

SUMMARY OF WEEK'S ACTIVITIES IN NATIONAL DEFENSE WORK

Navy Secretary Knox, returning from a plane trip to Hawaii, reported the U. S. armed services there were not on the alert against the first Japanese attack. Mr. Knox said that the Navy lost one capital ship, a training ship, three destroyers, and one mine-layer and suffered damage to other ships which will take from several days to several months to repair. He reported 2,729 Navy officers and men were killed and 656 wounded.

The President appointed Supreme Court Justice Roberts head of a special board of inquiry. Pending completion of the inquiry, ranking officers of the Hawaiian command were relieved of duty and replaced. In the shift, Admiral Nimitz replaced Admiral Kimmel as Commander in Chief of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and Lt. Gen. E. H. Rasmuson, Air Force, relieved Lt. Gen. Short as commanding officer of the land forces in the Islands.

THE WAR FRONT
War and Navy Department communiqués during the week reported the sinking of one enemy transport and "probably" one destroyer, severe damage to another enemy transport, the sinking of a motor ship, capture of a fishing vessel, continued successful repulse of enemy attempts to take Wake and Midway, and continued bombing of the Philippines.

LEND-LEASE AID
War Secretary Stimson issued a statement that although lend-lease aid money has been lessened after the Pearl Harbor attack, the increased war effort "must inevitably increase rather than diminish shipments to those who are fighting our common enemy." The President reported to Congress that aid had increased from \$18,000,000 in March to \$283,000,000 in November—to make a total of \$1,202,000,000 in aid extended to Dec. 1.

ARMY
Secretary of War Stimson told his press conference that although the \$10,000,000,000 supplemental defense bill provides for an increase of the Army to about 2,000,000 men, the War Department is "trying to develop machinery by which our Army can increase steadily without limits" and with "the least possible disturbance to our economic life."

SELECTIVE SERVICE
Congress passed a bill calling for registration of all men between 18 and 65 and making those from 20 to 44 inclusive liable for military service. War Secretary Stimson told a press conference voluntary enlistments will be suspended as soon as the "present rush of patriotism" is over. All further manpower will then be obtained by the selective service system. The Census Bureau estimated the U. S. and the Allied powers, including China and India, have 163,887,000 men of fighting age—18 to 35—while the Axis nations have 28,560,000.

NAVY
The Navy Department authorized all navy yards to make maximum use of extra shifts and overtime work to rush construction. All Navy employees were ordered on a 48-hour week. Four ships were launched: the USS COLUMBIA—a 10,000-ton cruiser—and three destroyers.

PRODUCTION
OPM Production Director Harrison announced American and British plane output will surpass that of Germany by the summer of 1942. The U. S. will produce 840 light and medium tanks this month and 2,800 a month by this time next year; machine tool production necessary for critical Army weapons will probably be doubled in the coming year; the first bomber will be produced shortly after January 1, at the new \$11,000,000 Kansas City assembly plant from parts made by the auto industry; plans have been approved by SPAB to triple aviation gasoline production.

PRIORITIES
OPM extended its ban on the sale of new auto tires and tubes to January 4 and said a rationing program will go into effect January 4 providing tires only for essential commercial and public welfare activities. OPM also announced full control of all tin in this country or enroute by water; ordered manufacturers of ranges, stoves and other cooking appliances to curtail use of iron and steel; ruled sheepskin can be used only on OPM order; simplified priority procedure to permit extension of ratings by manufacturers themselves on orders for less than \$500 worth of material.

MATERIALS
The SPAB announced preparation of a program to insure adequate supplies of those raw materials from the Pacific area "even in case America's access to overseas sources is cut off entirely." OPM Director Knudsen asked all individuals to gather all scrap of any kind in their homes and workshops and sell it at once to scrap dealers. Civilian Supply Director Henderson said the war effort requires 50 pounds of waste paper a month from every family.

The OPA Consumer Division reported that retreading auto tires costs only 40 to 50 percent of the cost of a new tire and gives 75 to 80 percent of new tire mileage. The OPM asked the public not to purchase new materials for blacking out windows and not to use surgical tape to protect windows from air raids.

LABOR SUPPLY
Federal Security Administrator McNutt announced unemployment due to material shortages will probably reach a peak in the first half of 1942. He said the hardest hit region will be the Great Lakes and Ohio valley area. He reported priority unemployment had brought the first increase in six months in the number of industrial workers available for war work through the 1,500 State employment services.

The President asked all Governors

to transfer to the U. S. Employment Service all personnel, records and facilities required for operation of a central service. Mr. McNutt, whose Federal Security Agency includes the USES, urged all employers to recruit workers exclusively through the local public employment offices and to refrain from "blind" advertising, labor scouting or pirating, and other wasteful and disruptive labor-recruiting methods.

PRICES
The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported wholesale prices, led by agricultural commodities, rose one percent during the week ended December 13 to the highest level since 1929 and more than 16 percent greater than this time last year. Living costs, the Bureau said, are now 11.8 percent above those when war in Europe began.

Price Administrator Henderson moved to stabilize prices of reclaimed rubber, raw wool and various wool yarns, coffee, cocoa, pepper, cocoa butter, fats and oils except butter, barrel staves and headings, fir "peeler" logs from which plywood is made, resold iron and steel products, natural resins and shellac, and second-hand burlap and cotton bags.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING
The State Department announced French crews on all French vessels in the U. S. were removed December 2 to protect the ships and crews. The Justice Department said the crews will be held as aliens but not enemy aliens. The State Department took over the giant French liner NORMANDI and the Swedish liner KUNGSBOLM and said "adequate compensation will be made to the owners." The Maritime Commission discontinued formal ceremonies for new merchant ships but announced launching of eight new vessels during the week.

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CIVILIAN DEFENSE

The Red Cross and the CCC announced an agreement to train CCC personnel in disaster-fighting techniques and to use CCC camps, equipment and personnel during emergencies requiring mass evacuations in any part of the country. The Red Cross also called for 50,000 more trained nurses to place the nation's nursing program on a full war-time basis. To acquire this number, a new reserve of nurses unavailable for military duty because of age or marriage will be called.

The RFC set up a War Insurance Corporation with a \$100,000,000 capital to provide "reasonable protection" against damage to private property resulting from enemy attack. The Office of Civilian Defense asked for continuous operations of war material plants without interruption for blackout tests after blackout plans have once been demonstrated as satisfactory.

To sharpen knives, hold the knife firmly in one hand, with the blade pointing along the edge of the blade. Rub first on one side of the blade and then on the other. Hold sharpener at small angle from blade so as to thin the blade for an edge. Begin sharpening by rubbing down from handle of knife to point. Give special care on lower half of the blade near the point. The point does most of the work. Patented sharpeners are effective but wear knife somewhat rapidly.

To make cream wafers melt fondant in the upper part of a double boiler, keeping the water in the lower part just below the boiling point. Add the desired flavoring and coloring to tint delicately. Drop from the tip of a teaspoon onto waxed paper, forming wafers 1 1/2 inches in diameter.

To warm over roast beef, cut the cold beef in thin slices, place on a warm platter, and pour over some of the gravy reheated to the boiling point. If the meat is allowed to stand in the gravy on the range it becomes hard and tough.

Delicately tinted frostings are a dainty variation and fit nicely into menus of definite color schemes. They may be made by adding a small amount of coloring to any white frosting, and blending it evenly before spreading. Be careful not to use too much coloring for highly colored frostings are crass and unappetizing.

With meats and poultry, one must never forget the importance of applying the right methods of cooking to each particular cut. The finest meat on the butcher's block will be a able delight only if it is cooked properly, and the most inexpensive meats can be transformed into real delicacies by skillful cooking.

THE CALL TO THE COLORS IS A CALL FOR DOLLARS!

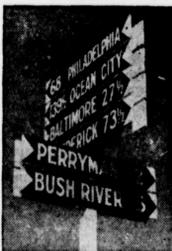
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New Directional and Distance Signs for State Roads



NEW TYPE distance and directional signs are being placed by the State Roads Commission at all intersections on all main highways of the State in order to facilitate travel. The signs consist of wood panels, 8x48 inches, painted with 6-inch white letters on a black background. Individual panels are used for each name. Photo of new type of sign, recently put into use on the new Philadelphia dual lane highway, U. S. Route 40, between Baltimore and Elkton, is shown at left. After these markers have been placed on all main highways, they will gradually be erected throughout the entire State highway system, as the present type is in need for refinishing or replacement. During the summer of 1921 the State Roads Commission completed the erection of distance and direction signs at all roadway intersections on the State highway system. These signs were constructed of wood panels 20x30 (shown in center), faced with metal and painted with 3-inch white letters on a black background. With the increase in volume and speed of traffic during the past several years, the Commission found it necessary to replace the signs at the principal intersections on the more heavily traveled roads with larger signs, making possible the use of larger lettering to provide legibility at greater distances. These were followed by still larger signs and the use of reflector buttons for night time visibility (lower right).

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