TODAY, research and production facilities are being developed within our Company at amazing speed under the stimulus of the nation-wide Defense Program. We are laying the groundwork and in many cases have already completed plans for attaining greater production in certain lines than ever before in our history. We are also moving ahead rapidly with products which heretofore we never manufactured. This tooling up and planning places us in a position to meet urgent defense needs of our Government.

Serious Rise in Costs

The necessary speed of the Defense Program and the continuing large needs of our regular customers have jumped production costs, and we have also been faced with priorities, shortages, and increased prices for our raw materials which have still further increased our costs.

(Continued on page three)
NEW SPRAGUE SALES REPRESENTATIVES

To insure that the trade will be supplied with maximum in sales service, and our Company will have the finest of representation in key territories, Mr. Frank Watts, in charge of our Industrial Power Factor Correction work, has made an intensive tour through our territories, and has announced the appointment of the following new Sprague Power Factor Correction sales representatives:

BOSTON — Stearns, Perry & Smith, 51 Clarendon Street. This well-known firm covers New England with a forcible group of salesmen who have long been associated with the repairing of motors, transformers, and generators, etc.

CONNECTICUT — Mr. L. G. White. Mr. White was for many years Superintendent of Distribution at the Brooklyn Edison Company, and has a degree of Electrical Engineering from Cornell University.

DETROIT — Frederick A. Bennett, 705 Donovan Building. Mr. Bennett is not only an excellent salesman, but is a member of the Society of Military Engineers.

CLEVELAND — The Warner Jones Sales Company, 1902 Euclid Avenue. This organization, with outside salesmen covering the territory, is well known, having been in business for thirty-five years.

MINNEAPOLIS — The L. B. Graves Company, 808 LaSalle Avenue. Mr. Graves is a trained engineer and once worked in an executive capacity for the Northern States Power Company.

MISS LOWE
NEW ASSISTANT IN DISPENSARY

More people working and more shifts naturally means the need for more personal care and more work in our Dispensary. As a result, smiling Miss Ethel Lowe is now assisting Miss Owen in the Main Plant.

Miss Lowe, who is a registered nurse, now takes charge of the Dispensary from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. She is a native of North Adams and received her training at the North Adams Hospital.

Her experience is thorough. Besides doing private nursing, she has worked as staff nurse at the Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, in the Bennington, Vermont hospital, and in the Adams Hospital. She was for some time night supervisor at the North Adams Hospital.

When interviewed she still had a tan acquired down in St. Petersburg, Florida, where she went sailing and fishing. Likes to sew and knit and reads biographies. One of her favorite magazines, she says, is the Sprague Log.

WHERE GERMANY IS MILES BEHIND UNITED STATES

“In radio and radio parts, Germans have the superiority complex, but we have the superiorities,” according to Dr. Preston Robinson, head of Sprague Research Department. “German radios and radio condensers,” Dr. Robinson says, “are largely imitations.” The fact that some of their ceramic condensers are particularly good is only because the Germans have had longer experience in the older art of ceramics. Summing up, and speaking from pre-war experience, Robinson declares, “We did not even recognize the Germans as competitors in the design and manufacture of radio equipment for naval and military needs.”

Aluminum Ore Situation Curious

Believe it or not, that much-talked-of material, aluminum, is actually one of the most plentiful minerals to be found in its natural ore — Bauxite. Present American shortages, Dr. Robinson says, are due entirely to lack of necessary equipment to obtain aluminum from Bauxite.

As far as aluminum production goes, the United States, at the end of another year, “could be about up to Germany, and probably will be in the total production of aluminum,” like William S. Knudsen, Dr. Robinson believes that all we need is time.

In startling contrast to the situation in the United States, which at the present time is seeking to find substitutes for aluminum, Germany is trying to use aluminum as a substitute for other metals which are scarce in Germany, though plentiful here. For example, they are using aluminum in the Third Reich for cable sheaves where we use lead.

WEATHER FORECASTING HAS MILITARY IMPORTANCE

Uniforms have become a frequent sight around the plant as former employees and friends come back on leave from various camps and training centers. Lou Gazzaniga, who was among the recent visitors, has just completed a course in weather forecasting at Chanute Field, Ill. We got a hint of the importance of weather predictions when we read about bombing fleets suddenly turning back in the midst of a raid when they receive radio warnings of approaching bad weather from their distant bases.

Other soldier visitors include Sergeant Belouin from Camp Edwards; Thomas Guilino, stationed at Boston Harbor; John Fortini and Floyd Lesure; also Lewis Quimby from Camp Edwards.
IN OUR BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED LABORATORY — A scene showing some of the complex scientific instruments in our Brown Street plant. Leslie T. Francis is operating a scale sensitive up to 1/100 milligram.

IT'S GOT TO BE RIGHT!

Costly Brown Street Testing Laboratory Tortures Products to Learn Resistance and "Life Expectancy"

Items and materials for the Government and for National Defense have "got to be right" with a very particular urgency. When incendiary or gas bombs are filling the air there is no time for a look-see if everything is O.K. and performs to specification. Consequently, Sprague Specialties Company, with the cooperation of Government inspectors and officials, has provided an ultra modern and exceptionally fine testing laboratory for use at its Brown Street plant.

We believe this is one of the finest set-ups for testing equipment in this area. Thousands of dollars have been invested in it by the Company. We believe that the investment will prove a sound one; first because it should guarantee, as far as the finest testing equipment can guarantee, that products in whose manufacture we take part will do the things they are meant to do. Further, we feel that having such equipment will place us in a more favorable and logical position for consideration as to future orders.

The testing equipment and devices now installed cover a wide variety of technical fields. Extremely sensitive scales equipped with magnifying glasses make hairbreadth readings possible and accurate up to one one-hundredth of a milligram, "Oxygen bombs" which permit a speeding up of life test for certain materials, a high temperature combustion furnace for metal analyses, and stop watches and electric interval timers. There is also a collection of curious jiggers that shake, pound, and otherwise subject items to "rough handling," providing a veritable torture chamber where materials undergo twenty years' ordinary wear in a few hours.

Also included are fade-ometers to test fastness of colors in textiles, a "Rockwell Hardness tester," to test the superficial indestructibility of metals, a tensile strength tester, and barometer and humidity testers. There is also camera equipment suitable for photomicrographs, microscopes and colorimeters and a so-called PH meter, used to determine the acidity or alkalinity of solutions.

TEST HOODS — Every possible safety precaution is taken.

CAN THEY TAKE IT? — Years of the toughest kind of treatment and handling, also screen analysis, are duplicated in the tests made possible by these two remarkable devices in our Brown Street plant laboratories.

DEFENSE PROGRAM

(Continued from page one)

The necessity of finding substitute materials and testing these or checking back on previous tests made when we used these materials in past years has also represented an important cost.

For these reasons we have had to increase prices to some extent.

Defense Uses for Our Products

We are now tooled up to produce paper, electrolytic and mica condensers used in aircraft transmitters and receivers for the Army and Navy, and in radio apparatus for tanks and the Signal Corps of the Army.

Orders Separated

Our Brown Street plant from the first has been basically designed for defense activities, with standard production continuing at the Beaver Street plant.
SPRAGUE WELDING CAPACITORS

AID PLANE PROGRAM

A good job, well done, has been the way in which the Sprague capacitors, used as a vital part in a new flash percussive welding process, have been successfully put into production. Today these capacitors are being shipped out in sufficient quantities to supply all necessary demands, and are helping to speed vital United States defense aircraft production. Use of the flash percussive welding process made possible by these capacitors, is also serving to improve the quality of aircraft welding jobs.

With the aid of these large “storage tanks for electrical power” airplane manufacturers are enjoying the double benefits of lower peak power requirements and the ability to weld metals of varying thickness and heat properties.

Into the large Sprague units went the combined thought and efforts of a number of men, including Walter Clark, Bill Allison, Fred Potter, Bill Bolduc, A. L. Henry and Bill Arnold, now a Lieutenant Commander in the Air Corps of the United States Navy, who is devoting his abilities to training new United States pilots. Overseeing and directing much of this work was Dr. Preston Robinson, head of the Research Staff.

An interesting side light on the production of these capacitors was the difficult shipping problem presented by their great weight. Jimmie Knox now puts two in a box having a total weight of 235 pounds, and a conical cover is provided for the shipping crate to prevent these condensers from being placed upside down.

DO YOU KNOW . . . ?

That in 1918 four workers were necessary to keep one soldier equipped? Today, eighteen workers are behind every soldier.

FORMER SPRAGUE EMPLOYEE PROMOTED

Frank Wotkowitz, who left Sprague Specialties to take up active duty with Co. M, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant, it was learned recently.

The Log would be glad to hear of other Sprague men now in the Service.
AMOS CAREY

There are two intensely interesting things about Amos Carey, our clean-shaven, soft-spoken production manager: the remarkable list of instruments and apparatus which relate to our Defense Program whose production he has supervised, and the broad range of his typically American career. Amos Carey took his first job as a boy of eleven, and now comes to North Adams at a time when the condensers and products we are manufacturing are undergoing rapid and sometimes startling adaptations to new uses.

In the position which he left to come to Sprague Specialties Company, Mr. Carey was superintendent of production over the fabrication, processing, ordering, scheduling, testing and inspection of radio receivers and transmitters for police, commercial and United States Government aircraft; all sorts of receivers used in the commercial field and by the United States Navy; also such instruments as direction finders, cathode ray oscilloscopes, sound equipment, facsimile broadcasters, television and special equipment for use by the Army, Civil Aeronautics Authority, Signal Corps and on land-ships.

Mr. Carey was born in New York City forty odd years ago, but with the death of his father, the family moved to Newburgh, N. Y. It was difficult to earn a living in this competitive industrial community, and at the age of eleven he took a job delivering milk. When school let out in the afternoon he covered a paper route from 3.30 to 6.30. As a reward for this work he received ten cents a day plus a copy of the paper he delivered.

Anxious to earn something better than "pin money," Carey left school at the age of fourteen to go into a textile mill as an apprentice spinner. Shortly afterwards he had a better job and it was with a condenser and pump company as a mechanic's apprentice. He learned enough there to be able to take a job as shop foreman with the Yale & Towne Lock Company in Stamford, Conn. He continued in the motor and mechanical line until the War when he signed up with the Marine Corps and was posted on the volcanic island of San Domingo and Haiti. In the Marines, he ended up as an acting sergeant in charge of mechanical equipment.

After his service, Mr. Carey returned to New York and re-entered the lock business. His ability continued to be recognized, and through promotions and by studying nights he eventually rose to assistant superintendent in charge of all production at the Miller Lock Company, Philadelphia. From that job he went in as general foreman in the Camden, N. J. plant of the Radio Corporation of America, staying with that firm for over twelve years.

As general foreman at R. C. A. he was in charge of automatic screw machines, punch presses, gear hobbings, grinders, etc. He was progressively placed in charge of coil winding, chassis assembly, transformer, coil and condenser winding and assembly, final instrument testing and the special apparatus division. He also had charge of such processes as plating, lacquering and japanning, and supervised a force of six thousand workers.

NOTES FROM THE LOG BOOK

Funny how hard it is to remember what in the world we ever used in place of that material we discovered only a year and a half ago. A number of tried and true formulae are being taken out of their pigeonholes and put to useful work again . . . with excellent results.

Many of the needs brought about by present conditions were anticipated so that we had the answers ready. That meant savings in money and particularly, time, for certain customers faced with emergency demands.

Winston Churchill, we were just reminded, was largely responsible for the successful introduction of tanks on the Allied battlefield in the last war and authorized the money for their construction. He originally wanted to wait until a thousand could be built and then win a tremendous victory.

"Don't wait," the famous publisher Lord Northcliffe told him, "Nothing remains a secret long, either in journalism or in war." Consequently, when fifty British tanks swept across No-Man's Land, the Germans were taken completely by surprise.

Practically all our condensers for fluorescent lighting are made for equipment going to illuminate new factories engaged in defense work.

Our production of these models is necessarily confined to a few large customers handling defense orders.

A startling demonstration of the fluorescent principle is fluorescent chalk. Write with it on a blackboard in a dark room, spray it with "black light," and the words glow with an eerie light.

"Soap operas," the radio programs everybody's mother-in-law listens to, consume one-third of the time, in terms of money, on radio networks.

That means $826,700,000 spent by sponsors of these serial plays.

A reasonably good premium offer brings in between 250,000 and 600,000 box tops. The average audience is estimated at a daily 600,000.

A startling demonstration of the fluorescent principle is fluorescent chalk. Write with it on a blackboard in a dark room, spray it with "black light," and the words glow with an eerie light.

That means $826,700,000 spent by sponsors of these serial plays.

A reasonably good premium offer brings in between 250,000 and 600,000 box tops. The average audience is estimated at a daily 600,000.

If you like to sing while driving alone, make it loud enough so people can hear. Otherwise the story may get going, "Yes, Joe's slipping all right. Talks to himself and out loud at that."

Following the Log's story of South American trade, the Reader's Digest comes out to say how well we Yankees are doing down there. Seems the Latin Americans have learned to appreciate the value of the words "Made in U.S.A." And why not? The quality and the price are right.

Ladies, Attention! Among your list of "convenient Spanish words and phrases," to be used while touring our Southern neighbors, remember this one: "Mande la euenta a mi marido." You guessed it, "Send the bill to my husband."
"YOUR FORTUNE IN THE CARDS, MESDAMES AND MES-SIEURS" — Maude Waska, of the Paper Assembly, became Madame LaZonga at the Charity Bazaar. Her "psychic" powers proved amazing.


Other active workers unable to be present for the picture were Bren Farley, Rita Thomas, Kathleen Bellovs, Teresa Busfucka, Helen O'Connell, Patricia Siciliano, Charles Dean, Fred Windover, Edna Lalliberti, Kenneth Russell, Mary Mathews, Rita Mancini, Alfred Peters and Teresa Landry.

"BUNDLES FOR BUDDIES" SENT WITH BAZAAR FUNDS

The "Bundles for Buddies" Bazaar, held at the K. of P. Hall on April 17, 18 and 19, was as typically "Sprague" as a hunk of etched foil.

With the advice of several persons expert on the subject, lists of items of the things that can be most useful and practical for the soldiers are now being purchased and we'll send them in the name of Sprague employees... "in appreciation of..."

The story of the development and success of the Bazaar was also typical of all Sprague benefit undertakings. A small group of employees sensed the responsibility of Sprague workers to send some tangible, cheery greeting to former fellow-workers now in our own United States armed forces. Things began to happen! The committee organized with the energetic "Jerry" Steinberg as chairman. A Bazaar was mentioned, investigated, prepared and presented — as speedily and efficiently as that!

Knocks the Combinations

Rollers, pourers, electricians, clerks and all sorts of Sprague workers became carnival barkers overnight. Our own Maude Waska came dolled up as "Madame LaZonga" and amazed even the most skeptical with her revealing and prophetic fortune telling. Mr. J. K. Sprague entertained the Thursday evening attendants as Sprague's own "Dr. I. Q." Mr. Sprague also seemed to know the wheel combinations; included in his winnings were a hamper, blanket, bag of sugar, doll, balloon and cane!

Friday night featured a "Truth or Consequences" game in which many Sprague people participated. Several were made to perform as their consequence for failure to answer a question correctly.

Sprague girls made cakes, pies and candies which were auctioned or sold. North Adams got its first public glimpse of the products manufactured here from the attractive display provided by Mr. Kalker of the Sprague Products Co.

Julia Dumoulin Lucky Girl

The grand prize, a four-day, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D. C., was won by Julia Dumoulin. The prize for the heaviest person attending the Bazaar was presented with hilarious ceremony to Later Solomon, who tipped the scales at 323 pounds.

It was certainly a Sprague party. The whole gang worked hard and had a lot of fun doing it. And the "Bundles for Buddies" will soon be on their way.

MIKE, THE CAT

Do cats think? Scientists, biologists, and animal lovers have debated this question since shortly after the time Socrates raised questions about man and the universe. At Sprague Specialties Company, several persons have become convinced that cats do think, and base these conclusions on evidence found by close observation of the Company rat insurance agent, Mike, the Cat.

Mike, the gray, partially tiger-striped Company cat, pursues a route as regular as the night watchman through our main plant at Beaver Street. His itinerary is arranged to bring him to strategic departments just when chicken and sardine sandwiches are being eaten, so that he stands in line for choice tidbits. Coming and going much as he pleases, Mike knows the Company and its people inside and outside, and capitalizes this knowledge to the limit. His well-fed appearance is a continuous proof that the program which he has apparently thought out yields rich dividends, both in personal attention and in contributions of food. Although rarely seen scrimmaging with a mouse, Mike has the reputation of having eliminated most of the rat menace at the Beaver Street plant.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S "GUESS WHO?"

At left was Vickie Candiloro of the Dry Rolling Department; right was Helen Murach, D. C. Rolling (top) and Rose Chesani.

HERE AND THERE

Mary Farinon, D. C. Rolling, recently visited New York City. Mary Trottier, also D. C. Rolling, returned recently from a two-weeks' trip in the South where she vacationed in Jacksonville, Fla., and visited her brother, Francis Millis, who is stationed at Maxwell Field, in Alabama.

Rinaldo Farinon, Oven Department, spent a few days in Johnston, N. Y.
ORCHIDS AND DIAMONDS

Paul Belanger of the D. C. Rolling Department, and Virginia Robson of the Boxing Department, have announced their engagement, and are planning a June 16 wedding.

Bernice Hamel, of the Boxing Department, will say "I do" to Joseph Suprenant. The wedding is scheduled for May 31 and will be held at the Notre Dame Church, in Adams.

In the K. V. A. Department, Dorothy Tourjee has revealed her engagement to Stanley Pasierbiak of the Hoosac Mills.

May 31 has been set by Rita Paquette of the Paper Assembly Department as the date for her wedding to Walter Kawolki, who is with the Strong, Hewart Co.

Just announced is the engagement of Eunice Burt of the Paper Assembly Department to Jerry Cantoni, not employed here.

A June wedding is scheduled by Catherine Ferrara of the Pretuner Department who will wear Herve Giguere's wedding ring after June 21.

WEDDING BELLS

Leo Bombardier and Irene Sherman were married on April 12, 1941 at Bennington, Vt. The new Mrs. Bombardier is employed in the Impregnating Department. Leo is at Fort Devens.

The wedding of James Carsno of the W. P. W. and Charlotte Gross of Paper Rolling took place March 15, 1941 at the Methodist Church.

On April 19, at St. Anthony Church, Beatrice Lepora of Sears Roebuck became the bride of Frank Faustine of Paper Assembly. Arthur Libardi and Mary Cerminara were married at St. Anthony's on April 19. She is in the Paper Rolling Department; Arthur is employed by the Gaevert Company in Williamstown.

On April 19, St. Anthony's Church was the scene of the wedding of Anita Ponti, Boxing Department, and Ralph Parmeter, Hunters Machine Co.

The marriage of Angelo Fierro of the Gale Shoe Company and Josephine Varuzzo, Paper Assembly, was solemnized April 19 at St. Francis' Church.

On April 19, Notre Dame Church was the scene of the wedding of Clifford Roy and Jeannette Vallieres, both of the Boxing Department. The maid of honor was Marion Roy, Marie Letalien was bridesmaid, and the usher was Clifford Vallieres, the three latter all being Sprague employees.

On April 19, Ellen Sibley, Paper Rolling Department, was married to Private Arthur Sprague of Macon, Ga., at Stamford, Vt.

Arthur Murphy of Watervliet, N. Y. and Helen Leavens of the Brown Street Division, were married April 19 in the Baptist Church, Williamstown.

Two members of the Paper Rolling Department became Mr. and Mrs. with the wedding of Norman Chenail and June Lamoureux of that department. The ceremony was held at the Notre Dame Church on April 26.

Veronica Fortini, of the Brown Street Division, was married to Edward Landry of the Hoosac Mill in St. Anthony Church on April 26.

A third wedding to take place April 26 was that of Charlotte Launon of the Paper Assembly Department to Bernard Snow, held at the Sacred Heart Church in Bennington. Mr. Snow is from Williamstown and is with the Cornish Wire Co.

Evelyn Foote, of the Paper Assembly Department, became Mrs. Mathews Krzeminski on May 3. The ceremony was performed at the Notre Dame Church, North Adams.

A May 10 wedding was that of Phyllis Dabrowski, of the Paper Assembly Department, to Theodore Blazejewski, taking place in St. Stanislaus Church, in Adams.

BLESSED EVENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Scarbo are the parents of a son, born April 1. Dad works in Paper Assembly, and Mother, Marie, is in Paper Rolling.

On April 6 a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Abuisi. Mother is Angela of the Boxing Department.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stockton announce the birth of a son on April 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Tassone (Winnie of D. C. R. Rolling), are the parents of a daughter born April 6.

It is a daughter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gotzen. Dad works at the Brown Street plant.

KEEN EYES AND A STEADY HAND — The Sprague Rifle Team with their new uniforms. This group has made a fine showing against the toughest kind of competition. Left to right: Ray Bishop, George Livermore, Frank Chalou, Harry Harkins, Leslie Kent, Ralph Bosjolie, Frank Gassett, Jim Fitzgerald, Wendell Smith and Alec Durant.

THE MACHINE SHOP BOWLING TEAM — "Tuffy" Rondeau, Ralph Sherman, Dominic Scerbo, Leslie Dustin, Ray Faucett, Donat Remillard and Rudy Drobiak.

GUESS WHO? — The thoughtful girl on the left works on the office floor. Boy at top right wearing a cap and shown with his chum now is in the Paper Assembly Annex; Tot, mowing his grandmother’s lawn, works in Boxing Dept.
DEFENSE PREPARATIONS
SHIFT INTO HIGH GEAR

ANYONE who doubts that this country is preparing to defend itself— with or without the help of other parties — should spend a few days visiting typical American factories, of which we think our own is a good example.

Few things offer a more impressive, even dramatic symbol of potential strength than the thousands of well-equipped, efficient factories that are running more shifts, with more employees, producing more goods and defense items, located all over our vast area. Go into these humming factories, see the healthy, clean-cut, hard hitting people inside who make them go and you begin to sense the power of a great nation.

Let's remember that we've got the greatest productive force in the world within our borders. You could fit most of "Greater Germany" into our one State of Texas. Within our vast coastlines we have the equipment to build fleets that will surpass the greatest armadas of the past. We have airports all over the country and a machine-minded people who in large numbers are learning to fly.

That may not mean, as the political candidates were telling us last fall, that we will become "so strong no nation would dare to attack us," because there are always those in the world willing to dare anything. But our Defense Program has now shifted into high gear and we are on the way.

NOTES FROM THE LOG BOOK

(Continued from page five)

In its Annual Report to Employees, General Motors Corp. states that taxes per employe rose from $523 in 1939 to $875 per employe in 1940. For every $100 of payroll GM paid $42 of taxes in 1940. It was $28 taxes versus $100 payroll the previous year.

Sprague Specialties research and production of aviation condensers used in the defense program have opened up a field that should continue to grow after the war is over.

THREE LOVELY LADIES — Left to right, Frances Sifton, daughter of Loretta Sifton of the Paper Assembly Department, shown with her toy dog; and Beverly and Joan Williams, decked out in attractive identical dresses. Parents are Busby, of the D. C. Rolling Department, and Mabel of the Boxing Department.

HARD WORKING BUT HAPPY, SOLDIERS SAY

In a letter received recently from a member of the Massachusetts National Guard at Camp Edwards, we learn that the Sprague boys of Co. K and Co. M are working hard but are all well and happy. An interesting variety of all occupations is represented in the Company which now differs somewhat from its set-up before leaving North Adams. There are now 172 men in the outfit which includes a bricklayer, carpenter, banker, barber, two school teachers, a sculptor, an undertaker, a medical student from the University of Athens, Greece; and several college and trade school graduates.

Several of the non-commissioned officers are now instructors in the Regimental Schools and are reported doing a fine job.

Sergeant Chuck Belouin, our former check inspector, has been promoted to the rank of Transport Sergeant, Grade III. This is a recently created position in our new army. Belouin's main duty is to direct the tactical training of the troops in camp and to assist the first sergeant when in the field on manoeuvres or during actual combat.

A typical day begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. The non-commissioned officers then attend school for four nights a week.