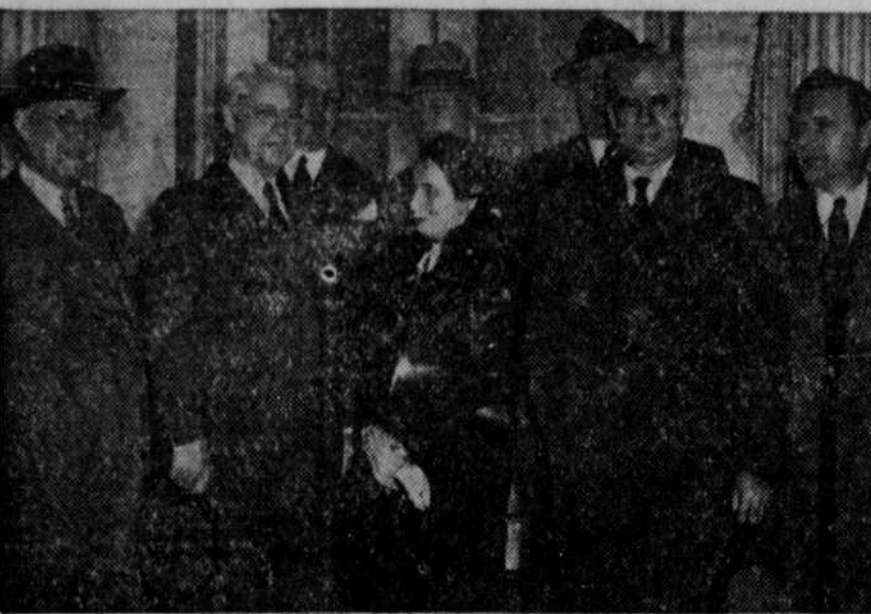


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Tax Body Asks Higher Postal Rates; Coal Miners Offered New Pay Boost; Nazis Strengthen Defenses in Italy As Allied Forces Gather in Corsica

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.



Labor leaders who conferred with President Roosevelt on wages and prices included, from left to right in front row, William Green, AFL president; A. F. Whitney; Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, social security board; Philip Murray, CIO president; and Julius Emspak. Back row from left to right: George Meany, Daniel Tobin and R. J. Thomas.

ITALY: Dig In

With the Nazis solidly entrenched in the mountains running across Italy 100 miles south of Rome, there were reports that Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was assembling forces in Corsica, possibly for a landing at the Germans' rear in northern Italy, or on the French Riviera. The mountains in which the Germans dug in form a double ridge and rise to heights of 2,500 feet along the sector occupied by Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark's Fifth army. Because most positions blend well into the landscape and the heights are rugged, experts saw little use of airplanes to bomb defenses effectively or armored formations to break up concentrations. The continuing flow of German reinforcements in northern Italy indicated that the Nazis intend to pin down the greater bulk of the Allied armies in that country, and make it the principal battleground of Europe.

HAWAII: Commander in Contempt

When the army's commander of the Hawaiian department refused to produce two German-American citizens in court and show cause why the army should continue to hold them on precautionary grounds, Federal Judge Delbert E. Metzger charged the commander with contempt and fined him \$5,000. But when Judge Metzger learned that the army had released the two citizens, he dismissed the order to produce them, and cut the commander's fine to \$100. However, he refused to dismiss the contempt charge entirely.

Under martial law in Hawaii, the writ of habeas corpus, requiring authorities to show cause why a suspect should be held, had been restricted to use in certain civil cases, although Judge Metzger had demanded its full application. At present, habeas corpus stands suspended in military cases, but can be utilized in strictly civil suits.

LABOR: Raise for Miners

Trimming the United Mine Workers' proposition for a \$1.50 daily wage raise with compensation for underground travel time, the War Labor board offered John L. Lewis' UMW a \$1.12 1/2 boost. Under the WLB offer, miners would not be paid for underground travel, but would receive time and a half for 45 minutes of work over the regular 7-hour day. According to the WLB, the miners' earnings would increase \$1.66 daily for a six-day, 8 1/2 hour day. Meanwhile leaders of 20 railroad unions were preparing a strike vote among their 1,350,000 members, to decide on a walkout over dissatisfaction of the government's award of wage increases of four cents an hour for the operating unions, and Economic Stabilization Director Fred Vinson's refusal to grant the non-operating unions an eight cents an hour boost.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC: Work on Jap Bases

Continuing to blast at Japanese outposts impeding further U. S. advances in the Southwest Pacific, American airmen returned to Rabaul and Kahili and showered the two big enemy air and sea bases with hundreds of tons of bombs. As a result of persistent U. S. bombing, it was reported that the Japs have been making little use of their air fields of Kahili in the Solomons. Once the center for enemy craft harassing U. S. positions in the southern Solomons, Kahili has shown little life as American airmen swept over to plaster runways and installations. Heavily screened by fighters, nearly 50 four-motored Liberator bombers spearheaded the latest blast at Rabaul, which has served the Japanese as a feeder point for supplies for their troops battling in New Guinea and the Solomons. As a result of recent raids, it was reported more than 800 enemy planes were knocked out.

PEACE PLANS: Debated in Senate

In the hush of the historic old senate chamber, silver-haired Senator Tom Connally (Texas) arose to his feet in his long black coat. Glancing slowly about, he began to read the foreign relations committee's resolution defining the principle of America's co-operation with other nations for preserving peace in the postwar world: "The United States acting through its constitutional processes, join with free and sovereign nations in the establishment and maintenance of international authority with power to prevent aggression and to preserve the peace of the world."

TAXES: Ask Higher Postal Rates

With congress opposed to further increases in income taxes, the lawmakers looked to other possible sources of revenue to help raise some of the 10 billion dollars requested by the treasury to bring total receipts to 50 billion dollars annually. Congress' advisory tax staff proposed increasing the local postal rate to 3 cents; air-mail to 10 cents an ounce; money orders 10 to 37 cents; insured mail 10 to 70 cents; and COD mail 24 cents to \$2.40. The advisory staff also suggested raising the liquor tax to \$10 a gallon; beer to \$8 per barrel; wine to 5 cents to \$1 a gallon; electric light bulbs and tubes to 15 per cent of retail price; general admissions to 3 cents for each 10 cents; bowling 20 per cent of charge, and billiards \$20 a table. In all, congress hopes to raise 1 1/2 billion dollars from the new levies.

Blood Flows Backward

Although three-month-old Marilyn Stewart's heart is so constructed that the blood circulates backward, she has been faring well. Pictured above in her mother's arms, tiny Marilyn's case has baffled doctors, who say that her condition is contrary to the ordinary structure of life.



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FUEL: Coal Supply

U. S. coal stocks total a record 100,000,000 tons, of which 15,000,000 tons are stored in basements, the Bituminous Coal Institute declared. Further, the institute said, production goals of 600,000,000 tons of coal for 1943 will be met if: 1. There are no more strikes; 2. Absenteeism can be reduced; 3. Drafting of miners is halted, and 4. Ample replacement machinery is available. Although production slumped 350,000 tons in the week of October 16, the institute said, output still was 150,000 tons higher than the same period last year.

Oil Sources

To keep pace with the rising rate of crude oil withdrawal, the U. S. must bring in a 30,000,000 barrel field every six days, Col. Ernest O. Thompson of the Texas railroad commission declared. Although the nation has an unused capacity of 200,000 barrels daily in west Texas, Colonel Thompson said the United States has a reserve of 991,389 barrels daily. Of this, the British empire possesses 422,123 barrels, chiefly in Iran, and Latin America has 569,246 barrels, mostly in Venezuela. At present, Colonel Thompson declared, the British empire is supplying 845,800 barrels daily, and Latin America 1,015,035 barrels daily, compared with U. S. production of 4,600,000 barrels daily.

VETS: Offer Job Training

Vocational training for veterans of the present war who may be unable to find employment when they return, will be provided at government expense, the Veterans' administration announces. Courses up to four years will be given, and increased pensions will be paid while the ex-serviceman is in school. A single man will receive \$80 a month, a married man \$90 and \$5 for each dependent child.

Washington Digest

Battle Tides to Influence 1944 Political Campaign

Close Observers Change Minds, Express Belief President Will Not Be Candidate If War Ends by Spring.

By BAUKHAGE News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

As the political campaign, which will be over in a short year, begins to increase in tempo, it is interesting to note that noticeable shock recorded by the reporters at a recent White House press and radio conference when the President tossed off that phrase "when I am out of the White House."

Taken in the context, it was immediately clear that the President did not delimit the time element in this statement and there was no real justification for the startled pause when pencils stopped scribbling and heads and eyebrows went up at the presidential remark. Mr. Roosevelt was merely pointing out, in connection with the postwar rubber situation, that he believed that any proposed tariff to protect the synthetic rubber plants after the war should be vetoed, and he implied that any President who vetoed such a measure might stir up a lot of opposition from the synthetic rubber manufacturers.

But we have become so accustomed to the idea that Mr. Roosevelt himself thinks only in terms of his own regime without time or other limitations, than an expression which seemed to indicate the opposite naturally caused a stir.

However, it is entirely possible that Mr. Roosevelt will not be a candidate in 1944. There are even those who enjoy making rash prophecies who are already saying he has made up his mind not to run at all under any circumstances. This type of prediction is accepted in Washington as being in that class of guesses which have about a 40-60 chance of being right.

But closer observers who do not choose to guess the President's inner thoughts but are thoroughly familiar with his manner of thinking, deduce, from what they believe is past experience, that he will not be a candidate if the war is over by next spring. This is contrary to earlier prognostications that his desire to be President when the blue-prints for the postwar world are being drawn would incline him toward running for a fourth term. The explanation is that he will not run unless he has more than an even chance of winning.

End of Conflict

Although none of the army or navy officers of the top command will allow themselves to be quoted as saying the war will end early in 1944, a number of bolder and less constrained military folk are willing to say this is possible.

It is interesting to consider that a year ago this summer, when many believed that invasion of northern Europe by the Allies would be undertaken by the spring of 1943, few people were predicting, even under such circumstances, an end of the war early in 1944. Take for instance a typical comment in a leading periodical (Harper's) written very little over a year ago in which it was said that Germany must complete the conquest of key positions in Russia, must halt or control the Anglo-American onslaught from the air, and must hold northern Africa for a sortie in the Middle East. When we consider what has happened since, we can see the progress which has been made. Far from any action in which the word "conquest" could be used, the Wehrmacht in Russia has been driven beyond its last Russian defense lines in many places. The dream of an African empire has become the reality of bitter defeat and despite desperate defense measures, the most powerful air blows are being struck against the Reich.

Japanese Situation

Within the year, Japan's power has begun to crumble at a rate and in a manner which makes it plain that she will not have to be beaten back island by island and every Jap on foreign soil killed. The Mikado's "unconquerables" have become exceedingly adept at getting away from points once expected to be last stands, with remarkable alacrity and apparent satisfaction in their own retreatability. Therefore, it is not at all impossible that the President, if he intends voluntarily to retire with the end of the fighting, means that he will be



TO YOUR Good Health by DR. JAMES W. BARTON PNEUMONIA DEATHS

Just as we are congratulating ourselves that physicians are not worried much about their pneumonia cases since the sulfa drugs have been shown to be so effective in curing pneumonia, thus saving many lives, we learn from physicians, hospitals and insurance companies that pneumonia is again increasing. In the Statistical Bulletin, Metropolitan Life Insurance company, we read: "The rise in pneumonia will be noted with surprise by many people who for the past few years have heard so much about the striking decline in the death rate following the use of sulfa drugs in the treatment of the disease." The death rate was lowered from about 9 per cent to 3 per cent because the sulfa drugs were able to defend the body against what is called the coccus form of pneumonia (small round organisms seen under the microscope).

However, the type of pneumonia which is now causing so many cases is not the coccus (pneumococcus) type but a virus type; that is a very tiny organism which cannot be seen under the microscope. Despite their ability to defeat the pneumococcus type of pneumonia, the sulfa drugs have no effect upon this type of pneumonia.

A point of interest is that a recent study of fatal cases of this type of pneumonia among policyholders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company shows that a large proportion of the deaths were among younger persons. Of the 150 deaths recorded in the company's experience since last November, 36 per cent were between the ages of 15 and 44 years, as compared with only 18 per cent (of the total number) of pneumonia deaths in a normal year. It has been known for some time that war conditions increase the number and severity of nose, throat and lung ailments; the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 is still in our minds. This means that during the coming months of cold weather, the greatest possible health precautions should be taken.

"Those doing hard manual labor or putting in long hours of overtime should be encouraged to get as much rest as possible in their time. Every effort must be made to maintain good nutrition which is quite possible within the limits of rationing."

Headache in Morning Is Sinusitis Symptom

When a definite case of sinus disease is present with pus formation, there is no difficulty in recognizing it. What about mild or early cases of inflammation of the sinus? In the Canadian Medical Association Journal, Dr. Keith Hutchison, Montreal, states: "The symptoms of acute inflammation of the sinus—sinusitis—are definite and I always accept the midmorning headache as evidence of a true sinusitis, even though nothing definite appears on the first examination."

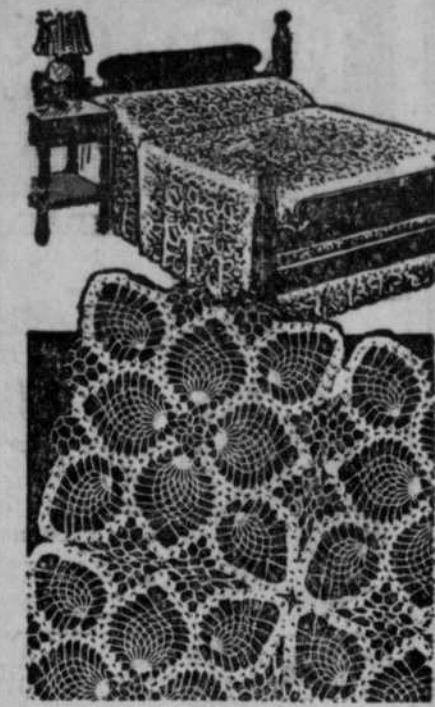
This midmorning headache is important because there are so many kinds of headache that the physician is grateful for any and every clue. "When an intelligent patient reports that he felt well on arising and then about 10 o'clock in the morning a severe frontal headache came on which persisted till midafternoon then disappeared and the patient went to bed free of pain and discomfort only to go through the same symptoms the next day, a clear-cut diagnosis of acute catarrhal sinusitis may be made and treated accordingly."

The treatment outlined by Dr. Hutchison is to put the patient to bed, hot cloths on the face, ephedrine solution in the nose, plenty of fluids and a rigid rule of no smoking. Two to four days' rest generally effects a cure. Because the symptoms are not severe, "just a little head cold," many patients refuse to go to bed, with the result that the cold "hangs on" and instead of there being simply a watery discharge from the nose, the discharge may become mucous and even pus formation occur. The patient with an early or light sinusitis should go to bed and follow the treatment described if he wishes to prevent chronic catarrh or sinusitis.

QUESTION BOX

Q.—What causes neuritis? A.—There must be some cause for your neuritis—infected teeth, or other infection, possibly pressure on nerve supplying the arm. See your dentist. Q.—Would a half grain of saccharine in coffee or tea be harmful for an adult or a boy of 17? A.—Saccharin tablets (1/2 grain) three times a day will do no harm; also all right for boy of 17 to use. Sugar gives more energy, of course.

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Firing at the Sun

A bullet fired from a gun and keeping its peak muzzle velocity would require seven years to reach the sun. AT FIRST SIGN OF A COLD USE 666 666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS

Skycraper The sloth, clinging to boughs, spends its lifetime looking at the sky.

SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER

To maintain the nation's essential motor transportation system, the American rubber tire industry will be called upon to make 30 million synthetic passenger car tires in 1944. The synthetic rubber program is being geared to permit such an output without hindering the military needs for rubber. More than 65 per cent of the war materials reaching factories in Michigan travel on rubber-tired trucks, and 67 per cent of the finished products move out by truck. Proof that our national economy is closely bound with rubber.

In war or peace B.F. Goodrich FIRST IN RUBBER

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

TAXES: The excess profits tax on corporations will be increased to 95 per cent from the present rate of 90 per cent. Representative Knutson, minority leader, predicts. MECHANICS: A critical shortage of automobile mechanics is announced by the Office of Defense Transportation. Training courses in this work are now in progress in 72 cities.

WHISKEY: An increase of 30 cents a quart, and 26 cents a "fifth" has been authorized by the Office of Price Administration. It applies to blended whiskey containing imported neutral spirits. UNDERWEAR: A shortage of underwear is impending, says Roy Cheney, president of the Underwear Institute. He blames lack of factory workers.

BRIEFS . . . by Baukhage

Uncle Sam's fighting sailors, guarding an island outpost in the Pacific, conducted a third war loan drive of their own and bought 658 \$25 bonds and one \$100 bond.

Twice as many bobbie pins and hairpins, necessary feminine items, will be produced during 1944 as at present, under a recent War Production board action.

A Zurich dispatch to the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet said that the loss of the Kuban area in Russia had deprived the Nazis of 50,000 tons of tobacco a year.

A census of the German people, the first since the outbreak of war in 1939, will be taken October 10, the Nazi home radio has informed the German people.