A few years ago, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was composed of only a few hundred persons. Under the authority and funds recently provided by Congress it will soon embrace 9318 clerks and 4603 agents. This enormous increase is a reflection of war activities. In the public mind, the FBI and the "G" men were associated only with the tracking down of kidnappers and other heinous criminals. Today, its tasks are legion and include virtually every type of offense which involves the general welfare of the nation and its fighting forces. Persons employed by the government in any capacity may require preliminary investigation and fingerprinting. Already 40,000,000 sets of prints are on file and the daily intake is about 75,000 sets. On June 1st, 1942, the FBI had 160,282 cases pending for investigation of which 66,197 cases could not be assigned for lack of help. Additional funds by Congress will meet this deficiency. Among other things, the FBI keeps a vigilant eye on conditions surrounding army and navy camps to protect the welfare of the soldiers and sailors. Recently, under the so-called "Boy Act," 116 FBI agents were assigned to clean up the area which surrounds Camp Forrest, Tennessee and more than 100 prostitutes were arrested and jailed. This is but an indication of the FBI's participation in the war effort.

THE MANPOWER PROBLEM.

Paul Vories Noblett, one time National Commander of the American Legion, former Governor of Indiana, former High Commissioner to the Philippines, presently Administrator of the Federal Security Agency, is also Chairman of the War Manpower Commission. This latter job is in addition to his other duties but in all becomes his prime concern as the problem of skilled, trained, equitably distributed labor resources pushes to the front. The problem is obvious. Simple arithmetic will demonstrate it. Roughly, the total labor force of the nation is about 53,000,000. If you place 7,000,000 of this number in the armed services, another 11,000,000 in war industries and activities and 2,000,000 on farms to carry out the food campaign, that leaves but 33,000,000 with which to meet the demands of civil industry, business and commerce. Here is the indication that more and more women will find their way into industry. Incidentally, it will parallel the experience of the last war.

WAVES and WAACS.

The Army has its WAACS and the Navy its WAVES. The WAACS as you know is the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps and will relieve men now occupying clerical, administrative and fiscal positions for the duration of the war. The WAVES are the Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service in the Navy and will perform duties similar to the WAACS. They will serve only within the continental United States, will wear uniforms, will salute, and receive pay in conformity with naval rank. They will be rated as Enlisted Women and Officers. Enlisted Women will receive seaman's pay of $50 per month and allowances for subsistence and uniforms, and must be not
under 20 and not over 36, not less than five feet in height and not under 95 pounds. Recruiting of Enlisted Women will begin about September 1st. Recruiting for officers of the WAVES is now under way and applications should be made on forms and submitted to the WAVES Procurement Division, Board of Trade Building, Chicago, with the exception of 400 probationary officers who will be commissioned immediately and whose age may range from 21 to 50, age limits for officers are from 20 to 30. The first contingents of those selected for commissions will go to Smith College in Northampton for training. Selections of candidates for officer training are now under way from applications submitted to the Chicago office.

CALL THE MARINES.

The Act which provides allowances for the dependents of soldiers, sailors and marines contained a provision which read as follows: "Any allowances which accrue under this title for the period preceding November 1, 1942 shall not be actually paid until after November 1, 1942." This Act became law on June 23, 1942. The War Department suggested this provision because of the immense amount of investigatory and administrative work which had to be done before payments could be made to dependents. Subsequently, Congress felt that payments should be made without delay and a bill was introduced to repeal the above section. When the repeal bill was under consideration, the Secretary of War forwarded a letter to Congress dated August 5th 1942 which read that "The War Department is opposed to the enactment" of the bill. On the same day the Navy Department sent a letter to Congress stating that "The Navy Department recommends enactment" of the bill. With the Navy for and War Department against, the bill was passed. Dependents allowances can begin at once.