

BUSINESS

Tires May Be Requisitioned Unless Tide Turns in Far Eastern Battles

By ROGER BUDROW

NINE-TENTHS OF THE WORLD'S natural rubber production is now in the hands of Japan. Until we reconquer the Orient we will have to get along on our present supplies, plus the increasing trickle from the new synthetic rubber factories.

Even Jesse Jones, who once pooh-poohed the rubber shortage and is charged with slowing the building of synthetic rubber plants, has become convinced that the situation is serious.

One Washington official, whose name cannot be disclosed but who is very familiar with the rubber situation, believes it is much more serious than the public realizes.

Not only will the motorist have to put up his car when present tires wear out but his tires may be requisitioned by the government. Why? Because that used rubber will be needed to mix with raw and synthetic rubber so there will be enough for our military needs.

That drastic action may be necessary, he believes, not only because our own military needs are going to be so great but also because we must share our rubber stockpile with our allies.

This man left his private business to go to Washington to help in the war production effort, as many other businessmen have done.

He works 12 and 14 hours and sometimes more every day. He works with such men as Donald Nelson and Leon Henderson and believes that though the job they have to do is a terrific one, President Roosevelt could have picked no one who could do better than they are doing.

Did the heavy responsibility sometimes weigh him down? Well, he answered, if you had to make a decision that would throw 30,000 people out of work in one industry (just one example) wouldn't that keep you awake nights worrying about it?

Did he believe, as some of Mr. Roosevelt's close associates claim, that the country is too complacent and doesn't fully realize how we are losing the war? He didn't know. He didn't have time to know. He had so much work to do in the rubber industry alone, so many people to see, so many decisions to make and so many conferences to attend that he had no time left for anything else. He wasn't complaining about it. Exerting such tremendous power was a great stimulus but also a great responsibility.

But he did share the belief that the American people could take plenty of gloomy and bitter blows and would rather be told the unvarnished truth than have any sugar-coated pills given them.

ODDS AND ENDS: Columbia Steel Co. (subsidiary of U. S. Steel) re-lined a blast furnace near Provo, Utah, in 31 days, believed to be a world's record for speed. . . . In Europe, only Switzerland and Portugal are selling bread without ration cards. . . . Associates Investment Co. of South Bend showed a drop in profits last year, netting \$2,563,654 against \$3,007,501 in 1940. . . . California oil is being shipped to Pacific Northwest by railroad tank cars because of ocean tanker shortages. . . . Production of adding machines, typewriters, cash registers and other office machinery is likely to be curtailed so factories can make small ordnance.

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PORKER PRICES FALL 20 CENTS

Top Returns to \$13.05 as 10,000 Hogs Arrive;

Vealers Steady.

Most hog prices were 20 cents lower at the Indianapolis stockyards today than yesterday's prices, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported.

Weights above 160 pounds made the 20-cent decline while lighter weights turned a quarter lower. The top was \$13.05 for good to choice 200 to 210-pounders.

Vealers were steady with a \$15.50 top.

Aids to Business

DEFENSE NEEDS

Can you make any of these war materials? Information can be obtained at the Indianapolis office, Contract Distribution Branch of the War Production Board, 10th floor, Circle Tower Building here. Asterisk indicates plans and specifications are on file.

Invitation ARMY AIR CORPS Date Bid Item Number Dates

42-2056-Aircraft fittings, nipple, elbow, etc.

42-2072-Water system, plant, to soften and filter water used for aircraft, aircraft, etc.

42-1074-Fuel and oil, aircraft engine: lubricating, for delivery in Canada.

42-2083-Clamp, hose, 1/2 to 1 1/2" ID

42-2087-Switch, touch, electric.

42-2088-Rivets, aluminum alloy counternut, Jumbo, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

42-2089-Machin, embossing, motor driven, cap, for embossing 22 characters on zinc, tin, aluminum, etc.

42-2090-Articles, jeweled, lettering, signatures, tube etc.

42-2091-Brackets, riveted, etc.

42-2092-Rolling, machine, duplex, etc.

42-2093-Vertical, hand, portable, universal motors to operate on A. C.

ARMY QUARTERMASTER

42-2094-Belts, leather, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

42-2095-Clamp, hose, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

42-2096-Subsistence supplies: sugar, pickles, etc.

42-2097-Subsistence supplies: beans, lamps, electric, hand, portable, head, adjustable in any vertical position.

42-2098-Wire, steel, uncoated, No. 10 BWG

42-2099-Low carbon, bright, etc.

42-2100-Drill, electric, portable, 3/8-inch, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

42-2101-Drill, electric, portable, 3/8-inch, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

42-2102-Drill, electric, portable, 3/8-inch, 1/2" to 1 1/2" ID

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