

# PUSH OVER-AGE INTO WAR WORK

Boards Begin Tomorrow  
Classifying Non-Essential 18-37 Workers.

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have a statement from WMO that their release is desired.

Should these men fail to keep their jobs or otherwise fall down on their side of the bargain to produce on the home front, they will be recalled to active duty upon request of the WMO which is working now with the war department and selective service on a system of policing. An estimated 500 with dairy experience and thousands who could qualify for dairy work are now in the army's over-38 group.

Boards Hunt Farmers

2. Davis is directing county war boards, wherever there is a shortage of dairy farmers, to secure from draft boards the names of registrants aged 38 through 45, who are in non-deferrable occupations and have had dairy or farm experience and then to urge these men to seek re-employment as dairy farmers.

3. Steps will be taken to send 500 experienced dairy workers in the conscientious objectors group to dairy farms and to move in another 1800 objectors with farm experience who can make good as dairy workers.

4. Draft boards will be directed to send for the 6200 men aged 18 through 37 who are in 4-F because of physical disability and who are experienced dairy farmers, but who are employed in other activities, and urge them to return to their former occupations. If they refuse, consideration will be given to asking the war department to waive their physical disabilities, where the disabilities are so slight that the registrant could be assigned to limited services.

5. County war boards will secure from draft boards the names of registrants over 45 having dairy experience and urge their return to dairy farms.

Seek Names of Skilled

6. If these steps do not adequately relieve the situation, the county war boards will secure the names of experienced dairy workers now in essential industries and urge them to return to dairy farms, a step which the president did not deem wise at this time because of the back-to-the-farm movement resulting from the Tydings amendment to the draft act which gives a virtually permanent draft defer-

## Desert Shield



An eye shield made of old photo film (note image) protects soldiers' eyes from wind, sand and dust on the desert.

ment to men in agricultural occupations.

It was evident that once the dairy problem is solved the same steps will be taken to solve the manpower problems of other types of industry, and then the labor shortages in essential industries and activities essential to the war effort.

The broadest hint that the maximum draft age might soon be lifted to 45 is found in the WMO order for reclassification of all men from 38 to 45. The April reclassification affects only those in the farm occupations, who would be placed in 2-C and 3-C, and gives them deferment status.

Draft boards will begin May 1 reclassifying all other men aged 38 through 45, placing them in the appropriate class, depending on their occupation and dependency. Thus a man with no dependents and not in an essential occupation would be in 1-A and subject to induction the moment the maximum draft age is lifted.

In a memorandum on the new program, Mr. Roosevelt also referred to the fact that Davis is "giving priority" to a land army of college and high school students and volunteer workers with some farm experience who can help harvest the crops this year. Additional workers will be obtained from the Bahamas, Jamaica and Mexico.

At his press conference yesterday, Mr. Roosevelt was asked if the steps he outlined in the memorandum amounted to a form of national service for men over 38 and he reminded his questioner that he had used the word "urge." He also said that he did not know whether there would be any action to induct men over 38 years of age for military service.

## U. S.-RUSSIAN TALKS HINTED

FDR Says He's Hopeful;  
United Nations Parley  
Set April 27.

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ested in such conferences at this time.

But if the discussions do take place, it is assumed that some effort would be made to reconcile in principle the terms of the Atlantic Charter with Moscow's well-defined territorial claims in Eastern Europe.

The Russian position is that Atlantic Charter prescriptions against territorial aggrandizement conflict in no way with her claims for portions of Finland, the three Baltic states, eastern Poland and parts of Rumania.

The Free Polish government in London and Polish organizations here are foremost and loudest in their protests against such an interpretation of the charter.

A tip on the domestic politics involved was given Eden last week when he lunched with a group of distinguished senators. One of them asked him: "What would your position be on the Polish territory question, Mr. Eden, if your parliamentary constituency contained several hundreds of thousands of Poles?"

Eden's answer is not recorded. Regardless of any discussions between representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union, the United Nations on April 27 will begin a series of economic conferences of fundamental significance.

Set April 27 Parley

Russian representatives will participate in at least the first of these dealing with food—how a more or less prostrate world shall be fed after the war.

The state department made public the invitation last night, summoning the conference to meet April 27 at a place in the United States so far undisclosed.

Mr. Roosevelt wants the conference to meet away from Washington and in a community where the delegates will be free to work without normal contact with the press.

Thirty United Nations and eight associated nations were invited. Mr. Roosevelt told his press conference that the food discussions would be followed by similar conferences dealing, respectively, with relief, finances, and minerals such as metals and oils.

Makes Informal Report

He revealed this program in making an informal press conference report to the nation on Eden's visit. He said discussions with Eden had been entirely exploratory in nature and final decisions had been avoided.

Such decisions would be impossible at this time, he feels. The discussions covered every current matter in military and political affairs current and future. He reported the United States and Great Britain to be in entire agreement and that there had been a fruitful meeting of minds on all matters discussed.

## City-Bred Youths Reported As 'Nuisance' on Farms

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women) wouldn't be any help," he contends. "They would do more harm than good. That tractor I'm driving cost \$1100. If something goes wrong with it, I can't get another while the war's on."

"See that tire?" He pointed to a great tractor tire with a half-inch gash in the side.

"A careless hand caused that. I use the tractor as a hammer-mill to grind feed. The belt is attached to the side of the tractor to pull the grinder. The belt moves back and forth a little as it runs and the hired man didn't watch it. It slid over and cut the tire wall. Lucky he got it stopped or the tire would be cut to pieces."

"With a city kid working the machine, it would have been completely ruined before he could stop it. Farm machinery costs a lot of money. We have to take good care of it."

Farmer Kin in Service

"Then there is livestock. If a cow isn't milked right, it soon will be no good and has to be sold for meat. That sure doesn't help the milk and butter shortage any. It takes people that know how to work on livestock and dairy farms. Some of my neighbors who didn't get the right kind of help gave up and sold their dairy herds."

"I got two hired hands and I guess I'll get along unless they get drafted. I got a nephew in the service. He's worth three of those city boys. I figure I'll put out 10 acres of tomatoes this year but if they would let the boy come home to help me, I could put out a lot more."

"I'd buy some more cows, too. And my brother would rent another 150 acres to farm. But you can't do it without good help."

"I get up at 5 in the morning and lots of times I don't eat supper until 9 at night. I don't think city boys would like that. You can't see many picture shows, you know. Cows have to be milked on Sunday just like any other day. No, I think it would be better to let the experienced hired hands and farm boys come home and help."

William Spilker, R. R. 11, echoed his words.

"By the time you learned a kid a job the job should be done," he said. "It takes 15 years to make a farmer. I've been at it 42 and just now know my way around."

Clyde Goodwin, who lives 20 miles east of the city, raised livestock. He pointed out the risk the farmer took on the amateur being injured.

"Most farmers wouldn't want to hire a city-bred youngster unless they took out insurance," he said. "That costs about \$15 for six months. The most they could work, because of school, would be three months. But that isn't all. Maybe the kid will work a day and then quit and you've lost your \$15."

"I may be drafted myself. And I'm all for doing what I can to feed the boys already in. I suppose there isn't a farmer who wouldn't like some help right now. But they want somebody to do the job."

"The land army wouldn't be of much help for general farm work. Of course, they could be of some use in picking tomatoes and peas but that's just a small part of the answer to the need for farm labor."

## U. S. Financing Baffles Board Member

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lions of dollars at one time, the treasury would be subjected to considerable strain, but nevertheless would be forced to meet the demands for cash in order to maintain the integrity of the federal treasury.

Mr. Bigge's challenging of The Times' statement is not altogether clear. "Demand deposits are universally recognized as the equivalent of cash balances. Mr. Bigge's protests may indicate that he does not consider these funds as cash balances, at all."

He did not elaborate on his reasons for this belief.

In his letter, Mr. Bigge also denied that there was any foundation for the statement that he "called for full federalization of the unemployment compensation system" in September, 1941. He enclosed a copy of his speech to prove that nothing he said "could possibly be interpreted as advocating federalization of unemployment compensation."

Studying his own copy of the text, The Times repeats these passages: "The benefits provided by many of the state laws are quite inadequate. . . ."

"Not much is likely to be

done about it if it is left entirely to the several states. . . .

"One way to achieve the desired end would be to amend the social security act to require states to meet certain benefit standards as a condition of receiving administrative grants, and of employers receiving the offset against the federal tax."

Mr. Bigge's protest on this phase is likewise confusing. The Times interpreted these statements as part of the social security board's offense.

repeated requests for an integrated national system of unemployment compensation.

In addition, this request was part of the national resources board's so-called "blueprint of the future" and has been made several times by Mr. Roosevelt. The social security board, in its most recent pronouncement, also echoed this thought.

Mr. Bigge's letter, incidentally, made no mention whatever of the contention presented in the series of articles that the social security board has grown into the most powerful single agency in the United States with a concentration of powers which might prove disastrous in the hands of an unscrupulous national political leader.

RECESS CALLED IN CREDIT UNION TRIAL

The embezzlement trial of two former officials of the defunct Indianapolis Firemen's Credit Union was delayed for the second time within a week today when a panel of 200 veniremen was exhausted.

Special Judge Omar O'Harrow recessed the trial until Friday and ordered a new panel of 50 names drawn to complete the jury.

March quota for Red Cross Blood Plasma Center—5400 donors.

Donors so far—3954.

Yesterday's quota—200.

Yesterday's donors—112.

You can help meet the quota by calling LI-1441 for an appointment or going to the center, second floor, Chamber of Commerce building, N. Meridian st.

Not much is likely to be

## Signs Multiply That Nazis Fear Mediterranean Blitz

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conding Anglo-American aerial offensive had reached a scale which might presage the opening of a western front.

Though well-informed allied sources cautioned that the date of the invasion was at least weeks and perhaps months away, evidence that preparations are reaching an advanced stage was seen in the tightening of travel restrictions in British coastal areas and Prime Minister Winston Churchill's disclosure that British troops "are in position" on undisclosed fronts.

The Anglo-American aerial offensive, which high allied officials already have announced is designed to soften Hitler's European fortress, was believed to have gone into another lull last night, presumably because of bad weather over the continent.

Nazis Have No Illusions

However, Stockholm dispatches revealed that the Germans had no illusions over being given any protracted respite from the rain of allied bombs. One German spokesman was quoted as saying in Berlin that Germany is "under no illusions about the possibilities of sleeping soundly nights."

From another German spokesman, Stockholm said, came the frank admission to date as to the purpose of the intensified Anglo-American aerial offensive.

"It is not out of the question," he was quoted, "that these raids are a prelude to an invasion of Europe."

An air ministry review, issued in connection with the 25th anniversary Thursday of the formation of the R. A. F., said British Typhoon fighters and Lancaster and Mosquito bombers, together with other planes "which must remain secret and nameless," are steadily sappling the enemy's strength.

Churchill's reference in commons yesterday to British forces being "in position" on undisclosed fronts touched off much speculation, but nothing concrete emerged from the welter of reports and official sources naturally were silent.

There was a possibility that the

prime minister merely was striking another blow in the allied war of nerves, just as Hitler and his propaganda ace, Goebbels, attempted unsuccessfully in 1940 and 1941 to make Britain jittery over the prospect of a German invasion.

Doesn't it seem more sensible?

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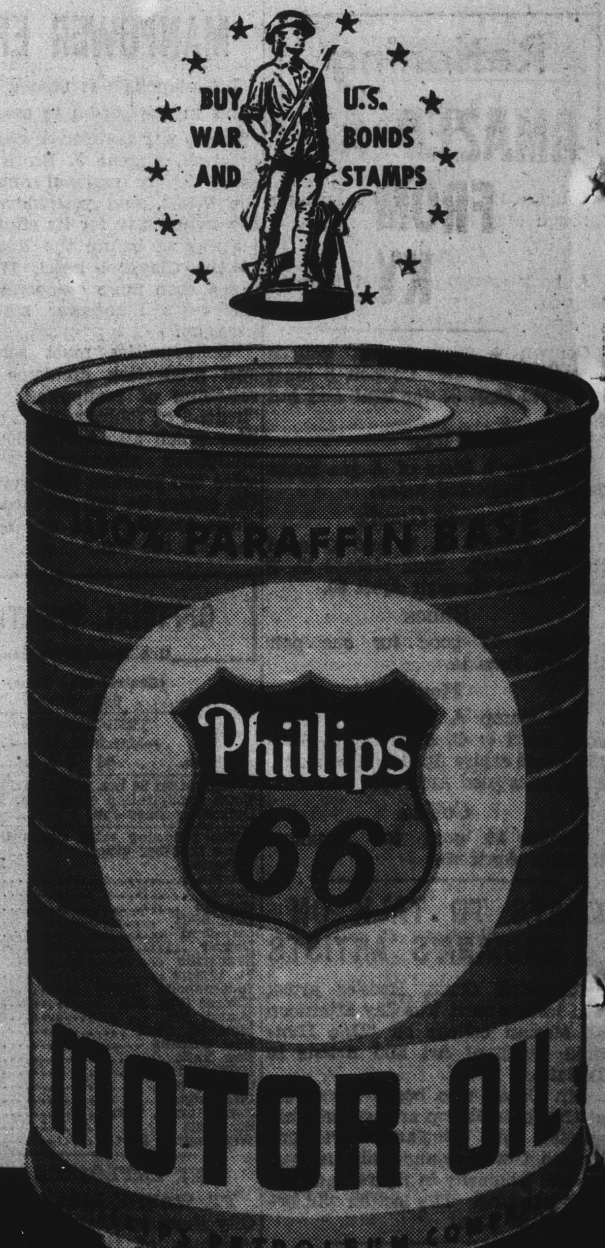
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