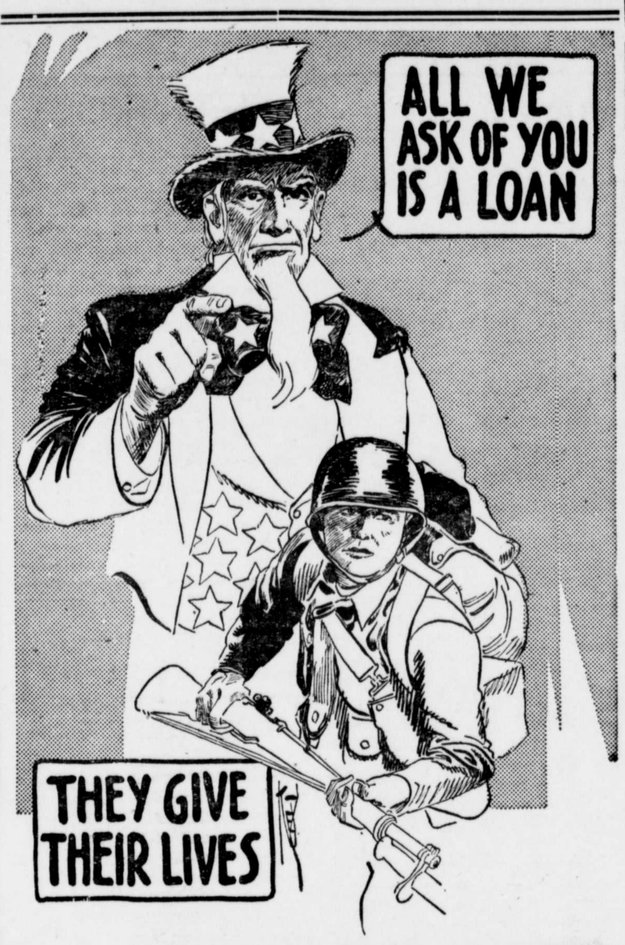
IMPORTANT NEWS

On The HOME-FRONT



INSURANCE FOR SOLDIERS:

All soldiers can get financial protection through the National Service Life Insurance Program if they act before midnight of August 10, the War Department has announced. The maximum policy is $10,000. Payments will be made to beneficiaries in monthly installments.

TOBACCO CAN BE SENT TO PRISONERS:

U. S. War prisoners and civilian internees held by Germany and Italy can receive cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco, or chewing tobacco sent by relatives and friends under a program worked out by several Government agencies and the American Red Cross. The plan will be extended to include persons held by Japan whenever facilities are available for routing the products to them. Under the program, the next-of-kin of each indentified United States war prisoner and civilian internee will receive without asking for them two tobacco labels every sixty days. These are to be fowarded, with a money order, to a tobacco manufacturer, who will send the tobacco. No postage or federal excise tax need be paid. Each label is good for three cartons of cigarettes, or twelve packages or one carton of two-ounce packages of smoking tobacco, 100 cigars, or approximately 24 ounces of chewing tobacco. Smaller amounts or mixed packages cannot be ordered.

CROP CORPS CERTIFICATES:

Certificates of service will be awarded to the 3,500,000 persons who work on farms this year in the U. S. Crop Corps, and to those who work in canning and other food processing plants, the war food administration has announced. The certificates will be presented "for patrotic service on a farm or in a food processing factory."

HELP STOP THEFTS AND FORGERIES:

To safeguard dependants and other who regularly receive government checks the following procedure is urged by the U. S. Secret Service to help stop theives and forgeres.

1. Some member of the family should always be at home when checks are due to be delivered.
2. All mail boxes should be equiped with a lock, and the individual's name should be printed clearly on the outside of the box.
3. Checks should be cashed in the same place each month, making identification easier.
4. Checks should not be endorsed until you are in the presence of the person who is asked to cash it.

SERVICE BARS FOR CIVILIANS:

For the first time, civilians may earn an official service bar similar to the campaign bars of the armed services, according to a recent announcement of the Civilian Defense -Director. Six distinctive bars for service ranging from 500 to 5,000 hours will be given to civilian defense volunteers. All civilian defense voulnteers may qualify for the awards—members of the Citizens Defense Corps, the Citizens Service Corps, Forest Fire Fighters Service, and Civilian Evacuation Service.

PROSECUTE POULTRY RACKETEERS

New court actions—88 of them—against violators of price ceilings on poultry were started between April 15, and April 30, in OPA's intensified drive to stamp out black markets. Of the 88, 72 were injunction suits and 16 were criminal prosecutions. In addition, the enforcement division issued statutory warnings—first step toward license revocation—to 15 other poultry sellers.

MAXIMUM PRICES ON POULTRY

Poultry raisers who sell live birds at their farms must observe the maximum prices OPA has set for the nearest city, town, or village. Ceiling prices for 56 representative cities were recently issued. For broilers, fryers, roosters, and light capons the prices range from 27.5 cents per ponud for Chicago, to 29.51 cents per pound for Miami, Florida.

SOLDIERS GET LOTS OF MAIL:

United States soldiers overseas receive over 20,000,000 pieces of mail a week, or an average of fourteen pieces per soldier. This is four times as much as the A.E.F. got at the peak of the World War. Twenty percent of the mail sent overseas is V—Mail.

REVISED FEED PRICES:

Savings to farmers are expected to result from OPA's revision of retail prices of animal and poultry feeds. Previously, the retailer has been allowed a fixed mark-up of $7.50 a ton n all kinds of feeds. Now, feeds have been classified, and there is a schedule of mark-ups ranging from $5.50 to $10.00 a ton.

CEILING ON SAUSAGE:

Frankfurters, bologna, and fresh and smoked sausage, which make up about 60 percent of all sausage sold in this country, are now under wholesale ceiling prides fixed by OPA. Cents-per-pound retail prices will be established by OPA in the near furture.

BUTTER, CHEESE ORDERS:

Fifty percent of all butter and 70 percent of all cheddar cheese produced in May, June, and July must be held for government uses, the WFA has announced. Thirty percent of butter and 50 percent of cheese has been required for government use since February.

HOSPITALS FOR CIVILIANS:

Despite increasing military demands for hospital equipment and medical supplies, substantial efforts are being made to maintain the health of civilians. Since January 1, 1942, construction of 260 new hospitals, or extensive additions to existing hospitals has been approved by WPB. Beds will be increased by 7,000, leaving an estimated shortage for civilian use in war areas of about 14,000 beds.

NO QUOTA ON USED TRUCK TIRES:

An eligible truck operator who is unable to get rationing certificates for new truck tires because his ration board has exhausted its quota can obtain certificates for used tires instead, according to OPA. Local boards have been authorized to issue used truck tire certificates without regard to quota restrictions.

TRAFFIC DECLINES:

Traffic on rural roads in the eastern rationed area was about 48 percent less in March than the same month of 1941. It was about 37 percent less in the rest of the country, according to the Public Roads Administration of the Federal Works Agency. Traffic in February was off 52 percent in the east and 35 percent elsewhere, compared with February, 1941.

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Unfinished Attics

Unfinished attics may be responsible for 40 per cent heat loss.

Maryland Musings

More work could be done with machinery now on farms if farmers would cooperate in farming operations and hire their machines to each other pool their machinery, or exchange labor for the use of the machinery. Farmers may also make greater use of custom-hire machines.

The number of chicks hatched in Maryland hatcheries from January to March, inclusive, in 1943, was 8,975,000, compared with 7,296,000 for the same period in 1942.

Inexperienced garderners who are often the first to purchase untried gadgets, are advised that only the simple tools are essential and in time of metal shortage only such tools are being advocated. A steel rake, a common garden hoe, a spade or spading fork, and a garden hose are the only tools actually necessary for a small plot. Atrowel is a useful addition, and so is some dusting or spraying devise. For ground preparation, fertilizing, planting, cultivating, weeding, harvesting, and all other operations, the hands can do everything these tools cannot do.

The farm income value of eggs produced, commercial broilers, farm chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese raised, and baby chicks hatched in Maryland in 1943 was over 35 million dollars, compared with over 25 million dollars in 1941. The 1943 farm income from the poultry industry was over 20 million dollars greater than the 1938 farm income from poultry.

A nation-wide program to encourage greater salvage and re-use of fresh fruit and vegetable containers and egg cases is being launched by the War Food Administration.

Surplus food will begin appearing early in many Victory Gardens. Many inexperienced gardeners have overestimated the space needed to supply the family with what it can use while the crop is first quality. They will do well to get instructions and timetable for processing from the Extension Service, either by asking their home demonstration agent or by writing to the University of Maryland at College Park for the latest bulletin on home canning.

The Victory Garden Campaign inculdes an appeal to owners of pressure canners to make them available for use by as many as possible, so as to conserve for the war effort valuable food that might otherwise be wasted.

"County Road Use and Finance in Maryland" is the title of a bulletin just issued by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. It is a report on the extent and characteristics of travel by farm and non-farm vehicles, especially on county roads, and an analysis of highway-user taxes and other taxable resources for county road support.

A "Photo Plan" of a straw loft laying house to hold 100 layers can be obtained by writing the Poultry Department at the University of Maryland, College Park, and asking for Circular XI. Also, from your county agent.

The production story of the year will be written in part by weather, in part by hard work and patriotism of the farm people and the Crop Crops Volunteers, in part by our success in providing needed supplies and transpotation, says Chester C. Davis, War Food Administrator.

Forage crops for use both as temporary pastures and for harvesting are good insurance against an increased need for livestock feed this year.

Money To Lend—

If you want to refinance the mortgage you are now carrying on your farm at a much lower rate of interest on a Long Term First Mortgage, consult

THOMAS D. BOWERS,
Mortgage Loan Solicitor,
Court St., Chestertown, Md.
Office Phone 252j

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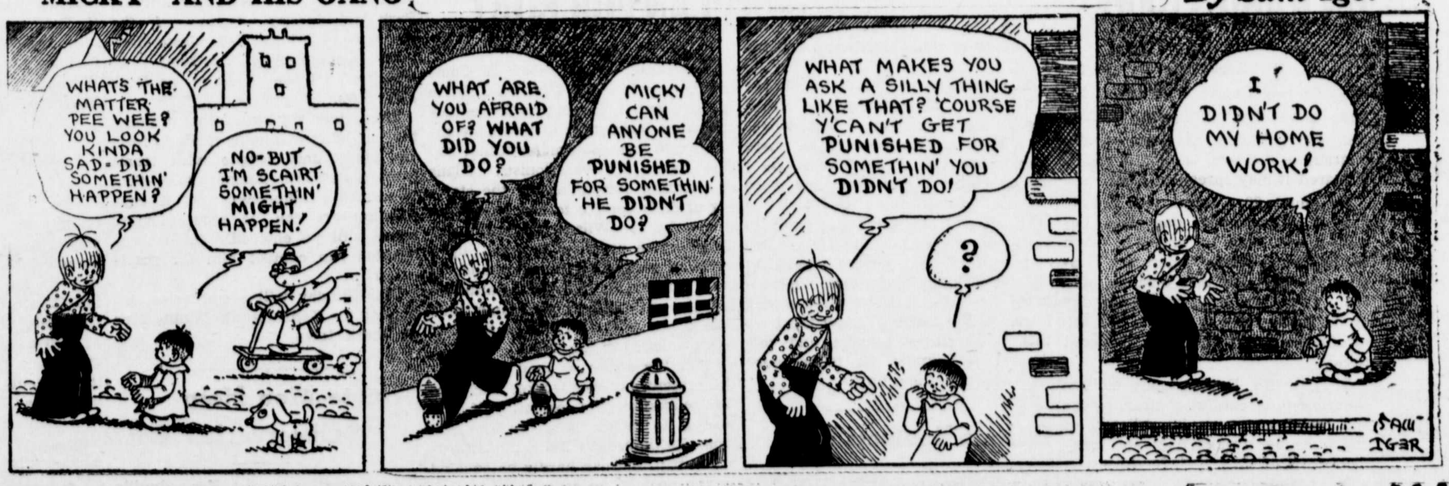

DOROTHY DARNIT *By Charles McManus*

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