IMPORTANT NEWS

On The HOME-FRONT

GASOLINE—In 17 states of Eastern shortage area A-6 coupons are now valid. In states outside the eastern shortage area A-7 coupons are valid through September 21. B and C coupons expire according to dates on individual books. All gasoline coupons in the possession of car owners must be endorsed with the owner's license number and state of registration.

FUEL OIL—Period 5 coupons in old rations remain valid through September 30. Period 1 coupons in new rations valid now. Occupants of oil heated home are urged to return their applications for next year's fuel oil to their ration boards promptly and when issued new rations to place orders with their dealers for summer fill-ups.

SUGAR—Stamp No. 14 good for five pounds through October. Stamps Nos 15 and 16 are good for 5 lbs. each for home canning purposes through October 31. Housewives may apply to their local ration boards for more if necessary.

SHOES—Stamp No. 18 (1 pair) is valid through October 31.

STOVES—Consumer purchases of rationed stoves must be made with a certificate obtained at local War Price and Rationing Boards.

MEAT ETC.,—Red Stamps X and Y valid through October 2. Z becomes valid September 5, and remains valid through October 2.

PROCESSED FOODS—Blue stamps R, S, and T remain valid through September 20. U, V, and W became valid September 1 and remain valid through October 20.

Hershey Shows Order of Induction

"The selection of men needed for the armed forces and the deferment of men required for agriculture, war poduction, and war supporting activities are much more difficult than in the days when we had ample men from which to choose," said Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service, in a recent letter to local boards. He said available men will be called for induction in the following order: (1) single men without dependents; (2) single men with collarteral dependents; (3) married men without children; (4) men with children (nondeferrable activities and occupations; (5) men with children.

Small Engines To Farmers

Distribution of about 37,000 air and liquid-cooled internal combustion engines of 20-horsepower and under will be controlled by County Farm Rationing Committees. Preference rating certificates will be issued to farmers or operators of farm machinery for hire, based on the need for the engine in essential production of crops, livestock and livestock products, poultry and eggs, and bees. When the farmer receives such a preference rating certificate, he can take it to his local dealer and buy the engine.

Drops Bombs—Gathers Corn

When the B-24 Liberator bomber, "Lemon Drop" of the U. S. Army Ninth Air Force came back from its mission of bombing Rumanian oil refineries at Ploesti, corn stalks were clinging to its bomb bay doors. The bombardier, Captain Herbert Light, Ames, Iowa, observed: "Why, back in Iowa you'd have to fly 25 feet off the ground to get above the corn tops. No risk involved in that. But when you're heading for a target in the Rumanian oil and corn country, you've got to tear along about six feet off the ground to skim the corn tops."

Some Boots Are Ration-Free

Certain kinds of rubber boots useful in farming and similar work but no longer being manufactured for general use have been released from rationing by a recent OPA amendment. All olive drab, clay, or khaki colored rubber boots, all over-the-shoe rubber boots, and all light-weight ankle-fitting rubber boots which depend upon stretch at the ankle for fitting are included in the order. However, quantities will be small because dealers do not have complete stocks on hand.

To Help You Get Truck Tires

If you own a truck and have tire rationing certificates but cannot locate the proper tires within your county, you may apply to the nearest Motor Transport District Office of the Office of Defense Transportation for assistance, the ODT has reported.

Marine Mascot "Muzzled"

U. S. Marine Corps Photo

"Darnit," mascot of a U. S. Marine Corps gun crew, gets a sheli's-eye view of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, while being held by Private Walter C. Vail of Bessemer, Ala. Other members of the crew are at the gun's breech to be of service just in case "Darnit" should slip through.

Price Support For Sweetpotatoes

To encourage farmers to cure and store as much as possible of this year's expected crop of 81 million bushels of sweetpotatoes, farmers will be assured a minimum of $1.50 per bushel for U. S. No. 1 or better grade cured sweetpotatoes properly packed in bushel crates, baskets or hampers and offered during January, and $1.65 per bushel beginning February 1, 1944. Prices of U. S. sweetpotatoes containing not less than 75 percent No. 1 quality will be 15 cents per bushel less than the above prices. Farmers desiring information concerning the handling of sweetpotatoes are requested to get in touch with their state or county agricultural War Boards.

Farm Help From Latin America

A total of 57,489 workers from Mexico, Jamaica, and the Bahama Islands have come to this country for agricultural employment. Marvin Jones, War Food Adminisrator, recently praised the ability of these workers and described their efforts as being of utmost importance to the production of food and fiber for war needs. Mexican Nationals have been employed in agriculture in 12 Western states. Jamaicans and Bahamians have been employed largely in East Coast states and in the Middle West. The workers have come into this country to relieve farm labor shortages in critical areas. When the need for their services has passed, they will be returned to their home countries.

Peace To Repay For Lend-Lease

"The Congress in passing and extending the Lend-Lease Act made it plain that the United States wants no new war debts to jeopardize the coming peace," President Roosevelt declared in his letter transmitting to Congress the eleventh report on Lend-Lease operations for the period ended July 31, 1943. "Victory and a secure peace," the President added, "are the only coin in which we can be repaid."

"Standing Room Only" On Trains

If you are planing to take a train trip over Labor Day, you probably will have to stand in the aisles, ODT officials say. Passenger trains throughout the U. S. continue to run heavily loaded, with standing in the aisles occurring frequently on some trains, particularly at week-ends.

Better Rubber For Recaps

Rationing restrictions on the use of Grade "C" camelback for recapping have been removed, according to OPA. Grade "A" camelback, previously available for only the largest truck and bus tires, may now be obtained for recapping tires on all trucks and buses although it is still subject to rationing.

Tax Reports Due September 15

Many farmers will be among the 15 million Americans who are required to file a declaration of estimated income for 1943 and make a payment on that basis under the "pay-as-you-go" plan which became effective July 1, this year. September 15 is the date for filing declarations, except that farmers, if they wish, may wait until December 15, since they receive the bulk of their income in the fall. Generally speaking, all single persons earning more than $2,700 a year from wages subject to withholding and all married couple earning more than $3-,500 will be required to file declarations. In addition, individuals or couples with an income of $100 or more from sources other than wages are required to file, if their total income is such that they must pay an income tax. Individuals who were required to file an income tax return for 1942 and whose wages subject to withholding in 1943 will be less must also file.

Hog-Cholera Serum Output High

The serum used in combating hog cholera is now being made in record-breaking quantities according to the Department of Agriculture. Output of the protective serum between July 1, 1942, and June 30, 1943, was 25 percent above last year's high output. The current supply represents large-scale protection against hog cholera, the most formidable swine disease, for the vast number of hogs now being raised in the U. S.

Milkweed Is Substitute For Kapok

Since kapok is no longer imported from the Netherlands East Indies, the common milkweed, which provides milkweed floss, promises to become one of America's important wartime plants. Milkweed floss is needed to replace kapok in life preservers and marine mattresses, for airplane insulation, and for many other important military uses. To assure an adequate supply of this wartime substitute, the Department of Agriculture is cooperating with the War Production Board in sponsoring a three-year program to encourage collection of pods from wild milkweed plants and to create conditions suitable for their growth.

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War-Useful Jobs Need 2,600,000

Between now and next July, "a rock-bottom minimum of 2,600,000 persons" must transfer to war-useful jobs, according to Paul McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission. "There are acute shortages of laundry workers, teachers, nurses, doctors, bus and delivery drivers, and others whose services are needed by civilians," Mr. McNutt said. The War Manpower Commission advises those in doubt about the war-usefulness of their jobs to consult the U. S. Employment Service.

Chaplain Helped Attu Wounded

Chaplain Julius S. Busse, reporting to the War Department on his service in the Attu campaign, said the chaplains had many opportunities to help the wounded. Chaplains, he said, should travel light. "If you are not loaded down there are many times when a lagging soldier can be helped with his load and if you have a heavy load you can't support a wounded man." Every chance he had, Chaplain Busse said, he filled his pockets with "D" ration and a few packages of cigarets for the men. "Troops appreciate the presence of a chaplain in the tense moments awaiting orders to advance," he said, Chaplain Busse, a native of Des Moines, Iowa, was commended for his courage and service in combat by his commanding officer. While the chaplain was aiding the wonded, two bullets passed through his raincoat, and later a bullet smashed his eyeglasses.

—V—

Tires Are Wearing Out

The rubber on U. S. trucks and buses is wearing out at the rate of 35,000 tires a day.

PRODUCE MORE FOOD FOR FREEDOM

the CONSERVATION WAY

It takes water to grow crops as every farmer knows since it seems t ohave forgotten how to rain and it also takes soil.

Corn planted in contour strips did not begin to "Fire" until about 10 days after corn planted up and down the slopes. In many cases, this was sufficient to make the crop.

Contour cultivation and contour strip farming are proven conservation practices that should be used by every farmer having sloping land. Strip cropping alone will not save the soil but must be accompanied with the proper crop sequence in the strips as one progresses up the slope. A strip of corn adjacent to a strip of tomatoes or potatoes is no better than two strips of corn.

The logical arrangement would be a strip of corn, a strip of wheat, and a strip of hay. If a four year rotation of corn plus a cover crop, soybeans, small grain, and hay is used then one strip should be in corn, the first strip below the corn should be in hay, the second in soybeans and the third in small grains. This arrangements slows the surface water up so that much of it soaks into the soil and what does not is so little and moves so slowly that erosion is almost nil.

In dry land farming, a plowed field is harrowed after every rain for a whole season before grain is planted. In this way a farmer is able to store enough moisture in one season to produce a grain crop the next season.

We here in the east, must begin to take soil moisture more seriously. We know that it takes water to make a crop so we must farm or till our land in such a way that the moisture we do get is made unable to the crops. It is not the water we see running down a slope that does the crop good, but the water that gets down to the plant roots and which we do not see that pays the dividends.

It is impractical for the average farmer to irrigate his crops and if we could, it would cost a lot more in time, equipment and money than contour tillage and strip cropping, which in most cases give the same result in average seasons.

I strip my land
I make her lay
Where God intended it to stay,
And water too
Is held in place
To help the Allies win the race.

—V—

Saves Fuel

Insulating saves fuel, which is patriotic.

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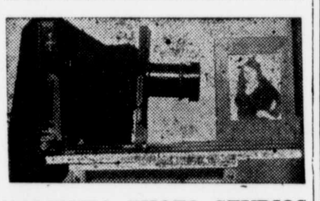

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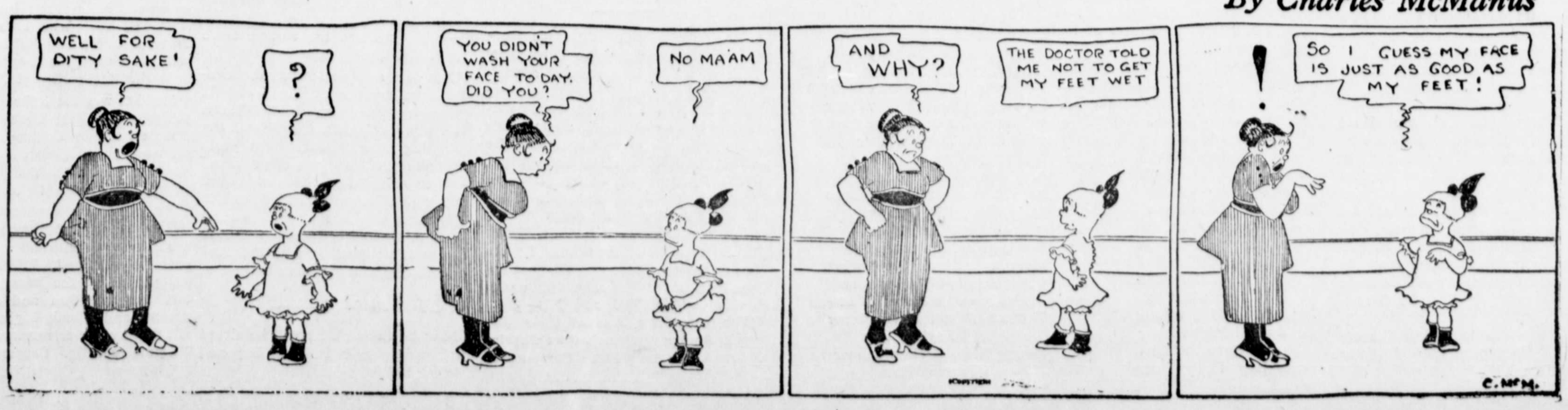

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