

Coal, Sheets, Towels, Tractors, Jeeps To Be Released By Government As Reconversion Takes Hold Of Nation

By MAX HALL
WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (AP)—The government, rocketing Americans toward the road to normal living again, took steps today to see that they had plenty of fun in the change-over.

Bans Lifted
Three days after the war with Japan, all bans on sports travel—for professionals and amateurs—were lifted.

And there was this news for the nation:
1. More goods released for civilian use.
2. More wartime controls wiped out.
3. More men looking for jobs.
4. The government striving to keep peace on the labor front.
5. Hints of coming battles in congress.

This was the picture:
More goods—the army cut its coal orders and said the nation's coal problem is solved. The solid fuels administration flatly denied this. But there was no doubt that the cut would help civilians.

The army also announced more meat is being released for civilians, and it threw on the market 10,000 jeeps and vast quantities of other articles. It said, too, that reduced shipments should end railroad freight congestion immediately.

Fewer controls—the petroleum administration said controls over the oil industry will be removed fast and that the agency will start liquidating itself at once.

ODT Allows Racing
The office of defense transportation abolished controls over taxicabs, rental cars, auto racing, state and local fairs. It also authorized bigger conventions.

More men—the army announced it will bring back from overseas 4,000,000 troops in 101 months and will be releasing half a million a month by January 1. Wholesale canceling of war contracts threw thousands out of work today. The civil service commission announced it will accept federal job applications from veterans only.
Industrial peace—President Truman asked labor and man-

agement to keep their no-strike and no-lockout pledges until a new plan can be worked out at a labor-management peace conference this fall.

Mr. Truman also announced that voluntary wage boosts will be permitted if they don't result in higher prices. The war labor board will keep operating for a time and the president said he expects industry and labor to obey it. But the board will start winding up its affairs soon after the autumn conference.

CIO President Philip Murray indicated every major CIO union

will ask for wage increases right away under the new policy.

Possible struggles in congress—the president's "honeymoon" with congress may end if he fights for retaining the draft.

Some congressional leaders want to kill the draft law quickly.

Representative Colmer (D-Miss.), chairman of the house postwar economic planning committee, came out against "hastily considered legislation" and said congress already has enacted most of the necessary reconversion laws.

Army officials announced re-

lease of 120 million tons of coal within the next 12 months, saying this would solve the nation's "shortage of 25 million tons."

Abe Fortas, acting as solid fuels administrator in the absence of Harold Ickes, said that regardless of army actions the situation on anthracite (used for heating homes in the east) will not be substantially eased.

Goods declared "surplus" by the army were valued at \$121,000,000. They include not only jeeps but razor blades, pillows, sheets, towels, steam shovels, trains, tractors, barbed wire, paper bags, and spark plugs.

It will be up to the commerce department to sell this merchandise. More millions—maybe billions—worth of surplus goods will be coming on the market in the next few months.

The petroleum administration

for war, announcing its own end shortly, said a few controls will be kept for a time but that these will not interfere with the civilian consumer. The agency said the oil industry is in healthy condition and doesn't need any "reconversion" in the usual sense of the word.

Oregon Needs More Railroad Workers

PORTLAND, Aug. 17 (AP)—Although applicants for railroad jobs are increasing, Oregon still needs 2000 more, Capt. Ralph O. Hoge of the army transportation corps reported today.

He said new workers are only permitted the railways to break even, since many employees have retired or returned to homes in the east or south.

Portland Children Saved From Drowning

PORTLAND, Aug. 17 (AP)—Two rescues which saved Portland youngsters from drowning were reported today.

Mrs. Maxine Penix, an expectant mother, pulled her 10-year-old brother, Walter Cherry, from the Sandy river after he

became caught in the swift current. She narrowly escaped drowning and was revived by resuscitating equipment, officials said.

James Sweatt, 10, saved his 3-year-old sister, Linda Josephine, from drowning in a pool at home. Although he learned how to swim only two weeks ago, the boy jumped in and held

the child's head above water until help arrived.

DRIVER KILLED

SALEM, Aug. 17 (AP)—Raymond H. Stenberg, 34, Portland, driver for the Arrow towing service, was killed last night when his towing truck plunged off the Pacific highway south of Salem.

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