

Voluntary 'Draft' Of Labor To War-Time Jobs Planned

OFFICIALS TO LIST MANPOWER IN U.S.

If Workers Fail to Shift to Vital Industries as Suggested, Compulsion May Follow; Hoosier Boards Sort New Names.

Selective service and the U. S. Employment Service today undertook a joint program to "draft" workers on a voluntary basis for vital war industries that face labor shortages.

Officials in Washington said appeals to the patriotism of the workers and their employers, the lure of higher wages, and, possibly, threats would be the only instruments for shifting men from non-essential war jobs.

But they hinted that if that program fails, Congress may be asked eventually to authorize compulsory assignment of workers to jobs where they can contribute most to the war effort.

This was found necessary in Great Britain and some of the conditions which brought it on, it was said, already are developing in this country—tendencies among employers to "pirate" badly-needed workers from competitors and among workers to "shop around" for the easiest, highest-paid jobs.

Plan Inventory of Manpower

Basis of the new program will be a detailed inventory by Selective Service of the training and specific skills of all of its eventual 48,000,000 registrants—virtually every man in the United States between 18 and 65 years of age.

Questionnaires on vocational skills will be sent to the 9,000,000 men who completed registration yesterday in the third national enrollment of manpower within a 16-month period, to the 17,000,000 already registered, except for those now in the Army, and to another 22,000,000 in the age groups 18 through 19 and 45 through 64 and who will register next spring or early summer.

Selective service officials reported that the third enrollment ended successfully last night. It affected men in the 20-through-21 and 35-through-44 age groups. A lottery to determine the order in which the new registrants will be called will be held sometime next month.

Hoosiers' Cards Sorted

Meanwhile, Indiana's 152 local draft boards today began sorting the cards of those who registered for the draft in the state yesterday, preparatory to sending them to the proper draft boards. The transfer of cards must be completed before the lottery next month.

After the lottery, the new registrants will get their draft questionnaires. Then, the draft boards will classify them.

Col. Robinson Hitchcock, State Selective Service head, termed yesterday's draft registration "a success" and said that everything "went off smoothly."

Draft officials said that figures on yesterday's registration would be released late today or tomorrow. Washington first banned publication of the registration figures but today rescinded its order.

It is estimated 300,000 registered yesterday in the State and 30,000 in the County.

Labor Leaders Deferred

Selective Service headquarters in Washington last night announced that labor leaders had been classified as essential to the national welfare and would be deferred in Class 2-B. The announcement brought criticism from Rep. Clare Hoffman (R. Mich.), who said if the ruling was "used to defer agitators, we might just as well turn our production over to the enemy."

An A. F. of L. official described it as a "sensible decision." Senator Robert Taft (R. O.) said "deferral of such men in the 35 and 45 year age group should be somewhat liberal" but he believed deferrals of labor leaders in the lower age brackets should be "strictly limited."

Selective Service also disclosed that teeth and eyeglass standards for the Army had been reduced "materially," allowing induction of anyone whose teeth—real or false—are workable enough to handle the Army's "chow."

Data on Skill Sought

Eyeglass requirements for "all noncombatant branches" were reduced from a minimum visual acuity of "not below 20/100" to "below 20/100, but not below 20/200 in each eye" if correctable (by use of glasses) to 20/40 in each eye.

The questionnaire on vocational skills, in its present, tentative form, will ask:

1. The registrant's name, age, address and telephone.

2. His present place of employment and his duties there.

3. Complete data on trades learned in the past.

4. The three trades at which he thinks he is most proficient.

The registrant also will be asked to indicate his primary skill on a check-list of more than 200 trades on the backs of the cards.

BOY SCOUTS DISPLAY SKILL TO GYRO CLUB

Just what the Boy Scouts of Indianapolis could do in case of an emergency was illustrated by seven scouts at the Gyro Club's noon luncheon meeting today at the Spin-Arms Hotel.

The seven scouts who took part were Allen Miller, Bruce Duncan, John Crump, William Sprague, William Green, William Wilcox and Robert Reed.

IN INDIANAPOLIS—MEETINGS—VITAL STATISTICS

Here Is the Traffic Record

FATALITIES

| | County City Total | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----|
| 1941 | 8 | 9 | |
| 1942 | 6 | 15 | |
| Feb. 16 | — | 21 | |
| Accidents | 31 | Arrests | 117 |
| Injuries | 10 | Dead | 0 |
| MONDAY TRAFFIC COURT | Cases Convic- tions Paid | | |
| Violations | Tried | Recon- | |
| Speeding | 9 | 9 | |
| Reckless Driving | 3 | 3 | |
| Failure to stop at | 2 | 4 | |
| through street | 2 | 2 | |
| Disobeying traffic | 3 | 21 | |
| signals | 2 | 21 | |
| Drunken driving | 2 | 40 | |
| All others | 20 | 50 | |
| Totals | 39 | 35 | |
| MEETINGS TODAY | \$233 | | |

Associated General Contractors

American, convention, Claypool Hotel, all day.

Indiana Association of Ice Industries, convention, Hotel Washington, noon.

American Chemical Society, luncheon, Hotel Severin, noon.

Indoor Apartment Owners Association, luncheon, Hotel Washington, noon.

Indiana Association of Women, meeting, Hotel Washington, 7:30 p. m.

Sons of Veterans of the Civil War, dinner meeting, Ft. Friendy, 6:30 p. m.

Rotary Club, luncheon, Claypool Hotel, noon.

Indianapolis Motor Transportation Club

dinner meeting, Lake Shore Country Club, 6:30 p. m.

Legion Service Club and the Mercantile Club, joint luncheon, Hotel Lincoln, noon.

Seventh District Federation of Clubs, meeting, L. S. C. luncheon, all day.

For Children, luncheon, all day.

SEVEN NAVAL FLIERS KILLED

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 17 (U. P.)—The Fifth Naval District announced today that seven Navy fliers were killed yesterday when a patrol bomber crashed into the mountains nine miles east of Buena Vista, Va. Two members of the crew escaped without serious injury.

ASKS CARE IN SAFETY

CHICAGO, Feb. 17 (U. P.)—The National Safety Council carried its wartime campaign into America's homes and farms today to prevent manpower losses which result from 37,500 accidental deaths and 5,000,000 injuries annually.

MANAGING DIRECTOR W. H. CAMERON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (U. P.)—Assistant Attorney General Thurman W. Arnold, the Government's chief trust-buster, today predicted there will be a post-war boom and prosperity if large corporations are prevented from entering into monopolistic agreements now to curtail production.

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