In 1870, after the Prussians had siezed Paris and severed all lines of communication, a French photographer named Dagron set up a laboratory near Tours where he made tiny films (called microfilm) of messages and dispatches which were sent to the beleagured city by means of carrier pigeons. Today the War Department is devising an improvement on this system for sending letters to soldiers which will not be too bulky and can be transported by plane. The general plan is to provide the sender of a letter or message with a standard form which is first censored and then filmed. About 2,000 letters could thus be reproduced on a film 100 feet long. When the film arrives at its destination, each letter is then reproduced separately on photographic paper, inserted in an envelope and delivered to the person to whom it was addressed. It provides complete privacy except for the censor and also provides speedy mail delivery to troops in far-away places. Thus the airgraph of 1942 is the direct descendant of the pigeon post of 1870.

CERTIFICATES OF CITIZENSHIP.

Many native born American citizens cannot prove their citizenship. Information concerning their date and place of birth can usually be obtained from the Bureau of the Census but this is not conclusive proof that they are citizens. Inability to furnish documentary proof of citizenship has caused much inconvenience and hardship because Social Security laws and statutes relating to defense employment require such proof. To meet this situation, Congress is making provision for the issuance of certificates of citizenship upon proof that such a person is a citizen and after taking the oath of allegiance. The applicant for such a certificate must however, be in the U. S. at the time he files his application.

KEEP THAT TYPEWRITER GREASED AND OILED.

Better check the oil on that Remington, Royal, Underwood, Corona, L.C. Smith, Woodstock or what have you and don't burn out any bearings. You may have a hard time getting another. For the balance of the year 1942, production of typewriters will be limited to 325,000 of the standard size and 75,000 portables. Total production for 1941 was 730,000 standard sizes and 530,000 portables. Of the machines to be made for the balance of 1942, the Army and Navy will get 88% of all the portables and 68% of all the standard sizes. The balance including stocks of machines now held by dealers will be rationed by the Office of Price Administration. Such a vast bulk of letters are today written on typewriters that it looks as if the lost art of handwriting and penmanship will be revived.

WAR TIME RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONS, PRESS, RADIO AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Treason is defined by the Constitution and is punishable under U. S. statutes. Seditious and disloyal statements whether made in public or private are punishable under the War-Espionage Act and the Smith Act of 1940.

Printed matter which enters the mails can be controlled thru postal laws and the Espionage Act.

Mail going to or coming from foreign countries is subject to censorship. Cablegrams to and from foreign countries are subject to censorship. Enemy aliens must not travel, own short wave receiving sets, or possess cameras, firearms, maps, etc. without special permit. Conscientious objectors must perform non-combatant duty or other work of national importance.

The Office of Censorship created by an Executive Order administers a censorship code for the press and also for radio stations. The Federal Communications Act gives the President power to suspend all rules relating to telephone and telegraph companies and radio facilities and to take over all such facilities for Government uses.