IMPORTANT NEWS

On The HOME-FRONT

Civilians At War

The Government needs and asks its citizens in this 168th week of the war to:

1. Hold series "A" bonds (the "baby bonds" that went on sale in 1935) and reinvest the proceeds when they begin maturing March 1st. War Bonds offer the same interest—$4 for every $3 invested.

2. Look for dollar-and-cents price ceilings posted in your shoe repair shop. Such services are now under OPA price control.

3. Place specific orders now for fertilizers and insecticides for farms and Victory gardens. Transportation and manpower shortages may seriously delay deliveries.

4. Use V-Mail and help share overseas cargo space. Shipments of whole blood and typhus vaccine urgently need the plane facilities. V-Mail will save.

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.

Household Fats To Rescue

Homemakers of town and farm again are asked by the War Food Administration to come to the rescue of a wartime program. WFA states that it is looking largely to the people in agricultural areas to increase the quantity of salvaged fats this year to the 250,000,000 pounds needed to meet United States military, industrial and civilian requirements. Last year housewives turned in 170,000,000 pounds. M. L. Wilson, director of the Extension Service, has called upon all State directors of the service to enlist the aid of their field forces in helping to speed the drive for used fats turned in from rural areas. WFA advises and asks all housewives to keep a tin can in a handy spot in which to pour used cooking fats. When the can is full the fat—can and all—should be taken to the local market where the butcher or grocer will pay two red points and up to four cents a pound for every pound turned in. Salvaged fats are used to help make munitions, medicines, synthetic rubber, military and civilian soaps, parachutes and a score of other wartime necessities.

Tax Exemptions Explained

In response to numerous inquires arising from new provisions of the individual income tax law relating to exemptions for husbands and wives, and the income of minors, Joseph D. Nunan, Jr., Commissioner of Internal Revenue, made the following statement today:

"Husband and wife Exemptions—The new law requires that if a husband and wife file separate returns, each must take his own exemptions on his or her own return. Both exemptions can be claimed on the same return only if (a) they file a joint return, or (b) if one of them had no taxable income and was not the dependent of another taxpayer. In applying this rule to wives of men in the armed forces, it should be borne in mind that the tax laws exempt and disregard the first $1,500 of active service pay received each year by a member of the armed forces. The result is that most members of the armed forces have no taxable income, in which case their exemptions can be claimed by their wives.

"Income of Minors—The new law provides that the earnings of children shall be considered to belong to the children, and not to their parents, for purposes of the federal income tax. As a result, minors who had $500 or more income last year must file income tax returns the same as adults. Therefore, parents need no longer include in their own income tax returns the earnings of their children.

"Income under $500—Persons whose income last year was less than $500 are not required to file income tax returns, but frequently will find it advisable to file. In the case of a single person who had less than $500 income from which tax was withheld, the filing of a return will bring a refund of the tax which was withheld. In the case of a married person who had less than $500 income, whether or not any tax was withheld from it, the person should file a joint or combined return with her husband (or his wife) so as to get the full benefit of their exemptions."

"Time to Time" Food Shortages

Civilians may continue to expect food shortages "from time to time" as a result of multiplying military and Lend-Lease needs, but these shortages will not be serious if farmers repeat their record productivity and if Americans plant victory gardens and do as much home canning as possible, Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, declares. "There is need for all of the meat and milk and vegetables and grains and dozens of other foods that the nation's farmers can produce," Jones said, "Farmers are being asked to plant more acres to crops this year. Farmers and their wives as well as older people and children on farms are working to the limit of their ability, and the help of city and townspeople will be needed in addition to meet this year's needs." He said the surest way to assure a full supply of fruits and vegetables for home use is to grow a garden and do as much home canning as possible.

Where The Pocket Knives Go

The mystery of where that pocket knife you wanted to buy has gone is cleared up by an announcement this week of WPB. To meet the urgent need of bomber crews, ski troppers, sailors, and other members of the armed forces for pocket knives, employment in the pocket knife industry must be expanded to a point that will permit production in the first half of 1945 of approximately 5,000,000 pocket knives per quarter, WPB states. Each pocket knife is a miniature engineering project. Making the simplest type of knife requires about 40 separate operations, while a more complicated four-bladed knife, containing some 20 pieces, requires 100 operations.

Black Market Report

Organized black markets in meat and sugar are reappearing in dangerous proportions in the United States, and their existence is dependent largely on counterfeiting of ration coupons, the Office of War Information said on the basis of information provided by the Office of Price Administration, U. S. Secret Service and the Alcohol Tax Unit of the Treasury Department.

Fresh mushrooming of counterfeit activities constitutes the principal problem now confronting government enforcement agencies. Printing of bogus coupons has become widespread in the meat and sugar fields whereas it was formerly flagrant in the gasoline business, officials said.

OPA executives said that the illegal diversion of gasoline through counterfeit and stolen coupons has been almost stopped while organized black market activities in liquor have been virtually eliminated. They denied the existence of any organized black market in cigarettes, claiming that "petty chiselers" are the chief supporters of this illicit market.

Although Federal agencies have achieved considerable success in coping with organized black markets, they are increasing, not relaxing, their day-to-day vigilance against any new racketeering gangs which might try to sprnig up.

Officials cited the harm done by the individual consumer who basically creates and perpetuates the demand for illegal or stolen coupnos by his willingness to pay extra sums for more than his rationed share. They emphasized that the citizen's willingness to "chisel" induces the racketeer to take advantage of the resultant high profits, thus enabling the criminal to thrive and expand his activities.

Authorities emphatically said that counterfeiting, theft and illegal distribution of all types of ration coupons constitutes one of the greatest manaces today.

More than a 1,000 persons were arrested by special Treasury and OPA agents during 1944 for counterfeit activities. OPA also has imposed thousands of sanctions for violations of rationing regulations besides obtaining more than 5,000 convictions under criminal statutes. Injuctions and suspension orders likewise were used to check black marketing.

Chester Bowles, OPA Administrator, made the following appeal to solicit more active public participation in continuing efforts to keep black markets down to the minimum.

"If all consumers in America were to adhere stirctly to rationing regulations, enacted for their protection, and reported all observable violations we would not have such an evil as black market. Black markets are perpetuated by consumers collectively. Every black market purchase affects the honest consumer. Every American who participates in any kind of a black market deal, no matter how financially trivial, does disservice to the war effort and to his law-abiding neighbor."

Professional racketeers are blamed for the making and distribution of counterfeit ration stamps. More than $1,000,000 has gone into the pockets of racketeers in two months alone from the sale of bogus gasoline coupons. OPA watchfulness has almost smashed the traffic in bogus gasoline coupons, and as a result counterfeiters are shiftnig their counterfeiting activities to the food fields.

—V—

PRODUCE MORE
FOOD FOR FREEDOM
the CONSERVATION WAY

The Supervisors of the Kent and Queen Anne's Soil Conservation Distirct urge all farmers having an erosion or drainage problem to take advantage of the 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program, especially the unlimited practices.

Drainage is an important factor in the total utilization of our farms for war food production and should be used whenever this additional land will fit into the farms production program. Drainage will give greater increases in yield, on suitable land, than any other practice in the program.

In the conservation of soil and water, the use of contour cultivation contour strip cropping and diversion terraces have no equal. These practices not only carry direct cash payment through the A.C.P. but give increases in yields varying from 10 to 50% as well as maintain and increase the potential productivity and value of the soil. Our soil is a basic and fundamental part of our farm economy and must be preserved if we are to retain our position in the Family of Nations.

In every individual farm program, there is a definte place for permanent pasture.

Permanent pasture is the best and cheapest source of animal forage on the farm.

Permanent pasture not only supplies desirable animal nutrition but comes at a time when it is highly desirable that the animal gather and transport its own feed, leaving the farmer free to take care of his field crops.

The cost of seed represents about one-third of the total cost of establishing a permanent pasture and this the A.C.P. payments will largely take care of. There is one thing that must be kept in mind—proper land prepration. If land is not properly and carefully prepared the seeds will not do their best. Seed supplies should be used wisely since good seed is not too plentiful.

The maintenance of organic matter and the winter protection of our soil are important parts of any good farming program. This the A.C.P. provides through payments for winter legumes, ryegrass, small grains, and sweet clover. These should be used by every farmer whenever he can fit them into his program.

The regular practices under the A.C.P. are still sound and basic. Lime phosphate and potash materials have a definite place in our farming enterprise and should be used wisely. It does not pay to load our soils up with any one of these elements but with three to choose from, our particular soil requirements should be easily satisfied.

Farming is a great enterprise—let us keep it in balance.

—V—

Malaria Widespread

Altogether more people are probably affected by malaria than by any other known disease. In 1931 nearly 18,000,000 people were reported to the League of Nations to be under treatment for malaria, yet the number of those going without treatment was far greater.

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