

## Bottlenecks Plus

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Those "innumerable problems" which President Roosevelt tells Congress are standing in the way of full production of aircraft are not just the bottlenecks we hear about.

The decline in the output of fighting ships, more severe in November than the 20 per cent admitted for all military aircraft, is not mainly an industrial affair. It results, according to information from several sources, from the necessity of changing the design of many of the ships to accommodate the numerous automatic guns and the cannon now going on them together with their heavier ammunition.

The increase in machine-gun calibers from 30 to 50, stepping up the weight not only of the guns but their ammunition, plus the need for better armor and more of it, piled up the engineering difficulties. Some of these became bottlenecks in their turn. Manufacture of the fighting types of ship had to be reduced by something like half.

Because the output of trainer planes has been little affected by these troubles the 20 per cent drop in the production of all military planes was concentrated in the fighters.

**British Increase Guns**

The design difficulties were shared with the British, or the other way about, for it was the British who were first loading up the planes. They went from two guns in the wing to four, then six, then provided for eight, and the expansion in the calibers multiplied the weight of the ammunition several times. These guns in the wings focus ahead and are fired simultaneously from a button like an automobile starter button. This fan-fire "saws off the tail" of the enemy ahead. All this equipment, together with the plate armor, overbalanced some of the American models.

The increase in gun calibers and the introduction of cannon became necessary when the Germans began coming over with armored planes. One way of expressing the changes is to say that in the last year

the weight on each square foot of supporting wing surface has been increased from 30 pounds to 40. For similar and other reasons the Knicker program of standardized bombers has been greatly modified. Nothing like 12,000 bombers are to be turned out by the automobile industry this year. Of three ships sufficiently standardized to be designated for manufacture in the automobile plants only the Martin two-engine job remains in early contemplation. Two other bombers, one a Consolidated and the other a North American, need some redesign, to adapt them to the mass-production breakdown and shipments of parts in sub-assemblies which would enable the automobile industry to go forward with its great task.

## Reuther Plan Must Wait

Not only is the airplane industry behind schedule (for military reasons more than shortage of materials) but the automotive industry is behind in the program of standardized bombers. The program of Walter Reuther and the United Automobile Workers for making 500 combat ships a day is not being responsibly considered on account of these design difficulties.

The utmost quantity of planes contemplated at present for production of a single model is around 3,000, not the 6,000 mentioned for each of two types in October.

The announcements of 12,000 standardized bombers for the Americans and an equal number for the British, given out in October, caused a commotion in the Army, both because the Army Air Corps knew what was happening in design. Knew how rapidly the changes were still taking place, and also saw how many trainer ships so vast a program of bombers (not to mention the fighters) would call for.

One effect of the delay is to allow the manufacture of trainer ships to get farther ahead. In some quarters here it is said the slowdown in the production of fighters was intended for that very reason. We are going to have 12,000 bombers, plus the fighters, we need several times as many trainers. At any rate, because the British are getting most of the approximately 700 planes built each month, the American services cannot be receiving very many fighters or bombers yet.

The chief engineer figured out the reactions of the metal fillings on each other and the resulting electric current.

## Yep, She Wears 'Em

LAST SUNDAY, after church, a well-dressed woman on a North Side street was talking to a woman companion. In one of those inexplicable group lulls in conversation that occasionally come over a car full of people, she was heard to say with startling clarity:

"...but at this time of the year, I don't care. I just get out my union suits and put 'em on."

## A Good Skate, All Right

THERE IS NO stopping Miss Opal Skinner, secretary in the Indiana State Teachers' Association office here. Three weeks ago she broke in a wrist when she fell while arm wrestling at the Collins. And she spends most of her spare time now, shopping for skates.

"I just can't hardly wait for this wrist to heal so I can start lessons again," she says.

## That 100,000th Phone

WITHIN AN HOUR after the 100,000th telephone was installed the other day in the museum of the Indiana Bell Co., we called information to see what the number was. Information said she didn't know, that we'd have to call the business office. The business office didn't know either and connected us with an information desk on the first floor.

Well, the information desk girl said she didn't know either, but that she'd find somebody who'd find out. She did.

The number is Market 1010 and if you call that, you'll get a guard or watchman.

## Seeking a 'Moral Order'

No one can read these pregnant words without recognizing that as a nation we are committed to assisting in the downfall of Hitler and the totalitarian regimes, to removing their yoke of conquest, to replacing their "new order" with a "moral order" in which individual freedom shall be restored. We are going down the road with England not merely to turn back invasion but to smash Hitler.

Some think this cannot be done without our sending troops eventually to carry the war to the continent. Evidently Mr. Roosevelt does not think that will be necessary. In his radio broadcast he said no A. E. F. would be sent to Europe. In his message he said that we would not send troops to Europe as an armistice—"they do not need manpower" but do need billions of dollars' worth of weapons.

We are committed to assist in the defeat of Hitler with weapons—not yet with men. Suppose the weapons prove insufficient and men are needed to restore freedom to the conquered peoples of Europe? That question will be met when it arises. Mr. Roosevelt probably thinks, or hopes at least, that it will not present itself, that with some reverses Hitler will collapse as Germany did in 1918.

No one wants to discuss the unpleasant possibilities now. But Mr. Roosevelt has declared that the policy of the United States is to assist in a complete defeat—not merely a stalemate—and we will be better off to recognize the realities now. We are crossing the Rubicon again, although we are out barely knee-deep as yet.

## My Day

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Mrs. Lawrence Townsend's first musicale of the year, yesterday morning, was really a treat to us all. Madame Jarmila Novotna, a Czech artist, not only sang delightfully, but looked a charming picture in her long-length, red dress.

Richard Crooks was unable to come, but Mr. Kullman, who took his place, sang beautifully.

Mrs. Townsend in introducing him, told us an amusing story about his debut at the Metropolitan. He apparently came down from Yale to sing and some of his fellow students almost broke up the solemnity of the occasion by punctuating every difficult passage with cries of "atta boy."

Yesterday afternoon, I attended a tea given by the Rev. and Mrs. Wilkinson. Today is a most beautiful day and I am looking forward to a luncheon with two or three old friends and a fairly quiet afternoon.

I was interested yesterday to receive a letter from the editor of a Mexican paper who came to speak to me for a few minutes while I visited Laredo. I told him that I was interested in the Mexican government and co-operating with him to further the Good Neighbor policy.

From this country he gives a radio program for

At City Hall—

## CHIEF CLAIMS COURTS LAX IN TRAFFIC CASES

Method of Handling Large Scale Arrests Inefficient, Morrissey Says.

By RICHARD LEWIS

The tug-of-war between the Police Department and the Municipal Courts over a traffic policy was brought to the attention of City officials yesterday.

Police Chief Michael F. Morrissey told the Safety Board he was dissatisfied with the Municipal Courts' method of handling large scale traffic arrests. The court does not handle them efficiently, he said.

The Chief complained that because the courts are sometimes overloaded with traffic cases, "the people over there" have criticized him for making needless arrests, especially on petty violations.

"If the courts are jammed, that's their fault," the Chief said. "They ought to arrange to handle these cases more efficiently."

The Chief's complaint came during a discussion of traffic arrests this month. Board members listened, but made no comment.

## Pawnshop Curb

Switching to other departmental activities, the Chief informed Board members that although Indianapolis pawnshop ordinance has made the disposal of stolen goods risky, it has not helped recover unusually large quantities of merchandise.

The reason, he explained, is that stolen goods are being shipped to "fences" in other Indiana cities where there are no pawnshop restrictions—or in some cases out of the State.

One solution to the problem, he said, would be a State-wide pawnshop statute patterned after the Indianapolis City ordinance which requires pawnbrokers of goods to leave their fingerprints with the merchant.

California is considering such a law, he said.

Meanwhile, the Chief asked the City Legal Department whether under the present ordinance door-to-door buyers of old gold would be required to have second-hand dealers' licenses and whether sellers should be fingerprinted.

## Market Revenue Grows

Indianapolis' City Market is growing. Last year its revenue from standholders totaled \$42,000 and the year before, \$40,000, Paul Lindemann, Market Master, reported to the Board yesterday.

The City's oldest institution, the Market has been a going concern for more than 100 years. Last year's retail business, Mr. Lindemann estimated, was probably the best in history.

## House Total Gains

Indianapolis gained 1061 residences last year as the result of residential building, according to George R. Popp, City Building Commissioner. A total of 112 dwellings housing 1488 families were built, while 121 old houses were torn down.

## 'Courtesy Runs' Watched

Closer watch over service calls made by the Police Department will be kept by Chief Morrissey. Safety Board members yesterday wanted to know why Police made 405 "courtesy runs" last month.

The Chief explained that calls are made for patients at City Hospital who have no other way to communicate with relatives in cases of emergency. The Hospital calls Police Headquarters, which radio the police cruiser in the district to inform the relatives to get in touch with the patient at the Hospital.

In some instances, however, the Chief said, this courtesy service may be abused. He said he would keep a sharp lookout.

## CANADIAN POWER SPEEDS U. S. HELP

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 8 (U. P.).—The Buffalo Evening News reported yesterday that Canadian power plants at Niagara Falls are providing American industry with electricity to boost output of British war orders, and that the Canadian Hydro Electric Power Commission is considering a \$400,000 expansion program for its plants.

The exported power, according to the News story based on an interview with Dr. Thomas Hogg, Commission chairman, is being generated by diverting water from the Niagara River at a rate of 5000 cubic feet per second greater than previously.

The increased diversion, it was reported, began Nov. 1 and has enabled the Canadian plants to supply the Union Carbide Co. at Niagara Falls, N. Y., with an electrical 62,000 horsepower of electrical energy.

The American firm is producing ferro-alloys in electric furnaces for the British Government.

## FOUR NOMINATED AS WHITE'S SUCCESSOR

CHICAGO, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—The Midwest section of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies late yesterday selected four men it will recommend as nominees to succeed William Allen White, committee chairman.

John Morrison, Midwest co-ordinator for the committee, and other spokesmen declined to discuss a published report that Wendell L. Wilkie was one of the section's nominees.

The names of the nominees will be presented to the national committee at New York City Jan. 9, when a new chairman will be selected.

## Indianapolis Symphony Records for Victor



Fablen Sevitzyky and Charles O'Connell look over a score.



Engineer John Crawford checks grooves on master record.

## BANDIT SHOOT CAFE WORKER

John Bridges Victim of Gunman's Fire in Holdup At Old Vienna.

Shot in the abdomen by a mysterious gunman, John Bridges, 29-year-old bartender, was in a critical condition at City Hospital today.

Mr. Bridges, employed at the Old Vienna Cafe, 111 E. Court St., was shot about 9:50 o'clock last night as he vaulted the bar at the cafe to stop what he thought was a fight.

Witnesses told police that two patrons, George Isenhower, 23, of 5304 Lowell Ave., and Charles Bruner, 22, of 950 Bradbury St., entered the cafe and Mr. Isenhower turned to a cigarette machine.

## Patron Hit in Face

At that moment, according to the testimony, Mr. Isenhower saw a man step inside the door and pull a nickel-plated revolver from his pocket.

Mr. Isenhower grabbed the man's gun arm, and the man struck Mr. Isenhower in the face with his other hand.

Someone yelled, "Stop the fight," and Mr. Bridges leaped over the bar.

Before the bartender's feet landed on the floor, witnesses said, the gunman fired the bullet striking Mr. Bridges' abdomen and ranging upward. Passing through him the bullet struck the woodwork above the mirror behind the bar.

The gunman then ordered everyone to raise their hands, announcing that "This is a stickup." A moment later, he turned and ran out the door, fleeing north on Pennsylvania to Market St., where he hailed a taxicab and escaped.

## Father of Two

The gunman was seen climbing into the cab by a newsboy, William Thomas Bloomfield, 16, of 936 Bellefontaine St.

Mr. Bridges, who has worked in several taverns and hotels in the last few years, lives at 1235 N. Alabama St. He is the father of two children, Patricia, 9, and Delores, 11. His wife is seriously ill in the Rockville State Sanitarium.

## Coat and Pants Did the Work

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—John J. O'Leary, 18, of Boston, faces charges today of burglarizing eight New Orleans homes—although he failed to take a vest along with the coat and trousers of a suit.

Patrolmen Louis Deegan and William Hines spotted the coat and trousers which A. Farrell said were taken from his home—and O'Leary was in them. Farrell had taken the vest to headquarters so police might identify the suit if it happened to see it.

Farrell's wrist watch, four screwdrivers, 28 house keys and an empty revolver were found on O'Leary's person, police said, and added the youth admitted burglarizing at least eight other homes.

## WINNER CONSISTENT

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Jan. 8 (U. P.).—A champion of prize winners is Mrs. Bernice O. Frisell. Many of her home furnishings were acquired through winnings in national contests. In all, she won 80 contests. But her last prize was her biggest—a \$1400 airplane.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT GUILTY

After the second playing, Mr. O'Connell shouted "Bravo!" to the loud speaker. "Thanks," answered Mr. Sevitzyky.

Meanwhile the audience was remembering Mr. O'Connell's warning and scarcely breathing. But just as the second piece was about to be recorded there was an unidentified noise from somewhere in the front of the house. So they had to start over.

Furthermore, Mr. O'Connell's warning had not reached the City's fire fighters. And after the buzzer had sounded for the third selection, didn't a truck come roaring down Massachusetts Ave. with a siren screaming. Everybody just waited. And Mr. O'Connell remarked that they'd charge that delay to the fire department.

## MINTON GETS \$10,000 JOB

Appointed an Assistant to F. D. R. 'With Passion For Anonymity.'

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—Former Senator Sherman Minton today took over his new duties as one of the Administrative assistants to President Roosevelt "with a passion for anonymity."

The salary is \$10,000, the same as he received in the Senate.

Announcement of the former Democratic whip's appointment was made by the President at his press conference yesterday afternoon. Mr. Minton had conferred with him just previous to the advent of the newspapermen. In telling of the selection of the Hooper, President Roosevelt stressed his qualifications and made the point that he will not serve as a liaison agent for the Administration on Capitol Hill, as had been predicted.

Serves As F. D. R.'s "Eyes"

The President said that Mr. Minton will serve as his eyes, ears and legs in helping to handle the numerous activities of the Executive Department. He meets the "anonymity" qualifications and his experience included membership on the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the President pointed out. He will not serve particularly in the defense field.

Another Hoosier, Lowell Mellett, already holds a similar position. So did Daniel J. Tobin, Indianapolis, head of the Teamsters' Union, for a few months last summer and fall.

## Minton, McHale Dine

Mr. Minton celebrated his appointment by having dinner with Frank M. McHale, Indiana Democratic National Committeeman, last night. Mr. McHale arrived here from Indianapolis just as Governor M. Clifford Townsend was following a two-day stay. Nothing definite has been decided regarding a defense job for him, the Governor said.

Mr. Minton's appointment does not require Senate approval. But both Senators, Fredrick VanNoy and Raymond E. Willis were ready to support him if needed, they said. The latter was his successful Republican opponent.

## HUNGARIAN PRINCESS REPORTED IN MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Princess Stefanie Hohenlohe-Waldenburg-Schillingburg of Hungary, who disappeared from the United States last month soon after Attorney General Robert Jackson announced that she had been refused an extension of her tourist permit, is now in Mexico City, according to responsible foreign quarters.

The Princess has been friendly with Nazi leaders, including Fritz Wiedemann, German Consul at San Francisco.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- 1—Is the raccoon a good swimmer?
- 2—How should a woman who occupies the chair at a meeting be addressed?
- 3—Which of the three States, Arizona, New Mexico or Florida, was first settled?
- 4—Kaolin is an animal, a white clay, or a vegetable?
- 5—The Washington, D. C., professional football team is called the—?
- 6—Which is the leading dairy State of the United States?
- 7—Where was the Circus Maximus?
- 8—Who preceded William Green as President of the American Federation of Labor?

## Answers

- 1—Yes.
- 2—Madam Chairwoman.
- 3—New Mexico.
- 4—A white clay.
- 5—Redskins.
- 6—Wisconsin.
- 7—Rome.
- 8—Samuel Gompers.

## ASK THE TIMES

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