

31/10/39 - No. 1.

ADD - RAID OVER NORTHERN GERMANY.

Up till midnight one of our planes had not  
returned to its base.

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FROM AIR AFFAIRS.

31/10/39 - No. 2.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

MORNING 31/10/39

A quiet night on the whole front.

FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS.



NORTHERN RHODESIA RALLIES ROUND

WAR MEASURES IN FULL STRIDE.

The first battalion of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment is up to war establishment, and an additional battalion and auxiliary units, a Defence Force and a Force of Special Constables are at full strength.

So the Governor of Northern Rhodesia, Sir John Maybin, is able to report after a survey of war measures taken in the territory. The mood of the people -- European, Indian and African communities -- was from the first determined and fervently loyal, and volunteering has been so heavy that there is a waiting list for several units. Intensive training of personnel is now in progress.

Men in key industries have been kept at their posts. Farmers want to fight, but it has been pointed out to them that agricultural production must be maintained, and so must the exports of those Northern Rhodesian metals which are vital to the Allies. The output of copper has been virtually taken over by His Majesty's Government and the producing company are supplying the copper at less than the current world price.

Regulations, administered by Central and Provincial Advisory Councils, have been passed to prevent profiteering and hoarding, but the territory's food supplies are very favourable, and so far it has not been necessary to put any restrictions on petrol.

The women of Northern Rhodesia are not behind the men in enthusiasm, and are ready to take up any kind of work to help forward the war.

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ISSUED THROUGH THE PRESS BUREAU.



ULSTER'S EXAMPLE

WOMEN AND MEN OUTFITTING FACILITIES

Ulster, As usual, is putting up a great show in a crisis - both her men and women have come forward in such numbers that they have temporarily swamped the volunteer centres.

The Auxiliary Territorial Service for women is up to establishment, and hundreds more are waiting their chance to join. Similarly, the Infantry Training Centres in Ulster have received as many men as they can cope with, and so dense have been the crowds of recruits that at times police have had to move the queues to free streets for traffic.

The Anti-Aircraft Regiment in Belfast, which is a separate unit from the Anti-Aircraft Brigade (already at full strength) has reached establishment and the National Defence Companies have surplus volunteers hoping to fill any vacancies.

No part of the Empire can be more justifiably proud of the response made by its men and women to the demands of war.

ISSUED THROUGH THE PRESS BUREAU



31/10/39. - No. 5.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE WEDNESDAY 1ST. NOVEMBER, 1939.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENT.

FIFTY YEARS OF EDUCATION IN WALES.

Today (Wednesday) is the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Welsh Intermediate Education Act 1889.

This Act laid the foundation of the Secondary School System in Wales. It empowered the County Councils to provide aid, for the first time, from the county rate towards the maintenance of the schools and also adopted the "pound for pound" system of grants from the Treasury.

The Secondary School system of education in Wales developed rapidly in the years immediately following the Act. In 1895-96 there were 47 schools with 3,367 pupils. Ten years later the number was 95 with 11,577 pupils and today there are 103 schools with 32,538 pupils.

The number of pupils attending Secondary Schools in Wales is proportionately much higher than in England. The latest available figures are:-

	England.	Wales.
No. of pupils in Secondary schools per 1000 of the number of pupils on the registers of Elementary Schools.....	134.5	258.9
No. of pupils per 1000 of the population.....	10.9	18.4



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE NO.8.

Advance on the Farming Front.

Ground Gained for the Plough.

All the County Committees that have asked for their initial allotment of tractors have received them with ploughs. Seed drills for them are being delivered and some are already at work, also presses and disc harrows. Practically all these tractors are now in operation, except for a very small central reserve that the Minister is holding in case of emergency in a particular district. The number of tractors held in reserve is too small to have any significance in the general picture. Much more important than all the Government tractors are the 60,000 in private hands now at work.

The granting of wider powers to the County War Agricultural Committees will facilitate greater flexibility of farming under war time conditions. Corn and fodder crops remain the paramount need and must take precedence, normally over re-seeding with grass. But there should be no need for any farmer to attempt what common sense cannot justify. The county committees may recommend for the £2 grant land broken up and sown, say, with kale, if it is more practicable to do this and grow corn on existing arable land due, perhaps, for a root break. On small, all-grass dairy farms authority may even be given for re-seeding poor pasture broken up. The object of this would be to grow better grass, increase its stock-carrying capacity and so release a field or two for corn-growing for the 1941 harvest.



### Plough for Milk.

It cannot be too often emphasised that dairy farmers with a great deal of grass should consider doing this in their own interest. It is impossible to foresee what the feeding stuffs position will be; the only thing that seems certain is that supplies will not be so easily obtainable as in peace time. There is many a dairy farm where the carrying capacity of some of the pasture could be so greatly increased by ploughing up and re-seeding that fields could be spared later for arable feeding crops without any decrease in the head of livestock.

On the other hand, if these crops are not grown and the feeding stuffs lorry does not call, stock would almost certainly have to be reduced. The grass farmer has a great opportunity now to put his land into better heart assisted by a contribution from the State. It is quite probable that he will be avoiding sleepless nights for himself as well as helping his country by doing so, and his farm will be in a better position to face any situation that may arise after the war. "Ley farming", Sir George Stapledon is fond of saying, "leaves the cultivator with the choice of at least a thousand different things he might do."

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### Wheat for Stock.

#### Farmers Urged to Thresh more liberally.

#### Pig Farmers' Benefit.

The release of a considerable quantity of wheat for stock feed has been appreciated and it seems to have been effective in easing the situation for pig farmers, in



particular, who were finding it difficult to get cereals.

Farmers who are still having trouble in getting supplies of maize or barley or their meals are advised to order wheat or wheat meal.

Those who have wheat in stack will be still further helping the situation if they will thresh substantial quantities during the next two months. The price will be 31/6d. per quarter, and it is not expected that this price will be changed before next spring.

#### Protecting the Wheat Grower.

News of this change in the wheat price from 24/- per quarter, fixed on 8th September, has given rise to quite unfounded fears on the part of those who sold at 24/- lest they suffer under the deficiency payments scheme of the Wheat Act. It will be remembered that the wheat deficiency payments normally make up the difference between the average wheat price for the cereal year and the standard price, so that those who sell at a better price than the average reap the benefit.

But authority is being sought so that deficiency payments for millable wheat will be based, not on the average price for the whole year, but during shorter accounting periods. For example, the price payable for millable wheat was fixed at 24/- per quarter on 8th September. The first accounting period would therefore run from 1st August to 7th September. The second would start on 8th September and run until the date that the new price of 31/6d. was announced. A separate deficiency payment would be determined for each period. So those who sold wheat say at 18/- in the first period or 24/- in the second would suffer no disadvantage.

#### No advantage in Delay.

The effect in practice of these shorter accounting periods will be to protect the farmer against considerable



changes in the price of home-grown wheat during the cereal year.

It will be appreciated that under this sytem farmers will secure no increased return by delaying their threshing operations until the spring. In fact they will be doing a service to their fellow farmers, by making as much of their crop available now as possible. They can do so with every confidence that they will be missing nothing in the way of a possible future rise in price.

This change in circumstances makes it no longer necessary for farmers to hold their wheat in stack, as they were originally asked to do.

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#### Best Ways to Use Wheat.

##### Pig Feeding on Short Commons.

As most farmers already know, the most satisfactory way to use wheat for pigs is in rolled form. When ground to a meal it tends to become pasty on chewing and is difficult to swallow. But rolled or bruised it may safely form a quarter of the total meal allowance. The balance will have to be made up with about one-tenth "protein concentrate" and two-thirds of such cereal meals or milling by-products as can be obtained.

The farmer who grows his own oats or barley can use these. Oats, when finely ground, can safely form up to two-fifths of the ration. Ground to the fineness of "Sussex Oats" the meal is, pound for pound, almost equal in feeding value to barley meal. In fact wheat, barley, oats, maize and even dried sugar beet pulp are all more or less interchangeable.



Part of the present trouble is due to the pigman's well founded faith in that standard formula: 65:25:10 as applied respectively to barley meal, middlings and fish meal. For the time being feeding barley is not in sufficient supply to meet demand. Purchases of maize have been made but "the spot position is very short".

At the present time, therefore, pig feeders entirely dependent upon purchased food should try to make out on rolled wheat, wheat feeds and about 10 per cent. of protein concentrate, which may be partly fish meal, meat meal, or blood meal and partly some rich oilcake meal.

These difficulties will be less keenly felt where pigs are run on the mixed farm and there is tail corn to supplement millers' offals. Potatoes may also be available and 4 lb. of these boiled or steamed have the same feeding value as 1 lb. of meal.

Compared, of course, with the Nazi pig the British pig is still a gourmet. In Germany the pig from the time he is about 50 lb. live weight is limited to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of meal and must find the rest of his diet from such farm produce as potatoes, silage, roots, sugar beet tops, kale and so forth. It takes him longer to finish but he gets there in the end. In effect, the Nazi gets his fat pig a month or six weeks later than formerly, but he gets it, and it is up to us to get it too.

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### Beet Pulp to Replace Cereals.

#### How It Should Be Fed To Cattle, Sheep and Pigs.

During the coming weeks about 300,000 tons of sugar beet pulp, in its plain and molassed forms, will become available and the use of these carbohydrate foods will help to tide over difficulties that may arise from any restriction of cereal supplies.

Dried beet pulp is frequently used to replace roots in the maintenance rations, 1 lb. being equivalent to about 7 lb. of swedes or 7-8 lb. of mangolds. It is important to realise however, that it can also replace cereals in the production ration, and the following equivalents may be of use when making such replacements:-

1 lb. plain beet pulp = 1 lb. molassed beet pulp = 1 lb. oats =  
9/10 lb. wheat or barley = 4/5 lb. maize.

The farmer should decide, from a consideration of his available supplies, how much beet pulp he can afford to include in the daily food of his animals, and the complete ration should be estimated on this basis, care being taken that the diet is balanced in respect of protein and minerals. In this way saving of cereals or roots, or both, will be automatic. County Agricultural Organisers will willingly give advice on the making up of such rations should any farmer wish for such guidance.

Suitable maximum allowances of plain or sweetened pulp are:-

Fattening steers:	up to 10 lb. per head per day.
Dairy cows:	" " 8 lb. " " " "
Ewes:	" " 1 lb. " " " "
3-month-old calves:	" " 1 lb. " " " "
Pigs:	" " 1/5 of plain pulp in replacement of weatings or a mixture of equal parts of cereal and weatings (daily ration to be given in 3 feeds on account of extra bulkiness of such a diet).
Horses:	up to one-quarter of corn allowance may be replaced by plain pulp, or better still, a mixture of equal parts of the plain and sweetened types.



Poultry:

dried beet pulp is an unsatisfactory substitute for cereals in poultry feeding.

In all cases, when more than small amounts are included in farm rations, it is very desirable to soak the dried pulp in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 times its weight of water before feeding.

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#### LAND ARMY MAKES GOOD.

##### London Girls Win Praise in Cornwall.

It is encouraging to be able to record that over 1,000 members of the Women's Land Army have now got jobs. They are also making good in them, as witness the following account from Cornwall.

During the last month seven girls underwent their training at Trengwainton, Penzance, the home of Col.E.H.W.Bolitho, Lord Lieutenant of the County. They were submitted to a passing out test by a member of the Cornwall County Council who has no reputation for looking at agricultural matters through rose-coloured glasses.

He stated that the work of these girls was so good that no farmer need hesitate in employing them. Strangely enough, Cornwall's first land girls are London girls. Every credit is due to them for adapting themselves so quickly to their new work.

As has already been announced, recruits for the Land Army at Farm Institutes and Colleges are to have their training extended this winter up to two months in all. The second month's training may be given at the training centre, or preferably on a farm where, if the trainee is satisfactory, employment after training is probable. Under this 2-months scheme the Ministry will be responsible for all board and lodging and personal allowance payments while the volunteer is at the training centre. If she then goes to a farmer with a



view to subsequent employment by him, the Ministry will pay the personal allowance only. The farmer will be required to arrange the board and lodging without cost either to the Government or the trainee.

This extension of training is a temporary measure until next March and does not apply to farm training, but only to cases where training starts at a College or Institute.

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#### LABOUR AND THE LAND.

##### Calling-up Notices To Be Retarded.

In order to assist the winter ploughing-up campaign, certain arrangements have been made regarding the calling-up of agricultural workers in the 20 age-group. Mr. Ernest Brown, Minister of Labour, stated in the House of Commons on 26th October. "Men employed in agriculture who were required to register under the Military Training Act last June have been held back until November and will be called-up shortly; those who became liable under the Proclamation made on 1st October will be held back until next January."

The men concerned are those under 21 years of age. Agriculture is a reserved occupation for all farmers and farm workers over 21.

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#### EXTRA PETROL FOR FARMERS.

The temporary arrangement by which farmers can get the petrol they require for their tractors, stationary engines and other machinery actually used in farming expired on 27th October. The Ministry of Mines has announced, however, that the period will be continued until 31st December. So they will carry on as at present.



It should be noted, however, that these special arrangements do not apply to farmers' private motor cars, which are dealt with under the main rationing scheme, nor to farmers' lorries operating on carriers' licences.

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#### WAR-TIME POULTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The poultry industry, like other industries, is faced with the problem of adapting itself to the new conditions which war has brought. Changes must inevitably come: some, e.g. the necessity for increasing reliance on home-produced feedingstuffs, as well as the use of substitutes for some of those normally used, are already foreshadowed.

With these considerations in mind, the War-time Poultry Advisory Committee has been set up to act as a connecting link between the industry and the Ministry of Agriculture. Such a Committee was set up during the last War, and proved its worth during and after the war years.

The function of the Committee is, as its name implies, to advise the Ministry on those problems created by the war in connection with the poultry industry which may be referred to it and to assist in their efficient and smooth solution.

The following are the members of the Committee:-

Mr. P.A. Francis, O.B.E., the Chairman, has been the Ministry's Poultry Commissioner since 1923.

Mr. A. Arbuthnot, President of the Table Poultry Producers' Association, is a large table poultry and egg producer, and has been prominent in Hampshire in the co-operative retailing of eggs.

Mr. C.G. Belfield, directs the operations of a large-scale hatchery in Essex, possessing its own breeding farms: he is also a general farmer. He was a member of the recent Poultry Technical Committee (the Duncan Committee).



Captain S.W. Clift, twice President of the National Poultry Council and a member of the Duncan Committee. Is well known for his public work for the poultry industry.

Dr.C. Crowther, M.A., Ph.D., Principal of the Harper Adams Agricultural College, and Director of the National Institute of Poultry Husbandry, has a wide practical knowledge of the poultry industry, as well as being an acknowledged expert on animal nutrition. He also was a member of the Duncan Committee.

Mr. T. Newman is the Secretary of the Scientific Poultry Breeders' Association, and a former President of the National Poultry Council.

Mr. F. Snowden, this year's President of the National Poultry Council, is a well-known Yorkshire poultry breeder.

Mr. S. Street-Porter is the Chairman of the Poultry Committee of the National Farmers' Union, and has long been prominent in the industry.

Mr. T. Turney carries on large-scale poultry keeping very successfully as a part of general farming operations.

It is a matter of some interest that no less than five of the members were members of the Poultry Advisory Committee first set up during the last war - Capt. Clift, Dr. Crowther, and Messrs. Newman, Snowden and Street-Porter.

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. L.S. Porter, to whom any communications should be sent, at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Dept. X.A.), 83, Baker Street, London, W.1.



31.10.39

No. 7.

FOR PRESS AND BROADCAST.

The Care of Your Gas Mask.

Keep it Safe and Dry.

The coming of winter and wet weather calls for some advice to be given on the care of gas masks to those, who, not being in reception areas, carry their gas masks about with them.

It must be remembered that a gas mask can very easily be damaged by being crushed or by getting wet. It is, therefore, best kept in the cardboard carton that has been issued, but the carton needs to be protected against the wet. The best thing to do is either to carry the carton in a waterproof bag, haversack or satchel. or to obtain a cover for it, made of canvas or American Cloth or some similar material, such as can be bought, or can be made at home at trifling cost.

If no cover is used, the cardboard carton can be strengthened at the bottom joint, at the corners and the hinge of the lid with adhesive tape. The carrying cord should be threaded outside the bottom of the carton to prevent the bottom slipping loose. In rain the carton should be carried under the coat or mackintosh.

Gas masks should not be carried unprotected in soft fabric bags; the facepiece is liable to be crushed and the eye panel may easily be cracked and the gas mask is then useless.

Round tin carriers are not satisfactory if the gas mask can shake or rattle in them, or if they are so tight a fit that the mask has to be pulled hard to get it out. There are some carriers of this type in which the metal container of the mask is clipped to the lid. These are dangerous, because the facepiece may be damaged in being pushed first into the tin, while if the container is shaken out of the clips it will crush the eye panel.

Whatever form of carrier is used other objects such as purses or powder boxes must not be carried in the same compartment as the gas mask.

Workmen employed out of doors are urgently advised to hang their cartons or haversacks in a dry place and not to leave them lying on the ground. Children had better leave their masks at home when going out to play so long as they can run home quickly if an air raid warning should sound.

Gas Masks are Government property and there are penalties for damage caused by neglect; but what is emphasized even more is that the mask may at any time become vital necessity and neglect may well cost the individual much more dearly than any fine.

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY.  
31st October, 1939.



31/10/39 - No.8.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

GOVERNMENT POLICY ON EDUCATION

It is the intention of Lord De La Warr, President of the Board of Education, to make an important announcement in the House of Lords tomorrow (Wednesday) on the Government's policy on Education. Lord De La Warr will be speaking in reply to a motion by the Bishop of Winchester -- "To call attention to some of the problems arising out of the evacuation of women and children; and to move for papers."

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9  
The War Office,  
London, S.W.1.

31st October, 1939.

COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

The Officer i/c of the Army Comforts Depot, 12, St. Mary's Butts, Reading, is anxiously waiting to receive comforts of all kinds, especially knitted articles and books.

Individual donors are requested to despatch articles when completed, and not to wait until a number of articles are collected before they send them to the Depot.

Voluntary Organisations are also requested to despatch parcels at regular intervals, and not to wait for collection of large consignments before doing so.

All parcels should be addressed to:-

The Officer  
i/c Army Comforts Depot,  
12, St. Mary's Butts,  
Reading.

Gift of 1,000,000 Cigarettes from the Citizens of  
Johannesburg.

The Mayor of Johannesburg is raising a fund which is devoted to the provision of comforts for the troops with the B.E.F.

An order has already been placed with two leading tobacco firms in London for the provision of 1,000,000 cigarettes and these have already been despatched.

Every soldier serving with the B.E.F., will know when he receives his gift that it has been provided through the generosity of his fellow citizens of our Empire in Johannesburg, South Africa, who by the spontaneous response which they have made to the appeal of the Mayor or have been instrumental in supplying a source of comfort to the men of the Army who are experiencing at the present time the rigours of a fast approaching winter.



10  
The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

31st October, 1939.

MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

The War Office announces that His Majesty The King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel (honorary Colonel) W.H. Hammond, V.D., J.P., The Bombay Contingent, Auxiliary Force (India), as Aide-de-Camp to The King (Additional), with effect from the 21st July, 1939, in succession to Lieutenant-Colonel (honorary Colonel) C.G. Smith, O.B.E., V.D., General List, Auxiliary Force (India), who has resigned his commission.



11

The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

31st October, 1939.

The War Office makes the following announcement:-

A new office set up by the War Office shortly after the outbreak of war is dealing with claims for compensation for vehicles which have been impressed for Army transport by owners who are dissatisfied with the figure assessed by the Impressment Officer. The branch is the "Appeals Adjustment Office" of the Chief Inspector of Supplementary Transport, at present situated at Regents Park Barracks, Albany Street, London, N.W.1. and it is engaged in reviewing the compensation in all cases in which the original assessment has been disputed.

It may be pointed out that while the owner of an impressed vehicle has the right to have the price fixed by a County Court Judge it is equally open to him to settle the matter by agreement and where this can be done it is the more expeditious method.

The impressment receipt given at the time the vehicle is taken contains the figure at which the value has been assessed by the impressment officer. He makes every effort to arrive at a fair assessment, but this work is necessarily done under great pressure owing to the number of vehicles which have to be impressed in a short time; moreover the subsequent production of documents not available at the moment, such as original invoices showing the cost and date of purchase may disclose facts justifying an increase on the original figure.

If the owner is not satisfied with the figure in the impressment receipt he must within three weeks of the assessment give notice in writing to the War Department that he disputes

the assessment: /



the assessment: this has the effect of preserving all his rights. The matter is then referred to the Appeals adjustment Office, mentioned above, which will examine the case in the light of all the facts and will take into consideration any representations made by the owner. If the Office comes to the conclusion that a figure higher than that in the impressment receipt is justified the offer of such increased figure will be made to the owner. If it is found impossible to agree on a figure the Office will give notice to the owner that no further payment will be made except under the certificate of a County Court Judge, and it is not till the receipt of this notice that it can be necessary for the owner to apply to the County Court Judge, which must be done within three weeks from the receipt of that notice. It should be emphasized that the functions of the Appeals Adjustment Office are limited to arriving at a fair figure to be offered to the owner; negotiation with the Office in no way prejudices the right of the owner to apply to the County Court Judge if he is dissatisfied with that offer.

If owners are willing to follow the procedure outlined above, it is believed that they will find the result satisfactory. In the vast majority of cases it should be possible to arrive at a figure acceptable to both parties without the delay and expense to the owner necessarily attendant on an application to the County Court Judge. In addition to this advantage to the owner, unnecessary applications to the County Court Judge involve the War Department in much additional work and it is scarcely necessary to point out that the national interest demands that this should as far as reasonably possible be avoided in the present time of emergency.



MINISTRY OF LABOUR

6.15.P.M. TUESDAY, 31ST.  
OCTOBER, 1939. No.12.-31/10/39

PRESS NOTICE

THE INDUSTRIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE WAR.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service announces that the Rt. Hon. Ernest Brown, M.C., M.P. Minister of Labour and National Service is broadcasting at 6.15.p.m. to-day (Tuesday, 31st. October, 1939) in the B.B.C. Home Service. The following advance notes are circulated for the convenience of the Press but there is no guarantee that the text will be strictly adhered to:-

"When I last spoke to you my subject was the registration of men for service in the fighting forces, the men who on land and sea and in the air will defend our liberties and assure the freedom of posterity. Behind these steadily growing forces there must be the organisation of all our resources, human, financial and material, for the generous equipment of those forces and for the maintenance of the life of our population. It is of that effort that I now wish to speak.

As a great industrial country we had already huge resources of skill and plant and, to these, great additions have been made, and are being made so that there will be no doubt that, whatever the effort required, this country will be able to meet all the demands which will be made upon it. We have to work not only for the production of those things necessary for the prosecution of the war but also for the production of goods for export in order that we may relieve the financial strain which the war places on our economy and that we may maintain our place as an exporting country, ready again to engage in peaceful trade and commerce.

This is a formidable task but we have entered upon it with an asset which our opponent does not possess, the asset of being a free people with free institutions. It is a remarkable fact, of which we are proud, that we were able to enter upon the war without imposing any new form of legislative control upon the regulation of wages and working conditions. During the past twenty years we have been steadily setting up in each industry joint machinery through which the representatives of employers and workpeople manage the affairs of their industries and settle their own conditions. As I speak, this joint machinery is operating to adapt those conditions to war circumstances. In the fight for freedom we have the inestimable gain of fighting with the aid of free organisations of employers and workpeople carrying on their work in the way they have themselves decided.

The powerful trade union movement in Great Britain is convinced that the war is against forces that threaten those institutions, that endanger the liberty of workpeople throughout the world. They believe that its object is to create circumstances in which their fellows in Germany will be able to regain the freedom to live their own lives and to have again their own free organisations. Thus, although they have serious differences with the Government on matters of internal policy, they are united with us in the prosecution of the war. They are prepared to make great sacrifices because they believe that their own freedom is bound up with the restoration of the freedom of workers in Germany and in the countries which Germany, under the Nazi Government has put into subjection. They have made it clear that they would not support the war for any other object. The trade union point of view was expressed by Mr. Greenwood in the House of Commons in the following words: "Those for whom I can specially speak are fighting for a world in which henceforth law shall rule instead of force. We do not want increased power for Britain in the world. We want no new lands".

Co-operation with the Government, as the trade unions understand it is not the surrender of any of their rights or duties to safeguard the interests of the workpeople. They understand it to be the full recognition of the experience and knowledge which they have and its full use in co-operation with employers and the Government. There are those who, with a lower sense of responsibility and with a less far-sighted view of the real interests of our free trade union organisation,



look upon the present circumstances as a means for immediate gains and criticise the leaders who have had the courage to take their stand with the Government in the organisation of the country's resources, knowing that in this they not only interpret rightly the heart of our workpeople but also are safeguarding their best interests.

Tomorrow afternoon there will take place the first meeting of a National Joint Advisory Council to which the Trades Union Congress General Council, and the British Employers' Confederation have appointed representatives. These representatives will be in touch with all industries and when I say that the industries directly represented on one side or the other are Agriculture, Cotton, Wool, Shipping, Engineering, Shipbuilding, Steel, Railways, Clothing, Building, Civil Engineering and Retail Distribution it will be seen how great is the knowledge which is placed at the disposal of the Government. It is not intended, however, that the Council shall interfere in any way with the joint arrangements in each industry. Its purpose is to advise the Government on questions in which employers and workers have a common interest.

Every industry has had to face special problems arising out of the war situation and I should like to refer to some of them. In the last war, when industrial joint machinery was not so developed as it is to-day, there was great difficulty in regard to the problem of using skilled men in engineering to the greatest advantage by enabling others to share in their work. On this occasion the skilled trade unions have voluntarily entered <sup>in</sup> agreements to allow less skilled workers to work by their side on work so far carried out only by skilled men. A register will be kept of such cases in order that when peace conditions return, the position of skilled men will not be prejudiced. It is right that those who prepare themselves by long training for skilled work should have such protection in respect of action which adds so much to the potential capacity of the industry and to its production. It is to be noted that this has not required any measure of compulsion and is the result of voluntary action.

Difficult problems have arisen in regard to road transport which have been dealt with successfully by discussions between the undertakings and the unions. Here I should like to pay a tribute to railway and road transport workers who are carrying on their work in most difficult and novel circumstances made necessary by defence requirements. The diversion of ships to other ports made it desirable to make arrangements by which dockers from one port could be made available without delay at another. Here again a scheme was agreed between the employers, the trade unions and the Government which rests entirely on a voluntary basis. In our Fishing Industry discussions are taking place between the Government, employers and trade unions in order that the needs for defence and of the industry may be equitably met. In the Cotton industry there is a Control Board upon which both employers and workpeople are represented. In the Coal Industry the mineowners and the trade unions have a Joint Committee for the discussion of questions of production and other matters in the interest both of the country and of the industry.

In order that the Great Government Departments may have the advice of labour representatives, Consultative Committees are being formed and representation given on Committees in respect of such Departments as the Ministry of Supply, Air Ministry and Ministry of Food. This follows discussions with the Prime Minister who has expressed the desire that every possible opportunity shall be given for the utilisation of the special experience and knowledge of the trade union movement. In the Building Industry a Joint Consultative Committee, on which the employers' and workers' organisations are represented has for some time been assisting in the consideration of our huge building programme. In such matters as laundering and boot-repairing for the Forces, discussions have taken place with the organisations concerned with a view to the economical and effective use of all resources.

Great movements of workpeople into new occupations are necessary and arrangements are being made for their voluntary transfer and training. Effective measures are also being taken to keep the fighting forces



supplied with the large complements of skilled men necessary in a modern mechanised army. These matters involve the closest collaboration with industrial organisations and their help and advice has been willingly given.

In order to avoid the waste of the last war, a list of key occupations has been compiled in order that men in such occupations shall not be taken from industry unless required in the Forces for the work in which they are skilled. This will assure as far as possible that industry is kept fully manned to produce munitions and to maintain the life of the nation and also that, when the war is over, industry generally will have a basis for reconstruction and expansion.

It is necessary, in order that the maximum shipping space may be available for other necessary goods, that the production of agriculture shall be increased and many plans are under consideration. The Minister of Agriculture is assisted by a joint committee of farmers and trade union representatives in the consideration of these plans and it is satisfactory to see that the interests of the agricultural workers are receiving the attention to which the value of their work entitles them. To the women who have come forward in large numbers to assist we owe a debt of gratitude.

It is impossible for me in the short time available to refer to all the splendid and exacting work which is being done in so many fields but I wish to refer to the seamen who occupy so proud and vital a place in our national life. They, with the fisherman, face hourly by night and by day, the worst the enemy can do and we know that they will see us through to the end. It is for us to see that their place is fully recognised and that all that is possible is done to protect them and to see to their well being.

Throughout the country we see men and women working long and strenuous hours, often far from their own homes, in their determination that they will make a full contribution to our national effort. It is necessary that there shall be proper time for rest and recreation and that full regard is had to human requirements. For this we can safely rely upon their representatives. We have to make the most of our resources and we cannot yet see how great will be the sacrifices that every section of the community will be called upon to make before a pitiless enemy is overcome. Whatever may be the temporary sacrifices, we know that all that is being done is for the purpose of saving for ourselves and posterity all that we hold most dear. Self-seeking is out of place in such a struggle and must be sternly dealt with. We owe to our workpeople who are playing so great a part the duty of seeing to it that sacrifices must be equally distributed and justice done to all.

I must say one word to the mothers and wives of our workpeople. Many of you, unfortunately, are separated from your children, many from your husbands also. You will, I know, as British women continue to be the home-makers and the comforters. We fight that we may preserve our family life and that we may resume again our work to make that life secure and happy.

When the story of the industrial effort of these recent years is told by the historian it will be an epic. After seven years experience it is my conviction that a political Minister for industrial affairs is wise to keep in the background and rarely to obtrude himself. I cannot, however, conclude this talk without saying to all who have helped us at the Ministry of Labour in these recent years - employers, trade union leaders, managers and workers: "Thank you".

Issued through the Press and Censorship Bureau.



31/10/39. - No.13.

BOARD OF TRADE ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Board of trade announce that on and after November 1st applications for licences to export any classes of cotton goods on the List of Export Prohibitions, namely,

Raw cotton, cotton linters and pulp or board made therefrom and cotton waste, including those containing other materials;

Cotton yarns, including those containing other materials;

Absorbent cotton and cotton wadding;

should be addressed to the Cotton Board, Midland Bank Buildings, Spring Gardens, Manchester 2, the envelope being marked "Export Licence Application". The applications will be examined by the Cotton Board who will forward them to the Export Licensing Department of the Board of Trade, who are responsible for the grant or refusal of the licence. Traders who have already made applications for export licences should not reapply to the Cotton Board under this arrangement.

Board of Trade,

31st October, 1939.



14  
Issued through the Press & Censorship Bureau.

BLACKOUT AND MUNITIONS.

Artificial Light May Increase Output.

Speedy and successful conclusion of the war depends largely upon British industry making a supreme effort to supply and anticipate the needs of the Fighting Forces. Effective co-ordination of this effort is a function of the Ministry of Supply, and the entire resources of modern scientific knowledge have been mobilised to ensure maximum production in vital factories, 24 hours a day.

x x x

The blackout, however, applies just as much to factories as to homes, and the loss of daylight due to the obscuration of factory rooflights and windows, might result in a serious threat to industrial efficiency if active steps were not taken to counter it.

Realising that clear, quick vision is essential to works efficiency, the Ministry of Supply has brought to the notice of all essential industries, two effective measures for maintaining output at its peak.

x x x

In those factories where very fine detail work is carried on, or where daylight illumination is essential to the process, it is recommended that a suitable type of moveable shuttering should be employed, which can be slid or hinged back from rooflights during daytime. Already many ingenious and effective systems of moveable shuttering are available, and full details of these have been circulated by the Ministry.

x x x



This first solution, however, on account of cost, and the time taken to supply and erect the equipment, has only a limited application. For the majority of factories improved standards of artificial lighting are recommended, so that production may be maintained at a constant high level independently of daylight.

x      x      x

In spite of a widely-held view to the contrary, there is no hardship in working in artificial light continuously, provided that the illumination is properly controlled and adequate in amount.

Thousands of workers in large stores, offices and Tubes have worked for years without detriment under such conditions, and there is no reason why other workers should react any differently.

In the United States daylight is deliberately excluded from many modern factories because a good standard of artificial light has been found to be better than fluctuating daylight.

From data to hand, the Ministry is able to advise works executives that the compulsory use of artificial light all day may actually increase, rather than reduce production if the lighting system is carefully planned to suit the process and care is taken to maintain good ventilation.

The science of illumination has progressed so rapidly in recent years, that few have been able to keep pace with it; it is no longer a second-rate substitute for daylight, but can provide infinitely more constant and effective working facilities, day in, and day out.

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY,  
PRESS OFFICE.



15

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY.

PRESS NOTICE.

LEATHER CONTROL.

The Minister of Supply has issued an Order, known as the Control of Hides and Skins (No.5) Order, 1939, and operative from 31st October, 1939, varying the maximum prices, as fixed by the Control of Hides and Skins (No.4. Order) which may be paid for native hides and skins in the United Kingdom.

The Minister of Supply has also issued an order known as the Control of Leather (No.1) Order, 1939 and operative from 1st November, 1939, prohibiting the sale, disposal or cutting of certain specified classes of leather except under licence.

Copies of these Orders may be purchased from H.M.Stationery Office, or through any bookseller.

Issued through the Press and Censorship Bureau,  
31st October, 1939.

Ministry of Supply,  
Adelphi,  
W.C.2.



WAR OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT.

The War Office announces that in spite of the War Office statement issued on October 20th, in which the German allegations that Great Britain had supplied poison gas to Poland were categorically denied for the third time, the German Government continues to circulate in neutral countries by pamphlet and wireless repetitions and elaborations of the same baseless charge.

Since October 20th, the Polish Government have also issued a categorical denial that poison gas was ever supplied in any form by Great Britain to Poland; and the Swiss doctor, who examined the German soldiers alleged to be the victims of British poison gas in Poland, has declared in an interview on October 23rd that he "found no evidence indicating in what circumstances the poisoning had occurred," and that he had, at the time, "feared that his statement would be misused for anti-British propaganda."

The justification put forward by the German Government for repeating their charges is that what they call "a laconic answer" is no sufficient rebuttal of what they claim to be a "charge proved by circumstantial evidence." This so-called "circumstantial evidence" consists of the following assertions:-

1. That large dumps of mustard gas mines were found at or near OXHOEFT, in the vicinity of GDYNIA, and were stored "among the war material supplied by Britain."
2. That Polish dockers admit having unloaded at night, "shortly before the war", all the material found in these dumps.
3. That mustard gas mines and shells discovered near various towns in Poland were accounted for on "delivery forms" showing that they had been distributed from the dump at OXHOEFT mentioned above.

Thus the sole connexion between Great Britain and the poison gas alleged to have been found anywhere in Poland is that this gas came from the OXHOEFT dump, and that this dump had been filled from British ships.



The following is therefore a further reply to this charge. It is still necessarily "laconic", but none the less complete.

The Board of Trade, through the system of export licences for war materials, maintains the strictest control and a complete record of all exports of munitions.

A detailed examination of these records and of every possible source of supply shows that nothing of the kind has at any time been sent to Poland.

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THE WAR OFFICE,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.



INDIA'S MAN-POWER

TWO SCHEMES FOR RECRUITMENT

Classes and communities which are not at present represented in the regular Indian Army, or are only represented in small numbers, will be provided with opportunities for service as a result of the Government of India's decision to extend the Indian Territorial Force.

The Government of India have also decided to introduce forthwith a Recruit Registration Scheme for the regular Indian Army. In the first instance the numbers under this scheme are limited to 25,000. Registration is entirely voluntary but men coming up for registration will be treated exactly in the same way as if they were being recruited into the Army. After being found fit and otherwise suitable, they will be registered, given a certificate and sent back to their homes to await calling-up, which may not be for some time.

The Government of India have been most gratified at the spontaneous offers of immediate service received from all quarters. It has not been possible to accept all these offers at once and in order to allay disappointment, the Government of India state that there is every desire and intention to provide adequate opportunities for those who wish to serve, but that any hurried expansion would be unwise, until developments indicate more clearly the extent of expansion which may be necessary and possible and the most suitable form.

Those who have offered their services and the public generally, are asked to remember that in the early days of war in 1914 there was no great intake of recruits for the Indian Army. It was not until the middle of 1915 that the situation demanded that Government should call for large numbers of recruits. Thereafter, year by year, requirements gradually but steadily increased.



EMPIRE SECTION.

31/10/39 - No.18.

WAR-TIME AGRICULTURE IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Farmers in Southern Rhodesia are determined to do their utmost to increase agricultural output for the benefit of the Empire's war effort. At a special congress in Salisbury, the capital of the Colony, all farming interests were represented to discuss the war-time policy to be pursued by agriculturalists.

The chief features of a series of resolutions unanimously adopted by this congress were the necessity for the early institution of general conscription and for the distribution of adequate man-power to agriculture.

It was stated at the congress by Captain the Hon. F.G. Harris, Minister of Agriculture, that in respect of increased production the Southern Rhodesian Government was still awaiting a reply from the British Government. But he assured qualified tobacco growers that they could plant full acreages, for which markets were practically certain, and further stated that Britain could take all the meat which the Colony could supply. Captain Harris urged the farmers to continue as far as possible to "buy British."

ISSUED THROUGH THE PRESS BUREAU.



EMPIRE SECTION

31/10/39 - No.19.

S. RHODESIA CALLS UP MORE MEN.

More men in Southern Rhodesia will shortly be called up to undergo training at camps at Salisbury and Buluwayo.

ISSUED THROUGH THE PRESS BUREAU.



MEM. TO SUB-EDITORS

... As this script is being issued in advance, it is necessary to check it against the actual broadcasting at 9.15 this (Tuesday) evening, on 391 and 449 metres.

RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION AFTER  
9.30pm ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31. 1939.

B.B.C. ANNOUNCEMENT

"IN CONVOY"

TALK BROADCAST BY A NAVAL EYE WITNESS

The B.B.C. announces that a Naval eye-witness broadcast the following talk, entitled "In Convoy", in the B.B.C. Home Service programme at 9.15 this (Tuesday) evening:-

"About eight o'clock last Saturday morning we were on the bridge of an escort vessel which was about to take charge of a Southbound convoy at a Northern base.

"There wasn't much to look at, because there was a freezing fog and we were moving through a grey formless world with the dim forms of ships sliding past and vanishing, and men moving about like shadows in the half light.

"The gun crews were all closed up at their guns. They had no protection from the wind and theirs was a bitterly cold job, even with all the clothes a man could wear and a balaclava helmet and the scarf his girl knitted wound three or four times round his neck. They stamped up and down and tried to get a bit of shelter in the lee of the gun shields.

"It would be warmer presently when the sun got up. Already there were gleams through the mist and a coppery sheen on the water. Then it appeared, a red disc without much warmth yet, but vaguely comforting. There was a pleasant smell of bacon frying somewhere.

"We were out in the North Sea now and the ship was lifting to a slight swell. The convoy stretched away behind us, ships of every size and shape and cargo: British and French ships, ships with funnels in the middle and ships with funnels in the stern; with sloping derricks and upright derricks; loaded to the hatches or light, with propellor blades thrashing the surface of the water. Their smoke went trailing away on the light wind in black wriggling lines.



"All this time the escort ships were moving about on the flanks of the column. Occasionally one went off at high speed to investigate a submarine report, and after nosing about like a pointer for a quarter of an hour came racing back to her station.

"And so the day wore on. Occasionally we passed a tiny fishing vessel, and contemplating her "in the midst of so many and great dangers" one no longer wondered why fish is a bit scarce ashore.

"Well, the haze cleared presently to a bright sunny day; the day faded to dusk; the dusk to starlit night. The Captain had not left the bridge or sat down since leaving harbour. Occasionally he remembered to light his pipe. The watches were relieved: the new look-outs reported they were closed up. "Very good" was the curt reply. The voice of the quartermaster taking over came up the voice pipe reporting the course and speed. "Very good."

"It is in the darkness, when the forms of the men are outlined against the faintly luminous sky that one becomes most conscious of the intense alertness of the bridge. In daylight events distract the eye. But at night these motionless upright forms staring out through the glasses into the darkness make you aware of only one thing - the most intensive vigilance of which men are capable.

"Down below it was the reverse. The watch below had turned in. The ventilating fans made a sort of purring sound: there was a faint sighing of water past the ship's side. The shaded lights shown on the rows of hammocks, and here and there a man's face was lit up. The men were fast asleep; and in each sleeping face there was a profound tranquillity and trustfulness. They might have been a thousand miles from war and alarms.

(Contd.)



"Some time during the night the Captain snatched two or three hours' sleep; another convoy joined up in the darkness, shepherded by its escort into line astern. In the dawn they were there, ship after ship melting away into the grey haze.

"One of the escort swerved off to seaward and investigated a globular floating object. There was a chatter from her Lewis gun and the object disappeared. Floating mines detached from their moorings are supposed to be safe, by International Law; all the same, the German ones are better on the bottom than afloat. The sun rose and the Captain was still on the compass platform. The look-outs had now not only the sea to watch but the sky as well. One man spent his time watching the sun through a square of tinted glass. It is usually out of the sun that attacks come. The sea was grey like pewter with little pools of brilliance, and the convoy stood out quite black against them.

"About ten, one of the escort far away astern opened fire with her anti-aircraft gun, and our alarm bells began a furious jangling all through the ship. Miles away in the clouds to the North-eastward an enemy reconnaissance machine had been sighted, shadowing us. The guns were loaded; we exchanged our caps for shrapnel helmets. They make your head ache after a bit, but it is astonishing how much moral support they give one.

"The vigilance on the bridge became even more intensified. At intervals one of the escort astern loosed off a few rounds at the enemy, which were no more than little specks seen for an instant and then disappearing in the clouds."

(Contd.)



"The cook appeared on the bridge wearing a shrapnel helmet and a rather worried expression. The dinners are all in the oven - good hot dinners spoiling. Nobody had thought about dinner till that moment, then everybody realised they were starving. Sandwiches. Can he cut sandwiches? Hundreds of them? He can. Very good.

"Sounds of aircraft somewhere, and firing. The cook reappeared carrying a tray piled with enormous corned beef sandwiches. Like all Naval Cooks he is a magician. But he still looked worried, thinking about those lovely hot dinners that no one will eat. Everybody munched, with their eyes on the clouds. The loading number of the foremost anti-aircraft gun had a bit of difficulty with his sandwich and the projectile he was clasping in his arms.

"One of the look-outs suddenly shouted: "Ship bearing red one O, Sir" - that meant that he had sighted a ship bearing very fine on the port bow. It was the leading escort of another convoy coming out of the mist to the Southward. There was a curious arch of cloud and fog stretching north and south and enveloping the land. To seaward there was blue sky and extreme visibility - eight or nine miles, perhaps. The leading ship of the convoy we'd sighted passed quite close. Somebody on the bridge waved his cap. Ten minutes later our own look-out shouted:

"PLANE RIGHT AHEAD, SIR!"

"THREE PLANES! "

"THEY'RE DIVING FOR US!"

"Then things happened awfully quickly. Our foremost guns opened fire with a roar that drowned everything.

(Contd.)



The muzzles were elevated almost at the level of the bridge and yellow flashes sprang out, obliterating the shapes of the German bombing machines swooping over the convoy. The sea leaped up in columns where a few bombs dropped; one had an instantaneous impression of the surface of the water spurting under the hail of machine gun bullets and falling fragments of shell, of orders shouted through the din of firing, flashes of guns in the smoke, the ship shuddering from the recoil; and suddenly it was over. The enemy vanished into the mist. No ship had been hit; nobody was hurt. The cook suddenly reappeared with his tray of gigantic sandwiches; we discovered again that we were ravenously hungry. Parallel to the distant coast where we were steaming, the sea was bathed in sunshine - apple green to the westward, and blue to the east. The mist had rolled back over the land and hung like a wall, the colour of a purple grape. It was pleasant to exchange one's helmet for a cap and relax and smoke a cigarette. The cook reappeared with a kettle of hot sweet tea. He ~~had evidently resigned himself to his dinners being spoiled,~~ and looked happier.

"The Look-out reported an object on the bow, and presently we could make it out - a derelict ship's boat - we knew someone had been in trouble to the southwards.

"Then the look-out gave tongue again. Enemy sea-planes this time, far away to the southward. There were sounds of distant firing to the northward. Evidently another convoy was coming in for its share of excitement. The sea-planes emerged from a cloud valley and came swooping towards us.

"All the guns began to fire, throwing a barrage of little black puffs in the path of the sea-planes. They banked steeply and took refuge in the clouds.

(Contd).



"The other convoy, somewhere below the horizon, said it had beaten off a heavy attack without any casualties to the convoy. 'Very good,' says the Captain, watching the smoke of the barrage slowly dispersing. He had his hands in his pockets and his pipe in his mouth.

"The sea-planes reappeared, and this time they looked as if they meant business. Again the blue sky was dotted with black toadstools of smoke and again they swerved away. Suddenly there was a shout of 'Fighters!' and out from the land came a squadron of British fighting planes. They flashed over our heads at three hundred miles an hour. Our gun's crews cheered them as they passed us like a swarm of infuriated wasps. The enemy sea-planes had vanished into a cloud and the fighters dived into it in pursuit. They all disappeared. One of the escort went off to investigate a report of an enemy sea-plane which had been shot down somewhere out of sight. The sun began to decline towards the land, throwing the convoy into hard relief; an escort vessel went down the line, hailing through a megaphone. None of our charges had been scratched. Not a ship lost her bearing or altered course a degree during the attack. In some indefinable way they all looked rather pleased with themselves; like perfect ladies who had passed through a pot house brawl without blinking an eye-lid.

"A cat with a red collar suddenly appeared, chasing a potato round the upper deck. It got tired of that in a little while and went to sleep in the arms of one of the fire-party.

"The sun sank in a great blaze of golden fire. The indefatigable cook arrived with more sandwiches, jam sandwiches this time, and more hot tea. The men had been closed up at their guns and posts for six hours. The captain had been standing by the compass for twelve hours. He



gulped a cup of tea and sent down his baccy pouch to be refilled.

"The wind freshened and there was a chilly nip in the air. Dusk again and the guns' crews began passing oily cloths on the end of a rammer through the guns. Soon it was dark again. Part of the watch went below for supper.

"There was a bright moon and the Captain grumbled at it; a little apologetically because it was the same moon that had shone for him over gardens in the dew and sea trout rivers, and the pleasant things of peace.

"In war it might mean a night attack on the convoy.

"Actually, the night passed fairly peacefully. In the early morning light the sea became a dirty greenish yellow, with a little steep swell; we were among the shoals where no submarine and no surface ship could attack. An aerial escort took over, and our task was done.

"The windows of the houses ashore were blinking like heliographs in the sun as we turned away from the convoy. The rest of the escort formed up astern of us.

"In the mouth of the harbour we met an examination vessel.

"The Captain was still on the compass platform with his hands in his pockets. He had at last got tired of his pipe. He bent to the voice pipe and gave the orders for altering course, and each order was repeated by the coxswain at the wheel. His deep voice came back each time from the mouth-piece, very solemn, like the answers to a litany:

'Starboard Ten!

'Midships!

'Steady!'"



FOR PRESS AND BROADCAST.

The design of the armlet which is to be worn by ministers of religion who have to move about the streets under air raid conditions has now been approved. It consists of a band of Royal Air Force blue cloth four inches wide, with the letters A.R.P. embroidered in red silk and, below the lettering, a Cross embroidered in white silk.

A circular letter issued to local authorities by the Ministry of Home Security says, - "The church authorities have made their own arrangements for the supply of armlets of the approved pattern to those of their ministers who require them. The privilege which the wearing of the armlet is intended to confer is that of liberty of movement whilst air raids are in progress for the purpose of attending casualties and ministering to those in need. Those ministers who are detailed by their Churches for work amongst the injured will wear steel helmets and will be equipped with respirators, facilities for the purchase of which are being accorded to the church authorities, but the helmets will not bear any distinctive mark and the armlet will be the sole badge of recognition."

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY.



MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT.WHEAT PRICES.

The Wheat (Prices) Order, which is to come into force on the 3rd November, makes provision for three distinct matters. In the first place it fixes a uniform price of 31/6d per quarter (of 504 lbs) for any millable wheat sold by a grower registered under the Wheat Acts. This price is 7/6d higher than the price at which flour mills were purchasing English wheat until recently.

Secondly, the Order specifies the maximum price at which wheat, which is used for animal feeding as well as for flour milling, may be sold by any person other than a registered grower in lots of 18 quarters (approximately 4 tons) and upwards. This price is 32/3d per quarter. A scale of permissive additional charges is provided for sales in smaller lots. For example, 9d per quarter extra may be charged when a lot of between nine and eighteen quarters is sold and 1/- per quarter, i.e. an additional 3d per quarter, for lots of between four quarters and nine quarters. Following the parallel of the Feeding Stuffs (Maximum Prices) Order there are permitted maximum additions when wheat is taken into and delivered out of store.

Thirdly, a maximum price is prescribed for non-millable wheat, a term which includes damaged wheat only fit for the preparation of feeding stuffs as well as "tailings". The permissive additional charges apply to non-millable wheat also.

The prescribed prices are for net cash, an extra charge for credit being permitted on condition that the discount for cash is shown on the invoice. Transport charges and the customary sack charges are for the buyer's account, as hitherto. It should be noted that the Order does not affect the general provisions of the Wheat Acts, which remain in force.

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31st October, 1939.



31/10/39. - No 23.

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY.

Press Notice.

IRON AND STEEL CONTROL

The Minister of Supply has made the Control of Iron and Steel (No.4) Order 1939, dated 31st October, to operate as from 1st November.

This Order fixes new prices for iron and steel products. The prices in operation prior to the outbreak of war for the main range of products had been fixed by the British Iron and Steel Federation with the approval of the Import Duties Advisory Committee until 31st October, and they were continued at their pre-war level by the original Order made by the Minister of Supply dated 1st September and the Control of Iron and Steel (No.2) Order dated 22nd September.

The new prices take account of the increased costs of the principal imported raw materials including the higher freight charges now in operation. The effect of the Order is to increase the prices of billets and heavy steel by £1 per ton, with corresponding adjustments in the prices of finished products.

The Order also brings within the Schedule of maximum <sup>prices</sup>/home iron ore and a number of iron and steel products not hitherto covered by the statutory control.

In the case of home iron ore the maximum prices fixed are based on those at present in operation. The prices of those iron and steel products not hitherto included are generally on the same basis as those of the main range of products already controlled.

Under the Direction attached to the new Order pig iron as well as high speed steel has been excepted from the various exemptions from licences and therefore in every case a licence is required.

Copies of the Order may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, or through any bookseller.

ISSUED THROUGH THE PRESS AND CENSORSHIP BUREAU

Ministry of Supply,  
Adelphi, W.C.2.



31.10.39 - No.24.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE (EVENING).

Between the Moselle and the Saar marked activity, raids, and patrols.

In the course of the many flights made during 30th October a German reconnoitring bi-motor was brought down in our lines: two enemy observation 'planes fell out of control in the German lines on the Saar front. All the French 'planes returned to their bases.

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31/10/39 - No. 25.

AIR MINISTRY BULLETIN

GERMAN BOMBER SHOT DOWN BY R.A.F. IN FRANCE

The Air Ministry announces:-

Yesterday British fighters had their first opportunity to engage German bombers over French territory. Two enemy machines were observed flying high and they were attacked by our fighters.

One of the raiders, a Dornier was shot down. The other made off in the clouds.

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31/10/39 - No. 26.

NAZI AIRCRAFT ATTACK CONVOY.

The Admiralty and Air Ministry announce:-

An enemy seaplane was seen by an R.A.F. aircraft off the Norfolk coast this morning. After a short engagement at close range the enemy aircraft broke off the combat and flew in an easterly direction.

Shortly afterwards a German seaplane of the same type attempted to attack a British Convoy some miles to the north. It was driven off by aircraft and by fire from the naval escort accompanying the Convoy. Before flying away to the eastward the raider appeared to drop two bombs but no damage was done.

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FROM AIR AFFAIRS.