission granted railroads permission to increase passenger fares 10 percent. Exempt from the increases are special fares granted to military or naval men on furlough. Permission was also granted to the Railway Express Agency, Inc., to make an emergency additional charge of 10 cents per package sent at first, second or third-class rates.

ARMY

The President said the United Nations are collaborating with the U. S. to effect transfers to the American armed service of the Americans who had enlisted before the war under foreign flags. War Secretary Stimson announced completion of plans for the formation of a 6th Armored Division and two additional all-Negro units; an infantry division and an air pursuit squadron. The House passed and sent to the Senate legislation appropriating $12,500,000,000 to provide 33,000 new Army planes and equipment for them.

NAVY

President Roosevelt asked Congress for $15,960,000,000 for the Navy and signed a bill authorizing establsihment of a special limited-service Marine Corps composed of World War veterans and older men to be used in patrolling and guarding vital facilities. The Navy announced that students in school or college who have not yet reached their 20th birthday may enlist in the Naval Reserve with permission to complete the current school year before reporting for duty.

CIVILIAN DEFENSE

President Roosevelt asked Congress for $100,000,000 to be used by the OCD for air raid protection of civilians. Congress authorized the appropriation and formally placed the responsibility for civilian protection with the OCD. The FBI announced it will conduct special war traffic schools for police of 120 strategically located cities. The War Department announced that in cooperation with the OCD it will establish six more schools to teach civilian defense workers protection against chemical weapons such as incendiary bombs.

LABOR

Labor Secretary Perkins reported hourly earnings of wage earners in manufacturing industries rose 1.5 per cent to a new high of 78.1 percent—15 percent above the same time last year. Average hours worked per week (40.3 hours) were 4 percent above last year and weekly earnings ($32.81), 2 percent higher.

Labor Director Hillman announced regional labor conferences will soon be held in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Columbus, Ohio "to bring labor organizations into the war effort on their own ground." Labor organization officials, Government of officials and representatives of universities and colleges will attend the meetings.

AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture announced it will increase purchases of eggs to support market prices at a level at least 85 percent of parity. The Commodity Credit Corporation announced it will offer 100,000,000 bushels of wheat for sale to aid livestock producers to attain new production goals. Agricultural Marketing Administrator Henderson reported more than 2,650,000,000 pounds of agricultural commodities valued at $300,000,000 had been shipped to Britain under the Lend-Lease program up to December 1. He said the war in the Pacific had not changed the basic program for agricultural operations—"we are continuing heavy purchases to make available the vital supply of foods for England and Russia."

SHIPS

The Maritime Commission awarded contracts for construction of 660 vessels. This brought the total of Liberty ships contracted for to 997. Labor Director Hillman proposed a plan to place shipyard workers on a six-day, 48-hour week in the Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes zones.

PRIORITY UNEMPLOYMENT

President Roosevelt asked Congress for $300,000,000 to aid workers who lose their jobs temporarily because of conversion of civilian industry to war production, if the worker is willing to take special training to fit him for a war industry job. Under the program workers would receive a weekly benefit payment equal to 60 percent of regular earnings, but in no case more than $24 a week in benefits for 26 weeks. The Federal grant would make up the difference between unemployment compensation paid by the State and the 60 percent war dislocation benefit.

The WPA announced it is working on a program to shift to WPA rolls those workers dislocated by the war who do not fall within the scope of the program outlined by the President.

ON THE SCREEN AT THE NEW LYCEUM

Is there a new romance in Dr. Kildare's life? From the scene above between Lew Ayres and Ann Ayars (no relation!) in "Dr. Kildare's Victory," coming on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 5, 6, 7, to the New Lyceum Theatre screen, it certainly looks it. Miss Ayars is the new M-G-M discovery who was catapulated overnight from the part of a nurse in the picture to its leading feminine role.

Told with a relentless honesty, given striking dramatic imagery in the direction of Mervyn LeRoy, and offering the best work by far of two of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's greatest box office attractions—Robert Taylor and Lana Turner—"Johnny Eager" comes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 2, 3, and 4, to the New Lyceum screen as the most engrossing portrait of a gangster to reach the screen since the memorable "Little Caesar."

From the very first moment in which Taylor, ex-convict posing as a reformed taxi driver, meets Miss Turner, daughter of the prosecutor who had sent him to prison, the story holds a compelling fascination as it weaves through the plot of the relentless gangster to enmesh the girl in a faked murder, thus giving him the upper hand over his enemy, her father. It is only when he experiences a pshychological change that a new man emerges from the cold-blooded criminal, who goes to his death after having accomplished the one unselfish act of his life.

Robert Taylor seems to bring the sum of all his acting experience to the role of the gangster, giving it a penetrating depth of character shadings. Not once does he miss a point; not once does he step out of the integrity of his portrait of Johnny Eager, making him a man at once revolting and sympathetic. It is undoubtedly the best role of his career.

Miss Turner, as the girl fascinated by the ruthless criminal, again reveals that combination of beauty, poise and sincerity which has brought her so rapidly to the top. Her portrayal stands by Taylor's as one of the striking acting contributions of the year.

Then there is the work of Van Heflin. Cast as a drunken henchman of Johnny Eager, cynical, sardonic, filled with philosophical reflections, he comes close to stealing the scenes from the stars and makes his character one you will remember long after the picture's fadeout.

Lew Ayres and Lionel Barrymore, as Drs. Kildare and Gillespie, grapple with new medical problems in "Dr. Kildare's Victory," latest of the Kildare series, coming to the New Lyceum on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 5, 6, 7.

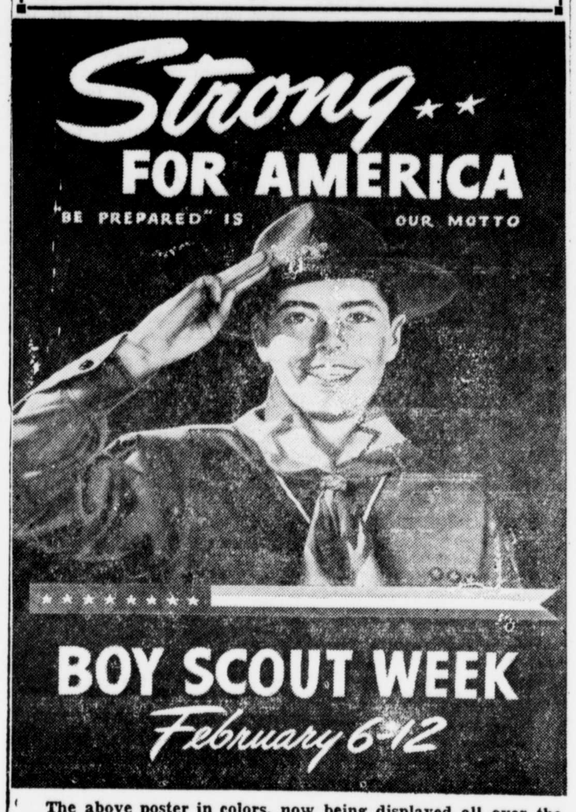
A young intern gets in trouble saving a life in a zone supposed to be that of another hospital, and the two doctors, with the aid of a debutante accident victim whose life had been saved, finally save the day for the doctor and his sweetheart, a hospital nurse.

A dramatic plea to the hospital board, a delicate operation, an accident in which a night club sign falls on the victim, and Ayres' restoring of a smothered baby before the eyes of anguished parents, are dramatic highlights.

New "Discovery"

The picture introduces a glamorous new acting discovery in Ann Ayars, a young concert singer who played a nurse one day, as her first picture role, and the next day was promoted to leading lady by Major W. S. Van Dyke, directing the picture. She is beautiful, a graphic actress, and possesses a striking voice.

BOY SCOUTS' RANKS GROWING



The above poster in colors, now being displayed all over the country, announces Boy Scout Week with the slogan "Strong For America." Boy Scouts everywhere in the nation have taken on and are assuming extra assignments from Uncle Sam to do their part in the defense of America. Boys 12 years of age and over who are not Scouts and who wish to share in winning the war by doing these "Good Turns" should get in touch with the nearest office of the Boy Scouts of America.

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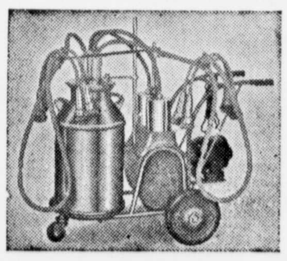

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