IMPORTANT NEWS

On The HOME-FRONT

Civilians At War

Your Government needs and asks its citizens in this 167th week of the war to:

1. Keep your car in good repair. Make it last.
2. Start work now on your income tax return. File it as soon as possible.
3. Be one of those donating 100,000 pints of blood to meet the week's quota for wounded servicemen.

Reminders

MEATS, FATS—Red Stamps Q5, R5, S5, Last date for use March 31
Red Stamps T5, U5, V5, W5, and X5, last date for use April 28.
Red stamps Y5, Z5, and A2, B2, C2, D2, last date for use June 2.

PROCESSED FOODS—Blue Stamps, X5, Y5, Z5, and A2 and B2, last date for use March 31.
Blue Stamps C2, D2, E2, F2, and G2, last date for useApril 28.
Blue Stamps H2, J2, K2, L2, and M2, last date for use June 2.

SUGAR—Stamp 34, last date for use Feb. 28.
Stamp 35, last date for use June 2.

FUEL OIL—East, Periods 4 become good February 5, 1945. Mid-west, Periods 4 and 5 become good February 5, 1945. Far West, Period 4 becomes good February 5, 1945. South, Periods 4 and 5 become good January 29.

SHOES—Airplane Stamps 1, 2, and 3 in Book Three, good indefinitely.

Farm Firewood Sales Under Ceilings

All firewood sold by farmers from this week on will be subject to price ceilings, the Office of Price Administration states. Ceilings will be set at the highest prices charged by the farmer for the same type of wood in March 1942, or as otherwise determined by the General Maximum Price Regulation. Where specific area ceiling orders have been issued by OPA field offices, these will apply. Heretofore farm sales of firewood when valued at less than $75 in any one month have been exempt from price control. OPA states that this exemption has led to exorbitant prices in some areas.

Housing Held Major Prosperity Key

The nation's housing goals—a decent home in a good neighborhood for every American family—should be achieved in the post-war era by maximum reliance upon private enterprise and local communities, and a full housing program can make a large contribution to an expanded peacetime economy, are thoughts publicly expressed by John B. Blandford, Jr., Administrator of the National Housing Agency. He said that probably the biggest challenge to a broad housing market after the war is the fact that millions of self-supporting families who want new homes cannot afford them at present or past prices or under existing financial arrangements. He declared that this called for the closest sort of cooperation between labor, private business and government.

Research Finds Uses For Farm By-Products

Use of farm and sawmill by-products and commercially unused fibers such as low-cost cement bonded lightweight building materials, will be possible as a result of research carried on by the Department of Engineering Research of the University of Michigan under contract with the Office of Production Research and Development of the War Production Board. A report has been filed with WPB on the development and tests of 225 different types of lightweight materials, including farm, forest, industrial and home wastes, which when combined with cement or concrete to produce hard setting aggregates or compositions. Some of the developments cover a wide variety of construction uses. Interested persons can inquire about how to obtain the information by writing to the Office of Production Research and Development, War Production Board, Washington 25, D.C.

Canned Poultry Set Aside For Military Needs

The War Food Administration announces that effective this week (February 14) an order has been issued to set aside 100 per cent of the canned poultry (chickens and turkeys) in a move to supply United States military demands for approximately 70,000,000 pounds of these products in 1945. The poultry meat is needed for hospitals, Army field rations and for shipment overseas. Preparation of the total quantity will require the processing of between 200 and 250 million pounds of New York style dressed chicken and turkey and practically the full use of all available poultry eviscerating and canning facilities in the United States.

Material Aid For Farm Equipment Plants

To help compensate for production lags in many items of farm machinery, plants that are not running at full capacity and have necessary labor available may apply to the War Production Board for authorization to make more than their approved quotas of farm equipment, WPB announces.

3 Ways To File Your Tax Return Outlined

Joseph D. Nunan, Jr., Commissioner of Internal Revenue, explained today that taxpayers whose 1944 income was less than $5,000 have a choice of three different ways of filing their 1944 income tax returns. Taxpayers whose income was $5,000 or more must all make "long-form" returns on Form 1040.

The three methods open to persons whose income was under $5,000 are as follows:

1. Fill out the Withholding Receipt, Form W-2 (Rev.), received from their employers.
2. Make a "short-form" return on Form 1040.
3. Make a "long-form" return on Form 1040.

The easiest way to file is to fill out and mail in a Withholding Receipt, but this method is permitted only if the taxpayer's income was virtually all from wages from which tax was withheld. If, in addition to his wages subject to withholding, a taxpayer had more than $100 of dividends, interest and wages not subject to withholding, or he had any income from any other source, he would have to use Form 1040. If the Withholding Receipt is used, the collector will figure the tax and give the taxpayer credit for the tax he has already paid, and send either a bill or a refund for the difference. If Form 1040 is used, the taxpayer must figure his own tax.

In choosing which form to use (for incomes under $5,000), Nunan said taxpayers should ask themselves this question:

"Did I spend more than 10 per cent of my income last year for deductible charitable contributions, interest, casualty losses, medical and dental expenses, and other deductible items?"

If the answer to this question is "yes", the taxpayer should make a "long-form" return on Form 1040, so that he can itemize and claim the actual amount of his deductions.

If the answer is "no", the taxpayer should consider filing on his Withholding Receipt or on a "short-form" Form 1040. Both these methods of filing give the taxpayer a standard allowance of about 10 per cent of his income for the type of deductions mentioned in Question 2. The 10 per cent allowance is made through a tax table. This tax table is arranged according to brackets of income: for instance, one line in the table is for incomes from $2,300 to $2,325, another line is for incomes from $2,325 to $2,350, and so on. Nunan explained that the 10 per cent standard allowance is figured at the middle of each bracket, and therefore the allowance is somewhat less than 10 per cent below the middle of the bracket and somewhat higher than 10 per cent above the middle of the bracket.

In most cases, Nunan commented, taxpayers spend far less than 10 per cent of their income for deductible items, and therefore such taxpayers will benefit by filing either a Withholding Receipt or a short-form return on Form 1040.

Nunan added that persons who had more than one job during 1944 and wish to file on a Withholding Receipt need to fill out only the last receipt received, but should be sure to attach all their other Withholding Receipts.

Also, the collector explained that if wage earners file Form 1040, they need not fill out their Withholding Receipts but must attach their receipts to their Form 1040 returns.

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The largest Maryland trees are the famous Wye Oak at Wye Mills and the Liberty Tree at Annapolis. These are 95 and 79 feet high respectively. There are only 13 trees in the United States which have a larger diameter than the Wye Oak, according to the Extension Forester at the University of Maryland.

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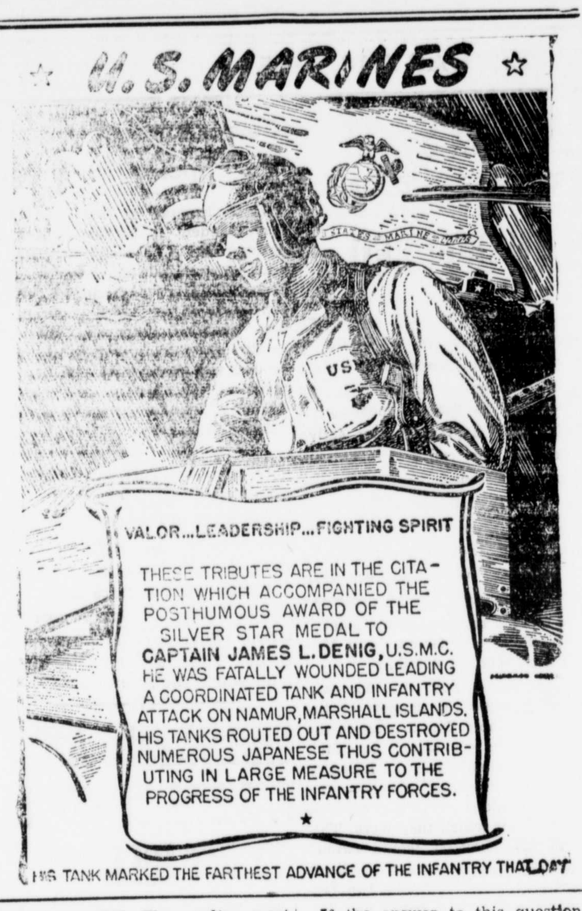
The production schedule for trucks this year, as released to Extension officials at the University of Maryland by the War Production Board, includes the following: Light trucks are to be manufactured at the yearly production rate of 35,704 of which the presently planned production will account for 17,756 during the first six months. The medium truck program has been established at 109,859 of which 54,104 will become available during the first six months. Light-heavy trucks will total 31,464 for the year, with 13,349 being manufactured the first six months. Heavy-heavy trucks will be produced at the rate of 9,765 for the year, with 5,079 being made available the first six months.



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