

Washington, D. C., Feb. 12.—Senator Rufus Holman has introduced a bill creating the office of mineral production administrator as a division of the department of the interior. With the approval of the interior secretary, and when such action is deemed advisable in the interest of successful prosecution of wars in which the United States is now engaged, the administrator is authorized to subsidize the mining, production, refining or beneficiation of any strategic mineral or critical metal by any person engaged in the operating of a mining property which cannot be operated with a reasonable profit without a subsidy.

Introduction of the measure was caused by the delay of the Defense Plant corporation in assisting in the production of metals required for the war, such as chromite, copper, zinc, etc. The senator says that inasmuch as the government is neglecting to increase the metals, and outside sources are being cut off by Japanese activity, he believes a complete new set-up should be established. If enacted, the measure would be of immense value to the mining industry of the far west where there are many properties which cannot pro-

duce metals at current price ceilings.

An Oregon man has written to the war department inquiring whether the department is in the market for shark oil. He explained that shark oil does not freeze and that it might be a good thing in the motor of bombers which fly several miles high where the temperature is far below zero. The war department was not interested; told him to inquire elsewhere.

Answering complaints of a shortage of agricultural labor in Oregon, head of the selective service denies that it is due to farm boys being drafted. Making a survey of Deschutes, Umatilla, Multnomah and other counties, General Hershey shows that about 10 percent of the young men inducted into the service have had some agricultural connection. He attributes the shortage to the high wages paid in shipyards and other war industries and to voluntary enlistments. He gives it as

his opinion that there is still all the farm labor necessary in Oregon if wages are right. To attract labor to the farms, he declares, there should be a minimum wage of \$50 a month and "found."

Unless office of civilian defense change its rule there is not a community in the northwest to which fire equipment will be allocated for extinguishing incendiary bombs if the population is less than 5000. Starting at 5000, the larger the city the more the fire apparatus, gas masks and steel helmets to be distributed. No provision is made for the scores of towns and villages which are as exposed to an air raid as is Portland. However, some protection is provided against forest fires in an amendment to priorities bill offered by Senator McNary. The American Forestry association, which includes all the private timber owners in the northwest, is concerned about incendiary fires in the forests. The McNary amendment authorizes the president to use the manpower

of CCC camps to patrol municipal water systems, generating systems and other public utilities against the hazards of forest fires.

Inside story of why congress voted one half billion dollars for China without a dissenting vote is that is the price taxpayers must pay for the speech made by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox to mayors on January 12. Secretary Knox, who says he was misunderstood, told the mayors that Hitler must first be disposed of before attention could be given to the Japanese. Chinese officials began talking of peace with Japan, saying they could not continue fighting unless aid came from the United States and Great Britain, and Pacific coast delegations roared that the west coast must not be neglected while AEF is chasing Germans. The Chinese are supposed to have been placated by loan of this money; the west coast legislators are not.

To prevent any more "misunderstanding" of speeches Archibald Mc-

Leish, librarian of congress and administrator of office of facts and figures, has been directed by the White House to scan all speeches of top-flight officials before they are delivered. Censorship is something new for cabinet members.

Senator Holman is one of a subcommittee of military affairs committee which has been appointed to investigate the allegation that incompetent army officers are promoted instead of being dismissed from the service. The practice of the senate voting en bloc on long lists of promotions will be suspended while this subcommittee does a little browsing around to determine whether each proposed promotion is justified.

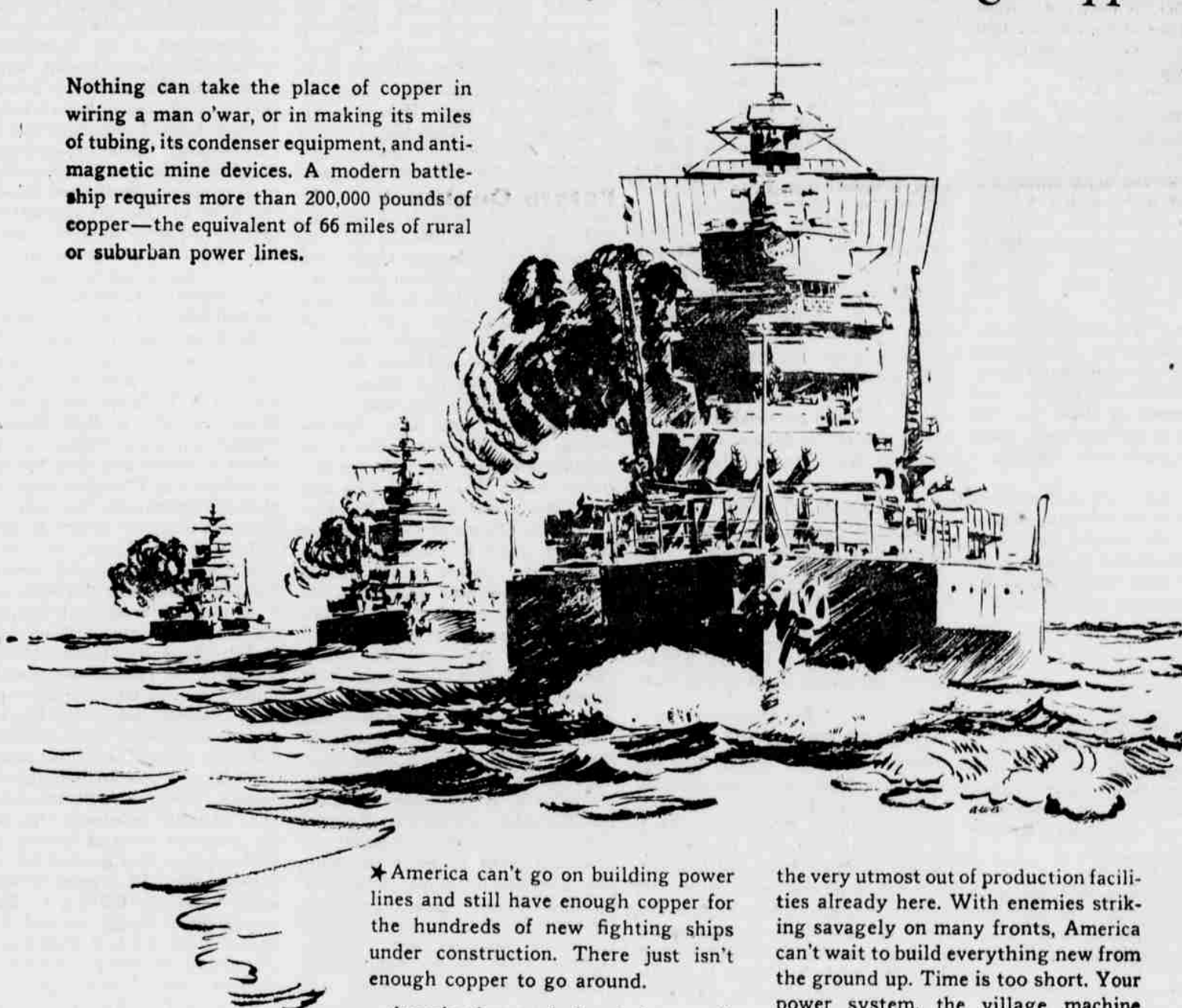
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*America can't build both, for there isn't enough copper!*

Nothing can take the place of copper in wiring a man o'war, or in making its miles of tubing, its condenser equipment, and anti-magnetic mine devices. A modern battleship requires more than 200,000 pounds of copper—the equivalent of 66 miles of rural or suburban power lines.



★ America can't go on building power lines and still have enough copper for the hundreds of new fighting ships under construction. There just isn't enough copper to go around.

America has made its choice—until the war is won, copper must be used for battleships, ammunition, airplanes and all the other tools of war.

No longer can power companies build long extensions to serve farms or suburban homes. Nor can extensive new installations be made to serve stores or industries without approval of the War Production Board.

The challenge of the day is to save precious time and materials by getting

the very utmost out of production facilities already here. With enemies striking savagely on many fronts, America can't wait to build everything new from the ground up. Time is too short. Your power system, the village machine shop, the giant automobile factory... each has to do its part, now!

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## STAR Reporter

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Take your Valentine to see this double-barrelled entertainment

### DR. KILDARE'S VICTORY

Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore, Ann Ayars, Robert Sterling, Jean Rogers, Alma Kruger

Dr. Kildare's greatest romantic adventure!

—Plus—

### TARGET FOR TONIGHT

One of the most discussed films of the day... a documentary film of the R. A. F.'s answer to Hitler.

PLUS a new amazing SUPERMAN Cartoon in Technicolor.

SUNDAY-MONDAY

### KEEP 'EM FLYING

Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Martha Raye, Carol Bruce, William Gargan, Dick Foran

Funnier than "Buck Privates"—Merrier than "In the Navy"—More Hilarious than "Hold That Ghost"—it's their biggest, newest screen uproar.

"Do in the Town"—Movietone News

TUESDAY

Bargain Night

### MAJOR BARBARA

George Bernard Shaw's comedy is a four-star feature and hailed as one of the fine pictures of the season. Wendy Hiller, remembered for her grand screen work as the flower girl in "Pygmalion," and Rex Harrison head a skilled cast.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY

### THE FEMININE TOUCH

Rosalind Russell, Don Ameche, Kay Francis

A wildly hilarious romantic riot—you will love it!

News of the Day — Flicker Memories  
Passing Parade